



STANISLAUS LOCAL AGENCY FORMATION COMMISSION

MINUTES MARCH 23, 2011

The Stanislaus Local Agency Formation Commission met in the Joint Chambers at Tenth Street Place, Basement Level, 1010 10th Street, Modesto, California.

1. CALL TO ORDER

- A. Chair Saletta called the March 23, 2011 meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.
- B. Pledge of Allegiance to Flag. Chair Saletta led in the pledge of allegiance to the flag.
- C. Introduction of Commissioners. Chair Saletta led in the introduction of the Commissioners and Staff.

Commissioners Present: Tia Saletta, Chair, Public Member
Charlie Goeken, Vice-Chair, City Member
Jim DeMartini, County Member
Amy Bublak, City Member
William O'Brien, County Member
Vito Chiesa, Alternate County Member
Ron Freitas, Alternate Public Member

Commissioners Absent: Ken Lane, Alternate City Member

Staff Present: Marjorie Blom, Executive Officer
Sara Lytle-Pinhey, Assistant Executive Officer
Dean Wright, LAFCO Counsel
Debbie Hamilton, Clerk to the Commission

2. PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

3. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

- A. Minutes of January 26, 2011. It was moved by Commissioner O'Brien, seconded by Commissioner Bublak, and carried with a 5-0 vote (Commissioner Freitas was ineligible) to approve the Minutes of the January 26, 2011 meeting.

4. CORRESPONDENCE

A. Specific Correspondence.

None.

B. Informational Correspondence.

1. First Legislative Report for 2011 – Received.
2. Publication of the “The Sphere”, February 2011 – Received.
3. Publication of the California Special District Association (CSDA) Volume 6, Issue 1, January – February 2011 – Received.
4. Stanislaus County Planning Commissioners March 5th Workshop Materials – Received.

C. In the News:

- Patterson Irrigator, January 20, 2011, “County leaders insist on West Park developer’s update” – Received.
- Patterson Irrigator, January 20, 2011, “Time to make voices heard on West Park” – Received.
- The Modesto Bee, January 23, 2011, “Salida growth plan in doubt” - Received.
- The Modesto Bee, January 25, 2011 – EDITORIAL OPINION, “Plan for Salida needs a do-over” – Received.
- The Modesto Bee, January 26, 2011, “Builders call for help on ag rules” – Received.
- Ceres Courier, January 26, 2011, “CVS proposal sent back to Planning Commission” – Received.
- Patterson Irrigator, January 27, 2011, “Diablo Grande residents debate water rates” – Received.
- The Modesto Bee, January 29, 2011, “LAFCo considers its own ag policy” – Received.
- The Modesto Bee, February 1, 2011, “Modesto council in middle of jobs-farms debate” – Received.
- The Modesto Bee, February 7, 2011, “City forms plan to fix properties” – Received.
- The Modesto Bee, February 12, 2011 – EDITORIAL OPINION, “Development debate grows” – Received.

- The Modesto Bee, February 17, 2011, “Stanislaus farmland mitigation case denied” – Received.
- The Modesto Bee, February 22, 2011, “Ag land measure serves county well” – Received.
- Ceres Courier, February 23, 2011, “Agricultural preservation policy stands” – Received.
- Patterson Irrigator, February 24, 2011, “Water-recycling project advances, awaits federal green-light” – Received.
- The Oakdale Leader, March 9, 2011, “Oakdale Fire Cuts Looming” – Received.

Other News

- Merced Sun-Star, January 20, 2011, “Farmers express worries over loss of ag land to city” – Received.
- Western City Magazines, January 2011, “10 New Rules for Elected Officials in Times of Economic Meltdown” – Received.
- San Francisco Chronicle, February 3, 2011, “Worries if Cal Fire pulls out of wildland areas” – Received.
- Bingham.com, February 16, 2011, “Court Upholds Agricultural Easement Offset Program” – Received.
- KTVU.com, March 3, 2011, “Special Districts’ costing Taxpayers Millions” – Received.
- LA Times, March 8, 2011, “Census data shed light on California’s housing boom – and bust” – Received.

5. DECLARATION OF CONFLICTS AND DISQUALIFICATIONS

None.

6. OTHER BUSINESS

Commissioner Chiesa arrived at 6:04 p.m.

- A. Agricultural Land Preservation Policies Workshop.
(Request for Continuance by the Stanislaus County Mayors Group.)

Marjorie Blom, Executive Officer, presented an overview and background regarding the Commission’s current agricultural land preservation policies. Ms. Blom also noted that the County Mayors had requested a continuance of the workshop for three months. The Commission then discussed the Mayors request to continue the matter for three months. Vice Chair Goeken updated the Commission on the recent

Mayors Group meeting and noted that they would like to provide input on the matter. Tom Orvis, representing the Farm Bureau, addressed the Commission and stated he was in favor of waiting to hear from the Mayors Group. Following further discussion, it was moved by Commissioner O'Brien, seconded by Commissioner Bublak, and carried with a 5-0 vote (Commissioners Chiesa and Freitas were ineligible) to continue the workshop to the June 22, 2011 meeting.

7. ADDITIONAL MATTERS AT THE DISCRETION OF THE CHAIRPERSON

Commissioner DeMartini presented Debbie Hamilton, Clerk to the Commission, with a Resolution from the Stanislaus County Board of Supervisors and a Certificate of Recognition from CALAFCO for her years of service and pending retirement.

8. EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S REPORT

A. On the Horizon. The Executive Officer informed the Commission of the following:

1. Upcoming matters for the April 27, 2011 Meeting:
 - a. Proposed Budget for the FY 2011-12.
 - b. Two Oakdale Irrigation District annexation requests.
2. Upcoming matters for the May 25, 2011 Meeting:
 - a. Final Budget for FY 2011-12.
 - b. MSR & SOI Update for the Turlock Irrigation District.
3. Upcoming matters for the June 22, 2011 Meeting:
 - a. Agricultural Land Preservation Policies Workshop.

B. Other Matters:

1. A retirement reception will be held for Debbie Hamilton, on March 24th in the Basement Training Room from 2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.
2. The 2011 CALAFCO Annual Conference will be held in Napa from August 31 through September 2, 2011. Commissioners interested in attending should contact LAFCO Staff.

9. ADJOURNMENT

- A. Set the next meeting date of the Commission for April 27, 2011 at 6:00 p.m.
- B. The meeting was adjourned at 6:29 p.m.

SIGNED COPY ON FILE

Marjorie Blom, Executive Officer