



DATE: June 26, 2019
TIME: 6:00 p.m.
LOCATION: 2540 W. Apache Trail, Suite 108; Apache Junction, AZ 85120

I. CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Gameros called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm.

II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Chairman Gameros led the Regional Council, guests and CAG staff in the Pledge of Allegiance.

III. ROLL CALL AND INTRODUCTIONS

Members Present: Al Gameros, Jon Thompson, Bobby Davis, Dean Hetrick, Darryl Dalley, Jim Ferris, Anita Hinojos, Pete Rios, Robert Schroeder, Bob Huddleston, Micah Powell, Debra Sommers, Vincent Manfredi, Robin Benning

Members Absent: Tim Humphrey, Tara Walter, Joe Dietz, Ed Honea, Mila Besich

Staff: Andrea Robles, Yvonne Tackett, Angela Gotto, Alan Urban, Travis Ashbaugh, Ken Hebert, Stephen Cooper, Brad Mecham

Guests: Mary Springer, Rick Miller, Anna Flores, Anna McCray, Heather Wilkey, Jennifer Evans, Kevin Adam, Paul Jepson, Andy Smith, Karla Petty

IV. CALL TO THE PUBLIC

No one answered the Call to the Public.

V. PRESENTATION

Ms. Karla Petty, Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) Arizona Division Administrator, provided an overview of the Arizona Council on Transportation Innovation (ACTI). She provided history on the formation of the ACTI and discussed Every Day Counts (EDC) – a state-based model to identify and rapidly deploy proven, but underutilized innovations at the state and local levels. The EDC’s five initiatives are safe transportation for every pedestrian, value capture, project building, reducing rural roadway departures and virtual public involvement. Questions, comments and discussion followed. Ms. Petty will send information to be shared with Council.

VI. LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

Kevin Adam provided the Legislative Update to the Council.

VII. EXECUTIVE DIRECTORS REPORT

Ms. Robles updated the Council on recent activities and meetings taking place at CAG. She stated that the Economic Development Administration conducted a site visit and has provided a letter to CAG expressing their support for CAG and the continuous improvements to the program over the last two years. Ms. Robles continued that EDA also reviewed the CEDS document and stated “The CEDS is very well done and should serve as an excellent economic development tool to increase prosperity in your region.” She stated that she would be setting up a meeting with the Executive Committee and CAG’s auditors to discuss presentation of the audit to Management Committee and Regional Council.

Ms. Robles informed the Council that the Wells Fargo line of credit and the City of Globe have been paid off. She also informed the Council that CAG and Sun Corridor Metropolitan Planning Agency (SCMPO) will be hosting the 2020 Transportation Summit at the Harrah's Ak-Chin. This was an information item.

VIII. CONSENT ITEMS

Vice-Mayor Robin Benning, Town of Queen Creek, made a motion to approve the consent agenda items as presented. Councilmember Bobby Davis, Town of Star Valley, seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

A. Approval of Regional Council Minutes – May 8, 2019

The May 8, 2019 minutes were approved under Consent Item VIII-A.

B. Approval of CAG's Procurement Policy Update.

The Procurement Policy Update was approved under Consent Item VII-A.

IX. NEW BUSINESS

A. Review, Discussion and Decision regarding terms for the employment contract with Andrea Robles as the Executive Director

Chairman Gameros informed the Council that Management Committee Chairman, Steven Turner, was directed to make a more modern contract for the Executive Director. He stated that a redlined contract was attached for the Regional Council's review. Vice-Mayor Benning stated that he struggles with this item because of the base pay. He stated that it isn't about Ms. Robles, but feels the base pay is too high to start at. Vice-Mayor Micah Powell, City of Eloy, stated that the two previous directors were paid substantially higher. Chairman Gameros asked Mr. Paul Jepson, Town of Globe, what the Management Committee discussion consisted of. Mr. Jepson stated that the Management Committee did not have an issue with the base salary. He stated that the Committee recommended changing the automatic increase in pay after completion of the CPM course to be changed to at the discretion of the Regional Council upon annual reviews. Mayor Jon Thompson, City of Coolidge, stated that Ms. Robles is the one that has consistently cleaned up the mess left behind by previous directors. He stated that debating over money is the wrong way to go and he doesn't know why the people that are here all the time allow people who rarely attend meetings to cause such problems. Councilmember Bobby Davis made a motion to approve the employment contract with Andrea Robles as the CAG Executive Director and to buy down her vacation to 215 hours. Mayor Darryl Dalley seconded the motion. Al Gameros – Aye; Dean Hetrick – Aye; Darryl Dalley – Aye; Jim Ferris – Aye; Bobby Davis – Aye; Anita Hinojos – Aye; Pete Rios – Aye; Robert Schroeder – Aye; Jon Thompson – Aye; Micah Powell – Aye; Debra Sommers – Aye; Vincent Manfredi – Aye; Robin Benning – Nay; Bob Huddleston – Nay. Motion passed 12-2.

B. Financial Report

Ms. Tackett explained to the Council that the Financial Report will be presented in a multi-year actual vs budget comparison worksheet summarizing all financial activity as requested by the Regional Council at the last meeting. Councilmember Bobby Davis made a motion to accept the Financial Report as presented. Mayor Jon Thompson seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

C. Review, Discussion and Decision on the approval of the Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS)

Mr. Brad Mecham informed the council that CAG completes the CEDS process for the Gila and Pinal County Region each year. He stated that the CEDS defines regional economic priorities to identify projects that will create or retain quality jobs and provide research on the economic status of the region. Mr. Mecham stated this is the annual update that will be sent to the Economic Development Administration (EDA) upon approval. Councilmember Bobby Davis made a motion to accept the Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) update. Mayor Jon Thompson seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

D. Review, Discussion and Decision on the FY 20 – FY 21 ADOT Two Year Work Program

Mr. Ashbaugh informed the Council that the Arizona Department of Transportation (ADOT) prepares an annual work program for each Council of Governments that outlines required elements to be undertaken with the Federal funds that are distributed by ADOT. He stated that for the first time, ADOT is issuing a two-year work program for Fiscal Year 2020 and Fiscal Year 2021 totaling \$370,000 for the two-year period. Mr. Ashbaugh informed the council that ADOT is planning to remove \$20,000 in 5310 Administrative funds, but that they are looking for alternatives to replace those funds. Vice-Mayor Robin Benning made a motion to approve the FY 20 – FY 21 ADOT Two Year Work Program. Councilmember Bobby Davis seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

E. Review, Discussion and Decision on Resolution No. 2019-05 supporting the routing of the North-South Corridor

Mr. Ashbaugh informed the council that the North-South Corridor is one of the key projects in the Pinal Regional Transportation Plan. He stated that the preferred corridor, outlined in green on the map provided in the packet, would relieve frequent traffic delays on Interstate 10, as well as providing a more direct route from U.S. 60 in the east valley. Councilmember Bobby Davis made a motion to approve Resolution No. 2019-05 supporting the routing of the North-South Corridor. Mayor Jon Thompson seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

F. Review, Discussion and Decision on Resolution No. 2019-06 supporting the Hayden/Winkelman Better Utilizing Investment to Leverage Development (BUILD) Grant

Mr. Ashbaugh stated that the Town of Hayden and the Town of Winkelman submitted a joint pre-scoping grant application for road improvement on South Golf Course Road (Hayden) and Quarelli Street (Winkelman) as the eligible transportation funding sources for both Towns are not sufficient to deliver the project needs. He stated that the Towns are seeking the BUILD grant due to limited sight and safety deficiencies that may have contributed to local crashes, including two fatalities. Councilmember Bobby Davis made a motion to approve Resolution No. 2019-06 supporting the Hayden/Winkelman BUILD Grant. Mayor Darryl Dalley seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

G. Review, Discussion and Decision on Resolution No. 2019-07 supporting the Pinal County Interstate 11 (I-11) Coalition support for the Federal Highway Administration and Arizona Department of Transportation's Interstate 11 Tier 1 Environmental Impact Statement and preliminary section 4(F) evaluation

Mr. Ashbaugh informed the council that the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) and Arizona Department of Transportation (ADOT) issued a notice of intent to begin a three-year Tier 1 Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) to select a corridor alternative for I-11 between Nogales and Wickenburg. He stated that the Resolution supports the

West Pinal Freeway that is programmed in Phase II of the Pinal Regional Transportation Plan. Councilmember Bobby Davis made a motion to approve Resolution No. 2019-07 supporting the Pinal County Interstate 11 (I-11) Coalition support for the Federal Highway Administration and Arizona Department of Transportation's Interstate 11 Tier 1 Environmental Impact Statement and preliminary section 4(F) evaluation. Vice-Mayor Vincent Manfredi, City of Maricopa, seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

H. Department Updates

Transportation Department

Mr. Travis Ashbaugh informed the council that he would be issuing a call for projects on July 11th due to a project that has received funding therefor, it is being removed from the TIP.

ASARCO Lead Paint Abatement

Mr. Alan Urban stated that Spray Systems was selected as the contractor to do the abatement and repairs on homes that tested positive for the lead based paint project and that the abatement would begin at the end of June.

Information Services

Ms. Angela Gotto informed the council that CAG has signed up to be a donation drop off point for water to assist with the United Way of Pinal County's heat relief for the homeless initiative that takes place every year. This was an information item.

X. CALL TO THE COUNCIL

Supervisor Pete Rios, Pinal County, stated that the Board of Supervisors had completed round two of interviews with the candidates for County Manager. He stated that all candidates were internal candidates and whomever is selected for the position would make an excellent County Manager.

Mayor Dean Hetrick, Town of Hayden, expressed his thanks to the Pinal County and Gila County Board of Supervisors for the additional funding given to the Hayden Senior Center to continue its operations.

Mr. Rick Miller, City of Coolidge, addressed the council and stated that he would like to commend the Regional Council board for appointing Andrea Robles as CAG's Executive Director and congratulated Ms. Robles

XI. DATE, TIME, LOCATION OF NEXT MEETING

The next Regional Council meeting will be held September 25, 2019 in Apache Junction.

XI. ADJOURNMENT

Councilmember Davis made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Vice-Mayor Robin Benning seconded the motion. Chairman Gameros adjourned the meeting at 7:53pm.