

**INTERGOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS SPECIAL  
COUNCIL COMMITTEE  
MEETING MINUTES**

**WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 18, 2013**

**10:00 A.M.**

**MUNICIPAL PLAZA B ROOM**

**Members Present:** Councilmember Cris Medina, Chair, *District 7*  
Councilmember Shirley Gonzales, *District 5*  
Councilmember Ray Lopez, *District 6*  
Councilmember Ron Nirenberg, *District 8*  
Councilmember Carlton Soules, *District 10*

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**Members Absent:** None

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**Staff Present:** Carlos Contreras, *Assistant City Manager*; Deputy Chief Carl Wedge, *San Antonio Fire Department*; Robert Norhaus, *Deputy City Attorney*; Camila Kunau, *Assistant City Attorney*; Lisa Biediger, *Assistant City Attorney*; Jeff Coyle, *Director, Intergovernmental Relations*; Sally Basurto, *Assistant Director, Intergovernmental Relations*; Bob Murdock, *Director, Office of Military Affairs*; Margaret U. Villegas, *Assistant Director, Finance*; Lisa Lopez, *Office of the City Clerk*

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**Also Present:** Louis T. Rosenberg, *Counsel, Bexar County Emergency Service District #6*; Baltazar (Walter) Serna, *Attorney, Patton Boggs, LLP*

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**Call to order**

Chairman Medina called the meeting to order. He initiated a point of personal privilege and requested a moment of silence for the victims of the Navy Yard Shooting.

**I. Action Items:**

- i. Consent for Emergency Service District (ESD) #6 to Incur Debt [Jeff Coyle, Intergovernmental Relations Director]

Jeff Coyle reported that Emergency Service Districts (ESD's) allow residents of unincorporated areas to create a district to provide emergency services and levy a tax for it. He confirmed that the voters of ESD #6 approved the creation of noted District. He described the boundaries of ESD #6, and stated that an agreement between the City of San Antonio and Bexar County stipulates that any fire stations built within the ESD must be located and constructed with the concurrence of the San Antonio Fire Department (SAFD). He stated that ESD #6 is seeking consent from the City of San Antonio to secure a \$1.8 million dollar loan with the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) to build a fire station in the District. He confirmed that SAFD has agreed that the proposed fire station meets their standards. He stated that the District has until September 20, 2013 to submit all necessary documentation to the USDA. He reported that the City is not required to take any of the debt the District takes on; however, State Law states that if the City annexes territory

within an ESD, the City would be responsible to pay the District the pro-rata value of the District's Bond and other indebtedness for the annexed property. He noted that Staff's recommendation is to provide consent to the District.

Carlos Contreras, Assistant City Manager, added that the area is within the City South Management Authority, and therefore; there would likely be annexation within ESD #6, resulting in the City taking on some of their property tax value. He acknowledged that City Council District 3 is also near this area and noted that the Councilmember for said District has been briefed on this matter.

In response to Councilmember Soules, Mr. Contreras noted that previously, ESD #6 contracted with ESD #2 to provide services to their area.

Mr. Louis Rosenberg, ESD #6, briefed the Committee on the timeline of events that occurred regarding the Fire Station Project, and discussed the total amount of the project. He stated that they were currently considered a small taxing entity, so when portions of the area are annexed, they will have to restructure to meet revenues.

In response to Councilmember Soules, Mr. Rosenberg stated that the rescaling of the project could possibly be reduced to \$800K. He added that the overall budget was initially \$3 million, but that included a community facility and an evacuation center that was dependent upon grant money that later became unavailable. Councilmember Soules commented that the City of San Antonio built the last two fire stations for \$7 million each. Deputy Chief Carl Wedge, SAFD, explained that the City's numbers include the costs for land acquisition, and further elaborated on the rationale behind the City's costs to build their new fire stations.

Councilmember Lopez thanked Chief Wedge for their hard work in working with other cities and counties. He commented that this was the kind of relationship that they needed to foster with the County. He cited his support for the noted project. In response to Councilmember Lopez, Chief Wedge stated that there are plans in place in the event of an emergency or disaster situation. He further stated that it does become the responsibility of each jurisdiction. He noted the importance of working together and that a lot of this discussion happens at the State Level and through the Alamo Area Council of Governments (AACOG).

Mr. Rosenberg stated that ESD #6 will not be eligible for another USDA Loan in this area due to their census status.

In response to Councilmember Nirenberg, Mr. Rosenberg confirmed that they would not be adding firefighters; the monies would be for the fire station facility.

Councilmember Gonzales inquired if this project would take away from the City's needs. Mr. Contreras confirmed that this was unrelated. He stated that the City does not provide emergency services to that area and ESD #6 was actually providing that on their own and recognized the need for the facility. Mr. Rosenberg acknowledged that ESD #6 was striving to provide a level of service similar to the City of San Antonio.

In response to Councilmember Soules, Mr. Rosenberg confirmed that there was not an overlap of service. Councilmember Soules referenced the response times that differed for

this area and cited the needs in this area based on the projected growth outside of Loop 410. Mr. Rosenberg stated that they would be interested in working out an Interlocal Agreement with the City since their resources will eventually decrease. He discussed the current response times for ESD #6.

Councilmember Lopez moved to forward said item to the full City Council for consideration. Councilmember Soules seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously by those present.

- ii. Contract Extension for State Consultant Services [Jeff Coyle, Intergovernmental Relations Director]

Jeff Coyle reported that the current contract with Marc Rodriguez, who represents the City's interests at the State Level, expires at the end of the month. He noted that the current contract allows for a two-year extension. Mr. Contreras elaborated on the process for hiring consultants. Mr. Coyle added that Mr. Rodriguez had done an excellent job during the last Legislative Session, and provided examples of specific work he had performed, which resulted in 88% of the Bills actively opposed by the City not passing. He acknowledged that the terms of the contract would remain the same.

Mr. Contreras added that having consultants available that understand all the things that could possibly go wrong at the State level is critical to the City's success.

Chairman Medina commented on his visit to Austin and noted that Mr. Rodriguez had been engaged in everything city-related and had done a superb job.

Councilmember Lopez added that the amount is relatively insignificant when considering all the resources required to get through the next Legislative Session. He commented that the was money well spent.

Councilmember Lopez moved to forward said item to the full City Council for consideration. Councilmember Gonzales seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously by those present.

## **II. Briefing Items:**

- i. Military Affairs Update [Robert Murdock, Office of Military Affairs Director]

Chairman Medina stated that the Military was extremely vital to San Antonio from both an economic and community standpoint. He cited the importance of beginning discussion about how they can continue to engage the Military and place the City in the best position possible to continue to have the Military in San Antonio for many years.

Robert Murdock, Director of the Office of Military Affairs, discussed the creation of noted department which was established as a result of the 2005 Defense Base Closure and Realignment (BRAC). He stated that their primary objective was to ensure that they supported all the actions of the BRAC Commission. He stated that the 2005 BRAC focused on the reorganization and relocation of organizations resulting in the City of San Antonio becoming a growth community for many organizations that relocated from other places. As

a result of this growth, he stated that the Office of Economic Adjustment (OEA) provided the City with funding to assist with relocation efforts. He highlighted the success of the 2005 BRAC, citing the positive comments received from all the organizations relocating to San Antonio. He stated that he was convinced that there would be a future BRAC, although there would not be a BRAC in 2015 as requested by the President. He cited the possibility of a BRAC in 2017. He stated that he felt they were well positioned to gain further missions from other installations that may close. He referenced the uniqueness of their office which is not funded by the General Fund, but by the OEA. He discussed some of the projects they have been working on and the recommendations that have been implemented as a result of these projects. He stated that they are looking at an opportunity to provide municipal services to Joint Base San Antonio (which includes all three installations) due to the fiscal constraints they will be facing. He acknowledged that once they receive the report, they would brief the Committee on the results of the business case analysis. Mr. Coyle added that this was the first such Community-Military Partnership nationwide.

Chairman Medina reiterated that the Military was extremely vital to San Antonio. He expressed appreciation to Mr. Murdock and his staff.

Councilmember Lopez noted the importance of taking a regional approach. He thanked Mr. Murdock and his staff for their work.

Mr. Coyle credited Mr. Murdock with sustaining the funding for the Department of Military Affairs. He described Mr. Murdock's connections to the OEA as phenomenal, and has resulted in not having his operations impact the City's General Fund.

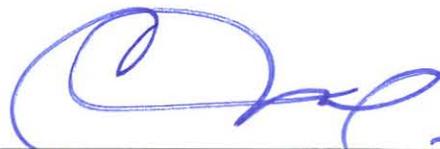
Councilmember Soules inquired whether there was any discussion about the Harry Wurzbach project. Mr. Murdock responded that OEA anticipates that Congress would not fund them for transportation projects in FY2014.

### **III. Consideration of items for future meetings:**

Next Meeting Scheduled: October 9, 2013

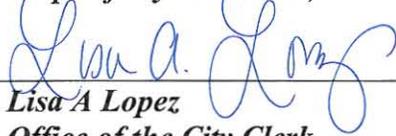
### **IV. Adjourn**

There being no further discussion, the meeting was adjourned at 11:08 AM.



*Cris Medina, Chair*

*Respectfully Submitted,*



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*Lisa A Lopez*  
*Office of the City Clerk*