



**DATE:** July 14, 2021  
**TIME:** 2:00 p.m.  
**LOCATION:** 2540 W. Apache Trail, Suite 108; Apache Junction, AZ 85120

## I. CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Thompson called the meeting to order at 5:09 PM.

## II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Chairman Thompson led the Regional Council, guests, and CAG staff in the Pledge of Allegiance.

## III. ROLL CALL AND INTRODUCTIONS

**Members Present:** Jon Thompson, Al Gameros, Tim Humphrey, Sammy Gonzales, Kevin Cavanaugh, Robert Schroeder, Bob Huddleston, Andrew Rodriguez, Jamie Ramsey, Vincent Manfredi, Robin Benning, Vanessa Navarrette, Anita Hinojos

**Members Absent:** Dean Hetrick, Jim Ferris, Bobby Davis, Tara Walter, Patricia Armenta, Ed Honea

**Staff:** Andrea Robles, Angela Gotto, Yvonne Tackett, Amber Garza, Travis Ashbaugh, Robert Mawson

**Guests:** Kevin Adam, Rick Miller, Heather Wilkey, Brian Hemmerle, Brad Miller, Sharon Jakubowski Wolz, Chip Wilson, Micah Gaudet

## IV. CALL TO THE PUBLIC

No one answered the Call to the Public

## V. LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

Kevin Adam provided the Legislative update.

## VI. CONSENT ITEMS

Councilmember Robin Benning, Town of Queen Creek, made a motion to approve the consent agenda as presented. Councilmember Robert Schroeder, City of Apache Junction, seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

### A. Approval of Regional Council Minutes – April 28, 2021

The April 28, 2021 Regional Council minutes were approved under Consent Item VI-A.

### B. Approval of Economic Development District Board Minutes – April 28, 2021

The April 28, 2021 Economic Development District Board minutes were approved under Consent Item VI-B.

## VII. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Ms. Andrea Robles updated the Council on recent activities and meetings taking place at CAG. She stated that she had recently completed 20 years of employment with CAG and expressed her gratitude to those who mentored and supported her throughout the years. Ms. Robles informed the Council that CAG has entered into multiple WIFA contracts to provide Davis-Bacon monitoring and procurement if needed. She stated that as part of her staff restructure, she has designated staff responsible for revitalizing projects and programs within CAGs planning department. Ms. Robles informed the Council that CAG, in conjunction with Sun Corridor MPO, will be hosting the 22<sup>nd</sup> Annual Rural Transportation Policy Summit on October 13<sup>th</sup> – 14<sup>th</sup> 2021 at Harrah's Ak-Chin casino and Resort and

registration for the event will be distributed this month to all RTAC representatives and alternates, Regional Council and Executive Board Members.

Ms. Robles also provided the Council an update on recent activities and meetings taking place within the Pinal RTA. She stated that the escrow currently had a balance of approximately \$64 million. Ms. Robles stated that the IGA outlines have been distributed for review and comment to entities that are anticipating funding. Ms. Robles stated that staff will finalize the IGA's based on direction given by the Board at their July 22nd meeting and once they are finalized, the IGA's will be distributed to communities again for final review by their staff and legal counsel. Questions, comments, and discussion followed. This was an information item.

## **VIII. NEW BUSINESS**

### **A. Audit Firm Selection**

Ms. Yvonne Tackett informed the Council that CAG issued a request for proposals (RFP) on April 1, 2021. She stated that two firms responded to the RFP (HeinfeldMeech, Henry+Horne) and a working group was formed to review the proposals. Ms. Tackett stated that the working group consisted of Management Committee Chairman Paul Jepson, Gila County Manager James Menlove, and City Manager Larry Rains. The group met on May 17, 2021 and recommended Henry+Horne as the successful proposal. Ms. Tackett stated that the Executive Committee reviewed the recommendation for the working group and approved the recommendation. She stated that the Executive Committee requested a representative from Henry & Horne attend the Regional Council meeting and that Mr. Brian Hemmerle was present should anyone have questions. Supervisor Kevin Cavanaugh, Pinal County, made a motion to approve Henry & Horne as the audit firm for CAG. Councilmember Robin Benning, Town of Queen Creek, seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

### **B. Financial Report**

Ms. Yvonne Tackett presented the May 2021 financial report to the Council. She stated that at 92% of the fiscal year completed, expenditures are 73.65% of the annual budgeted expenditure amounts and that revenues reflect 70.5%. Ms. Tackett stated that CAG would have a net of \$29,000 which was just under the target of \$31,267. Ms. Tackett stated that she would like to remind the Council that revenues are posted when billed, but they are 30-90 days behind due to CAG being on a reimbursement basis. She stated that the receivables are currently further behind due to ADOT holding up reimbursement for approximately 30 days in March/April to review how in-kind was being tracked. Questions, comments, and discussion followed. Councilmember Robert Schroeder, City of Apache Junction, made a motion to approve the May 2021 financial report as presented. Councilmember Robin Benning, Town of Queen Creek, seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

### **C. CAG FY22-FY23 ADOT 2-Year Work Program**

Mr. Travis Ashbaugh presented the CAG FY22-FY23 ADOT 2-Year work program. He stated that the work program was formerly on a one-year cycle but has transitioned to a two-year cycle. Mr. Ashbaugh informed the Council that during the preparation of the CAG FY22 Budget, ADOT informed CAG that they were reducing funding and reverting all rural COGs to the base rate of \$125,000 per year. Mr. Ashbaugh stated that this was a reduction in program funds of \$60,000 over the course of the 2-year work program. Supervisor Cavanaugh, Pinal County, asked why there was a reduction in funds and if ADOT provided an explanation. Mr. Ashbaugh stated that ADOT is expecting two new MPOs to be formed in the next year and two and they are putting money aside for when those MPOs are formed. He stated that the pot of money doesn't change so the funds have been reallocated to allow for the formation of the new MPOs. Questions, comments, and discussion followed. Councilmember Robin Benning, Town of Queen Creek, made a motion to approve the CAG FY22-FY23 ADOT 2-Year Work Program as presented. Supervisor Kevin Cavanaugh, Pinal County, seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

**D. CAG FY2021 – FY2031 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)**

Mr. Travis Ashbaugh informed the Council that the CAG TIP received a credit from previous projects that did not utilize all of the allocated funding. He stated this credit came after ADOT had announced its reduction in funding and CAG had already developed the preliminary FY 2022 budget. Mr. Ashbaugh stated that the credit was approximately the same amount as the shortfall created by the reduction in funding from ADOT. He stated that CAG's Executive Director and Finance Manager met with the CAG Transportation Technical Advisory Committee (TTAC) to discuss the possibility of utilizing these funds for the transportation planning department. The TTAC made the recommendation to allocate \$30,497.13 of STBGP dollars in FY22 to CAG's operating budget. Questions, comments and discussion followed. Councilmember Robin Benning, Town of Queen Creek, made a motion to approve the CAG FY2021-FY2031 TIP Amendment as presented. Supervisor Kevin Cavanaugh, Pinal County, seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

**E. CAG FY 2022 Budget**

Ms. Yvonne Tackett presented the draft CAG FY 2022 Budget. She stated that the Executive Committee serves as the Budget Committee and they met on June 29, 2021 to review and discuss the proposed budget. She stated that the Committee offered comments and suggestions on several topics including membership dues, formulas used to calculate dues, impact of RTA costs on the general fund, and conducting a salary survey to provide a plan to the Council on salary increases for staff. Ms. Tackett stated that the Management Committee recommended moving the FY 2022 budget forward to the Regional Council for approval. She stated that the Management Committee directed Staff to conduct a salary survey, as recommended by the Executive Committee, to address the possibility of a salary increases for staff in six months. Ms. Tackett also stated that Mr. Bruce Gardner, Town of Queen Creek, had offered his assistance to CAG with the salary survey process.

Ms. Tackett provided an overview of the budget at the request of the Council. She stated that, at the direction of the Executive Committee and PRTA Legal Counsel, the anticipated expenditures from the Pinal RTA have been included as a line item. She stated that in April of 2020 Andrea Robles was asked to assume the role of Executive Director of the PRTA while the PRTA is in litigation, and this was expected to only be for a few months. Thirteen months later, Ms. Robles and support staff are still assisting with duties for the PRTA and while Pinal County reimburses for legal expenses, there are other expenses that need to be captured. Ms. Tackett stated that should the PRTA receive a favorable decision, CAG should get reimbursed for those expenses, but if the outcome is not favorable, CAG will have incurred those expenses. Mr. Robin Benning, Town of Queen Creek, asked if any agencies were delinquent on paying previous membership dues and if the 208 fees are solvent or do they need to be re-evaluated. Ms. Tackett stated that all members are current with their dues and that Travis Ashbaugh will be doing an analysis on the 208 fees to see if they need to be restructured. Questions, comments, and discussion followed.

Councilmember Vincent Manfredi, City of Maricopa, made a motion to approve the CAG FY 2022 budget as presented. Councilmember Robin Benning, Town of Queen Creek, seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

**F. Resolution No. 2021-02 establishing the City of Globe's Designated Management Agency (DMA) Boundary**

Mr. Travis Ashbaugh presented the 208 Plan Amendments for the City of Globe, Town of Miami, and Tri-City Sanitary District. He stated that each of the amendments would need to be voted on individually. Mr. Ashbaugh stated that all three entities were present if there were any questions that the Committee needed answered. He provided an overview of the timeline of what occurred over the past four years to bring the plans forward today. Mr. Ashbaugh stated that this is part of the public process through ADEQ to get the DMA boundaries approved and submitted to

the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). He stated that the three entities worked together to define each of their respective DMA boundaries and those boundaries were presented to the CAG Environmental Planning Committee (EPC) in March 2021. Mr. Ashbaugh explained that the EPC moved to approve the boundaries and began the public hearing process, which is a 45-day process, and the public hearing was held on May 19, 2021 at the City of Globe council chambers. He stated that on May 27, 2021 the EPC made a recommendation to move the amendments for approval to the CAG Regional Council.

Councilmember Robin Benning, Town of Queen Creek, made a motion to approve Resolution No. 2021-02 approving and adopting the City of Globe's CAG 208 Water quality Management plan Amendment establishing the City's DMA Boundary. Councilmember Robert Schroeder, seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken. Al Gameros – Aye; Sammy Gonzales – Aye; Anita Hinojos – Aye; Kevin Cavanaugh – Aye; Robert Schroeder – Aye; Bob Huddleston – Aye; Jon Thompson – Aye; Andrew Rodriguez – Aye; Jamie Ramsey – Aye; Vincent Manfredi – Aye; Robin Benning – Aye; Vanessa Navarrette – Aye. The motion passed unanimously.

**G. Resolution No. 2021-03 establishing the Town of Miami's Designated Management Agency (DMA) Boundary**

Mr. Travis Ashbaugh presented the 208 Plan Amendments for the Town of Miami, City of Globe, and Tri-City Sanitary District. He stated that each of the amendments would need to be voted on individually. Mr. Ashbaugh stated that all three entities were present if there were any questions that the Committee needed answered. He provided an overview of the timeline of what occurred over the past four years to bring the plans forward today. Mr. Ashbaugh stated that this is part of the public process through ADEQ to get the DMA boundaries approved and submitted to the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). He stated that the three entities worked together to define each of their respective DMA boundaries and those boundaries were presented to the CAG Environmental Planning Committee (EPC) in March 2021. Mr. Ashbaugh explained that the EPC moved to approve the boundaries and began the public hearing process, which is a 45-day process, and the public hearing was held on May 19, 2021 at the City of Globe council chambers. He stated that on May 27, 2021 the EPC made a recommendation to move the amendments for approval to the CAG Regional Council.

Councilmember Robin Benning, Town of Queen Creek, a motion to approve Resolution No. 2021-03 approving and adopting the Town of Miami's CAG 208 Water quality Management plan Amendment establishing the Town's DMA Boundary. Councilmember Robert Schroeder, City of Apache Junction, seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken. Al Gameros – Aye; Sammy Gonzales – Aye; Anita Hinojos – Aye; Kevin Cavanaugh – Aye; Robert Schroeder – Aye; Bob Huddleston – Aye; Jon Thompson – Aye; Andrew Rodriguez – Aye; Jamie Ramsey – Aye; Vincent Manfredi – Aye; Robin Benning – Aye; Vanessa Navarrette – Aye. The motion passed unanimously.

**H. Resolution No. 2021-04 establishing Tri-City Sanitary District's Designated Management Agency (DMA) Boundary**

Mr. Travis Ashbaugh presented the 208 Plan Amendments for the Tri-City Sanitary District, City of Globe, and Town of Miami. He stated that each of the amendments would need to be voted on individually. Mr. Ashbaugh stated that all three entities were present if there were any questions that the Committee needed answered. He provided an overview of the timeline of what occurred over the past four years to bring the plans forward today. Mr. Ashbaugh stated that this is part of the public process through ADEQ to get the DMA boundaries approved and submitted to the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). He stated that the three entities worked together to define each of their respective DMA boundaries and those boundaries were presented to the CAG Environmental Planning Committee (EPC) in March 2021. Mr. Ashbaugh explained that the EPC moved to approve the boundaries and began the public hearing process, which is a 45-day process, and the public hearing was held on May 19, 2021 at the City of Globe

council chambers. He stated that on May 27, 2021 the EPC made a recommendation to move the amendments for approval to the CAG Regional Council.

Councilmember Robin Benning, Town of Queen Creek, made a motion to approve Resolution No. 2021-04 approving and adopting the Tri-City Sanitary District's Designated Management Agency Boundary. Councilmember Robert Schroeder, City of Apache Junction, seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken. Al Gameros – Aye; Sammy Gonzales – Aye; Anita Hinojos – Aye; Kevin Cavanaugh – Aye; Robert Schroeder – Aye; Bob Huddleston – Aye; Jon Thompson – Aye; Andrew Rodriguez – Aye; Jamie Ramsey – Aye; Vincent Manfredi – Aye; Robin Benning – Aye; Vanessa Navarrette – Aye. The motion passed unanimously.

## **IX. INFORMATION ITEMS**

### **A. Department Updates**

#### **Planning Department**

Mr. Robert Mawson informed the Council that an analysis of the 2015 Marketing Study – Globe Workforce Apartments was completed as an off-shoot of the Globe-Miami Housing Study and was conducted at the request of the City of Globe and Mr. William Beal, Redbridge DP, LLC, to determine if the finding and facts were still valid. He stated that the analysis concluded that the study was still valid and that there is a need for housing. Mr. Mawson stated that the Globe-Miami Housing Study was paused for a short time to undertake the analysis and work has now resumed on the study. He stated that staff provided some technical assistance to member communities and that a contract with MAG will be developed in September. Questions, comments, and discussion followed. This was an information item.

#### **Water Infrastructure Finance Authority of Arizona (WIFA)**

Mr. Robert Mawson informed the Council that CAG is currently contracted with WIFA to provide Davis-Bacon Payroll Monitoring for seven projects (Rim Trail Domestic Water Improvements – Town of Payson, Sun Valley Farms Unit VI Water Company - San Tan Valley, Picacho Domestic Water Improvement District – City of Eloy, City of Globe Water Company, Villa Grande Domestic Water Improvement District, Jakes Corner, and Tonto Basin Water Company – Town of Florence) within the CAG Region. He stated that staff attended a pre-construction meeting in May for the Sun Valley Farms project located in San Tan Valley. Questions, comments, and discussion followed. This was an information item.

#### **Economic Development Administration**

Mr. Robert Mawson provided updates on the Economic Development program, stating that staff continues to work on the EDA CARES-Act grant. He stated that under this grant staff completed the CEDS document and turned that in at the end of April. Mr. Mawson stated that the second phase of the grant is to develop a toolkit for local governments and businesses to use to recover from this pandemic and other like problems that may occur in the future. He stated that staff continues to work with the economic development staffs in the communities to search for funding for projects and will be visiting with each community to see if there are additional items that they need assistance with. Questions, comments, and discussion followed. This was an information item.

### **Community Development Block Grant**

Mr. Robert Mawson provided updates on the CDBG program. He stated that staff is working with several communities as they work on projects that are in various stages. Mr. Mawson stated that they have successfully awarded the contract to Watts Manufacturing to build the Town of Winkelman's Wildland/Brush Fire Truck. He stated that a pre-construction meeting was held yesterday with the Town of Kearny for the Water Improvement project and a contract was awarded to KE&G Construction. Mr. Mawson stated that staff continues to work with the other communities to assist them in any way staff can as they wrap up projects or move forward with their new CDBG Projects. Questions, comments, and discussion followed. This was an information item.

### **Transportation Planning**

Mr. Travis Ashbaugh provided updates on activities within the Transportation Planning department programs. He stated that Mr. Kevin Adam provided an update for the RTAC proposal to the State Legislature regarding the budget surplus and he wanted to provide the numbers for the CAG Region. Mr. Ashbaugh stated that the CAG Transportation boundary is expected to receive \$2,245,526, the Sun Corridor MPO Transportation boundary is expected to receive \$3,574,668 and the Pinal County agencies within the MAG Transportation boundary are expected to receive \$8,986,801. He informed the Council that CAG just closed the application process for distribution of those funds. Mr. Ashbaugh stated that three applications were received from the Town of Superior, a joint project from the Towns of Hayden and Winkelman and one from the City of Globe and that the Transportation Technical Advisory Committee (TTAC) is currently ranking those projects. He stated that all three are great projects and once those projects are ranked, they will be brought to the Regional Council for approval of the number one project. Mr. Ashbaugh informed the Council that although one of the projects may not be funded this budget cycle, the remaining projects will stay on the list and will be the next projects recommended each year there is a state budget surplus. Questions, comments, and discussion followed. This was an information item.

### **Mobility Management**

Mr. Robert Mawson informed the Council that he is currently working alongside Travis Ashbaugh as they transition this program away from himself. He stated that they continue to work with public and private providers to help them continue to provide services. Mr. Mawson stated that staff continues to answer questions and provide information for additional funding and funding applications. He informed the Council that there is a regular Gila-Pinal Rides committee that meets to help address the needs of the providers. Questions, comments, and discussion followed. This was an information item.

## **X. CALL TO THE COUNCIL**

The members present provided updates on their communities.

## **XI. UPCOMING MEETINGS & EVENTS**

The next Regional Council meeting will be held on September 22, 2021 at 6:00 PM.

**XII. ADJOURN**

Supervisor Kevin Cavanaugh, Pinal County, made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Councilmember Robert Schroeder, City of Apache Junction, seconded the motion. Chairman Jon Thompson adjourned the meeting at 6:36 PM.