



DATE: January 27, 2021
TIME: 6:00 p.m.
LOCATION: 2540 W. Apache Trail, Suite 108; Apache Junction, AZ 85120

I. CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Davis called the meeting to order at 6:03 PM.

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, Robert Schroeder, Bob Huddleston, Vincent Manfredi, Robin Benning, Mila Besich

Members Absent: Dean Hetrick, Sammy Gonzales, Jim Ferris, Anita Hinojos, Tara Walter, Jamie Ramsey, Patricia Armenta, Ed Honea

Guests: Kevin Adam, Rick Miller, Heather Wilkey

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

IV. CALL TO THE PUBLIC

No one answered the Call to the Public

V. CONSENT ITEMS

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

A. Approval of Regional Council Minutes – September 23, 2020

The September 23, 2020 minutes were approved under Consent Item V-A.

VI. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Ms. Robles updated the Council on recent activities and meetings taking place at CAG. She stated that staff continues to work at home in an effort to minimize the spread of COVID-19, but the office is open for meetings with limited in person attendance and virtual option remaining available for staff and participants. Ms. Robles informed the Council that she successfully completed the CPM Course, as required by the Regional Council, and received her certification in November 2020. She stated that CAG will be hosting its annual Legislative Day virtually this year and staff is coordinating with the League to plan a date in February. Ms. Robles stated that staff is in the beginning stages of the FY 2022 budget preparation and will work with CAG's Executive Committee to develop the FY22 budget for Regional Council approval. This was an information item.

VII. ACTION ITEMS

A. Title VI Training

Mr. Ashbaugh informed the Council that Title VI Training is provided on an annual basis to ensure that compliance is being met per federal requirements. He stated that as a recipient of Federal funds through the Arizona Department of Transportation (ADOT), CAG is held to a standard of non-discrimination as described within the CAG Title VI Plan. Mr. Ashbaugh provided a presentation on what Title VI is and what the responsibilities are as well as the complaint procedures. Questions, comments, and discussion followed. This was an information item.

B. Financial Report

Ms. Yvonne Tackett presented the November 2020 financial report. She stated that this represented 42% of the current fiscal year. She stated that the expenditures were at 35.22% of the budgeted amount and that the revenues were at 36.12% of the budgeted amount excluding any carry-over. She reminded the Council that CAG recognizes expenses when they are incurred but does not post revenue until a request for reimbursement or invoice is billed. Ms. Tackett stated that this causes revenues to be approximately 30 days in arrears and the grants or projects that are billed quarterly can be up to 90 days in arrears. Questions, comments, and discussion followed. Mayor Jon Thompson, City of Coolidge, made a motion to approve the November 2020 financial report as presented. Mayor Al Gameros, City of Globe, seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

C. CAG FY 2021 – FY 2031 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)

Mr. Travis Ashbaugh reviewed the TIP Amendments with the Council. The projects listed for approval were Regional Traffic Counting (CAG), Golden Hill Road (Gila County), Granite Dells Road (Town of Payson), and Colcord Road (Gila County). Questions, comments, and discussion followed. Councilmember Robin Benning, Town of Queen Creek, made a motion to approve the CAG FY 2021 – FY 2031 TIP as presented. Mayor Jon Thompson, City of Coolidge, seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

D. Appointment of Regional Council Representative and Alternate to the Rural Transportation Advocacy Council (RTAC)

Ms. Andrea Robles informed the Council that the representatives for the RTAC were reviewed on an annual basis. She stated that the appointed representatives are required to serve and attend the RTAC Board meetings held on a monthly basis. Ms. Robles stated that Supervisor Tim Humphrey is the current representative with Councilmember Vince Manfredi serving as alternate on the RTAC. Mayor Jon Thompson, City of Coolidge, made a motion to keep Supervisor Humphrey as the representative with Councilmember Manfredi remaining as the alternate. Mayor Mila Besich, Town of Superior, seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

E. Election of Officers

Ms. Andrea Robles informed the Council that the election of officers takes place each January. She stated that election to the same position is allowed for not more than two consecutive one-year terms. Mayor Micah Powell, City of Eloy, made a motion to appoint Mayor Jon Thompson, City of Coolidge, as Chairman for the Regional Council. Councilmember Bobby Davis, Town of Star Valley, seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously. Councilmember Robin Benning, Town of Queen Creek, made a motion to appoint Micah Powell, City of Eloy, as Vice-Chairman of the Regional Council. Mayor Mila Besich, Town of Superior, seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously. Mayor Powell made a motion to nominate Mayor Al Gameros, City of Globe, Secretary/Treasurer of the Regional Council. Councilmember Davis seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

VIII. INFORMATION ITEMS

A. Gila County Septic System Use Study

Mr. Travis Ashbaugh informed the Council that CAG received a \$60,000 grant to complete a Gila County Septic System Use Study. He stated that the purpose of the study was primarily to create a database that will identify the presence of on-site septic, their impact of septic system discharges into nearby water sources and to provide a visual representation of septic system locations with nitrate levels from nearby tested wells. Mr. Ashbaugh stated that the study also allows the proper agencies and citizen groups to create an overall plan for remediation projects, new installations in underserved areas. He stated that due to the nature of locating and processing septic system records the grant was only able to fund the Gila County region. Questions, comments, and discussion followed. This was an information item.

B. ASARCO Lead Abatement Project

Ms. Angela Gotto provided an update on the ASARCO Lead Abatement Project. She stated that the final home for this project was completed on January 11, 2021. Ms. Gotto stated that 76 homes in the Town of Hayden and 21 homes in the Town of Winkelman were tested for lead based paint. She stated that 42 homes in Hayden and 8 homes in Winkelman had abatement work completed. Ms. Gotto informed the Council that staff was working with the consultants to schedule final walks of homes and preparing final invoicing to close out the program. Questions, comments, and discussion followed. This was an information item.

C. Department Updates

Pinal Regional Transportation Authority

Ms. Andrea Robles provided an update to the Council on the activities taking place withing the Pinal Regional Transportation Authority (PRTA). She stated that the PRTA escrow account currently has a balance of \$50 million. Ms. Robles stated that the oral arguments for the PRTA Lawsuit were heard on December 10, 2020 and that a decision is expected mid-summer. She stated that draft IGAs and project fact sheets are being developed on a per community, per project basis. Questions, comments, and discussion followed. This was an information item.

Community Development Block Grant

Mr. Alan Urban provided updates on the CDBG program, stating that Miami's Street improvement project completed the system evaluation and the initial bid process. He stated that the Town of Miami is currently in negotiations to move the project forward despite the bids being over budget. He stated that the Town of Winkelman's street improvement project went to bid in November and that the project is scheduled to begin in January. Mr. Urban informed the Council that the FY20 CDBG projects were approved for funding in the amount of \$223,667 each (Payson – ADA Removal of Barriers at the Payson municipal Airport; Town of Superior Abatement and possible demolition of approximately 13 abandoned residential buildings; and Town of Winkelman purchase of a fire truck for residential and wildland firefighting needs). Questions, comments, and discussion followed. This was an information item.

Water Infrastructure Financing Authority (WIFA)

Mr. Alan Urban provided an update on the WIFA programs. He stated that CAG has entered into five contracts with private water providers (Jake's Corner Water System, The Arroyo Water Company, Sun Valley Farms Water Company,

Villa Grand DWID and the City of Globe) to supply procurement and Labor standards monitoring for a water system improvement project using WIFA funds. Questions, comments, and discussion followed. This was an information item.

USDA

Mr. Alan Urban informed the Council that work is continuing on the Town of Superior's Wastewater Treatment Plant Rehabilitation project and that construction is expected to begin in the next month. He stated that the Town of Mammoth received preliminary approval for funding a town wide water distribution system project. Questions, comments, and discussion followed. This was an information item.

Globe-Miami Housing Study

Mr. Robert Mawson informed the Council that the Globe-Miami Housing Study is approximately 70% complete. He stated that additional work remained in the housing needs assessment, land use & policy review, and goals & objectives portions of the study. Mr. Mawson stated that the stakeholders requested additional research on and more focus on homeless/vulnerable population housing issues. He stated that at this time anticipated completion is February 2021, but the additional research could extend the completion time. Questions, comments, and discussion followed. This was an information item.

Economic Development Administration

Mr. Robert Mawson informed the Committee that staff is currently updating the 2021-2025 Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy in partnership with NAU Economic Policy Institute and Evelyn Casuga of the Center for the Future of Arizona. He stated that meetings to review and edit the draft plan were held in December 2020, January 2021 and the third meeting will be held in February 2021. Mr. Mawson stated that completion of the CEDS is expected in April 2021. Questions, comments, and discussion followed. This was an information item.

Transportation Planning

Mr. Travis Ashbaugh provided updates on activities within the Transportation Planning Department programs. He stated that the draft final report for the Pinal County Transit Governance Study is currently being reviewed by the Technical Working Group and that the study is expected to be completed by February. Mr. Ashbaugh informed the Committee that the Gila County Transit Governance Study will hold virtual workshops in March and April 2021. He stated that all City/Town Councilmembers and County Supervisors will be invited to the workshops and they will include live polling and breakout sessions. Mr. Ashbaugh stated that CAG's Regional Traffic Counts program for FY 2021 has begun and that 17 "growth counts" will be conducted throughout the CAG Transportation Boundary from January through March 2021. Questions, comments, and discussion followed. This was an information item.

CAG/SCMPO Human Services Transportation Coordination Plan

Mr. Robert Mawson informed the Council that the 30-day public comment period for the FY2021 Human Services Transportation Coordination Plan has been completed. He stated that the plan will begin the committee approval process with the Gila Pinal Rides Committee in January. Mr. Mawson stated that the plan will then move through Sun Corridor MPO's Executive Board, CAG's Management Committee and Regional Council in March. He stated that

upon approval the plan will be submitted to ADOT. Questions, comments, and discussion followed. This was an information item.

Water Quality Planning

Mr. Travis Ashbaugh provided updates on the Water Quality Planning department programs. He stated that the second draft for the Johnson Utilities/EPCOR Pecan/San Tan WRP 208 Amendment had been completed. Mr. Ashbaugh stated that the amendment will be brought to CAG's Environmental Planning Committee to begin the 45-Day public hearing notice process.

Mr. Ashbaugh stated that an application was submitted for the Johnson Utilities/EPCOR Section 11/Anthem/Copper Basin WRP 208 Plan Amendment to add additional connections within their service area as well as adjustments that affect the three WRP's. He stated that a stakeholder meeting will be scheduled once the first draft is received.

Mr. Ashbaugh informed the Council that an application was submitted for the Superstition Mountains Community Facilities District No. 1 208 plan amendment to expand their Designated Management Agency (DMA) boundary and build-out capacity. He stated that a pre-application meeting for the amendment was held in December 2020.

Mr. Alan Urban informed the Committee that the revised Miami 208 amendment is moving forward with a potential review by the EPC in February. Questions, comments, and discussion followed. This was an information item.

IX. LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

Kevin Adam provided the Legislative Update.

X. CALL TO THE COUNCIL

The members present provided updates on their communities.

XI. UPCOMING MEETINGS & EVENTS

The next Regional Council meeting will be held on March 24, 2021 at 6:00 PM.

XII. ADJOURN

Chairman Davis adjourned the meeting at 7:26 PM.