SUMMARY ACTION MINUTES
ALAMEDA LOCAL AGENCY FORMATION COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING

July 12, 2012

1. Call to Order and Pledge of Allegiance

Chair Miley called the meeting to order at 4:31 p.m. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

2. Roll Call.

Roll was called. A quorum was present of the following commissioners:

City Members: Tim Sbranti and alternate John Marchand
County Members: Nate Miley and Scott Haggerty
Special District Members: Ayn Wieskamp and Ralph Johnson
Public Members: Sblend Sblendorio and Alternate David Haubert

Excused: Jennifer Hosterman, City member; Louis Andrade, alternate Special District member; and Wilma Chan, alternate County member

Staff present: Mona Palacios, Executive Officer; Andrew Massey, Legal Counsel; and Sandy Hou, Clerk

3. Appreciation to Katy Foulkes

Chair Miley, on behalf of the Commission, presented a plaque of appreciation to Commissioner Foulkes for her 16 years of service on LAFCo. Other commissioners and staff also praised and thanked Commissioner Foulkes for her service, noting the many positive values and ethics that she had become known for, and indicated that she would certainly be missed. Commissioner Foulkes thanked the Commission and noted that she, likewise, had enjoyed working with them on the Commission.

4. Welcome New Commissioner

Chair Miley welcomed newly elected Special District Member, Ralph Johnson from Castro Valley Sanitary District. Commissioner John Marchand, City of Livermore, was also welcomed as the new (since February 2012) alternate City member.

5. Public Comment

Chair Miley invited members in the audience to address the Commission on any matter not listed on the agenda and within the jurisdiction of the Commission.

Joe Callahan, East Bay Municipal Utility District (EBMUD), announced that he was retiring and introduced Pat Patrick as the EBMUD representative that would replace him in attending LAFCo meetings. Staff congratulated Mr. Callahan on his retirement and thanked him for his regular attendance as a public member at LAFCo meetings over the years.
6. Approval/Correction of Minutes

Upon motion by Commissioner Wieskamp and second by Commissioner Haggerty, the minutes of May 10, 2012 were approved.

7. Summer Youth Intern Update

Staff introduced Alice Timken, recently graduated high school senior from Albany, who had been selected by staff via Alameda County’s Youth Leadership Summer Internship Program for a 6-week summer internship. Staff expressed their confidence and enthusiasm in selecting Ms. Timken and shared with the Commission some of the projects she would be working on. Following a welcome by the Chair on behalf of the Commission, Ms. Timken said she was looking forward to her internship with LAFCo and thanked the Commission for the opportunity.

8. Transfer of Jurisdiction – Proposed San Damiano Annexation to the East Bay Municipal Utility District (EBMUD)

Staff provided a summary of the written report, noting that Contra Costa LAFCo was requesting a transfer of jurisdiction from the Alameda Commission to the Contra Costa Commission. Joe Callahan, EBMUD representative, offered brief remarks on the purpose of the annexation proposal. Upon motion by Commissioner Haggerty and second by Commissioner Sbranti, the Commission unanimously approved the transfer of jurisdiction to the Contra Costa LAFCo.


Staff provided a summary of the written report, noting that the Commission was required to respond to the Grand Jury about each finding and recommendation relevant to LAFCo within 90 days – by September 24, 2012.

An extensive discussion regarding the findings and recommendations of the report included comments from Commissioners about the various agencies mentioned in the report. It was agreed to have an ad hoc committee meet with staff and counsel to discuss and suggest responses that would be brought back to the full commission for consideration at the next meeting. Commissioners Wieskamp, Marchand and Sbranti volunteered to serve on the committee.

10. Sphere of Influence (SOI) Update/Municipal Service Review (MSR) 2nd Cycle Update

Staff provided brief introductory remarks regarding this 5th project status update. Bruce Baracco and Kim Hudson from the project team presented a report on the cities of Berkeley, Emeryville, Fremont, Newark, Piedmont and Union City which had been identified to receive abbreviated reviews. The City of Albany, also identified to receive abbreviated review, was not presented because the city had not provided additional information regarding budget, personnel, programs, and development. The consultants’ presentation was followed by various questions and comments from the Commission.

- Responding to a question from Commissioner Sbranti, staff and the consultant clarified next steps in the review process, emphasizing that agencies will have opportunities to review preliminary and draft reports pertinent to them prior to final adoption by the Commission.
- Commissioner Haggerty pointed out that the report failed to reflect that the County had changed its ambulance company last October, from AMR to Paramedics Plus. He also suggested that the preliminary reports be clearly marked as drafts to avoid any confusion.
• Commissioner Marchand commented on the comparison of number of employees to population and how it varied among the cities, noting the difference in the cities of Emeryville and Fremont as an example. He also pointed out a mathematical error in the report on the city of Newark (item 32 - the reduction mentioned is 40% - not 65%).
• Commissioner Sblendorio inquired if LAFCo should be an ‘alarm’ sounder in regards to findings in the reviews, specifically financial status. The Consultant noted that LAFCo can only analyze the information provided by the agency, that its role is not to make value judgments about the accuracy of the information provided. Nate suggested that LAFCo does have an obligation to draw attention to problems, but then it is the public’s responsibility to be involved in demanding/advocating for solutions.

11. Matters Initiated by Members of the Commission

Chair Miley expressed the Commission’s condolences and shared sadness upon the recent loss of Executive Officer Palacios’ young daughter Hannah, and suggested a moment of silence in her memory before the adjournment of the meeting.

12. Informational Items – Discussion, if any, or further info is noted after the item.

a. 2012 CALAFCO Annual Conference in Monterey, October 3-5
   Commissioners Miley, Sblendorio and Haggerty are planning to attend the conference. Others wishing to attend were directed to inform staff of such.

13. Adjournment of Regular Meeting

Following a moment of silence in honor of Hannah Palacios, the meeting was adjourned at 6:06 p.m.

14. Next Meetings of the Commission

Special Meeting: Tuesday, July 31, 2012 at 4:30 p.m.
Regular Meeting: Thursday, September 13, 2012 at 4:30 pm

Respectfully submitted,

Sandy Hou, LAFCo Clerk

These minutes were approved by the Commission on July 31, 2012

Attest:
Mona Palacios, LAFCo Executive Officer