APPROVED MINUTES
SAN DIEGO LAFCO
December 2, 2024 REGULAR MEETING

1. 8:15 A.M. – CALL TO ORDER BY CHAIR

Item 1a
ROLL CALL

The regular meeting was called to order at 8:17 a.m. by Chair Whitburn. The Commission Clerk performed the roll call with the following attendance recorded.

Regulars Present:	Joel Anderson, County of San Diego Kristi Becker, City of Solana Beach Jim Desmond, County of San Diego Jo MacKenzie, Vista Irrigation District Harry Mathis, Public Stephen Whitburn, City of San Diego (CHAIR) Dane White, City of Escondido Barry Willis, Alpine Fire Protection District (VICE CHAIR)
Alternates Present:	Brigette Browning, Public John McCann, City of Chula Vista
Members Absent:	David Drake, Rincon Municipal Water District (alternate) Nora Vargas, County of San Diego (alternate) Marni von Wilpert, City of San Diego (alternate)

The Commission Clerk confirmed a quorum with ten members present.

Also present at the time of roll call were the following LAFCO staff: Executive Officer Keene Simonds; Assistant Executive Officer Priscilla Mumpower; Commission Counsel Holly Whatley; Local Government Analyst II Michaela Peters; Local Government Analyst I Joelle Burila; Local Government Analyst I Meghan Traynor; Communications Associate Aiden Velasquez; GIS Analyst Dieu Ngu; and Commission Clerk Erica Sellen. LAFCO Consultants Chris Cate and Adam Wilson were also present.

Commissioner Anderson arrived at 8:19 a.m.

Item 1b
PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Commissioner Browning led the Pledge of Allegiance.

2. STATEMENT (JUST CAUSE) AND/OR CONSIDERATION OF A REQUEST TO PARTICIPATE REMOTELY (EMERGENCY CIRCUMSTANCES) BY A COMMISSIONER, IF APPLICABLE

None.

3. AGENDA REVIEW

Chair Whitburn asked Executive Officer Simonds if there were any requests to remove or rearrange items on the agenda. Executive Officer Simonds stated no changes to the agenda were needed and no supplemental correspondence had been received.

4. PUBLIC COMMENT AND OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC TO REQUEST DISCUSSION ON CONSENT ITEMS

Chair Whitburn invited anyone from the public to address the Commission on a matter not directly related to an agenda item. The Commission Clerk confirmed there were no registered speakers and no live e-mail comments.

5. CONSENT ITEMS

Item 5a
Approval of Meeting Minutes for November 4, 2024
Item presented to approve draft action minutes prepared for the Commission's November 4, 2024 meeting. Recommendation to approve.

Item 5b
Commission Ratification | Recorded Payments for October 2024
Item presented to ratify recorded payments made and received by the Executive Officer for the month of October 2024. Recommendation to ratify.

Item 5c
Authorize Holiday Office Closures
Item presented to consider authorization for the closure of the LAFCO office for the four workdays following Christmas – Thursday, December 26th through Tuesday, December 31st. Recommendation to approve.

Item 5d
Approval of 2025 Meeting Calendar
Item presented to consider approving a regular meeting schedule for the 2025 calendar year. Recommendation to approve regular meetings on the first Monday of each month except for January, July, and September. Recommendation to approve.

Item 5e
Commissioner Terms
Item presented to receive its annual report on individual Commissioner terms. Seven terms are set to expire in May 2025 and affect four of the five membership categories on the Commission. Information only.

Item 5f
Progress Report on 2024-2025 Workplan
Item presented to receive a progress report on the adopted workplan, and activities associated with the 30 projects set for 2024-2025. Recommendation to formally receive and file with the opportunity to identify potential amendments for future consideration.

CONSENT ITEMS CONTINUED…

Item 5g
Report on Active Proposals and Related Activities
Item presented to receive a status report on active proposals currently on file as well as anticipated filings based on ongoing discussions with proponents. Information only.

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Commissioner Willis motioned with a second from Commissioner Whitburn to approve the consent calendar with staff recommendations (Alternative One) as presented.

Roll call requested:

AYES:	Anderson, Becker, Desmond, MacKenzie, Mathis, Whitburn, White, & Willis
NOES:	None
ABSENT:	Drake, Vargas and von Wilpert
ABSTAINING:	None

The Commission Clerk confirmed the motion was approved 8-0.

6. PUBLIC HEARING ITEMS |
COMMISSIONER DISCLOSURE OF EX PARTE COMMUNICATIONS

Item 6a
Proposed Sphere of Influence Actions | Oceanside Region
Item presented to consider proposed sphere of influence updates for three affected local agencies in the Oceanside region under LAFCO oversight involving City of Oceanside, Oceanside Small Craft Harbor District, and Morro Hills Community Services District (CSD). The item drew on the recent municipal service review on the Oceanside region and recommendations to proceed with limited updates for all three subject agencies and marked by affirming all three existing sphere designations with no changes. A special study area was separately recommended for the Morro Hills CSD. No special study areas were recommended for the other two subject agencies. Recommendation to approve updates to affirm without changes the spheres of influence for all three affected agencies in the Oceanside region while also establishing a special study area for Morro Hills CSD.

Chair Whitburn invited any disclosures from Commissioners on material ex parte communications. No disclosures were reported.

Local Government Analyst II Peters provided the staff presentation.

Chair Whitburn opened the hearing and invited public comments from the following registered speaker:

- Thomas Harrington, President, Morro Hills Community Services District

The Commission Clerk confirmed there was one online speaker. Chair Whitburn invited comments from the following online speaker:

- Janet Kister

PUBLIC HEARING ITEMS CONTINUED…

Continued Item 6a |
Proposed Sphere of Influence Actions | Oceanside Region

Chair Whitburn proceeded to invite questions and comments from the Commissioners. Discussion followed with an agreement to remove the special study area for the Morro Hills CSD and approve the balance of the recommendation.

The Chair proceeded to close the hearing and invited a motion.

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Commissioner Desmond motioned with a second from Commissioner Anderson to approve the staff recommendation (Alternative One) as listed in the agenda report with the modification of removing the special study area for the Morro Hills CSD.

Roll call requested:

AYES:	Anderson, Becker, Desmond, MacKenzie, Mathis, Whitburn, White, & Willis
NOES:	None
ABSENT:	Drake, Vargas and von Wilpert
ABSTAINING:	None

The Commission Clerk confirmed the motion was approved 8-0.

7. BUSINESS ITEMS

Item 7a
Draft Policy on Public Member Appointments
Item presented to review a draft policy to establish rules and procedures in making regular and alternate public member appointments. The item ties to the adopted workplan. Feedback will be incorporated into a revised draft ahead of staff initiating a public comment period and presenting a final version for action at a future meeting. Recommendation to discuss the draft policy to establish protocols for making public member appointments.

Assistant Executive Officer Mumpower provided the staff presentation.

Chair Whitburn proceeded to invite questions and comments from the Commissioners.

Commission discussion followed. Among other comments, Commissioner Anderson stated he would not want to exclude candidates who make land use decisions, adding that the Commissioner could recuse themselves should there be a conflict.

Chair Whitburn invited public comments. The Commission Clerk confirmed there were no registered speakers and no live e-mail comments.

Chair Whitburn noted the upcoming retirement of Commissioner Mathis and thanked him for his outstanding service. Commissioner Mathis expressed his gratitude to the Commission.

BUSINESS ITEMS CONTINUED…

Item 7b
Quarterly Update on High Priority Project and Related Actions |
Ad Hoc on Resource Conservation Districts – 2.0
Item presented to receive a scheduled update on a high priority workplan project involving all three local resource conservation districts (RCDs) – Greater San Diego, Mission, and Upper San Luis Rey – in San Diego County. The workplan project is termed "RCDs' 2.0" and currently focusing on mapping potential and otherwise orderly boundary changes covering all three subject agencies. The update provides the Commission the opportunity to revisit the project and provide real-time input to LAFCO staff in proceeding forward. The update also – pertinently – includes a recommendation for the Commission to transition 2.0 from its current six-member Ad Hoc format to a less informal working group to provide more flexibility in advancing the project. Recommendation to approve the proposed amendments with an immediate effective date.

Local Government Analyst II Peters and LAFCO Consultant Adam Wilson provided the staff presentation.

Chair Whitburn invited public comments. The Commission Clerk confirmed there were no registered speakers and no live e-mail comments.

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Commissioner Whitburn motioned with a second from Commissioner Willis to approve the staff recommendation (Alternative One) as listed in the agenda report.

Roll call requested:

AYES:	Anderson, Becker, Desmond, Mathis, MacKenzie, Whitburn, White, & Willis
NOES:	None
ABSENT:	Drake, Vargas and von Wilpert
ABSTAINING:	None

The Commission Clerk confirmed the motion was approved 8-0.

Item 7c
Update on Informational Report |
Public Recreation at City Owned Reservoirs and Enhancement Opportunities
Item presented to receive an update on an informational report on public recreational services at City of San Diego-owned reservoirs in unincorporated San Diego County. The update is in memorandum form and ties to a previously approved workplan project in 2023-2024 to assess public amenities at the City's seven unincorporated reservoirs and explore enhancement options – including forming a special district – to expand accessibility. Should the Commission's discussion support continuing the project, staff will present an amendment at the next meeting. Information only.

Local Government Analyst I Burila provided the staff presentation.

BUSINESS ITEMS CONTINUED…

Item 7c
Update on Informational Report |
Public Recreation at City Owned Reservoirs and Enhancement Opportunities

Chair Whitburn invited public comments from the following registered speaker:

- David Seaburg, Member, Friends of the San Diego Lakes

The Commission Clerk confirmed there were no other registered speakers and no live e-mail comments.

Chair Whitburn proceeded to invite questions and comments from the Commissioners. General discussion of support followed.

No action.

Item 7d
Local Agencies Directory Under LAFCO Oversight
Item presented to receive an annual local agencies directory prepared as part of the Commission's adopted workplan. The directory lists all 102 local agencies – cities and special districts – within San Diego County subject to the Commission's planning and regulatory duties and identifies current council and board members along with senior staff members. Information only.

Local Government Analyst I Traynor provided the staff presentation.

Chair Whitburn invited public comments. The Commission Clerk confirmed there were no registered speakers and no live e-mail comments.

Chair Whitburn proceeded to invite questions and comments from the Commissioners. Commissioner Becker stated there are changes needed for some Cities and Special Districts. To add to Commissioner Becker's comment, Commissioner MacKenzie noted waiting to print until February to make sure all changes are updated.

No action.

8. EXECUTIVE OFFICER REPORT

Executive Officer Keene Simonds noted the following item:

- La Jolla is finalizing signatures and should have an update at the next meeting.

9. COMMISSIONER ANNOUNCEMENTS | REQUESTS FOR FUTURE ITEMS

Commissioner Willis would like to add a new position to help the farming community – Farming Liaison and Grant Writer.

10. CLOSED SESSION

Conference with Legal Counsel--Anticipated Litigation:
Pursuant to Government Code Section 54956.9(d)(3)): Significant exposure to litigation pursuant to paragraph (3) of subdivision (d) of Section 54956.9 related to San Diego Unified Port District. (One case.)

Chair Whitburn invited public comments. The Commission Clerk confirmed there were no registered speakers and no live e-mail comments. Chair Whitburn then adjourned the meeting into close session.

In returning from closed session, Chair Whitburn reported there was no reportable action.

11. ADJOURNMENT TO NEXT MEETING

With no further business, Chair Whitburn adjourned the meeting at 9:59 a.m.

I hereby attest the minutes above accurately reflect the deliberations of the Commission at its November 4, 2024 meeting.

ATTEST,

Erica Sellen
Commission Clerk

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