

KATE McKENNA, AICP
Executive Officer

**DRAFT MINUTES OF THE
LOCAL AGENCY FORMATION COMMISSION OF MONTEREY COUNTY**

***An audio/video recording of this meeting is available at the LAFCO office.
Please contact us at (831) 754-5838 to arrange a time to listen or to order a
copy.***

Regular Meeting

Monday, January 25, 2010, 4:00 p.m.

**Board of Supervisors Chambers
Monterey County Government Center
168 West Alisal, First Floor
Salinas, California**

The meeting of the Local Agency Formation Commission (LAFCO) of Monterey County was called to order by Chair Salinas at 4:08 p.m. in the Monterey County Board of Supervisors Chambers. Executive Officer McKenna led the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL

Members Present

Commissioner Salinas, Chair (*County Member*)
Commissioner Perkins, Vice-Chair (*Special District Member*)
Commissioner Calcagno (*County Member*)
Commissioner Champion (*Special District Member*)
Commissioner Darington, Alternate (*Public Member*)
Commissioner DiMaggio (*Public Member*)
Commissioner Donohue (*City Member*)
Commissioner Gourley, Alternate (*City Member*)
Commissioner Moore, Alternate (*Special District Member*)
Commissioner Rubio (*City Member*)

Members Not Present, Presence Not Required

Commissioner Armenta, Alternate (*County Member*)

Staff Present

Kate McKenna, AICP, Executive Officer
Thom McCue, AICP, Senior Analyst
Leslie Girard, LAFCO General Counsel
Rachelle Jones, LAFCO Clerk

Item 4: Minutes

4.a Consider and Approve Draft Minutes of December 7, 2009 Regular LAFCO Meeting.

4.b Accept Draft Meeting Notes of December 16, 2009 LAFCO Budget and Finance Committee Meeting.

There were no public comments for these items.

Commission Action

Upon Motion of Commissioner Rubio, seconded by Commissioner Calcagno, Minutes of the December 7, 2009 and Meeting Notes of the December 16, 2009 LAFCO Budget and Finance Committee, were unanimously adopted or accepted.

Item 5: Public Comment:

Bill Carrothers provided comment concerning the median income and housing costs.

Item 6: Commissioner Comment:

None

Item 7: (a - e): Consent Agenda:

Commissioner Rubio pulled item 7.b - Receive Legislative Activities Report.

Commission Action on Items not Pulled from Consent

There was no public or Commission comments on consent items not pulled.

Upon Motion of Commissioner Perkins, seconded by Commissioner Calcagno, Consent Agenda Items (a, c, d, and e): Registers of Checks Paid in November and December 2009, Report on CALAFCO Activities, List of Anticipated Future Agenda Items, Progress Report on LAFCO's Comprehensive Program for Municipal Service Reviews and Sphere of Influence Updates were unanimously accepted, adopted, or approved.

Item 7.b:

Legislative Activities Report

There was no public comment for this item.

Commission Comment and Action

Commissioners discussed methods to increase involvement in the legislative process. Commissioner Gourley suggested obtaining further information about this matter from CALAFCO Board member, Susan Wilson.

Commission provided direction to Executive Officer McKenna to continue discussion to the next regular LAFCO meeting to be held on March 29.

Item 8: New Business

8.a Consider Draft Policy on Preservation of Open Space and Agricultural Lands, Including Agricultural Land Buffers.

Executive Officer McKenna provided report.

Chair Salinas opened this item for public comments.

Public Comments

Registered agricultural engineer and environmental assessor, Frank Pierce, spoke in favor of the flexibility of the policy and provided general comments on agricultural buffers. Darlene Din encouraged clear policy guidelines for the cities, in the policy. Amy White, Director, Landwatch, agreed with Mr. Pierce concerning the policy's flexibility, but questioned how determinations would be made on the type of preservation or buffers used. Staff representative, Susan Hilinski, City of Soledad, requested stronger guidelines in the policy to aid in prevention of rejection of proposals because they do not meet requirements.

Chair Salinas closed this item for public comments.

Commission Comment and Action

Commissioners discussed the draft policy and public comments with Executive Officer McKenna and General Counsel Girard.

Upon Motion of Commissioner DiMaggio, seconded by Commissioner Calcagno, policy was found exempt from provisions of the California Environmental Quality Act, and Resolution adopting a Policy on Preservation of Open Space and Agricultural Lands, was unanimously adopted.

8.b Consider Comments on the Notice of Preparation of a Draft Environmental Impact Report for the Gonzales 2010 General Plan (City of Gonzales).

Senior Analyst, Thom McCue, provided report and comment letter with additional language for Special Districts.

Chair Salinas opened this item for public comments.

Public Comments

Bill Farrel, City of Gonzales, thanked staff for the comments and said these items will be addressed. Bill Carrothers provided comment concerning developments, the median income, and housing costs.

Chair Salinas closed this item for public comments.

Commission Comment and Action

Upon Motion of Commissioner Rubio, seconded by Commissioner Perkins, Comment on the Notice of Preparation of a Draft Environmental Impact Report for the Gonzales 2010 General Plan (City of Gonzales) with inclusion regarding Special Districts, were unanimously approved.

8.c Ratify LAFCO Chair’s Committee Assignments for 2010.

Executive Officer McKenna provided a report.

There was no public comment for this item.

Commission Action

Upon Motion of Commissioner DiMaggio, seconded by Commissioner Perkins, LAFCO Chair’s Committee Assignments for 2010, were unanimously ratified.

Item 9: Executive Officer’s Report

Executive Officer McKenna provided report on the status of the Regional Blueprint Area and Salinas-Ag Industrial Center (“Uni-Kool”) Proposal.

Item 10: Correspondence

There were no additional items of correspondence to report.

Item 11: Closed Session

Under Government Code Section 54950 et.seq.:

a. Pursuant to Government Code Section 54956.9(a) – Existing Litigation

The Commission Conferred with Special Legal Counsel Regarding the Following Item:

Franklin J. Lunding, Planning 2020, Inc., and Protect Carmel Valley (Petitioners) vs. Local Agency Formation Commission of Monterey County and Carmel Valley Forum (Respondents) Superior Court Case Number M96638

The meeting was called into closed session by Chair Salinas.

Chair Salinas reconvened meeting from closed session. Chair Salinas reported no reportable action.

Item 12: Adjournment

On motion of Chair Salinas, there being no objection, the meeting was unanimously adjourned at 5:25 p.m. to the next Regular LAFCO Meeting to be held on Monday, February 22, 2010 at 4:00 p.m. in the Board of Supervisors Chambers, 168 W. Alisal St., First Floor, Salinas, California.

Respectfully Submitted,

Rachelle Jones
LAFCO Clerk