

1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting of the Technical Advisory Committee was called to order at 9:30 a.m. by Chair Andy Okoro on the Zoom platform.

2. ROLL CALL

Chair Okoro led guests and members of the Committee in the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. ROLL CALL

Members present:

Bonnie Johnson, City of Calimesa
Chris Mann, City of Canyon Lake (9:40 a.m. arrival)
Jacob Ellis, City of Corona
Bryan Jones, City of Eastvale
Chris Lopez, City of Hemet (10:33 a.m. departure)
Rod Butler, City of Jurupa Valley
Jason Simpson, City of Lake Elsinore
Armando Villa, City of Menifee (10:30 a.m. departure)
Mike Lee, City of Moreno Valley
Kim Summers, City of Murrieta
Andy Okoro, City of Norco (Chair)
Clara Miramontes, City of Perris (9:40 a.m. arrival)
Al Zelinka, City of Riverside
Aaron Adams, City of Temecula
Gary Nordquist, City of Wildomar
Jeff Van Wagenen, County of Riverside
Danielle Coats, Eastern Municipal Water District (EMWD)
Mathew Evans, March JPA

4. PUBLIC COMMENTS

A.J Wilson, California Senior Advisor with International City / County Management Association (ICMA), reported that the Regional ICMA Meetings will be held March 25 – 26, 2021, and you can find out all the information at icma.org.

Arnold San Miguel, Regional Affairs Officer with SCAG, indicated that SCAG is offering up to five complimentary ESRI Software licenses to the Regional Data Platform Program. Please reach out to WRCOG staff or Mr. San Miguel at SanMigue@scag.ca.gov.

5. SELECTION OF TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE VICE-CHAIR FOR THE REMAINDER OF FISCAL YEAR 2020/2021

Action: 1. *The Technical Advisory Committee selected Jeff Van Wagenen, as Vice-Chair; for the remaining Fiscal Year 2020/2021.*

(Eastvale / Lake Elsinore) 16 yes; 0 no; 0 abstain; Item 5 was approved. Representatives from the Cities of Banning, Beaumont, Canyon Lake, Perris, and San Jacinto, and WMWD were not present.

6. CONSENT CALENDAR (County / Riverside) 18 yes; 0 no; 0 abstain; Items 5.A and 5.B were approved. Representatives from the Cities of Banning, Beaumont, and San Jacinto, and WMWD were not present.

A. Summary Minutes from the January 21, 2021, Technical Advisory Committee Meeting are Available for Consideration.

Action: 1. *Approved the Summary revised Minutes from the January 21, 2021, Technical Advisory Committee meeting.*

B. Finance Department Activities Update

Action: 1. *Received and filed.*

7. REPORTS / DISCUSSION

A. Regional Housing Trust Initiative Update

Ivana Medina, WRCOG Senior Analyst, provided an update on the latest development related to the establishment of the Western Riverside County Regional Housing Trust and requested volunteers to serve on a Regional Housing Trust Steering Committee. In February 2021, Assembly member Kelly Seyarto introduced AB 687, authorizing the creation of a Western Riverside County Housing Finance Trust, a joint powers authority. This legislation enables the formation of a Trust but does not require a Trust to be formed nor dictates which entity would administer it. Staff is requesting member agencies to submit letters of support and is asking volunteers to publicly testify in favor of the Bill at the date of its hearing. The hearing date should be announced soon.

Staff is in the process of recruiting members for a Steering Committee that will convene in June 2021. The purpose of the Steering Committee will be to discuss current housing and homelessness programs in the region and to determine if a Housing Trust should be formed, as well as what the goals and key functions of a Housing Trust would be.

Action: 1. *The following Technical Advisory Committee members volunteered to be part of the Housing Trust Steering Committee: Jason Simpson, City of Lake Elsinore; Kim Summers, City of Murrieta; Armando Villa, City of Menifee; Al Zelinka, City of Riverside; and Danielle Coats, EMWD.*

B. RCA Transition to RCTC

Anne Mayer, Executive Director of the Riverside County Transportation Commission (RCTC), provided an update on the transition of management of the Western Riverside County Regional Conservation Authority (RCA) to RCTC. On January 1, 2021, RCTC became the managing agency of RCA. RCA's Board of Directors decided that RCTC's expertise and track record in land acquisition, partners with state and federal wildlife agencies, project delivery, and fiscal management would benefit RCA. Amongst the immediate priorities of RCA Chair Natasha Johnson are to enhance RCA's communication, education, and partnership with its member agencies.

With RCTC being the managing agency, both agencies will retain its separate legal authorities and governing boards. Near term priorities were discussed as well as member agency roles and responsibilities under the Multiple Species Habitat Conservation Plan.

Ms. Mayer shared that RCTC staff has been in touch with all its member agencies.

Action: 1. *Received and filed.*

C. Energy Department Programs Activities Update

Daniel Soltero, WRCOG Senior Analyst, reported that staff are conducting outreach to remit rebate funds for the Streetlight Program to member agencies and to schedule rebate presentations at City Council / Board meetings. In total, WRCOG will be disbursing approximately \$3.6M.

Staff are developing a Smart Streetlights Plan to analyze and determine how streetlights can be utilized as smart city assets. Staff will coordinate with each member agency to complete the community assessment via a survey to determine “preparedness” for smart city initiatives.

One key issue related to smart cities is reliable access to broadband. At the request of a member agency, WRCOG will also evaluate existing broadband initiatives in Riverside County. The Broadband Assessment will evaluate the potential for WRCOG to encourage development of a broadband network serving residences, businesses, and government facilities.

WRCOG’s Western Riverside County Energy Resiliency Plan will address power outages or issues at critical facilities throughout the subregion and identify microgrid and energy resiliency options. Staff are welcoming representatives from each member agency to participate in an Advisory Group to provide input and help guide development of the Plan.

Action: 1. *Received and filed.*

D. Municipal Service Reviews – Riverside LAFCO

Gary Thompson, Executive Officer for the Riverside Local Agency Formation Commission (LAFCO), provided an update on the upcoming Municipal Service Reviews, which is a comprehensive study designed to better inform LAFCO, local agencies, and the community about the provision of municipal services.

Action: 1. *Received and filed.*

8. REPORT FROM THE DEPUTY EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Chris Gray provided an update on WRCOG’s Economic Development and Sustainability Framework, which serves as the guiding document for the Agency. Staff is collecting input for the update of the Framework from WRCOG member agencies. Staffs’ main goal is to confirm the focus areas and goals and update them appropriately, as well as provide the opportunity to suggest new focus areas.

March is Women’s History Month and WRCOG will be hosting an event that will feature some of the female elected officials from WRCOG and RCHCA’s committees.

Committee member Kim Summers was selected as the 2021 Woman of the Year for the 67th Assembly District.

Mr. Gray shared that he will be the guest speaker at the next Future Forward Webinar episode on March 25, 2021, titled “The Future of Transportation,” and will include what transportation trends are here to stay as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic.

9. ITEMS FOR FUTURE AGENDAS

There were no items for future agendas.

10. GENERAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

There were no general announcements.

11. NEXT MEETING

The next Technical Advisory Committee meeting is scheduled for Thursday, April 15, 2021, at 9:30 a.m., on the Zoom platform.

11. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting of the Technical Advisory Committee adjourned at 10:39 a.m.