

**REGIONAL COUNCIL MEETING
WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 27, 2016
CITY OF APACHE JUNCTION COUNCIL CHAMBERS
APACHE JUNCTION, ARIZONA**

M I N U T E S

I. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Benning called the meeting to order at 6:41 pm.

II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Chair Benning led the Regional Council, guests and CAG staff in the Pledge of Allegiance.

III. ROLL CALL AND INTRODUCTIONS

Members Present: Mayor Terry Wheeler, Supervisor Michael Pastor, Councilmember Anita Hinojos, Mayor Bobby Smith, Mayor Darryl Dalley, Supervisor Pete Rios, Councilmember Dave Waldron, Mayor Jon Thompson, Mayor Bob Jackson, Mayor Joel Belloc, Mayor Tom Rankin, Mayor Sam Hosler, Mayor Don Jones, Councilmember Vincent Manfredi, Councilmember Robin Benning

Members Absent: Councilmember Andy McKinney, Mayor Kenny Evans, Mayor Ed Honea, Mayor Jayme Valenzuela, Councilmember Jewel Whitman, Councilmember Wendsler Nosie, William Antone

Staff: Ken Hall, Andy Smith, Alan Urban, Brad Mecham, Angela Gotto, Amber Garza, Andrea Robles

Guests: Jess Knudson, Jamie Bennett, Bryant Powell, Eddie Caine, Kathy Boyle, Jerry Barnes, Alvena Bush, Jill Dusenberry, Paul Jepson, Robin Barker, Kevin Adam

IV. CALL TO THE PUBLIC

No one answered the Call to the Public.

V. CONSENT ITEMS

Mayor Rankin made a motion to approve the consent agenda items. Councilmember Waldron seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

A. Approval of Regional Council Minutes

The Regional Council minutes from September 23, 2015 were approved under Consent Item VI-A.

VI. DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Mr. Hall updated the Regional Council on the meetings and conferences he has attended. He attended the Joint Planning Advisory Committee (JPAC) meeting and the Rural Transportation Summit in early January. Mr. Hall informed the Council of CAG's Legislative Day scheduled for February 25, 2016. He stated that the Auditors will be working on CAG's audit the first week in February. Questions, comments and discussion followed Mr. Hall's report. This was an information item.

VII. NEW BUSINESS

A. Financial Report

Ms. York presented the Financial Report. She informed the Council that CAG has switched over to a new Financial System and presented a financial report as of November 30, 2015. Questions, comments and discussion followed. Councilmember Waldron made a motion to approve CAG's Financial Report. Mayor Thompson seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

B. Review, Discussion and Decision of the White Mountain Apache Tribe to become an Official Member of CAG

Mr. Hall explained that at the previous Regional Council meeting he had informed the Regional Council that the White Mountain Apache Tribe had passed a resolution requesting membership with CAG. Questions, comments and discussion followed. Ms. Alvena Bush, White Mountain Apache Tribe Councilmember was present. Mayor Rankin made a motion to approve the request from the White Mountain Apache Tribe to become an official member of CAG. Mayor Hosler seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

C. Pinal County Regional Transportation Authority (RTA) Update

Mr. Hall provided an update on the current activities of the Pinal County Regional Transportation Authority (RTA) in an effort to address the upcoming events and timeline associated with the RTA over the next several months. He explained to the Regional Council that they will be serving as the Regional Transportation Authority Board and a meeting will be held in the upcoming months. Questions, comments and discussion followed. The Regional Council advised Staff to provide more education to the Elected Officials on the Regional Transportation Authority. This was an information item.

D. Review, Discussion and Decision on the Administrative Amendment Transportation Improvement Program

Mr. Smith presented the Administrative Amendment Transportation Improvement Program (TIP). He stated that the Transportation Advisory Committee and Management Committee recommended approval of the Administrative Amendment Number Two, for the Grover Canyon Railroad Project. Mr. Smith informed the Council that the Arizona Department of Transportation (ADOT) and the Gila County Board of Supervisors have an approved Intergovernmental Agreement for this project. Mayor Rankin made a motion to approve CAG's Administrative Amendment Transportation Improvement Program (TIP). Mayor Hosler seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

E. Transportation Planning Update

Mr. Smith provided an update on current activities in the Transportation Planning Department, which included the Strategic Transportation Safety Plan for the CAG Region and the 5310 Mobility Management Program. He introduced Mr. Eddie Caine who was hired as CAG's Mobility Manager. Questions, comments and discussion followed. This was an information item.

F. Community Development Update

Mr. Urban updated the Council on current activities in the Community Development Department. He provided an update on the Mayor's meetings with the Copper Corridor Communities. Mr. Urban explained the formation of the Public Safety Taskforce as an outgrowth of the Mayor's meetings. The Taskforce is looking at unifying Police Services for the four communities which include the Town of Hayden, Town of Kearny, Town of Mammoth and the Town of Winkelman. Questions, comments and discussion followed. This was an information item.

G. Review, Discussion and Decision on the New Draft CAG 208 Water Quality Management Plan Approval Process

Mr. Urban informed the Council that the Environmental Planning Committee (EPC) has recently approved a DRAFT of the New CAG 208 Water Quality Management Plan. He stated that the subcommittee wants to make sure that the CAG Regional Council is fully aware of the direction the plan has taken. The New DRAFT 208 Plan includes significant differences from the prior plan, which were not changed in the recent editing process. The new plan provides two tracks for project proposals to seek approval, defines an appeals process for each track, provides several charts for ease of use, has defined terminology for clarity, and focuses on goals and tools rather than regulations and inventories. Questions, comments and discussion followed. Mayor Jones made a motion to approve the New Draft CAG 208 Water Quality Management Plan Approval Process. Mayor Wheeler seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

H. Review, Discussion and Decision on the CAG 208 Water Quality Planning Projects and Amendments Fee Structure Request

Mr. Urban explained that the Environmental Planning Committee is requesting that the current CAG fee structure be modified to reflect current costs and provide for a two track Planning Project and Amendment approval process designed in the New CAG 208 Plan. Currently, CAG charges \$10,000 to process an Amendment Application, collecting \$4,000 upon receipt of the Draft Amendment, and \$6,000 prior to taking the Amendment to a Public Hearing and completing the review process and presenting the Amendment to the Arizona Department of Environmental Quality (ADEQ). It has been suggested that CAG change to \$7,500 for Planning Projects and \$15,000 for Plan Amendments, or \$10,000 and \$20,000 respectively. This higher fee also reflects a need for the Environmental Planning Department to collect and maintain information from members and agencies which record and facilitate the planning process for regional water quality planning. Mr. Urban explained that they would also like to charge a Pre-Application fee for inquiries that go beyond a couple of phone calls. Questions, comments and discussion followed. Mayor Rankin made a motion to approve CAG's 208 Planning Projects and Amendments Fee Structure Request. Councilmember Waldron seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

I. CAG Legislative Day Issues and Priorities

Mr. Hall announced that CAG’s 20th Annual Legislative Day will be held on Thursday, February 25th at the League of Arizona Cities and Towns building. He asked the Council to submit their Regional Issues and Priorities to CAG Staff prior to CAG’s Legislative Day. Questions and comments followed. No action was taken on this item.

J. CAG Strategic Planning Committee Update

Mr. Hall introduced the members of the CAG Strategic Planning Committee. He stated that on November 16, 2015 the CAG Strategic Planning Committee met to discuss a future Strategic Plan for the agency. Chair Benning explained the importance of this Committee and meeting to set future goals for CAG. He stated he will be contacting the members of this committee to schedule a meeting in the upcoming weeks. Questions, comments and discussion followed. This was an information item.

K. Review, Discussion and Decision on the Letter of Support for House Bill 2373, Regional Transportation Authority

Chairman Benning informed the Council that he had been contacted about signing a letter of Support for House Bill 2373, Regional Transportation Authority on behalf of the Regional Council. He stated that he felt this item should be approved by the Regional Council. Questions, comments and discussion followed. Councilmember Waldron made a motion to approve the Letter of Support for House Bill 2373, Regional Transportation Authority on behalf of the Regional Council. Mayor Jackson seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

VIII. LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

Mr. Kevin Adam provided the Legislative Update.

IX. DATE, TIME AND LOCATION OF NEXT REGIONAL COUNCIL MEETING

The next Regional Council Meeting is scheduled for March 23, 2016 in Apache Junction.

X. ADJOURNMENT

Mayor Thompson made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Mayor Hosler seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously. Chair Benning adjourned the meeting at 8:26 pm.

Approved on _____