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LEGISLATION COMMITTEE

RECORD OF ACTION FOR April 10, 2023

Supervisor Ken Carlson, Chair Supervisor Diane Burgis, Vice Chair

Present: Ken Carlson, Chair

Diane Burgis, Vice Chair

Staff Present: Lara DeLaney, Senior Deputy County Administrator, staff to Committee; Teresa

Gerringer, Chief of Staff, District III; Luz Raygoza, ASA II, Employment and Human

Services; Maureen Toms, Deputy Director, DCD; Esa Ehmen-Krause, Chief of

Probation; Brian Balbas, Public Works Director; Jennifer Quallick, Field

Representative, District II; Beth Ward, Animal Services Director; Tommy Gong, Elections Deputy; Julie Enea, Senior Deputy County Administrator; Brian Helmick,

CCCFPD; Monica Nino, County Administrator; Jody London, Sustainability Coordinator; Colleen Awad, Senior District Rep., D. 4; Kristin Connelly,

Clerk-Recorder and Registrar of Voters

Attendees: Michelle Rubalcava & Geoff Neill, Paul Schlesinger, Dr. William Walker,

Call in user 1

1. Introductions

Chair Carlson convened the meeting at 1:01 p.m. and introduced himself. Vice Chair Burgis introduced herself as well.

2. **PUBLIC COMMENT**: Persons who wish to address the Legislation Committee during public comment on matters within the jurisdiction of the Legislation Committee that are not on the agenda, may comment in person, via Zoom, or via call-in. All public comments will be limited to three minutes.

Public comment was received from Call_in_user_1 who requested advocacy in Sacramento for the building of highways and freeways to accommodate housing projected through 2035. The caller indicated a need for proper infrastructure, including water supply, and criticized the high-speed rail project.

3. Staff recommends APPROVAL of the Record of Action for the March 13, 2023 meeting of the Legislation Committee.

The Record of Action was approved as presented.

AYE: Chair Ken Carlson Vice Chair Diane Burgis

4. ACCEPT the report on federal matters of interest to Contra Costa County and provide direction to staff and County lobbyists, as needed.

The County's federal lobbyist, Paul Schlesinger, provided an update on the status of the County's federal community project funding requests. He noted that, to that point, the County had heard that Congressman Garamendi was advancing to Appropriations two projects for Contra Costa: \$2 million for the San Pablo Ave./Complete Street project and \$1 million for the District Attorney's project to serve underserved victims of violent crime. Congressman DeSaulnier was advancing the Knightsen Wetland Restoration project and the Concord Shelter and Service Center Roofing Project. Call_in_user_1 commented that they did not understand how this works; they also commented on the indictment of former President Trump, ditigal currency, and lithium batteries.

AYE: Chair Ken Carlson Vice Chair Diane Burgis

5. PROVIDE direction to staff and the County's lobbyists on state legislation and advocacy priorities.

The County's state lobbyists provided a recap of the status of the County's sponsored bills and noted there would be an opportunity for the Supervisors to advocate for these and other bills during the CSAC Legislative Conference, during which meetings were being set with our legislative delegation. The draft of Talking Points for these legislative visits were included in the agenda packet: staff noted they would be further refined and distributed prior to the meetings. Vice Chair Burgis wanted to be sure SB 287 was included in the Talking Points. County staff provided comments on several additional bills. Chief of Probation Esa Ehmen-Krause flagged AB 702 for its possible negative impacts on funding Probation operations. She noted her personal opposition to the bill. Animal Services Director Beth Ward flagged AB 595 and her concerns about negative impacts in terms of mandated holding times and staff impacts. Maureen Toms from Department of Conservation and Development flagged SB 423, noting that several local cities and Cal Cities were opposed to the bill because of punitive impacts on local jurisdictions and loss of local control and discretion. The County's Sustainability Coordinator Jody London provided additional talking points on SB 511. Chair Carlson inquired about CARB's inventory preparation, which Ms. London noted was performed on a state but not local level currently. Chair Carlson also inquired about the status of various Brown Act related bills, to which the lobbyists provided status updates on AB 817. Public comment from Call in user 1 included opposition to AB 1465 (Wicks).

AYE: Chair Ken Carlson Vice Chair Diane Burgis

6. CONSIDER elections related policy recommendations for the County's State and Federal Legislative Platforms from the County Clerk-Recorder and Registrar of Voters and provide direction, as needed.

The County's Clerk-Recorder and Registrar of Voters, Kristin Connelly, provided a PowerPoint presentation of legislative objectives for inclusion in the County's State and Federal Legislative Platforms. Vice Chair Burgis concurred with the objectives and commended the Department for the certified elections officer program and other educational efforts. Chair Carlson expressed gratitude for the Department's efforts to develop an 11 county coalition to fight dis, mis, and mal-information regarding elections. Chair Carlson inquired about specific bills of interest. Ms. Connelly noted that there were bills related to language access and absentee voting that were being watched. She noted that there would be draft language brought forward at a future meeting for the Committee's consideration regarding Platform amendments. Call in User 1 provided comments that were not supportive of voting by



- 7. The next meeting is currently scheduled for Monday, May 8, 2023 at 1:00 p.m.
- 8. Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at 2:08 p.m.

For Additional Information Contact:

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