

MINUTES

Del Norte Local Agency Formation Commission

August 26, 2013

4:00 pm

Present: Chairman Rick Holley, Kathryn Murray, Roger Gitlin, and Gerry Hemmingsen

Absent: Sparky Countess, Public Member

Also Present: George Williamson, Karen L. Phillips, and Tamera Leighton

1. Call to Order/Roll Call

Chairman Holley called the meeting to order at 4:01 p.m.

2. Public Hearings

A. None

No action was taken, no public hearings were held.

3. Regular Business

A. Approval of June 24, 2013 Draft Minutes (ATTACHMENT 3A)

On a motion by Commissioner Gitlin, seconded by Commissioner Hemmingsen, and unanimously carried on a polled vote, the Del Norte Local Agency Formation Commission approved and adopted the minutes of the June 24, 2013 meeting as presented.

B. 2013 Compliance Work Plan (ATTACHMENT 3B)

Discussion was held regarding the work plan. This demonstrates that the Commission is through their first round of reviews and the spreadsheet noted the dates the next MSR's are due for review. The Klamath Community Service District MSR is overdue, staff noted, and the information just could not be obtained by the former district officers. All of the fire districts will be presented in a regional approach that staff is currently working on in conjunction with all of the fire chiefs.

C. Update on Regional Fire Services MSR & SOI Update (ATTACHMENT 3B)

Discussion was held regarding the MSR and SOI update for the regional services. In two of the districts, Gasquet and Klamath, the district boundaries go all the way out to the County line, which is a lot of territory. Much of the area within those boundaries covers Nation Forest land, U.S. Forest Service property, etc. These are not areas that Klamath can or could serve. This will be part of the review to scale the districts back

and make the boundaries reconcile with the actual service area. The County's digital records are assisting in making the work easier for staff and to develop information to recommend changes. This will come back in early 2014, according to staff. This information would just be clearly defined; it does not change any other definitions, responsibility or boundaries of other fire agencies. If needed, the agencies back each other up on fires. Discussion of the definition of a sphere of influence was held.

D. Klamath FPD Grand Jury Report & District Response (ATTACHMENT 3D)

Discussion was held regarding the Klamath Fire Protection District and their response to the Grand Jury's report. The report came out the day of the last Commission meeting and it was not favorable to the District. Staff felt that it was appropriate to look into those items that were relevant to the work of LAFCO. Lonnie Levi gave staff an update and it was noted that the District's attention was reached with the report. They have 60 days to make corrections and answer the report. A fire tender was obtained by the District with a 2200 gallon capacity. There was criticism regarding the condition of the stations in the Grand Jury Report. The District is working on painting. Staff will work with the District on determining if they are getting all of the assessments that they should be getting. The District feels that the maintenance improvements made to their building were appropriate and they will be reporting such to the Grand Jury. The former chiefs have left behind issues that need to be resolved and the District needs to fill the seats on their board.

E. Klamath CSD MSR & SOI Update Progress Report (ATTACHMENT 3E)

Discussion was held regarding the Klamath Community Service District's MSR and SOI progress. This MSR is way overdue; however, it is being worked on and will hopefully be finished soon, according to staff. The boundaries of the District do not relate to any services or property lines. The lines need to be realistic for the district. Staff expects that they will bring back some sphere recommendations for expansion to the east and north. There is more growth and development in the area that needs to be included also. This matter will come back to the Commission in October. The Klamath Glen has well and septic tank service according to staff.

F. CALAFCO Election Ballot – Northern Region (ATTACHMENT 3F)

Executive Officer Williamson reported on the election. Mr. Williamson noted that he will be going to the conference. There are two incumbents running with no completion. By consensus Mr. Williamson will cast his vote for the two incumbents running for re-election for the Northern region.

4. Inquiries, Correspondence, Application Status and Referrals

A. Staff - The Executive Officer will provide a report of current projects, issues of interest, and pending legislation.

Update on AB 691 – Sea Level Rise & Climate Adaptation (Attachment 4A)

CALAFCo Legislative Update (Attachment 4B)

CALAFCo Sphere – August Edition (distributed separately due to file size)

The following topics were discussed: 1) AB 691 – staff noted that there will be changes and we will be affected. A climate change adaptation pilot strategy will be developed in Caltrans District One. Tamera Leighton, Executive Director of the Del Norte Local Transportation Commission noted that her Commission supports the work of this strategy and this is one of the many ways that they are working to evaluate problems in our area to find answers to the problems in a larger sense. Several projects were picked as pilot projects in District 1 with regard to how the sea level rise and climate adaptation are affecting our area. All of the projects that have been chosen reflect issues with sea level rise, there are four areas that will be studied in this study and information may be available from the study next year. 2) Discussion was held regarding the AB457 Safe Drinking Water and Supply Act – right now the strategic planning initiative funds go to the large urban areas, the rural counties are trying to find ways to get some of the funds out to the rural areas. AB 453 is vague and very general. Staff will continue to watch this legislation. Commissioner Murray noted that the California League of Cities is in opposition to this bill as it is already covered by other bills. Tamera Leighton noted that the intent of AB457 is to support sustainable communities, which means “urban” to her, with populations of over 200,000. She does not see the urban areas letting go of any of the funds unless they are embarrassed into sharing them. Her take on this is that it tightens the grip on sustainable communities and ties State funds to large urban areas; once they get the money, they never let it go. She would like to see some changes. There is nothing that says that it will be adopted any time soon; 3) Staff did not send the file he promised of the Sphere Newsletter; however, he did hand out a copy and will send the electronic copy later.; 4) Staff noted that he has had inquiries regarding the 41st District Agricultural Association (Fair Board) and setting up a special district. Fairs all over the State are struggling from the loss of all their funding. Commissioners discussed feelings that there is not enough money to sustain the fair and keep them in business, the buildings need lots of work, and they are concerned about the State leasing out its land. Mr. Williamson noted that there are instances of the State leasing out land, and there are good instances of other districts owning their property. If there was a way to transfer the funds to another entity they could manage it. Commission Gitlin feels like the sales tax is not the way to go; it will not sustain the district, in his opinion. Mr. Williamson stated that he will bring alternatives to the Commission for consideration. When asked if the director knew of instances where the city and county models that have done this kind of work, staff noted that they would research this and report back in September.

- B. Commission - On their own initiative, Commission members may make brief announcements or reports on their own activities. They may ask questions for clarification, make a referral to staff or request a business matter for a future agenda per Government Code Section 54954.2 (a).

No reports or requests were made.

- C. Public - Public comment on items of interest within LAFCo subject matter jurisdiction, and not otherwise appearing on the agenda. No action may be taken on any item not appearing on the agenda.

The following person(s) addressed the Commission: none.

5. Adjournment

There being no further business to come before the Commission, Chairman Holley adjourned the meeting at 4:57 p.m., until the next regularly scheduled meeting on September 23, 2013.

Respectfully submitted,

Karen L. Phillips, Recording
Secretary