



Southern California Association of Governments
Remote Participation Only
April 2, 2020

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING
EXECUTIVE/ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE (EAC)
THURSDAY, March 5, 2020

THE FOLLOWING MINUTES IS A SUMMARY OF ACTIONS TAKEN BY THE EXECUTIVE/ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE (EAC). A VIDEO AND AUDIO RECORDING OF THE ACTUAL MEETING IS AVAILABLE AT: <http://scag.iqm2.com/Citizens/>

The Executive/Administration Committee (EAC) of the Southern California Association of Governments (SCAG) held its regular meeting at the SCAG main office, 900 Wilshire Boulevard, Suite 1700, Los Angeles, California 90017. A quorum was present.

Members Present

Hon. Bill Jahn, President	<i>Big Bear Lake</i>	District 11
Hon. Clint Lorimore, 2nd Vice President	<i>Eastvale</i>	District 4
Hon. Alan Wapner, Imm. Past President		SBCTA
Hon. Peggy Huang, Chair, CEHD		TCA
Hon. Stacy Berry, Vice Chair, CEHD	<i>Cypress</i>	District 18
Hon. David Pollock, Vice Chair, EEC	<i>Moorpark</i>	District 45
Hon. Cheryl Viegas-Walker, Chair, TC	<i>El Centro</i>	District 1
Hon. Jess Talamantes, Vice Chair, TC	<i>Burbank</i>	District 42
Hon. Jan Harnik, Chair, LCMC		RCTC
Hon. Margaret Clark, Vice Chair, LCMC	<i>Rosemead</i>	District 32
Hon. Frank Navarro, President’s Appt.	<i>Colton</i>	District 6
Hon. L. Dennis Michael, President’s Appt.	<i>Rancho Cucamonga</i>	District 9
Hon. Margaret Finlay, President’s Appt.	<i>Duarte</i>	District 35
Sup. Luis Plancarte, President’s Appt.		Imperial County
Mr. Randall Lewis, Ex-officio	<i>Lewis Group of Companies</i>	Business Representative

Members Not Present

Hon. Rex Richardson, 1st Vice President	<i>Long Beach</i>	District 29
Sup. Linda Parks, Chair, EEC		Ventura County
Hon. Andrew Masiel, Sr.	<i>Pechanga Dev. Corp.</i>	TGRP Representative

Staff Present

Kome Ajise, Executive Director
Darin Chidsey, Chief Operating Officer

OUR MISSION

To foster innovative regional solutions that improve the lives of Southern Californians through inclusive collaboration, visionary planning, regional advocacy, information sharing, and promoting best practices.

OUR VISION

Southern California’s Catalyst for a Brighter Future

OUR CORE VALUES

Be Open | Lead by Example | Make an Impact | Be Courageous



Debbie Dillon, Chief Strategy Officer
Justine Block, Acting Chief Counsel/Acting Director of Legal Services
Ruben Duran, Board Counsel
Sarah Jepson, Director of Planning
Art Yoon, Director of Policy and Public Affairs
Basil Panas, Chief Financial Officer
Julie Shroyer, Chief Information Officer
Peter Waggoner, Office of Regional Council Support
Tess Rey-Chaput, Office of Regional Council Support

CALL TO ORDER AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Honorable Bill Jahn called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. and asked Mayor L. Dennis Michael, Rancho Cucamonga, District 9, to lead the Pledge of Allegiance.

President Jahn reminded the members that a Closed Session will immediately follow the EAC Open Session Meeting.

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

There was no public comment speaker.

REVIEW AND PRIORITIZE AGENDA ITEMS

There was no prioritization of agenda items.

ACTION/DISCUSSION ITEMS

1. Regional Early Action Planning (REAP) Grant Subregional Partnership Program and Funding Allocation

President Jahn introduced the item and asked Executive Director Kome Ajise to provide a report.

A MOTION was made (Viegas-Walker) to authorize staff to develop a process and formula to make up to 50 percent, or \$23,736,000 of Regional Early Action Program (REAP) funds available to SCAG to: (1) incentivize and support local partnerships implementing eligible activities, leveraging SB 2 Planning Grants and Local Early Action Planning (LEAP) grant funds where appropriate; and (2) make funds available relative to each subregion's total share of regional housing need, as determined by the adopted Regional Housing Needs Assessment (RHNA) allocation. Motion was SECONDED (Finlay) and passed by the following votes:

AYE/S: Berry, Clark, Finlay, Harnik, Huang, Jahn, Lorimore, Michael, Navarro, Plancarte Pollock, Talamantes, Viegas-Walker and Wapner (14)

NOE/S: None (0)

ABSTAIN: None (0)

2. Resolution No. 20-619-1: Preserving Naturally Occurring Affordable Housing Project Regulatory Agreement

President Jahn introduced the item and asked Executive Director Kome Ajise to provide a report.

A MOTION was made (Michael) to adopt Resolution No. 20-619-1 to grant SCAG Executive Director or his designee the authority to negotiate and execute up to eight (8) regulatory agreements with the National CORE/Watt Investment partners-related property owners for a pilot project that aims to preserve naturally occurring affordable housing. Motion was SECONDED (Navarro) and passed by the following votes:

AYE/S: Berry, Clark, Finlay, Harnik, Huang, Jahn, Lorimore, Michael, Navarro, Plancarte Pollock, Talamantes, Viegas-Walker and Wapner (14)

NOE/S: None (0)

ABSTAIN: None (0)

CONSENT CALENDAR

Approval Items

3. Minutes of the Meeting – February 6, 2020

4. Contract Amendment: Contract No. 20-002-C01 - Board Counsel Services

5. Contract Amendment Greater than 30% of the Contract's Original Value, Purchase Order No. 007008, Electronic Signatures, Amendment 2

6. Approval Threshold Approval of the Fiscal Year 2020-21 Draft Comprehensive Budget

Receive and File

7. Road User Charges (RUCs) – Lessons Learned

8. CFO Monthly Report*

Councilmember Cheryl Walker, El Centro, District 1, asked to pull Agenda Item 8* for a separate discussion. President Jahn asked for a motion to approve the Consent Calendar, except for Item 8.

A MOTION was made (Viegas-Walker) to approve the Consent Calendar, except for Agenda Item 8; Receive and File Item 7. Motion was SECONDED (Talamantes) and passed by the following votes:

AYE/S: Berry, Clark, Finlay, Harnik, Huang, Jahn, Lorimore, Michael, Navarro, Plancarte Pollock, Talamantes, Viegas-Walker and Wapner (14)

NOE/S: None (0)

ABSTAIN: None (0)

PULLED AGENDA ITEM

8. CFO Monthly Report*

Councilmember Cheryl Viegas-Walker, El Centro, District 1, asked for clarification regarding the vacation “buy-back” program for SCAG employees and emphasized the importance of work-life balance, spending time with the family and staying energetic by managing and taking a vacation. Executive Director Kome Ajise explained that the vacation “buy-back” program in the proposed budget is an adjustment to the employee benefits in order for the agency to continue to be competitive, retain and attract quality employees. SCAG and other similar agencies limit the employees’ vacation accrual which are typically accrued at a lower pay and are expended at a higher pay, usually at an employee’s separation or at some other point years after originally accrued. Mr. Ajise asked Human Resources Manager Carmen Flores to further explain the program. Ms. Flores echoed Mr. Ajise’s clarification and further explained the program is part of a total compensation package that was reviewed and compared with other agencies. By allowing flexibility of utilizing vacation cash-out to cover for emergencies, deferred compensation program, or cover premium costs, Ms. Flores stated the adjustment will benefit employees. Councilmember Viegas-Walker reiterated concern and emphasized the importance of encouraging employees to refresh by taking a vacation instead of using the accrued vacation time as a cash compensation. Mr. Ajise stated that while employees are always encouraged to take vacation days in addition to the Personal Floating Holidays, the agency cannot mandate employees to take a vacation.

Councilmember Jess Talamantes, Burbank, District 42, echoed Councilmember Viegas-Walker’s concerns and suggested combining the employees’ vacation and sick time.

Immediate Past President Alan Wapner, SBCTA, echoed comments that were made regarding employees' health and well-being. While the cash-out option is beneficial to the employee and can be treated as a savings account, Immediate Past President Wapner wants to ensure that SCAG is also maintaining fiscal responsibility. Chief Financial Officer Basil Panas remarked the agency has sufficient reserves to cover for such payout.

Councilmember Margaret Clark, Rosemead, District 32, echoed the comments regarding employees taking a vacation and spending time with their children by visiting national parks.

Councilmember Jan Harnik, RCTC, asked a question regarding employees accrued vacation funds upon separation. Human Resources Manager Carmen Flores responded the vacation policy being proposed is allowing flexibility when using accrued vacation hours.

Councilmember Peggy Huang, TCA, asked for clarification regarding annual leaves and cited an example of her personal experience which necessitated use of annual leave from her employer. Human Resources Manager Carmen Flores responded the current vacation policy does not offer a vacation cash-out option but does offer separate vacation and sick leaves.

A MOTION was made (Viegas-Walker) to Receive and File Agenda Item 8. Motion was SECONDED (Talamantes) and passed by the following votes:

AYE/S: Berry, Clark, Finlay, Harnik, Huang, Jahn, Lorimore, Michael, Navarro, Plancarte Pollock, Talamantes, Viegas-Walker and Wapner (14)

NOE/S: None (0)

ABSTAIN: None (0)

CFO MONTHLY REPORT

Basil Panas, Chief Financial Officer, reported that SCAG received an audit resolution letter from Caltrans regarding the Indirect Cost Allocation Plan Audit whereby SCAG provided adequate documentation regarding its procurement policies and procedures including adjustment of its indirect cost to remove unallowable costs and that SCAG submitted adequate documentation to support reimbursement of \$2.25 million in disallowed costs via cost substitution.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

President Jahn reported that he, along with some members of the EAC and LCMC, travelled last month to Sacramento for SCAG's Annual Legislative trip and met with the legislative offices

including visits with Secretary Kim and Senator Weiner. Governor Newsom, during his State of the State address, focused exclusively on the state's housing crisis. President Jahn emphasized that Sacramento will need to provide us the tools and funds to develop affordable housing. He expressed appreciation to staff for coordinating the Sacramento trip.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Executive Director Kome Ajise thanked Chief Financial Officer Basil Panas for providing an update regarding the FY 21 draft Comprehensive Budget and commented that SCAG has accomplished a lot with meeting state and federal requirements and stated confidence with ensuring a smooth path forward.

Mr. Ajise reported that SCAG received almost two thousand comments for Connect SoCal and noted it is twice the amount of feedback received from the 2016 Plan. Overall, he commented that we are moving in the right direction and that the Joint Policy Committee will recommend to the Regional Council for approval of the Plan at the April meeting.

Mr. Ajise invited the members to SCAG's and USC Sol Price School of Public Policy's Annual Demographic Workshop scheduled for Thursday, June 11 from 8:30AM to 3:30PM. The workshop coincides with the decennial census of 2020 and updates on progress and challenges will be discussed. This year's theme is, *"What Does It Mean to Be a Slow Growth State?"*

Finally, Mr. Ajise provided a status update on Final Federal Safer, Affordable, Fuel-Efficient (SAFE) Vehicles Rule, Part I which became effective on November 26, 2019. SCAG will continue to work closely with the ARB, EPA, FHWA/FTA to achieve the goal of federal approval of conformity for the Final Connect SoCal Plan by June 1.

ANNOUNCEMENT/S

President Jahn announced that the Closed Session will begin immediately after the adjournment of the Open Session.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, President Jahn adjourned the Open Session at 9:37AM.

After the adjournment of the Open Session, President Jahn convened the Closed Session.

CLOSED SESSION EXECUTIVE/ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE (EAC)



THURSDAY, MARCH 5, 2020

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Members Present

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Hon. Clint Lorimore, 2nd Vice President	<i>Eastvale</i>	District 4
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Hon. Stacy Berry, Vice Chair, CEHD	<i>Cypress</i>	District 18
Hon. David Pollock, Vice Chair, EEC	<i>Moorpark</i>	District 45
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Hon. Frank Navarro, President’s Appt.	<i>Colton</i>	District 6
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Hon. Margaret Finlay, President’s Appt.	<i>Duarte</i>	District 35
Sup. Luis Plancarte, President’s Appt.		Imperial County
Mr. Randall Lewis, Ex-officio	<i>Lewis Group of Companies</i>	Business Representative

Members Not Present

Hon. Rex Richardson, 1st Vice President	<i>Long Beach</i>	District 29
Sup. Linda Parks, Chair, EEC		Ventura County
Hon. Andrew Masiel, Sr.	<i>Pechanga Dev. Corp.</i>	TGRPB Representative

Staff Present

Kome Ajise, Executive Director
Darin Chidsey, Chief Operating Officer

Ruben Duran, Board Counsel
Justine Block, Acting Chief Counsel/Acting Director of Legal Services

CALL TO ORDER

President Bill Jahn called the Closed Session meeting to order at 9:40 a.m.

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

President Jahn opened the Public Comment period.

Seeing none, President Jahn closed the Public Comment period and asked SCAG staff and members of the public to leave the meeting room.

The Executive/Administration Committee moved to Closed Session while President Jahn asked Board Counsel Ruben Duran to introduce the items:

1. Conference with Legal Counsel – Existing Litigation
Pursuant to CA Government Code §54956.9 (d) (1): *Liu vs CalPers and SCAG* (Case No. 19STCP0456)
2. Conference with Legal Counsel – Anticipated Litigation
Pursuant to CA Government Code §54956.9 (d) (2): *One Case*

President Jahn adjourned the Closed Session at 9:58 a.m.

At the conclusion of the Closed Session, Board Counsel Ruben Duran reported the EAC did not take any reportable action in accordance with Brown Act.

ADJOURNMENT

[MINUTES ARE UNOFFICIAL UNTIL APPROVED BY THE EAC]

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Executive / Administration Committee Attendance Report

2019-20															Total M Attend To Da
MEMBERS	CITY	Representing	MAY	JUN	JULY	AUG	SEPT	OCT	NOV	DEC [Sp. Mtg]	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	
Hon. Bill Jahn, Chair	Big Bear Lake	District 11		1		1	1	1	1	1		1	1		8
Hon. Rex Richardson, 1st Vice Chair	Long Beach	District 29		1		1	1	0	1	1		0	0		5
Hon. Clint Lorimore, 2nd Vice Chair	Eastvale	District 4		1		1	1	1	1	0		1	1		7
Hon. Alan Wapner, Imm. Past. Chair		SBCTA		1		1	1	1	1	0		1	1		7
Hon. Peggy Huang, Chair, CEHD		TCA		0		1	0	1	1	1		1	1		6
Hon. Stacy Berry, Vice Chair, CEHD	Cypress	District 18		1		1	1	0	1	0		1	1		6
Supervisor Linda Parks, Chair, EEC		Ventura County		1		0	1	1	0	1		1	0		5
Hon. David Pollock, Vice Chair, EEC	Moorpark	District 45		1		1	1	1	1	0		1	1		7
Hon. Cheryl Viegas-Walker, Chair, TC	El Centro	District 1		1		1	1	1	1	0		1	1		7
Hon. Jess Talamantes, Vice Chair, TC	Burbank	District 42		1		1	1	1	0	0		1	1		6
Hon. Jan Harnik, Chair, LCMC		RCTC						1	1	1		1	1		5
Hon. Margaret Clark, Vice Chair, LCMC	Rosemead	District 32		1		1	1	1	1	1		1	1		8
Hon. L. Michael Dennis, President's Appt.	Rancho Cucamonga	District 9		1		1	0	1	1	0		1	1		6
Hon. Margaret Finlay, President's Appt.	Duarte	District 35		1		1	1	1	1	0		1	1		7
Hon. Frank Navarro, President's Appt.	Colton	District 6		1		0	1	1	1	0		1	1		6
Supervisor Luis Plancarte, President's Appt.		Imperial County		0		1	1	1	1	1		0	1		6
Hon. Andrew Masiel, Sr.	Pechanga Dev. Corporation	Tribal Government Regional Planning Board											0		0
Mr. Randall Lewis, Ex-Officio Member	Lewis Group of Companies	Business Representative		1		1	1	1	1	1		0	0		6

Attachment: EAC Attendance Sheet 2019-20 (Minutes of the Meeting - March 5, 2020)