

**MINUTES OF THE
SEAGO EXECUTIVE BOARD
SANTA CRUZ COUNTY COMPLEX
2150 NORTH CONGRESS DRIVE
NOGALES, ARIZONA
NOVEMBER 17, 2017**

OFFICERS PRESENT: Lindsey, Sam – City of Willcox (*Chair*)
Bracker, Bruce – Santa Cruz County (*1st Vice Chair*)
Gomez, David – Greenlee County (*2nd Vice Chair*)
Rivera, Bob – Town of Thatcher (*Treasurer*)

MEMBERS PRESENT: Barlow, Bill – City of Tombstone
David, Paul – Graham County
Doyle, John – City of Nogales
Montoya, Louis – Town of Clifton (*phone*)
O'Donnell, Patrick – Graham County Private Sector Rep.
Ortega, Richard – City of Safford
Robinette, Dustie – Greenlee County Private Sector Rep.
Sedgewick, Anthony Jr. – Santa Cruz County Private Sector Rep.
Smerekanich, Ilona – Cochise County Private Sector Rep.

STAFF PRESENT: Catten, Larry – Economic Development Planner
Heiss, Randy – Executive Director
Merideth, John – Grants/Title VI Coordinator
Pashley, Diane – Accounts Manager
Vertrees, Chris – Transportation Planner
Williams, Bonnie – CDBG Program Manager
Villa, Laura – AAA Program Manager

GUESTS: Adam, Kevin – RTAC
Doyle, Griselda

I. CALL TO ORDER/PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE/INTRODUCTIONS

Chairman Lindsey called the meeting to order at 10:05 a.m. and welcomed everyone. Additional welcome remarks were made by Santa Cruz County Supervisor Bruce Bracker.

II. MEMBER ENTITIES' DISCUSSION

Vice Mayor Montoya discussed the proposed discontinuation of Public Activity Bonds which is included in the current tax bill which has passed the House and is now before the Senate which would increase bonding costs for any public entity by as much as 20-30 percent. He encouraged people to contact their Senators and encourage them to eliminate the provision.

Supervisor David stated he felt it should be requested of the Legislature to find a way to impose sales tax on ecommerce transactions because it has a significant impact across the SEAGO region and puts brick and mortar retailers at a disadvantage.

III. CALL TO THE PUBLIC

No one from the public was present.

IV. ACTION ITEMS

1. Consent Agenda
 - a. Approval of the August 18, 2017 Minutes
 - b. Nomination to the Advisory Council on Aging

Mayor Bob Rivera made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda as presented.

MOTION: Mayor Rivera
SECOND: Patrick O'Donnell
ACTION: **UNANIMOUS**

2. Consideration of Resolution No. 2017-13 relating to HURF Transfers to the State General Fund.

Mr. Randy Heiss presented Resolution No. 2017-03 for consideration, stating it was an updated version of the same Resolution presented in previous years. This year's Resolution once again includes language urging the powers that be to modernize the funding mechanisms needed to develop and maintain our State's transportation infrastructure.

Ms. Ilona Smerekanich made a motion to approve Resolution No. 2017-03.

MOTION: Ilona Smerekanich
SECOND: Dustie Robinette
ACTION: **UNANIMOUS**

Supervisor David commented that the Resolution was clear, concise and well written.

3. Consideration of the 2018 Transportation Issues Position Statement.

Mr. Heiss presented the 2018 Transportation Issues Position Statement noting that consideration was moved up to November from February so it would be in place for the start of the Legislative session in January 2018. Mr. Heiss discussed new position numbers 3) Protect Existing Federal Highway and Transit Programs, and 5) Explore Alternative Funding For Improvements To Interstate 15, and responded to questions.

Mayor Rivera stated there is a lack of awareness from the general public about transportation projects and funding. Supervisor Bracker noted that one of the Governor's goals is to end all HURF sweeps.

Supervisor David noted the I-11 project which will most likely utilize funding that would have gone to benefit rural areas and is another good reason to separate funding so that rural areas are not impacted. Supervisor Bracker stated that currently I-11 is a concept with no funding sources identified yet.

Mr. Heiss outlined the remaining position statements and responded to questions.

Mayor Rivera asked how the issue of more manpower at the border crossing was going and Supervisor Bracker replied that the commercial side is going good right now but there is still a shortage of manpower.

Mr. Patrick O'Donnell made a motion to accept the 2018 Transportation Issues Position Statement as presented.

MOTION: Patrick O'Donnell
SECOND: Ilona Smerekanich
ACTION: **UNANIMOUS**

4. Discussion and possible action to recommend the appointment of Supervisor Paul David as the alternate to the RTAC Executive Board.

Mr. Heiss discussed the vacancy for a SEAGO alternate to the Rural Transportation Advocacy Council (RTAC) and stated that Supervisor David was willing to serve as the alternate to the current SEAGO representative, Thatcher Mayor Bob Rivera.

MOTION: Mayor Rivera
SECOND: Supervisor Gomez
ACTION: **UNANIMOUS**

5. Consideration of Resolution No. 2017-04 relating to the Douglas Land Port of Entry.

Mr. Larry Catten provided background information regarding Resolution 2017-04, and Mr. Heiss read comments provided by Cochise County Supervisor Ann English in support of modernizing the Land Port of Entry and building a new port of entry in Douglas.

MOTION: Mayor Rivera
SECOND: Supervisor Gomez
ACTION: **UNANIMOUS**

V. INFORMATION ITEMS

A. Future Meeting Dates

Mr. Heiss outlined the proposed future meeting dates and the possibility of sending out calendar invitations ahead of time for all of the 2018 meetings.

B. Roles and Responsibilities of the Administrative Council and Executive Board

Mr. Heiss outlined the roles and responsibilities of the Administrative Council and Executive Board going over the powers and functions of each body and responding to questions. He also pointed out some inconsistencies between the language contained in the SEAGO Bylaws and what is actually being practiced. He stated that the Administrative Council suggested preparing revisions to the Bylaws for consideration at a future meeting that will remedy the inconsistencies identified. Mr. Heiss responded to questions.

C. Strategic Plan Implementation Progress Report

Mr. Heiss provided an update on the FY18-22 SEAGO Strategic Plan Update and responded to questions.

D. Quarterly Finance Report

Ms. Diane Pashley provided the quarterly finance report and responded to questions.

Note: A break was taken for lunch from 11:42 AM – 12:15 PM.

E. Economic Development District Report / NAFTA Discussion

Mr. Larry Catten provided the Economic Development report and responded to questions. Mr. Catten noted that the Administrative Council had discussed the merits of taking a position on the renegotiation and modernization of NAFTA and recommended taking an apolitical position based solely on the positive economic impact NAFTA has had on Arizona and the United States. A resolution will be prepared for future consideration in response to this discussion.

F. AAA Updates

Ms. Laura Villa provided the Area Agency on Aging Region VI updates and responded to questions.

G. Strategic Regional Highway Safety Plan Update

Mr. Vertrees provided an update on the SEAGO/SVMPO Regional Strategic Highway Safety Plan and responded to questions.

H. Transit Report

Mr. Vertrees provided the Transit Report and responded to questions.

VI. RTAC REPORT

Mr. Kevin Adam provided the legislative update and responded to questions.

VII. STAFF ANNOUNCEMENTS / CURRENT EVENTS

None.

VIII. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

Mr. Heiss mentioned there would be a Regional Highway Safety Plan presentation, a NAFTA resolution for consideration, proposed bylaw amendments, and items regarding the regional technical service center.

IX. ADJOURNMENT

Supervisor Bruce Bracker made a motion to adjourn at 1:37 PM.

MOTION: Supervisor Bracker

SECOND: Mayor Rivera

ACTION: UNANIMOUS