



PROCEEDINGS OF THE LOCAL AGENCY FORMATION COMMISSION OF SANTA CRUZ COUNTY

Wednesday, February 1, 2017  
10:00 a.m.

Supervisors Chambers  
701 Ocean Street, Room 525  
Santa Cruz, California

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The February 1, 2017 Santa Cruz Local Agency Formation Commission meeting is called to order by declaration of Chairperson Roger Anderson.

ROLL CALL

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| Present and Voting: | Commissioners J. Anderson, Leopold, LaHue, Botorff, Lind, Coonerty, and Chairperson R. Anderson         |
| Absent:             | Friend  |
| Alternates Present: | Bobbe   |
| Alternates Absent:  | None  |
| Staff:              | Patrick M. McCormick, Executive Officer<br>Brooke Miller, LAFCO Counsel<br>Debra Means, Secretary-Clerk |

MINUTES

MOTION AND ACTION

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| Motion: Leopold<br>Second: J. Anderson | To approve December 7, 2016 minutes with one correction to clarify action on page 7.<br>Motion carries with a unanimous voice vote. |
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APPRECIATION FOR ART SMITH, SPECIAL DISTRICT ALTERNATE

Chairperson Roger Anderson presents Art Smith with a plaque for his exemplary service on LAFCO from March 24, 2011 to December 6, 2016. He was very committed to LAFCO.

OTHER BUSINESS

POTENTIAL FIRE AGENCY REORGANIZATION, MUNICIPAL SERVICE AND SPHERE OF INFLUENCE STUDY

Mr. McCormick reports that the highest priority on the Commission's work program is to identify whether there is a potential study of fire agencies where LAFCO could be the lead for such a study. If there will be a study, it should be determined what the scope of work is and what the geographic extent should be.

There is momentum starting in the Mid-County and radiating out to find a study of sufficient value that could have a likely potential to be implemented. Staff and individual Commissioners have been talking to fire boards and union representatives. The staff report summarizes the positions received from various fire entities. He is expecting additional information within the next month from Branciforte, Central and Aptos/La Selva FPDs as well as County Fire.

Central and Aptos/La Selva FPDs have appointed committees of board members to facilitate discussions. He recommends that the Commission reciprocate by creating an ad hoc committee of two or three Commissioners for the purpose of engaging other fire board members to get participants and the scope identified. The committee would work with him, the fire boards, and the unions to identify the need for the study, the scope of the work, and the geographic area.

A letter dated January 31<sup>st</sup> from Donita Springmeyer has been distributed. Unfortunately, the agenda packet did not include page 4 from Ms. Springmeyer's letter. Additional copies of the letter have been made to include that page. All of the fire agencies received the full letter, including page 4.

Chairperson Roger Anderson says it is useful having all of the correspondence in one place.

Donita Springmeyer is a Bonny Doon resident. She thinks that the missing page 4 is important because it discusses the state sales tax Proposition 172 which is for fire and police. At the November meeting, she asked that County Fire (CSA 48) be reviewed. LAFCO does not decide who gets Proposition 172 money, which is about \$15 million per year; the Board of Supervisors has that discretion. Since LAFCO reviews the finances of all the districts, she encourages the Commission to read page 4. She does not suggest that the fire districts give back any money that went to the Fire Chiefs Association; she suggests that the County give more to fire agencies, especially CSA 48.

TJ Welsh, of Capitola, is unclear what the scope of the study would be. He hopes it is not another study to discuss the need for consolidation, but rather to discuss the process for consolidation and model types. He wants the study to involve how to make the model work and who would get involved in that process.

Brian Aluffi is the President of Local 3605. He is excited about the prospect for a committee that would include LAFCO, Central's fire board, Aptos/La Selva's fire board, and labor. This is the closest he has seen in almost 20 years to move toward an actual merger. He wants to be a part of it, and he knows labor is ready to move forward.

Commissioner Leopold likes the recommendation. They have heard from several of the fire districts and their labor unions about their interest in making this consolidation happen. He thinks having a small group that can work on these issues and bring it back to the Commission and the respective boards seems to be the most effective way to seriously consider these issues and hopefully come up with a plan and action.

He would like to be on this committee and it would be helpful to have Commissioner Friend on the committee as well.

Chairperson Roger Anderson thinks one of the major issues is that some of the important players have not signed yet on to this effort. Another issue is the expenditure of LAFCO money and most likely more money from the fire districts. This should be scoped out within a reasonable amount of time. The Commission is behind on their service reviews and this is an important part of dealing with the fire districts.

There should be an understanding that the committee would report back to the Commission so they can specify the study by the May meeting. There will have to be results from the committee no later than early April. He wonders if this suggestion is reasonable.

Mr. McCormick says ad hoc committees often have monthly reports agendized.

Commissioner Lind thinks the focus of a study should be on those agencies who are interested, not on those who expressed they are not interested, such as some North County fire agencies.

Chairperson Roger Anderson agrees with Commissioner Lind. He wants to make sure fire districts who are interested in consolidation are included.

Commissioner LaHue remembers that CSA 48 is interested in being included in the study. He wonders who is interested in being on the ad hoc committee.

Chairperson Roger Anderson appoints Commissioners Jim Anderson, John Leopold, and Zach Friend to the ad hoc committee.

Commissioner Bottorff thinks it makes sense to have Capitola represented on the committee.

Chairperson Roger Anderson says there cannot be four people on the committee due to Brown Act rules. He thinks the next LAFCO Chair will keep Commissioner Bottorff in mind if there is a vacancy on the committee.

## STATUS OF PROPOSALS

Mr. McCormick reports that he is proceeding with Soquel Creek Water District's reviews, but they will most likely not be available by the March meeting. After that, he plans to work on the Central Water District and the City of Capitola's reviews, and they both will be done in-house.

## SALARIES OF EXECUTIVE OFFICER AND SECRETARY CLERK

Chairperson Roger Anderson reports that this item was acted on in closed session at the last meeting. A resolution has been drafted that will grant the salary increases.

The recommendation for the Secretary Clerk is a salary increase of 8%, effective January 1, 2017. The Executive Officer will receive a 5% salary increase, plus a 3% longevity bonus in recognition of his service, both effective January 1, 2017.

MOTION AND ACTION

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| Motion: LaHue<br>Second: Leopold | To increase staff's salaries as recommended.<br>Motion carries with a unanimous voice vote. |
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SELECT CHAIRPERSON AND VICE-CHAIRPERSON FOR 2017

MOTION AND ACTION

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| Motion: J. Anderson<br>Second: Leopold | Nominate Commissioner LaHue as Chairperson.<br>Motion carries with a unanimous voice vote. |
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MOTION AND ACTION

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| Motion: J. Anderson<br>Second: LaHue | Nominate Commissioner Leopold as Vice-Chairperson.<br>Motion carries with a unanimous voice vote. |
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WRITTEN CORRESPONDENCE

The special districts are in the process of filling two terms. Commissioner Anderson's term is ending in May and the alternate's position, previously filled by Art Smith, is vacant. The Commission has no role in this process.

Meeting is adjourned at 10:33 a.m. The next LAFCO meeting is scheduled for 10:00 a.m. on Wednesday, March 1, 2017.

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CHAIRPERSON ROGER W. ANDERSON

Attest:

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Patrick M. McCormick, Executive Officer