

**Regional Council Meeting**  
**Wednesday, May 8, 2019 – 6:00 pm**  
**CAG Conference Room**  
**2540 W. Apache Trail, Suite 108**  
**Apache Junction, Arizona**

## M I N U T E S

### I. CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Gameros called the meeting to order at 6:03 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, Jim Ferris, Pete Rios, Robert Schroeder, Craig McFarland, Robin Benning, Mila Besich, Dean Hetrick, Micah Powell, Tara Walter, Joe Dietz

**Members Absent:** Tim Humphrey, Anita Hinojos, Vincent Manfredi, Darryl Dalley, Debra Sommers, Ed Honea

**Guests:** Rick Miller, Ben Bitter, Steven Turner, Heather Wilkey, Samantha Samples, Mary Springer, Kevin Adam, Himanshu Patel, Andy Smith, Anna McCray, Greg Stanley, Heston Kleak, Mary Rasmussen, Donna Morey, Chris Garrett

**Staff:** Andrea Robles, Yvonne Tackett, Angela Gotto, Brad Mecham, Alan Urban, Travis Ashbaugh, Ken Hebert, Liz Reuter

### IV. CALL TO THE PUBLIC

No one answered the Call to the Public.

### V. PRESENTATIONS

A presentation was provided by Ms. Mary Rasmussen, Forest Service, and Mr. Chris Garrett, SWCA Environmental Consultants, on the review and disclosure of impacts for the proposed Resolution Coper Mine affecting Pinal County. The presentation included alternatives with alternatives five (Peg Leg) and six (Skunk Camp) being most favorable for water quality. Priorities presented include air quality, although the majority of their work is underground and tailings are capped after hours, and ground water use. Currently the project is going through a scoping process to look at and analyze the alternatives. This was an information item.



## **VI. CONSENT ITEMS**

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

### **A. Approval of Regional Council Minutes – March 27, 2019**

The March 27, 2019 minutes were approved under Consent Item VI-A.

### **B. Review, Discussion and Decision on the Transportation Technical Advisory Committee (TTAC) Bylaws.**

The TTAC Bylaws were approved under Consent Item VI-B.

### **C. Review, Discussion and Decision on the Title VI Non-Discrimination Program Implementation Plan Update**

The Title VI Non Discrimination Program Implementation Plan Update was approved under Consent Item VI-C.

### **D. Review, Discussion and Decision on the Title VI Non-Discrimination Program Implementation Plan Update**

The Title VI Non-Discrimination Program Implementation Plan Update was approved under Consent Item VI-D.

### **E. Review, Discussion and Decision on Resolution No. 2019-04 Supporting and Declaring April as Fair Housing Month**

Resolution No. 2019-04 Supporting and Declaring April as Fair Housing Month was approved under Consent Item VI-E.

## **VII. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

Ms. Robles updated the Committee on recent activities and meetings taking place at CAG. She stated that the first draft of the FY 20 budget was presented to the Budget Committee/Executive Committee/Management Committee. Ms. Robles informed the Council that the MAG Contract was completed on time and within budget. She also stated that staff has submitted an application through ADEQ for a study on septic systems in the CAG Region. Ms. Robles stated that CAG and Sun Corridor Metropolitan Planning Agency (SCMPO) will be hosting the next Transportation Summit and that she is coordinating with the SCMPO Executive Director on selection of a venue. This was an information item.

## **VIII. NEW BUSINESS**

### **A. Review, Discussion and Decision on approving the employment contract with Andrea Robles as the Executive Director**

Vice-Mayor Benning made a motion to move into executive session, and to include the Management Committee Chairman Steven Turner, to provide an update on behalf of the Management Committee. Vice-Mayor Benning noted for the record that Ms. Robles would be asked to join the executive session after the initial discussion. Mayor Tara Walter, Town of Florence seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously. The Council reconvened at 8:02 pm. Mayor Craig McFarland, City of Casa Grande, made a motion to table the employment contract and send it back to the Management Committee for clarification and then send the contract back to the Executive Committee prior to Regional Council approval. Mayor Walter seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.



## **B. Update on the 2019 Community Development Block Grant funding**

Mr. Greg Stanley, Pinal County Manager, stated that the County sent out letters to its City Mayors in April of 2018 informing them that the County would be going entitlement and inviting Pinal County members to join their CDBG application process for FY 2019, FY 2020 and FY 2021. He stated that if the Cities or Towns chose to participate with the County, they could not participate with the State or CAG for CDBG funds. Mr. Stanley informed the Council that they received letters back from a majority of the cities and towns declining to participate with the County. He stated that there was \$1.30 million in funds dedicated to Pinal County, \$1.37 million dedicated to CAG and \$415 thousand dedicated to Casa Grande. Mayor Craig McFarland, City of Casa Grande, asked if the County was going to share the funding for the admin. Mr. Stanley stated that they were recommending to hire one person for administration. Mayor Tara Walter stated that the Town of Florence will be ending their partnership with the Town of Winkelman whom they have alternated their funding with in past years. Mayor Walter stated that they intend to partner with the County. This was an information item.

## **C. Financial Report**

Ms. Tackett presented the financial report for the period ending March 31, 2019. The report included department financials, CAG's check register for January and the accounts receivable log. Ms. Tackett explained that the receivables are approximately one month behind the expenditures due to waiting for reimbursements once the expense is incurred. She also made note that there is a check issued to staff member Brad Mecham and wanted the committee to be aware that this was for reimbursement of training that Mr. Mecham paid for while CAG Staff were on furlough. Mayor McFarland requested the financial report be presented in a consolidated, one-page format to show budget vs actuals instead of the way it is currently being presented. The Council was in consensus of the consolidated format. Ms. Tackett stated the financials would be presented in the requested format going forward. Councilman Bobby Davis made a motion to approve the financial report as presented. Vice-Mayor Robin Benning seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

## **D. Review, Discussion and Decision on the adoption of the FY 2020 CAG Budget**

Ms. Tackett and Ms. Robles presented the FY 2020 CAG Budget. Mayor Walter asked Staff to check the rate for the Arizona State Retirement contribution, as the rate in the budget appears to be less. Mayor McFarland stated that vacation payout should be included in the salaries and there should be a contingency fund.

Mayor Walter stated that due to the CDBG Funding changes, there needs to be an additional \$110 thousand cut-back on the budget. Ms. Tackett stated that the applicants are on a Federal Fiscal Year and won't apply for funding until September. She continued that it would only affect three months of this fiscal year. Mayor McFarland stated that it should be six months and to verify that because Casa Grande receives funding beginning July 1<sup>st</sup>. Ms. Robles explained that the funding affects three of the projects that CAG administers and that half of that funding was removed from this budget. Mayor Walter stated that it might behoove CAG to start planning for the future in this fiscal year. Mayor McFarland stated that his calculations show that it is approximately \$260 thousand that should be removed from the budget due to a full year of loss of administering CDBG projects. Ms. Robles stated that CAG does not administer for all of its communities and that staff had already made adjustments to reflect the reduction of funds due to Pinal County going entitlement.

Chairman Gameros asked Management Committee Chairman Steven Turner to provide information about what the Management Committee discussed regarding the budget. He stated that at the time of budget discussion,



the Management Committee was not aware of the impact that Pinal County's decision would have on the budget. Mr. Turner stated that he was not an expert on the CDBG fiscal years or funding and would defer to CAG Staff, Mr. Alan Urban. Mr. Urban stated that it should be six months, but Ms. Tackett was referring to the three projects that CAG administers. He stated that CAG does not administer for all of our communities and that the 20% that Mayor McFarland referred to is administrative funds that the City of Casa Grande receives to administer their program (which runs on a fiscal year, July-June). This is not the percentage that CAG receives. Mr. Urban clarified that due to administering the smaller number of projects, it is not an impact of \$300 thousand and is closer to \$110 thousand. He stated that CAG charges a percentage to the projects that are administered and only charges between ten and eighteen percent per project and CAG only gets three or four projects. Mr. Urban stated that the budget was configured based on what CAG would be awarded for those three projects and reduced it by half. He stated this is the literal impact to CAG's budget and that is why it was done in this manner.

Mayor Jon Thompson, City of Coolidge, asked Mr. Urban if he was involved in the budget process. Mr. Urban stated that he was and that once he received notification of the funding, he informed Ms. Robles and Ms. Tackett who then made the adjustments to the budget. Mayor Thompson asked if the professionals in the room already made the adjustments to the budget and Mr. Urban stated they had. Mayor Thompson thanked Mr. Urban for the clarification. Mr. Urban stated that at this point, CAG has not lost customers that they are serving for CDBG in Pinal County. He stated that what was lost was the amount of funding that the members being served are going to receive and that is what the budget was reduced by.

Mayor Walter asked if Mr. Urban was saying that the organization was not going to receive any monetary loss this fiscal year. Mr. Urban stated that is not what he said. Mayor Walter stated that she knew it was reduced, but was that reflected in this budget. Mr. Urban stated that the reduction is included in this budget.

Mayor Walter made a motion to table the budget and send it back to management committee for further discussion and approval given the information that was discussed this evening. Mayor McFarland seconded the motion. Vice-Mayor Benning asked for a point of clarification on what the dollar impact would be to the organizations budget if Florence does not partner with Winkelman. Mr. Ben Bitter, Town of Florence, stated that it would be approximately \$27 thousand. Vice-Mayor Benning stated that he does not feel \$27 thousand is enough of an impact to delay the budget process and he is not prepared to vote yes to stall the budget process. A roll-call vote was taken. Mayor Gameros: Nay; Councilmember Jim Ferris, Town of Payson: Nay; Councilmember Davis: Nay; Supervisor Rios: Nay; Councilmember Robert Schroeder, City of Apache Junction: Aye; Mayor McFarland: Aye; Mayor Jon Thompson, City of Coolidge: Nay; Vice-Mayor Benning: Nay; Mayor Mila Besich, Town of Superior: Nay; Mayor Dean Hetrick, Town of Hayden: Nay; Vice-Mayor Micah Powell, City of Eloy: Nay; Mayor Walter, Town of Florence: Aye; Mayor Joe Dietz, Town of Mammoth: Nay. The motion failed 10-3.

Vice-Mayor Benning made a motion to approve the CAG FY 2020 Budget as presented. Councilman Davis seconded the motion. A roll-call vote was taken. Mayor Gameros: Aye; Councilmember Jim Ferris, Town of Payson: Aye; Councilmember Davis: Aye; Supervisor Rios: Aye; Councilmember Robert Schroeder, City of Apache Junction: Nay; Mayor McFarland: Nay; Mayor Jon Thompson, City of Coolidge: Aye; Vice-Mayor Benning: Aye; Mayor Mila Besich, Town of Superior: Aye; Mayor Dean Hetrick, Town of Hayden: Aye; Vice-Mayor Micah Powell, City of Eloy: Aye; Mayor Walter, Town of Florence: Nay; Mayor Joe Dietz, Town of Mammoth: Aye. The motion passed 10-3.

Ms. Robles stated that she would work with staff to provide updated information to the Council as it becomes available.



## **E. Department Updates**

Ms. Robles stated that the department updates were included for the Councils review. She stated that as of March 2019, there is \$15 million that has been collected in the RTA Escrow account. Ms. Robles provided a status update on the ASARCO Project. She stated that staff was available to answer questions on any projects listed. There were no questions or comments. This was an information item.

## **IX. LEGISLATIVE UPDATE**

Kevin Adam provided the Legislative Update to the Council.

## **X. CALL TO THE COUNCIL**

Mayor McFarland, City of Casa Grande, stated that the homelessness community resource center opened last week.

Mayor Mila Besich, Town of Superior, stated that they are holding the grand opening of their food court on June 14<sup>th</sup>.

Councilmember Davis, Town of Payson, stated that the Payson Rodeo would be held May 16<sup>th</sup> – 18<sup>th</sup> and that the Central Eastern Round Table would be held on May 16<sup>th</sup>. He stated that registration for the roundtable would be closing tomorrow.

## **XI. DATE, TIME, LOCATION OF NEXT MEETING**

The next Regional Council meeting will be held June 26, 2019 in Apache Junction.

## **XII. ADJOURNMENT**

Councilmember Davis made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Councilmember Ferris seconded the motion. Chairman Gameros adjourned the meeting at 9:11 pm.