

# ALAMEDA COUNTY MAYORS' CONFERENCE MINUTES

Meeting of December 13, 2017

The meeting was called to order at 6:45 p.m. by President Pauline Russo Russo-Cutter, San Leandro at the Station Center Apartments, Community Room located at 34800 11<sup>th</sup> Street, in Union City. The meeting was hosted by Carol Dutra-Vernaci, Mayor, City of Fremont.

## 1. Roll Call and Pledge of Allegiance

The following mayors, or their elected alternates, were present during the proceedings:

Alameda	Mayor Trish Spencer
Albany	Mayor Peggy McQuaid
Berkeley	Mayor Jesse Arreguin
Emeryville	Mayor John J. Bauters
Fremont	Mayor Lily Mei
Hayward	Mayor Barbara Halliday
Livermore	Mayor John Marchand
Newark	Mayor Al Nagy
Oakland	Mayor Libby Schaaf
Piedmont	Mayor Robert McBain
Pleasanton	Mayor Jerry Thorne
San Leandro	Mayor Pauline Russo Cutter
Union City	Mayor Carol Dutra-Vernaci

## 2. Minutes of the November 8, 2017 Meeting

It was moved by Mayor Marchand and seconded by Mayor Thorne to approve the minutes of the meeting of November 8, 2017. Motion was unanimous and so ordered.

## 3. Agenda Amendments

There were no agenda amendments.

## 4. Public Comments and Announcements

Amy Shrago, Chief of Intergovernmental Affairs, Alameda County Supervisor Keith Caron's Office, addressed the members regarding the upcoming communitywide homelessness summit that will be held on February 22, 2018. She indicated that all mayors and managers were invited previously, and she anticipates that they will receive an additional notice in the future. The meeting will be held at the San Leandro Library. Amy Shrago requested that cities look at city-owned property to see if any may be suitable to address this issue. Also, cities are encouraged to bring a list of existing programs that address the homeless.

## **5. Member Reports on Regional Activities and Committees**

Barbara Halliday provided an update on ABAG and indicated that the Financial Authority for Nonprofit Associations has changed its name to Advancing California Finance Authority.

Carol Dutra-Vernaci provided an update on MTC including the One Bay Area grant program that was reviewed at today's meeting. She urged members to review the plan.

Mayor Russo Cutter provided an update on the BAAQMD informing members that it has programs to assist cities with mitigating fire damage. The assistance may include funding and she urged cities to become familiar with the programs and to develop a relationship with the District.

## **6. Status of Regional Board Vacancies and Call for Applications**

Carol Dutra-Vernaci presented the following recommendations of the Nominating Committee:

Alameda County Advisory Commission on Aging, Southern Region:

- ) - Dom Filardo for a four-year term commencing January 2018

Alameda Countywide Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee (BPAC):

- ) Jeremy Johanson representing District 3 for a two-year term commencing December 18, 2017
- ) Fred T. McWilliams representing District 4 for a two-year term commencing December 18, 2017

Independent Watchdog Committee (IWC)

- ) No applications received.

It was moved by Mayor Halliday and seconded by Mayor Nagy to approve the recommendations of the Nominating Committee. Motion was unanimous and so ordered.

Mayor Dutra-Vernaci announced the two new openings including the ACTC Independent Watchdog Committee and the Alameda County Airport Land Use Commission.

## **7. Approval of the 2018 Operating Budget**

President Russo Cutter presented the Executive Committee review of the 2018 Operating Budget.

It was moved by Mayor Dutra-Vernaci and seconded by Mayor Bauters to approve the 2018 Operating Budget and dues as presented by the Executive Director. Motion was unanimous and so ordered

**8. Consideration and Action Concerning the Executive Director's Service Contract**

It was moved by Mayor Marchand and seconded by Mayor Bauters to approve an extension to the service agreement with Steven Bocian for the calendar year 2018. Motion was unanimous and so ordered

A member of the public raised a question regarding the process of appointments to regional boards. President Russo Cutter and Mayor Schaff addressed the issue. Mayor Halliday also addressed the members saying that the Piedmont mayor had no impact or role on the matter. Mayor Spencer addressed the membership indicating that the amendments to the Bylaws are intended to clarify the Mayors' Conference's policies.

**9. Consideration to Adopt a Resolution Supporting Replacement of Local Measure A1 Bonds**

President Russo Cutter indicated that this item will be tabled indefinitely.

**10. League of California Cities Report and Legislative Updates and Actions**

Samantha Caygill, Regional Public Affairs Manager, East Bay Division, League of California Cities, provided information on the League of California Cities strategic priorities, which include, in part, PERS sustainability, the protection of local transportation funding and improvement to housing affordability to protect the homeless and low income.

**11. Meeting Presentation**

President Russo Cutter introduced David Taykaerts, Stakeholder Strategy Manager of the California Public Employees Retirement System (CalPERS) who indicated that his presentation is intended to be a "state of the system with a big picture view." He indicated that monumental decisions will be made by the CalPERS board next week.

Mr. Taykaerts indicated that CalPERS serves 1.8 million members with a fund value of \$343B making it one of the largest funds in the world. The investment return for the current year is 11.2%. The target amount is 7.5%.

The average retiree pension amount is \$2,700/month with 61% of every dollar coming from investment returns. CalPERS pensions contribute approximately \$738M to economic base of Alameda County.

Mr. Taykaerts presentation included the following highlights:

- ) In FY 14-15, CalPERS had 73% of the funds on hand to pay benefits and now it has 68% of the funds. If a retirement fund drops to 50% funding, then the system is in red. Because of this situation, last year CalPERS took action to increase this percentage.
- ) T-Bill investments have dropped from over 14% in the 1970's to under 2% currently. This drop hurts revenues significantly.
- ) The CalPERS board has complete authority over the investment portfolio.
- ) PEPRA has helped the system and currently about 30% of all members are PEPRA members. However, the CalPERS system won't see the impact of this change for at least 15 years.
- ) Next week the CalPERS board will consider new approaches to investments, which will impact the system significantly.
- ) Changing the current amortization schedule, which is now a 30-years with a ramp up, to a 20-year schedule would be beneficial with minimal additional cost to CalPERS agencies. He does not however, believe this reduced schedule would be approved by the CalPERS Board.
- ) He discussed legal issues, including the legality of the California Rule and he encouraged people to follow all cases related to this matter.

Mayor Schaff indicated that her city is facing increased CalPERS costs and that this situation is the basis of current labor strike in the City of Oakland.

## **12. Host City Introductions and Report (Carol Dutra-Vernaci, Mayor, Union City)**

Carol Dutra-Vernaci welcomed all members to the City of Union City, acknowledged guests, including City Council members and the staff, and thanked them for their work. She indicated that she was foregoing her presentation in view of the time. However, she indicated that the Station Center Apartments were developed on Union City property and funded through project based Section 8 and other funds. There are additional housing units approved in the same vicinity.

## **13. Request for Future Agenda Items**

President Russo Cutter inquired regarding members' interest in Alameda County Supervisor Keith Carson doing a presentation in February regarding meals on wheel and potentially, hunger in the county. She asked the Executive Director to review this matter.

The Executive Director was asked to conduct a survey to determine if the February 14, 2018 meeting could be moved a day or two in order to accommodate those that celebrate Valentine's Day.

## **14. Adjournment**

President Russo Cutter adjourned the meeting in honor of San Francisco Mayor Ed Lee who has recently passed. There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:47 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

*Steven Bocian*

Steven Bocian

Executive Director