

# Executive Committee

## Minutes

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### 1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting of the WRCOG Executive Committee was called to order by Chair Crystal Ruiz at 2:00 p.m. on July 11, 2022, on the Zoom platform.

### 2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Committee member Jeff Hewitt led the Committee members and guests in the Pledge of Allegiance.

### 3. ROLL CALL

- City of Beaumont - Mike Lara
- City of Calimesa - Wendy Hewitt
- City of Canyon Lake - Dale Welty
- City of Corona - Jacque Casillas
- City of Eastvale - Christian Dinco
- City of Hemet - Russ Brown
- City of Jurupa Valley - Chris Barajas
- City of Lake Elsinore - Brian Tisdale
- City of Menifee - Matt Liesemeyer
- City of Moreno Valley - Edward Delgado
- City of Murrieta - Christi White
- City of Norco - Kevin Bash
- City of Perris - Rita Rogers
- City of Riverside - Ronaldo Fierro\*
- City of San Jacinto - Crystal Ruiz (Chair)
- City of Temecula - James Stewart
- City of Wildomar - Ben Benoit\*
- County, District 1 - Kevin Jeffries
- County, District 2 - Karen Spiegel
- County, District 5 - Jeff Hewitt
- Eastern Municipal Water District (EMWD) - Phil Paule\*
- Western Municipal Water District (WMWD) - Brenda Dennstedt
- WRCOG Executive Director - Dr. Kurt Wilson

\*Arrived after Roll Call

### 4. PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no public comments.

## **5. CONSENT CALENDAR**

**RESULT: APPROVED AS RECOMMENDED**

**MOVER:** District 5

**SECONDER:** Perris

**AYES:** Beaumont, Calimesa, Canyon Lake, Corona, Eastvale, Hemet, Jurupa Valley, Lake Elsinore, Menifee, Moreno Valley, Murrieta, Norco, Perris, Riverside, San Jacinto, Temecula, District 1, District 2, District 5

The water districts do not vote on TUMF matters.

### **A. Assembly Bill 361 Findings**

**Action:**

1. Affirmed the findings of the Executive Committee in Resolution Number 01-22, adopted on April 4, 2022, which are:
  - a. The Governor proclaimed a State of Emergency on March 4, 2020, related to the COVID-19 pandemic, which State of Emergency continues to exist today; and
  - b. State or local officials have recommended measures to promote social distancing.

### **B. Summary Minutes from the June 6, 2022, Executive Committee Meeting**

**Action:**

1. Approved the Summary Minutes from the June 6, 2022, Executive Committee meeting.

### **C. Summary Minutes from the June 24, 2022, Executive Committee Meeting**

**Action:**

1. Approved the Summary Minutes from the June 24, 2022, Executive Committee meeting.

### **D. Finance Department Activities Update**

**Action:**

1. Received and filed.

### **E. WRCOG Committees and Agency Activities Update**

**Action:**

1. Received and filed.

### **F. Report out of WRCOG Representatives on Various Committees**

**Action:**

1. Received and filed.

### **G. Approval of 2022 TUMF Northwest and Pass Zones 5-Year Transportation Improvement Programs**

**Actions:**

1. Approved the 2022 TUMF Northwest Zone 5-Year Transportation Improvement Program.
2. Approved the 2022 TUMF Pass Zone 5-Year Transportation Improvement Program.

## **H. Legislative Activities Update**

### **Action:**

1. Received and filed.

## **I. Approval of TUMF Credit Agreement**

### **Action:**

1. Authorized the Executive Director to execute a TUMF Credit Agreement with the County of Riverside and I10 Logistics Owner, LLC, for the Right-of-Way Phase of the Cherry Valley Boulevard Interchange Project for eligible TUMF credits not to exceed \$1,072,000.

## **6. REPORTS / DISCUSSION**

### **A. PACE Administrative and Legal Services Update**

Dr. Kurt Wilson, WRCOG Executive Director, reported that the contract being presented today separates legal services for PACE from the general representation contract. Responses to two separate distributions of Request for Proposals were reviewed by an Ad Hoc Committee consisting of representatives from this Committee. The Ad Hoc Committee provided today's requested action to the Administration & Finance Committee, which concurred with the action.

### **Action:**

1. Authorized the Executive Director to enter into a Professional Services Agreement with Best Best & Krieger for Administrative and Legal Services for the WRCOG PACE Programs through June 30, 2024, with no more than two options to renew or amend.

**RESULT: APPROVED AS RECOMMENDED**

**MOVER:** Lake Elsinore

**SECONDER:** Corona

**AYES:** Beaumont, Calimesa, Canyon Lake, Corona, Eastvale, Hemet, Jurupa Valley, Lake Elsinore, Menifee, Moreno Valley, Murrieta, Norco, Perris, Riverside, San Jacinto, Temecula, District 2, District 5, WMWD

**NO:** District 1

### **B. TUMF Nexus Study Activities Update**

Chris Gray, WRCOG Deputy Executive Director, reported that in October 2021 this Committee directed staff to be working on a TUMF Nexus Study update to identify projects requiring mitigation due to new development, to determine the cost of these projects, and to establish a development fee schedule to cover the cost of the TUMF Program.

Socio-economic forecasts have been completed, utilizing SCAG's Regional Transportation Plan / Sustainable Communities Strategy. Staff have meet with each member jurisdiction to confirm the

allocations of growth. Based upon SCAG's forecast, population and employment are projected to grow 40% over the next 20 years in the WRCOG subregion.

Member agencies have requested that 50 projects be added to the TUMF Network. WRCOG will evaluate each of these projects using various criteria to determine their eligibility for inclusion in the Nexus Study.

The steps to formally add a project to the Network include a formal request by the jurisdiction; staff then adds the project to the transportation model used in the Nexus Study, and then evaluates whether the project meets certain criteria (volume, threshold for capacity, and regional connectivity).

WRCOG will provide progress updates through the WRCOG Committee structure. Ultimately, if there are any changes to the fee schedule this Committee will have final approval.

Staff have been contacted by developers, project applicants, and member agencies regarding vehicle miles traveled (VMT) mitigation. Staff have spent a significant amount of time studying this matter and has determined that there is no existing program or method to do so; however, several member agencies and Agency partners have expressed interest in the creation of such an approach to VMT mitigation.

Staff first completed a Development Impact Fee Study in 2017 (updated in 2019), which was a compendium of all development-related fees in the WRCOG subregion. Staff will be releasing a new set of data in the fall of 2022.

Staff have been working on a Residential Trip Generation Study to determine traffic model fees assessed on a per square foot basis instead of a per unit basis, per Assembly Bill 602. The Study is anticipated to be completed by December 2022.

**Action:**

1. Received and filed.

**C. 2022 WRCOG Staff Service Milestone Recognitions**

Dr. Kurt Wilson, WRCOG Executive Director, reported that four of WRCOG staff members are being recognized for their service to WRCOG: Janis Leonard (15 years); Tyler Masters (10 years); Ichelle Acosta (5 years); and Harry Sandoval (5 years).

**Actions:**

1. Received and filed.

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

Joe Mouawad, Eastern Municipal Water District (EMWD) General Manager, reported that the western part of the country is in its third year of a serious drought, with 97% of California experiencing severe drought, including some of the driest conditions over the past 1,200 years.

Of the six major reservoirs located throughout the state, only two (Lake Mathews and Diamond Valley Lake) are over 50% capacity.

Water to southern California is imported through the State Water Project at 5% allocation, and the upper Colorado River Basin. The concern to the western U.S. is not only water supply, but hydro electro power generation. The U.S. Bureau of Reclamation has called for the seven states that share water from the Colorado River to come together and agree on reducing their take from the Colorado River to between 2 million and 4 million acre feet by next year. If an agreement cannot be made, the Bureau will begin mandating reductions. These reductions could include a limitation of 50 gallons per person, per day, and/or one day per week of outside watering. Neither WMWD nor EMWD are impacted due to the levels of stored water and their ability to shift stored water.

In October 2021, Governor Newsome declared a drought statewide, followed by a declaration in November 2021 by the Metropolitan Water District. While December 2021 was one of the wettest months on record, January 2022 was one of the driest months on record. The State has asked for a 15% voluntary water reductions, but may become mandatory by August, and has also banned the use of potable water for nonfunctional turf for commercial, industrial, and institutional customers. The Board of Directors for both EMWD and WMWD have adopted actions to support this mandate.

Both water agencies have implemented increased outreach related to conservation and education, and continued development of local supply projects, such as groundwater desalination and cleanup, groundwater recharge, recycling bot potable and non-potable water, and stormwater capture.

Craig Miller, Western Municipal Water District (WMWD) General Manager, reported that Solve the Water Crisis Coalition consists of General Managers who are attempting to change the trajectory of the State's water planning process. Both water agencies participate in the Coalition. This Collation aims to educate key stakeholders on the importance of long-term solution to the state's recurring water issues.

While a majority of water falls in northern California, a majority of the demands are in southern California. The Coalition wants to build surface and groundwater storage and be able to move water around the state.

The Coalition has 24 confirmed members, and there are more than 50 agencies interested in joining. More information on the Coalition can be found at <https://www.solvethewatercrisis.com/>.

Committee member Christian Dinco indicated that the City of Eastvale would like to join the Coalition.

**Action:**

1. Received and filed.

**7. REPORT FROM THE TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE CHAIR**

Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) Chair Jeff Van Wagenen had no report.

**8. REPORT FROM COMMITTEE REPRESENTATIVES**

Committee member Ted Hoffman, SAWPA OWOW representative, reported that the SAWPA Board received 24 projects for the Proposition 1 Round II funding; only five were from Riverside County. SAWPA has until July 19, 2022, to make final funding recommendations. The Jurupa Community Services District is working on its inner valley water quality and water resiliency project. The Cities of

Lake Elsinore and San Jacinto are working on an algae harvesting project to clean their watersheds. The Riverside Highlands Water Company is working on a water wells project for nitrate removal. SAWPA is working on a project regarding seeding clouds.

Committee member Ben Benoit, South Coast AQMD representative for cities in Riverside County, reported that next month the AQMD Board is having a public meeting on its Air Quality Management Plan.

## **9. REPORT FROM THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE CHAIR**

Chair Ruiz thanked everyone for their attendance at General Assembly. Chair Ruiz presented Janis Leonard, WRCOG Administrative Services Manager, with flowers in honor of her birthday.

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

Dr. Wilson reported that if anyone has an interest in participating in an Ad Hoc Committee on legislation advocacy, next year's General Assembly, and budget matters, to name a few, to please contact him. WRCOG is just a little more than half way through the first year of operating under the Strategic Plan; updates will be provided in the near future, and will include discussions regarding in-person meetings. Dr. Wilson will also begin scheduling individual update meetings with member agencies.

## **11. ITEMS FOR FUTURE AGENDAS**

There were no items for future agendas.

## **12. GENERAL ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Committee member Kevin Bash requested confirmation on agendizing further water / drought presentations.

## **13. CLOSED SESSION**

Steve DeBaun, WRCOG Legal Counsel, announced that there are four closed session matters as listed on the agenda.

CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL - Existing initiation of litigation pursuant to Government Code Section 54956.9(d)(1)

- Case No. 37-2021-00008300-CU-MC-CTL (Carey)
- Case No. 37-2021-00014856-CU-MC-NC (Molina-Duarte)
- Case No. RIC 1904645 (Norton Rose)
- Case No. 20-2164-GW-KKx (AIG)

There were no reportable actions.

## **14. NEXT MEETING**

The next Executive Committee meeting is scheduled for Monday, August 1, 2022, at 2:00 p.m., on the

Zoom platform with the option for Committee members to attend in person at WRCOG's office.

## **15. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 4:17 p.m.