



**DATE:** April 29, 2020  
**TIME:** 5:00 p.m.  
**LOCATION:** Online ZOOM meeting

## I. CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Davis called the meeting to order at 5:02 p.m.

## II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

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

## III. ROLL CALL AND INTRODUCTIONS

**Members Present:** Bobby Davis, Jon Thompson, Micah Powell, Tim Humphrey, Al Gameros, Pete Rios, Sammy Gonzales, Jim Ferris, Anita Hinojos, Robert Huddleston, Tara Walter, Debra Sommers, Vincent Manfredi, Robin Benning, Mila Besich

**Members Absent:** Dean Hetrick, Robert Schroeder, Joe Dietz, Ed Honea

**Staff:** Andrea Robles, Angela Gotto, Yvonne Tackett, Brad Mecham, Alan Urban, Travis Ashbaugh, Robert Mawson

**Guests:** Rick Miller, Paul Jepson, Heather Wilkey, James Hodges, Jennifer Evans

## IV. CALL TO THE PUBLIC

No one answered the Call to the Public

## V. CONSENT ITEMS

Councilmember Robin Benning, Town of Queen Creek, made a motion to approve the consent agenda item as presented. Mayor Mila Besich, Town of Superior, seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

### A. Approval of Regional Council Minutes – January 29, 2020

The January 29, 2020 minutes were approved under Consent Item V-A.

## VI. REGIONAL UPDATES

### A. Census 2020 Update – James Hodges

Mr. James Hodges provided a presentation on the US Census 2020. He stated that Pinal County has a 46.6% response rate while Gila County has a 29.7% response. He stated that the low response rate in Gila County is due to residents having post office boxes so they fall into an update leave category. Mr. Hodges stated that the update leave category requires enumerators to go to the home and leave a packet for response. He stated that this is on hold due to COVID-19. Mr. Hodges stated that he would be providing a resource guide to Ms. Andrea Robles for her to send to all of CAG's communities.

### B. Legislative Update – Kevin Adam

Kevin Adam provided the Council with a Legislative Update.

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

Ms. Robles updated the Council on recent activities and meetings taking place at CAG. She stated that CAG has paid back the loan from the Yuma Metropolitan Planning Organization (YMPO) in full plus the \$3,000 interest. She stated that CAG Staff is currently working at home until May 15<sup>th</sup>, and that she has daily staff meeting via Zoom. Ms. Robles stated that things are running very smoothly with staff working remotely and she will re-evaluate pending any changes from the President or Governor.

Ms. Robles informed the Council that she completed the third block of her CPM course and that it has currently been postponed due to COVID-19 as well. She stated that class is tentatively scheduled to resume in August with graduation in November.

Ms. Robles informed the Council that she attended the Rural Transportation Advocacy Council meeting and a decision was made to postpone the Rural Transportation Summit until October 2021. She informed the Council that they will be reaching out to those that have already registered for the summit to see how they wish to proceed. Questions, comments and discussion followed. This was an information item.

## **VIII. ACTION ITEMS**

### **A. Financial Report**

Ms. Tackett presented the financial report and stated that with 67% of the year complete, both revenues and expenditures are increased at this time due primarily to the ASARCO Project. She stated that revenues and expenditures that were expected for this project last year are occurring this year. Ms. Tackett informed the Council that part of the difference between revenues and expenditures is due to the reimbursements running 30 – 90 days in arrears and cannot be requested until after the expense is incurred. Councilmember Robin Benning, Town of Queen Creek, made a motion to approve CAG's financial report as presented. Vice-Mayor Micah Powell, City of Eloy, seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

### **B. CAG FY 21 Administrative and Program Budget**

Ms. Tackett and Ms. Robles presented the CAG FY 21 Administrative and Program Budget to the Council. They reviewed the summary of the budget for FY 2021. Mayor Tara Walter, Town of Florence, made a motion to approve the CAG FY 21 Administrative and Program Budget. Mayor Al Gameros, City of Globe, seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

### **C. Resolution No. 2020-01 Supporting and Declaring April as Fair Housing Month**

Mr. Urban explained to the Council that each year agencies and communities that participate in the HUD Community Development Block Grant Program are required to pass a Fair Housing Resolution. He stated that this resolution shows that the agencies are in support of the standards and values of providing fair housing to all residents in their communities. Mr. Urban stated that the Fair Housing training was postponed due to COVID-19, but he is working to reschedule it online. Mayor Mila Besich, Town of Superior, made a motion to approve and adopt Resolution No. 2020-01 Supporting and Declaring April as Fair Housing month. Vice-Mayor Micah Powell, City of Eloy, seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

### **D. FY 2020 – FY 2030 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)**

Mr. Ashbaugh reviewed the five TIP Amendments with the Council. The projects listed for approval were Gila County – Golden Hill Rd, Main Street, Houston Mesa Rd, Houston Mesa Rd Phase I, and Houston Mesa Rd Phase II. Councilmember Robin Benning, Town of Queen Creek, made a motion to recommend to approve the CAG FY 2020 –

FY 2030 Transportation Improvement Program. Mayor Al Gameros, City of Globe, seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

**E. Title VI Non-Discrimination Program Implementation Plan Update**

Mr. Ashbaugh stated that each year CAG is required to update the Title VI Non-Discrimination Program Implementation Plan since CAG receives federal funding. He stated that the plan is a non-discrimination policy document and that the changes year to year are the socio-economic tables. Councilmember Robin Benning, Town of Queen Creek, made a motion to approve the Title VI Non-Discrimination Program Implementation Plan Update. Councilmember Bob Huddleston, City of Casa Grande, seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

**IX. INFORMATION ITEMS**

**A. Department Updates**

**Pinal Regional Transportation Authority**

Ms. Robles stated that as of February 2020, there is \$33 million in the PRTA Escrow Account. She stated that she will be trying to schedule a Pinal RTA meeting for the first week in May. Questions, comments and discussion followed. This was an information item.

**Economic Development**

Mr. Mecham provided an update on the economic development activities at CAG. He stated that he held a Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) Committee meeting today and that the CEDS update was approved. He stated that staff is researching potential grant opportunities to assist in the development of a workforce training center for LUCID. Questions, comments and discussion followed. This was an information item.

**CAG Septic System Use Study**

Mr. Mecham stated that data has been received from Pinal County and that staff is working with Gila County and the sewer providers to obtain location data for Gila County. He stated that the data is being compared to state water quality data. Questions, comments and discussion followed. This was an information item.

**Globe-Miami Housing Study**

Mr. Mecham stated that a kickoff meeting was held in March with real estate professionals, government representatives and local stakeholders to develop existing conditions. He stated that the study would identify gaps in the housing needs and make recommendations. Questions, comments and discussion followed. This was an information item.

**ASARCO Lead Abatement Project**

Ms. Gotto stated that the project is currently on hold due to COVID-19. She stated that at this time there have been 116 homes tested for lead based paint in the Town of Hayden and the Town of Winkelman. Ms. Gotto stated that 59 homes tested positive for lead paint and 46 have had the abatement completed. She stated that project expenditures total \$1,486,399 and the project is approximately 74% expended. Questions, comments and discussion followed. This was an information item.

### **Community Development Block Grant**

Mr. Urban provided updates on the CDBG program, stating that USDA is working on a wastewater project in the Town of Superior. He stated that the first FY 2020 public hearings have been held for the Town of Superior and Town of Winkelman. Mr. Urban stated that projects are continuing for Town of Hayden (Water System Improvements - \$496,000), Town of Superior (Park System Improvements - \$417,000), and Town of Payson (Public Facilities removal of barriers - \$331,000), ADOH has approved FY 2019 projects for the Town of Kearny (Water System Improvements), Town of Miami (Street System Improvements) and the Town of Winkelman (Street Improvements). He stated that engineering procurement is beginning for the Town of Kearny (Water System Improvements - \$274,000), Town of Miami (Street System Improvements - \$274,000), and the Town of Winkelman (Street Improvements - \$91,000). Mr. Urban stated that the Fair Housing workshop and second public hearings have been postponed due to COVID-19 and that staff is working to reschedule these meetings online. He stated that there have been no dates set at this time. Questions, comments and discussion followed. This was an information item.

### **Transportation Planning Department**

Mr. Ashbaugh provided updates on the programs within the transportation planning department. He informed the Council that CAG has applied for a two-year Mobility Manager grant and the award announcement is expected in June. He stated that the funding that the state funding the CARES Act will provide will cover the current mobility manager grants 100% and CAG will not have to provide in-kind through September. Mr. Ashbaugh stated that he is following up to see if it will carry forward after September. Questions, comments and discussion followed. This was an information item.

## **X. LEGISLATIVE UPDATE**

There was no Legislative Update provided.

## **XI. CALL TO THE COUNCIL**

The members present provided updates on their communities as well as their response to COVID-19.

## **XII. UPCOMING MEETINGS & EVENTS**

The next Regional Council meeting will be held on June 24, 2020 at 6:00 PM.

## **XIII. ADJOURN**

Vice-Mayor Micah Powell, City of Eloy, made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Councilmember Bob Huddleston, City of Casa Grande, seconded the motion. Chairman Davis adjourned the meeting at 7:38 PM.