



DATE: September 22, 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 5:12 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, Micah Powell, Tim Humphrey, Sammy Gonzales, Robert Schroeder, Bob Huddleston, Andrew Rodriguez, Jamie Ramsey, Vincent Manfredi, Robin Benning, Anita Hinojos

Members Absent: Dean Hetrick, Al Gameros, Kevin Cavanaugh, Vanessa Navarrette, 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, Jennifer Love, Jennifer Evans, Mackenzie Letcher, John Calkins, Sharon Jakubowski Wolz, James Menlove, Anna McCray

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

Mayor Micah Powell, City of Eloy, made a motion to approve the consent agenda as presented. Councilmember Robin Benning, Town of Queen Creek, seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

A. Approval of Regional Council Minutes – July 28, 2021

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

B. Approval of the membership of CAG Committees

The membership of CAG Committees were approved under Consent Item VI-B.

C. Approval of a Joint Project Agreement (JPA) for Mobility Management services between CAG and the Sun Corridor MPO.

The JPA for Mobility Management services between CAG and the Sun Corridor MPO was approved under Consent Item VI-C.

VII. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Ms. Andrea Robles updated the Council on recent activities and meetings taking place at CAG. She stated that she would like to thank the CAG Management Committee Chairman and the elected officials who attended a meeting with Kevin Adam and Senator TJ Shope to discuss the RTAC priority project list. Ms. Robles stated that staff has scheduled individual meetings with the Legislators to talk about CAGs efforts through the RTAC and some of the projects on the CAG RTAC priority list.

Ms. Robles thanked everyone that paid their membership dues and stated that at this time most of the membership dues have been paid.

Ms. Robles stated that CAG would be taking over administration of two Water Infrastructure Finance Authority of Arizona (WIFA) projects at the request of the Northern Arizona Council of Governments (NACOG) for our shared member, White Mountain Apache Tribe. She also informed the Council that weekly planning meetings are being held with Sun Corridor MPO in preparation for the upcoming Rural Transportation Summit that will be held October 13th-14th at the Harrah's Ak-Chin Casino and Resort. Ms. Robles stated that an initial meeting was held with the CAG auditors, Henry+Horne, to provide background on previous audits and to develop a plan for the upcoming audits.

Ms. Robles provided the Committee with a brief update on the Pinal RTA. She stated that all the members that were going to have an IGA with the PRTA have received those IGAs for review. Ms. Robles informed the Council that once the Board has reviewed the IGAs, they would like for the members to take them to their councils for execution so that the Board can approve them in late October or early November. Ms. Robles stated that there is currently \$66M in the escrow account and that at this time there is no update from the court. Questions, comments, and discussion followed. This was an information item.

VIII. NEW BUSINESS

A. Financial Report

Ms. Yvonne Tackett presented the July 2021 financial report to the Council. She stated that at 8% of the fiscal year, expenditures are reflecting 3.21% of the budget. Ms. Tackett stated the reason for this is that the first payroll of the month is accrued back to June. She stated that revenues are low at this time, reflecting 20% of the budget. Ms. Tackett informed the Council that staff is working with the auditors to provide audit information for FY18, FY19, and FY20 and that a draft of all three years should be ready for review after the first of the year. Councilmember Robin Benning, Town of Queen Creek, made a motion to approve the financial report as presented. Supervisor Tim Humphrey, Gila County, seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

B. Confirmation of Regional Council Voting Membership

Ms. Andrea Robles informed the Council that each year the Regional Council is asked to confirm the voting membership in accordance with the CAG Bylaws. Councilmember Robin Benning, Town of Queen Creek, made a motion to approve the Regional Council Voting Membership. Mayor Micah Powell, City of Eloy, seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

C. Approval of the CAG IGA with the Pinal Regional Transportation Authority (PRTA) for reimbursement of public transportation element expenses (Mobility Management)

Mr. Travis Ashbaugh informed the Council that this IGA is the element of the PRTA for transit activities. He stated that the PRTA Board is looking to CAG to distribute \$75,000 annually to mobility management providers. Mr. Ashbaugh stated that the process for distribution has not yet been defined, but that it will be developed once there is a ruling from the Supreme Court. Questions, comments, and discussion followed. Mayor Micah Powell, City of

Eloy, made a motion to approve CAG to enter into an IGA with the PRTA for reimbursement of public transportation element expenses (Mobility Management). Councilmember Robert Schroeder, City of Apache Junction, seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

D. Resolution No. 2021-05 approving the EPCOR (Pecan and San Tan Wastewater Reclamation Plants) 208 Plan Amendment

Mr. Travis Ashbaugh informed the Council that in October of 2019 EPCOR came to CAG to apply for a 208 Plan Amendment. He stated that the 208 Plan Amendment serves two purposes which are to begin the deconsolidation of the 2006 Johnson Utilities Consolidation Service Area 208 Plan Amendment, starting with Pecan and San Tan Wastewater Reclamation Plants (WRPs), and allowance for effluent surface discharge locations for emergency purposes only from the Pecan WRP.

Mr. John Calkins, EPCOR, provided an overview of the amendment and the process that has been followed to bring the amendment forth and that this amendment focuses on the deconsolidation of the two wastewater plants. Questions, comments, and discussion followed. Councilmember Robin Benning, Town of Queen Creek, made a motion to approve Resolution No. 2021-05 approving the EPCOR (Pecan and San Tan Wastewater Reclamation Plants) 208 Plan Amendment. Councilmember Robert Schroeder, City of Apache Junction, seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

E. Resolution No. 2021-06 supporting and approving the Rural Transportation Advocacy Council (RTAC) Rural Regional Priority Project List

Mr. Travis Ashbaugh informed the Council that this resolution is supporting the efforts of Kevin Adam with the RTAC pursuit of the \$50M for transportation projects in rural Arizona in which CAG will receive an allocation of \$2,245,526 if the bill passes. Mayor Micah Powell, City of Eloy, made a motion to approve Resolution No. 2021-06 supporting and approving the Rural Transportation Advocacy Council (RTAC) Rural Regional Priority Project List. Councilmember Robin Benning, Town of Queen Creek, seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

F. RTAC Rural Regional Priority Project List

Mr. Travis Ashbaugh informed the Council that on August 12, 2021, the CAG TTAC made the determination of the Priority Project list based on a ranking system. He informed the Council that should the RTAC be successful with the \$50 million bill proposal, the TTAC voted to have the Globe/Gila County Sidewalk Improvements Phase 1 & 2 and the Winkelman/Hayden Golf Course Road projects funded under the RTAC Rural Regional Priority Projects bill. He stated that the third (Town of Superior bridge on Panther drive) and fourth (phases 3 & 4 of the Globe/Gila County Sidewalks) projects would be next in line under future RTAC surplus bills without having to submit new applications until all projects on the CAG RTAC Rural Regional Priority Project List are funded. Councilmember Robin Benning, Town of Queen Creek, made a motion to approve the RTAC Rural Regional Priority Project List. Supervisor Tim Humphrey, Gila County, seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

IX. INFORMATION ITEMS

A. Gila County Transit Governance Study Final Report

Mr. Travis Ashbaugh informed the Council that this study has taken place over the last 13 months and was completed by AECOM. He introduced Ms. Jennifer Love, AECOM, to present the findings of the study. Ms. Love provided an overview of the study, stating that it was focused on the transit governance and transit management, not the transit route planning within Gila County. She stated that the study was trying to establish a cohesive vision amongst all the

different providers and make things more efficient across Gila County. Ms. Love stated the study looked at cost savings across each of the transit providers, policy making, how to address the rising demand of transit across the region and the need for dedicated transit funding. She stated a stakeholder workshop was held during the study and detailed stakeholder interviews were conducted finding that 91% of stakeholders identified a need for better regional transit coordination and that the participants preferred a model that consolidated selected functions under regional governance. Questions, comments, and discussion followed. This was an information item.

B. Department Updates

Planning Department

Ms. Angela Gotto informed the Council that staff had worked with Member Agencies to collect the necessary residential completion and annexation data to assist the State in the development of the July 1, 2021 Population Estimates. She stated that staff is currently working with members to review employers in the CAG Region for use in the Statewide Employer database. Questions, comments, and discussion followed. This was an information item.

Water Infrastructure Finance Authority of Arizona (WIFA)

Ms. Angela Gotto provided an update on the WIFA projects. She stated that, at the request of NACOG, CAG has agreed to administer two additional projects for the White Mountain Apache Tribe in the Pinetop-Lakeside area. She stated that CAG currently has ten WIFA contracts to perform Davis-Bacon and labor standards monitoring. Ms. Gotto stated that the contracts total approximately \$166,000 and of the ten, five are currently under way with the remaining expected to start in early 2022. 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 CAG is currently advertising for an Economic Recovery Coordinator and the position will remain open until filled. He stated that work on the Economic Recovery Toolkit has been progressing and that a CEDS Committee meeting was held on September 15th. 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 applications are being completed for the City of Globe and the Town of Hayden and applications will be reviewed for the City of Apache Junction, City of Coolidge, and the Town of Star Valley prior to being submitted to Arizona Department of Housing. Questions, comments, and discussion followed. This was an information item.

Water Quality Planning

Mr. Travis Ashbaugh provided updates on activities within the Water Quality Planning program. He stated that CAG has received revision of the Apache Junction/Superstition Mountains Community Facilities District No. 1 208 Plan Amendment and that a final draft is expected to go to the Environmental Planning Committee (EPC) before the calendar year is over. He stated that there are three potential upcoming 208 amendments, and that CAG will be re-evaluating the 208 plan review fee. 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 January 26, 2022 at 5:00 PM.

XII. ADJOURN

Mayor Micah Powell, City of Eloy, made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Councilmember Robert Schroeder, City of Apache Junction, seconded the motion. Chairman Jon Thompson adjourned the meeting at 6:37 PM.