

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)  
Local Government Advisory Committee (LGAC)  
Spring 2014 Meeting  
March 27-28, 2014  
Washington, D.C.  
Meeting Summary

March 27, 2014

LGAC FULL COMMITTEE MEETING

## U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

I. Welcome/Introduction

A. Call to Order

# Local Government Advisory Committee (LGAC)

March 27-28, 2014

Meeting Summary

(A moment of silence was held.)

B. Chair's Opening Remarks

Mayor Dixon recognized Mr. Heather Metz-Tony, EPA Region 4 Administrator and former LGAC Member and Chair, as well as former Mayor of Greenville, Mississippi.

Mayor Dixon presented Mr. Metz-Tony with congratulations on his appointment. Mr. Metz-Tony presented her with a bouquet of flowers. Mr. Metz-Tony thanked the Committee.

Chairman Dixon introduced Mr. King.

*The Meeting Summary that follows reflects what was conveyed during the course of the meeting that is summarized. The Committee is not responsible for any potential inaccuracies that may appear in the meeting summary as a result of information conveyed. Moreover, the Committee advises that additional information sources be consulted in cases where any concern may exist about statistics or any other information within the Meeting Summary.*

Mr. King reinforced the message made by EPA Chief of Staff Owen Kover (pending) and other (made a brief Member Introduction) who underscored the importance of the LGAC and

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**I. Welcome/Introductions**

**A. Call to Order**

*Mayor Bob Dixon, LGAC Chairman, Greensburg, Kansas  
Supervisor Salud Carbajal, LGAC Vice Chairman, Santa Barbara, California*

Mayor Dixon called the meeting to order and welcomed everyone. He noted that one LGAC member, Council Chair David Somers of Snohomish County, Washington, was not present because of the mudslide disaster on March 22, 2014, in his District. Mayor Dixon asked for a moment of silence to recognize and honor the victims and rescue workers in that situation.

*[A moment of silence was held.]*

**B. Chair's Opening Remarks**

Mayor Dixon recognized **Ms. Heather McTeer-Toney**, EPA Region 4 Administrator and former LGAC Member and Chair, as well as former Mayor of Greenville, Mississippi.

*[Mayor Dixon presented Ms. McTeer-Toney with congratulations on her appointment, and Ms. Frances Eargle presented her with a bouquet of flowers. Ms. McTeer-Toney thanked the Committee].*

Chairman Dixon introduced Mr. Rupp.

**II. Remarks by EPA**

**A. Deputy Associate Administrator's Opening Remarks**

*Mark Rupp, Deputy Associate Administrator, EPA's Office of Congressional and Intergovernmental Relations, Intergovernmental Relations*

Mr. Rupp reinforced the message made by EPA Chief of Staff Gwen Keyes-Fleming and others (made at their New Members' Orientation) who underscored the importance of the LGAC and

appreciation for the Committee's efforts. He noted President Obama's extensive reliance on state and local offices appointed in his Cabinet.

#### **B. Region 4 Administrator's Opening Remarks**

*Ms. McTeer-Toney, Region 4 Administrator and former LGAC Member and Chair*

Ms. McTeer-Toney emphasized the importance of LGAC in helping the Agency with its mission, as communities encounter issues of importance to EPA on a daily basis. She noted that many LGAC members are from communities in EPA Region 4 and she would be reaching out to them soon. When Ms. McTeer-Toney was a member of the LGAC the BP Deepwater Horizon oil spill in the Gulf of Mexico occurred. The former EPA Administrator Lisa Jackson worked to develop the Gulf Coast Restoration Task Force, which created effective and useful recommendations to mitigate the oil spill.

Ms. McTeer-Toney underscored that a community's livelihood and economic vitality are the same as a community's environmental health. She cited many examples related to environmental justice. Ms. McTeer-Toney's theme as Regional Administrator is, "*Let's go—listen to what communities say needs to be done and then take action to help.*" Some actions are working better than others, and the LGAC can help EPA with defining those actions and can help EPA translate messages to plain language which is appropriate for their communities.

*[Several LGAC members took the opportunity to express their congratulations and appreciation of the points she made in her presentation]*

Ms. McTeer-Toney encouraged the LGAC members to meet with their Regional Administrators and to ask to be informed well in advance when the Regional Administrator and staff will be visiting their areas. The Regional Administrator and **Mayor Pro Tem Cindy Circo** agreed that EPA should be aware of the locations of all LGAC members and improve communication by facilitating meetings. Mr. Rupp added that even though Ms. McTeer-Toney's EPA Region covers one-quarter of the country, she does not have the largest staff among the EPA regions. He then introduced Ms. Shea Jones-Johnson who staffs Ms. McTeer-Toney's local government outreach efforts.

### **III. State, Local and Tribal Leaders Task Force on Climate Preparedness and Resilience**

*Mayor Bob Dixson, Chair, Greensburg, Kansas*

*Supervisor Salud Carbajal, Vice Chair, Santa Barbara, California*

*Mayor Ralph Becker, Salt Lake City, Utah*

*[Mr. Rupp noted that the agenda would be adjusted for a late arrival of Speaker David Agnew of the White House Office of Intergovernmental Affairs].*

#### **A. Task Force Input**

**Supervisor Carbajal** provided an overview of his participation, along with Mayor Dixson and Mayor Ralph Becker, on the Task Force as presidential appointees. He described the structure

of the Task Force. The Task Force is aiming to produce draft recommendations by June, 2014. The Task Force is not merely enumerating communities' resilience and preparedness activities. Rather, the President wants to hear how the federal government can better support local and state governments in creating resilient communities to deal with the effects of climate change.

**Mayor Dixson** reviewed the Task Force's four major areas of focus: (1) disaster recovery and resilience; (2) built systems; (3) natural resources and agriculture; and (4) human health and community development. A discussion was started on the barriers and challenges that local communities face and recommendations on how to address them. The focus is on how communities deal with extreme weather events and the impacts such events have on small communities, agriculture and natural resources, using spreadsheets to compile the subgroup members' input. He noted that by having three LGAC Members represented on the Task Force, that the LGAC is well represented and the Task Force gets the value of the input.

## **B. Discussion**

Mr. Rupp commented that he would value recommendations from the LGAC to the Administrator so that she can present them to the Task Force for consideration.

**Supervisor Carbajal** noted that the Task Force subgroups are moving quickly and LGAC should act accordingly. In addition to the Task Force, intergovernmental agencies are meeting and focusing on how the different levels of government can work together, an issue LGAC has championed for years. He added that the Task Force is at the point of sharpening its understanding of the objective. **Mayor Kautz** said that collaboration is needed.

**Councilor Duson** stated that she solicited information from department heads in her community, which she will provide to the Climate Change Resiliency and Sustainability Workgroup and which could be given to the LGAC Task Force members. The new LGAC Workgroup is working on a variety of resilience and preparedness strategies. The Task Force handout given to the LGAC members focuses sharply on the question of how the federal government can assist in building resilience and preparedness strategies by removing barriers, and creating incentives and other measures. Mayor Dixson asked for LGAC input targeted to that specific focus, adding that he will obtain a timeline for LGAC and new Workgroup input.

**Board Member Jay Fisette** agreed that resilience and sustainability are linked concepts. It was noted that there is a Presidential directive charging the military to work more closely with local communities. Large amounts of federal dollars are provided to communities for transportation projects, but few states—with the exception of California—consider greenhouse gas reductions in their distribution of federal dollars. He suggested incorporating the consideration of greenhouse gas criteria in distributing money for transportation efforts to promote sustainability.

**Director Gonzalez** commented that in dealing with heat and drought, his community often consults the recommendations put forth by the LGAC Gulf Coast Restoration Workgroup, which offered recommendations for removing federal barriers and working with local communities.

**Executive Director Tiberi** distributed a climate change policy adopted by the National Association of Conservation Districts (NACD) and asked LGAC members to examine the third item, which supports legislation to provide assistance to agricultural land owners to adapt to climate change. **Mayor Dixon** welcomed the input, and noted that this is precisely what the Task Force is seeking.

**Mayor Peterson** and **Mayor Dixon** discussed disaster recovery and resilience. **Supervisor Carbajal** commented on the beneficial fact that this subgroup's participants include governors, mayors and supervisors from areas hit by disasters, and people who are able to present examples of successes and failures.

**State Representative Morris** raised concerns about invasive species, and asked if the subgroup was addressing the issue. **Supervisor Carbajal** assured him that the natural resources and agriculture subgroup is addressing the issue. **Mayor Dixon** added that the subgroup is discussing the issues broadly because invasive species will be a barrier to feeding 9.5 billion people by 2050.

**Mayor Wong** commented that mayors uniformly agreed that it would be most beneficial to have the equivalent of an LGAC at the Federal Emergency Management Agency and urged such a recommendation be forwarded in the White House Task Force deliberations.

### **C. New Era in Intergovernmental Cooperation and Collaboration**

*David Agnew, Deputy Assistant to the President and Director of the White House Office of Intergovernmental Affairs*

Mr. Rupp introduced Mr. David Agnew, Deputy Assistant to the President, and asked him to share his thoughts on the Task Force (which he co-chairs with Mr. Michael Boots).

Mr. Agnew underscored the Obama Administration's commitment to bringing all voices to the table in a "fair and high-quality way." He emphasized the President's focus on state and local level action. The Task Force aims to help determine what actions can be taken in 2014 and the White House appreciates the leadership of the LGAC members and other local leaders on the Task Force. The next step is to "broaden the net" to obtain as many suggestions as possible, including LGAC's suggestions for how the federal government can do a better job of encouraging action at the state and local levels for preparedness and resilience.

### **D. Discussion**

**Mayor Kautz** noted that the materials LGAC has developed over the past 2–3 years will be submitted to the Task Force. Mr. Agnew responded that the Task Force was committed to using the materials.

**Executive Director Tiberi** pointed out that the LGAC members discussed the idea of a "transition agriculturist" to prepare farmers for new crop markets that may arise from climate change by providing information through a clearinghouse on fertilizer rates and other technical

support. The State of Montana is trying to obtain outside funding for a 2-year pilot project. Mr. Agnew responded that the Task Force provides a platform to convey specific ideas to senior state and local officials who can promulgate them; working with state governors to make the ideas real at state and local levels sooner rather than later.

**Commissioner Larson** encouraged the Task Force to consider research and technology. Research in land grant systems (in partnership with private entities) is generating science that will be available soon to bolster resilient and sustainable agriculture. He also encouraged the Task Force to review precision agriculture, which is “so sophisticated that not a drop of water, kernel of grain or drop of fertilizer is wasted.” **City Manager Hann** expressed her appreciation for the high-level intergovernmental cooperation seen in the Task Force and urged more of such efforts. Mr. Agnew responded that such work will continue and the challenge will be “*to operationalize it in an increasingly deeper way,*” including ensuring that regional offices engage in the same level of cooperation as Cabinet heads are pursuing in Washington, D.C.

**Director Adam Ortiz** asked for Mr. Agnew’s thoughts on the future of the Task Force’s resiliency and sustainability recommendations after the Obama Administration ends. He responded that he could not speak to what will happen in the next administration, but the President is making an intense push to “move every ball forward” within the next 3 years, particularly because Congress is unlikely to pass legislation to advance the Administration’s agenda. He stated: “*There is more meaningful action taking place on this topic than I have seen in a long time.*”

**Mayor DuPree** emphasized the need to include people in the discussion who have first-hand experience with disasters, such as Hurricane Katrina. He remarked that he did not see them included in the disaster recovery and resilience Task Force. Mr. Agnew acknowledged the absence of disaster survivors on the Task Force but noted that the governor of Alabama and governor of Vermont, who have dealt with disasters, are on the group.

**Commissioner Cope** commented that the least resilient communities may be in the Midwest, and the Task Force includes few officials from Midwest states. He asked if the White House realizes the degree of environmental degradation occurring in the Midwest. Mr. Agnew responded that it was a good point he has not personally considered, but the issue of Midwestern states is certainly on the table. He welcomed specific recommendations. He added that during the National Governors Association meeting a special discussion was held on the drought in the West; it was an excellent bipartisan exchange on the actions of federal land management agencies in affected states. **Mayor Becker** added that Mayor Karen Weitkumat of Fort Collins, Colorado, also is on the Task Force subgroup, which has discussed at length such issues as watershed impacts, vegetation and snowpack changes and other concerns. Salt Lake City officials are spending a lot of time on a Forest Service group called ‘Carpe Diem’.

**Commissioner Fisette** reiterated key points: There are opportunities for the Department of Defense’s military bases all over the United States to engage with communities even more than they do now, under an executive order to provide support and validation for local actions. Another executive order on federal facility siting provides an opportunity to site facilities bearing in mind not only cost, but also other resilience and sustainability factors. Greenhouse

gas criteria should be used in allocating federal transportation dollars. With regard to siting federal facilities, Mr. Agnew responded that he is passionate about making considerations other than cost important in siting decisions, an issue he dealt with personally while on Mayor Riley's staff. The federal government should refrain from moving big downtown offices to outer areas where there is no transit, for example.

**Mayor Peterson** stated that aside from communities that have faced disasters, many communities have not even started drafting sustainability plans. She urged the development of a list of various actions that could affect a broad number of communities. Mr. Agnew noted that following a meeting in Los Angeles with California Governor Jerry Brown and others, the White House is creating a checklist of actions that could be taken by state, local and Tribal governments.

Mr. Agnew requested that LGAC's recommendations be provided by the end of April, 2014, in time for the Task Force's next meeting on May 14, 2014, in Des Moines—especially any recommendations pertaining to actions the Administration could take in July, 2014. Mr. Agnew concluded by thanking the LGAC for its efforts.

**State Representative Jeff Morris** commented that the Task Force does not include any state legislators. It would benefit legislators to receive analytical tools—such as help from the national laboratories when making decisions, for example, such as building a bridge or tunnel that can last 100 years, while factoring in sea-level rise. There is no software to conduct such an analysis, but such a tool would help legislators make better resiliency decisions. **Supervisor Carbajal** responded that the coastal subgroup he co-chairs has discussed such issues, and the goal is to develop those very tools. **Mayor Becker** added that the Task Force is looking to develop a large-scale toolbox applicable at the state and local levels for different regions to share best practices. Currently, there is no uniform, coordinated nationwide local-level best-practices resource. **Director Gonzalez** commented that for the health response to any disaster there are existing state-to-state, and in some cases city-to-city, memoranda of understanding

Mr. Rupp stated that President Obama's Climate Action Plan set up not only the resiliency Task Force, but also an interagency council. Last week, the Office of Science and Technology Policy and NOAA launched a website ([www.climate.gov](http://www.climate.gov)) that will serve as a portal. One Task Force goal is to identify what tools are needed.

**Executive Director Tiberi** asked if the LGAC had planned a conference call (before the end of April) to develop a consensus on recommendations for the Task Force's next meeting on May 14, 2014. The draft for near-term proposed actions is due April 24, 2014. Mayor Dixson asked Ms. Eargle to schedule a short teleconference of the Executive Committee before April 24 for the group to draft concise recommendations. She suggested using a Task Force template to obtain concise input from members that could be voted on during a brief teleconference. Alternatively, **Supervisor Carbajal** suggested April 16, 2014, as the final deadline for LGAC members to return their recommendations to him for analysis and for Ms. Eargle to process before sending them to the Task Force on April 24. Ms. Eargle reminded the LGAC members could only submit their recommendations to the Administrator and it would require deliberation in a public meeting. She also stated that that the Committee could take up this action during its

business meeting (scheduled for the following day-March 28). **Supervisor Carbajal** suggested that, unless an issue clearly requires consensus, that the Task Force could receive input from individuals as elected officials. Ms. Eargle reminded the members that, according to its charter, any LGAC output must go to the EPA Administrator. As a Federal Advisory Committee Act (FACA) panel, the LGAC cannot work directly with other groups. She reminded members, however, that in developing comments on EPA's Strategic Plan, LGAC worked rapidly and efficiently and could do the same with the Task Force recommendations.

*[The LGAC recessed for Protecting America's Waters Workgroup meeting].*

#### **IV. Meeting Climate Change Resiliency and Sustainability Workgroup and Environmental Justice Workgroup meetings**

##### **A. Call to Order**

*Mayor Bob Dixon, LGAC Chair, Greensburg, Kansas*

*[Mayor Dixon called the meeting to order].*

##### **B. Discussion**

The LGAC members discussed membership issues for the new Resiliency and Sustainability Workgroup, to be chaired by Mayor Bill Finch of Bridgeport, Connecticut (not present at the meeting). **Mayor Dixon** underscored the Workgroup's importance to all of LGAC's Workgroups because of the overlap in issues of concern. **State Representative Morris** asked if it made sense for the Air, Climate and Energy (ACE) Workgroup to include resiliency as a separate agenda item given the new Workgroup. Members discussed how the LGAC Workgroups had addressed environmental justice (EJ), which all Workgroups were asked to consider. **Mayor Wong** reminded the members that the intent in proposing the EJ Workgroup four years ago was to make it temporary until EJ was integrated into LGAC's and EPA's fabric (which could take 20 years). She supported separate LGAC Workgroups for both resiliency and EJ. **Commissioner Cope** commented that the SCAS was created with the understanding that it should address all LGAC issues from a sustainability standpoint and whether small communities could sustain such efforts. Resiliency and sustainability might be synonymous. He suggested that at a minimum the chairs and vice-chairs of LGAC's Workgroups should be members of the Resiliency and Sustainability Workgroup to discuss how the issue, as well as EJ, applies to any of their efforts. **Mayor Kautz** and **Supervisor Carbajal** supported the proposal because sustainability affects all of the LGAC issues. **Supervisor Carbajal** noted that the President's Climate Task Force discussed the issues of poor, often ethnic communities that typically lack resources for resiliency in the face of disasters. **Mayor Wong** cautioned against dealing with EJ in a reactive way; she urged members to think about changes in systems to bolster EJ. **Chief of Staff Adam Wood**, representing Mayor Finch, briefly described Connecticut's struggles with resiliency and EJ.



### C. Public Comments

**Mayor Dixon** asked if there were any members of the public present who would like to address the LGAC. There were none. Mayor Dixon asked for a motion to approve the adoption of the November 2013 Meeting Summary. A motion was made by Commissioner Cope and voted to approve the November 26, 2013 minutes, and it was seconded. [*Mayor Dixon recognized Mr. Mark Rupp to facilitate the next Panel.*]

### D. New Era in Local Partnerships—A Conversation with EPA Regional Administrators Facilitated by: Mark Rupp, Deputy Associate Administrator, OCIR

Mr. Rupp noted that fortuitously the standing meeting of EPA's Regional Administrators was taking place simultaneously with the full committee meeting and thus afforded an opportunity for them to interface with LGAC. He asked all of the attendees in the room to introduce themselves. [*Video conference lines were established for the EPA Regional Administrators to join the meeting.*]

The Regional Administrators then introduced themselves and made brief statements about the specific issues they must address and the importance of the local government efforts on the ground within their regions. The Regional Administrators present were: Mr. Curt Spalding (Region 1); Ms. Judith Enck (Region 2); Mr. Shawn Garvin (Region 3); Ms. Heather McTeer-Toney (Region 4); Mr. Ron Curry (Region 6); Mr. Shaun McGrath (Region 8); Mr. Jared Blumenfeld (Region 9); and Mr. Dennis McLerran (Region 10). Not present were Ms. Susan Hedman (Region 5) and Mr. Karl Brookes (Region 7).

[*Mr. Rupp opened the meeting to questions and comments.*]

### E. Discussion

**Supervisor Carbajal** responded to comments by Mr. Blumenfeld about EPA's availability to help local governments address environmental issues. **Supervisor Carbajal** was impressed by the message that local governments should always explore what they can do in partnership with EPA before hiring consultants. He explained that solid waste is a major issue, and California has not sited a new landfill in more than 25 years. Santa Barbara County is working not to expand its landfills—as some communities are trying to do—but to adopt waste-conversion technology. The goal is to increase Santa Barbara's current 73-percent recycling rate to 85 or 90 percent. He asked if EPA is doing anything to support community efforts to site anaerobic energy conversion facilities. Mr. Blumenfeld praised Santa Barbara's efforts and offered several thoughts. First, EPA's Office of Research and Development (ORD) provides various grants to support. Second, the University of California, Santa Barbara, is a leader in sustainability research and EPA has provided that and other universities with funding that possibly could be used to help. Triangulating among EPA, local universities and communities is an excellent way to make progress and leverage resources. Finally, staff in Mr. Blumenfeld's regional office could help with technology questions. He noted that most of California's revolving-fund money for wastewater infrastructure is focused on anaerobic digestion.

**Commissioner Cope** commented that he had no problems with Region 10, but at the same time, “*We really don’t have much of a relationship with EPA.*” The Idaho Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) almost serves as a buffer between the community and EPA. Mr. McLerran noted that Region 10 has many programs delegated to the Department of Environmental Quality, but he welcomed a conversation with Commissioner Cope and local officials.

**Mayor Peterson** described for Ms. Enck the excellent solid waste recycling program in her Ithaca, New York, community, which also is starting curbside pickup for compost and new programs with Cornell University on anaerobic digesters in wastewater plants. Ms. Enck praised Ithaca’s municipal waste programs and added that the issue of food-waste recovery is highly important, given the startling statistics on the amount of food waste in the United States. EPA has extensive information on food-waste recovery and the issue could be folded into community efforts to achieve zero waste.

**Director Gonzalez** thanked Mr. Curry for the support that Region 6 has provided to his and to other border communities on water and wastewater infrastructure. He welcomed any support from EPA in reaching out to Mexico concerning illegal discharges into the Rio Grande River, which is critical for the region’s water supply. Mr. Curry emphasized that EPA’s U.S. Mexico Border Program is strong and that the issues of the colonias and the Rio Grande are very important to the EPA and the country.

**Mayor Dixon** underscored that the LGAC has discussed at length the issue of cross-agency collaboration and pointed to the Department of Energy’s National Renewable Energy Laboratory (NREL) in Golden, Colorado, as a great resource. NREL and EPA were instrumental in helping his community recover after a disaster. Mr. McGrath agreed that NREL is an excellent resource that Region 8 is fortunate to possess. He mentioned that NREL is in discussions with EPA on emerging methane gas modeling issues.

Mr. Blumenfeld and Mr. Spalding advocated for the importance of federal cross-agency collaboration. Region 1 recently held a conference on the topic of bringing federal, state and local partners together and will publish a report on key actions. Ms. McTeer-Toney added that Region 4 is bringing together agricultural and environmental commissioners with regional stakeholders to address sustainability issues.

**State Representative Morris** asked for a brief overview of the fish consumption issue, which clearly affects Washington, Idaho and Oregon. Mr. McLerran explained that under the Clean Water Act (CWA), states are required to set water quality standards. One such standard deals with human health and toxics, and the driver of those standards is the amount of exposure that populations face from eating fish. In the Pacific Northwest fish consumption is high among Tribal communities. At issue is the fact that Washington and Oregon already have adopted standards that are supposed to be based on how much fish people eat. Oregon used data to develop a standard that assumed people consume a small amount of fish, but Asian and Tribal communities consume much more. *Discussions now are under way in Washington about permitting 175 grams per day. Many Tribal and Asian communities want a higher rate, but the business community is concerned about the effects of a tougher water quality standard. EPA is*

working with the state, examining opportunities for flexibility. In response to a final question from Director Gonzalez about the Washington fish consumption level, **State Representative Morris** stated that Washington's law from 1992 set consumption at 6.5 grams per day, a very low consumption amount.

At the close of the discussion, Mayor Dixon and Mr. Rupp thanked the Regional Administrators for taking time to meet with the LGAC members.

[Mayor Dixon called for a recess for the Climate Change Resiliency and Sustainability Workgroup and the Environmental Justice Workgroup meetings].

**Friday, March 28, 2014**

## **V. Full Committee Meeting**

### **A. Call to Order/Welcome/Introductions**

*Mayor Bob Dixon, LGAC Chair, Greensburg, Kansas*

Mayor Dixon called the meeting to order at 9:15 a.m. and introduced Administrator Gina McCarthy. [Mayor Dixon presented Administrator McCarthy with a Boston Red Sox ball cap and invited her to deliver the "first pitch" to the LGAC].

### **B. Remarks from the Administrator**

*Gina McCarthy, EPA Administrator*

Administrator McCarthy expressed appreciation to Mayor Dixon for the invitation to speak and stated a desire to learn how she can help the LGAC with their work. She thanked the members for their invaluable advice. [The LGAC members then introduced themselves]. Administrator McCarthy presented several significant topics for discussion that are relevant to local government. First, there has been a focus on climate change, which is one of the President's main initiatives in his second term. President Obama strongly believes that this issue needs to be tackled aggressively. An emissions rule, Clean Air Act (CAA) 111 (d) will be released in June 2014, and significant outreach efforts already have begun. CAA Section 111(b) is a greenhouse gas rule to regulate carbon emissions from new power plants. The rule is designed to be appropriately aggressive, while respectful of the fact that states need flexibility. Climate change is an important issue, and future efforts need to build on the foundation of current accomplishments. Rather than focusing on the utility industry, which is transitioning to clean energy, climate change action should be aligned with economic strategies in each state.

Administrator McCarthy commended the local efforts already being implemented by LGAC members to address climate change efficiently and cost effectively within their communities. Cities and towns must adapt and deal with the challenges to safety, and Administrator McCarthy exhorted the need for local voices. She stated that "*climate is not a political issue*" recognizing, however, that many members come from states where politics abound. The

Administrator asked for advice from the LGAC members individually and from the LGAC as a whole in engaging those states in a more productive way. Environmental and energy stakeholders want to engage, but are concerned because of the larger political structure. Administrator McCarthy asserted that she “believes in democracy” and will be incorporating stakeholder feedback into EPA proposals. She expressed the expectation that open engagement will allow every state to be comfortable with the final rules.

Another pressing issue of concern to the EPA is Clean Water Act (CWA) Waters of the United States Proposed Rule. Administrator McCarthy noted that addressing this topic will be challenging. It pertains to protecting navigable waters to maintain safe drinking water sources and natural areas for fishing, swimming and hunting. EPA is endeavoring to follow the direction of the Supreme Court in better defining the application of the law. The Agency has been working very hard to seek comments, suggest strategies, and focus on specific areas for case-by-case analyses. Administrator McCarthy asked the LGAC members to encourage their constituents to “read the rule, not the newspapers.” She asked the LGAC to indicate if more clarity is needed in the proposed rule. Notably, USDA approves of the rule, and that was not a trivial achievement, and very little disagreement exists among experts. EPA is striving to apply the most reasonable approach based on sound and rigorous science. The issue of concern lies in areas where there is insufficient information—it is essential for the 42-year-old CWA statute to articulate its jurisdiction. Administrator McCarthy requested LGAC members’ feedback on the proposed rule. She also is planning a “road show” to discuss the rule and solicit input. She remarked that the rule is nicely balanced and not too aggressive.

Administrator McCarthy emphasized that both rules deserve to be carefully considered because they are fundamental to EPA’s mission: The first rule addresses an internationally relevant pollutant, and the second rule is critical to EPA’s protection of national waters.

### C. Discussion

**Commissioner Cope** said that he was pleased to hear EPA is working with USDA on the water issue. He suggested working more closely with USDA, the Forest Service and the Department of the Interior (DOI) to address climate change. Commissioner Cope noted that the total area of public land in the 15 western-most states represents a large land mass important for carbon sequestration, and uncontrolled fires release carbon dioxide into the atmosphere. Wildfires are intensifying every year due to a lack of agricultural management. Working with the DOI to improve management would go a long way toward addressing climate change concerns.

Administrator McCarthy agreed that fire policy is an area where EPA could be most helpful, but it is an area of controversy. She explained that the EPA is not inclined to approve controlled fires because of air pollution considerations. This strategy, however, can run contrary to a more sustainable approach, because it ultimately results in uncontrolled fires. There is opportunity for more evaluation and dialogue about how to balance climate change concerns with controlled fires. Administrator McCarthy asked for Commissioner Cope’s help in initiating this discussion with the DOI and other relevant organizations. Commissioner Cope responded that he would endeavor to involve the EPA in the Western Fire Association.

**Mayor Kautz** thanked Administrator McCarthy for sharing her perspectives and “common-sense approach.” Mayor Kautz relayed that there is a large power plant in her city that serves a metropolitan area. The plant was slated to proceed with upgrades, but decided against it because of uncertainty concerning the new legislation. Mayor Kautz expressed her hope that Administrator McCarthy would visit Minnesota to discuss the issue. The other issue relevant to Minnesota is the Waters of the United States Proposed Rule. Although Minnesota has been “a good steward of its 10,000 lakes”, it is necessary to examine some of the practices and leverage partnerships to reduce the costs of the wastewater and stormwater systems. An integrated planning approach is necessary to protect waters.

**Supervisor Carbajal** expressed appreciation for the new power plant rule. He relayed that the possibility of a new power plant in his region is being explored, and he is grateful for EPA’s leadership on the issue. He also noted that California is one of two areas that provide offshore drilling developments, and hydraulic fracturing was occurring without disclosure of the chemicals being used. EPA expeditiously and efficiently provided a rule that required disclosure of the fracking chemicals. The community is very grateful for EPA’s leadership in expeditiously addressing the concern. An ongoing issue for Santa Barbara County and other coastal areas is pollution from marine vessels. EPA was able to address issues of bunker fuel and retrofits, which represent a significant pollution issue. Administrator McCarthy noted that EPA is addressing the issue internationally.

**Mayor Dixon** acknowledged Administrator McCarthy’s valuable time and expressed appreciation for her participation in the meeting. The Administrator thanked the LGAC members for their comments. *[A group photograph was made with the Administrator and the LGAC].*

Mr. Rupp then introduced Deputy Administrator Bob Perciasepe. Deputy Administrator Perciasepe is a tremendous resource to this Agency and served in the Clinton and Obama Presidential Administrations. Before Administrator McCarthy was confirmed as Administrator, Deputy Administrator Perciasepe served as both the Acting Administrator and Deputy EPA Administrator.

#### **D. Remarks by EPA Deputy Administrator**

*The Honorable Bob Perciasepe, Deputy Administrator*

Deputy Administrator Perciasepe explained that Administrator McCarthy set the stage for addressing key issues for local governments, including integrated planning, climate change, greenhouse gases and energy conservation. Engagement of local governments with the state is important, and that is an issue that he has raised to the U.S. Conference of Mayors and League of Cities. Deputy Administrator Perciasepe expressed the hope that LGAC members would continue to encourage this local engagement, noting that it will be critical for the framework EPA is developing for the states.

Deputy Administrator Perciasepe emphasized that local governments are critical to many issues that Administrator McCarthy mentioned. Key themes include making a visible difference at the local level and creating new partnerships with local and state governments. Constrained

budgets render duplication of effort by state environmental agencies and local governments unaffordable. Creating stronger relationships and working collaboratively to accomplish common goals are important. How EPA and local governments build partnerships and develop new rules together will determine their success moving forward. Deputy Administrator Perciasepe shared the need to “*find a synergy where the whole is greater than the sum of the parts.*” He described past experiences demonstrating how the right partnership can accomplish significant outcomes.

Deputy Administrator Perciasepe noted that the idea of partnerships translates into other issues that were discussed, such as working with states to lower greenhouse gas emissions. EPA establishes high-level objectives and develops strategic plans. The strategic plans clarify ambiguity and reinforce the goal to work with local governments on integrated planning and stormwater management. Deputy Administrator Perciasepe noted that the concept of sustainability also is present in the current EPA Draft Strategic Plan. On a local and pragmatic scale, this means that fewer resources are consumed, because they are reused, recycled or repurposed. Sustainability includes some processes that cannot be regulated at EPA, but the Agency is exploring how to incorporate sustainable principles into its regulations. Deputy Administrator Perciasepe commented that sustainability is an “*intellectual organizing principle, just as organizing communities to work together is a geographical principle.*” Sustainable principles improve air, water and chemical waste management.

Deputy Administrator Perciasepe opened the discussion to questions and ideas from the participants.

## **E. Discussion**

**Director Gonzalez** thanked Deputy Administrator Perciasepe and urged him to continue to consider public health. EPA has coordinated successfully with USDA, FEMA and HUD to evaluate risk and health effects, and should consider working more closely with CDC and the Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry. Although public and environmental health is closely related, they are institutionally disconnected, and this needs to change. Director Gonzalez invited the Deputy Administrator to visit the U.S.-Mexico border, where there are communities that lack access to safe drinking water. He expressed appreciation to EPA for engaging with communities on a local level.

Deputy Administrator Perciasepe noted that addressing issues of the Rio Grande River requires an international effort. In the 1990s, when the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) was enacted, institutions were created to advance work at the Rio Grande. Border water infrastructure financing was included in the budget. Dr. Gonzalez noted that the budget has since decreased; however, the water quality of the Rio Grande is better than it was 20 years ago, and it remains an important bi-national resource.

**Mayor DuPree** explained that the State of Mississippi is faced with a significant wastewater issue, and his state decided to treat 10,000 acres of land, partnering with state-owned installations for this remediation effort. The treatment is designed to remove nutrients from the river. The problem is that this mechanical system to treat industrial waste is very expensive—it

would require increasing sewer rates by 250 percent. Therefore, Mayor DuPree vetoed the bill. Now, the state is trying to figure out how to pay for the remediation of nutrient problems in the water. Mississippi may have to pay fines because it cannot afford compliance. Mayor DuPree noted that Mississippi would like to “go green,” but the state cannot afford to do so.

Deputy Administrator Perciasepe said that the treatment sounds like an interesting project. Practical solutions to nutrient contamination are available, but financing is usually the problem. Deputy Administrator Perciasepe suggested that elongating the time for compliance might help states achieve the objectives.

**Mayor Murrell** remarked that some of her constituents in Oklahoma do not believe in climate change, which poses a significant barrier to climate adaptation efforts. Developing and sharing educational materials would help Oklahoma address some of the important environmental issues contributing to climate change.

Deputy Administrator Perciasepe noted that every state is different. He commented that “*the vast majority of states will make a bona fide effort to follow through with these plans, but not every state will.*” EPA is developing a proposal that provides clear direction on what needs to be accomplished, but provides enough flexibility to individual states. It is a balancing act—too much flexibility potentially damages Agency credibility and accountability, but not enough flexibility forces a “one-size-fits-all” approach that will fail. Although different states are in different stages, there is a need to ensure that all states make progress. If states refuse to comply with the plan, EPA will need to enforce it.

**County Executive Hickner** noted that in his area, located 100 miles north of Detroit, water quality is the highest priority issue. He emphasized that it is necessary to be aggressive in context of global warming, water quality issues and agriculture. His community is close to Dow Chemical Company corporate offices and a power plant; the area comprises some of the best farmland in the country. Having chaired the Agriculture Committee in the legislature, he is aware of how difficult it is to encourage the agricultural community to comply with environmental rules because they often are exempt. Collaboration with state and local agencies should be emphasized to provide incentives for compliance. Notably, Dow has made tremendous progress and it is a different, more environmentally aware company than it was in the past.

Deputy Administrator Perciasepe agreed that traditional approaches are no longer viable. When Congress passed the CWA, CAA, TSCA and the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act in the 1970s, the laws passed with large majorities and created the framework that currently exists. The legislation has been amended, but it maintains the fundamental structure that dealt with problems arising during the post-World War II era (i.e., growing cities, cars and increased industrial activity). EPA was created by President Richard Nixon, and objective observations demonstrate that the Agency has reduced pollution and changed industrial processes dramatically in the last 40 years. American children have less lead in their blood because of EPA. The issues of agriculture or stormwater runoff, however, were not included in the structure of the initial laws. Therefore, novel approaches are needed to complement the old approaches and build incentives to resolve the new challenges. For example, the World Health

Organization has concluded that the number-one cause of death in the world is air pollution. There remains much work to do, and additional problems have been uncovered by dealing with the initial challenges.

Deputy Administrator Perciasepe clarified that the proposed rule for the Waters of the United States does not expand the CWA; rather, it refines the definition. He noted that EPA identified specific conservation practices on agricultural land, approved by the Natural Resources Conservation Service, that clarify normal agricultural activities so that the permitting process does not become a disincentive for conservation practices. The idea of incentives and recognition programs are important and represents ways to deal with these challenges that are different from how industrial pollution was addressed in the 1970s.

Deputy Administrator Perciasepe remarked that it is necessary to involve other federal agencies, such as USDA and HHS, with EPA's efforts. He suggested that coordinating with other agencies through the White House Domestic Policy Council could be beneficial. EPA employees already participate in the selection process of DOT TIGER grants, but there is still a long way to go to reach integration for all relevant activities.

**Legislator Greene** said that the Earth needs "*critical care*" with respect to climate change. Communities need education and federal assistance to fund green energy projects. She also raised the issue of hydraulic fracturing (fracking). Legislator Greene appreciates EPA's swift action to ensure disclosure, but disclosure is not enough to protect communities—research on the health and environmental impacts of fracking is needed. Deputy Administrator Perciasepe noted that EPA has been cooperating with the New York State Health Department on fracking. Research is needed to identify different ways to pressure the rock to allow the natural gas to escape for collection. Right now, pressurized sand and water (and chemicals mixed into the water) create cracks in the rock to release gases. Experimental improvements, such as compressed gas, are being evaluated. Deputy Administrator Perciasepe expressed his hope that disclosure requirements will motivate industry to innovate, as well as mitigate and reduce the potential for contamination.

**Director Ortiz** thanked Deputy Administrator Perciasepe for his leadership. He remarked that all jurisdictions in the Chesapeake Bay watershed will struggle to meet targets, and he sought clarification on the balance between enforcement, compliance and flexibility. Director Ortiz explained that his community is endeavoring to address the issue of water quality, but some neighboring counties are not, and this is not fair.

Deputy Administrator Perciasepe asserted the need for a "level playing field". The aggressive goals outlined in the Chesapeake Bay program are not statutory. CWA set a goal to meet all water quality standards by 1985 and to eliminate all water pollution by 1987; this is a continual process. The Chesapeake Bay program is leading the way with states and local governments cooperating to protect this very important resource. It is inevitable that there will be differential implementation for various reasons.

**Mayor Dixon** thanked Deputy Administrator Perciasepe for his remarks to the LGAC. The LGAC has tremendous passion for the environment and aims to make communities a better



place to live and work. Mayor Dixon also acknowledged Ms. McTeer-Toney, who will continue working closely with the LGAC, and wished her the best in her new job.

#### **F. EPA's Draft Strategic Plan—2014–2018**

*Ms. Maryann Froehlich, Acting CFO*

Mayor Dixon introduced Ms. Maryann Froehlich, EPA's Acting Chief Financial Officer, and remarked that it was a great honor to have her address the LGAC regarding EPA's Strategic Plan (Strategic Plan) and the budget. Ms. Froehlich explained that she reviewed the LGAC comments, which went into depth on all programs. She thanked the LGAC members for their contributions.

Ms. Froehlich described the 4-year Draft Strategic Plan, which spans fiscal years 2014–2018 and is required under the Government Performance and Results Act of 1993. The Plan was released for public comment in November 2013, and comments were received in January 2014. The final comments from OMB are being addressed, and the final version of EPA's Strategic Plan is scheduled for a mid-April 2014 release.

Ms. Froehlich informed the participants that she had incorporated the LGAC's suggestions for improvements. Notably, this is the first time that the importance of local communities was distinguished within the Strategic Plan. The LGAC had indicated the importance of cross-Agency strategies, as well as state, local and Tribal partnerships, and had recommended acknowledging that all communities are unique and provide innovative leadership. From a strategic perspective, it is necessary to maintain consistent and meaningful communications with local officials, as well as to optimize "*outreach efforts to improve environmental program implementation at the local level.*" The second LGAC recommendation was to consult with local governments and states early in the development of EPA policies, and the third recommendation was to promote and facilitate best practices among local officials to address pressing local environmental matters with flexible, innovative approaches. Ms. Froehlich noted that the overall strategy for developing the Draft Strategic Plan is translated in crafting EPA's annual action plans. The National Program Guidance for all major media programs indicates planned objectives for each year with associated measures.

Ms. Froehlich mentioned that the Office of Water (OW) recently met with Mayor Pro Tem Circo to discuss her ideas about infrastructure and urban issues. This type of collaboration between federal and local government is important and came out of the LGAC's review and comments on the Strategic Plan.

As EPA's Acting CFO, Ms. Froehlich is responsible for coordinating the Agency's budget. The President's 2016 budget was announced in the beginning of March 2014. Yesterday, Administrator McCarthy testified about the budget before the House Appropriations Committee. It is clear that EPA's budget is decreasing. Ms. Froehlich referred to Mayor Dixon's comment about environmental statutes amendments in the early 1990s. She explained that the nominal budget in 1990 was \$5.5 billion for the Agency. That funding converted to current dollars would equal a \$9.8 billion operating budget. The current EPA budget, however,

stands at \$7.9 billion. The budget constraint requires a realignment of activities to address the Administrator's priorities, which includes working with communities.

EPA is investing approximately \$200 million into climate change this year, which represents an increase of \$41 million. There is a \$10-million increase for President Obama's Climate Action Plan. Part of the appropriation includes \$2 million to provide communities with information to cope with the effects of global warming, such as climate adaptation and planning for water utilities at greatest risk of storm surges. Natural disasters (e.g., Hurricane Sandy) highlight the impact of climate change. The budget includes funds to assist with adaptation planning, particularly with the water utilities that need improved resilience planning.

The budget also includes recognition of the need to clean up communities and make them more viable. In 2015, \$7.5 million will be allocated for efforts to make a difference in everyday lives and communities. One example is green infrastructure technical assistance for as many as 100 communities. The amount of funding for Superfund remedial actions also was increased.

The LGAC had encouraged EPA to leverage external resources and resources from other federal agencies to accomplish Agency objectives. Building successful partnerships—such as the EPA, HUD and DOT Partnership on Sustainable Communities—is critical. EPA also is working with an interagency workgroup on EJ and climate change. Communicating Agency ideas on environmental protection can leverage existing efforts to advance EPA's mission.

LGAC members had suggested streamlining grant processes. Ms. Froehlich noted that because the budget is limited, EPA is applying lean processes across the Agency. There is an ongoing effort to streamline internal processes to provide funds to states, tribes and local communities as quickly as possible. The Agency also is modernizing business processes. A new governance policy with the states will allow electronic, rather than paper, transactions—which will both reduce costs for EPA and the regulated community and increase public transparency. Other efforts to encourage joint decision making between federal and state governments on investments will foster improved coordination and economies of scale.

Ms. Froehlich thanked the LGAC members for their support on the Strategic Plan, which will be released in April 2014. Mayor Dixon expressed appreciation on behalf of the LGAC for the opportunity to provide input.

Executive Director Tiberi asked about the LGAC's role when the Strategic Plan is completed. Ms. Froehlich answered that the Strategic Plan provides a blueprint for the next 4 years. Internally, there is a need to measure the progress towards the goals in the Strategic Plan. LGAC members should review the Agency's annual action plans and contribute feedback to the National Program Guidance. In response to a suggestion by Executive Director Tiberi, Mr. Rupp agreed to send the Action Plan to the LGAC members.

Mayor Dixon thanked Ms. Froehlich for incorporating the LGAC's recommendations in the Strategic Plan and expressed appreciation for her efforts.

## VI. LGAC BUSINESS MEETING

*Mayor Bob Dixon, LGAC Chair, Greensburg, Kansas*

### A. Welcome/Introduction

Mayor Dixon recognized the EPA staff for their efforts in supporting the LGAC: Mr. Rupp, Mr. Jack Bowles, Ms. Frank, Ms. Eargle, Ms. Becky Cook-Shyovitz and Ms. Portia Banks. The participants discussed administrative matters concerning travel reimbursements for LGAC members. Mayor Dixon passed around a card for the LGAC members to sign to express their support for Commissioner Somers, who was not in attendance because of the landslide in Oso, Washington. Supervisor Carbajal mentioned that he also had expressed the Council's support to Commissioner Somers via telephone.

Mayor Dixon thanked State Representative Morris for agreeing to serve on the LGAC Executive Committee.

### B. Meeting Business

Ms. Eargle presented an opportunity for LGAC members to contribute to an EJ video being prepared by the Agency. She requested that any member with an illustrative EJ story could contribute to the video effort.

**Mayor Dixon** explained that all of the recommendation letters introduced and discussed in the workgroups must be deliberated and approved by the Full Committee before they are conveyed to the Administrator. He requested that any concerns be limited to the substantive content of the letters; an editorial review will be completed prior to finalizing the letters for transmittal to the Administrator.

**Commissioner Cope** noted that the recommendation letters reviewed by the SCAS were approved with the changes discussed. **Commissioner Larson** moved to accept the two letters regarding New Source Performance Standards for Residential Wood Heaters and standards for new power plants under CAA Section 111(b). Mayor Peterson seconded the motion, and all LGAC Members approved.

**City Manager Hann** noted that the editorial revisions to the recommendation letter drafted by the Protecting America's Waters Workgroup did not change the substance of the letter. She moved that the recommendation letter be accepted. **Mayor Kautz** seconded the motion, and the LGAC members unanimously approved the letter. **Mayor Wong** expressed appreciation to City Manager Hann for the opportunity to comment on the recommendation letter.

**Director Adam Ortiz** made a motion to accept the Worker Protection Standard recommendation letter with the revisions discussed. **Supervisor Carbajal** seconded the motion. All LGAC Members approved the recommendation letter as modified.

**Mayor Wong** explained that the Office of Environmental Justice had invited the EJ Workgroup to collect best practices related to EJ, sustainability and environmental health. She requested input from the LGAC members on the template for the best-practices report, which

could be in the form of a Web-based tool or video. The objective of the report is to share case studies that will inform the public about EJ best practices. **Director Gonzalez** made a motion for the LGAC to support the best-practices effort. **Councilor Duson** seconded the motion, and all Council members were in favor of proceeding with the task.

**Councilor Duson** noted that the Cleaning Up Communities Workgroup had completed and submitted the Brownfields recommendation letter. She expressed appreciation to the SCAS and EJ Workgroups for their input. Councilor Duson acknowledged Ms. Anita Cummings for her efforts in support of the Workgroup.

**Mayor Dixon** stated that the Resiliency and Sustainability Workgroup activities will commence soon based on the LGAC's discussion.

Ms. Eargle encouraged the LGAC members to submit their preferences for workgroup membership. Mayor Dixon announced that **Mayor Peterson** will be assuming the role of ACE Workgroup Chair, and **Supervisor Carbajal** will be the Vice Chair. A motion was made to accept the change, and **Director Gonzalez** seconded the motion. There was no dissent. Mayor Dixon announced that Vice Chair candidates for the Cleaning Up Communities and Resiliency and Sustainability Workgroups will be contacted.

Mayor Dixon requested that the workgroup Chairs and Vice Chairs coordinate with the workgroup members, Ms. Eargle and Ms. Zinsmeister to schedule a date and time for the workgroup meetings. He encouraged all LGAC members to participate in any or all workgroup meetings. Mayor Dixon urged the new members to become involved to the greatest extent possible and direct any questions to Ms. Eargle. Ms. Eargle agreed to provide a list of workgroup members, EPA regional contacts and updated member contact information to all the LGAC members. She also will distribute revised versions of the recommendation letters discussed at the meeting.

**City Manager Hann** informed members that the next Protecting America's Waters Workgroup meeting is scheduled for May 7, 2014, at 4:30 p.m. ET. The primary objective will be to review the Waters of the United States Proposed Rule.

**Supervisor Carbajal** made a motion to empower the LGAC Executive Committee to gather and compile information regarding the Task Force that is submitted by any workgroup or member. He reminded the participants that the deadline for contributing input is April 16, 2014. Mayor Duson seconded the motion, and all LGAC members approved.

Mr. Rupp expressed appreciation to the LGAC for their time and efforts. He thanked Mayor Dixon for his leadership. Mr. Rupp reiterated EPA's appreciation for the insights provided by the LGAC. He expressed appreciation to EPA staff, including the LGAC DFO Ms. Eargle, Ms. Cummings, Ms. Frank, Ms. Cook-Shyovitz, Mr. Bowles, Ms. Banks and Ms. Sonia Scott. He welcomed Ms. Zinsmeister to the team. Mr. Rupp wished the LGAC members safe travel as they returned home.

Ms. Frank thanked Mr. Rupp for his leadership and thanked the participants for the excellent and engaging meeting.

On behalf of himself and Mayor Wong, Director Gonzalez thanked the LGAC for collaborating with the cross-cutting EJ Workgroup. He expressed appreciation to Mr. Rupp and Ms. Frank for coordinating the face-to-face meeting. Mr. Rupp indicated that there might be an opportunity for a future face-to-face meeting in conjunction with a Conference of Mayors or similar event.

**Supervisor Carbajal** thanked Ms. Cook-Shyovitz for her assistance with the LGAC's efforts.

**Commissioner Cope** stated that he will serve on the LGAC for one more year before retiring from public office. On the chance that this would be the last face-to-face meeting, Commissioner Cope said that it was *"really good to see all of you, and I am proud of the job the LGAC has done."*

**Mayor Kautz** expressed appreciation to LGAC Chair Mayor Dixon, who kept all members on task and deftly managed conference calls to ensure that all participants had an opportunity to speak. She thanked him for his hard work in preparing for the meetings.

**Mayor Dixon** attributed the successful meeting to the talented LGAC members working as a collaborative team. He noted that *"we might not be philosophically on the same page and we come from different areas of the country, but we have respect for each other that helps us work together for a quality project."* He thanked the LGAC members for their diligent efforts and said that it was a pleasure to serve with them. Mayor Dixon expressed appreciation to Ms. Eargle and Mr. Bowles for all of their LGAC support. He said that *"we live in the most exciting time in the United States right now, and groups like us make the difference. I admire all of you for being willing to serve on a national level."* He wished the participants safe travels and adjourned the meeting.

[Meeting was adjourned].

**Environmental Protection Agency  
Local Government Advisory Committee  
Spring 2014 Meeting  
March 26–28, 2014**

**MEETING PARTICIPANTS**

**LGAC Members**

Mayor Ralph Becker  
Supervisor Salud Carbajal, Vice-Chair  
Mayor *Pro tem* Cindy Circo  
Commissioner Robert Cope  
Mayor Bob Dixon, Chair  
Mayor Johnny DuPree  
Councilor Jill Duson, Esq.  
Board Member Jay Fisetto  
Mayor Karen Freeman-Wilson  
Director Hector Gonzalez  
Legislator Manna Jo Greene  
City Manager Susan Hann  
County Executive Tom Hickner  
Mayor Elizabeth Kautz  
Commissioner Don Larson  
State Representative Jeff Morris  
Mayor Marilyn Murrell  
Director Adam Ortiz  
Mayor Carolyn Peterson  
Councilmember Dave Richins  
Executive Director Kevin Shafer  
Executive Director Jeffrey Tiberi  
Mayor Lisa Wong

**EPA Representatives**

Gina McCarthy, Administrator  
Bob Perciasepe, Deputy Administrator  
Mark Rupp, Deputy Associate Administrator, OCIR  
Frances Eargle, DFO, LGAC, OCIR

Portia Banks, OCIR  
Jared Blumenfeld, Regional Administrator, Region 9  
Jack Bowles, Director, State and Local Government,  
OCIR  
Becky Cook-Shyovitz, OCIR  
Anita Cummings, OSWER  
Ron Curry, Regional Administrator, Region 6  
Judith Enck, Regional Administrator, Region 2  
Joyce Frank, Principal Deputy Associate Administrator,  
OCIR  
Shawn Garvin, Regional Administrator, Region 3  
Kellie Kubena, Office of Wastewater Management  
Shaun McGrath, Regional Administrator, Region 8  
Dennis McLerran, Regional Administrator, Region 10  
Heather McTeer-Toney, Regional Administrator,  
Region 4  
Joel Scheraga, Senior Advisor to the Administrator on  
Climate Adaptation  
Curt Spalding, Regional Administrator, Region 1  
Renee Wynn, Acting Assistant Administrator, OEI  
Emma Zinsmeister, OCIR  
MaryAnn Froehlich, Acting Chief Financial Officer  
Barbara Rosing, OCFO  
Vivian Daub, OCFO  
Doug Gutro, EPA Region I

**Also Present**

Adam Wood, Chief of Staff, representing Mayor Bill  
Finch  
Jennifer McCulley, The Scientific Consulting Group,  
EPA Contractor

*We hereby certify that, to the best of our knowledge, the foregoing minutes are accurate and complete.*

*Respectfully submitted:*

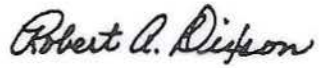


June 16, 2014

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Frances Eargle  
Designated Federal Officer  
Local Government Advisory Committee  
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

Date



June 16, 2014

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Mayor Bob Dixon  
Chairman  
Local Government Advisory Committee  
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

Date

