

FINAL MINUTES

OC LAFCO REGULAR MEETING

Wednesday, February 19, 2025
8:15 a.m.

County Administrative North (CAN)
First Floor Multipurpose Room 101
400 W. Civic Center Drive, Santa Ana, CA 92701

Members of the public may access the audio live-streamed meeting at:
https://youtube.com/live/W0_ZlVnJ0_0?feature=share

1. CALL TO ORDER

Vice Chair Bucknum called the meeting of the Local Agency Formation Commission of Orange County (OC LAFCO) to order at 8:15 a.m.

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Commissioner Moore led the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. ROLL CALL

The following Commissioners were present:

City Members

Wendy Bucknum (**Vice Chair**)
Peggy Huang
Carol Moore (**Alt.**)

Public Member

Derek J. McGregor

Special District Members

Douglass Davert
Kathryn Freshley (**Alt.**)

The following staff members and general counsel were present:

- Assistant Executive Officer Luis Tapia
- Policy Analyst I Aimee Diaz
- Commission Clerk Cheryl Carter-Benjamin
- General Counsel Scott Smith

**4. ANNOUNCEMENT OF SUPPLEMENTAL COMMUNICATION
(Received After Agenda Distribution)**

The Commission Clerk noted that no supplemental communication was received.

5. PUBLIC COMMENT

Vice Chair Bucknum requested public comments on any non-agenda items. The Commission Clerk noted that there were no requests to speak from the public.

Vice Chair Bucknum closed the hearing of public comments.

6. CONSENT CALENDAR

Vice Chair Bucknum called for requests to pull the consent calendar item for discussion. There were no requests from Commissioners, and the Commission Clerk noted that there were no requests from the public to speak on the item. **Commissioner Davert** motioned for approval of the consent calendar, and **Commissioner McGregor** seconded the motion.

6a. – January 8, 2025 - Regular Commission Meeting Minutes

MOTION: Approve Consent Calendar. (Douglass Davert)
SECOND: Derek J. McGregor
FOR: Douglass Davert, Derek J. McGregor,
Kathryn Freshley, Peggy Huang
AGAINST: None
ABSTAIN: Wendy Bucknum

MOTION PASSED: 4-0-1.

7. PUBLIC HEARING

Vice Chair Bucknum noted that there were no public hearing items scheduled for consideration by the Commission.

8. COMMISSION DISCUSSION AND ACTION

8a. – Policy for Indemnification of OC LAFCO by Applicants

Assistant Executive Officer Luis Tapia presented the staff report and recommended action for Commission consideration and noted that General Counsel was available to answer questions.

Vice Chair Bucknum called for Commission discussion and public comments. There was no noted discussion from Commissioners, and the Commission Clerk noted that there were no requests from the public to speak on the item.

Vice Chair Bucknum called for a motion on the item. **Commissioner Davert** motioned to approve the staff recommended action, and **Commissioner Huang** seconded the motion.

MOTION: Adopt the Policy for the Indemnification of OC LAFCO by Applicants, as amended. (Douglass Davert)
SECOND: Peggy Huang
FOR: Douglass Davert, Peggy Huang, Kathryn Freshley, Derek J. McGregor, Wendy Bucknum
AGAINST: None
ABSTAIN: None

MOTION PASSED: 5-0.

8b. – Records Retention and Destruction Policy

Commission Clerk Cheryl Carter-Benjamin presented the staff report and recommended action for Commission consideration and noted that General Counsel was available to answer questions.

Vice Chair Bucknum called for Commission discussion and public comments. Commissioners made general comments, and the Commission Clerk noted that there were no requests from the public to speak on the item. **Vice Chair Bucknum** called for a motion on the item. **Commissioner Davert** motioned to approve the staff recommended action, and **Commissioner McGregor** seconded the motion.

MOTION: Adopt the Records Retention and Destruction Policy, as amended. (Douglass Davert)
SECOND: Derek J. McGregor
FOR: Douglass Davert, Derek J. McGregor, Kathryn Freshley, Peggy Huang, Wendy Bucknum
AGAINST: None
ABSTAIN: None

MOTION PASSED: 5-0.

8c. – California Association of Local Agency Formation Commissions Membership Status

Assistant Executive Officer Luis Tapia presented the staff report and recommended action for Commission consideration and **Commissioner McGregor** provided additional comments.

Vice Chair Bucknum called for Commission discussion and public comments. The Commission Clerk noted that there were no requests from the public to speak on the item. Commissioners made general comments and asked clarifying questions regarding the current resources allocated to CALAFCO, the redirection of resources, and whether the details of redirecting resources would be presented to the Commission at a future meeting.

The Assistant Executive Officer responded that the Commission's budget for CALAFCO activities is \$30K and noted that a portion of the funds would be redirected for educational and legislative opportunities with the Southern Region LAFCOs.

Commissioner McGregor provided additional comments on recent discussions held during the CALAFCO Board meetings and actions taken by the Board. He noted that CALAFCO has not met its primary purpose, which is to provide its membership with statewide legislative support and educational opportunities through workshops and conferences. He also noted that the Board received multiple concerns from several LAFCOs, and no adequate decisions were made to amend the concerns.

Vice Chair Bucknum called for a motion on the item. **Commissioner Davert** motioned to approve the staff recommended action, and **Commissioner McGregor** seconded the motion.

MOTION: Direct staff not to renew OC LAFCO's membership with CALAFCO for Fiscal Year 2025-26 and send a letter to notify the CALAFCO Board of the Commission's action not to renew its membership with CALAFCO. (Douglass Davert)
SECOND: Derek J. McGregor
FOR: Douglass Davert, Derek J. McGregor, Kathryn Freshley, Peggy Huang, Wendy Bucknum
AGAINST: None
ABSTAIN: None

MOTION PASSED: 5-0.

8d. – LAFCO and Water System Consolidation Report Update

Policy Analyst Aimee Diaz presented the staff report and recommended action for Commission consideration.

Vice Chair Bucknum called for Commission discussion and public comments. Commissioners made general comments and asked clarifying questions on how the proposed legislative effort would apply to Orange County and requested that staff provide updates on new developments related to the item during future meetings. The Commission Clerk noted the public speaker requesting to address the Commission on the item.

Heather Baez, from the Municipal Water District of Orange County, noted that the concept of clean drinking water is a priority for all water agencies. She asked clarifying questions on the applicability of the legislative effort described in the report to Orange County. At the request of the Commission, Mr. Tapia noted that the reference to small water systems in the staff report would apply to existing private water mutuals in the County.

Vice Chair Bucknum closed public comments, called for any additional discussion by the Commission and noted this is a receive and file report and requires no action by the Commission.

9. COMMISSIONER COMMENTS

There were no general comments from Commissioners.

10. EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S REPORT

The Assistant Executive Officer noted that there were no additional items to report.

11. INFORMATIONAL ITEMS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Vice Chair Bucknum noted that there were no informational items or announcements.

12. CLOSED SESSION

Vice Chair Bucknum and General Counsel Scott Smith noted that no closed session items scheduled for discussion by the Commission.

13. ADJOURNMENT OF THE REGULAR COMMISSION MEETING

Vice Chair Bucknum adjourned the Regular Commission Meeting at 9:00 a.m. to March 12, 2025.

Wendy Bucknum, Vice Chair
Orange County Local Agency Formation Commission

ATTEST:

By: *Cheryl Carter-Benjamin*
Cheryl Carter-Benjamin
Commission Clerk