

# MINUTES

## LEAGUE OF ARIZONA CITIES AND TOWNS

### EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

Wednesday, August 31, 2011  
San Pedro Room  
Starr Pass Resort  
3800 West Starr Pass Boulevard  
Tucson, AZ 85745

#### MEMBERS

##### President

Robert Walkup, Mayor, Tucson

##### Vice President

Doug Von Gausig, Mayor, Clarkdale

##### Treasurer

Mark Mitchell, Councilmember, Tempe

Marie Lopez Rogers, Mayor, Avondale

Jay Tibshraeny, Mayor, Chandler

Gilbert Lopez, Vice Mayor, Coolidge

Byron Jackson, Mayor, Eloy

Elaine M. Scruggs, Mayor, Glendale

Fernando Shipley, Mayor, Globe

John Salem, Mayor, Kingman

Mark Nexsen, Mayor, Lake Havasu City

Thomas L. Schoaf, Mayor, Litchfield Park

Scott Smith, Mayor, Mesa

Kenny Evans, Mayor, Payson

Bob Barrett, Mayor, Peoria

Claude Mattox, Councilmember, Phoenix\*

Harvey Skoog, Mayor, Prescott Valley

Lynne Skelton, Vice Mayor, Sahuarita

W.J. "Jim" Lane, Mayor, Scottsdale

Rob Adams, Mayor, Sedona

Gerry Whipple, Councilmember, Show Low

Bob Rivera, Mayor, Thatcher

Alan Krieger, Mayor, Yuma

*\*Not in attendance*

President Robert Walkup called the meeting to order at 12:30 p.m. Executive Committee members then recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

#### 1. REVIEW AND ADOPTION OF MINUTES

President Walkup requested a review and approval of the minutes as presented. Mayor Von Gausig moved that the minutes of the May 13, 2011 Executive Committee meeting be approved. Mayor Nexsen seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

## **2. VOTER ENGAGEMENT PROJECT**

President Walkup recognized Lyman Locket, Human Resources Manager with the City of Peoria, to give a presentation on the Sandra Day O'Connor House Centennial Voter Project. Mr. Locket detailed the growing problems in voter participation around Arizona due to the decline of voter turnout and the lack of information provided to voters. He also expressed that the goal of this project is to move Arizona to the top 10 states in voter participation through globalizing organizations with cities and towns and creating more awareness. Mr. Locket finished his presentation and provided information from questions. Mayor Krieger made a motion to have the League support the program. Mayor Adams seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

## **3. REPORT ON LEGISLATIVE TOUR / LEAGUE OUTREACH**

President Walkup asked League Executive Director Ken Strobeck to report on the activities during the legislative off season. Ken reported that League staff traveled around the state to 16 different locations and more than 2400 miles giving reports on the activities from the 2011 legislative session. The sessions were well-attended. Additionally, Ken introduced Deputy Director Tom Belshe to provide information on discussions with the Arizona Tax Research Association (ATRA). The League and the ATRA have been involved in several meetings to come up with greater uniformity on the Model City Tax Code without having to taking legislative action. Tom thanked Mayor Scruggs and Mayor Von Gausig for their participation in these discussions and reported that the talks have been generally positive and staff has been successful in identifying some "green sheet" items for deletion from the Code. League staff and other attorneys have also been working together to implement procedures for SB1525, development impact fees. There have been work group meetings to create a model ordinance that will be distributed to cities and towns. The League will keep municipalities informed on this process.

## **4. UPCOMING LEGISLATIVE ISSUES**

President Walkup then recognized League Executive Director Ken Strobeck to report on upcoming legislative issues. Ken Strobeck discussed the direct financial impact cities and towns have taken through a variety of legislatively-imposed assessments, particularly relating to the so-called "DWR fee" and sweeps of HURF funds. Ken recognized League General Counsel Joni Hoffman to give an overview on the provisions of Proposition 108 and how have municipalities been protected by it and how it may or may not be considered as the basis for challenging some of those sweeps in the future. Joni presented information on various interpretations of Prop 108 in statutory language.

Ken also acknowledged recent articles with comments made by Senator Frank Antenori that he will continue to work on forced city managed competition during the next legislative session.

## **5. COMMUNICATIONS/PR FIRM DISCUSSION**

Executive Director Ken Strobeck introduced the topic of once again utilizing outside consultants to help the League in its media and messaging outreach during the next legislative session. During last session the League had hired the firm of Scutari & Cieslak to provide media and public relations assistance. Executive Committee discussion ensued as to what the League most would need from a firm

during the upcoming session as well as a dialogue on the price, scope, and success of the previous contract. After discussion, it was suggested that Ken should again approach Scutari and Cieslak to help with outreach, but with a more focused scope on media relations and not on some of the broader public relations services that were in the previous RFP such as branding and PR campaign messaging.

## 6. NLC REPORT

President Walkup recognized Ken Strobeck to give an update on the National League of Cities. Ken acknowledged NLC President James Mitchell for his presentation at the League Annual Conference. Ken then recognized Second Vice-President Mayor Marie Lopez Rogers to give an update on NLC related items and the upcoming conference on the NLC Congress of Cities and Exposition, scheduled for November 9-12, 2011, at the Phoenix Convention Center. Mayor Lopez Rogers reported on her recent travels and meetings around the nation. Additionally, Mayor Lopez Rogers noted that the topics that would be addressed at the upcoming conference included: economic growth, transportation, jobs, and immigration reform. Finally, Mayor Lopez Rogers encouraged Executive Committee members to attend the conference in November to demonstrate their support as the host state for the national conference.

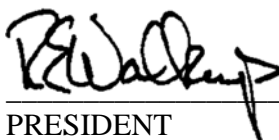
## 7. OTHER ITEMS

President Walkup recognized Mayor Byron Jackson for his service on the Executive Committee, and requested that members approve a Resolution for Appreciation for his service. Mayor Jackson thanked members for the opportunity to work with the Executive Committee. Mayor Jim Lane moved that the Resolution for Appreciation be approved; Mayor Scott Smith seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

Finally, President Walkup recognized Mayor Elaine Scruggs, who proposed a possible future agenda item for the committee to consider. Mayor Scruggs noted that the current conference was being held during elections week and asked that future conference dates be discussed regarding such conflicts before bids for site selection are made.

President Walkup asked if there was any other business, and seeing none adjourned the meeting at 2:06 p.m.

  
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

  
PRESIDENT