



MINUTES

I. CALL MEETING TO ORDER

The special meeting of the Kings County Association of Governments (KCAG) was called to order by Joe Neves, Chairperson, at 3:01 p.m., on May 24, 2023, in the Hanford City Council Chambers, Civic Auditorium at 400 N. Douty Street, Hanford, CA and via Zoom.

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT: Joe Neves, David Orth, Sid Palmerin, Alvaro Preciado, Doug Verboon

CALTRANS REPRESENTATIVE: Michael Navarro

COMMISSIONERS ABSENT: Kalish Morrow

STAFF PRESENT: Terri King, Joel Gandarilla, Jennifer Morales, Kayley Clay, Teresa Nickell

KCAG COUNSEL PRESENT: Kris Pedersen

VISITORS PRESENT:

A. Remote Participation Due to Emergency Circumstances

None.

B. Roll Call

Joel Gandarilla conducted roll call. A quorum was present.

C. Unscheduled Appearances

None.

D. Minutes

1. Minutes of April 26, 2023

A motion was made and seconded (Verboon / Orth) to approve the Minutes of the April 26, 2023, meeting. The motion carried by the following vote:

Ayes: Navarro, Neves, Orth, Palmerin, Preciado
Abstain: Verboon
Absent: Morrow

II. KCAG TRANSPORTATION POLICY COMMITTEE

A. General Transportation Items

1. FY 2023-24 Transportation Development Act (TDA) Activities

Teresa Nickell stated that the KCAG Transportation Policy Committee (TPC) must identify and review unmet transit needs pursuant to the Transportation Development Act (TDA) law, seeking input from transit dependent or transit disadvantaged persons. After all public hearings, the Social Services Transportation Advisory Council (SSTAC) will review all testimony to form a recommendation for the TPC that, there are no unmet transit needs; there are no unmet transit needs that are reasonable to meet; or there are unmet transit needs (including needs that are reasonable to meet). The public transit operators conducted public hearings for unmet transit needs testimony in February and March, and KCAG held a public hearing during the April 26th meeting to be continued to the May 24th meeting. A summary of testimony received by transit agencies and an analysis of transit systems performance was provided.

Commissioner Neves continued the open public hearing for the purpose of receiving testimony on the Unmet Transit Needs. Seeing no one come forward Commissioner Neves closed the public hearing.

B. Caltrans Report

Michael Navarro stated that applications for the Clean California local grant program are due May 31, 2023 and Caltrans held their Bike to Work Day with 40 persons participating. Regarding projects, Michael Navarro reported that Caltrans met with city officials regarding the Clean California project in Avenal to discuss minor modifications to the final scope of work; Kettleman City roundabout is in the right-of-way phase, with construction scheduled for the summer of 2024; the Stratford bridge replacement construction is scheduled to begin in December 2023, along with the detour along SR 41; SR 41 lane widening project in Fresno County is scheduled to start construction in late 2024; and Caltrans is planning several pavement rehabilitation projects along SR 41 during 2024, while continuing minor road repairs.

Commissioner Orth asked if the pavement rehabilitation on SR 43 between Kansas Avenue and SR 198 will start in the summer of 2023. The reply was affirmative.

Commissioner Neves expressed appreciation for the roadside weed maintenance along Kings County roads and for the road work along state highways.

C. Correspondence

None.

D. Staff Comments

None

E. Commissioner Comments

None.

III. KCAG COMMISSION

A. Roll Call

Joel Gandarilla conducted roll call. A quorum was present.

B. General Commissioner Items

1. Reaffirm all Actions Taken by the TPC on May 24, 2023

A motion was made and seconded (Verboon / Orth) to reaffirm all actions taken by the KCAG Transportation Policy Committee on May 24, 2023. The motion carried by the following vote:

Ayes: Neves, Orth, Palmerin, Preciado, Verboon

Absent: Morrow

2. 2023 Department of Finance Population and Housing Estimates

Terri King stated that each year the California Department of Finance releases the population estimates for the Kings County region. These estimates will be used to determine the budget shares for KCAG and the apportionments of Transportation Development Act (TDA) funds. Overall, the total Kings County population has decreased slightly to 151,018 for 2023, although Hanford and Avenal experienced growth.

3. FY 2022-23 Third Quarter Financial Report

Jennifer Morales reported that each quarter, KCAG submits a quarterly report to Caltrans summarizing the expenditures and revenues for the fiscal year and a reimbursement request for federal funds expended. A total of \$186,921.03 in federal funds will be received as reimbursement for eligible activities. The attached report provides the budgeted versus actual expenditures and revenues of KCAG for FY 2022-23 Quarter 3 from the financial reporting system. Total expenditures for FY 2022-23 Quarter 3 were \$304,149.73 and total revenues received were \$310,153.56.

4. KCAG Employee Compensation – Unrepresented Employees and Management

Terri King stated that the KCAG Commission adopted the FY 2023-24 budget in April, which included employee salaries and benefits. On April 4, 2023, the Finance Committee of the KCAG Commission met with the KCAG Executive Director regarding the proposed options for the compensation and salary packages for Unrepresented Employees and Management. During that discussion, the Finance Committee provided direction to prepare for KCAG Commission action a Resolution to approve a salary and benefit package for Unrepresented Employees and Management that included a salary increase of 6%, effective June 26, 2023, the first pay period in FY 2023-24.

A motion was made and seconded (Verboon / Palmerin) to approve the compensation and salary package for Unrepresented Employees and Management that included a salary increase of 6%, effective June 26, 2023, with the adoption of Resolution No. 23-03. The motion carried by the following vote:

Ayes: Neves, Orth, Palmerin, Preciado, Verboon

Absent: Morrow

C. Adjourn to Closed Session – 3:39 p.m.

1. Closed Session for the Discussion of the Following:
 - a. Performance Review – Executive Director
Public employee performance evaluation review, pursuant to subdivision (b)(1) of Government Code section 54957
 - b. Conference with Labor Negotiator: [Govt. Code Section 54957.6]
KCAG Negotiator: Kris B. Pedersen, General Legal Counsel
Executive Director

D. Adjourn Closed Session / Reconvene Open Session – 4:08 p.m.

No final action was taken, therefore there is nothing to report.

IV. MISCELLANEOUS

A. Correspondence

None.

B. Staff Comments

Terri King said that next month's agenda will include approving actions for the FY 2023-24 Transportation Development Act funds; a summary of the Regional Early Action Planning grants workshops and current activities. She noted that there is a CalCOG Board meeting on June 6, 2023, at 3:00 p.m. and that CalCOG Staff will be contacting KCAG Commissioners seeking candidates to form a Focus Group regarding SB 375.

C. Commissioner Comments

Commissioner Palmerin stated Corcoran held a townhall meeting regarding local flooding efforts for the community; the city sponsored a car show on May 20th; and noted that Corcoran will not have a Memorial Day event but will be placing flags on gravesites of fallen heroes.

Commissioner Preciado wished everyone a safe Memorial Day.

V. ADJOURNMENT: Next meeting scheduled for June 28, 2023

There being no further business before the Kings County Association of Governments Commission, the meeting was adjourned at 4:08 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

KINGS COUNTY ASSOCIATION OF GOVERNMENTS

Terri King, Executive Director