



**STATEMENT OF PROCEEDINGS FOR THE
REGULAR MEETING OF THE
LOS ANGELES COUNTY COMMISSION ON
DISABILITIES
KENNETH HAHN HALL OF ADMINISTRATION
500 WEST TEMPLE STREET, ROOM 374A
LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA 90012
<http://laccod.org>**

Wednesday, August 17, 2016

1:00 PM

AUDIO FOR THE ENTIRE MEETING. (16-4140)

Attachments: [AUDIO](#)

Call to Order. (16-3521)

President Carlos Benavides called the meeting to order at 1:11 p.m.

Present: President Carlos Benavides, 1st Vice President Janet A. Neal, Treasurer Lourdes Caracoza, Commissioner Allan Buck, Commissioner Edward A. Colley, Commissioner Rosa Maria Chaturvedi, Commissioner John R. James, Commissioner Steve Miller, Commissioner Hector Ochoa, Commissioner Dee Pinchbeck, Commissioner Ramon Pizarro, Commissioner Peggie Reyna, Commissioner Rita Tomassian-Hopkins, 2nd Vice President John B. Troost and Commissioner Wan Chun Chang

Absent: Commissioner Maria Mustelier-Parrish

I. ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS

1. Approval of Minutes from the meeting of July 20, 2016. (16-3510)

On motion of 2nd Vice President John B. Troost, seconded by Treasurer Lourdes Caracoza, the Minutes of July 20, 2016 were approved.

Attachments: [SUPPORTING DOCUMENT](#)

2. Receive and take possible action on the Commission's Trust Fund as of June 30, 2016. (16-4093)

Treasurer Lourdes Caracoza provided an overview of the Commission's Trust Fund as of June 30, 2016. Discussion ensued to augment the budget by \$5,950 to cover the cost of additional expenses for the 25th Annual Access Awards luncheon, including audio/visual, flowers, printing, promotional items, and supplies.

After discussion, on motion of 2nd Vice President John B. Troost, seconded by Commissioner Peggie Reyna, the Commission approved an additional \$5,950 to cover expenses for the 25th Annual Access Awards Luncheon.

Attachments: [SUPPORTING DOCUMENT](#)

II. PRESENTATIONS

3. Presentation by Jeffrey Prang, Los Angeles County Assessor, on the Department's responsibilities and direct services that substantially impact the lives of people with disabilities. (16-4090)

Jeffrey Prang, Assessor of Los Angeles County, provided a brief overview of the Department that is responsible for establishing the value of over 2.3 million taxable parcels and 273,000 business assessments in Los Angeles County, assessed at more than \$1.39 trillion, the largest local assessment roll in the State. He reported the major challenge of the Department is the replacement of antiquated technology systems. The Office of the Assessor collects a vast amount of real estate and assessment data.

The Office of the Assessor has designated the month of September to promoting tax relief initiative available to the disabled community. The two tax-saving programs are the Proposition 110 - Severely and Permanently Disabled Resident Exclusion and the Disabled Veterans Exemption.

The Severely and Permanently Disabled Resident Exclusion allows a property owner to transfer the base-year value of their existing home to a newly purchased or constructed home within select counties in the State of California. This Exclusion allows an owner to pay the same property taxes on a new home as long as that home is of equal or lesser value as their previous residence. In addition, this Exclusion also provides tax relief for modifications that make a home more accessible for a disabled

resident. Additionally, under certain specific circumstances, a disabled military veteran may be eligible for the Disabled Veterans' Property Tax Exemption. A packet of written information was provided.

1st Vice President Janet A. Neal, Commissioners Dee Pinchbeck and Rosa Maria Chaturvedi provided comments on Proposition 58 - Transfer of property to children or grandchildren without reassessment; Proposition 13 - Foundation of property tax-based can be transferred to other participating Counties; and, the Proposition for the color blind, respectively.

Assessor Jeffrey Prang provided answers to questions posed by the Commission.

President Carlos Benavides thanked Assessor Jeffrey Prang for his informative presentation.

After discussion, by Common Consent, there being no objection, this item was received and filed.

Attachments: [SUPPORTING DOCUMENT](#)
 [SUPPORTING DOCUMENT](#)

4. Presentation by Allison Burdett, Director of Rehabilitation and Employment Services for the Junior Blind of America, on services for the blind and visually impaired youth, teens and adults. (16-3405)

Allison Burdett, Director of Rehabilitation and Employment Services of Junior Blind of America provided a PowerPoint presentation and a written report. The organization oversees adult services by helping the blind, visually impaired and adults achieve independence. It also provide programs for multi-disabled children, such as, infant and early childhood programs, special education, children's group homes, children's residential programs, after school enrichment programs, vision screening programs and Camp Bloomfield and Recreation programs. The organization had 30 graduates and assisted 18 individuals to obtain employment. All services are offered free of charge to low income families.

President Carlos Benavides, 1st Vice President Janet A. Neal, Commissioners Wan Chun Chang, Dee Pinchbeck and Peggie Reyna complimented Junior Blind of America for the services they provide.

President Benavides thanked Ms. Burdett for her informative

presentation.

After discussion, by Common Consent, there being no objection, this item was received and filed.

Attachments: [SUPPORTING DOCUMENT](#)

5. Presentation by the Department of Rehabilitation and Ad-hoc Policy Committee regarding the enhancement of employment opportunities for people with developmental disabilities. (16-2631)

Committee Chair Steve Miller provided a brief written report on employment for people with developmental disabilities. Commissioner Wan Chun Chang provided her update report from the State Department of Rehabilitation (DOR).

DOR Vision statement is, "Employment, Independence and Equality for all Californians with Disabilities". DOR Mission statement is, "The California Department of Rehabilitation works in partnership with consumers and other stakeholder to provide services advocacy resulting in employment, independent living and equality for individuals with disabilities."

Commissioner Wan Chun Chang reported that President Obama signed the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) on July 22, 2014. There are four (4) State agencies merged into one United States plan for all core programs.

Workforce Development Activities

Congressional Intent: A more collaborative and integrated delivery system to ensure access for all individuals, of every skill level, the opportunity to pursue the skills, training, and education they need to obtain employment that will lead to financial stability and economic security.

Structure of the System - The six (6) core programs include:

Title I - Adult Program, Dislocated Worker Program and Youth Program;

Title II - Adult Education and Literacy Program;

Title III - Wagner-Peyser Act Employment Services Program

Title IV - Vocational Rehabilitation (VR) Program.

Title V - General Provisions

Subminimum Wage

The Congressional intent is to reinforce that individuals with disabilities should not be allowed to languish in subminimum wage jobs. It clarifies requirements of VR programs, employers and education agencies before an individual can enter or stay in subminimum wage employment.

WIOA imposes requirements on employers who hold special wage certificates under the Fair Labor Standards Act. As of July 1, 2016, DOR may no longer count a consumer in a subminimum wage placement as a successful employment outcome.

After discussion, by Common Consent, there being no objection, this item was received and filed.

Attachments: [SUPPORTING DOCUMENT](#)

III. REPORTS

6. President's Report for the month of August, 2016. (16-4092)

President Carlos Benavides reported an incident on a fourth grade child in a wheelchair on a playground. He also announced the upcoming Access Awards Luncheon event to be held on October 17, 2016 at the Omni Hotel in Downtown Los Angeles and asked everyone for their support.

He thanked everyone for coming to the meeting.

7. Receive and File the Events Committee Report as submitted by Chair, Janet A. Neal. (16-4096)

Committee Chair Janet A. Neal reported that the planning of the Access Awards Luncheon is going according to schedule.

8. Update report and possible action on accessible voting polls for the disabled and the developmentally disabled as submitted by Commissioner Steve Miller. (16-3757)

Committee Chair Steve Miller provided a brief written report on voter polling sites. He also reported that pollworkers were not well trained to handle people with disabilities in the voting process.

After discussion, and by Common Consent, there being no objection, this item was received and filed.

9. Receive and file the Access Services Incorporated report by Louis Burns, Access Services Customer Support Administrator. (16-4095)

Louis Burns, Access Services provided a brief update on "no show" riders.

1st Vice President Janet A. Neal provided two (2) complaint reports submitted to Access Services.

Commissioner Dee Pinchbeck had observed that there are more Access Services vans throughout the cities and requested La Canada be added to the service.

Commissioner Peggie Reyna provided a comment on the implementation be made on cell phone texting.

After discussion, by Common Consent, there being no objection, this item was received and filed.

10. Receive and file the monthly Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority (METRO) Report by Joanna Lemus, Accessibility Programs Administrator. (16-3526)

Joanna Lemus, Accessibility Programs Administrator of METRO and Darlene William, Accessibility Manager, provided an update on elevator signage in Pershing Square and service animals information.

1st Vice President Janet A. Neal, and Commissioners John James and Peggie Reyna provided their comments.

Ken Howard, a member of the public, addressed the Commission.

By Common Consent, there being no objection, this item was received and filed.

IV. MISCELLANEOUS

Matters Not Posted

11. Matters not posted on the agenda, to be discussed and (if requested), placed on the agenda for action at a future meeting of the authority, of matters requiring immediate action because of an emergency situation or where the need to take action arose subsequent to the posting of the agenda. (16-3755)

No matters were posted.

Public Comment

12. Opportunity for members of the public to address the Commission on items of interest that are within the jurisdiction of the Commission. (16-4088)

members of the public, Julie Eby-McKenzil, Keith Miller, Antha Abraham, Lolita Namocatcat and Mr. Tonni, addressed the Commission.

Adjournment

13. Adjournment for the meeting of August 17, 2016. (16-4089)

The meeting adjourned at 3:15 p.m. in memory of Teddie-Joy Remhild, Robert Coto and Sharon Runner, Senator, 21st District of Antelope Valley.