

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting of the Technical Advisory Committee was called to order at 9:31 a.m. by Chair Chris Lopez on the virtual platform, Zoom.

**2. ROLL CALL**

**Members present:**

Bonnie Johnson, City of Calimesa  
Chris Mann, City of Canyon Lake  
Bryan Jones, City of Eastvale  
Chris Lopez, City of Hemet, Chair  
Rod Butler, City of Jurupa Valley  
Grant Yates, City of Lake Elsinore  
Mike Lee, City of Moreno Valley  
Kim Summers, City of Murrieta  
Andy Okoro, City of Norco  
Clara Miramontes, City of Perris  
Rob Johnson, City of San Jacinto  
Gary Nordquist, City of Wildomar  
Danielle Coats, Eastern Municipal Water District  
Mathew Evans, March Joint Powers Authority  
Craig Miller, Western Municipal Water District (arrival 9:45 a.m.)

**Staff present:**

Steve DeBaun, Legal Counsel  
Rick Bishop, Executive Director  
Barbara Spoonhour, Deputy Executive Director - Operations  
Andrew Ruiz, Chief Financial Officer  
Casey Dailey, Director of Energy & Environmental Programs  
Chris Gray, Director of Transportation & Planning  
Princess Hester, RCHCA Director of Administration  
Tyler Masters, Program Manager  
Cameron Brown, Program Manager  
Elisa Laurel, Program Manager  
Don Ries, Program Manager  
Janis Leonard, Administrative Services Manager  
Anthony Segura, Senior Analyst  
Kyle Rodriguez, Staff Analyst  
Rachel Singer, Staff Analyst  
Daniel Soltero, Staff Analyst  
Suzy Nelson, Administrative Assistant

**Guests present:**

Erin Sasse, League of California Cities  
A.J. Wilson, International City / County Management Association (ICMA)  
Darci Kuenzi, County of Riverside Flood Control and Water Conservation District  
Jeff Potts, City of Corona  
Imelda Huerta, City of Menifee

Teifion Rice-Evans, Economic and Planning Systems, Inc,  
Kwasi Agyakwa, Member of the Public  
Martha Masters, Riverside County Transportation Commission

### **3. PUBLIC COMMENTS**

There were no public comments.

**4. MINUTES** (EMWD / Norco) 14 yes; 0 no; 0 abstain; Items 4.A through 4.F were approved. The Cities of Banning, Beaumont, Corona, Menifee, Riverside, and Temecula, the County of Riverside, WMWD and the Morongo Band of Mission Indians were not present.

**A. Summary Minutes from the January 16, 2020, Technical Advisory Committee Meeting are Available for Consideration.**

**Action:** 1. *Approved the Summary Minutes from the January 16, 2020, Technical Advisory Committee meeting.*

**B. Finance Department Activities Update**

**Action:** 1. *Received and filed.*

**C. 3rd Quarter Draft Budget Amendment for Fiscal Year 2019/2020**

**Action:** 1. *Recommended that the Executive Committee approve the 3rd Quarter Draft Budget Amendment for Fiscal Year 2019/2020.*

**D. Regional Streetlight Program Activities Update**

**Action:** 1. *Received and filed.*

**E. Climate Resiliency Challenge Update**

**Action:** 1. *Received and filed.*

**F. International City / County Management Association Activities Update**

**Action:** 1. *Received and filed.*

### **5. REPORTS / DISCUSSION**

**A. Report from the League of California Cities**

Erin Sasse provided an update on current activities in the legislature. The State secured \$7 billion in direct and flexible funding to support local critical local services and secure CARES Act funding for all cities for expenditures related to COVID-19. The Federal Government secured \$500 billion in direct and flexible funding for all cities nationwide to support critical local services. The League is urging members to sign up for the Support Local Recovery Coalition.

The Governor's May revise allocates \$450 million of the State's CARES Act funding to cities for public health, public safety, and other services to address the COVID-19 pandemic.

Senate Bill (SB) 1431 (Glazer) Property Taxation, Reassessment, and Disaster Relief, would require county assessors to reassess certain types of properties based on their ability to generate income from

renters during the COVID-19 emergency due to eviction controls ordered statewide by the Governor's Executive Order. This measure would be retroactive to April 5, 2020. The League opposes this bill.

SB 795 (Beall) Affordable Housing and Community Development Investment Program, would invest \$2 billion annually for five years into the immediate construction of affordable housing units and programs that address and prevent homelessness. Additionally, this measure creates two new programs administered by the Office of Business and Economic Development Office (GoBiz) to help local governments with their economic recovery and natural disaster preparedness. The League supports this bill.

**Action:** 1. *Received and filed.*

## **B. Draft Fiscal Year 2020/2021 Agency Budget**

Andrew Ruiz reported that it is too early to determine the impacts of COVID-19; therefore, staff have taken a conservative approach in preparing the budget. The overall budget will be cut by approximately 30% but will be continually updated throughout the development process.

The Administration Department generates its revenue from member dues, interest revenue, and overhead. Total Revenues and Transfers match Expenditures at \$2.9M.

The Transportation & Planning Department Revenues and Transfers match Expenditures and Transfers at \$34.2M.

The Energy Department Revenues and Transfers match Expenditures and Transfers at \$2.5M.

The Environmental Department Revenues and Transfers match Expenditures and Transfers at \$814k.

The Western Riverside Energy Partnership is evolving into a Regional Energy Network.

Western Community Energy (WCE) has launched and will be self-sustaining by the end of the fiscal year. Start-up costs loaned to WCE are anticipated to be recovered in Fiscal Year (FY) 2021/2022.

WRCOG set up three fiscal-related goals going into FY 2019/2020. The office relocation to the second floor will save the Agency approximately \$1M. Establishing a Section 115 Trust as a separate investment account will allow the Agency to contribute to the CalPERS Unfunded Accrued Liability (UAL). This will allow the Agency to make additional contributions to the UAL, in hopes to reduce the term to 15 years. The expansion of Commercial PACE (C-PACE) to additional providers to operate within the WRCOG statewide footprint will result in a significant increase in activity. C-PACE is becoming more attractive to new commercial construction, seismic, and strengthening attributes.

Overall, the Agency Revenues and Transfers in are projected to be \$40,442,624, and Expenditures and Transfers out are projected to be \$40,371,508. Staff have been working diligently on making sound judgement long-term financial decisions.

**Action:** 1. *Recommended that the Executive Committee approve the draft Fiscal Year 2020/2021 Agency Budget substantially as to form.*

*(Lake Elsinore / Murrieta) 15 yes; 0 no; 0 abstain; Item 5.B was approved. The Cities of Banning, Beaumont, Corona, Menifee, Riverside, and Temecula, the County of Riverside, and the Morongo Band of Mission Indians were not present.*

### **C. Future Forward Series Presentation: COVID-19 Fiscal Impacts Analysis**

Teifion Rice-Evans provided a presentation on a recent analysis produced by Economic Planning Systems, Inc. (EPS) on the near-term fiscal impacts jurisdictions within Western Riverside County will be facing due to the current public health crisis. The assessment will be conducted in two phases. Phase 1 was completed and identified the expected level and timing of impacts of two tax revenues that will most directly be affected. According to the State of California Controller's Office, Sales and Use Tax will be the biggest hit revenue at immediate risk, coming in at 33% within WRCOG's subregion. Mr. Rice-Evans shared an overview of each jurisdiction and the possible impact within various job sectors. A majority of jobs in the retail sector show being at immediate risk.

Some fiscal vulnerability indicators focused on the General Fund revenues were Property Taxes and Property Taxes in-lieu of vehicle license fees, Sales and Use Taxes, Transient Occupancy and Lodging Taxes, Franchise Fees, User Utility, and Business Taxes.

Before September 30, 2020, Phase 2 will build on the Phase 1 work with feedback and will involve additional analysis, looking in more detail at a broader range of public revenues, the different ways in which they may be affected, and the implications for the Western Riverside County jurisdictions' overall fiscal health.

**Action:** 1. *Received and filed.*

### **D. Santa Ana Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4) Permit Compliance Program Update**

Darcy Kuenzi presented a bi-annual update on the MS4 Permit compliance and other mandates for addressing stormwater management in the region.

The Santa Ana National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Permit requires City Managers for the Cities of Beaumont, Calimesa, Canyon Lake, Corona, Eastvale, Hemet, Jurupa Valley, Lake Elsinore, Menifee, Moreno Valley, Norco, Perris, Riverside and San Jacinto, as well as the Riverside County Executive Officer, to meet at least two times annually to discuss the NPDES MS4 Permit Compliance Program.

As of now the Santa Ana and the Santa Margarita Regional MS4 Permits are still expired. Both Regional Board proceedings are set to renew in fall 2020.

The overall budget for Fiscal Year 2020/2021 for the Santa Margarita River is \$2,256,577 and \$3,017,440 for the Santa Ana River.

The biggest legislation impact that recently passed is Senate Bill (SB) 205 (Hertzberg) Business licenses: stormwater discharge compliance. As a means to control stormwater pollution, SB 205 will require applicable facilities to demonstrate enrollment with the industrial stormwater permit when applying for or renewing a business license.

**Action:** 1. *Received and filed.*

## **6. REPORT FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**

Rick Bishop reported that WRCOG has created a weekly newsletter called "The Briefing," which includes status updates on programs within the Agency, as well as any COVID-19 updates. A monthly virtual webinar series on innovating through disruption called, "Future Forward," has launched. Staff hosted the first webinar on April 30, 2020 and is set for the next Future Forward webinar on Thursday, May 28, 2020.

## **7. ITEMS FOR FUTURE AGENDAS**

There were no items for future agendas.

## **8. GENERAL ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Committee member Grant Yates announced that a new Honda dealership opens in the City of Lake Elsinore this weekend.

## **9. NEXT MEETING**

**The Technical Advisory Committee is DARK in the month of June. The next Technical Advisory Committee meeting is scheduled for Thursday, July 16, 2020, at 9:30 a.m., via Zoom platform.**

## **10. ADJOURNMENT**

**The meeting of the Technical Advisory Committee adjourned at 10:31 a.m.**