

**KERN LOCAL AGENCY FORMATION COMMISSION
STATE OF CALIFORNIA
MINUTES**

Kern Council of Governments (KernCOG) Conference Room
1401 19th Street Suite 300
Bakersfield CA 93301
In-Person, and Videoconference
Meeting of September 18, 2024

Pursuant to the Government Code § 54963. et seq., meetings were held both at a physical location and by video/teleconference to attend to any health and safety concerns of the panelist and/or participants.

Regular scheduled meeting called to order at 5:18 p.m. Chair Ayon presiding.

ROLL CALL

Present: Ayon, Bruen, Clark, Couch, Flores, Fowler, McKibbin, Zaragoza
Absent: Gonzales
Staff: Knox, Menchaca, Rice
Counsel: Schroeter

Item 09/21/24-1: *No Determination Required*

INVOCATION: (Agenda Item 2)

Chair Ayon announced the invocation would be led by Mr. Tom Turner.

Item 09/21/24-2: *No Determination Required*

VIDEO CONFERENCE EMERGENCY REQUEST (if necessary): (Agenda Item 4)

Chair Ayon announced Commissioners were present in-person, therefore the item is not necessary.

Item 09/21/24-3: *Approved as Presented*

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: (Agenda Item 5) August 21, 2024, Meeting

*Chair Ayon presented the August minutes; Upon motion of Commissioner **Clark**, seconded by Commissioner **Flores**, IT IS ORDERED: The August 21, 2024, Minutes are approved as presented by the following votes:*

AYES: Ayon, Bruen, Clark, Couch, Flores, Fowler, McKibbin, Zaragoza
NAYS: None
ABSTAIN: None
ABSENT: Gonzales

Item 09/21/24-4: *No Public Comments*

PUBLIC COMMENTS: (Agenda Item 6)

None

Item 09/21/24-5: *No Determination Required*

DETERMINATION PROCEEDING: (Agenda Item 7)

None

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING: (Agenda Item 8)

Item 09/21/24-6: *Approved to Motion - Resolution 24-11*

1835 City of McFarland Annexation No. 19 (Agenda Item 8a)

*Executive Officer Knox provided an updated Report and Recommendation to the Commission. Executive Officer Knox recommended the Commission consider the Environmental document adopted by the applicant and approve the proposal as presented, subject to conditions recommended by the Executive Officer, waiving notice, hearing, and protest hearing. Mr. Paul Saldana, Community Director of the City of McFarland answered Commissioners questions. Aaron Recendez, Superintendent for McFarland Unified School District, Neil Mendrin, Milicic Farming LLC, Joseph Shoop, T.C. James Homes and Darnell Development, Allen Williams, AW Engineering, and Alex Hussein, grocer and pharmacy owner, all spoke in support of the annexation. Chair Ayon made a motion to approve the modification recommendation by Mr. Knox. Upon motion of Commissioner **Ayon**, seconded by Commissioner **Couch**, **IT IS ORDERED: The City of McFarland Annexation No. 19 is modified to include the 6 additional parcels 060-420-13, 16,17,18, 23 & 24, and the full width of Sherwood Avenue on the South side of the proposed annexation area is approved as motioned by the following votes:***

AYES: Ayon, Bruen, Clark, Couch, Flores, Fowler, McKibbin, Zaragoza
NAYS: None
ABSTAIN: None
ABSENT: Gonzales

COMMISSION ITEMS: (Agenda Item 9)

Item 09/21/24-7: *Approved to Motion*

Vice Chair (Agenda Item 9a)

*Executive Officer Knox informed the Commission of Vice Chair vacant seat and Commissioner Couch has been volunteered by Commissioner Flores. Commissioner Couch made a motion to nominate Jeff Flores. Commissioner Flores agreed to take the seat as vice chair. Upon motion of Commissioner **Couch**, seconded by Commissioner **Bruen**, **IT IS ORDERED: Commissioner Flores was selected as Vice Chair approved as motioned by the following votes:***

AYES: Ayon, Bruen, Clark, Couch, Flores, Fowler, McKibbin, Zaragoza
NAYS: None
ABSTAIN: None
ABSENT: Gonzales

GENERAL BUSINESS: (Agenda Item 10)

Item 09/21/24-8: *Approved as Presented*

EXPENSE LIST 24-08 (Agenda Item 10a)

*Chair Ayon presented Expense List 24-08. Upon motion of Commissioner **Clark**, seconded by Commissioner **Couch**, **IT IS ORDERED: The general claim set forth in Expense List No. 24-08 is approved for payment, and the Chairman is authorized to certify said list by the following votes:***

AYES: Ayon, Bruen, Clark, Couch, Flores, Fowler, McKibbin, Zaragoza
NAYS: None
ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: Gonzales

* 5:40pm Commissioner Flores stepped out of the meeting

* 5:42pm Commissioner Flores returned to the meeting.

Item 09/21/24-9: Informational

City of Bakersfield, County of Kern – Regional Housing Agreement Letter (Agenda Item 10b)

Executive Officer Knox informed the Commission of the annexations delayed due to conflict with the County of Kern over RHNA requirements. RHNA letter was provided in the packet and an agreement has now been reached. City annexations should be forthcoming to the Commission. Gary Hallen, Bakersfield Assistant City Manager spoke regarding the agreement. He answered commissioner questions on behalf of the City of Bakersfield. No vote conducted or necessary.

Item 09/21/24-10: Approved as Motion

Request for Signature – SB 1209 (Cortese) Indemnification (Agenda Item 10c)

*Executive Officer Knox informed the Commission of SB 1209 waiting on governor’s signature. A copy of the letter was included in the packet for Commissioners review. Mr. Knox recommended the Commission approve the letter of support as written. Commissioner Fowler made a motion to approve the letter. Upon motion of Commissioner **Fowler**, seconded by Commissioner **Zaragoza**, IT IS ORDERED: The SB1209 Indemnification letter of support as written is approved as written by the following votes:*

AYES: Ayon, Bruen, Clark, Couch, Flores, Fowler, McKibbin, Zaragoza

NAYS: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: Gonzales

Item 09/21/24-11: Informational

LAFCo Website (Agenda Item 10d)

Executive Officer Knox announced to the Commission of LAFCo’s new webpage is now live. Staff will continue to make improvements. No vote conducted or necessary.

Item 09/21/24-12: Informational

EXECUTIVE OFFICER MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS: (Agenda Item 10e)

- Patty Menchaca cross training & is processing first annexation application
- Kern Valley Cemetery District
- Inyokern CSD Update
- 2023-2024 Audit has begun
- CALAFCO Annual Conference 2024 coming October 16. Make plans to head after commission meeting.
- Blair attended CSDA Annual Conference and found it helpful
- Office Lease – 6-month agreement coming in October

* *Chair Ayon asked the Executive Officer if there needs to be a closed session.*

* *Executive Officer Knox indicated no closed session needed at this time. Minutes for Closed Session of May 15, 2024, will be approved at the next closed session meeting.*

Item 09/21/24-13: No Determination Required

CLOSED SESSION: (Agenda Item 11)

None

Item 09/21/24-14: Motion to Adjourn

ADJOURNMENT: (Agenda Item 12)

*Chair Ayon announced the next meeting to be October 16, 2024. There being no further business to come before the Commission. Upon motion of Commissioner **Couch**, seconded by Commissioner **Fowler**, IT IS ORDERED: The meeting is adjourned at 6:04 p.m. by the following votes:*

AYES: Ayon, Bruen, Clark, Couch, Flores, Fowler, McKibbin, Zaragoza

NAYS: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: Gonzales

Patty Menchaca
Clerk

Blair Knaf
Executive Officer