

**KERN LOCAL AGENCY FORMATION COMMISSION
STATE OF CALIFORNIA
MINUTES**

Kern Council of Governments (KernCOG) Conference Room
1401 19th Street Suite 300
Bakersfield CA 93301
In-Person, and Video/Teleconference
Meeting of April 17, 2024

Pursuant to the Government Code § 54963. et seq., meetings were held both at a physical location and by video/teleconference to attend to any health and safety concerns of the panelist and/or participants.

Regular scheduled meeting called to order at 5:16 p.m. Chair Ayon presiding.

ROLL CALL

Present: Ayon, Clark, Couch, Crump, Fowler, McKibbin, Zaragoza
Absent: Gonzales, Scrivner
Staff: Knox, Menchaca, Rice
Counsel: Tom Schroeter

Item 04/17/24-1: *No Determination Required*

VIDEO CONFERENCE EMERGENCY REQUEST (if necessary): (Agenda Item 3)

Chair Ayon announced Commissioners were present in-person, therefore the item is not necessary.

***Let it be noted that Executive Officer Knox announced to the Chair that the Pledge of Allegiance had not been performed. Commissioner Couch lead.**

Item 04/17/24-2: *Approved as Presented*

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: (Agenda Item 4a) March 20, 2024, Meeting

*Chair Ayon presented the March minutes; Upon motion of Commissioner **Couch**, seconded by Commissioner **Fowler**, IT IS ORDERED: The March 20, 2024, Minutes are approved as presented by the following votes:*

AYES: Ayon, Clark, Couch, Crump, Fowler, McKibbin, Zaragoza
NAYS: None
ABSTAIN: None
ABSENT: Gonzales, Scrivner

Item 04/17/24-3: *No Public Comments*

PUBLIC COMMENTS: (Agenda Item 5)

None

***Let it be noted that General Business Agenda items 9a “Expense List 24-03”, 9b “Office Lease Renewal” and 9c “Executive Officer Miscellaneous Items” were heard at this time.**

GENERAL BUSINESS: (Agenda Item 9)

Item 04/17/24-4: *Approved as Presented*

EXPENSE LIST 24-03 (Agenda Item 9a)

*Chair Ayon presented Expense List 24-03. Upon motion of Commissioner **Couch**, seconded by Commissioner **Clark**, IT IS ORDERED: The general claim set forth in Expense List No. 24-03 is approved for payment, and the Chairman is authorized to certify said list by the following votes:*

AYES: Ayon, Clark, Couch, Crump, Fowler, McKibbin, Zaragoza
NAYS: None
ABSTAIN: None
ABSENT: Gonzales, Scrivner

Item 04/17/24-5: *Approved as Requested*

OFFICE LEASE RENEWAL (Continued) (Agenda Item 9b)

*Executive Officer Knox advised the Commission that the Budget Committee met earlier and requested a temporary month-to-month lease. Executive officer Knox recommended the Commission approve a request for a month-to-month office lease while negotiations continue with Kern Council of Governments (KernCOG). Upon motion of Commissioner **Couch**, seconded by Commissioner **Crump**, IT IS ORDERED: The request for month-to-month office lease agreement is approved to motion by the following votes:*

AYES: Ayon, Clark, Couch, Crump, Fowler, McKibbin, Zaragoza
NAYS: None
ABSTAIN: None
ABSENT: Gonzales, Scrivner

Item 04/17/24-6: *Informational*

EXECUTIVE OFFICER MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS: (Agenda Item 9dc)

- Staff Attending CALAFCO Staff Conference next week
- LHCSO Formation coming for May meeting
- Recognition of Commissioner Crump and Alternate Commissioner Albright serving on LAFCo
- Welcoming of Eric Bruen, Mayor of Ridgecrest assuming office in May.

***Let it be noted that Agenda items 6 “Determination Proceeding”, 7a “Annual Budget 2024-2025 Final” and 8a Commission item “LAFCo 101 Presentation” were heard at this time**

Item 04/17/24-7: *No Determination Required*

DETERMINATION PROCEEDING: (Agenda Item 6)

None

Item 04/17/24-8: *Approved as Presented -Resolution 24-04*

ANNUAL BUDGET 2024-2025 FINAL (Agenda Item 7a)

Executive Officer Knox announced to the Commission that the Budget Committee met earlier and presented the Budget Committee recommendation: 1) staff Life Insurance and Accidental Death and Dismemberment benefit limits to be increased: Executive Officer - \$200,000 and Staff -

\$100,000, with LAFCo to pay for the increased premium amount out of the Budget. 2) temporary month-to-month office lease while negotiations regarding sharing office space continue with Kern Council of Governments (KernCOG). 3) Executive Officer Knox reminded the Commission that 50% carryover for the 2023-2024 Budget would be paid to CalPERS unfunded liability as determined at the March 20, 2024, meeting. Upon motion of accepting the Budget Committee's recommendations Commissioner **Crump**, seconded by Commissioner **Couch**, **IT IS ORDERED: The Final Annual Budget 2024-2025, a month-to-month office lease and Life Insurance increase limits for staff are approved as presented by the following votes:**

AYES: Ayon, Clark, Couch, Crump, Fowler, McKibbin, Zaragoza
NAYS: None
ABSTAIN: None
ABSENT: Gonzales, Scrivner

Item 04/17/24-9: Informational

RECOGNITION: COMMISSIONER CRUMP FOR HIS YEARS OF SERVICE ON KERN LAFCO:

Commissioner Zaragoza presented John Crump with a plaque to commemorate his service.

***5:29pm Commissioner Crump left the meeting.**

COMMISSION ITEMS: (Agenda Item 8)

Item 04/17/24-10: Informational

LAFCo 101 PRESENTATION: (Agenda Item 8a)

Executive Officer Knox made a presentation of LAFCo 101. Comments were made by Commissioner Fowler and Commissioner Clark. No questions were addressed.

***6:05pm Commissioner McKibbin stepped away from the meeting and did not return.**

Item 04/17/24-11:

CLOSED SESSION: (Agenda Item 10)

None

Item 04/17/24-12: Motion to Adjourn

ADJOURNMENT: (Agenda Item 11)

*Chair Ayon announced the next meeting to be May 15, 2024. There being no further business to come before the Commission. Upon motion of Commissioner **Clark**, seconded by Commissioner **Fowler**, **IT IS ORDERED: The meeting is adjourned at 6:15 p.m. by the following votes:***

AYES: Ayon, Clark, Couch, Fowler, Zaragoza
NAYS: None
ABSTAIN: None
ABSENT: Crump, McKibbin, Gonzales, Scrivner

Clerk

Executive Officer