

MINUTES

LEAGUE OF ARIZONA CITIES AND TOWNS

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

Friday, May 13, 2011
League of Arizona Cities and Towns
1820 West Washington Street
Phoenix, AZ 85007

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, Councilmember, 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, 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*

Vice President Von Gausig called the meeting to order at 10:03 a.m.

1. REVIEW AND ADOPTION OF MINUTES

Vice President Von Gausig asked for review and approval of the minutes as presented. Councilmember Claude Mattox asked that item number 4 of the February 11, 2011 Executive Committee meeting be amended to clarify he was the lone objection to the motion. Mayor Adams then moved that the minutes of the February 11, 2011 Executive Committee meeting be approved. Mayor Rivera seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

2. LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

Mayor Von Gausig introduced Legislative Director Jim Ogsbury to provide the Executive Committee with a legislative update. In his introduction, Mayor Von Gausig highlighted the heavy workload of the League and large number of attacks that were leveled on cities.

Jim noted that the Legislature would like to be known for three chief accomplishments: pension reform; the passage of a jobs bill; and the enactment of a balanced budget. Despite these qualified achievements, the League will remember the session for the amount of anti-city legislation introduced. Jim provided a series of statistics related to the number of bills introduced, passed and vetoed, with particular emphasis on the fact that the Governor vetoed over twice as many measures as the year prior. Despite the number of attacks faced by municipalities, Arizona's cities and towns emerged far better than might have been expected.

With regards to specific legislation, Jim highlighted measures that failed to gain traction and others that failed on floor votes despite support of the majority leadership. Jim then proceeded to address a handful of measures that were passed despite League opposition. The majority of bills on which the League engaged resulted in amendments to either eliminate or minimize their harmful impacts. These bills covered a range of issues from trash collection to state shared-revenue.

On the subject of gubernatorial vetoes, the League specifically asked for three: SB 1166, to exempt certain commercial leases from taxation; SB 1322, a measure to require privatization of a litany of services in Phoenix and Tucson; and SB 1601, the firearms omnibus bill, which would have placed costly requirements on any municipality wishing to limit firearms within public buildings. The Governor vetoed all but SB 1166. However, the Governor did veto SB 1379, a measure limiting local regulation of consumer fireworks. The League opposed the measure but did not specifically request a veto.

Jim closed by highlighting the leadership demonstrated by the Governor this session and read a few lines from Governor Brewer's veto letter on SB 1322, stressing the "conservative principle" that government closest to the people governs best.

On a related issue, Jim acknowledged a recent court decision holding that local elections in Tucson are a local concern despite language used by the Legislature declaring it to be a statewide concern.

3. 2011 CONFERENCE UPDATE

Matt Lore was asked to give an update to the Executive committee regarding the 2011 League Annual Conference. Matt unveiled this year's conference theme as "Cities Mean Business" and gave a brief outline of the expected program. The sessions were beginning to line up well, and will provide attendees with an informative array of topics. Also planned for the conference are the annual Parade of Flags, Showcase of Cities and Towns, and the popular Youth Program. Vice President Von Gausig thanked Matt for his update.

4. LEAGUE BUDGET FOR 2011-2012

League Executive Director Ken Strobeck presented the proposed 2011-2012 League Budget. After considerable discussion focusing on the matter of staff salaries, it was agreed that next year's budget process would be modified to provide Executive Committee Members a preliminary budget proposal, containing details of each line item, at the February meeting so it can be considered along with the annual adoption of League dues. Mayor Salem motioned to approve the budget as presented, Mayor Shipley seconded the motion and it carried with one objection from Mayor Lane.

5. POSSIBLE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE APPOINTMENT

Vice President Von Gausig informed the Committee that Mayor Lord of Goodyear had submitted a request to be appointed to a vacant seat on the Committee. After a discussion, it was decided that the request should go through the Nominations Committee process in August at the Annual Conference. Mayor Jackson motioned to make appointments to the Executive Committee during the August meeting, Councilmember Lopez seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

Vice President Von Gausig asked if there was any other business, and seeing none adjourned the meeting at 12:35 p.m.



EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



PRESIDENT