

Local Agency Formation Commission Of
Colusa County

Minutes

The Local Agency Formation Commission of Colusa County meets in Regular Session this 10th day of August 2006 at the hour of 3:00 PM. Commissioners Present: Brandon Ash, Chairman, David Womble, Christy Scofield, and Don Barker. Commissioners Absent: Kay Hosmer and Gary Evans.

Present: John Benoit, Executive Officer.
P. Scott Browne, Legal Counsel.
Mary Winters, Public Member Alternate.
Steve Hackney, Director, Colusa County Public Works.
Alicia Draves, Commission Clerk.

Chairman Ash calls the meeting to order at 3:00 PM.

Commissioner Scofield requests that a correction be made to the minutes regarding Commissioner Evans being absent. She notes that the votes did not reflect that Commissioner Evans was not present. She notes that in the election of the new chairman, there was not a second mentioned in the nomination of Chairman Ash. She further states that the votes for Vice Chairman and Chairman should be reflected in the minutes as follows:

The Commission nominates Commissioner Ash for the position of Chairman for a twelve-month term of office concluding on June 30, 2007. Motion carried by the following vote:

AYES: Commissioners Womble, Hosmer, and Barker.

NOES: None.

ABSENT: Commissioner Evans.

ASTAIN: Commissioner Ash.

The Commission nominates Commissioner Evans for the position of Vice Chairman for a twelve-month term of office concluding on June 30, 2007. Motion carried by the following vote:

AYES: Commissioners Womble, Hosmer, and Barker, and Ash.

NOES: None.

ABSENT: Commissioner Evans.

It is moved by Commissioner Scofield, seconded by Commissioner Barker to approve the Minutes of July 6, 2006 as corrected. Motion carried. All yes. Absent: Commissioners Hosmer and Evans.

Chairman Womble declares time for a period of public comment.

Mr. Hackney cautions the Commission on not communicating with County staff regarding setting agricultural policy, noting that if they do not discuss the issues with the Planning Department, LAFCO will be using outdated information to make it's decisions.

No further comment being heard, Chairman Ash closes the period of public comment.

Chairman Ash declares time for approval of the Consent Agenda.

Mr. Benoit hands out a new claims form, noting that the total for Central Services had been changed from \$0.88 to \$19.53. He further states that \$1387.50 has been added to the total for the Fire MSR, for a new total of \$7788.52.

Consent Agenda: It is moved by Commissioner Scofield, seconded by Commissioner Barker to approve payment of claims as corrected for July 2006. Motion carried. All yes. Absent: Commissioners Hosmer and Evans.

Chairman Ash declares time for a public hearing on the Approval of Municipal Services Review for the Maxwell Public Utility District Area 4.

Mr. Benoit states that he is concerned that he has not received any comments from the Maxwell Utility District on the MSR. He further states that the District is currently under a cease and desist order, noting that in order for growth to happen, they will need to upgrade the wastewater treatment plant.

Commissioner Evans is now present.

Commissioner Evans states that he has spoken with two of the Board Members, noting that he questioned the accuracy on the MSR, and they stated that it is correct. He further notes that there does not seem to be a sense of urgency at the District for the upgrades to take place.

Mr. Benoit states that he would like for the Commission to look over the MSR today, and then continue approval to the October meeting, noting that he will try to speak with the Board Members, and urge them to attend the next meeting.

Mr. Hackney requests that the Commission hold off on approval of the MSR, noting that by not changing the sphere of influence, LAFCO is not providing for possible future growth. He further states that there has been no consideration on the part of LAFCO counsel and staff for possible conflict between LAFCO policy and County policy. He further states that the LAFCO staff has used outdated information in writing the MSR and requests that LAFCO staff work with the County Planning Department to get new and updated information. He further states that more work needs to be completed before the Commissioners can consider this MSR.

Mr. Benoit states that the MSR was written over a period of a year and a half, noting that unless he writes the MSR one week before the meeting, it will always be out of date. He further states that he will start to solicit comments from the County Planning Department before the public hearings take place. He further states that at one time, the Sphere of Influence was the ultimate boundary, but notes that this is no longer the case. He further notes that when a request comes before the County Board of Supervisors to develop on agricultural land, LAFCO will at that time look at expanding the Sphere of Influence.

Chairman Ash continues the public hearing on the Approval of Municipal Services Review for the Maxwell Public Utility District Area 4 to October meeting.

Commissioner Ash declares time for discussion on the Agricultural Conversion Impacts to Colusa County.

Mr. Benoit states that the major goal of LAFCO is to discourage urban sprawl, noting that the Commission needs to encourage moving development away from agricultural land. He further states that there is a need to update the Spheres of Influence, because LAFCO policy is associated with the spheres. He further states that he would like the Commission to work with the City of Colusa, City of Williams, and the County of Colusa on their General Plans, noting that if everyone is not on the same page, then a developer will go through the City process to get permits, only to come before LAFCO, and have their project denied due to the fact that it goes against LAFCO policy.

Mr. Brown states that if all of the agencies are working together, and the policy is uniformly applied, then the developers will realize they have no choice, and will have to follow the rules.

EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S MONTHLY REPORT:

Mr. Benoit states that the Resource Conservation District, is receiving a grant, which LAFCO supported. He further states that the Commission will be looking at the Princeton MSR and the Fire MSR at the October meeting.

COMMISSIONER'S REPORTS:

The Commissioners have nothing to report.

Chairman Ash adjourns the meeting at 4:36 PM to reconvene in Regular Session on Thursday, October 5, 2006 at the hour of 3:00 PM.

Approved: _____
Brandon Ash, Chairman

Attest: _____
Alicia Draves, Commission Clerk