



**County of Santa Barbara
Meeting of the Legislative Program Committee**

MINUTES

Date: Monday, September 12, 2011

Time: 10:30AM – 12:00PM

Place: **Board of Supervisors Conference Room, Fourth Floor**
105 E. Anapamu Street, Santa Barbara

Committee Members:	Salud Carbajal, First District Supervisor	Present
	Doreen Farr, Third District Supervisor	Present
	Chandra L. Wallar, County Executive Officer	Present
	Robert Geis, Auditor-Controller	Absent
	Dennis A. Marshall, County Counsel	Present

Public Comment

Persons may address the Committee on any matters listed on the agenda. Each person is limited to a 3-minute Public Comment time period.

- Re: Fire area protection fees - Judith Ishkanian addressed the Committee.
- Re: Santa Barbara County Energy Coalition – Kathy Staples addressed the Committee regarding the National Energy Day Symposium to be held on October 12, 2011 at the Santa Maria Radisson Hotel.

Action Items:

1. Approve minutes from the June 27, 2011 meeting.

A motion was made by Chandra Wallar, seconded by Supervisor Carbajal, to approve the minutes of the June 27, 2011 meeting. Motion passed 3-0, with Supervisor Farr and Robert Geis absent.

2. Receive an update on federal issues of interest to the County and direct staff to take action as necessary.

Thomas Walters of Thomas Walters and Associates, Inc. provided an update to the Committee.

- Re: HUD Veterans Affairs Supportive Housing Program - Chandra Wallar directed staff to gather more information on how the Housing Authority will implement veteran outreach
 - Terri Nisich stated that the County of Santa Barbara Housing and Community Development Department is working with the Housing Authority to determine the best outreach methods. Local administration of the program will be under the purview of the Housing Authority.

A motion was made by Supervisor Carbajal, seconded by Dennis Marshall, to receive and file the update on federal issues of interest to the County. Motion passed 3-0, with Supervisor Farr and Robert Geis absent.

3. Receive an update on State issues of interest to the County including State Budget, legislation including Realignment Update and direct staff to take action as necessary.

Governmental Advocates, Inc. provided an update to the Committee.

- Re: Potential pension reform bill: Governmental Advocates, Inc. informed the Committee that a pension reform bill is imminent.
- Re: AB 537 – Supervisor Farr stated that the SBCAG Subcommittee is prepared to move forward regarding Highway 154 safety.
- Re: AB 1356 – Supervisor Farr stated that the future of AB 1356 is unclear due to opposition from the wine industry.
- Re: List of all legislation the County has taken a position on – Terri Nisich stated that staff is developing a spreadsheet to track the County's position on legislation that has come before the Committee.

- **→ Staff Direction:**
 - Re: AB 1417 – Supervisor Farr directed staff to prepare a report on the amount of Indian Gaming Special Distribution Fund funding that will be appropriated to the County of Santa Barbara, and how best to mitigate any losses in funding.
 - Re: AB 307 – Supervisor Farr directed Governmental Advocates, Inc. to closely track any changes and updates made to AB 307 and continuously inform the Committee as any such changes and updates come forth.
 - Re: CEQA exemption bills – Supervisor Farr directed Governmental Advocates, Inc. and County Counsel to research the potential impact on the County of Santa Barbara's land use process.

Public Comment:

- Re: Maddy Assessments for the County of Santa Barbara - Hillary Blackerby addressed the Committee regarding end of Maddy EMS assessments for the County of Santa Barbara, but the State is looking forward to working with the County as it becomes self-sufficient with regard to this issue.
- Re: AB 591 Hydraulic Fracturing bill – Hillary Blackerby informed the Committee that AB 591 has died, but Assembly Member Williams is committed to further discussion on what can be done.
 - Supervisor Farr stated that DOGGR has regulatory authority, but does not have the means to do so.
- Re: Use of grant funds for disadvantaged North County communities engaged in clean energy projects – Kathy Staples addressed the Committee regarding the need for clean energy solutions in North County.

4. Discussion and potential action:

A. Santa Maria Air Tanker Base

Chief Michael Dyer of the County of Santa Barbara Fire Department provided an overview of the Santa Maria Air Tanker Base to the Committee.

- Re: Need for clearer statement of support – Supervisor Carbajal addressed the Committee.
- → **Staff Direction:**
 - The Committee directed Fire Department and CEO staff to prepare this item for placement on the September 20, 2011 Administrative Agenda of the Board of Supervisors. The Letter of Support will be directed to the United States Forest Service.

Public Comment:

- Re: Support of reestablishment of Santa Maria Air Tanker Base - Willy Chamberlin addressed the Committee regarding the need for the Santa Maria Air Tanker Base to be a full-service base.

A motion was made by Supervisor Carbajal, seconded by Supervisor Farr, to support the reestablishment of the Santa Maria Air Tanker Base to its original full-service status. Motion passed 4-0, with Robert Geis absent.

5. Preparation – 2012 Platform Timeline

A. Review Legislative Platform timeline

Terri Nisich proved an overview of the Legislative Platform timeline to the Committee.

- Re: Focusing on top legislative priorities – Chandra Wallar addressed the Committee regarding the need for authority to take positions on all issues of interest to the County, and subsequently focus on the top legislative priorities.
- Re: Process feedback – Supervisor Carbajal addressed the Committee regarding gathering feedback on whether the County’s Legislative Platform is being presented as succinctly and clearly as possible.
- **→ Staff Direction:**
 - Re: Legislative Platform brainstorming meeting – Chandra Wallar directed Governmental Advocates to meet with staff prior to the October 3, 2011 Committee meeting and discuss how best to clearly disseminate information in the Legislative Platform.
 - Re: Elimination of unnecessary material in the 2012 Legislative Platform – Supervisor Carbajal and Chandra Wallar addressed the Committee regarding the possibility of removing individual photographs from the introductory section of the Legislative Platform.

B. Priorities for 2012

Terri Nisich proved an overview of the 2012 Legislative Priorities to the Committee.

- Re: “Protection of Safety Net Services” principle – Supervisor Carbajal addressed the Committee regarding alternative language for this legislative principle which may include the phrase “Health and Human Services”.
 - **→ Staff Direction:** Chandra Wallar directed staff to explore re-titling this principle to make “Protection of Safety-Net Services” a component of a more broadly-titled Health & Human Services principle.
- Re: Addition of a jobs component to the Legislative Platform – Supervisor Carbajal addressed the Committee regarding the possibility of adding a jobs component to the 2012 Legislative Platform.
 - **→ Staff Direction:** Chandra Wallar directed staff to enhance the “Community Sustainability/Economic Stability” principle to include more about vitality and job growth.

6. Process Improvements

A. Revised template for analysis

Terri Nisich provided an overview on the revised Legislative Analysis template to the Committee.

A motion was made by Supervisor Carbajal, seconded by Supervisor Farr, to adjourn the September 12, 2011 meeting of the Legislative Program Committee. Motion passed 4-0, with Robert Geis absent.

Note: Next meeting is scheduled for Monday, October 3, 2011 from 10:30AM – 12:00PM.

“Writings that are a public record under Government Code § 54957.5(a) and that relate to an agenda item for open session of a regular meeting of the County Legislative Program Committee and that are distributed to a majority of the members of the County Legislative Program Committee less than 72 hours prior to that meeting shall be available for public inspection at Santa Barbara County Clerk of the Board at 105 E. Anapamu Street, 4th Floor in Santa Barbara, and also on the County’s website at <http://www.countyofsbq.org/ceo/legis.aspx?id=308>