

Intergovernmental Relations Council Committee
Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, February 13, 2008
City Hall, Media Briefing Room
1:30 PM

Members Present: Councilmember Sheila McNeil, Chair, *District 2*
Councilmember Philip Cortez, *District 4*
Councilmember Diane Cibrian, *District 8*
Councilmember Louis Rowe, *District 9*

Members Absent: None

Staff Present: Jelynn Burley, *Deputy City Manager*; Michael Bernard, *City Attorney*; Andrew Smith, *Intergovernmental Relations Director*; Matthew Polanco, *Intergovernmental Relations Manager*; Christine Wright, *Intergovernmental Relations*; Sally Basurto, *Intergovernmental Relations*; Veronica Zertuche, *Deputy City Attorney*; Lisa Biediger, *City Attorney's Office*; Brandon Smith, *Office of the City Clerk*

Also Present: Baltazar Serna, *Patton Boggs*

I. Call to Order

Chairperson McNeil called the Meeting to order.

II. Approval of Minutes for the Wednesday, December 12, 2007 Meeting

Councilmember Cortez moved to approve the minutes of the December 12, 2007 meeting. Councilmember Cibrian seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

III. Issues to be Considered

a) Federal Legislative Update

Andrew Smith informed the Committee that the City's Federal Legislative Plan approved by Council in January 2008 and a letter from Mayor Hardberger requesting support of the Plan would be forwarded to Congress prior to the IGR Committee's trip to Washington, DC. He noted that there was a strategy memo from the City's Federal Consultants to ensure that appropriations requests were submitted by the early March due dates. Mr. Smith cited that Military Transportation Infrastructure Appropriations requests would be submitted to address the transportation needs around Ft. Sam Houston. Councilmember Cibrian requested that staff aggressively seek funding for Bus Rapid Transit Funding to include in the City's legislative strategy.

Mr. Smith informed the Committee that other San Antonio Agencies would attend the Washington, DC trip and stated that he would coordinate a work session with those agencies for a briefing on their legislative agendas. Chairperson McNeil asked if there was collaboration between sister agencies regarding proposed legislative agendas and requested that staff provide those agendas to the Committee. Mr. Smith responded that staff works closely with sister agencies and noted that the Committee would be provided a briefing packet with all pertinent information prior to the DC trip.

b) State Legislative Update

Mr. Smith presented an overview of the 80th Legislative Senate Interim Charges. Councilmember Cortez requested additional information regarding the study on military installations and surrounding communities. He stated that there were many drainage issues within his District from Lackland AFB. Mr. Smith replied that the study would entail the impact of state and local regulations on the relationship between military bases and the surrounding communities. He noted that there was a Subcommittee on BRAC that would be reviewing Ft. Sam Houston and several other installations. He added that San Antonio could be offered as a Hearing Site to the Committee so the City could testify about local issues and needs relating to BRAC.

Chairperson McNeil requested that staff include support of the Defense Economic Adjustment Grant Fund. Councilmember Cortez asked of the timeline for the 81st Legislative Agenda. Mr. Smith stated that staff would solicit all Departments and begin the comprehensive process in early June 2008.

Councilmember Cibrian stated that the Port of San Antonio has representation of a state and local strategy and requested that staff include their information along with any other City assets that have state and local strategies so that there is a collective understanding as a community.

c) Grants Update

Mr. Smith informed the Committee about an article in the Express News Paper highlighting the accomplishments of Sally Basurto regarding grants awarded to the City of San Antonio. Ms. Basurto reported that 30 grant opportunities have been identified by various City Departments and that 23 proposals have been submitted with a grand total of \$7.2 million awards received to date. She noted five awards are pending totaling approximately \$3.5 million.

Chairperson McNeil commended Ms. Basurto for the work she has done. Councilmember Cibrian acknowledged the success of the Grant project and stated that she would like access to the E-Civis program for grant identification opportunities.

IV. Consideration of scheduling of items for future meetings

a. Federal Legislative Updates

Staff will confer with the IGR Chairperson.

b. State Legislative Update

Staff will confer with the IGR Chairperson.

c. Grants Update

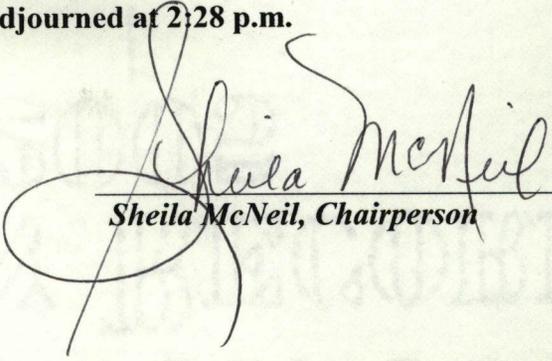
Staff will confer with the IGR Chairperson.

V. Executive Session: consultation concerning attorney-client matters (real estate, litigation, contracts, personnel and security) may be discussed

There were no Executive Session items.

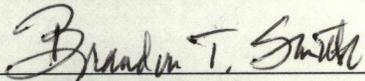
VI. Adjournment

There being no further discussion, the meeting was adjourned at 2:28 p.m.



Sheila McNeil, Chairperson

Respectfully Submitted,



*Brandon T. Smith
Administrative Assistant II
Office of the City Clerk*