

**MINUTES**  
**FEBRUARY 24, 2005**

Present                    Kevin D. Jeffries  
Commissioners:        Bob Buster  
                              Terry Henderson  
                              Robert E. Hird  
                              Robin Lowe  
                              Ron Starrs  
                              Jeff Stone

Absent:                    John Tavaglione

Present Staff:        George J. Spiliotis, Executive Officer  
                              Wayne Fowler, Local Government Analyst III  
                              Adriana Romo, Local Government Analyst I  
                              Elena Medina, LAFCO Assistant  
                              Joe Rank, Legal Counsel

1.        **CALL TO ORDER AND SALUTE TO THE FLAG.**

The meeting was called to order at 9:03 a.m.

1.2      **ROLL CALL.**

Alternate Commissioner Stone served in Commissioner Tavaglione's absence.

2.        **APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF January 27, 2004.**

Minutes were approved as presented.

3.        **HEARINGS:**

**Consent:**

- a. LAFCO 2004-43-3-Annexation 83 to County Service Area 103.

Moved (Henderson) seconded (Lowe) to approve LAFCO 2004-43-3-Annexation 83 to County Service Area 103.

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**New:**

- b. LAFCO 2004-57-1-2&3-Water & Wastewater Municipal Service Review - Western County.

c. LAFCO 2004-58-4-Water and Wastewater Municipal Service Review-Coachella Valley.

d. LAFCO 2004-59-3&5-Water & Wastewater Municipal Service Review-Pass/Mountain Area.

Mr. Spiliotis stated that back in September, 2004 the Commission had reviewed the Water and Wastewater MSRs for the Western County and Coachella Valley sub regions. He said that the Commission had deferred action on these MSRs to allow additional data verification and to give agencies that had not responded to multiple data requests a final opportunity to provide input into the study.

Mr. Spiliotis stated that the Pass and Mountain area had been delayed to provide for additional review and input from all agencies, due to the complex nature of water supply and service in the region, particularly in the Pass area.

Mr. Spiliotis introduced Ms. Crosthwaite, Consultant Project Manager, Caroline Schaffer, Dudek Associates, and Tom Levy.

Ms. Crosthwaite briefly commented that there were no significant county wide issues; however there were some areas of concern which they will be addressing further. Ms. Crosthwaite briefly reviewed the Western County and Coachella Valley Municipal Service Reviews for they presented these Municipal Service Reviews in September, 2004.

Ms. Crosthwaite addressed the Pass/Mountain Area and gave an overview of the water supply and demand in these areas. She said that the area of concern was that there was no overall consensus among the agencies regarding a long-term water supply. She said that the basins had been historically overdrafted. She said that the Mountain area had a potential shortage of water supply and may negatively impact existing development, new development and future demand for fire protection services.

Ms. Crosthwaite stated that they were recommending requiring the Pass agencies to return in twelve months with a plan for water and wastewater endorsed by all agencies. She said that LAFCO Staff supported the concept but suggested that the Pass area agencies also jointly submit a brief report within 90 days outlining the areas of agreement and disagreement relative to future water supply sources and demand. She said that LAFCO Staff also suggested that the San Timoteo Watershed Management Authority and the San Gorgonio Pass Water Agency take the lead on this effort.

Ms. Crosthwaite stated that the Murrieta County Water District took action requesting Western Municipal Water District to take initial steps toward consolidation. She said that the two districts had been examining available options for reorganization.

Ms. Crosthwaite stated that the Idyllwild, Fern Valley and Pine Cove Water Districts had been a topic of community and agency discussion for over a year. She said that it was expected that consolidation proponents will

attempt to circulate another petition under the new law. She said that two of the three districts opposed the consolidation. She said that with the passage of AB 2067 it will become much easier to consolidate.

She said that the High Valleys Water District was managed by the Beaumont Cherry Valley Water District. She said at some point in the future LAFCO may want to look at consolidating these districts.

Ms. Crosthwaite stated that the Ruisenor Water District existed on paper only for it did not provide any services. She said that LAFCO may want to look at dissolving the district some time in the future.

Commissioner Stone asked if there was an effort currently under way to consolidate the Idyllwild Water District, Fern Valley Water District and Pine Cove Water District. She said that they were currently cooperating with the Water Management Plan to look at the area as a whole. She said that two of the districts were in opposition of the consolidation.

Ms. Crosthwaite said that the Pinyon Pines County Water District, was a very small district. She said that as more building permits were issued in the area, more people were tapping into the groundwater, therefore, there was a significant issue going on in that area.

Mr. Spiliotis stated that the new construction going on up there was not hooking into the district system. He said that the district had stopped taking on new connections about 15 years ago. He said that all the individual new homes being built up there were on private wells. He stated that there was not enough water up there for everyone.

Ms. Crosthwaite stated that they were available to answer any questions.

Commissioner Buster stated that it would be very helpful to Supervisor Ashley if he could receive a copy of this report. Mr. Spiliotis stated that he will make sure that he received a copy of said report.

Commissioner Henderson stated that she noticed that Mr. Spiliotis did not include the management plan in his recommendations; she asked if this was an oversight. Mr. Spiliotis responded in the affirmative that the management plan should be included as part of his recommendations.

Mr. Spiliotis stated that they received comments from a couple of district e.g. Idyllwild, pointing out that there was a transposing of districts regarding who performed the water treatment, he said that in this case it was Idyllwild rather than Pine Cove. He said that they had also received a fax from Mission Springs regarding updated data and corrections. He asked the Commission to authorize him as he received that kind of information to go ahead and post that information as appendices or errata to the report. He said that they will keep the Municipal Service Reviews on line. The Commission agreed with his request.

Commissioner Henderson suggested including information regarding the tribal land issue with the report as well. She said that this was a very important issue.

Mr. Spiliotis stated that they will definitely follow up with this issue, although there was nothing compelling tribal governments to provide the information.

Chair Jeffries opened the public hearing. There being no proponents or opponents wishing to speak the public hearing was closed.

Moved (Henderson) seconded (Stone) to adopt the determinations included in the MSR's, find that the Municipal Service Reviews are exempt from CEQA, receive and file the Water and Wastewater Municipal Service Reviews, direct the Executive Officer to request Pass Agencies to provide a management plan for future water/wastewater service within one year, Direct the Executive Officer to request the Pass agencies to provide a letter within 90 days outlining areas of agreement and disagreement regarding future water supply and demand, and direct the Executive Officer to monitor consolidation/reorganization efforts and report back in June on the status of each of the agencies identified in the MSR's for possible reorganization.

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**4. RECEIVE AND FILE:**

**a. INFORMATION ITEMS: Proposals Received (Government Section 56857, 56751)**

The Commission acknowledged receipt of twenty-one proposals which included several sphere of influence reviews initiated by staff.

**b. MONTHLY EXPENDITURE REVIEW.**

The Commission received and filed the Monthly Expenditure Review Report.

**5. LAFCO 2004-46-4-EXTRA TERRITORIAL SERVICE REQUEST-VALLEY SANITARY DISTRICT. (Continued from January 27, 2005)**

Moved (Lowe) seconded (Stone) to continue LAFCO 2004-46-4-Extra Territorial Service Request-Valley Sanitary District to March 24, 2005.

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**6. REPORT ON WATER SERVICE AGREEMENT BETWEEN CITY OF RIVERSIDE AND WESTERN MUNICIPAL WATER DISTRICT. (Continued from January 27, 2005)**

Mr. Fowler asked for a continuance to April 28, 2005.

Moved (Lowe) seconded (Stone) to continue Report on Water Service Agreement Between City of Riverside and Western Municipal Water District to April 28, 2005.

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**7. EXTENSION OF TIME FOR COMPLETION OF THE MENIFEE VALLEY INCORPORATION APPLICATION.**

Moved (Lowe) seconded (Stone) to approve Extension of Time for Completion of the Menifee Valley Incorporation Application to March 30, 2006.

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**8. REQUEST FOR EXTENSION OF TIME TO COMPLETE LAFCO PROCEEDINGS FOR LAFCO 2003-37-3-REORGANIZATION TO INCLUDE ANNEXATIONS TO THE WESTERN MUNICIPAL WATER DISTRICT, ELSINORE MUNICIPAL WATER DISTRICT AND THE METROPOLITAN WATER DISTRICT OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA.**

Moved (Starrs) seconded (Stone) to approve Request for Extension of Time to Complete LAFCO Proceedings for LAFCO 2003-37-3-Reorganization to Include Annexations to the Western Municipal Water District, Elsinore Municipal Water District and the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California to February 26, 2006.

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**9. MISCELLANEOUS STAFF REPORTS.**

Mr. Spiliotis commented that since they started the Municipal Service Review process, a few months ago, Joyce Crosthwaite had been hired as the Executive Officer of Orange LAFCO. He said that Joyce had initiated between Orange, Riverside and San Bernardino LAFCOs the idea of doing a joint RFP for a financial audit. He said that they had experience in other areas that no one was interested in bidding on small contracts. He said that they had just issued the RFP about a week ago and had already received a few phone calls.

Chair Jeffries asked to be updated regarding the Alternate Public Member. Mr. Spiliotis gave a brief history of events on this matter. He said that all information was available on line. He said that he will bring this matter back at the March hearing for further discussion by the Commission.

**10. PUBLIC COMMENTS.**

Sheryl Ade, 35255 Amatista Avenue, Wildomar, CA 92595. Ms. Ade discussed a bill introduced by Gonzalves regarding incorporations. She further stated that they will continue to move forward to become a City.

The Commission recessed to Executive Session at 9:52 a.m.

**11. EXECUTIVE SESSION:**

With respect to every item of business to be discussed in closed session pursuant to Government Code Section 54957:

- a. Performance Evaluation: Executive Officer

The Commission reconvened at 10:38 a.m.

The were no reportable actions taken.

**12. ADJOURNED.**

The Commission adjourned at 10:39 a.m.

Respectfully,

George J. Spiliotis  
Executive Officer