

KERN COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS

Minutes of Meeting for January 17, 2019

KERN COG CONFERENCE ROOM  
1401 19TH STREET, THIRD FLOOR  
BAKERSFIELD, CALIFORNIA

THURSDAY  
January 17, 2019  
6:30 P.M.

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Bob Smith at approximately 7:05 p.m.

**I. ROLL CALL:**

**Members Present:** B. Smith, Lessenevitch, Crump, Cantu, Mower, Krier, P.Smith, Garcia (Reyna), Couch, Maggard (Scrivner)

**Congestion Management Agency Ex-Officio Members:** Miller, Parra, Dermody (Green)

**Members Absent:** Gurrola, Vallejo, Alvarado

**Others:** Josh Taylor, John Spaulding, Troy Hightower, Karen King, Ryan Nielsen, Jasmene del Aguila, Brian Wesling, Jill Batchelder, Nate Ostrander, Jenny Richardson

**Staff:** Ahron Hakimi, Rob Ball, Becky Napier, Veronica McCulloch, Robert Snoddy, Raquel Pacheco

- II. **PUBLIC COMMENTS:** This portion of the meeting is reserved for persons to address the Council on any matter not on this agenda but under the jurisdiction of the Council. Council members may respond briefly to statements made or questions posed. They may ask a question for clarification; make a referral to staff for factual information or request staff to report back to the Council at a later meeting. **SPEAKERS ARE LIMITED TO TWO MINUTES. PLEASE STATE YOUR NAME AND ADDRESS FOR THE RECORD PRIOR TO MAKING A PRESENTATION.**

Chairman Smith asked for public comments. There were none.

- III. **CONSENT AGENDA/OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC COMMENT:** All items on the consent agenda are considered to be routine and non-controversial by Kern COG staff and will be approved by one motion if no member of the Council or public wishes to comment or ask questions. If comment or discussion is desired by anyone, the item will be removed from the consent agenda and will be considered in the listed sequence with an opportunity for any member of the public to address the Council concerning the item before action is taken. **ROLL CALL VOTE.**

A. **Approval of Minutes – November 15, 2018**

B. **Response to Public Comments**

C. **Kern COG's 2018 Regional Award of Merit Ceremony** (Napier)

**Comment:** Required federal process to annually monitor transportation safety performance measure progress, including encouragement of member agencies to improve safety on our streets with their transportation expenditures.

**Action:** Information

D. **Friant-Kern Canal Multi-Use Plan – City of Bakersfield** (Napier)

**Comment:** The Kern COG Board of Directors on November 17, 2016, approved a Memorandum of Agreement for a Regional Technical Assistance Grant between Kern COG and the City of Bakersfield for the development of a planning study for the Friant-Kern Canal Multi-Use Path. The Agreement was subsequently approved by the City of Bakersfield on January 18, 2017.

**Action:** Direct staff to appropriate funds budgeted in the 2018/19 OWP for Regional Technical Assistance Grants to reimburse the City of Bakersfield for the planning study for the Friant-Kern Canal Multi-Use Path. (Roll Call Vote)

\*\*\* END CONSENT CALENDAR - ROLL CALL VOTE \*\*\*

MOTION BY DIRECTOR COUCH, SECOND BY DIRECTOR P. SMITH TO APPROVE THE CONSENT CALENDAR, MOTION CARRIED WITH A ROLL CALL VOTE.

**IV. FY 2017-18 KERN COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS FINANCIAL AND COMPLIANCE AUDIT REPORT (Napier)**

**Comment:** Ms. Napier addressed the Board with the following information; Pursuant to California Government Code Section 6505, Kern COG must provide for an annual financial and compliance audit report by a qualified independent auditor. Kern COG retained the firm of Brown Armstrong to render the applicable audit services and issue reports for the year ended June 30, 2018. Kern COG received an unmodified audit with no findings.

Mr. Ryan Nielson, CPA and Principle of Brown Armstrong attended the meeting to answer any questions. Mr. Nielson stated that Accountancy Firm Issued an unmodified or clean opinion on the Financial Statements and in addition prepared a Single Audit of Federal Grants that are received by the Council as well as compliance with various grant requirements and insuring that there are appropriate internal controls over financial reporting and compliance with expenditures that are incurred throughout the Council. Those reports also received an unmodified or clean opinion which is the highest level of opinion that a CPA can issue on a set of Financial Statements.

**Action:** Board Member Couch made a motion to accept and file the reports, seconded by Board Member Lessenevitch, with all in favor.

**V. APPOINTMENT OF A COMMUNITY AT-LARGE MEMBER TO THE REGIONAL PLANNING ADVISORY COMMITTEE (Napier)**

**Comment:** Ms. Napier stated that the RPAC By-Laws provide for appointment of three at large members representing varied economic, social and geographic sectors of Kern County. The Board received on application for one position of the RPAC from Ted James, AICP, Land Use Permitting and Regulatory Affairs Consultant. Mr. James was appointed as a Community At-Large Member to the RPAC in February 2017 and wished to continue for an additional 2-year term.

**Action:** Board Member Couch made a motion to appoint Ted James as a Community At-Large Member to the RPAC; seconded by Board Member P. Smith with all in favor.

**VI. BOARD APPOINTMENT TO THE CALIFORNIA PARTNERSHIP FOR THE SAN JOAQUIN VALLEY (Napier)**

**Comment:** Kern COG Board Appointment to the California Partnership for the San Joaquin Valley. Ms. Napier stated that the California Partnership for the San Joaquin Valley provides an organizational framework for collaboration as a way to improve quality of life in the San Joaquin Valley. The 2019 Board Meetings are scheduled for March 15, June 21, September 20, and December 13, in various location in the Valley. The appointment is made by the Governor and can take several months to a year.

**Action:** Board Member Couch made a motion to retain Cheryl Wegman as a Kern representative on the Partnership, but submit a list of candidates to the Governor for consideration for appointment to the Partnership Board of Directors; seconded by Board Member Cantu with all in favor. Board Members Garcia and Crump agreed to submit their names for consideration.

**VII. BOARD APPOINTMENTS TO CALCOG BOARD OF DIRECTORS, CALVANS BOARD OF DIRECTORS, AND THE SAN JOAQUIN VALLEY POLICY COUNCIL (Napier)**

**Comment:** Kern COG Board appointments to the CALCOG Board of Directors, CalVans Board of Directors and the San Joaquin Valley Policy Council. Ms. Napier discussed the various Boards, meeting frequency and the commitment of the members.

**Action:** After discussion, Board Member Couch made a motion to appointment Chairman Smith as the Delegate to the CALCOG Board of Directors with Mr. Couch as the alternate; Board Member Crump to CalVans; Board Member Cantu and Garcia to the San Joaquin Valley Regional Policy Council; seconded by Board Member P. Smith, with all in favor.

**VIII. KERN COG 101: INTRODUCTION TO KERN COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS (Ball)**

**Comment:** An approximately 20 minute presentation providing a high level overview of Kern Council of Governments roles and responsibilities. THIS ITEM WAS TAKEN OUT OF ORDER AND PRESENTED AFTER THE BOARD MEETING TO NEW MEMBERS OF THE BOARD AND THOSE THAT WISHED A REFRESHER.

**Action:** Information

**IX. TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY: (None)**

**X. CONGESTION MANAGEMENT AGENCY: (None)**

**XI. KERN MOTORIST AIDE AUTHORITY: (None)**

**A. Potential cooperative agreement with the California highway patrol for additional safety related enforcement during inclement weather (Napier)**

**Comment:** Staff has been researching the idea of providing enforcement dollars to the California Highway Patrol (CHP) for additional safety related enforcement during inclement weather.

**Action:** After discussion, the Authority directed staff to continue to work with the California Highway Patrol to obtain agreements in an amount not to exceed \$25,000 annually for all parts of the county.

**XII. MEETING REPORTS: (None)**

**XIII. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT:**

Mr. Hakimi provided the following information to the Board:

- January 16 met with Caltrans Headquarters, District 6 and 9 and FHWA re: 2019/20 OWP development
- Friday, January 25, 10:00 a.m. – San Joaquin Valley Policy Council in Fresno
- KCAC Dinner – Monday, January 28 in Wasco. Reservations due January 24.
- California Transportation Planning Conference – February 25 – 27 – San Diego
- Regional Awards Dinner – March 7, 2019; Reservations due Monday, March 4, 2019; 40 reservations have already been confirmed and we are capped at 250 so get your reservations early.
- March 13 & 14 CTC Meeting in Los Angeles area
- March 14-17 CALCOG Leadership Forum in Yosemite; includes the CALCOG Board Meeting
- Annual Form 700s are due to the County Clerk's office by April 2, 2019.

**XIV. MEMBER STATEMENTS: (None)**

**XV. CLOSED SESSIONS: (None)**

**XVI. ADJOURNMENT:** Seeing no other comments the meeting adjourned at 7:05 p.m. **NEXT MEETING – February 21, 2019.**

Respectfully submitted,

ATTEST:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Bob Smith, Chairman

\_\_\_\_\_  
Ahron Hakimi, Executive Director

DATE: \_\_\_\_\_