

FRESNO LOCAL AGENCY FORMATION COMMISSION (LAFCo)

MEETING MINUTES  
JUNE 9, 2021

**Members Present:** Commissioners Magsig, Parra, Santoyo, Yep, Brandau

**Members Absent:** None

**Staff Present:** David E. Fey, LAFCo Executive Officer  
George Uc, Senior LAFCo Analyst  
Juan Lara, LAFCo Analyst  
Kenneth Price, LAFCo Counsel  
Amanda Castro, LAFCo Intern

**1. Call to Order and Roll Call:**

Chair Brandau called the meeting to order at 1:30 p.m.

**2. Revised Agenda:**

Item 8 had been added to the new agenda. There was a motion made by Commissioner Parra to approve the revised agenda, seconded by Commissioner Santoyo.

**3. Pledge of Allegiance:**

Chair Brandau led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**4. Comments from the public:**

There were no comments from the public.

**5. Potential conflicts of interest:**

There were no conflicts of interest.

**CONSENT AGENDA**

**5-A. Minutes from the LAFCo Meeting May 12, 2021.**

Commissioner Magsig made a motion to approve consent agenda item 5-A, seconded by Commissioner Parra. The Commission approved the motion by a vote of 5-0.

## **REGULAR AGENDA ITEMS**

### **6. Municipal Service Review and Sphere of Influence Update prepared for the Sierra Resource Conservation District. (LAFCo File Nos. MSR-21-7/USOI-193)**

Senior LAFCo Analyst George Uc presented staff report; this MSR was prepared pursuant to Government Code section 5643. Staff recommends the Commission approve the item taking three separate actions.

Commissioner Santoyo asked SRDC General Manager Steve Haze if there are any potential conflicts between existing agencies and those serviced by SRCD. GM Haze informed the Commission that there is no conflict and affirmed the demand for SRCD services in the area.

Commissioner Santoyo asked as to whether the agencies or clients motivated the expansion. To clarify GM Haze reassured the Commission there has historically been no conflict between SRCD and other agencies. GM Haze emphasized the need to serve areas that have been underserved through Public Resource Code 9000.

Commissioner Santoyo asked for basis in which SRCD services are necessary. GM Haze explained the variety of services the districts perform which include maintaining soil quality, carbon management, water supply testing, and overall maintain adequate public health.

Commissioner Santoyo called on one of the Irrigation Districts to give their input on the expansion. General Manager, Chad Wegley, from Alta Irrigation District spoke on the Irrigation District services. GM Wegley mentioned how AID services water to constituents and maintain adequate water levels. GM Wegley mentioned the overlap between multiple districts in the affected area and brought up concerns over whether or not SRCD understands the specific needs of the constituents in that area. Discussion between Commissioner Parra and GM Wegley followed over services. Commissioner Magsig asked if there are opportunities for cooperation between serving districts rather than expansion. GM Haze said SRCD and the other districts have had discussions to negotiate funding and operations.

Commissioner Magsig encouraged for both the Resource Districts and Irrigation Districts to work together through a Memorandum of Understanding. General Manager Bill Stretch from Fresno Irrigation District mentioned that the districts have had discussions in the past in regard to working cooperatively and to alleviate some of the uncertainties. Yet nothing came of the discussions.

Chair Brandau verified that the SRCD services are not in conflict with other overlapping districts. The district managers from the irrigation districts reaffirmed that they fear potential conflicts in the future.

Commissioner Parra recommended that the Irrigation Districts outline the potential future conflicts and work with SRCD to create a MOU. Commissioner Santoyo recommended that the districts come back with the results in 30 days. GM Wegley asked for 60 days to complete the negotiation process. The Commission granted the 60-day period and found it is exempt from re-noticing.

Senior Analyst Uc recommended the Commission vote on the Municipal Service Review and delay the sphere of influence and annexation. The commission made a motion to approve the resolution with a two-part motion. The first to approve the CEQA component and the second to approve the proposed MSR without the SOI. The item will be carried over to the August hearing.

There were no other comments from the Commission.  
There were no comments from the public.

Commissioner Magsig made motion to approve Item 6 action one, seconded by Commissioner Santoyo. The Commission approved the motion by a vote of 5-0.

Commissioner Magsig made motion to approve action two, seconded by Commissioner Parra. The Commission approved the motion by a vote of 5-0.

**7. Sierra Resource Conservation District Annexation to be continued to August**

Senior Analyst Uc, the Commission, and Counsel recommended item 7 to be voted on at the August hearing.

There were no comments from the Commission.

There were no comments from the public.

Commissioner Magsig made a motion to continue item 7, seconded by Chair Brandau. The Commission approved the motion by a vote of 5-0.

**8. CALAFCO Board of Directors Nomination for 2021/2022**

Commissioner Parra currently sits on the CALAFCO Board of Directors. A nomination was needed to allow him to continue to run.

Commissioner Santoyo made the nomination, seconded by Commissioner Yep.

No comments from public.

The Commission passed the nomination with a 5-0 vote.

**9. Executive Officer Comments**

Executive Officer David Fey announced his intentions to retire by the end of 2021. EO Fey made recommendation to transition executive power.

**10. Commission Comments/Reports**

Chair Brandau mentioned his intentions to avoid creation of islands through annexation.

**11. Adjournment**

Commission unanimously voted to adjourn the hearing. The hearing was adjourned at 2:20 p.m.