

Administration & Finance Committee

Minutes

1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting of the WRCOG Administration & Finance Committee was called to order by Chair Karen Spiegel at 12:00 p.m., on June 8, 2022, on the Zoom platform.

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Casey Dailey, WRCOG Director of Energy & Environmental, led members and guests in the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. ROLL CALL

- City of Jurupa Valley - Chris Barajas
- City of Lake Elsinore - Brian Tisdale
- City of Menifee - Matt Liesemeyer
- City of Norco - Kevin Bash
- City of Perris - Rita Rogers
- City of San Jacinto - Crystal Ruiz
- City of Wildomar - Ben Benoit
- County of Riverside, District 2 - Karen Spiegel (Chair)
- County of Riverside, District 3 - Chuck Washington

4. PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no public comments.

5. CONSENT CALENDAR – (Wildomar / Menifee) 9 yes; 0 no; 0 abstention. Items 5.A and 5.B were approved.

A. Summary Minutes from the May 11, 2022, Administration & Finance Committee Meeting

Action:

1. Approved the Summary Minutes from the May 11, 2022, Administration & Finance Committee meeting.

B. Finance Department Activities Update

Action:

1. Received and filed.

6. REPORTS / DISCUSSION

A. I-REN Partner Program and Operational Agreements

Casey Dailey, WRCOG Director of Energy & Environmental Programs, reported that WRCOG, CVAG (Coachella Valley Association of Governments), and SANBAG (San Bernardino Associated Governments) - COGs - have developed a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) which identifies the budget approved by the California Public Utilities Commission for each sector, authorizes a new I-REN Executive Committee, which will approve all contracts and agreements, and authorizes WRCOG as Administrative Lead COG the authority to serve as administrator for all invoicing, contracts, and agreements.

The Executive Committee will be made of up of up to three elected officials from each COG, selected by that COG. The Committee will meet on a quarterly basis and be subject to Brown Act requirements.

The three COGs also developed a Governance & Operations Charter as an attachment to the MOA which establishes how the formation of the I-REN Executive Committee can be formed, how often it meets, its responsibilities, how the votes of the I-REN Executive Committee members are valued, and the responsibilities of I-REN's member COGs and their respective staff.

Each COG is responsible for determining who will represent their COG on the I-REN Executive Committee. Representation can be determined by nomination, appointment or volunteer and selection. At the March 9, 2022, Administration & Finance Committee meeting, Mayor Chris Barajas (Jurupa Valley) and Mayor Crystal Ruiz (San Jacinto) volunteered to serve on the I-REN Executive Committee. One vacancy remains.

Each COG will provide one Program Manager as the lead person for that COG to serve as the primary point of contact and to make program decisions on behalf of their COG. Each I-REN program will have a team consisting of at least one representative from each COG as well as consultants and/or technical assistance providers and industry specialists.

A Program Agreement is being finalized between the I-REN member COGs, SoCal Gas, and Southern California Edison, and defines how I-REN funds are transferred from one agency to the other, naming SoCal Gas as the fiscal agent. The Program Agreement describes the roles of the Administrative Lead COG and the Investor Owned Utilities, and the deliverables expected of them including invoicing, reporting, and regulatory filing.

One of the areas still under negotiation between WRCOG and SoCal Gas is the ability to have a drawdown account established so that WRCOG will have the ability to draw down on a portion of funds, as WRCOG will be processing invoices from the other COGs.

Actions:

1. Recommended that the Executive Committee approve the Memorandum of Agreement for the I-REN and authorize the Executive Director to take necessary and appropriate actions to carry out the purpose and intent of the motion.
2. Recommended that the Executive Committee approve the Program Agreement substantially as to form between I-REN Member Council of Governments, SoCal Gas, and SCE and allow the Executive Director to make minor revisions or edits for clarification after consultation with legal counsel.

3. Recommended that the Executive Committee approve the selection of Mayor Chris Barajas, City of Jurupa Valley, and Mayor Crystal Ruiz, City of San Jacinto, to the I-REN Executive Committee and recommended Jacque Casillas (Corona) for the final WRCOG seat on the I-REN Executive Committee.

(Jurupa Valley / Perris) 9 yes; 0 no; 0 abstention. Item 6.A was approved.

B. Potential Amendment to the Beaumont Settlement Agreement

Chris Gray, WRCOG Deputy Executive Director, reported that in 2017, the City of Beaumont and WRCOG recently entered into an agreement to settle a long-standing dispute related to the collection of TUMF.

This agreement includes a provision which requires the City of Beaumont to provide a portion of its Measure A funds which it receives on an annual basis to WRCOG. The total amount of funds to be provided is \$9.4M. These payments are schedule to occur in 2022 and would occur until the full repayment.

Measure A is a 1/2 cent sales tax for transportation improvements, and the Riverside County Transportation Commission (RCTC) distributes these funds annually.

The City of Beaumont receives approximately \$1.5M annually from RCTC, and has inquired if WRCOG would consider a lump sum payment in lieu of annual payments. Per the Settlement Agreement, RCTC will provide 60% of Beaumont's Measure A funds to WRCOG, starting five years after adoption of the Settlement Agreement. This equates to approximately \$900k per year.

Action:

1. Directed the Executive Director to begin negotiations with the City of Beaumont in regards to the Measure A payments specified in the Settlement Agreement.

(Wildomar / Jurupa Valley) 9 yes; 0 no; 0 abstention. Item 6.B was approved.

7. REPORT FROM THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE CHAIR

Chair Spiegel reported that she is looking forward to General Assembly.

8. REPORT FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Dr. Wilson reported that preparations for General Assembly are coming along well.

9. ITEMS FOR FUTURE AGENDAS

There were no requests for items for future agendas.

10. GENERAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

Committee member Kevin Bash announced that the City of Norco is unveiling its Gold Star Family

Monument on June 12, 2022.

11. CLOSED SESSION

CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL - Existing litigation pursuant to Government Code Section 54956.9(d)(1): Two cases

Case Numbers:

- RIC 1904645 (Norton Rose)
- EDCV 20-2164-GW-KKx (AIG)

There were no reportable actions.

12. NEXT MEETING

The next Administration & Finance Committee meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, July 13, 2022, at 12:00 p.m., on the Zoom platform with the option for Committee members to attend in person.

13. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting of the Administration & Finance Committee adjourned at 1:05 p.m.