

**LEGISLATION AND GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATION COMMITTEE
ASSOCIATION OF BAY AREA GOVERNMENTS**

Thursday, November 21, 2002

Summary Minutes

Members Present:

Mayor Maria Alegria, Pinole
Councilmember Carole Dillon-Knutson, Novato
Supervisor Scott Haggerty, Alameda County
Mayor Mary Lou Holt, Yountville, L&GO Chair
Supervisor Rose Jacobs Gibson, L&GO Vice Chair
Supervisor Peter McHugh, Santa Clara County
Mayor Julia Miller, Sunnyvale
Mayor Gwen Regalia, Walnut Creek
Councilmember Dick Spees, Oakland

Also Present:

Patricia Jones – ABAG
Kathleen Cha—ABAG
Gerry Raycraft—ABAG
Alex Amoroso—ABAG

1. Introductions: Committee Chair, Mayor Mary Lou Holt, opened the meeting at 3:35 with a quorum established at 4 p.m.

2. November 21, 2002, minutes were approved.

3. Report of Administrative Committee Discussion of ABAG/MTC Merger

ABAG President Gwen Regalia reported to the Committee about meetings and discussions relating to legislation and actions about the kind of merger, or combination, or integration of ABAG and MTC that would be needed to bring about comprehensive integrated regional planning.

It was reported that Senator Torlakson intends to re-introduce legislation to effect a merger and has been asked to be part of a December 4th meeting between ABAG and MTC Presidents, Vice Presidents, and Executive Directors to discuss the potential direction and governance of combined agencies.

Concurrently ABAG is planning to work with Assembly legislators to craft legislation defining a merger/combination that would effect integrated regional planning and would establish a governance structure representing local government and regional consensus.

Action: After much discussion of strategies and a look at other regions and COGs like Puget Sound and SANDAG, the Committee unanimously supported these proposed next steps and analysis of other regions integrated planning structures to find what best fits the Bay Area. Committee members were invited and encouraged to submit their ideas and concepts to the Administrative Committee.

During open agenda: public comment was given by Dr. Jewel Cross on the need to pursue a merger of ABAG and MTC because transportation planning operating alone was currently not addressing the full needs of the region.

4. Update on November Elections and Ballot Initiatives

A brief overview of the elections and voter percentages in each county was given and included a review of the Propositions and their funding repercussions.

In regards to Proposition 46, the Housing and Emergency Shelter Trust Fund Act of 2002, the Committee expressed concern about how the housing funds and programs would be allocated. Committee asked staff to prepare a guideline to programs/ projects that would be applicable to local government with appropriate information about how to apply for housing funding assistance.

An update was given in regards to federal legislation regarding CALFED which passed the Senate Wednesday but there was doubt that the House would vote on it on Friday. Senator Feinstein has already indicated she will bring it back for consideration during the next Congress.

Senator Boxer's California Wilderness Legislation discussed in past Committee meetings was not heard this Congressional session. It was noted that Senator Farr's more modest wilderness act did pass, affecting 56,000 acres of Big Sur coast and Pinnacles National Monument.

5. Determine Priority Issues and Legislative Goals for 2003 Session

Discussion of legislative priority issues and goals was postponed until the next L&GO meeting on January 16.

6. Other Business/Announcements: Staff reported that the website on Consumer Financial Information Privacy was set up in October, as requested by the Committee and the Executive Board at the September meetings. This website, located under the "critical issues" section on ABAG's home page, provides a clearinghouse of comprehensive information on Bay Area local ordinances and ordinance templates, financial privacy information contacts, as well as information, resources, links to consumer privacy issues and legislation.

7. Adjourn: The meeting adjourned at 5:00 p.m.

Next Meeting: January 16, 2003, 3:30 - 5 p.m., MetroCenter, ABAG Conference Room B