

**MINUTES
LEAGUE OF ARIZONA CITIES AND TOWNS
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING**

Friday, May 12, 2023, at 10:00 a.m.
League of Arizona Cities and Towns
1820 W. Washington St.
Phoenix, Arizona

MEMBERS

President

Douglas Nicholls, Mayor, Yuma

Vice President

Kevin Hartke, Mayor, Chandler

Treasurer

Mila Besich, Mayor, Superior +

Ken Budge, Mayor, Bisbee
Craig McFarland, Mayor, Casa Grande +
Robyn Prud'homme-Bauer, Mayor, Clarkdale +
Alexis Hermosillo, Mayor, El Mirage +
Ginny Dickey, Mayor, Fountain Hills
Brigette Peterson, Mayor, Gilbert
Jerry Weiers, Mayor, Glendale
Al Gameros, Mayor, Globe
Joe Pizzillo, Mayor, Goodyear
Cal Sheehy, Mayor, Lake Havasu City +
Tom Schoaf, Mayor, Litchfield Park +

Ed Honea, Mayor, Marana
Nancy Smith, Mayor, Maricopa *
John Giles, Mayor, Mesa
Jerry Bien-Willner, Mayor, Paradise Valley
Jason Beck, Mayor, Peoria *
Kate Gallego, Mayor, Phoenix
Stephanie Irwin, Mayor, Pinetop-Lakeside +
Tom Murphy, Mayor, Sahuarita
David Ortega, Mayor, Scottsdale +
Corey Woods, Mayor, Tempe
Regina Romero, Mayor, Tucson *

*Not in attendance

+ Attended via Zoom

President Douglas Nicholls called the meeting to order at 10:04 a.m. He then led the Executive Committee in the Pledge of Allegiance. President Douglas Nicholls welcomed and introduced new committee members who were recently elected at the March meeting.

1. REVIEW AND ADOPTION OF MINUTES

President Douglas Nicholls requested a motion on the adoption of the minutes. Mayor Jerry Weiers of Glendale moved to approve the minutes of the February 3, 2023, and March 31, 2023, Executive Committee Meeting; Mayor Tom Murphy of Sahuarita seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.

2. LEGISLATIVE POLICY OVERVIEW AND SESSION UPDATE

Executive Director Tom Belshe introduced and welcomed Legislative Director Tom Savage to provide a legislative policy overview.

Legislative Director Tom Savage informed the committee that it is day one hundred and twenty-four of the legislative session and 1,671 bills have been introduced with sixty-six vetoes.

State Budget Progress

Legislative Director Tom Savage reviewed highlights of the progress of the State Budget. The budget passed with \$17.8 billion in spending; Included in the budget is a 150-million-dollar appropriation of the Housing Trust Fund. Sixty million was incorporated for homeless shelters and services fund. Twelve point five million for Smart Transportation Grants for rural areas and 610 million total for all transportation related projects.

Zoning

SB 1117 failed in the Senate, the bill has been split into three bills which are SB 1161, SB 1163, and SB 2536. The League will continue its opposition of the bills and are working on creating an alternative bill. The League contracted with Highground who provided a poll to the public where it was reported that the public is in favor of the League's position of the mentioned bills.

Legislative Director Tom Savage introduced Paul Bentz Senior Vice President of Research and Strategy from Highground to review the information gathered from the survey in detail. Paul Bentz noted that the consensus from those polled showed that most feel that the State of Arizona is heading in the wrong direction. Those surveyed also stated that they feel their local government is heading in the right direction. The survey also showed that the general consensus is that home rental prices are too high. The majority who were surveyed also agreed that more affordable housing is needed in Arizona. Paul Bentz concluded the presentation and took questions from the executive committee who shared their view on the topic.

Residential Rental Tax Repeal

SB 1184 was vetoed by the Governor. The League is currently in opposition of SB 1131 which would have an estimated 230-million-dollar impact on cities and towns.

Executive Director Tom Belshe addressed the committee on the League's efforts on 400E and Residential Rental and promised more information would come soon.

3. LEAGUE DATA INITIATIVE

Executive Director Tom Belshe spoke on the League Data initiative which is a project that League staff in conjunction with FLO Analytics have worked on to bring data stories to life. These data stories are visual representations of data that has been collected from a variety of sources with the first story focusing on housing. The plan is to use these stories to help educate legislators and the public on issues that affect cities and towns.

Executive Director Tom Belshe introduced Deputy Director Rene Guillen to provide a detailed report on the data story project. Deputy Director Rene Guillen presented the newly formed website (azleaguedata.org) where the first and future data stories can be accessed as well as other relevant existing research.

4. 2023 LEAGUE CONFERENCE UPDATE

Executive Director Tom Belshe introduced Deputy Director Matt Lore to provide the League conference update.

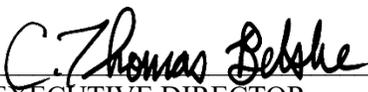
The annual conference will be held in Tucson at the JW Marriott Starr Pass Resort from August 29 – September 1, 2023. The program details are in process and registration opens the first week of June. All cities and towns are provided with four pre-reserved rooms to use at their discretion and Executive Committee members will also have rooms pre-reserved. The sponsorship program report was also provided to members of the committee which showed that the target goal is already more than halfway met.

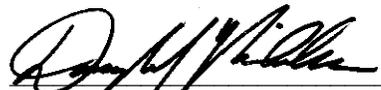
5. LEAGUE BUDGET FOR 2023–2024

President Douglas Nicholls introduced the committee Treasurer and Budget Subcommittee Chair, Mayor Mila Besich of Superior, to present the proposed budget as recommended by the Budget Subcommittee for review and approval. Mayor Mila Besich stated that no changes were made to the budget and called for a motion to approve the FY 2023–2024 League Budget. Mayor Tom Murphy of Sahuarita made a motion to approve the budget as presented, Mayor Brigitte Peterson of Gilbert seconded the motion and the budget passed unanimously.

President Douglas Nicholls called for any announcements or comments for the Good of the Order. No further business was brought forth.

The Executive Committee adjourned the Executive Committee meeting at 11:15 a.m.


EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR


PRESIDENT