



San Joaquin Valley Regional Policy Council

**c/o Kern Council of Governments – 1401 19th Street, Suite 300 – Bakersfield CA 93301
Phone: 661-861-2191 – FAX: 661-324-8215**

Chair
Mayor
Robert Poythress
City of Madera

Vice-Chair
Mayor
Amarpreet Dhaliwal
City of San Joaquin

Fresno Council of Governments

Kern Council of Governments

Kings County Association of Governments

Madera County Transportation Commission

Merced County Association of Governments

San Joaquin Council of Governments

Stanislaus Council Of Governments

Tulare County Association of Governments

San Joaquin Valley Air Pollution Control District

www.sjvcogs.org

Executive Minutes

**Regional Policy Council Meeting
Friday, February 6, 2015
Time: 11:00 a.m. to 12 p.m.**

This was a phone conference meeting.

Members Attending:

MEMBER	COG	TITLE	REGION
Robert Poythress – Chair	MCTC	Mayor	City of Madera
Amarpreet Dhaliwal – Vice Chair	Fresno COG	Mayor	City of San Joaquin
Gary Yep	Fresno COG	Mayor	City of Kerman
Cheryl Wegman	Kern COG	Mayor Pro Tem	City of Wasco
Harold Hanson	Kern COG	Councilmember	City of Bakersfield
Russ Curry	KCAG	Mayor	City of Hanford
Tom Wheeler	MCTC	Supervisor	Madera County
David Rogers	MCTC	Supervisor	Madera County
Mike Villalta	MCAG	Mayor	City of Los Banos
John Pedrozo	MCAG	Supervisor	Merced County
Steve Bestolarides	SJ COG	Supervisor	San Joaquin County
Luis Molina	Stan COG	Mayor	City of Paterson
Allen Ishida	TCAG	Supervisor	Tulare County
Rudy Mendoza	TCAG	Mayor	City of Woodlake

Others:

See Appendix A for list of others attending

CALL TO ORDER AND INTRODUCTIONS – CHAIR POYTHRESS

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1. December 12, 2014 Regional Policy Council Meeting

There was a motion to approve the December 12, 2014 Regional Policy Council meeting minutes:

First Motion:	Mr. David Rogers
Seconded Motion:	Mr. Harold Hanson
No Nays	
Motioned Carried	

DISCUSSION/ACTION ITEMS

2. Administrative Action Item

Michael Sigala

Approve By-Law Amendments Pertaining to the Directors’ Committee Meetings

Mr. Sigala presented for consideration changes to the Regional Policy Council bylaws that allow for future Directors’ Committee meetings to operate in more of a staff only capacity when needed. This may include certain monthly meetings, or portions of each meeting, shall be “Directors’ only” to allow for sensitive discussions to occur.

There was a motion to approve the revised bylaws:

First Motion: Mr. Luis Molina
Seconded Motion: Mr. Steve Bestolarides
No Nays
Motioned Carried

3. Valley Voice Sacramento, March 4, 2015

**Robert Phipps/
Gus Khouri**

Approve Legislative Platform, Discuss Agenda, Speaker Assignments, Information Packet, Logistics, etc.

Mr. Phipps initiated the report by stating that supplemental materials (draft itinerary and binder materials) were circulated amongst the Directors for the Valley Voice Sacramento trip. Mr. Phipps then directed Mr. Gus Khouri to talk about the itinerary in more detail.

Mr. Khouri reported that there has been a high turnover in the legislature. The State Assembly has 27 new members and the State Senate has 11 new senators. Mr. Khouri added that Governor Brown proposed his budget on January 9, 2015 acknowledging a severe deficit as far as meeting our infrastructure needs. The Governor proposes to convene a Road User Charge Tax Force. Currently, transportation funding has been dependent on two sources: gas taxes and bond measures. Mr. Khouri noted the 65 percent of all existing revenues come from local jurisdictions and recently Cap and Trade revenues have been made available although the amount is allocated to a myriad of sources.

Mr. Khouri proposed for two main “asks”. One, looking at existing resources, e.g. Cap and Trade revenues (purchasing more rail cars, improving rail facilities or adding more rail extensions). Secondly, supporting Assembly Speaker Atkins proposal to (1) restore the commercial truck weight fees and (2) increase vehicle registration fees. Restoring the commercial weight fees would generate about \$1 billion dollars annually. Increasing vehicle registration fees can generate approximately \$1.8 billion, \$800 million of which would be used to continue to pay the down the bond debt service and dedicating the remaining \$1 billion back to transportation. The overall result would be \$2 billion dollars in additional revenue for transportation services with the priority placed on maintenance. Mr. Khouri stated this is an encouraging proposal although this proposal is preliminary.

Mr. Khouri then discussed the meeting logistics and draft itinerary. Mr. Phipps reviewed the material in the draft binder. He added that currently there are five interest issue areas with the potential of adding Assembly Speaker Atkins proposal discussed earlier. As an action, Mr. Phipps requested for the assignments of a primary speaker and alternate speaker per interest area. A discussion ensued on the assignment of speakers per interest area. The following is the outcome of the discussion:

Interest Area(s)	Primary Speaker	Alternate Speaker
Support Goods Movement Activities and Projects	Supervisor David Rogers	Mayor Luis Molina

Cap and Trade Funding	Mayor Amarpreet Dhaliwal	Mayor Rudy Mendoza
San Joaquin Amtrak Intercity Passenger Rail	Supervisor John Pedrozo	Supervisor Steve Bestolarides
Motorist Aid System: Multiple Service Elements	Mayor Pro Tem Cheryl Wegman	Mayor Mike Villalta
Water Quality, Supply and Reliability	Supervisor David Rogers	Mayor(s) Rudy Mendoza Amarpreet Dhaliwal
Assembly Member Toni Atkins Proposal for Transportation Funding*	Mayor Robert Poythress	TBA

**Potential item to be added*

A discussion ensued regarding the water issue and what the talking points will be. Mr. Phipps noted that the request would be that the SJV needs an adequate, diverse water supply to support economic growth, retain the world-class agricultural base, maintain a reliable urban water supply and protect the local environment. They will also recognize the California Partnership for the San Joaquin Valley efforts on their assessment on the water environment.

Mr. Phipps concluded by announcing the trip logistics (travel arrangements) and reiterating the draft meeting itinerary for the day.

OTHER ITEMS

4. Informational Items

Staff

There were no informational items presented.

5. Member Comments

There were no member comments presented.

6. Public Presentation for Items Not on Agenda

There were no public comments presented.

Meeting adjourned at approximately 11:57 a.m.

Next Regional Policy Council Meeting: Friday, June 19, 2015

Appendix A: List of Other Attendees

In Attendance (phone):	
Individual	Organization
Carlos Yamzon	Stanislaus Council of Governments
Marjie Kirn	Merced County Association of Governments
Patricia Taylor	Madera County Transportation Commission
Tony Boren	Fresno Council of Governments
Michael Sigala	San Joaquin Valley Coordinator
Jose Ramirez	Sigala Inc
Ahron Hakimi	Kern Council of Governments
Robert Phipps	Kern Council of Governments
Ken Baxter	Caltrans, District 10
Gus Khouri	Khouri Consulting