



County of Santa Barbara Meeting of the Legislative Program Committee

MINUTES

Date: Monday, November 7, 2011

Time: 9:00AM – 11:00AM

Place: **Board of Supervisors Conference Room, Fourth Floor**
105 E. Anapamu Street, Santa Barbara

Committee Members: Salud Carbajal, First District Supervisor
Doreen Farr, Third District Supervisor
Chandra L. Wallar, County Executive Officer
Robert Geis, Auditor-Controller
Dennis A. Marshall, County Counsel

Public Comment

Persons may address the Committee on any matters listed on the agenda. Each person is limited to a 3-minute Public Comment time period.

Action Items:

1. Approve minutes from the September 12, 2011 meeting.

Public Comment:

- Judith Ishkanian addressed the Committee regarding AB 307, and the fact that any agreements made with the Santa Ynez Band of Chumash Indians would require approval from Santa Ynez.
- Kathy Staples addressed the Committee.

A motion was made Supervisor Carbajal, seconded by Dennis Marshall, to approve the minutes of the June 27, 2011 meeting. Motion passed 5-0.

2. Receive an update on federal issues of interest to the County and direct staff to take action as necessary.

Thomas Walters of Thomas Walters and Associates, Inc. provided an update.

- Chandra Wallar addressed the Committee regarding the Federal status of entitlement programs and the elimination of fraud.
- Thomas Walters addressed the Committee regarding SAFTEA-LU and stated that there will be activity on the policy side of the issue, but there will not be activity with regard to specific projects until 2012.
- Supervisor Carbajal posed a question to Thomas Walters regarding whether the Property Assessed Clean Energy (PACE) legislation issue is still dormant. Thomas

Walters stated that the County's best chance of furthering this issue is to attach it to legislation with forward mobility, such as Section 8.

- Supervisor Carbajal addressed the Committee regarding the Debt Committee timeline. Thomas Walters stated that the cutoff date is December 2, 2011, and therefore a plan must be in place at least one week prior to that.

Motion made by Supervisor Carbajal, seconded by Supervisor Farr, to receive an update on federal issues of interest to the County and direct staff to take action as necessary. Motion passed 5-0.

3. Receive an update on State issues of interest to the County and direct staff to take action as necessary.

Governmental Advocates, Inc. provided an update to the Committee.

- Re: Indian Gaming Special Distribution Fund:
 - Chandra Wallar addressed the Committee regarding mitigation measures necessary to ensure that funding flows to California counties.
 - Terri Nisich stated that non-allocated funding remains in the Special Distribution Fund.
- **Staff Direction:**
 - Supervisor Farr directed Governmental Advocates to explore the status of discussions on gaming compacts.
 - Chandra Wallar directed staff to include the issue of gaming compacts in a future agenda of the Legislative Program Committee for possible inclusion in the 2012 Legislative Platform.

Motion made by Supervisor Farr, seconded by Supervisor Carbajal, to receive an update on State issues of interest to the County and direct staff to take action as necessary. Motion passed 5-0.

4. Legislative Principles

Terri Nisich provided an overview of the draft 2012 Legislative Principles.

- "Community Sustainability/Job Growth/Economic Stability" principle:
 - Pat Wheatley addressed the Committee regarding exploring the availability of child care as an aspect of job growth.
 - Supervisor Farr addressed the Committee regarding UCSB and Allan Hancock College events, and the need to ensure that North and South County are aware of the opportunities provided by each.
- **Staff Direction:**
 - The Committee directed staff to change title wording from "Economic Stability" to "Economic Vitality".
 - Supervisor Carbajal directed staff to add the word "economic" to the phrase, "...in an endeavor to decrease the unemployment rate and heighten individual and community economic vitality."

- The Committee directed staff to explore separating Community Sustainability from Job Growth and Economic Vitality by including a distinct bullet specific to Job Growth and Economic Vitality.
- The Committee directed staff to return with revised Legislative Principles and include two options for this principle:
 - 1) Enhance job growth and economic vitality aspect of principle
 - 2) Remove job growth and economic vitality from principle and include it as a separate bullet.
- Supervisor Carbajal directed staff to explore adding language regarding fostering interaction and dialogue with private sector groups with efforts in pursuit and advocacy of economic vitality and innovation.

Public Comment:

- Kathy Staples addressed the Committee regarding community sustainability and economic growth, and the need to include language on economic growth and the utilization of resources. North County is vitally at risk with high unemployment rates, and needs an opportunity to participate in job expansion within the County.

5. Preparation – 2012 Platform-Timeline

Terri Nisich provided an overview of the 2012 Legislative Platform timeline and the 2012 Legislative Priorities.

A. Review Legislative Platform timeline

- Terri Nisich stated that the 2012 Legislative Platform will be submitted to the Board of Supervisors on the first meeting of 2012.
- Terri Nisich stated that the 2012 Legislative Platform will likely be separated into two distinct Federal and State platforms.
- Supervisor Carbajal addressed the Committee regarding the need to ensure that both Federal and State lobbyists are given both platforms.

B. Review & Discuss Priorities for 2012

- DSS Donation of Surplus Computer Equipment:
 - Supervisor Carbajal addressed the Committee regarding the possibility of developing a special program with the County Office of Education, which already has a “Computers for Families” program.
 - Supervisor Carbajal addressed the Committee regarding the internet service issues that recipients may face.
 - Supervisor Carbajal voiced support contingent upon the resolution of stated issues.
- DSS In-Home Supportive Services (IHSS):
 - Chandra Wallar addressed the Committee regarding the need to tie this into larger issues that are already being dealt with by the County.
- Supervisor Carbajal addressed the Committee regarding the County’s method of advocacy when approaching the State, and discussed whether the County should present its priorities in the form of a “Top 5” or “Top 10” format.

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The Committee directed staff to continue the Land Use, Parks and Planning Legislative Priorities to the December 5, 2011 meeting of the Legislative Program Committee.

Motion made by Dennis Marshall, seconded by Supervisor Carbajal, to adjourn the November 7, 2011 meeting of the Legislative Program Committee. Motion passed 5-0.

Note:

Next meeting is scheduled for Monday, December 5, 2011 from 10:30AM – 12:00PM.

“Writings that are a public record under Government Code § 54957.5(a) and that relate to an agenda item for open session of a regular meeting of the County Legislative Program Committee and that are distributed to a majority of the members of the County Legislative Program Committee less than 72 hours prior to that meeting shall be available for public inspection at Santa Barbara County Clerk of the Board at 105 E. Anapamu Street, 4th Floor in Santa Barbara, and also on the County’s website at <http://www.countyofsbq.org/ceo/legis.aspx?id=308>”