

Minutes of the May 22, 2018, ECOS Board Meeting

President Ralph Propper called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

Present: ECOS Board Members: Ralph Propper, Michael O'Sullivan, Neil Matouka, John Deeter, Lynne Goldsmith, Ron Maertz, Earl Withycombe, Alex Kelter, Jon Ellison, Chris Lewis, Laurie Litman, Betsy Weiland, Brandon Rose, Tina Suarez-Murias, Jack Sales, Barbara Leary, Craig Segall, Sean Wirth, Rob Burness, Andy Sawyer.

Guests: Beilul Naizghi, Spencer Marshall, Dyane Osorio, Nailah Pope-Harden, Valerie Bane, Jesse Sherman, Susan Stillwell, Megan Elsen, Kae Wanderwort, Bev Sales, Jackie Cole, Oscar Balaguer, Brian Nowicki, Christine Bailey, Scarlette Bustos, Brian Shobe, Bryan Dove, Tom Suchanek, Erica Jaramillo, Megan Else, Tom Taylor, John Lundgren, Kent Lacin, Jennifer Gress, Shelley Jiang, Nancy Hughett, Rick Castro.

ECOS Staff: Alexandra Reagan, Matt Baker

I. Agenda and Minutes

The agenda of the May 22, 2018, ECOS board meeting and the minutes of the March 27, 2018, board meeting, as amended were approved by unanimous consent.

II. How does the Sacramento Region Plan to Deal with Climate Change?

Todd Taylor, from the Sacramento County Office of Planning and Environmental Review, made a presentation on the county's climate action planning. The county has a climate action plan webpage. <http://www.per.saccounty.net/PlansandProjectsIn-Progress/Pages/CAP.aspx>

Laurie Littman, 350 Sacramento, reported that maintaining atmospheric carbon dioxide at or below 350 parts per million (ppm) is necessary to avoid serious problems. We are a 412 ppm. Laurie emphasized the need to consider equity. Sacramento 350 is working on getting local governments to commit to carbon zero, and getting the Sacramento Municipal Utility District (SMUD) to commit to 100% renewables.

Jennifer Gress, Assistant to the Mayor of Sacramento, reported that the mayor is committed to carbon zero by 2050. The city is forming a commission in support of the effort. The city anticipates four or five public meetings to take input. The city will be updating its climate action plan over the next year.

Shelley Jiang, from the Sacramento Metropolitan Air Quality Management District, reported on the district's effects on climate change and sources of greenhouse gas emissions. The district is emphasizing reducing transportation sector emissions. The effort includes supporting zero emission vehicles. The district helped jump start the regional bike share program. The district has received a grant to develop a heat island model for the Sacramento region, which will help provide the basis for a heat pollution reduction plan.

Ralph Propper emphasized that because close to half of the emissions in Sacramento County come from transportation, stopping sprawl is critical.

III. Appointment of New Board Member

Ralph Propper reported that the ECOS executive committee is recommending that the ECOS board appoint Beilul Naizghi as an at large member. Motion (Ellison, seconded by O'Sullivan) that the ECOS board appoint Bailul Naizghi as an at large member.

IV. ECOS Bylaws

Jon Ellison summarized proposed amendments to the ECOS bylaws. Motion (Maertz, seconded by Burness): that the ECOS board approve the proposed bylaw amendments. Approved unanimously.

V. Environmental Justice Committee

Ralph Propper reported that ECOS is creating an ad hoc Environmental Justice Committee. Nailah Pope-Harden and Erica Jamarillo reported on their efforts to organize the committee.

VI. Reports

A. Treasurer

Earl Withycombe distributed a current income and loss statement. Revenues have increased over the same period last year, and expenses have been reduced. The biggest impact has been from increased sponsorships from Earth Day.

B. Transportation, Air Quality and Climate Change

John Deeter reported that ECOS has settled its lawsuit over carpool lanes on Highway 50, achieving increased funding for Regional Transit. The Transportation, Air Quality and Climate Change Committee is now looking at the Capital City Freeway project. A possible ballot measure on transportation funding has been deferred to 2020. The committee is also following the Sacramento Council of Governments' (SACOG) Sustainable Communities Strategy (SCS), which is part of the Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP). The committee is considering setting up subcommittees, including a subcommittee on autonomous vehicles. The next committee meeting will be held on June 7, at 6:00 p.m. at Mogavero Architects.

C. Land Use

Alex Kelter that at its May meeting the Land Use Committee heard from Tom Pace, Planning Director for the City of Sacramento. At its June 11 meeting the committee will hear from Todd Smith from Sacramento County.

D.. Habitat 2020

Robb Burness reported that Habitat 2020 is dealing with a toxic hot spot in Folsom, in an area planned for park and open space.

Sean Wirth reported that on May 3, 2018 Sacramento County Local Area Formation

Commission (LAFCO) denied our petition for reconsideration of LAFCO's approval of the Elk Grove Sphere of Influence expansion. Fundraising is underway for litigation challenging the approval.

The final Environmental Impact Report/Environmental Impact Statement for the South Sacramento County Habitat Conservation Plan has been released. It is a good plan that will need our support.

We are beginning plans to deal with the threat posed by the Natomas North Precinct Project, which would upend the habitat conservation planning for the area.

E. Organizational Development

Michael O'Sullivan reported on a successful Earth Day.

Planning for the Environmentalist of the Year event will start soon.

F. President

Ralph Propper reported on ECOS' favorable settlement of the Highway 50 litigation, and the impending litigation over the LAFCO approval of the Elk Grove sphere of influence expansion.

VI. Announcements

On June 2, the Sierra Club Mother Lode Chapter will have its annual awards banquet. Reservations are due Friday, May 25. They can be purchased online at <https://www.sierraclub.org/mother-lode/annual-awards-banquet>

The meeting adjourned at 8:00 p.m.