



News from the Board of Directors

CALAFCO QUARTERLY

May 2014

2014 Staff Workshop Report

The CALAFCO annual Staff Workshop was held April 23 - 25 in Berkeley at the DoubleTree Berkeley Marina. The theme was *Building Bridges to the Future: Collaboration and Cooperation*. Final workshop financial reports will be available during the final year-end budget report, as invoices and some receivables are still being processed. There were 106 attendees (127 total including speakers), with 42 LAFCoS represented, along with 6 Associate Members. There was a total of \$5,000 in sponsorships, including 5 Supporting Sponsors (\$500 each), and 10 Honorary Sponsors (\$250 each), with one in-kind donation.



From a program perspective, preliminary feedback indicates a highly successful program. Thank you to Steve Lucas (CALAFCO DEO) for taking the lead as program chair, as well as all of the members of the program committee. Thanks also to Alameda LAFCo, Mona Palacios and Sandy Hou for hosting the event, and the Bay area LAFCoS for their support.

A detailed financial and program evaluation report will be provided at the next Board meeting and distributed to the membership.

2014 Annual Conference Update

The 2014 Annual Conference Program Committee has had 3 conference calls over the past several months. A Call for Presentations was done, and on May 6 the Program Committee reviewed a number of presentation proposals. Initial indications are that we will have a very strong and diverse program to offer this year. The theme and logo have been created, with the theme this year being: *LAFCo: The Next 50 Years. Shaping Communities for Tomorrow With Innovative Ideas Today*. Registration for the conference will be made available very soon, and will be posted online at the CALAFCO website.



CALAFCO U Update

The next CALAFCO U is set in Sacramento on June 16 and is *LAFCo Greatest Hits: 2013 Projects of the Year*. This session will feature 5 LAFCo project of the year nominations from the 2013 CALAFCO Achievement Awards, including the recipient of the award. The session is open to all LAFCo staff, commissioners, and associate members. Registration is available through the CALAFCO website.

The remaining 2014 sessions will be held at the CALAFCO offices in Sacramento. Mark your calendars:

- ◆ June 16 - *LAFCo Best Practices*
- ◆ August 11 - *Ag Mitigation*
- ◆ December 8 - *Legal Interpretations of C-K-H*

CALAFCO Board Actions

During their regular meeting on May 2, the Board addressed several administrative issues including:

- ◆ Accepted the 3rd quarter financial reports;
- ◆ Accepted the current FY end-of-year projections;
- ◆ Adopted the Association's 2014/2015 budget;
- ◆ Approved the ongoing trial use of absentee LAFCo ballots for the purposes of run-off elections for the CALAFCO Board of Directors at the upcoming caucuses, along with an action plan to present the information to the membership; and
- ◆ Received a comprehensive legislative update.

Legislative Activities

Bills are moving quickly through committees to meet deadlines. May 9 is the deadline for committees to hear non-fiscal bills, and May 23 for fiscal bills. CALAFCO continues to track a number of bills, and the Leg Committee's next meeting is May 9. CALAFCO tracked bills are all located on the CALAFCO website and the report is updated daily. May 9 is the next CALAFCO Leg meeting date. Top bills being tracked are:

- **AB 1521** - VLF - (Fox) *CALAFCO Support* - This bill addresses inhabited annexations, making whole those addressed currently in SB 69 (Roth) and future annexations. Eventually SB 69 was to be amended to address only incorporations, and at some point both bills will be joined. AB 1521 passed ALGC and is now in Assembly Appropriations awaiting a hearing date.
- **AB 1527** - Drinking Water - (Perea) *CALAFCO Oppose Unless Amended* - This bill has gone through a number of amendments to address CALAFCO concerns. Although we are still working with the author's office on further amendments, the bill has significantly changed since taking this position. CALAFCO will look at its current position at the next Leg. meeting. Passed the ALGC and ESTM and now in Appropriations.
- **AB 1961** - Sustainable Farmland Strategy - (Eggman) *CALAFCO Watch* - this bill requires counties with at least 4% of their land designated as ag land to create a sustainable farmland strategy (SFS), and requires these counties to work with LAFCoS to assure plans/policies are compatible to the SFS. All of CALAFCO's concerns have been removed from the bill, and the Leg committee will reconsider its position. In the Appropriations Suspense File as an unfunded mandate for Counties.
- **AB 2156** - JPAs - (Achadjian) *CALAFCO Support* - This bill would include JPAs among the agencies that LAFCo can obtain information from and include in MSRs. Passed through Assembly and set for hearing in the Senate Gov & Finance committee on 5/14.
- **SB 69** - VLF - (Roth) *CALAFCO Support* - This bill contains the same language as SB 56 which stalled in the Senate in 2013. The bill reinstates VLF (ERAF) funding to cities who have incorporated since 2004, and reinstates that funding for future incorporations. Awaiting committee assignment in the Assembly.
- **AB 1729** (Logue) *CALAFCO Support*. Allocates \$4 million in Williams Act subvention payments. In Appropriations.
- **AB 2762** (C-K-H Omnibus) *CALAFCO Sponsored*. Makes minor and non-substantive changes to C-K-H. Passed ALGC and now set for Appropriations on 5/14.