



**Local Agency  
Formation Commission  
of Santa Clara County**

777 North First Street  
Suite 410  
San Jose, CA 95112

[SantaClaraLAFCO.org](http://SantaClaraLAFCO.org)

**Commissioners**

Rich Constantine  
Susan Ellenberg  
Sequoia Hall  
Sergio Jimenez  
Linda J. LeZotte  
Mike Wasserman  
Susan Vicklund Wilson

**Alternate Commissioners**

Cindy Chavez  
Maya Esparza  
Yoriko Kishimoto  
Russ Melton  
Terry Trumbull

**Executive Officer**  
Neelima Palacherla

## **LAFCO MEETING MINUTES WEDNESDAY, JUNE 3, 2020**

### **CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order at 1:15 p.m.

Pursuant to the provisions of California Governor's Executive Order N-29-20, issued on March 17, 2020, this meeting was held by teleconference only.

### **1. ROLL CALL**

**The following commissioners were present:**

- Chairperson Sergio Jimenez
- Vice Chairperson Susan Ellenberg
- Commissioner Rich Constantine
- Commissioner Sequoia Hall
- Commissioner Linda J. LeZotte
- Commissioner Mike Wasserman
- Commissioner Susan Vicklund Wilson
- Alternate Commissioner Yoriko Kishimoto
- Alternate Commissioner Russ Melton
- Alternate Commissioner Terry Trumbull

**The following commissioners were absent:**

- Alternate Commissioner Cindy Chavez
- Alternate Commissioner Maya Esparza

**The following staff members were present:**

- LAFCO Executive Officer Neelima Palacherla
- LAFCO Assistant Executive Officer Dunia Noel
- LAFCO Analyst Lakshmi Rajagopalan
- LAFCO Clerk Emmanuel Abello
- LAFCO Counsel Mala Subramanian



with the County, and the County Controller's Office reconsidered certain charges which resulted in a lower overhead cost. She expressed appreciation to the Controller's Office staff for their cooperation in helping resolve the issue. She also expressed appreciation to the Finance Committee members for their work on the FY 2021 budget and work plan.

**Commissioner Hall** indicated that special districts would benefit from the reduced cost and expressed appreciation to staff and the Controller's Office. **Commissioner LeZotte** commended the Finance Committee for its excellent work. **Alternate Commissioner Melton** indicated that the final budget is identical to what was proposed except for a slight increase in the workers' compensation insurance and significant decrease in overhead cost, and acknowledged Ms. Palacherla and the Controller's Office for their work to lower the overhead cost which benefits the member agencies.

**Chairperson Jimenez** opened the public hearing, determined that there are no members of the public who would like to speak on the item, and closed the public hearing.

In response to an inquiry by **Commissioner Constantine**, Ms. Palacherla stated that the overhead cost amount charged by the County has fluctuated over the years and was unusually high for FY 2021. She informed that staff worked with the Controller's Office and it was determined that there were certain costs that were incorrectly assigned to LAFCO, and those costs were removed.

**Alternate Commissioner Trumbull** acknowledged the work of the Finance Committee.

The Commission:

1. Adopted the Final Budget for Fiscal Year 2020-2021.
2. Found that the Final Budget for Fiscal Year 2021 is expected to be adequate to allow the Commission to fulfill its statutory responsibilities.
3. Authorized staff to transmit the Final Budget adopted by the Commission including the estimated agency costs to the cities, the special districts, the County, the Cities Association and the Special Districts Association.
4. Directed the County Auditor-Controller to apportion LAFCO costs to the cities; to the special districts; and to the County; and to collect payment pursuant to Government Code §56381.

Motion: LeZotte

Second: Wasserman

AYES: Constantine, Ellenberg, Hall, Jimenez, LeZotte, Wasserman, Vicklund Wilson

NOES: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: None

**MOTION PASSED**

**6. APPOINTMENT OF 2020 LAFCO VICE-CHAIRPERSON**

Ms. Noel presented the staff report.

**Commissioner Hall** stated that former Commissioner Rob Rennie has demonstrated the political will to annex many urban pockets into Los Gatos to improve efficiency in service delivery, and **Commissioner Wasserman** expressed agreement.

**Chairperson Jimenez** noted that Mr. Rennie has attended LAFCO workshops and CALAFCO conferences and suggested that LAFCO recognize his contributions. Ms. Palacherla informed that it is a LAFCO practice to present commendations to outgoing LAFCO members for their service. She stated that LAFCO will honor Mr. Rennie’s service similarly, and that Mr. Rennie has indicated his preference to receive the commendation at the next in-person meeting rather than at a virtual meeting.

The Commission appointed Commissioner Susan Ellenberg as Vice-Chairperson for the remaining portion of 2020.

Motion: LeZotte

Second: Hall

AYES: Constantine, Ellenberg, Hall, Jimenez, LeZotte, Wasserman, Vicklund Wilson

NOES: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: None

**MOTION PASSED**

**7. EXECUTIVE OFFICER’S REPORT**

Ms. Noel reported that staff conducted an orientation session for Commissioner Constantine on June 1, 2020.

**7.1 Comment Letter on County’s Proposed Agricultural Employee Housing Zoning Ordinance Amendments**

**Commissioner Hall** informed that workers in agricultural operations provide essential services as they ensure the availability of food during the Covid-19 pandemic. He encouraged understanding of the need to house farm workers safely in the present situation. **Chairperson Jimenez** expressed appreciation to the County for its work to address the agricultural housing needs in the South County.

**Commissioner Wasserman** thanked Commissioner Hall for bringing up the matter and he informed that low-income agricultural workers are among those hardest hit by Covid-19’s economic impact as the reimbursement that they are eligible for does not pay for their cost of living. He requested the support of LAFCO members when the opportunity comes for providing safe and reliable water service to farm worker housing. He noted that the County and the State are both in support of that.

**7.2 Update on Mountain Winery Annexation Project**

In response to an inquiry by **Commissioner Wilson**, Ms. Noel advised that the City Council has decided to end the annexation effort.

**7.3 Coordination with Los Altos Hills and Midpeninsula Regional Open Space District on Island Annexation**

The Commission noted the report.

**7.4 Interview with Cal Poly Students on San Martin Strategic Development Plan**

The Commission noted the report.

**7.5 County Sustainability Working Group Meeting**

The Commission noted the report.

**7.6 Santa Clara County Association of Planning Officials Meeting**

The Commission noted the report.

**7.7 National Planning Conference – American Planning Association**

The Commission noted the report.

**7.8 CALAFCO Weekly Meetings for Executive Officers and Clerks**

The Commission noted the report.

**7.9 LAFCO Office Operations During Covid-19**

The Commission noted the report.

**8. PENDING APPLICATIONS / UPCOMING PROJECTS**

There were none.

**9. COMMISSIONER REPORTS**

**Commissioner Wasserman** informed that there are public protests in Los Gatos and enjoined those present to take precautions.

**Commissioner Hall** expressed appreciation to the County Board of Supervisors for voting to provide matching fund to acquire agricultural conservation easements as that will ensure that food is produced in the local community at a time when global food supply lines are not dependable, and also ensures that agricultural lands that are vital to the community are preserved. He indicated that urban-edge and close-proximity agricultural land ensure food security in the community. He expressed agreement with Commissioner Wasserman on the need to ensure that farm workers are safe and that agricultural lands are available so food can be produced close by.

**Chairperson Jimenez** stated that it is a challenge to balance people's right to protest with the need to prevent destruction to property during the pandemic, and he commended members for their leadership in their communities. He also announced that the Open Space Authority and its partners will engage the community in a conversation on the future of North Coyote Valley and he enjoined members to participate in that process when the opportunity comes.

**10. NEWSPAPER ARTICLES / NEWSLETTERS**

There were none.

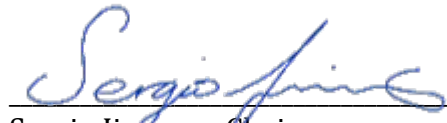
**11. WRITTEN CORRESPONDENCE**

There was none.


**12. ADJOURN**

The Commission adjourned at 1:48 p.m., to the next regular LAFCO meeting on August 5, 2020 at 1:15 p.m., in the Board Meeting Chambers, 70 West Hedding Street, San Jose.

Approved: August 5, 2020



Sergio Jimenez, Chairperson  
Local Agency Formation Commission of Santa Clara County

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By: 43G41738CE194CA...  
Emmanuel Abello, LAFCO Clerk