

Technical Advisory Committee

Minutes

1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting of the WRCOG Technical Advisory Committee was called to order by Vice-Chair Rob Johnson at 9:30 a.m. on April 21, 2022, on the Zoom platform.

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Vice-Chair Johnson led members and guests in the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. ROLL CALL

- City of Beaumont - Christina Taylor
- City of Canyon Lake - Chris Mann
- City of Corona - Jacob Ellis
- City of Eastvale - Marc Donohue
- City of Hemet - Chris Lopez
- City of Jurupa Valley - Rod Butler
- City of Lake Elsinore - Jason Simpson
- City of Menifee - Armando Villa
- City of Moreno Valley - Mike Lee
- City of Murrieta - Kim Summers
- City of Norco - Andy Okoro
- City of San Jacinto - Rob Johnson (Vice-Chair)
- City of Temecula - Aaron Adams
- Eastern Municipal Water District (EMWD) - Danielle Coats*
- Western Municipal Water District (WMWD) - Craig Miller*
- March JPA - Dr. Grace Martin

*Arrived after Roll Call

4. PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no public comments.

5. CONSENT CALENDAR – (Temecula / Murrieta) 12 yes; 0 no; 2 abstention. Items 5.A through 5.E were approved. The City of Beaumont and Menifee abstained.

A. Summary Minutes from the March 17, 2022, Technical Advisory Committee Meeting

Action:

1. Approved the Summary Minutes from the March 17, 2022, Technical Advisory Committee meeting.

B. Finance Department Activities Update

Action:

1. Received and filed.

C. Single Signature Authority Report

Action:

1. Received and filed.

D. Riverside County Emergency Medical Care Committee Activities Update

Action:

1. Received and filed.

E. Revisions to the Grant Writing Assistance Program Guidelines

Action:

1. Received and filed.

6. REPORTS / DISCUSSION

A. Cal Cities Activities Update

Erin Sasse was unable to attend.

Action:

1. None.

B. Western Riverside County Energy Resilience Plan Activities Update

Daniel Soltero, WRCOG Program Manager, provided an update on the Western Riverside County Energy Resiliency Plan that is being developed to address local energy resiliency against power outage impacts for critical facilities maintained and operated by member agencies. The Plan will assess subregional critical facilities and identify feasibility of implementing future energy resilience improvements to maintain power at the facility during outages.

In November 2021, staff developed a facility prioritization matrix which provides information to staff to assist with selecting three sites across the subregion to receive a technical study. The matrix can also be used by other agencies to identify high opportunity zones and prioritize facilities for energy resilience improvements. The matrix takes into consideration each facility's characteristics and operational needs, climate and environmental hazards of the area, and social vulnerabilities for the local population.

An Advisory Group consisting of representatives from five member agencies was convened to provide feedback and validation on the facility prioritization matrix, as well as to assist staff in selecting the three sites for the technical study. The feedback provided included a desire to select three different facilities that are commonly owned and operated by public agencies, to avoid the duplication of efforts with the

UCR study on water distribution facilities, and to focus on areas of existing inequities and disadvantaged communities. The three sites selected for the technical study include the City of Banning's Wastewater Reclamation Plant, the City of Jurupa Valley's Fire Station 16, and the City of Menifee's Kay Cenicerros Senior Center.

Action:

1. Received and filed.

C. Fiscal Year 2022/2023 Budget Development

Dr. Kurt Wilson, WRCOG Executive Director, provided an update on the current development of the Agency budget. Currently, like most Council of Governments, WRCOG's budget is less descriptive and focuses most exclusively on spending amounts. While this has met the needs in the past, the budget is undergoing a major change that will more clearly reflect priorities, explain WRCOG's function, and share achievements. Staff are currently working through the specific numbers and narratives to provide the reader context while navigating through the budget.

Action:

1. Received and filed.

D. Approval of Professional Services Agreement with Van Lant & Fankhanel for Financial Auditing Services

Andrew Ruiz, WRCOG Chief Financial Officer, presented on the recent Request for Proposal that was released for financial auditing services. The Government Finance Officers Association (GFOA) best practices recommend public agencies enter into multi-year agreements of at least five years in duration when obtaining independent auditor services. In addition, GFOA recommends entities undertake full-scale competitive processes at the end of the term of each audit contract, with the inclusion of the current auditors to endure and augment the process, assuming the current auditor has proven satisfactory. On February 7, 2022, a solicit for proposals was posted on PlanetBids as well as the California Society of Municipal Finance Officers websites. A total of four proposals were received and all were invited to participate in an interview with a panel composed of WRCOG staff, the Director of Finance for March JPA, and two WRCOG Executive Committee members. Upon conclusion, Van Lant & Fankhanel (VLF) was rated as the top firm. VLF was selected for its hands-on approach to performing financial audits, where the audit partners are engaged in the day-to-day of the audit, increasing efficiencies in the audit process, but also providing a higher-level of assurance since the partners are more involved than one would typically expect.

Action:

1. Recommended that the Executive Committee approve an agreement with Van Lant & Fankhanel to conduct financial auditing services for WRCOG, starting with Fiscal Year 2021/2022, in an amount not to exceed \$119,650 through Fiscal Year 2023/2024, with an option to extend services for an additional two fiscal years.

7. REPORT FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Dr. Kurt Wilson reported that the General Assembly is scheduled for June 23, 2022, at the Pechanga

Resort Casino, featuring Steve Wozniak as the guest speaker. This year's theme is "Innovation is Inland." Additionally, staff is compiling a new member binder that will be given to new Executive Committee members to provide information on the Agency as it pertains to programs and purpose.

8. ITEMS FOR FUTURE AGENDAS

There were no items for future agendas.

9. GENERAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

Committee member Craig Miller provided a water update; the region has had its driest three-month period ever, going into the third year of drought. Governor Newsome signed an executive order directing cities and counties to implement new water conservation measures. The Order requires local water suppliers to move up their water shortage contingency plans, meaning a reduction of 10% - 20% within a district. The California State Water Resources Control Board is evaluating a ban on irrigation on non-functional turf.

The Water Task Force meeting is scheduled for April 22, 2022, virtually, from 7:30 a.m. - 9:30 a.m. For more information please reach out to Chris Gray at cgray@wrcog.us.

Committee member Andy Okoro announced his retirement, effective July 1, 2022.

Vice-Chair Johnson announced that after Tuesday's City Council meeting, the Council directed to move forward on the new development of the City's Civic Center that will revitalize Main Street.

10. NEXT MEETING

The next Technical Advisory Committee meeting is scheduled for Thursday, May 19, 2022, at 9:30 a.m., on the Zoom platform, with the option for Committee members to attend in-person at the WRCOG office.

11. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting of the Technical Advisory Committee adjourned at 10:06 a.m.