

Western Riverside Council of Governments

5.A

Regular Meeting

~ Minutes ~

Monday, February 1, 2021

2:02 PM

Zoom Platform

1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Chair Kevin Bash at 2:02 p.m. on February 1, 2021, on the Zoom platform. Chair Bash welcomed new Committee members David Happe, City of Banning; Wendy Hewitt, City of Calimesa; Jacque Casillas, City of Corona; Ike Bootsma, City of Eastvale; Chris Barajas, City of Jurupa Valley; Lori Stone, City of Murrieta; Patricia Lock Dawson, City of Riverside; and Phil Paule, Eastern Municipal Water District.

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

3. CALL TO ORDER

Jurisdiction	Attendee Name	Status	Arrived / Departed
City of Banning		Absent	
City of Beaumont	Mike Lara	Present	1:55 PM
City of Calimesa	Wendy Hewitt	Present	1:55 PM
City of Canyon Lake	Jordan Ehrenkranz	Present	1:55 PM
City of Corona	Jacque Casillas	Present	1:55 PM
City of Eastvale	Ike Bootsma	Present	1:55 PM
City of Hemet	Russ Brown	Present	1:55 PM
City of Jurupa Valley	Chris Barajas	Present	1:55 PM
City of Lake Elsinore	Brian Tisdale	Present	1:55 PM
City of Menifee	Matt Liesemeyer	Present	1:55 PM / 2:43 PM
City of Moreno Valley	Victoria Baca	Present	1:55 PM
City of Murrieta	Lori Stone	Present	1:55 PM
City of Norco	Kevin Bash	Present	1:55 PM
City of Perris	Rita Rogers	Present	1:55 PM
City of Riverside	Patricia Lock Dawson	Present	1:55 PM
City of San Jacinto	Crystal Ruiz	Present	1:55 PM
City of Temecula	Maryann Edwards	Present	1:55 PM
City of Wildomar	Ben Benoit	Present	1:55 PM
District 1		Absent	
District 2	Karen Spiegel	Present	1:55 PM
District 3	Chuck Washington	Present	1:55 PM
District 5	Jeff Hewitt	Present	1:55 PM
EMWD	Phil Paule	Present	1:55 PM
WMWD	Brenda Dennstedt	Present	1:55 PM
Office of Education (ex-officio)		Absent	
TAC Chair	Andy Okoro	Present	1:55 PM
Executive Director	Rick Bishop	Present	1:55 PM

Note: Times above reflect when the member logged in; they may have arrived at the meeting earlier.

4. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Stacey Tutt spoke to the PACE Program.

Daniel Lewis spoke to the PACE Program.

Steph Carroll spoke to the PACE Program.

5. CONSENT CALENDAR

RESULT:	APPROVED AS RECOMMENDED
MOVER:	Lake Elsinore
SECONDER:	Perris
AYES:	Beaumont, Calimesa, Canyon Lake, Corona, Hemet, Jurupa Valley, Lake Elsinore, Menifee, Moreno Valley, Murrieta, Norco, Perris, Riverside, San Jacinto, Temecula, Wildomar, District 2, District 3, EMWD, WMWD
ABSENT:	Banning, District 1
ABSTENTION:	Eastvale and Murrieta, and District 5 from 5.D only

A. Summary Minutes from the December 7, 2020, Executive Committee Meeting are Available for Consideration

Action: 1. *Approved the Summary Minutes from the December 7, 2020, Executive Committee meeting.*

B. Appointment of WRCOG Representatives to Outside Agencies

Actions: 1. *Appointed Wes Speake (Corona) to the SCAG Community, Economic, & Human Development Policy Committee for a term commencing February 1, 2021, through December 31, 2022.*
2. *Appointed Chris Barajas (Jurupa Valley) as the alternate representative to the California Association of Councils of Governments for a term commencing February 1, 2021 and ending December 31, 2022.*

C. Approval of Memorandum of Understanding for Membership of the Riverside County Superintendent of School on WRCOG for a Period of one Year

Action: 1. *Approved a one-year extension to the MOU between WRCOG and the Riverside County Superintendent of Schools for the Superintendent to serve as an ex-officio member of the Executive Committee.*

D. Adoption of 2021/2022 Legislative Platform

Action: 1. *Adopted the 2021/2022 Legislative Platform.*

E. Finance Department Activities Update

Action: 1. *Received and filed.*

F. WRCOG Committees and Agency Activities Update

Action: 1. *Received and filed.*

G. Report out of WRCOG Representatives on Various Committees

Action: 1. *Received and filed.*

H. Single Signature Authority Report

Action: 1. *Received and filed.*

I. Housing Trust, Economic Development Corporation, and GIS Service Bureau Activities Update

Action: 1. *Received and filed.*

J. I-REN Activities Update

Action: 1. *Received and filed.*

K. Communications and Media Outreach

Action: 1. *Received and filed.*

6. REPORTS / DISCUSSION**A. Report from Cal Cities**

Erin Sasse, Cal Cities representative, reported that there is a significant surplus in the budget at the state level; unfortunately, there was no aid for local government included.

SB 1383 (Lara. Short-lived climate pollutants: methane emissions: dairy and livestock: organic waste: landfills) is still on track for implementation in January 2022. Cal Cities is attempting to have this Bill delayed.

Cal Cities is supporting AB 14 (Chiu. Tenant Protection Act of 2019: tenancy: rent caps) and SB 4 (Pavley. Oil and gas: well stimulation).

Cal Cities' Policy Committee is recommending to oppose unless amended SB 9 (as introduced, Atkins. Housing development: approvals). This Bill would allow for duplexes and lot splits.

SB 10 (as introduced, Wiener. Planning and zoning: housing development: density) would allow cities to build apartment buildings of 10 units without adhering to the California Environmental Quality Act.

Cal Cities' Policy Committee is recommending to oppose SB 55 (as amended, Jackson. California Environmental Quality Act: housing and land use) would prohibit the building of residential and commercial in very high fire hazard severity zones.

SB 60 (as introduced, Glazer. Residential short-term rental ordinances: health or safety infractions: maximum fines) would increase the maximum fine for violations with short-term rental ordinances.

SB 2 (Atkins. Building Homes and Jobs Act) repeals voter approval of affordable housing projects.

New elected officials training is being held this Friday on the Zoom platform.

Action: 1. *Received and filed.*

B. WRCOG Economic Development and Sustainability Framework Activities Update and Agency Goals for 2021

Chris Gray, WRCOG Director of Transportation & Planning, reported that the Framework's 50 indicators were consolidated into 14 indicators. In 2020, staff performed a review and categorized all actions into high, medium, and low levels of completion. The Framework is still fundamentally sound; however, it requires an update.

Changes since the creation of the Framework include the addition of two additional agencies now under WRCOG's umbrella – the Riverside County Habitat Conservation Agency and Western Community Energy. The baseline data and indicators require updating. Focus areas can be combined or updated. Lastly, the actions also need refreshing.

Staff are working with a consultant to identify a Scope of Work and will return to this Committee in March with an update.

Agency goals for 2021 include implementation of an Inland Empire Regional Network, continued exploration of an Economic Development Corporation, the start of a GIS Service Bureau, the exploration of forming a Housing Trust Fund, and a Range-Wide Management Plan for the Stephens' Kangaroo Rat.

Action: 1. *Received and filed.*

C. UCR: Presentation on OASIS Park

Rodolfo Torres, UCR Vice Chancellor of Research and Economic Development, reported that OASIS will be an innovation park that will anchor a cluster of diverse stakeholders that leverage strengths and connections to the California Air Resources Board, agriculture, environment, and health sectors.

OASIS will be a collaborative community partnership with neighboring cities and counties, state and local government, local utilities, and businesses. Conceptual elements include high tech laboratories, community space, and integrated office and retail space, to name a few.

The OASIS Park hopes to become the regional engine for start-up companies, which will provide talent and experts, facilitate access to test facilities, and provide access to capital.

Action: 1. *Received and filed.*

D. Activities Update from the Eastern Municipal Water District / Western Municipal Water District

Phil Paule, Eastern Municipal Water District Director (EMWD) Board President, reported that EMWD serves 555 square miles which included seven cities and unincorporated County of Riverside. EMWD imports water from the Colorado River Aqueduct and the State Water

Project. Current local water supply is a little lower than desired. EMWD has greatly expanded its recycled water which has added to the water supply, so even though the number of customers has more than doubled, the reliance on external water supply has decreased.

Action: 1. *Received and filed.*

7. REPORT FROM THE TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE CHAIR

Andy Okoro, Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) Chair, reported that the TAC recently received a report on the Economic Development and Sustainability Framework; the TAC supports the update of the Framework. The TAC also supports the Inland Regional Energy Network as it will be geared towards energy efficiency programs.

8. REPORT FROM COMMITTEE REPRESENTATIVES

Committee member Ben Benoit, South Coast AQMD representative for cities in Riverside County, reported that the AQMD Board is watching rules which will be affecting refineries to the tune of approximately half a trillion dollars.

Brian Tisdale, CALCOG Board of Directors representative, reported that the last Board meeting was mainly focused on housing programs and economic development.

Ted Hoffman, SAWPA OWOW Steering Committee representative, reported that there will be approximately \$23M in grant funding to the SAWPA Water Shed under Proposition 1 Regional Water Management funding.

Committee member Crystal Ruiz, SANDAG Borders Committee representative, reported that the Committee discussed the 2021 Regional Plan and 2021 Freight Gateway Study, as well as a discussion on the Trade Corridor Enhancement Program.

9. REPORT FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Rick Bishop welcomed the new Committee members.

10. ITEMS FOR FUTURE AGENDAS

Committee member Chris Barajas asked for a presentation on municipal broadband.

11. GENERAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

There were no general announcements.

12. CLOSED SESSION

There were no reportable actions.

13. NEXT MEETING

The next Executive Committee meeting is scheduled for Monday, March 1, 2021, at 2:00 p.m., on the Zoom platform.

14. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned from Closed Session at 3:57 p.m.
