



**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE
RIDGECREST CITY SUCCESSOR AGENCY,
FINANCING AUTHORITY, AND HOUSING AUTHORITY**

**City Council Chambers
100 West California Avenue
Ridgecrest, California 93555**

**February 3, 2016
5:30 p.m.**

This meeting was recorded and will be on file in the Office of the City Clerk for a certain period of time from date of approval by City Council/Redevelopment Agency. Meetings are recorded solely for the purpose of preparation of minutes.

CALL TO ORDER – 5:30 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Council Present: Mayor Peggy Breeden; Mayor Pro Tempore James Sanders; Council Members Eddie B. Thomas, and Mike Mower

Council Absent: Vice Mayor Lori Acton

Council Absent: None

Staff Present: Acting City Manager/Chief of Police Ron Strand; City Clerk Rachel J. Ford; City Attorney Keith Lemieux, and other staff

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Substitute Documents:

- Item No. 7
 - Substitute unformatted ordinance with formatted ordinance
 - Attach draft resolution for watering schedule

Motion To Approve Agenda As Amended Made By Council Member Mower, Second By Council Member Thomas. Motion Carried By Roll Call Vote Of 4 Ayes (Mayor Breeden, Council Members Sanders, Thomas, And Mower); 0 Noes; 0 Abstain; And 1 Absent (Vice Mayor Acton).

PUBLIC COMMENT (Closed Session)

- None Presented

CLOSED SESSION

GC54956.9 (d) (4) Conference With Legal Counsel – Existing Litigation –Kern County Superintendent Of Schools v. City Of Ridgecrest

REGULAR SESSION – 6:00 p.m.

- Pledge Of Allegiance
- Invocation

CITY ATTORNEY REPORT

- Closed Session
 - Kern County Superintendent of Schools – Report received, no reportable action taken
- Other
 - None

PUBLIC COMMENT (*Regular Session*)

Mr. Bell

- Extended invitation to groundbreaking ceremony at the new Murray Middle School site.

Tom Wiknich

- Spoke on email from Sheriff Office regarding closing of the local jail and transfer of personnel to Lerdo due to budget cuts. Cuts will take place February 20.
- Commented on feeling outraged that Ridgecrest is the city that will be most impacted. Suggested bringing unfunded vacancies to Ridgecrest.
- Impact to Ridgecrest police department will take officers off the streets to transport prisoners.
- City pays over \$200k per year for jail services and asked council to consider this in their budget discussions.

Robert Shine

- Resident of Heritage Village and spoke on the Helicopter Pad at the Hospital which is not usable.
- Commented on letter sent to Heritage Village residents indicating the pad would be used rarely and now the flights have increased. Provided statistics and highlighted night hours keeping residents awake.
- Suggested Mercy Air could fly over the empty field near Kmart rather than over the high school or residential sections.
- Commented on Helicopter flying in then taking off to Inyokern to refuel and returning.
- Residents tired of night flights that are waking them repeatedly.
- Commented on the new location purchased and an estimate of 3-5 year construction given by the Hospital.

Jay Winkle

- Lives next to the Helipad
- Have been in the back yard and been prop-washed by the helicopters.
- Asked for a solution to how the pilots take off and land
- Has a video of being sand washed and children afraid of helicopters because of the way they are taking off and landing.

Bill Campbell

- Live near the Helipad and it seems the more we speak with Mercy Air the more intentional the pilots get with the low flying.

Roger Stewart

- Understand emergencies and the need for a helipad for people but did not think I would be up in the middle of the night listening to sorties.
- Everyone I call gives me the run around.
- Asking council who to go to in order to cut down on the flights.

Speaker

- Hospital says Mercy Air is responsible and Mercy Air says the Hospital is responsible. Have called several people and have not received responses back other than to be told to stop badgering staff by Mr. Suver.

Benny Ford

- Commented on grant opportunities for installation of the Digital 395.
- Asked for information and name of the group to be presented on February 17.
- People are interested in attending and requested the presentation be interactive.

Mike Neel

- Read sections of California Constitution.
- Commented on Dale Howard property situation and stated these rights given by the California Constitution are being ignored.
- Read a portion of an email Mr. Howard received from the conservatorship threatening to foreclose on the property if he does not pay \$60,000
- Made comments about the conservator and City
 - Mike Mower – commented on the number of birds and sea vans and how contractors would not buy a lot next to the property because of the inability to sell a house near the property.

Ron Porter

- Asked questions about bullying, laws and rights.
- Commented on the Dale Howard situation as being a black cloud over the City
- Commented on the process of a hearing versus trial
- Reminded Council of their oath of office to uphold the Constitution of the United States and California

Ron Porter *(continued)*

- Stated a citizen who can't afford to defend themselves does not receive justice.
- Compared the City to a bully
- Spoke on the government judicial branch
- Questioned where this will stop.
- Commented on freedoms
- Asked if we wanted a mobocracy or a government that protects the individuals.
- Asked for agenda item with public comment regarding this issue.

Elizabeth Friary

- Followed up on the comments made about the helicopter
- Related one occurrence where the helicopter flew in extremely low at night.
- Spoke on her attempts to report the issue to the FAA and receiving responses that the pilot may have been inexperienced
- Spoke on flight patterns being altered due to complaints of cars getting dirty over the parking lot.
- Commented increased flight traffic has created structural damage to her home
- Asked about the increased flights.
- Expressed concern that the pilot was putting everyone's lives and property in peril.
- Read a portion of article from 1972 about the approval of the helipad.
- Ridgecrest council resolution in 1987 approves the present day helipad.
- Current council approved sale of land for new helipad and encouraged council to ensure the construction is done quickly.

Marilyn Neel

- Commented on American's blood spilled in the snow in Oregon because he dared to stand up for constitutional rights.
- Commented on people here tonight appealing to those who should be standing up for our rights.
- More people are having property taken from them and lives being destroyed and those who sit in high places are sitting deafly
- Compared seeing blood spilled in the snow to seeing blood spilled in the sand with Mr. Howard.
- Stated Mr. Howard did not get his day in court and was not allowed to face his accusers.
- Commented about citizens sitting on the street watching as Mr. Howard's life blood has been spilled.

Dave Matthews

- Commented on Tom Wiknich comments about the closure of the Jail. I too am outraged that the County Sheriff wants to close the jail in Ridgecrest. We do not have sufficient funds or facilities to run our own jail. Questioned if Sheriff Youngblood has seen this and urged everyone to let the Sheriff and County Supervisors know how outraged we are.
- Commented on Dr. Drummond's airport being visible in 1958. There has been an increase in flights and I live about a mile away from the Helipad. Helicopters are noisy but it seems they are coming in lower than they need to. Questioned why Hospital has not changed their policy. For some reason they seem to be flying in and out more patients. Asked what the difference in requirement for land transportation over air transportation.
- Commented on the constitution and court cases that are stripping away constitutional rights. The court system is broken. Commented on the viable list of candidates for president. Commented on Mr. Howard not being the only person denied their rights, mostly because of lack of financial means.

COUNCIL ANNOUNCEMENTS

- None

CONSENT CALENDAR

1. Adopt A Resolution To Amend The Professional Service Agreement In The Amount Of Ten Thousand And Eighty Dollars (\$10,080.00) With The Engineer Of Record, Willdan Engineering, For Additional Construction Inspection Services On The Cycle 5 Signing And Striping For 12 Intersections, And Authorize The City Manager, Dennis Speer, To Execute The Amended Agreement Speer
2. Adopt A Resolution To Approve The Professional Service Agreement With The Firm Willdan Engineering To Provide Environmental Assessment, Surveying, And Design Engineering, For Tax Allocation Bond (TAB) Street Improvement Projects For A Fee Of Thirty-Nine Thousand One Hundred Dollars (\$39,100.00) And Authorize The City Manager, Dennis Speer, To Sign The Professional Services Agreement Speer
3. Adopt A Resolution Declaring Equipment As Surplus According To Administrative Service Policy As 05-03 And By Resolution Number 05-55 Authorizing Disposal Of Equipment In The Engineering Division Speer
4. Approve Draft Minutes Of The Ridgecrest City Council/Successor Redevelopment Agency/Financing Authority/Housing Authority Minutes Dated January 20, 2016 Ford

Items Pulled From Consent Calendar

- Item No. 3

Motion To Approve Consent Calendar Item Nos. 1, 2, And 4 Made By Council Member Mower, Second By Council Member Sanders. Motion Carried By Roll Call Vote Of 4 Ayes (Mayor Breeden, Council Members Sanders, Thomas, And Mower); 0 Noes; 0 Abstain; And 1 Absent (Vice Mayor Acton)

Item No. 3 Discussion

Dave Matthews

- Did not have opportunity to read the list and questioned if the items would be put up for auction.

Loren Culp

- Reviewed the equipment list.
- Many of the items are inoperable and not serviced by the manufacturer.

Motion To Approve Consent Calendar Item No. 3 Made By Council Member Mower, Second By Council Member Thomas. Motion Carried By Roll Call Vote Of 4 Ayes (Mayor Breeden, Council Members Sanders, Thomas, And Mower); 0 Noes; 0 Abstain; And 1 Absent (Vice Mayor Acton)

DISCUSSION AND OTHER ACTION ITEMS

- 5. Discussion And Provide Direction To The City Manager To Execute A Task Order With Lemieux & O'Neill To Negotiate And Draft A Joint Powers Agreement For The Indian Wells Valley Groundwater Sustainability Agency**
Lemieux

Keith Lemieux

- Presented Staff Report
- This is not a motion to approve a JPA or any other form of GSA
- The work the office is being performed is not covered by the retainer so asking Council to direct City manager to enter into a task order to do the preliminary work needed to enter into a GSA
- Rate is billed at a lower cost than normal
- Have done some preliminary work already and have asked this to be billed as well
- Commented on concerns of the Mutual Water Companies. So far discussions have been positive and work is being done to see if those parties can get a say with the board without actually sitting on the board. Currently discussing the form this would take. Further meetings have been scheduled with the goal of wrapping this up later this month.

Keith Lemieux *(continued)*

- Draft agreement is floating around and we will work on this and hopefully bring back to Council for detailed discussion in the near future.

Public Comment

Ron Porter

- Understand Attorney narrowed this however there is a problem that City and County should be concerned about. Need to be concerned about how much power is given to this agency.
- If City is incurring costs with this, then State should be billed. This may become more involved and we don't know how radical it will come out and may have to pay Mr. Lemieux's staff to do all kinds of research. This should be billed to the State.
 - Keith Lemieux – this is not an unfunded mandate. The alternative is to step back and let the State take control. The City is voluntarily getting involved to retain local control. We will continue to update the City Manager.
- Commented this may become far more involved and this is under threat. City should bill the State

Stan Rajtora

- Questioned who Mr. Lemieux would be negotiating with to draft a Joint Powers Authority Agreement.
 - Keith Lemieux – other agencies that will be members of the GSA
- Expressed concern about what the County is trying to push and later is sometimes too late. Feel we have a water problem and need to find a solution. To do this we need all parties working together and build a consensus with all involved. Afraid that what the County has in mind is building walls rather than consensus and when the walls get too high it will lead to litigation. Concerned we already have too much litigation and will get so much we won't remember what the real problem is.
- Referenced the various ways available to set up a GSA.
- Referred to Mr. Sanders concern of not letting this agency have non-elected board members. Questioned how much power this organization really needs.
- Reiterated the idea of building consensus rather than walls.
 - Keith Lemieux – points of building consensus are well taken and this seems to be the County's goal. Regarding the powers, by statute the GSA would have powers that go beyond what currently exist.
- Referenced County council indicating that if you allow a private group into the GSA then the control is neutral. Through an MOA organization you would have all the power.
 - Keith Lemieux – referring to Common Powers doctrine and we are exploring options that allow private groups to have input without having the power to vote on the board

Stan Rajtora *(continued)*

- My concern is you will have one holdout that would take us to court and that is not what we need.
 - Peggy Breeden – Keith will negotiate and make recommendations that will be reviewed and approved at a public meeting.
- Commented on council giving early direction.
 - Peggy Breeden – our original direction was a letter that stated we wanted to be a voting member of the GSA.
- Things have changed since that letter.
 - Peggy Breeden – we will receive reports from Mr. Lemieux. There is a public meeting February 19 at 9:30 a.m. in Council Chambers
- Applaud you if you can get the structure you are working toward. Appreciate your efforts.
 - Keith Lemieux – because of the Brown Act I cannot engage in private meetings with the Council. all I can do is work on an agreement and then bring back to council for their decision. Everything will be done in public meetings. Also keep in mind to not get too excited about the back-and-forth positions. People end up in different places before there is ink on paper.

Mike Neel

- Commented on conflicting documents about the powers of the GSA including imminent domain
 - Keith Lemieux – this is a governing agency with all powers regarding the groundwater sustainability. Think of it as all governing boards working in concert.
- Commented on residents getting representation by both Council and Water District however county residents are only getting one vote.
- Expressed concern this is upside down and backwards. There are ways to get equal and fair representation for everyone in this aquifer.

Jim Sanders

- Clarified that guidelines needed would be done in public.
- Asked about a budget discussion.
 - Keith Lemieux – can bring a draft budget back for discussion, do not anticipate spending that many hours on this before April.
- Not sure where we set on the legal budget.

Mike Mower

- Recommend this item be on the agenda every meeting so we can give direction as needed.

Item No. 5 *(continued)*

Motion To Approve The Execution Of Task Order Made By Council Member Mower, Second By Council Member Sanders. Motion Carried By Roll Call Vote Of 4 Ayes (Mayor Breeden, Council Members Sanders, Thomas, And Mower); 0 Noes; 0 Abstain; And 1 Absent (Council Member Acton)

6. Review And Discussion Of The Special Consulting Agreement Between The City Of Ridgcrest And Justin O’Neill **Breeden**

Justin O’Neill

- Presented Staff Report and PowerPoint presentation reviewing projects assigned and completed or currently being worked and overall accomplishments and goals.

Peggy Breeden

- Asked the item to be brought forward because it appeared to be under the Mayor’s direction and am uncomfortable with this. Feel it is important to send this to committee and the information can come back to council so we can understand what is going on.
- Met with the City Attorney and Council Member Acton.
- Want this set up better and seems best to put this through committee.

Mike Mower

- Reviewed contract provisions which cover reporting and budgeting and invoicing.
- Contract says this all comes back to Council

Peggy Breeden

- Appreciate the work that has been done and there is potential for more.
- Eric Bruin sent a letter that I have shared with Council.

Public Comment

Eric Bruin

- Please the letter was shared.
- Simple fact is we are bogging ourselves down. Exemplified business and investment in digital technology and social media which has increased business.
- If you want Mr. O’Neill to use the skills he has, don’t bog it down with committees and discussions.
- Reason the 50th was so successful is we let him do it independently. When we had the other layers then we bog it down.
- Younger generation feels left out because we are not involving them with social media.
- You have the contract in place so let him loose, what is the worst thing that can happen?

Peggy Breeden

- We know that we do not get our voice out there. Only way we will get people involved is to get the word out in any way we can. Good things happen and it is important to get the word out and sometimes the media isn't fast enough. I want us to sing our song.

Benny Fuller

- The television channel is not great; there is noise in the background that makes it hard to hear. Asked if anyone has tuned in. Noise is mostly static.
- Recommend a push to get people here in a couple weeks to hear the broadband presentation.
- Broadband is a big economic development driver.
- Town is currently dependent on the base and the younger generation looking at housing plans and developments is not encouraging.
- Not focus on young single millennials because some of them came here with girlfriends and young families.
- Need to look at other businesses that can be brought in to diversify the job market.
- Most young people who grew up in Ridgecrest don't stick around and young talent does not stay here. Need to focus on bringing in more youth and retaining them.
- If you already have a family starting then Ridgecrest is fine but for single people there aren't a lot of single people or places for singles to meet.
- Need to foster an environment where people can get together and meet. Singles don't want to go to places where there aren't other singles.
- Need to have the ability to retain the younger singles.

Peggy Breeden

- Expressed gratitude to Mr. Fuller for attending the Council meetings.

Tina Warren

- Had pleasure of working with Justin on the millennial focus group. Praised Justin's efforts for his work on the event. He was instrumental in engaging the young people in a way that did not shut them down. Final product was he results of the survey which was very well written. These individuals have nice jobs and are great people.
- Justin is of a different generation and it is important for us to be influenced by that and learn off of each other. This is about helping each other, sharing, and learning.

Tom Wiknich

- Thanked Mr. Mower about referencing the contract which requires projects being brought thru city council. When I was trying to find out who was making the decisions on a project and I could not find out whom. Perhaps we need to reassess the control and the 3 new council members should review the projects assigned by the previous council. Would not hurt to review the projects and make sure he is going the direction you want him to go.
- Believe we do need to focus on the millennials but at the same time not forget about the rest of us, the baby boomers and other generations.
- We do have to do the social media but we cannot forget about the rest of the community.
- Related an experience with a millennial and recognizes that the younger generation is focused on social media but do not want to forget about the rest of us.
 - Peggy Breeden – commented on the USO event having more people in older generations in attendance than young people. We want to make sure everybody feels wanted.
- Would encourage the current council to review the ongoing projects and ensure they are going the direction Council wants it to go.

Justin O'Neill

- Question about his participation on committees and how those go. Reviewed the roles he played in the USO event for each committee involved. Currently in a similar situation with technology committee and the base leadership and retention.

Mike Mower

- Feel this is why you should be assigned to a committee to provide reports and invoicing, suggested City Org committee.
 - Keith Lemieux – city council would delegate to report to the City Organization committee. Need to make sure your authority is not delegated by the committee you are sitting on.
- This would make it more concrete.

Dave Matthews

- Mr. Bruin made a good suggestion in that we need to let the expert do what he does and get off his back. Justin has been doing a good job on the technology committee. I don't follow any of the social media because I see the way it is set up is nothing more than a gossip mill. For government or any government entity to be deeply involved in social media is wrong. These entities need to have structure and guidelines. None of you want to be monitoring hundreds of complaints a day. You can send out information but don't necessarily have to take it back.
- You have discovered what I discovered 40 years ago. That we are heavily dependent on the base. You need to look at how we can change it. I don't like

the millennial term, there is a lot that the younger generation can learn from the older generation if they would come and seek it. Many people come to work and have never been concerned with what is happening with the governing bodies surrounding them. Perhaps that is a lack of education, I learned in high school and that is how I got involved. I encourage the younger generation, if you don't have anything to do then come down here and beat up on Council.

Eric Bruin

- Commented that if a committee is dark then is a waste of time.
- This generation craves instant results.
- Direction versus reporting, these are two different problems.
- You want participation in the government so use the channel they will talk to you on.
- We aren't selling it the way they want to get it but get upset when they aren't buying it.

Mike Neel

- Heard comment there have been no monthly reports to Council?
 - Justin O'Neill – assumed invoices were forwarded to Council. there were a couple months that were aggregated.
- Supposed to be working for Council and is not supposed to be getting direction from staff.
 - Jim Sanders – that is an inaccurate statement. He chose to report and it did not get to us, but none of us took issue with that.
 - Peggy Breeden – exemplified the beginning invoicing. This has evolved and we are fixing it now, so don't criticize us for not fixing it.
- If staff messed up and gave your consultant direction then need to deal with that. The City Manager complained about this and refused to be a part of it.
- If you have not received a monthly report then I see failure to comply with the terms of the contract. Perhaps he should send you monthly reports like he is supposed to do.
- There is a lot of duplication of effort in this contract, such as economic development and we are paying someone to help the base recruit and retain their employees? When did this get involved? We are already paying someone in human resources on the base.
- This funding could pay to fix an intersection or something else rather than pay for duplication of effort.

Benny Fuller

- Regarding instant gratification.
- People could live stream on the internet and then people could tweet or facebook in with comments.
- If you provide a way to access but also provide interactive access and have someone to monitor during the meetings and bring it up.
- Suggested food items in the back for people to eat.

Benny Fuller *(continued)*

- Justin is being paid because the City is facing the problem of the retention of people in the community.
- What the city is trying to accomplish is more than just human resources, but to help make these young people a part of the community and grow Ridgecrest.

Al Huey

- A lot of this, I have concerns with. Mr. Bruin talked about an event page or website. Why would the City pay Justin to do this when we already have the RACVB and Chamber of Commerce to do this?
 - Peggy Breeden – RACVB is paid by the tourism improvement district.
- Point is these two organizations are supposed to be doing this and now we are paying more money to have it done? As tight as the city budget is I would wrestle with it.
- Regarding social media, we have someone out there making comments that could come back to bite the city as a government entity.
 - Peggy Breeden – responses should be in a factual basis. Related experience from Michelle Vance at Tehachapi and the responses. Present facts.
- During USO event planning stage, was able to get a hold of USO and RACVB and was unable to contact the Navy. Attempted to contact Mr. O'Neill but did not receive a response until it was too far down the road.
 - Justin O'Neill – responded with explanation of process and the need to collaborate with the base. While there was not an enormous amount of communication but want you to feel you were not forgotten. Sometimes responding to every phone call is not possible.

Justin O'Neill

- Concerned with public expectation regarding social media. It is far from my intent to push the old out to make room for the new. It is one thing to use social media but is more important to create mechanisms for participation. A balanced community represents all generations.

Tina Warren

- There is no way the 50th or other events could have been done without the help received by Justin. With regard to the base it is important to get the word out with the new employees and work together.

Peggy Breeden

- Questioned Council if this should go before City Organization Committee.

Jim Sanders

- One drawback I see is Justin has 5 bosses, don't know the best way to address this and not sure sending to committee is the solution because they meet less often.
 - Mike Mower – don't think we are necessarily going to be giving direction all the time but more to receive regular reports. If city organization wants to add another project then it has to come before council. there are 4 people on the committee and feel we need to do this on a month by month basis.
- So if Justin gets approved for a project and we set aside funding. We need to find a way to get him quick response for minute discussion.
 - Keith Lemieux – this can be delegated to the committee and special meetings could be arranged as needed.
- This is all about transparency; do not want to violate the brown act.

Mike Mower

- Direction given to make sure Justin O'Neill's report is placed on the City Organization committee.

ORDINANCES

7. **Introduction And First Reading, An Ordinance Of The City Council Of The City Of Ridgecrest Amending The Ridgecrest Municipal Code As It Relates To Water Efficient Landscape** Lemieux

Keith Lemieux

- Presented Staff Report

Public Comment

Tom Wiknich

- Asked about enforcement
 - Peggy Breeden – water district has authority
 - Mike Mower – Building Department
 - Keith Lemieux – City will enforce this ordinance
- Asked about a resolution
 - Keith Lemieux – waiting for water district. They are under a specific mandate by the State water board. In theory City might but at the time being we are electing to have them enforce it.

Item No. 7 (continued)

- a. *Motion To Waive Reading In Full Of An Ordinance Of The City Council Of The City Of Ridgecrest Amending The Ridgecrest Municipal Code As It Relates To Water Efficient Landscape Made By Council Member Mower, Second By Council Member Thomas. Motion Carried By Roll Call Vote Of 4 Ayes (Mayor Breeden, Council Members Sanders, Thomas, And Mower); 0 Noes; 0 Abstain; And 1 Absent (Vice Mayor Acton)*
- b. *Motion To Introduce, By Title Only, An Ordinance Of The City Council Of The City Of Ridgecrest Amending The Ridgecrest Municipal Code As It Relates To Water Efficient Landscape Made By Council Member Mower, Second By Council Member Sanders. Motion Carried By Roll Call Vote Of 4 Ayes (Mayor Breeden, Council Members Sanders, Thomas, And Mower); 0 Noes; 0 Abstain; And 1 Absent (Vice Mayor Acton)*

COMMITTEE REPORTS

(Committee Meeting dates are subject to change and will be announced on the City website)

City Organization and Services Committee

Members: Lori Acton; Mike Mower
Meeting: 4th Wednesday each month at 5:00 p.m. as needed
Location: Council Conference Room B

- No Report, next meeting announced

Infrastructure Committee

Members: Jim Sanders; Mike Mower
Meeting: 3rd Thursday each month at 5:00 p.m. as needed
Location: Council Conference Room B

Jim Sanders

- Met on January 21
- Discussed Murray Middle School traffic issue
- Water ordinance
- Update on downs widening project
- Request received to permanently change meeting to 4th Thursday of the month

❖ **Ad Hoc Water Conservation Committee**

Members: Jim Sanders; Peggy Breeden
Meeting: 1st Monday each month at 5:00 p.m. as needed
Location: Conference Room B

- No Report

Parks, Recreation, and Quality of Life Committee

Members: Eddie Thomas; Lori Acton
Meeting: 1st Tuesday each month at 12:00 p.m. as needed
Location: Kerr-McGee Center Meeting Rooms

- No Report

❖ **Ad Hoc Youth Advisory Council**

Members: Eddie Thomas
Meeting: 2nd Wednesday of each month, 12:00 p.m. as needed
Location: Kerr-McGee Center Meeting Rooms

- No Report

Activate Community Talents and Interventions For Optimal Neighborhoods Task Force (ACTION)

Members: Eddie Thomas; Lori Acton
Meeting: 3rd Tuesday every other month at 4:00 p.m. as needed
Location: Kerr McGee Center Meeting Rooms

- No Report

Ridgecrest Area Convention And Visitors Bureau (RACVB)

Members: Lori Acton and Eddie Thomas
Meetings: 1st Wednesday Of The Month, 8:00 A.M.
Next Meeting: To Be Announced

Eddie Thomas

- Read RACVB Directors Report (Attachment A)

OTHER COMMITTEES, BOARDS, OR COMMISSIONS

Mike Mower

- Kern COG report presentation on new all electric transit buses
- Kern COG article read regarding funding for transportation reduction. In 2010 fuel weight fee swap transferred debt to bonds. This year 75% of the money is going to pay the bonds and creating a shortfall which is falling on cities and counties.

CITY MANAGER REPORT

Ron Strand (*acting City Manager*)

- Spoke on announcement of the local jail closure and impacts to the City. Looking at about 4000 hours of lost time of police officers on the street. Officers will be on the road transporting prisoners rather than patrolling the streets. Complications with how you transport because certain conditions do not allow co-mingling of prisoners.

Ron Strand *(continued)*

- Will look at ways to transport multiple prisoners compliant with regulations but no grants available to fund this option. Meeting tomorrow at 3:00 p.m. to discuss at the staff level.
 - Peggy Breeden – at this time we do not have additional monies in the budget to do this.
 - Ron Strand – Measure ‘L’ funding is necessary or the alternative is to not arrest certain felons, only cite and release. There are no good aspects to this. May have to establish a new classification of employee to do transports only and a lower cost.
 - Mike Mower – asked about holding facilities
 - Ron Strand – still have to book in Bakersfield. Our facility is a 12 hour facility but there are a lot of people we cannot enter into our facility such as person’s intent on harming themselves or with injuries.

MAYOR AND COUNCIL COMMENTS

Mike Mower

- After that dire report I don’t have any comments

Eddie Thomas

- No report

Jim Sanders

- Discouraging and frustrating. I keep waiting for the good news we are trying to find.
- This is the first I have heard of it. I am upset but I am not going to have a knee jerk reaction. I will take my time to review all this information and get all the facts.

Peggy Breeden

- None of us want to react in a knee jerk reaction but we will react once we have all the facts. The supervisors did what they felt was best and we need to voice our concerns. Staff will look at this and determine how we can best deal with it.

ADJOURNMENT at 9:08 p.m.



Rachel J. Ford, CMC
City Clerk