



Sonoma County

Special Districts Association

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR CHAPTER MEETING

JUNE 23, 2022 — 2:00 P.M.

MEETING HELD VIRTUALLY THROUGH GO TO MEETING

I. WELCOME AND ATTENDEE INTRODUCTIONS / ROLL CALL

President, Ramona Faith, called the Chapter Meeting to order at 2:00 p.m. Mrs. Faith welcomed all members to the first Chapter meeting for the newly formed Sonoma County Special Districts Association.

Roll Call:

Members Present: Brittany Jensen, Cheryl Doran-Girard, Dwight Good, Marcus Detwiler, Jennifer Crayne, Mark Bramfitt, Ramona Faith, Jennifer Bechtold, Rich Holmer, Tamara Davis, Tony Gossner

II. INTRODUCTION OF GUEST SPEAKER

Secretary, Jennifer Bechtold, introduced guest speaker, Executive Officer of Sonoma County LAFCO, Mark Bramfitt. Mr. Bramfitt gave the SCSDA a fantastic overview of LAFCO and noted the following points:

- LAFCO is not a branch of the County, instead they contract with the County of Sonoma for services such as forming government agencies, organizations and dissolutions, evaluating districts and cities and how they provide services efficiently through municipal reviews. Day to day, LAFCO is also responsible for moving boundaries of cities and districts through annexations.
- LAFCO is an independent body authorized through the State legislation. Every County in California has a local LAFCO branch. Currently, Sonoma County LAFCO only employs two members, Mr. Bramfitt and Cynthia Olson, even though they are approved for 3.7 staff members. They are in the process of hiring one more staff member.
- Municipal reviews are completed every five years, or as necessary, which is more common. LAFCO may assist if a district or city wants to grow or reorganize or has trouble meeting their own goals.
- The Commission is made up of seven regular members and four alternate members. Each member serves a four-year term. Two members are elected from mayors and cities, two members are appointed from the Board of Supervisors, two members elected by independent special districts and one member is appointed by the commission from the public.
- Mr. Bramfitt pointed out that special districts are instrumental in electing LAFCO members and asked us to remind our Boards to review applications and ensure we vote.
- Meetings are held the first Wednesday of each month at 2:00 p.m. Meetings are currently being held remotely, with future meetings in-person being discussed.
- LAFCO is funded through client agencies, with costs being distributed 40% by the county, 40% in cities and 20% by special districts. Total revenues of each district

determine yearly fees. The current LAFCO budget is \$400K and at this time, municipal reviews are paid from fund balance, so there are no charges to districts.

- Most of the recent work by LAFCO has been aimed at reorganizing fire districts within the county. When Mr. Bramfitt started at LAFCO seven years ago, there were 40 fire companies, which included cities, special districts and volunteers. We now have 20 fire agencies. Other recent reorganizations have included reclamation districts, parks and recreation and the Palm Drive Health Care District. Time is also being spent dealing with water and drought issues.

Mr. Bramfitt answered a couple brief questions from the members and said he would be happy to answer any others the Chapter may have in the future.

III. CSDA LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

CSDA Legislative Representative, Marcus Detwiler, reviewed the recent senate and assembly bills affecting special districts. Those bills include AB 1711 (Data Breach and Notification Law), SB 991 (Progressive Design-Build), SB 1127 (Workers' Compensation Claims Eligibility), AB 1737 (Children's Camps), AB 1902 (Resource Conservation Districts), AB 2357 (Surplus Land Act), SB 1157 (Urban Water Use Objectives), SB 739 (Unused Golf Course Conversions: Ministerial Approval), AB 2449 (Teleconferencing and the Brown Act) and SB 1100 (Disruptions and the Brown Act). Mr. Detwiler will provide his PowerPoint presentation slides to the Chapter.

IV. SPEAKERS SERIES BRAINSTORM

Chapter members discussed having future speakers such as candidates running for office, Board of Supervisors Chairman or CAO, representative from County Public Works and any speakers that can address how the drought affects our districts and any solutions they see fit. Jennifer Bechtold will reach out to Supervisor Gore and see if he would be willing to speak at our September Chapter meeting.

V. OVERVIEW OF CHAPTER MEMBERSHIP PROCESS

Treasurer, Jennifer Crayne, provided a brief overview of the membership process. Current CSDA members can participate in all SCSDA activities and there are no dues at this time. Members interested in joining SCSDA will need to fill out an application and pass a resolution with their district before joining. For any questions pertaining to membership, contact Jennifer at JenniferC@msmosquito.org.

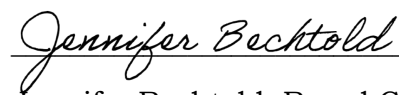
VI. OTHER BUSINESS

There was no other business to discuss.

VII. ADJOURMENT

With no further business to discuss, President Faith adjourned the Chapter meeting at 3:05 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,


Jennifer Bechtold, Board Clerk