

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

May 13, 2013

MAG Offices, Ironwood Room  
302 N. 1<sup>st</sup> Avenue, Phoenix, Arizona

MEMBERS ATTENDING

Mayor Marie Lopez Rogers, Avondale, Chair  
Mayor Scott Smith, Mesa, Vice Chair  
Mayor Michael LeVault, Youngtown, Treasurer  
Mayor Gail Barney, Queen Creek

Mayor W. J. "Jim" Lane, Scottsdale  
Mayor Thomas L. Schoaf, Litchfield Park  
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 Lopez Rogers at 12:03 p.m. Chair Lopez Rogers 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 Lopez Rogers 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. She 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 Lopez Rogers stated no comment cards had been received.

3. Approval of the April 15, 2013 Executive Committee Meeting Minutes

Chair Lopez Rogers asked if the members had any questions regarding the April 15, 2013 meeting minutes. There were none. Mayor Barney moved to approve the April 15, 2013 Executive Committee meeting minutes. Mayor Schoaf seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.

4. Update on the Metropolitan Planning Area Boundaries

Dennis Smith, MAG Executive Director, provided an update on the status of the Metropolitan Planning Area Boundaries. He stated for several months, the MAG Regional Council Executive Committee and the Regional Council have been reviewing the potential changes to the MAG Metropolitan Planning Area (MPA) Boundary. He reported that the City of Maricopa and the Town of Florence passed resolutions requesting membership in MAG pending a new MPA Boundary being approved by the Governor in cooperation with MAG. On April, 3, 2013, the Governor of the Gila River Indian Community (GRIC) sent a letter to MAG, requesting that the remainder of the GRIC that is in Pinal County also be included in the MAG MPA Boundary.

Mr. Smith stated this week he has been invited to a study session of the Pinal County Board of Supervisors to make a presentation on MAG. He added that on April 15, 2013, the MAG Regional Council Executive Committee, by consent, approved and adopted the Metropolitan Planning Area Boundary map to be conveyed to the Governor via the Arizona Department of Transportation. This would provide for municipalities from Pinal County within the proposed boundary and Pinal County itself to join MAG contingent upon the boundary being changed.

Mr. Smith stated on April 27, 2103 a letter from the Chair of Regional Council, Certification of Adoption of the Minutes, and the final MPA boundary map was hand delivered to the offices of the Governor, Arizona Department of Transportation (ADOT), and Federal Highway Administration. MAG heard from the Director of ADOT that the Governor has signed the letter, however, as of today, MAG had not received the letter. He stated MAG is proceeding with a Work Program that includes three new members being part of the Dues and Assessments. Mr. Smith expressed appreciation to this committee for all their discussions and work on this.

Chair Lopez Rogers asked if there were any questions or comments from the committee. Mayor Schoaf stated that several years ago, written policies and procedures were adopted that governs some of the questions that came up, such as procedures for the nominating committee, procedures of rotation of representatives through the Chairs of committees, etc. He suggested that perhaps a group should come together to look at this process now that new southeast entities are being added as members. Chair Lopez Rogers agreed.

Mr. Smith stated in a previous Executive Committee meeting, staff was asked to bring the Executive Committee Subcommittee back together to work on the amendment. This committee included Mayor Schoaf, Mayor Smith, and Mayor Stanton. Mr. Smith stated only one MAG committee has a geographic boundary that defines the east and west and that is the Transportation Policy Committee. Chair Lopez Rogers stated the subcommittee should get together to discuss committee definitions so that they are clear. Mayor LeVault asked when would membership be effective for the new members. Mr. Smith stated they would become due paying members beginning July 1, 2013.

5. Annual Regional Council Meeting and Passing of the Gavel Ceremony

Kelly Taft, Communications Manager, stated that the Passing of the Gavel Ceremony has been scheduled for June 19, 2013, at noon at the Downtown Phoenix Sheraton. She noted that this is both a change in the regular date and time of the Regional Council meeting. She added this is usually a Transportation Policy Committee meeting day, however, the June meeting has been cancelled. Ms. Taft stated that MAG members can park at MAG and walk over to the event or park at the Sheraton and have their parking validated. Ms. Taft stated formal invitations will not be sent out, instead an email invitation will be going out this week and members are asked to RSVP to Valerie Day at the MAG office. She noted an RSVP is needed in determining how much food will need to be provided. The invitation list includes the members of Regional Council, the Transportation Policy and Economic Development committees.

Ms. Taft stated an abbreviated Regional Council meeting will also be held at the Sheraton and it will include the election of officers, with the reception and ceremony slated to begin at approximately 12:30 p.m. She added during the ceremony, staff will play the *Year in Review* video that committee members graciously participated in. She added the ceremony will consist of a buffet style luncheon and alcohol will not be provided due to the noon time frame. Ms. Taft stated she and Sarah Daily would be happy to answer any questions regarding the event.

Chair Lopez Rogers thanked Ms. Taft for the update and stated in the future, it may be a good idea to charge a small fee for the event so that the business community can be included. Chair Lopez Rogers asked if the committee had any questions or comments. Mayor Smith stated that the more MAG integrates with the business communities, the better. He added the Economic Development Committee has been a real eye opener and has had a positive impact with public and private entities coming together. Mayor Smith suggested inviting leadership from WESTMARC, Greater Phoenix Leadership, Greater Phoenix Economic Council, etc. Mayor Schoaf added that the educational institutions should also be included.

Mayor Stanton suggested having the formal meeting at noon and then a more social reception in the evening. Chair Lopez Rogers stated that at the last committee meeting it was recommended to have the meeting at noon with the thought that more people could attend. Mr. Smith stated staff could contact the venue to see if they have space available for an evening reception. Mayor LeVault asked if the date had already been announced. Ms. Taft responded that it had already been published in the MAGAZine.

Mayor Stanton suggested inviting neighborhood groups to attend so that they can start to feel connected with MAG. He suggested to help keep costs to a minimum to provide hors d'oeuvres in place of a meal and offer a cash bar. Mayor Smith stated he thought this was a good idea. Mr. Smith suggested moving the Regional Council meeting to later in day at the Sheraton with the reception, that would also include business leaders, to follow immediately after the meeting. He added that guests would only have to make one trip, instead of having to come to the first meeting at noon and then back for the reception in the evening. Chair Lopez Rogers agreed with Mr. Smith's suggestions and directed staff to contact the Sheraton to see if space was available.

6. Approval of the Draft FY2014 MAG Unified Planning Work Program and Annual Budget and the Member Dues and Assessments

Becky Kimbrough, Fiscal Services Manager, stated that the final draft FY2014 MAG Unified Planning Work Program and Annual Budget is on the agenda today for approval. She stated the draft Work Program has been presented incrementally from January through April and there are no appreciable differences from the information presented last month. Ms. Kimbrough noted that there is an overall increase to the proposed FY2014 budget from the current year budget of 4.28 percent without including carryforward project estimates. The largest dollar increase is in budgeted personnel costs. She added the next largest increase is for maintenance and repairs costs, which are almost entirely to cover RCN network equipment, computer equipment, and copy machines.

Ms. Kimbrough indicated that the largest dollar decreases in overhead are for project consultants. Capital outlays also decreased since the completion of the remodel and the purchase of the accounting system during this fiscal year. She added that there is an overall decrease to overhead for FY2014 of about four percent.

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. MAG received this award for the 14th consecutive year for the the FY2013 Work Program in January of this year; the work program for FY2014 will be submitted for the 15th consecutive year.

Ms. Kimbrough reported that MAG is awaiting word from the Governor's office on the planning boundaries to complete the planning section narrative in the work program. This change will also affect the member Dues and Assessments, if members are added, it will have the effect of decreasing each member's dues and assessments. The planning objectives in the work program at MAG would also be affected.

Chair Lopez Rogers thanked Ms. Kimbrough for her report and asked if the committee had any questions or comments.

Mayor Smith asked how would the three new members impact Dues and Assessments. Ms. Kimbrough stated the Dues and Assessments that the new members would pay would be a total of approximately \$18,000. Mayor Lane asked if the personnel costs on the expenditure side from FY2013 to FY2014 is staff driven or compensation increases and benefits. Ms. Kimbrough stated it is both. She stated MAG is proposing four new staff positions in FY2014 and MAG is also recommending that a proposed salary increase of up to five percent be included for FY2014. She added that the Arizona State Retirement System contribution is going up and staff does not yet know what will be happening with health insurance costs. She stated the social security and medicare taxes are on the additional staff positions.

Mayor LeVault asked if the health insurance plan is on a fiscal or calendar year. Ms. Kimbrough stated the plan is on a calendar year. She added each year MAG carefully negotiates health insurance with a broker. She noted there is a lot of uncertainty regarding health insurance right now with the Affordable Care Act and costs. Mayor Stanton was called out of the meeting.

Mayor Barney moved to approve adopting 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 with Mayor Stanton not in attendance.

7. Request for Future Agenda Items

Chair Lopez Rogers asked if there were any requests for future agendas items. There were none.

8. Comments from the Committee

Chair Lopez Rogers asked if there were any comments from the committee. Mr. Smith stated that the interviews that Mayor Lane and Mayor Schoaf did for *Horizonte* would be posted on the Economic Development Committee website.

Adjournment

Mayor LeVault moved to adjourn the Executive Committee meeting. Mayor Lane seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously. There being no further business, the Executive Committee adjourned at 12:43 p.m.

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Chair

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Secretary