

**GREATER YUMA PORT AUTHORITY
MEETING MINUTES: June 22, 2017**

DIRECTORS PRESENT: Matias Rosales, Chair
William Gresser
Gary Magrino
Frank Rascon
Marco A. Tony Reyes
Omar Heredia

DIRECTORS ABSENT:
EX-OFFICIO (Non-Voting)

MEMBERS PRESENT:

OTHERS PRESENT: Wayne Benesch, Legal Counsel
Gary Knight, City of Yuma
Susan Thorpe, Yuma County Administrator
Desarae Doten, Recording Secretary

1. Call to Order and Pledge of Allegiance

The Chairman called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. The meeting was held at Greater Yuma Economic Development Corporation Conference Room, 899 E. Plaza Circle, Suite 2, Yuma, Arizona. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by the Chairman.

2. Action to approve the minutes of the May 25, 2017 meeting

Mr. Reyes moved to approve the minutes as presented, seconded by Mr. Magrino. The motion carried unanimously.

3. Administrator's Report to the Board

In the absence of Linda Matthias, the Chairman announced this item would be carried forward until next month.

4. Chairman's Report

Chairman Rosales reported that the Industrial Park perimeter fence has been installed, pending the APS Section, and the building framework on the first developed property is progressing. He hopes it will be up and running by the end of the year.

He noted Ms. Matthias delivered the financial report and checks; however she is still dealing with an ill husband so she would not be present today. He offered Ms. Matthias well wishes during this time.

5. Discussion and possible action on Active Recruitment for Executive Director

Ms. Thorpe stated there were no new applications to report, only that staff from the Yuma County Human Resources Department spoke to Arizona Western College counselors who distribute information to students about jobs. The position requires a bachelor's degree; therefore staff will

need to also reach out to staff at Northern Arizona University (NAU) and Arizona State University (ASU) since AWC does not offer this level degree.

Mr. Reyes questioned whether the position had been posted on social media, and stated he did not imagine it would be so difficult to find someone to run the organization. Ms. Thorpe confirmed the position had been posted on several sites, however none were social media. She explained that aside from those in the room most people do not know what the GYPA is, so it will be best advertising by word of mouth through the Board's connections since their networks would be a better avenue.

Mr. Gresser mentioned a conversation he had about the position with Jim Cherry, who previously ran the water treatment plant for the Bureau of Reclamation. He suggested the Board speak with Mr. Cherry since he is local and has previous government experience.

Discussion ensued concerning the possibility of opening up the position to applicants who do not fit the criteria, speaking to trade corporations, and making it clear the port is inland and not a waterway. Ms. Thorpe stated she will share information if she is given those contacts, and will look into the Inland Port Management Association as a resource for advertising the position. Mr. Magrino offered to assist her with this task.

6. Call to Public - Call to the Public is held for the public benefit to allow individuals to comment on matters identified on the agenda or issues under the authority of the GYPA. Any actions taken as a result of public comment will be limited to directing staff to study the matter, responding to criticism, or scheduling the matter for further discussion and decision at a future date.

No comments were made.

7. Discussion and possible action or direction regarding the loan agreement between Greater Yuma Port Authority and the Cocopah Indian Tribe.

Mr. Matias questioned if this discussion should take place in executive session. Mr. Benesch advised that the Board would want to initially, and then reconvene and direct the action to be taken.

Mr. Reyes asked that Ms. Doten and Ms. Thorpe be allowed to remain in the room. Mr. Knight reminded the Board that at their last meeting they made a motion to allow that executive session information be shared with Ms. Thorpe. Consensus was to allow the two individuals to remain.

There was a motion by Mr. Reyes that the Board go into Executive Session, which was seconded by Mr. Rascon, and unanimously passed.

POSSIBLE EXECUTIVE SESSION FOR DISCUSSION OR CONSULTATION FOR LEGAL ADVICE WITH GYPA LEGAL COUNSEL REGARDING LOAN AGREEMENT BETWEEN GREATER YUMA PORT

AUTHORITY AND THE COCOPAH INDIAN TRIBE UNDER THE PROVISIONS OF A.R.S. §38-431.03(A)(3)(4)(6).

EXECUTIVE SESSION WILL BE ADJOURNED AND THE REGULAR SESSION WILL BE RECONVENED.

The Chairman closed the executive session and reconvened in regular session.

Mr. Benesch asked for a motion to allow the Chairman and legal counsel to proceed with the direction provided in Executive Session.

Mr. Reyes made the motion, seconded by Mr. Rascon, the motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Knight asked the Board for motion to share information from today with the Mayor.

Mr. Reyes made the motion, seconded by Mr. Gresser, the motion carried unanimously.

8. Adjourn

There being no further business upon a motion by Mr. Rascon and seconded by Mr. Reyes, and carried unanimously, the meeting adjourned at 10:33 a.m.

Adopted this 3rd day of August, 2017.

GREATER YUMA PORT AUTHORITY

Matias Rosales, Chair

ATTEST:

William Gresser, Secretary/Treasurer
GYPA Administrator