

**REGIONAL COUNCIL MEETING
WEDNESDAY, JUNE 29, 2017
CITY OF APACHE JUNCTION COUNCIL CHAMBERS
APACHE JUNCTION, ARIZONA**

M I N U T E S

I. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Benning called the meeting to order at 6:36 pm.

II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Chair Benning led the Regional Council, guests and CAG staff in the Pledge of Allegiance.

III. ROLL CALL AND INTRODUCTIONS

Members Present: Councilmember Robin Benning, Supervisor Tim Humphrey, Mayor Al Gameros, Mayor Darryl Dalley, Councilmember Fred Carpenter, Councilmember Bobby Davis, Supervisor Pete Rios, Councilmember Dave Waldron, Mayor Craig McFarland, Mayor Tara Walter, Mayor Debra Sommers, Mayor Joe Dietz, Councilmember Vincent Manfredi, Mayor Mila Besich-Lira,

Members Absent: Mayor Bobby Smith, Councilmember Anita Hinojos, Mayor Jon Thompson, Mayor Joel Belloc, Mayor Ed Honea

Guests: Christian Price, LaRon Garrett, Anna McCray, Steven Turner, Paul Jepson, Jamie Bennett, Jess Knudson, James Menlove

Staff: Andrea Robles, Alan Urban, Brad Mecham, Travis Ashbaugh, Angela Gotto, Kenneth Hebert, Amber Garza

IV. CALL TO THE PUBLIC

No one addressed the call to the public.

V. CONSENT ITEMS

Councilmember Waldron made a motion to approve the consent agenda items. Mayor Besich-Lira seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

A. Approval of Regional Council Minutes

The Regional Council minutes from April 26, 2017 were approved under Consent Item V-A.

B. 2017 Title VI Non-Discrimination Program Implementation Plan

The 2017 Title VI Non-Discrimination Program Implementation Plan was approved under consent item V-B.

VI. INTERIM EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Ms. Robles updated the Council on recent activities and meetings taking place at CAG. Ms. Jamie Bennett addressed the Council and provided them with an update on a meeting she attended with Mr. Gary Hayes, former Executive Director of PAG. She stated Staff will be meeting with him to develop a contract to assist CAG with crisis management, the Pinal RTA and provide guidance to the Interim Executive Director. Mr. Hayes would be available to meet with the member entities and assist with planning short term and mid-term goals for the agency. Mayor McFarland directed staff to have a budget in place before making any offers. Questions, comments and discussion followed. This was an information item.

VII. NEW BUSINESS

A. Transportation Planning Update

Mr. Ashbaugh provided an update to the Council on the Transportation Planning department. Items included in his update were the 5310 Mobility Management Grant Application, the ADOT Annual Work Program for CAG FY 2018, Highway Safety Improvement Program (HSIP) Applications, Highway Performance Monitoring System (HPMS) and the CAG TIP 45-Day Review Period. This was an information item.

B. Planning and Economic Development Update

Mr. Mecham provided the Council with an update on the Planning and Economic Development department. This was an information item.

C. Review, Discussion and Decision on the Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy Annual Update

Mr. Mecham provided an overview of the Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy annual update. Questions, comments and discussion followed. Councilmember Carpenter made a motion to approve the Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy annual update. Mayor McFarland seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

D. Update on CAG's Financial Status

Ms. Robles provided an update on CAG's financial status. She informed the Council that CAG's Finance Manager had resigned from CAG. Ms. Robles stated that she had met with the Chairman of the Management Committee and the Chairman of the Regional Council to discuss the offer of a contract to Ms. Yvonne Tackett, Accountant, to provide oversight in CAG's Finance Department. Ms. Tackett was the Finance Director for CAG approximately 10 years ago. She is familiar with the accounting software, CAG's funding sources and the budget. Mr. Himanshu Patel, Pinal County, addressed the Council with an update on CAG's finances from the review process that Pinal County has assisted CAG Staff with. A Memo with recommendations to help support the daily operations in the finance department was provided in the packet. Questions, comments and discussion followed. This was an information item.

E. Review, Discussion and Decision on Establishing an hourly rate (\$75/hour) for services provided by CAG

Mr. Urban explained CAG's Planning and Development Services department has several new projects for FY 18 and in order to build that program CAG needs approval of a rate structure for general charges that would be billed for new or supplemental services. Supplemental services being additional work not specified in the original scope of an existing contract. He informed the Committee that CAG has used \$75/hr. for services provided under CDBG and ADEQ contracts and some miscellaneous contract work for the past 7 years. Mr. Urban explained that the Management Committee directed Staff to research the salary and benefits of the employees to ensure all costs are covered in the hourly rate. An update on this item will need to be presented to the Management Committee in 60 days. Questions, comments and discussion followed. Mayor Besich-Lira made a motion to approve the hourly rate for services provided by CAG Staff. She asked that a policy be developed to support the hourly rate. Councilmember Carpenter seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

F. Review, Discussion and Decision on the FY 2018 Rural Transportation Advocacy Council Assessment

Ms. Robles stated that the Budget Committee and Management Committee recommended approval of the RTAC Assessment in the amount of \$45,166. The RTAC functions as an annual pass through assessment that is provided to the Rural Transportation Advocacy Council (RTAC) and the regional liaison position held by Mr. Kevin Adam. Through the RTAC, Mr. Adam is responsible for delivering key legislative information from the State and Federal levels that could potentially impact the governments of CAG, and he also works on behalf of our region as a key advocate on a variety of transportation and governmental issues. Questions, comments and discussion followed. Councilmember Waldron made a motion to approve and pass to Regional Council the FY 2018 Rural Transportation Advocacy Council Assessment in the amount of \$45,166. Mayor Besich-Lira seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

G. Review, Discussion and Decision on relocating CAG's Administrative Office

Ms. Robles stated that the Budget Committee and Management Committee recommended approval of relocating CAG's Administrative Office to the Mustang Center in Apache Junction as option 1 or the current location in Apache Junction as option 2. Ms. Robles reviewed the expenses for the additional office locations in Superior and Florence. Questions, comments and discussion followed. Councilmember Carpenter made a motion to table this item. Councilmember Manfredi seconded the motion. Mayor McFarland requested that a budget be developed for each office before deciding on the location. The motion passed unanimously.

VIII. LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

IX. DATE, TIME AND LOCATION OF NEXT REGIONAL COUNCIL MEETING

The next Regional Council meeting will be scheduled in July.

X. ADJOURNMENT

Mayor McFarland made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Mayor Walter seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously. Chair Benning adjourned the meeting at 7:44 p.m.

Approved on _____