

LASSEN COUNTY LOCAL AGENCY FORMATION COMMISSION
Board of Supervisors Chambers 707 Nevada Street Susanville, CA 96130

REGULAR MEETING
February 11, 2019 - 3:05 p.m.

Meeting was called to order at 3:00 p.m. by Vice Chairperson Joseph Franco.

Roll call of members present: Chris Gallagher, Brian Wilson and Vice Chairperson Todd Eid.
Absent: Jeff Hemphill and Todd Eid.

Staff Present: John Benoit, Executive Officer, Jennifer Stevenson, Deputy Executive Officer and Gwenna MacDonald, Clerk.

Consider appointment of LAFCo Public Member Alternate

Mr. Benoit discussed the recruitment effort, and informed the Commission that no applications had been received for the position of Public Member Alternate.

Approval of Minutes: October 15 and December 10, 2018

Commissioner Wilson stated that he did not attend the October meeting and requested that consideration of the October 15, 2018 minutes be postponed to the April 8, 2019 meeting.

Motion by Commissioner Gallagher, second by Commissioner Wilson, to approve the minutes from the December 10, 2018 meeting; motion carried. Ayes: Gallagher, Wilson and Franco. Absent: Hemphill and Eid.

Approval of Agenda

Motion by Commissioner Gallagher, second by Commissioner Wilson to approve the agenda as submitted; motion carried. Ayes: Gallagher, Wilson and Franco. Absent: Hemphill and Eid.

Correspondence

None to report.

Public Comments

No comments.

Service Review Requirements and Lassen LAFCo's Role in Orderly Growth

Mr. Benoit explained that the purpose of this discussion was to start a dialog regarding LAFCO's role in assisting the various Fire Districts in moving forward to address the challenges they face in providing services to the residents in their District without an adequate revenue stream. How proactive should LAFCO be in encouraging the option of District consolidation or does LAFCO continue acting in a supporting role, with the Districts taking the lead. There is no question that it should be initiated by the District, but he is getting a lot of calls from smaller Districts asking for LAFCO to dissolve them. He discusses the requirements for Districts, including annual audits that are to be filed with LAFCO, and the necessity of maintaining a website. As he continues to complete Municipal Service Reviews, he will likely be more proactive on determining if it is a viable District, or not. Regarding consolidations, that should also be approached on a case-by-case basis, since the District can always vote against it if the residents are not in favor of consolidation.

There was a general discussion regarding the minimum requirements for Districts, tax revenue options, the consolidation of the West Patton Village with the Herlong PUD, the regulation of Water Districts by the State Water Board, and the advantage of having Boards that are willing to work together.

Work Program 2018-2019

Mr. Benoit explained that the work program is dictated by budget, and the budget is not huge so he estimated working on five municipal service reviews, and it is going to take more time than anticipated. Out of 18 districts, only 4 have returned the questionnaires so it will take some effort to gather that information. The LAFCo Policies and Procedures are 10 years old now, so it would be good to look at those again and update where needed.

Regarding budget, Calafco authorized a dues increase, and he will prepare a budget adjust for that. If additional money is dedicated to any line item or activity, it should go towards Service Reviews.

Authorize Payment of Claims for December 2018 and January 2019 Mr. Benoit reviewed the claims presented for December 2018 and January 2019 in the amount of \$7,793.11.

Motion by Commissioner Wilson, second by Commissioner Gallagher, to approve payment of claims for December 2018 and January 2019; motion carried. Ayes: Wilson, Gallagher, and Franco. Absent: Hemphill and Eid.

LAFCO Information Requests for MSR's and SOI Updates

Mr. Benoit discussed his effort to receive feedback and information from Special Districts. The information is vital to the preparation of Municipal Service Reviews and Sphere of Influence Updates, which LAFCo is required to prepare. He stated that he planned on attending a meeting of Fire Chiefs, and he also been attempting to obtain information from the Bieber Community Services Districts and so far he has been unsuccessful. The law may require that they respond, but there is no mechanism to fine or penalize them for lack of responsiveness. It was suggested that Mr. Benoit work with the Supervisor responsible for that area to contact the District President. There was a general discussion regarding recreation districts, funding mechanisms, compliance requirements and mandates established by State law.

Calafco Annual Workshop – April 10-13, 2019, San Jose

Motion by Commissioner Wilson, second by Commissioner Gallagher, to authorize Mr. Benoit's attendance at the Annual Workshop; motion carried. Ayes: Wilson, Gallagher and Franco. Absent: Hemphill and Eid.

Executive Officer's Monthly Report

Mr. Benoit discussed Fire and Emergency Medical Service Reviews and Sphere updates, describing it as a work in progress, and there was a general discussion regarding the challenge to provide emergency services to rural areas.

At 3:48 p.m. Chairperson Eid entered the room and assumed a seat on the dais.

Mr. Benoit continued with his report, noting that a discussion regarding the Big Valley Recreation District had been discussed under the previous item. He reminded the Commission to submit their Form 700's, noting that the public member should file with the County filing officer.

Mr. Benoit provided a legislative update, specifically regarding legislation that requires Special Districts to maintain a website, and who assumed the responsibility to monitor for compliance, LAFCO, or the Lassen County Auditor's office. Mr. Benoit discussed AB2238 which requires that consideration of a District's fire hazard be included in Municipal Service Reviews, SB2258 that addressed funding for LAFCo's and added that Ms. Stevenson is serving on the Legislative Committee for LAFCo and would be able to provide the Commission with up to date information.

Commissioner Reports

Commissioner Gallagher stated that the Clear Creek Board has had their election and they are running much more smoothly.

Todd Eid invited Marlin Johnson, City Planner, to introduce himself to the Commission.

Motion by Commissioner Eid, second by Commissioner Wilson to adjourn until April 8, 2019; motion carried. Ayes: Eid, Wilson, Gallagher and Franco. Absent: Hemphill.

The meeting adjourned at 4:00 p.m.

Joseph Franco, Vice Chairperson

Approved _____
Gwenna MacDonald, Recording Secretary