



**VENTURA COUNCIL
OF GOVERNMENTS**

MINUTES

Thursday, March 8, 2007

5:00 p.m.

City of Camarillo

Council Chambers

601 Carmen Drive, Camarillo, California 93010

1. **CALL TO ORDER:** Chair Morehouse called the meeting to order at 5:06 p.m.

2. **FLAG SALUTE:** Chair Morehouse led the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. **ROLL CALL:**

Member Toni Young	City of Port Hueneme
Alternate Jacqui Irwin	City of Thousand Oaks
Member Jan McDonald	City of Camarillo
Member Carl Morehouse	City of San Buenaventura
Member Tom Holden	City of Oxnard
Member Gabino Aguirre	City of Santa Paula
Member Linda Parks	County of Ventura
Member Miller	City of Simi Valley

Absent: Member Cities: Fillmore, Moorpark and Ojai

4. **PUBLIC COMMENT:** Matt Breiner, President, Local Building Industry Association, spoke on the topic of Proposed MS4 Stormwater Permit for Ventura County.

Chair Morehouse suggested that all members engage staff and their City Managers to follow up regarding this issue (MS4) and come together to address it. Member McDonald urged all cities to keep this on the radar for the May 10 meeting. Mr. Bobkiewicz responded that all cities' Public Works Directors have been the leaders on this issue and have been working with the Watershed Protection District for quite some time, and are looking to next steps and what options are available for fighting this a little more aggressively.

5. **BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS:**

Chair Morehouse welcomed Councilmember Young, who also sits on SCAG, as well as Linda Parks who was just appointed to SCAG.

6. **APPROVAL OF THE FINAL AGENDA:** No comments.

7. **CONSENT CALENDAR**

- A. **Minutes:** Adopt the Minutes of the January 9, 2007 Meeting.
- B. **Southern California Association of Governments (SCAG) District 45 and 47 Regional Council Representative Elections.** Receive and file report.
- C. **FY 2006 / 07 Midyear Budget Report:** Receive and file.
- D. **Regional Housing Needs Assessment Wrap Up:** Receive and file report.

Member Miller moved to approve Items 7A – D and Member Young seconded. Carried unanimously. Mr. Bobkiewicz requested Item 7A be pulled for discussion, as he had one change.

Motion amended and seconded by initial members.

Interim Executive Director Bobkiewicz commented on Master Page 13, page 11 of the Minutes, under ***Request for Future Agenda Items***, that information was incorrect. There were no requests for future agenda items; however, under ***Item #9, Agency Reports***, he wanted to add the following sentence:

Mary Travis from VCTC reported that the Commissioners had formed a subcommittee to review employee / retiree health benefits.

Chair Morehouse confirmed that this would move under Item # 9, and Mr. Bobkiewicz confirmed that staff would strike the language under Item # 11—there were no future agenda items requested.

Motion to approve revisions to Minutes first and seconded by Members Miller and Young respectively. Motion carried unanimously.

8. **ORDER OF BUSINESS**

- A. **VCOG Staffing Issues:** Receive update and authorize the Interim Executive Director to hire a contract, part-time Assistant Executive Director for fee not to exceed \$2,500 per month.

Chair Morehouse moved for approval of motion. Members Miller and Young first and seconded respectively. Approved unanimously with the exception of Member Parks.

- B. **Update on VCOG / Ventura County Civic Alliance (VCCA) “Compact for a Sustainable County” Project:** Receive update and consider appointing a two-member oversight committee to work with VCCA on project.

Rebecca Evans, Executive Director of VCCA fielded questions from VCOG regarding representation questions from and applicability to VCOG.

Mr. Bobkiewicz commented that since VCOG is the grantee from SCAG, he thought that a structure could be set up that makes sense for VCOG—possibly three representatives, then three from the Civic Alliance. They would continue having these kinds of meetings described by Ms. Evans, when there are decisions to be made, it would make sense to gather up a group of seven (for example) for those decision points. There may not be that many decision points that require that so VCOG could allow there to be a larger group for discussions, and when there are policy decisions, VCOG could convene the smaller for those policy decisions.

Member Holden made a motion and Member Young seconded, that VCOG would appoint three members of VCOG to represent the Alliance and they would also provide three members if there were policy questions.

Mr. Bobkiewicz commented that the Alliance has a working group of eleven who work on a consensus-based model. He asked for objections to that and encouraged VCOG members to let their feelings be known. He further commented that if there are policy questions when there is disagreement, that VCOG would have three members from VCOG and three from the Alliance meet and discuss those policy questions. Otherwise, the meetings that they had would continue but the VCOG representatives would be invited to attend those.

Member Holden then commented that VCOG representatives could attend those meetings even though there was an unweighted body so to speak, and any time that they felt there were decisions as to policy, etc., or that they had concerns about, they would meet three-and-three. Mr. Bobkiewicz concurred.

Member Parks commented that she was most interested in Milestones 4 and 5, which are part of the first two phases, as she understood, and felt that VCOG should be involved in those and Member Holden responded that under his proposed motion, they would be. The only caveat to the motion was that from a policy decision-making, at any time while attending Milestones 2,3,4 or 5, it was felt that there was a contradictory decision, that VCOG could convene to the three and three to discuss new direction in policy.

Chair Morehouse commented that as recipient of the grant, the Civic Alliance is doing work but the way it flows is through VCOG, so VCOG must be engaged.

Members Holden and McDonald agreed that if the committee of three has any questions or decisions that need to be made, that they would report back to the whole body to engage all the cities, as is the normal practice.

Chair Morehouse commented that there was a motion and a second to create a subcommittee of the whole and appoint a group of three or five members and asked if there were any objections.

The motion carried as made, and Members McDonald, Parks and Miller volunteered to serve.

C. **Designation of VCOG as Interagency Council on Homelessness for Ventura County:**

Member Young moved to approve staff's recommendation and Member Aguirre seconded.

Cathy Brudnicki, Executive Director, VCHHC answered questions from the board and explained what the vision is. She noted that VCOG has had an active standing committee for a number of years even though of late had been rather inactive.

VCOG concurred not to take action on the motion offered by Member Young and seconded by Aguirre. VCOG requested that staff's recommendation be to *consider* the request from the Ventura County Homeless and Housing Coalition to have VCOG designated as the Interagency Council (to include Parks & Recreation groups, Schools, Hospitals, etc.) on Homelessness for Ventura County, and be scheduled for a future meeting to give members time to read the 10-year plan.

D. **2007 Annual Meeting:** Interim Executive Director Bobkiewicz indicated that although VCOG has not adopted a Work Plan for the current year, it was discussed at the Administrative Committee of February 14, 2007, there was an interest in moving forward on investigating logistics for an annual meeting at approximately the same date as last year—Thursday, June 21, 2007, 6:00 p.m. with cocktails and hors d'oeuvres, and dinner at 7:00 p.m. After seeking sites that are centrally located in the County, staff has settled on the Hampton Inn in Camarillo, which would cost approximately \$4,000, which is 1/3 of the cost of last year's event held at the Reagan Library.

The purpose of this event is to gather elected officials together in an informal setting and to have a program to share activities of not only what is going on in the cities, but to also come up with a Work Plan item, such as last year's that addressed Emergency Preparedness. Mr. Bobkiewicz further commented that it was very well received, and added that this year's will be a much smaller venue.

Member McDonald suggested the new Camarillo Library and offered to do some follow-up as to the viability of using that venue for the Annual Meeting.

Member Young motioned approval of Thursday, June 21, 2007 as the date for VCOG's Annual Meeting and the location of the Hampton Inn in Camarillo or the new Camarillo Library, yet to be determined. Member Miller seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Further discussion initiated by Chair Morehouse as to suggested topics at the Annual Meeting, included Workforce Challenges—such as financing Employee Housing; Recruitment and Retention.

- E. **2007 Legislative Agenda:** Interim Executive Director Bobkiewicz indicated that the Legislative Committee, at their last meeting, suggested proposing to the full board, last year's agenda for re-adoption.

Member Young commented that she would like to add the following:

Under Item #1, Fiscal Impact, add "Item F" to support some type of legislation at the federal level similar to 1A in the state, so they do not place unfunded mandates on Ventura County.

Under Item #2, Transportation and Transit, support is needed to support the Design Build bills that are coming out as that will save money to do the projects, and efforts to support blueprint money.

Under Item #3, Economic Development, if anything should come through the legislature to support the RHNA process, VCOG has to support that. The 1A Commission said that it is not a state mandate, which is incorrect—it is a state mandate, and it was her opinion that there will be legislation proposed prior to the next RHNA to do that.

Page 54, Item #4, VCOG needs to support putting in requirements on ships, planes and trains. The EPA is the only entity that has any authority over these vehicles / vessels, and without their follow-through, Ventura County will fall out of conformity, especially if Port Hueneme wants to expand and does not wish to force their ships to come in clean.

Under Solid Waste, Item #4, Members Young and Parks discussed changes to wording to support diversion for over 50% of solid waste away from landfills to be contingent on funding.

Under Water Protection, Item #3, seek reimbursement.

Member Parks commented that she would like to support an addition of "Supporting Public Safety Facilities" (add to VIII. Public Safety and Homeland Security...)

Member Holden motioned to accept this item with changes as discussed and Member Young seconded. Carried unanimously by voice vote.

- F. **2007 Workplan:** Interim Executive Director Bobkiewicz reported that when the Administrative Committee met, they made some changes to the existing plan, which are reflected on Page 66.

Member Young requested that the lack of federal standards be addressed.

Mr. Bobkiewicz commented that the Strategic Plan was provided for information only, and if the body wished to come back and open it, he recommended that it be placed on a future agenda.

Motion carried unanimously, and there was consensus to move ahead with recommendations.

9. **AGENCY REPORTS:**

Southern California Association of Governments: Member Parks added that there was going to an Open Space workshop March 8, 2007, at the Government Center at 10:00 a.m. in Room 311.

Ventura County Transportation Commission: Mary Travis, VCTC, spoke and indicated that VCTC has received full funding for the HOV lane to be added to the 101 between La Conchita and Carpinteria.

Member Young suggested to Ms. Travis that VCTC Executive Director reports be emailed to Interim Executive Director Bobkiewicz for inclusion into VCOG agendas.

League of California Cities: None

Other Agencies: None

10. **INTERIM EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR REPORT:** None

11. **REQUEST FOR FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS:** Status Report on Civic Alliance (Member Parks)

12. **ADJOURNMENT:** Motion to adjourn meeting was made by Member Miller at 6:36 p.m. to May 10, 2007, seconded by Member Young. Motion carried unanimously.