



COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES SMALL BUSINESS COMMISSION

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

Hilda L. Solis
Holly Mitchell
Sheila Kuehl
Janice Hahn
Kathryn Barger

"To Enrich Lives Through Effective and Caring Service"

Commission Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, January 13, 2021

10:00 a.m. – 11:45 a.m.

Meeting Held Via Teleconference

Item 1: Call to Order

Chair Doi called the meeting to order at 10:03 a.m.

Item 2: Roll Call and Confirmation of Quorum

Roll call was taken, and the quorum requirement was met.

Present

- 1st District:** Rose Acosta-Yonai, Andrew Rodriguez, Kerry Doi
- 2nd District:** Angela Gibson, Mark Robertson, Steven Temple, Ky Chueon Kim,
- 3rd District:** James Conlon, Lisa Miller, R. Christine Hershey, Todd Flora, Amy Ablakat
- 4th District:** Cindy Allen, Ann Carpenter, Anna Wu
- 5th District:** Anthony Williams, Frieda Hovsepian, Josef Essavi, Tyrone Hampton

Absent

- 1st District:** Diane Araujo
- 2nd District:** Will Campbell
- 3rd District:** None
- 4th District:** Lucia Moreno-Linares, Patrick Wilson
- 5th District:** Onnik Mehrabian

Staff

Rafael Carbajal, Joel Ayala, Azusena Favela, Christian Olmos, Fernando Nieto, Sayuj Panicker (County Counsel), Chavon Smith, David Diaz, Francisco Mendez

Public

Dawn Marie (Business Owner)

Item 3: Approval of Small Business Commission (SBC) Minutes

Commissioner Miller moved to approve the minutes of the SBC meeting for October 21, 2020. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Gibson. The motion was passed unanimously via voice vote.

Item 4: SBC 2021 Elections

The SBC held the 2021 election for Chair and Vice-Chair of the SBC. The election process began with the nominees for Chair providing their candidate statements in accordance to "Appendix G" of the SBC Commission Manual. After the candidate statements were made by Second Supervisorial District Commissioner Mark J. Robertson and Fifth Supervisorial District Commissioner Tyrone Hampton, the SBC unanimously voted to elect Commissioner Robertson as 2021 Chair of the SBC via roll call vote. The election process continued with the nominee for Vice-Chair providing his candidate statement in accordance to "Appendix G" of the SBC Commission Manual. After the candidate statement was made by Second Supervisorial District Commissioner W. Steven Temple, the SBC unanimously voted to elect Commissioner Temple as 2021 Vice-Chair of the SBC via roll call vote.



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Item 5: Introduction of SBC Commissioner James Conlon, 3rd Supervisorial District

Newly appointed Commissioner James Conlon from the 3rd Supervisorial District was introduced to the SBC and general public by the Chair of the SBC. After Commissioner Conlon gave a brief introduction, the SBC welcomed Commissioner Conlon to the SBC.

Item 6: SBC – Sub-Committee Interest Cards

Francisco Mendez, Department of Consumer and Business Affairs (DCBA) Commission Liaison, informed the SBC that the membership process to join the SBC Procurement and Reciprocity and/or the Economic Development & Outreach Committee was open. Commissioners who are interested in serving can submit their committee interest card by no later than January 29, 2021.

Item 7: SBC – California Small Business Certification for Public Works Contracts

The SBC reviewed and discussed Senate Bill 605, a piece of legislation that was expanded to add a new small business certification category for Public Works contracts. After discussion, Commissioner Gibson stated that SB 605 required a deeper analysis and moved that this agenda item be added to the Procurement and Reciprocity Committee meeting for further review. Commissioner Flora seconded the motion. The motion was passed unanimously via voice vote.

Item 8: SBC Procurement and Reciprocity and Economic Development & Outreach Committee Updates

Commissioner Williams, Chair of the SBC Procurement and Reciprocity Committee, stated that the Committee has not met in 2021 but received an update on contractor bonding at the last calendared meeting of 2020. Commissioner Robertson, Chair of the SBC Economic Development and Outreach Committee, stated that the Committee received a summary from Azusena Favela that highlighted Los Angeles County small businesses currently certified as LSBE's to determine if they could be captured to meet the 25% goal. Commissioner Robertson also requested that a breakdown on the demographics of awarded small business contracts be shared at the next calendared Committee meeting.

Item 9: DCBA- COVID-19 Recovery Fund Update

Azusena Favela, DCBA Deputy Director of Economic Development, provided updates on the LA Regional COVID-19 Relief Loan Fund and the criteria needed for Los Angeles County small businesses to receive grants. A summary of business who received these funds was also shared.

Item 10: DCBA Office of Small Business Updates

Fernando Nieto, Consumer and Business Affairs Supervisor, shared updates on the Small Business Utilization (SBU) goals. After the update, Commissioner Hampton moved to make a recommendation to staff to permanently set the SBU goal and the of veteran utilization goals to 25% and 3% respectively. Commissioner Gibson seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously via voice vote.

Item 11: Future Agenda Items

- Senate Bill 605 to Procurement and Reciprocity Committee
- OSB Update at Economic Development & Outreach Committee
- Report on 25% SBU goal at future SBC meeting



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Item 12: Public Comment

Dawn Marie, small business owner, made a public comment to the SBC regarding the difficulties she has experienced when bidding against larger business and expressed her concerns about raising the classification of a small business to \$35 million. Ms. Marie urged the SBC to meet with small business owners and invite them to future Commission meetings to hear their concerns and hear the impacts that these decisions may have on the small business community. Ms. Marie thanked the SBC for their work and their time.

Item 13: Adjournment

Commissioner Flora moved to adjourn the Small Business Commission meeting. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Carpenter. Meeting was adjourned at 11:50 a.m.