

SAN MATEO

**LOCAL AGENCY FORMATION COMMISSION**

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May 6, 2015**To:** LAFCo Commissioners**From:** Martha Poyatos, Executive Officer

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'M. Poyatos', written over the printed name.

Subject: Report on Attendance at the CALAFCO 2015 Annual Staff Workshop

Staff was pleased to have the opportunity to attend the Workshop, which was held in Grass Valley, April 15-17. Commission Clerk Jean Brook and I attended.

Session highlights included:

- (Martha) Field trip to view the Nevada Irrigation District Facilities and Empire Mine, including project to remove mercury from groundwater
- (Martha and Jean) Panel discussion of Governor Brown's priorities including drought history and impact of the current drought, and California and local government finance and infrastructure needs
- (Martha) An executive officers' roundtable discussion of legislative and other priorities for LAFCos around the state; and (Jean) a clerks' roundtable discussion of building a clerk's manual, administering oath to new commissioners, going from paper to digital documents
- (Martha) Discussion of financing challenges for fire districts and potential revenue enhancement and cost saving measures
- (Jean) Discussion of different ways to engage the public about the LAFCo process, e.g., holding protest hearings at local venues, cultivating relationships with local media reporters, public service announcements, and using social media
- (Jean) Discussion of the variety of ways LAFCo sites are hosted and maintained
- (Martha) Moderated the session "Performance Measures Part 1 – Service Provision and Financial Adequacy," which focused on standards and measures for assessing service provision, how local agencies apply the measures and how LAFCo can integrate them into municipal service reviews. Panelists included Howard Chan, Assistant City Manager, City of Sacramento and Preeti Hehmeyer, Management Partners
- (Martha and Jean) Elements of the audit document and what LAFCo staff should look for in an audit to assess the fiscal condition of an agency

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- (Jean) Discussion of step-by-step procedures in selected LAFCos' procedure manuals, using project-tracking software and spreadsheets, paper checklists, and mobile apps
- (Martha and Jean) CALAFCO-hosted dinner including speaker Andy Cassano, CEO, Nevada Engineering, Inc., who talked about the past mining industry and economic history of Nevada County
- (Martha) Update and discussion on bills of interest to CALAFCO, cities, and special districts
- (Martha) Update on CALAFCO Association finances, news, and legislative report