

**OVERSIGHT BOARD – SUCCESSOR AGENCY TO THE
FORMER REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY OF THE
COUNTY OF VENTURA**

**OFFICIAL SUMMARY
MINUTES
June 11, 2015
2:00 PM**

County Government Center
Hall of Administration
County Executive Office
Atrium Conference Room, Room - 4th Floor
800 S. Victoria Avenue
Ventura, California 93009

OPENING

1. Call to Order.
2. Roll Call.

Quorum established.

Members Present: Bill Bartels, Paula Driscoll, Tom Kasper, Christy Madden, Matt Carroll, David Keebler

Members Absent: None (one vacancy)

Staff Present: David Brown, Donna McKendry, Roberto Orellana

Staff Absent: Jaclyn Smith, Gia Allen, Rosanna Bati

3. Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America.
4. **Public Comments – Citizen presentations regarding Board related matters not appearing on this agenda.** None.

5. Receive and File Without Objection or Amendment the Minutes for the February 12, 2015 Regular Meeting.

David Brown, County Executive Office Fiscal Department, addressed a question, reflected in the February 12, 2015 Minutes, that Board members had raised about certain details in a prior ROPS schedule. Mr. Brown clarified that the prior ROPS, as approved, was accurate. The Minutes were then received and filed without objection or amendment.

6. Review the Successor Agency Monthly Administrative Financial Status Report and Take Action as Needed Thereon.

David Brown reported on the current Successor Agency financial status, stating that current Successor Agency expenses, as was expected, are very low. Mr. Brown stated that he expects the Successor Agency to have cash to carry forward into the next fiscal year. In anticipation of the County's new financial system computer program going live on July 1st, he explained that steps have been taken to ensure that bond payments will be made on time and for the appropriate amounts when the new system is operational.

7. Receive and File the Department of Finance (DOF) Determination Letter, Dated March 23, 2015, Regarding Resolution No. 15-01 Approving the Administrative Budget for the Successor Agency to the Former Redevelopment Agency of the County of Ventura for July 1, 2015, through December 31, 2015.

Donna McKendry noted that the exhibit for this item is the same as the exhibit for agenda Item #8 because the DOF is no longer separately approving administrative budgets for successor agencies. Rather, DOF has informed staff that such budgets are approved as part of the ROPS review and approval process. In the future, Ms. McKendry noted that staff expects to have the Oversight Board act on administrative budget and ROPS approvals together instead of having separate agenda items.

Moved by Christy Madden seconded by David Keebler. Approved.

Vote: 6-0

8. Receive and File the Department of Finance (DOF) Determination Letter, Dated March 23, 2015, Regarding Resolution No. 15-02 Approving the Recognized Obligation Payment Schedule (ROPS 15-16A) for the Period of July 1, 2015 through December 31, 2015.

Moved by David Keebler seconded by Christy Madden. Approved.

Vote: 6-0

9. Adopt Resolution No. 15-03 Authorizing the Successor Agency to Reenter into Three Agreements with the County of Ventura and Delegating Authority to the Successor Agency Secretary to Sign Agreements.

Donna McKendry stated all prior agreements for Auditor-Controller's Office (ACO), County Counsel (CC), County Executive Office (CEO) and General Services Agency (GSA) are set to expire on June 30, 2015. Three of these agreements were recommended for renewal, effective July 1, 2015, through June 30, 2016. (The GSA agreement was not needed for the new fiscal year since all real property has been sold or transferred.) Payments for all three of the proposed agreements (ACO, CC, and CEO) had been authorized pursuant to the previously approved ROPS 15-16A, covering July 1, 2015 through December 31, 2015, or will be recommended for funding in the upcoming ROPS 15-16B for the contract period from January 1, 2016 through June 30, 2016.

Staff recommended that the Oversight Board adopt Resolution No. 15-03, authorizing the Successor Agency to reenter into these three agreements with the County of Ventura and delegating authority to the Successor Agency secretary to sign the agreements. The total amount of the contracts is \$225,000.

Member Driscoll asked if the \$225,000 was for the entire fiscal year or for the second part of the current ROPS. David Brown noted that the Successor Agency has a budget of \$250,000 for each year and that the Board had already allocated only \$50,000 for the first half of fiscal year 2015-16 (ROPS 2015-16A), so that some of the funds for these contracts would be paid during that ROPS period (up to a limit of \$50,000), and the rest could be funded in the upcoming ROPS (which will have an administrative budget allocation of \$200,000). Mr. Brown noted that the contract amount for the ACO was not part of the current ROPS (ROPS 2015-16A) because the ACO has not billed during that period of time, historically, but funds will be included for the ACO contract in ROPS 15-16B.

Donna McKendry and David Brown informed the Oversight Board that, as this Successor Agency winds down its assets and workload and transitions to the Countywide oversight board contemplated by the dissolution legislation, under pending legislation the Auditor's office may assume staffing functions prior to this Board's termination in 2016. The state's auditor-controllers are discussing whether they would have any conflict of interest under such a legislative scheme, so there is some discussion about having such staffing done by another party.

Returning to a discussion of the budget, Chair Bartels noted that if we do not budget for the costs of the contracts, then the Successor Agency would not have the funds needed to pay for them. Assistant County Counsel Roberto Orellana stated the Department of Finance (DOF) is required to approve at least \$250,000 for the administrative budget unless the Board votes to lower it. Since the Successor Agency cannot spend more than is approved on any given ROPS, there is no reason to lower the administrative budget at this time, as no taxing entity will

be prejudiced by there being a fund balance after actual expenses are incurred and paid. Any remaining funds will be transferred to the taxing entities or carried forward to fund future ROPS.

Member Driscoll asked if the current administrative budget was \$250,000 or \$225,000? Mr. Orellana noted that \$225,000 for these three contracts was not the amount of the entire administrative budget and that at least County Counsel's contract was likely to be lower than as stated in its agreement, unless litigation was filed against the Successor Agency, which was unlikely. David Brown stated that, moving forward, as long as the Successor Agency has adequate cash to cover its anticipated expenditures, the Successor Agency would not receive additional funds from the Taxing Authorities. Mr. Brown projected that the Successor Agency will end the year with a fund balance of about \$233,000 so the Successor Agency should not expect to receive more than \$17,000 to cover its administrative expenses.

*Moved by Christy Madden seconded by David Keebler. Approved.
Vote: 6-0*

10. Announcements and Future Agenda Items

A. Announcements

- Legislation and Litigation Updates
Assembly Budget Subcommittee No. 4 Update (February 2015) and Pending Bills were handed-out to Oversight Board members.

Member Driscoll thanked staff for these items.

Donna McKendry noted that the Oversight Board would need to meet by September to approve the next ROPS. Mr. Orellana stated that he would look into whether there was any need to meet sooner because of the resignation of Heather Kurpiewski from the Board. Ms. McKendry noted that her resignation was already effective June 1, 2015, and that the vacancy would be noted in Minutes. Ms. McKendry also stated we should have more guidance on the last and final ROPS by September 2015.

B. Future Agenda Items

- Staff noted that during the September 10, 2015 Oversight Board meeting, the Board would need to approve ROPS 15-16B to be legally timely.

The next regular Oversight Board Meeting was scheduled for July 9, 2015, at 2:00 p.m.

Board adjourned at 2:15 p.m.