

MINUTES OF THE
MARICOPA ASSOCIATION OF GOVERNMENTS
MAG REGIONAL COUNCIL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

May 14, 2012

MAG Offices, Ironwood Room
302 N. 1st Avenue, Phoenix, Arizona

MEMBERS ATTENDING

Mayor Hugh Hallman, Tempe, Chair
Mayor Marie Lopez-Rogers, Avondale,
Vice Chair
Mayor Scott Smith, Mesa, Treasurer
Mayor W.J. "Jim" Lane, Scottsdale

Mayor Michael LeVault, Youngtown
Mayor Thomas L. Schoaf, Litchfield Park,
Past Chair
Mayor Greg Stanton, Phoenix

* Not present

Participated by video or telephone conference call

1. Call to Order

The Executive Committee meeting was called to order by Chair Hallman at 12:09 p.m.

Chair Hallman stated that public comment cards were available for those members of the public who wish to comment. Transit tickets were available from Valley Metro for those using transit to come to the meeting. Parking validation was available from MAG staff for those who parked in the parking garage.

2. Call to the Audience

Chair Hallman stated that according to the MAG public comment process, members of the audience who wish to speak are requested to fill out the public comment cards. He stated that there is a three-minute time limit. Public comment is provided at the beginning of the meeting for items that are not on the agenda that are within the jurisdiction of MAG, or non-action agenda items that are on the agenda for discussion or information only. Chair Hallman noted that no public comment cards had been received.

3. Approval of the April 16, 2012 Executive Committee Meeting Minutes

Mayor Lane moved to approve the April 16, 2012 Regional Council Executive Committee meeting minutes. Mayor Smith seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.

4. Draft Federal Exceptional Events Reform Legislation

Ms. Bauer informed the committee that on April 12, 2012, staff from Representative Flake's office had a meeting at MAG and shared a two page summary of draft legislation called "The Commonsense Legislative Exceptional Events Reform Act of 2012" (The CLEER Act of 2012), which involves exceptional events reform. She noted this draft legislation includes a ninety day deadline for EPA to take action from when they received the documentation, with the option of requesting a ninety day extension. She stated that in the draft legislation there would also be an appeals process for EPA's decisions on exceptional events. Ms. Bauer stated this draft legislation was introduced on May 8, 2012.

Ms. Bauer stated that MAG's Washington legal counsel prepared an analysis of the draft legislation and found that although this legislation does streamline the EPA approval process, it does not streamline the documentation that states have to submit for exceptional events. She added MAG legal counsel provided suggestions, which included statutory definitions of natural and high wind events, the need for EPA to take into account that some areas receive very little rain and have stagnant conditions and dust storms, and to also make it clear that the streamlining applies to the documentation itself.

Ms. Bauer added that the Chair of MAG Regional Council also suggested to make it permissive to allow the states to make the determination. This means that EPA could defer to the states. She noted since that time, staff determined that the legislation had already been introduced, and according to Representative Flake's staff, they did not want to offer an amendment at this point in time. Ms. Bauer stated Representative Flake has been very helpful and testified in Congress regarding exceptional events. Ms. Bauer noted that this proposed legislation is different than the legislation the committee has seen in the past.

Chair Hallman asked if there were any comments or questions. There were none.

Chair Hallman stated he has a call into Representative Flake's office to see if they would consider the amendment. He noted that the current pending legislation will be helpful, however, the amendment would streamline the documentation requirement.

Mayor Lane agreed that the legislation should include the streamlining of documentation.

Mayor Levault stated he would like to see the MAG legislation move forward and asked what the timing is in regards to passing the current legislation. Ms. Bauer stated she would contact Representative Flake's office to get the deadlines.

5. Approval of the Draft FY 2013 MAG Unified Planning Work Program and Annual Budget and Member Dues and Assessments

Becky Kimbrough, MAG Fiscal Services Manager, stated the Draft FY 2013 MAG Unified Planning Work Program and Annual Budget was first presented in January, with incremental

pieces added each month through May. She added she is requesting approval of the resolution to adopt the Draft FY 2013 MAG Unified Planning Work Program and Annual Budget and Member Dues and Assessments for final adoption.

Ms. Kimbrough stated in January 2012, MAG proposed to keep a fifty percent overall reduction of member dues and in February proposed projects were presented for the Work Program. She added, in March the initial draft was mailed out to the committee and in April, positions, budgeted salary increases, and changes to projects, including the Cave Creek/Carefree Transportation Framework Study and additional funding for the Maricopa Trip Reduction program, were discussed.

Ms. Kimbrough stated the incremental presentations allowed time for questions, input and a more thorough review of the proposed budgetary items. She added there is an overall decrease proposed to the FY 2013 budget from the current year budget of 13.2 percent without including carryforward consultant estimates. She noted the largest dollar decrease is in budgeted capital costs with the remodel of the MAG office space completed during FY 2012 and the next largest decrease was the decrease in new project consultants. Ms. Kimbrough added budgeted overhead decrease reflects reduced costs in a number of overhead items with the highest dollar decrease in telephone charges, meetings, and noncapital equipment software

Ms. Kimbrough stated MAG submits its Work Program each year to the Government Finance Officer's Association for review and application for the Distinguished Budget Presentation Award. She added MAG received this award for the current Work Program in January of this year, and the Work Program for FY2013 will be submitted for the fifteenth consecutive year.

Chair Hallman asked if there were any questions or comments. There were none.

Mayor Lane moved to approve the resolution to adopt the Draft FY2013 MAG Unified Planning Work Program and Annual Budget and the Member Dues and Assessments. Mayor LeVault seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously

6. Request for Future Agenda Items

Chair Hallman asked if there were any requests for future agenda items. There were none.

7. Comments from the Committee

Chair Hallman asked if there were any comments for the committee members.

Mayor Lopez-Rogers informed the committee that on Friday, May 11, 2012 the Executive Committee of the League of Arizona Cities and Towns accepted and adopted the resolution regarding improving the border crossings.

Ms. McClafferty stated at the last Executive Committee meeting she announced MAG had

received six complimentary registrations to the 2012 Arizona-Mexican Commission Summer Plenary Session on June 7 and 8, 2012 and will extended these to the Executive Committee if they were interested in attending the event. She noted four complimentary registrations are still available if anyone is interested in attending. Chair Hallman noted this conference will be held in Tucson.

Adjournment

Mayor Lane moved to adjourn the Executive Committee meeting. Mayor Lopez-Rogers seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously. There being no further business, the Executive Committee adjourned at 12:22 p.m.

Chair

Secretary