# Local Agency Formation COmmission OF KINGS COUNTY

CITY MEMBERS	COUNTY MEMBERS	PUBLIC MEMBERS
Jim Wadsworth, Vice-Chair	Joe Neves, Chair	Paul Thompson
Harlin Casida	Doug Verboon	Vacant, Alternate
Sid Palmerin, Alternate	Richard Valle, Alternate	
	Greg Gatzka Executive Officer (559) 852-2682	

In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, if you need special assistance to participate in this meeting, please contact the Community Development Agency at (559) 852-2680 by 4:00 p.m. on the Monday prior to this meeting.

Agenda backup information and any public records provided to the Commission after the posting of the agenda for this meeting will be available for public review at the Kings County Community Development Agency, 1400 W. Lacey Blvd., Hanford, CA 93230.

# AGENDA

#### **REGULAR MEETING DATE AND TIME:** Wednesday, March 25, 2015 at 3:00 P.M.

The Local Agency Formation Commission of Kings County Regular Meetings are held in the Board of Supervisors Chambers in the Administration Building (Bldg. No. 1) of the Kings County Government Center located at 1400 West Lacey Blvd., Hanford, CA.

## I. CALL MEETING TO ORDER – Chairman

#### A. Unscheduled Appearances:

Any person may address the Commission on any subject matter within the jurisdiction or responsibility of the Commission at the beginning of the meeting; or may elect to address the Commission on any agenda item at the time the item is called by the Chair, but before the matter is acted upon by the Commission. Unscheduled comments will be limited to five minutes.

- B. Approval of August 27, 2014 Minutes (Voice Vote)
- C. Election of Officers Chairman and Vice Chair

## II. OLD BUSINESS

None

## **III. NEW BUSINESS**

- A. LAFCO Preliminary Budget FY 2015-2016
  - a) Executive Officer's Report
  - b) Set the first Public Hearing for April 22, 2015

#### B. 2015 CALAFCO Staff Workshop

a) Authorization to attend

IV. LEGISLATION None

# V. MISCELLANEOUS

- A. Correspondence CALAFCO Dues, CALAFCO Quarterly News from the Board of Directors, What is LAFCO brochure
- B. Items from the Commission
- C. Staff Comments -

## VII. ADJOURNMENT

A. Next Scheduled Meeting – Regular Meeting Date April 22, 2015 at 3:00 p.m.

# LOCAL AGENCY FORMATION COMMISSION MINUTES

CITY MEMBERS Jim Wadsworth – Vice Chair Vacant Harlin Casida - Alternate COUNTY MEMBERS Joe Neves – Chair Tony Barba Doug Verboon - Alternate PUBLIC MEMBERS Paul Thompson Vacant - Alternate

**CALL TO ORDER:** A regular meeting of the Local Agency Formation Commission of Kings County was called to order by the Chairman, Joe Neves, at 3:00 p.m., on August 27, 2014 in the Board of Supervisors Chambers of the Kings County Government Center, located at 1400 W. Lacey Blvd., in Hanford, California.

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT:Joe Neves, Tony Barba, Harlin CasidaCOMMISSIONERS ABSENT:Paul ThompsonSTAFF PRESENT:Greg Gatzka – Executive Officer, Chuck Kinney –<br/>Assistant Executive Officer, Terri Yarbrough –<br/>Clerk

#### **VISITORS PRESENT:**

UNSCHEDULED APPEARANCES: No one spoke during this portion of the meeting.

#### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

A motion was made and seconded (Barba/Casida) to approve the minutes of the May 28, 2014 meeting. Motion carried unanimously with Thompson absent.

#### **OLD BUSINESS:**

None

#### **NEW BUSINESS**

#### **2014 CALAFCO Conference**

Mr. Gatzka asked for authorization to attend the 2014 CALAFCO conference.

A motion was made and seconded (Barba/Casida) to authorize Greg Gatzka to attend the 2014 CALAFCO conference. Motion carried unanimously with Thompson absent.

#### **Discussion for Extension of Services Due to Drought Conditions**

Mr. Gatzka asked the Commission if they were interested in considering a blanket approval for city or district extension of service due to drought conditions and wells failing. It was the consensus of the Commission to continue authorizing extension of service on an individual basis rather than a blanket authorization. Mr. Gatzka reported that staff is doing research to determine if the Corcoran fringe requires LAFCO authorizations. Commissioner Casida reported that Avenal is due to run out of water in November 2014.

#### LEGISLATION

None

#### **MISCELLANEOUS**

- **A.** Correspondence Mr. Gatzka received an email from CALAFCO listing current legislation which was provided to the Commissioners.
- **B.** Items from the Commission None
- C. Staff Comments None

**ADJOURNMENT** – With no further business before the Commission, the meeting was adjourned at 3:23 p.m.

#### A. A meeting is scheduled for September 24, 2014 at 3:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

#### LOCAL AGENCY FORMATION COMMISSION OF KINGS COUNTY

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Gregory R. Gatzka, Executive Officer

h:\lafco\commission meetings\minutes\2014\8-27-14 lafco minutes.doc

# Local Agency Formation COmmission OF KINGS COUNTY

Date: March 13, 2015

To: LAFCO Commissioners

From: Greg Gatzka, Executive Officer

Subject: Preliminary LAFCO FY 2015/2016 Budget

#### **Background**

LAFCO is required to hold two public hearings prior to adoption of the LAFCO Budget. Historically, the LAFCO Executive Officer has provided a Preliminary LAFCO budget to the Commission in March and requests that the LAFCO Commission set budget hearings be held at the regular meetings in April and May. State law requires that the LAFCO Budget be adopted by the end of May each year.

The Preliminary LAFCO FY Budget for 2015/2016 Budget is provided, but requires a few more modifications as Kings County associated costs are still being factored in. The overall budget, however, will be very close to this preliminary estimate. This budget will represent an increase from last year as CALAFCO dues and overall associated expenses have increased.

#### Recommend

The Executive Officer recommends that the LAFCO Commission set the first Public Hearing for the LAFCO FY 2015/2016 Budget on April 22, 2015 and direct staff to send notice to the county and each city.

#### LOCAL AGENCY FORMATION COMMISSION OF KINGS CO.

UNIT NUMBER:	280000
UNIT TITLE:	LAFCO
FUNCTION:	Pub. Safety
ACTIVITY:	Other Protect.

#### **Fiscal Year 2015-2016**

Department: Local Agency Formation Commission of Kings County (LAFCO)													Run date:		
ACCOUNT							% of Bud.	<mark>% of Bud.</mark> 3/4/15		DEPT.		Change		% Change	
DESCRIPTION	ACCT.		Budget		To Date	]	Difference	Expended		Estimated		REQ'T		14-15 to	14-15 to
	NO.		14-15		3/4/15		3/4/15	to Date		14-15		2015-16		15-16	15-16
SALARIES & BENEFITS:		<b></b>		<b></b>		<b>•</b>			<i>.</i>		đ	0	•		
Regular Employees	82-1010	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	NA	\$	-	\$	0	\$		N/A
Extra Help	82-1020	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	NA	-	-	\$ \$	0	\$		N/A
Overtime	82-1030	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	NA		-	\$	0	\$	-	N/A
O.A.S.D.I.	82-1100	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	NA	\$	-	\$	0	\$	-	N/A
Retirement	82-1110	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	NA	\$	-	\$	0	\$	-	N/A
Health Insurance	82-1120	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	NA	\$	-	\$	0	\$		N/A
Unemployment Insurance	82-1122	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	NA	\$	-	\$	0	\$		N/A
Insurance-Work Comp.	82-1123	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	NA	\$	-	\$	0	\$	-	N/A
Management Benefits	82-1140	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	NA	-	-	\$	0	\$	0	N/A
TOTAL LABOR:		\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	N/A	\$	-	\$	0	\$	0	N/A
SERVICES & SUPPLIES:															
Communications	82-212000	\$	60	\$	41	\$	19	68.35%	\$	61	\$	70	\$	10	16.67%
Memberships	82-220000	\$	2,335	\$	2,335	\$	-	100.00%	\$	2,300	\$	2,381	\$	46	1.97%
Office Expenses	82-222000	\$	200	\$	13	\$	188	6.25%	\$	19	\$	250	\$	50	25.00%
Record Storage Charges	82-222015	\$	315	\$	184	\$	131	58.33%	\$	316	\$	334	\$	19	6.03%
Postage & Freight	82-222030	\$	400	\$	1	\$	399	0.24%	\$	400	\$	400	\$	-	0.00%
Offset Printing/Stores	82-222040	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	#DIV/0!	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	#DIV/0!
Legal Expenses	82-223005	\$	1,000	\$	77	\$	923	7.72%	\$	114	\$	1,000	\$	-	0.00%
Publi. and Legal Notices	82-224000	\$	360	\$	-	\$	360	0.00%	\$	-	\$	360	\$	_	0.00%
Rents & Leases - Equipment	82-225000	\$	1,000	\$	664	\$	336	66.40%	\$	985	\$	1,000	\$	_	0.00%
Rents & Leases - Computer	82-225015	\$	_	\$	-	\$	_	#DIV/0!	\$	-		,			
Purchasing Charges	82-228200	\$	62	\$	37	\$	25	59.27%	\$	55	\$	59	\$	(3)	-4.84%
Bd. & Comm. Mem. Expenses	82-228205	\$	2,780	\$	100	\$	2,680	3.60%	\$	148	\$	2,780	\$	- ``	0.00%
Consultant Expense	82-223060		·			\$		0.00%	\$	_		,	\$	_	0.00%
CAP Charges	82-314060	\$	578	\$	(434)	\$	1,012	-75.00%	\$	(643)	\$	(377)	\$	(955)	-165.22%
In-Service Training	82-228465	\$	1,400	\$	450	\$	950	32.14%		668	\$	1,400	\$	-	0.00%
Motor Pool Serv.	82-229000		,	\$	-	\$	-	N/A		-	Ľ	,	\$	_	N/A
Travel & Expenses	82-229010	\$	4,000	\$	579	\$	3,421	14.48%	\$	859	\$	3,552	\$	(448)	-11.20%
Utilities	82-230000	\$	800	\$	498	\$	302	62.26%	1 C C	739	\$	856	\$	56	7.00%
Administrative Allocation	82-314000	\$	34,298	\$	16,632	\$	17,666	48.49%	\$	24,677	\$	35,560	\$	1,262	3.68%
Information Tech Services	82-314050	\$	1,828	\$	1,828	\$	-	100.00%		2,712	\$	1,828	\$	_,	0.00%
TOTAL SERV/SUPP:			51,416	\$	-	\$	28,412	44.74%		33,410	\$	51,453	\$	37	0.07%

<b>REVENUE:</b>						% of Bud.	3/4/15		DEPT.	Change	% Change
	ACCT.	Budget	To Date	Ľ	Difference	Expended	Estimated	]	REQ'T	14-15 to	14-15 to
	NO.	14-15	3/4/15		3/4/15	to Date	14-15	2	2015-16	15-16	15-16
INTERGOV'T REVENUE											
Cities-LAFCO Shares	81-540012	\$ 24,206	\$ -	\$	(24,206)	0.00%	\$ -	\$	24,227	\$ 21	0.09%
CHARGES FOR SERVICES											
LAFCO Fees	816352	\$ 3,000	\$ -	\$	(3,000)	0.00%	\$ -	\$	3,000	\$ -	0.00%
LAFCO MSR/SOI Fees				\$	-	0.00%	\$ -	\$	-	\$ -	0.00%
TOTAL REVENUE:		\$ 27,206	\$-	\$	(27,206)	0.00%	\$ -	\$	27,227	\$ 21	0.1%

TOTALS	ACCT. NO.	Budget 14-15	To Date 3/4/15	]	Difference 3/4/15	% of Bud. Expended to Date		3/4/15 Estimated 14-15	DEPT. REQ'T 2015-16	Change 14-15 to 15-16	% Change 14-15 to 15-16
SALARIES & BENEFITS:	NO.	\$ -	\$ 	\$	-	to Date	\$	-	\$ 0	\$ 15-10	15-10 N/A
SERVICES & SUPPLIES:		\$ 51,416	\$ 23,004	\$	28,412	44.74%	· ·	33,410	\$ 51,453	\$ 37	0.07%
FIXED ASSETS:	824500	\$ -	\$ -	\$	-	0%	\$	-	\$ -	\$ -	0.00%
GROSS EXPENDITURES	S:	\$ 51,416	\$ 23,004	\$	28,412	44.74%	\$	33,410	\$ 51,453	\$ 37	0.07%
<b>REVENUE:</b>		\$ 27,206	\$ -	\$	27,206	0.00%	\$	-	\$ 27,227	\$ 21	0.08%
COST APPLIED:	825380	\$ -	\$ -	\$	-	0%	\$	-	\$ -	\$ -	0.00%
	•			•							
GEN. FUND CONTRIBU	TION:	\$ (24,210)	\$ (23,004)	\$	(1,206)	95.02%	\$	(33,410)	\$ (24,227)	\$ (17)	0.07%

# Local Agency Formation COmmission OF KINGS COUNTY

Date: March 13, 2015

To: LAFCO Commissioners From: Greg Gatzka, Executive Officer

Subject: Request Authorization for staff to attend the 2015 CALAFCO Staff Workshop

#### **Background**

Historically, the Executive Officer and the one LAFCO Staff member attend each year's CALAFCO Staff Workshop to keep up to speed and informed on the latest LAFCO processing changes and best management practices. LAFCO continues to contract with the Kings County Community Development Agency (CDA) for staff to serve as LAFCO staff.

The LAFCO FY Budget for 2014/2015 planned for the attendance of LAFCO staff members to attend this year's CALAFCO Staff Workshop. CALAFCO holds two conferences per year. The Staff Workshop is held in spring, and the Annual Conference is held in fall and typically attended by the Executive Officer and one Commissioner. This year's Staff Workshop runs from April 15<sup>th</sup> -17<sup>th</sup> and will be in Grass Valley, CA at the Holiday Inn Express and Courtyard Suites and hosted by Nevada LAFCo. Registration is \$275 per person for LAFCO members and an added Mobile Workshop will be held the morning of April 15<sup>th</sup> for an additional \$45. The following expenses are estimated for this workshop for one attendee:

Estimated total trip cost: \$1,176

The LAFCO FY Budget for 2014/2015 currently has \$4,371 left remaining in the In Service and the Training and Travel related accounts. This CALAFCO Staff Workshop is the only planned training remaining in this fiscal year, so there is sufficient funding available in the current budget and there should be an end of the year balance of approximately \$3,195.

#### <u>Request</u>

The Executive Officer requests LAFCO Commission authorization for Chuck Kinney to attend the 2015 CALAFCO Staff Workshop.



# Announcing the CALAFCO 2015 Staff Workshop

# Mark your calendars for another fabulous staff workshop! Apríl 15 – 17, 2015

Join CALAFCO and our workshop host, Nevada LAFCO, in the beautiful and historic sister cities of Grass Valley and Nevada City. We will stay in downtown Grass Valley at the Holiday Inn Express and nearby Courtyard Suites.



A special Thursday night banquet dinner will be held at the historic Miners Foundry in Nevada City.



# Mark your calendars - Apríl 15 – 17, 2015

Details regarding hotel rates, workshop registration rates, and program lineup will be provided soon.



## After the Gold Rush



The 2015 CALAFCO Annual Staff Workshop Hosted by Nevada LAFCo

April 15 - 17, 2015

in Grass Valley, California at the Holiday Inn Express and Courtyard Suites

Special

Highlights

Mobile Workshop

Join us as we travel to

Scotts Flat Reservoir to

tour the Nevada

Irrigation District's

Hydroelectric facility,

then off to Empire Mine

Historic State Park to

visit this 165 year old

mine and enjoy lunch

on the beautiful

park grounds.

Wednesday from

7:30 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

Friday Morning Legislative Panel

Discussion

# **Content Rich Sessions**

- Special Opening Panel Session: The Governor's plans for forging California's future
- Fiscal Health of Fire Protection Districts
- How websites are managed throughout the state
- Developing policies and formats for guiding meaningful public input on LAFCo matters
- Spheres and CEQA
- Getting to the nitty-gritty of consolidation options
- Performance Measures Part I: International and National standards
- Performance Measures Part II: Accountability and transparency certifications through CSDA and others
- Improving your public speaking skills
- How LAFCos utilize outside consultants
- Dealing with difficult behaviors
- Reading and understanding public agency audits
- Application Processing
- Special Legislative Panel Discussion

Note: Sessions are tentative and subject to change



Thursday night dinner at the historic Miners Foundry Cultural Center in Nevada City

Registration opening very soon! MARK YOUR CALENDARS!



## Invaluable Opportunities for Networking

CALAFC

- Staff and Counsel Roundtable discussions on current issues
- CALAFCO Beer & Wine Reception
- Networking breakfasts
- Thursday Luncheon and Dinner

TWO HOTEL OPTIONS AND MEETING LOCATIONS ~ Just 5 minute walk apart Holiday Inn Express and Courtyard Suites



Make your reservations now at one of the two local hotels – both have a special CALAFCO rate of \$107/night. Holiday Inn Express (530-477-1700) www.thegoldminersinn.com or Courtyard Suites www.gvcourtyardsuites.com (530-272-7696). Book your room before April 1<sup>st</sup> to get the best rate. Hotels are only a short 5 minute walk from each other and located in downtown Grass Valley.

#### After the Gold Rush



# 2015 CALAFCO Staff Workshop April 15<sup>th</sup> – 17<sup>th</sup> + Grass Valley

LAFCo	
Received	
Check #	

# WORKSHOP REGISTRATION

#### WORKSHOP REGISTRATION FEES

	Received by March 17 <sup>th</sup>	Received after March 17 <sup>th</sup>	Fee
Member – Full Workshop	\$275	\$300	
Non-member – Full Workshop	\$375	\$400	
Guest/Spouse - All Meals	\$150	\$200	
Member – One Day (Wed orThur)	\$175	\$200	
Non-Member – One Day (Wed orThur)	\$225	\$275	
Mobile Workshop – Wed. (Includes lunch and admission)	\$45	\$45	
Attorney MCLE Credit (LAFCo counsel only)	\$50	\$50	
TOTAL REGISTRATION FEE			

Payment must accompany registration. Please make checks payable to "CALAFCO."

Mail completed registration forms and payment to:

**CALAFCO** 1215 K Street. Suite 1650 Sacramento, CA 95814

#### HOTEL RESERVATIONS

Contact Holiday Inn Express for reservations at 530-477-1700, or the Courtyard Suites at 530-272-7696. Reference 'CALAFCO' for our special rates of \$107/night. Rates may increase after April 1st so book early for the best rate and availability!

#### NEW

#### **CANCELLATION & REGISTRATION REFUND POLICY**

- 1. Registrations are considered complete upon receipt of fees.
- 2. Cancellation requests made in writing and received by Thursday, March 26 receive a 100% refund less \$20 handling fee.
- 3. Registration fees are transferable to another person not already registered provided the request is received in writing and are subject to a \$20 handling fee.
- 5. Registration fees for guests and special events are fully refundable if requests are made in writing and received by March 26, 2015 or if the special event is cancelled.
- 6. Cancellation requests must be made by e-mail, fax or mail to the CALAFCO office.
- 7. Cancellation requests made after Thursday, March 26, 2015 are not eligible for a refund or credit.
- 8. There are no longer any credits issued for registrations cancelled. (Effective January 1, 2015)

Please submit one form for each person registering FIRST NAME LAST NAME

POSITION

NAME ON NAMETAG

LAFCo/ORGANIZATION

GUEST NAME (For guest/spouse registration)

MAILING ADDRESS

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ZIP

PHONE

E-MAIL ADDRESS



# Correspondence

### CALAFCO LAFCo Dues 2015-2016

County	DOF Population Jan 2012	Category	2013-2014 Dues	1.5% Increase	2014-2015 Dues	2.0% Increase	2015-2016 Dues
ALAMEDA	1,532,137	Urban	7,319	110	7,429	149	7,577
ALPINE	1,097	Rural	758	11	769	15	785
AMADOR	37,120	Rural	758	11	769	15	785
BUTTE	221,273	Suburban	2,300	35	2,335	47	2,381
CALAVERAS	45,840	Rural	758	11	769	15	785
COLUSA	21,690	Rural	758	11	769	15	785
CONTRA COSTA	1,065,117	Urban	7,319	110	7,429	149	7,577
DEL NORTE	28,429	Rural	758	11	769	15	785
EL DORADO	180,712	Suburban	2,300	35	2,335	47	2,381
FRESNO	945,711	Urban	6,466	97	6,563	131	6,694
GLENN	28,122	Rural	758	11	769	15	785
HUMBOLDT	134,587	Suburban	2,300	35	2,335	47	2,381
IMPERIAL	177,441	Suburban	2,300	35	2,335	47	2,381
INYO	18,461	Rural	758	11	769	15	785
KERN	850,006	Urban	5,511	83	5,594	112	5,706
KINGS	152,419	Suburban	2,300	35	2,335	47	2,381
LAKE	63,266	Rural	758	11	769	15	785
LASSEN	34,167	Rural	758	11	769	15	785
LOS ANGELES	9,884,632	Urban	7,319	110	7,429	149	7,577
MADERA	152,074	Suburban	2,300	35	2,335	47	2,381
MARIN	254,790	Suburban	2,300	35	2,335	47	2,381
MARIPOSA	17,716	Rural	758	11	769	15	785
MENDOCINO	87,572	Rural	758	11	769	15	785
MERCED	258,736	Suburban	2,300	35	2,335	47	2,381
MODOC	9,566	Rural	758	11	769	15	785
MONO	14,391	Rural	758	11	769	15	785
MONTEREY	420,688	Suburban	3,111	47	3,158	63	3,221
NAPA	138,255	Suburban	2,300	35	2,335	47	2,381
NEVADA	97,182	Rural	758	11	769	15	785
ORANGE	3,055,792	Urban	7,319	110	7,429	149	7,577
PLACER	355,328	Suburban	2,300	35	2,335	47	2,381
PLUMAS	19,718	Rural	758	11	769	15	785
RIVERSIDE	2,227,577	Urban	7,319	110	7,429	149	7,577
SACRAMENTO	1,435,153	Urban	7,319	110	7,429	149	7,577
SAN BENITO	55,815	Rural	758	11	769	15	785
SAN BERNARDINO	2,063,919	Urban	7,319	110	7,429	149	7,577
SAN DIEGO	3,143,429	Urban	7,319	110	7,429	149	7,577
SAN FRANCISCO	812,538	Urban	5,850	88	5,938	119	6,057
SAN JOAQUIN	695,750	Suburban	4,781	72	4,853	97	4,950
SAN LUIS OBISPO	271,483	Suburban	2,300	35	2,335	47	2,381
SAN MATEO	729,443	Urban	5,294	79	5,373	107	5,481
SANTA BARBARA	427,267	Suburban	3,069	46	3,115		3,177
SANTA CLARA	1,816,486	Urban	7,319	110	7,429	149	7,577
SANTA CRUZ	265,981	Suburban	2,300	35	2,335	47	2,381
SHASTA	177,823	Suburban	2,300	35	2,335	47	2,381
SIERRA	3,152	Rural	758	11	769	15	785
SISKIYOU	44,639	Rural	758	11	769	15	785
SOLANO	413,786	Suburban	3,086	46	3,132	63	3,195
SONOMA	487,011	Suburban	3,501	53	3,554	71	3,625
STANISLAUS	519,940	Suburban	3,692	55	3,747	75	3,822
SUTTER	95,065	Rural	758	11	769	15	785
TEHAMA	63,177	Rural	758	11	769	15	785
TRINITY	13,722	Rural	758	11	769	15	785
TULARE	450,840	Suburban	3,000	45	3,045	61	3,106
TUOLUMNE	53,834	Rural	758	11	769	15	785
VENTURA	832,970	Urban	5,950	89	6,039	121	6,160
YOLO	202,133	Suburban	2,300	35	2,335	47	2,381
YUBA	72,615	Rural	758	11	769	15	785
TOTAL	37,679,583		\$168,816	\$2,532	\$171,348	\$3,427	\$174,775

# News from the Board of Directors



#### CALAFCO Board and Staff Meet in Biennial Strategic Planning Retreat

On January 29, 2015, the CALAFCO



Board held their biennial strategic planning retreat in Irvine. During the day-long retreat they reviewed Association accomplishments for 2013 and 2014, reaffirmed CALAFCO's mission, and worked extensively in the review of the current strategic plan priority areas. The Board reaffirmed the Association's legislative priorities and reviewed several potential legislative hot spots such as groundwater management and mutual water companies.

The group also spent time exploring what is on the horizon for CALAFCO in terms of increasing value for the membership, including what it may look like to enhance the annual conference experience. The Board appointed



a subcommittee to work with the Executive Director to explore various conference models and

report back to the full Board in May with options for consideration. In addition, the Board discussed the election policy trial in which an absentee ballot could be used in the case of a runoff election. This trial period was in effect for the past two years, and neither election afforded the opportunity to test it so the Board decided to end the trial period.

All of the work done during that retreat will be presented back to the Board in the form of a 2-year strategic plan for consideration and adoption at their May 8 meeting.

#### 2015 Staff Workshop Update





Work is in full stride with the planning for the 2015 Staff Workshop. Scheduled for April 15-17 (Wed – Fri), the planning teams are putting the final touches on the program and special events. The workshop will be held in Grass Valley at the Holiday Inn Express and Grass Valley Courtyard Suites. This year

our host is **Nevada LAFCo** and the theme is *After the Gold Rush...Forging the Future and Preserving the Past.* The program has a solid mix of technical sessions and personal leadership development topics. A great Mobile Workshop is also planned exploring the history of water, power and gold in the Sierra. There is a very special Thursday evening dinner planned at the beautiful historic Miner's Foundry in Nevada City. Registration and sponsorship information is available on the CALAFCO website.

#### 2015 Annual Conference Update

February 2015

Planning for this year's annual conference is underway. Mark your calendars for September 2 - 4, 2015 and join our host, Sacramento LAFCo. This year's theme is Confluence...LAFCo, Merging Ideas with



*Solutions.* The Call for Presentations period has closed and the program planning team will review presentations in March. Look for registration information coming soon. For now, save the dates!

#### **CALAFCO Board Actions**

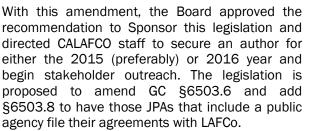
Following their strategic planning retreat, the Board met in a regular Board meeting on January 30. During the meeting the Board addressed several administrative issues including:

- The quarterly financial reports were reviewed. The budget is on track for the year with no changes anticipated. Contingency fund usage is aligned with previous Board approval. All financial reports are located on the website.
- The Board considered the 2015-16 dues. CALAFCO Bylaws call for the dues to automatically increase annually by the state CPI, unless the Board takes action otherwise. As costs to provide member services continue to increase and member dues still do not cover the operational budget, the Board did not take action. As a result, the dues for FY 2015-16 will increase by the CPI, which is 2.0%.
- The Board received an extensive legislative update including a full presentation from the Disincorporations and JPA working groups. After hearing from Kathy Rollings-McDonald (San Bernardino LAFCo) on the work being done on cleaning up the Disincorporations statutes, the Board followed the Legislative Committee's recommendation of sponsoring legislation in 2015. The Board directed CALAFCO staff to secure an author for the 2015 legislative year and begin stakeholder outreach. Furthermore the Board approved the technical support of Kathy Rollings-McDonald and authorized travel expenses not to exceed \$1000 for that support.
- The Board also heard from Keene Simonds (Marin LAFCo) who leads the JPA working group. After considering the Legislative Committee's recommendation to move forward with this legislation, the Board amended the proposed language to narrow the focus to only those JPAs whose membership consists of a public agency.

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 The Board also received an update that the working group focusing on amending the Protest Provisions was in the process of seeking their second round of feedback from Executive Officers and LAFCo Legal Counsel and that the full proposal will be brought to the Board in May for consideration.

#### CALAFCO Legislative Update

The CALAFCO Legislative Committee began meeting regularly in November 2014 for the 2015 legislative year. In addition to the Board prescribed priorities noted above, the Committee is working on CALAFCO's annual Omnibus bill. This year there is an unprecedented number of legislators with two years or less of state-level experience (it is estimated



that 72 of the 120 fall into this category) due to term limits. A new Speaker of the House and Senate President pro Tem translated into a bevy of committee assignment shake-ups. The two committees that CALAFCO works closest with both have new Chairs and Vice Chairs as follows: Assembly Local Government Committee (ALGC) Chair is Brian Maienschein (R) and Vice Chair is Lorena Gonzalez (D), and the Senate Governance & Finance (SG&FC) Committee Chair is Robert Hertzberg (D) and Vice Chair is Janet Nguyen (R) – all four of whom represent the southern part of the state.

The last day to introduce bills was February 27. To date, 2,411 bills have been introduced. CALAFCO's Executive Director (Pamela Miller) and Board Chair (John Leopold) spent two days in late January meeting with various legislators and/or their key staff including Senators Nguyen, Monning, Pavley, and Bates, and Assemblymembers Maienschein, Baker, Dodd, and Gonzalez. Since that time, CALAFCO's Executive Director has continued to meet with various legislators on both the ALGC and SG&FC.

CALAFCO is tracking a number of bills and to date has taken a position on one bill. A summary of the primary bills being tracked follows. A full detailed legislative tracking report can be found on the CALAFCO website in the Members Only section.

#### CALAFCO Top Tracked Bills:

- AB 402 (Dodd) Service Extensions. (CALAFCO Watch) As written, this bill makes changes to GC §56133 relating to expanding LAFCo's existing authority to approve new and extended services beyond agencies' spheres of influence inclusive of public health and safety threats, only if LAFCo can make certain findings. CALAFCO previously considered (over an extensive period of time) amending GC §56133, and twice (in 2012 and again in 2014) the CALAFCO Board of Directors ultimately decided not to pursue those amendments. This is <u>not</u> a CALAFCO sponsored bill. Assembly member Dodd is a former Napa LAFCo Commissioner. The Leg Committee will consider a position at the March 20 meeting.
- AB 448 (Brown) VLF. (CALAFCO Watch) This bill is identical to AB 1521 (Fox) from 2014 which passed the legislature unanimously but was vetoed by the Governor. The Leg Committee will consider a position at the March 20 meeting.
- AB 851 (Mayes) Disincorporations. (CALAFCO Sponsor) This bill cleans up various provisions that have to do with the disincorporation process.
- SB 25 (Roth) VLF. (CALAFCO Support) This bill is identical to SB 69 (Roth, 2014) that was passed unanimously by the legislature and vetoed by the Governor.
- SB 239 (Hertzberg) Service Extensions. (CALAFCO Watch) This was introduced as a spot bill relating to GC §56133. Not much is known about the author's intent for this bill. However, we do know that the sponsor is the California Professional Firefighter's Association. CALAFCO is watching the bill very closely and waiting to hear from the author's office. The Leg Committee will consider a position at the March 20 meeting should the bill be amended by then.
- AB 3 (Williams) Isla Vista CSD. (CALAFCO Watch) As introduced, this bill gives legislative authority for the creation of the Isla Vista CSD. This authority would completely bypass the LAFCo process in the creation of this special district. CALAFCO sent a letter of concern to the author in December.
- SB 272 (Hertzberg) Public Records Act, local agencies inventory. (CALAFCO Watch) As written, this bill requires all local agencies (including LAFCo) to conduct an inventory of all data gathered by the agency that includes (1) what the data is; (2) who collects it; and (3) the frequency with which it is collected. This bill is an unfunded mandate on public agencies. The Leg Committee will consider a position at the March 20 meeting.



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#### **Updated "What is LAFCo?" Brochure Now Available**

The new and improved "What is LAFCo?" brochure is now here and ready for ordering! This is a handy tool to help your community understand the role. responsibilities and history of LAFCo. Visit the CALAFCO website to download the order form and get your copies today!



#### **CALAFCO U Update**



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Staff will be announcing the two 2015 CALAFCO U sessions very soon. Watch the website and your email for details!

#### **CALAFCO Associate Members' Corner**

This section highlights our Associate Members. The information below is provided to CALAFCO by the Associate member upon joining the Association. All Associate member information can be found in the CALAFCO Member Directory.



#### **BEST BEST & KRIEGER** ATTORNEYS AT LAW

Best Best & Krieger In meeting the needs

of public and private sector clients, **BB&K** offers unique experience in handling complex, multi-disciplinary issues and providing solutions of common interest to leaders of both business and government, including LAFCo law. BB&K has been a Gold Associate member since the dawn of time, and Clark Alsop of **BB&K** has been CALAFCO's legal counsel since 1982. Learn more about BB&K and their services at www.bbklaw.com.

#### Economic & Planning Systems

**EPS** is an urban economics consulting specializing in governance firm analysis: LAFCo special studies and reviews: service tax sharing; annexation; incorporation. and reorganization feasibility: fiscal analysis: public finance: demographic



and regional forecasting. EPS has been a Gold Associate member since June 2005. Learn more about EPS and their services at www.epsys.com.

#### Colantuono, Highsmith & Whatley, PC

Michael Colantuono served on Commission on the Local Governance in the 21st Century and helped rewrite the CKH Act. He is General Counsel to Calaveras and Yuba LAFCos and conflict counsel for Nevada.



Orange, San Diego and Yolo LAFCos. Holly Whatley was lead litigator in a challenge to San Diego LAFCo's denial of an annexation for Home Depot and Michael and Holly are defending San Luis Obispo LAFCo in a developer's challenge to the denial of an annexation to the City of Pismo Beach. David Ruderman serves as Assistant General Counsel to the Calaveras and Yuba LAFCos and is also working on the San Luis Obispo case. Michael was counsel to the Hacienda Heights incorporation effort in Los Angeles County in 2006. Michael Colantuono has been a Gold Associate member since July 2008. Learn more about Colantuono, Highsmith & Whatley, PC at www.chwlaw.us.

CALAFCO wishes to thank all of our Associate members for your support and partnership. We look forward to continuing to highlight our Associate Members in each Ouarterly Report.

#### Mark Your Calendars For These Upcoming CALAFCO **Events**

- CALAFCO Legislative Committee meeting March 20, 2015 in Ontario
- CALAFCO Staff Workshop April 15 17, 2015 in Grass Valley
- CALAFCO Legislative Committee meeting May 1. 2015 in Sacramento
- CALAFCO Board of Directors meeting May 8. 2015 in Sacramento
- CALAFCO Legislative Committee meeting June 26, 2015 via conference call

The full CALAFCO 2015 Calendar of Events can be found on the CALAFCO website.



## AUTHORITY (Continued)

#### Service Reviews

Municipal Service Reviews (MSR) were added to LAFCo's mandate with the passage of the CKH Act in 2000. A service review is a comprehensive study designed to better inform LAFCo, local agencies, and the community about the provision of municipal services. Service reviews attempt to capture and analyze information about the governance structures and efficiencies of service providers, and to identify opportunities for greater coordination and cooperation between providers. The service review may be a prerequisite to a sphere of influence determination and may also lead a LAFCo to take other actions under its authority.

#### Out of Agency Service Agreements

Cities and special districts are required to obtain LAFCo's approval prior to entering into contracts with private individuals or organizations to provide services outside of the agency's boundaries.

#### **Adoption of Local Policies**

Each LAFCo may adopt local policies to appropriately administer the CKH Act in its county.

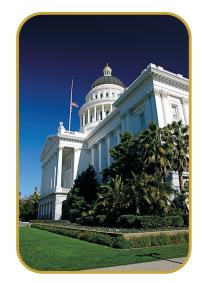
## **PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT**

Citizens are welcome and encouraged to attend regular LAFCo meetings and state their views during public hearings on proposals before the Commission. In addition, the meetings provide an excellent opportunity for citizens to familiarize themselves with the growth, development, and interjurisdictional issues facing their county. Copies of the minutes, meeting agenda, and staff reports are available on LAFCo websites or by contacting the county's LAFCo office.

# **CALAFCO**

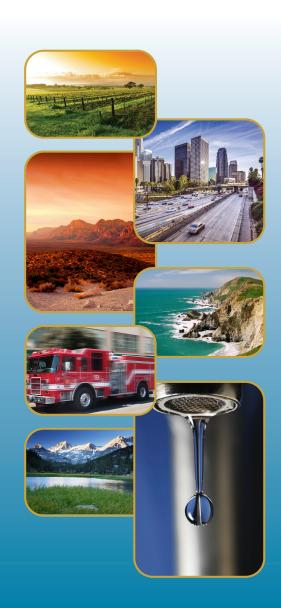
The **California Association of LAFCos**, or **CALAFCO**, was founded in 1971. CALAFCO serves as an organization dedicated to assisting member LAFCos with educational and technical resources that otherwise would not be available. The Association provides statewide coordination of LAFCo activities, serves as a resource to the Legislature and other bodies, and offers a structure for sharing information among the various LAFCos and other governmental agencies.

The Association is governed by a Board of Directors composed of sixteen (16) LAFCo Commissioners: four city members, four county members, four special district members, and four public members. For the purposes of electing Board Members, the State is divided into four (4) regions as follows: Northern, Central, Coastal and Southern. Each region elects four (4) Directors comprised of one city member, one county member, one public member, and one special district member. CALAFCO staff consists of a part-time Executive Director and part-time Administrator, Legal Counsel, CPA, and a volunteer Executive Officer and three (3) volunteer Deputy Executive Officers, each representing one of the four (4) regions. The membership of CALAFCO consists of all 58 LAFCos, as well as Associate Members from firms, agencies and organizations throughout California.









# What is LAFCo?

An Introduction to Local Agency Formation Commissions

## HISTORY

After World War II, California experienced dramatic growth in population and economic development. With this boom came a demand for housing, jobs, and public services. To accommodate this demand, the state approved the formation of many new cities and special districts, often with little forethought as to the ultimate governance strutures in a given region. The lack of coordination and adequate planning led to a multitude of overlapping, ineffcient jurisdictional and service boundaries, and the premature conversion of California's agricultural and open-space lands.

Recognizing this problem, in 1959, Governor Edmund G. Brown, Sr. appointed the Commission on Metropolitan Area Problems. This Commission's charge was to study and make recommendations on the "misuse of land resources" and the growing complexity of local governmental jurisdictions. This Commission's recommendations on local governmental reorganization were introduced in the Legislature in 1963, resulting in the creation of **Local Agency Formation Commissions**, or "LAFCos," operating in each county except San Francisco.

From 1963-1985, LAFCos administered a complicated series of statutory laws and three "statutory schemes: the Knox-Nisbet Act, the Municipal Organization Act (MORGA), and the District Reorganization Act. Confusion over the application of these laws led to a reform movement that produced the first consolidated LAFCo Act, the Cortese-Knox Local Government Reorganization Act of 1985. In 1997. a new call for reform in local government resulted in the formation, by the Legislature, of this Commission on Local Governance in the 21st Century. After many months canvassing the state, this Commission recommended changes to the laws governing LAFCos in its comprehensive report "Growth Within Bounds." These recommendations became the foundation for the Cortese-Knox-Hertzberg Local Government Reorganization Act of 2000 (CKH Act), an act that mandates greater independence for LAFCos and further clarifies their purpose and mission. Today, there is a LAFCo in each of California's 58 counties.

# **OBJECTIVES**

#### To Encourage the Orderly Formation of cities and special districts

LAFCos review proposals for the formation of new Cities and Special Districts and for changes in the boundaries of existing Cities and Special Districts. There are 58 LAFCos working with nearly 3,500 governmental agencies (400+ Cities, and 3,000+ Special Districts). Agency boundaries are often unrelated to one another and sometimes overlap in in a seemingly random manner, often leading to higher service costs to the taxpayer and general confusion regarding service area boundaries. LAFCo decisions strive to balance the competing needs in California for efficient services, affordable housing, economic opportunity, and conservation of natural resources.

#### To Preserve Agricultural Land Resources

LAFCo must consider the effect that any proposal will produce on existing agricultural lands. By guiding development toward urban land and away from agricultural preserves, LAFCo assists with the preservation of our valuable agricultural resources.

#### To Discourage Urban Sprawl

Urban sprawl can best be described as irregular and disorganized growth occurring without apparent design or plan. This pattern of development is characterized by the inefficient delivery of urban services (police, fire, water, and sanitation) and the unnecessary loss of agricultural resources and open space lands. By discouraging sprawl, LAFCo limits the misuse of land resources and promotes a more efficient system of cities and special districts.

## COMPOSITION

The composition of a LAFCo varies from county to county. Nearly all LAFCos are composed of two members from the Board of Supervisors and two members from the city councils in that county. Many commissions also have two members from the independent special districts in that county. In turn, these members select a representative of the general public – an individual who is not seated on any elected body. For each category represented on LAFCo, there is an alternate member.

Alternate members may attend LAFCo meetings and participate in the discussion of items, but they only vote on items when a regular member from their category is absent. Some LAFCos, including Los Angeles, Sacramento, Santa Clara, Kern, and San Diego, through special legislation, have an additional seat on the Commission for a representative from the County's major city.

Each agency that is eligible to have one of its officials seated on the Commission must contribute to the LAFCo budget. The amount of this contribution is determined by statute, and varies in each county.

# **RESPONSIBILITIES**

LAFCos are responsible for coordinating logical and timely changes in local governmental boundaries; conducting special studies that review ways to reorganize, simiplify, and streamline governmental structure; and preparing a sphere of influence for each city and special district within each county. (see Sphere of Influence Studies section)

The Commission's efforts are directed toward seeing that services are provided efficiently and economically while agricultural and open-space lands are protected. To better inform itself and the community as it seeks to exercise its charge, each LAFCo must conduct service reviews to evaluate the provision of municipal services within each county.

# AUTHORITY

#### **Boundary Changes**

LAFCos regulate, through approval or denial, the boundary changes proposed by other public agencies or individuals. LAFCos do not have the power to initiate boundary changes on their own, except for proposals involving the dissolution or consolidation of special districts and the merging of subsidiary districts. Typical applicants might include:

- Individual home owners requesting annexation to a sewer district due to a failing septic system.
- Developers seeking annexation to cities in order to obtain urban services for new housing.
- Cities wishing to annex pockets or "islands" of unincorporated land located within their borders in order to avoid duplication of services with the county.
- Annexation initiated by a special district.

#### **Sphere of Influence Studies**

In 1972, LAFCos were given the power to determine spheres of influence for all cities and special districts. A sphere of influence is a plan for the probable physical boundaries and service area of a local agency. Factors considered in a sphere of influence review focus on the current and future land use, the current and future need and capacity for service, and any relevant communities of interest. With the passage of the CKH Act, spheres for all cities and special districts are reviewed every five years as necessary.

The purpose of the sphere of influence is to ensure the provision of efficient services while discouraging urban sprawl and the premature conversion of agricultural and open space lands by preventing overlapping jurisdictions and duplication of services. Commissions cannot tell agencies what their planning goals should be. Rather, on a regional level, LAFCos coordinate the orderly development of a community through reconciling differences between agency plans so that the most efficient urban service arrangements are created for the benefit of area residents and property owners.