

The County of Orange Report

August 19, 2020
by Lewis Consulting Group



July 28th Board of Supervisors Meeting Recap

A recent Board of Supervisors meeting once again featured a lot of public outcry. Comments featured people in support of the Black Lives Matter movement and a disparate group of people arguing against mandatory mask requirements. This has led to physical confrontations outside the hearing room and verbal jousting inside the auxiliary speakers room.

The most interesting item on the agenda was deleted at the last moment. Supervisors Bartlett and Chaffee were attempting to place a term limit amendment on the November 3rd ballot, but apparently were convinced they could not find the necessary third vote needed. Under current law, a Supervisor may serve two consecutive four year terms and there is nothing to prevent a Supervisor from seeking an additional two consecutive four year terms after sitting out of office for awhile. The Bartlett/Chaffee proposal would have extended the allowable consecutive service time from two consecutive four year terms [8 years] to three consecutive four year terms [12 years] with a life-time limit. In recent years, only current District Attorney Todd Spitzer has served two terms and then later returned to the Board.

In other action, Supervisor Steel authored a matter that in previous years would have been a consent calendar item. However, her proposal to include Orange County Law Enforcement Appreciation Events in the County events calendar was met with opposition from those sympathizing with the Black Lives Matter movement. The item was approved.

The Board also announced the re-constitution of its policy committees shown below:

List of County Ad Hoc Committees FY 2020-21

Attachment B

<u>Ad Hoc Committee Name/Purpose</u>	<u>BOS Members</u>	<u>Active/Inactive</u>	<u>Recommended Dissolution Date</u>
Airport Governance Ad Hoc Committee	Bartlett & Steel	Active	Expiration date of 8/11/2020
Census Planning Ad Hoc Committee - Establish a committee to update County jurisdictional boundaries, address and population data and develop an education and outreach strategy	Do & Chaffee	Active	Expiration date of 6/1/2021
County Health Officer Ad Hoc Committee - established an ad hoc committee for selection of a new County Health Officer	Do & Chaffee	Active	Dissolve after selection of County Health Officer
COVID-19 Testing Kit Ad Hoc Committee	Do & Chaffee	Active	No dissolution date given
El Toro Ad Hoc Committee	Chaffee & Wagner	Active	Potentially end of 2020
OC Economic Recovery Ad Hoc Committee	Steel & Wagner	Active	No dissolution date given
Public Defender Ad Hoc Committee - established an ad hoc committee for establishment of new Public Defender	Steel & Wagner	Active	Dissolve after recruitment of Public Defender
Real Estate P3 Ad Hoc Committee	Bartlett & Do	Active	First Board Meeting of October 2020

Supervisor Don Wagner proposed an ordinance allowing businesses in unincorporated portions of Orange County to conduct business outside of their business as long as all applicable Federal and State regulations regarding COVID-19 are adhered to. The proposal was patterned after the successful program launched in the City of Orange allowing restaurants to serve their patrons along the closed portions of Glassell Street. The item was unanimously approved.

Lastly, the Board heard its regular update on COVID-19 from Orange County Health Agency head Dr. Clayton Chau. In addition to the update on COVID-19, Supervisor Bartlett made a plea for the re-opening of indoor malls.

Board Meeting for August 11th

The Board agenda was pretty light on substantive issues. However, a lengthy debate took place as the County Board considered their options regarding the letting of three County contracts that will change the face and operations of the John Wayne Airport for years to come. The discussion are contracts for two separate Fixed Based Operators and one Limited Based Operator.

Another item is the County Response to the Orange County Grand Jury regarding the disposition of the two giant hangers in Tustin.



LAFCO Agenda - August 12, 2020

5. CONSENT CALENDAR

a.) July 8, 2020 – Regular Commission Meeting Minutes

The Commission will consider approval of the July 8, 2020 meeting minutes.

b.) 2020-21 CALAFCO Board of Directors Nominations and Election Process

The Commission will receive a report on the upcoming nomination and election process for the CALAFCO Board of Directors and consider the nomination of Commissioners Brothers and McGregor for the CALAFCO Board of Directors.

6. PUBLIC HEARING

No public hearing items scheduled.

7. COMMISSION DISCUSSION AND ACTION

a.) Legislative Report (August 2020)

The Commission will receive the legislative report and consider updating the agency's position on Senate Bill 414.

b.) Staffing Overview and Recruitment

The Commission will receive an overview on staff resources and update on the recruitment for the vacant Assistant Executive Officer position.

c.) 2020-21 OC LAFCO Work Plan – Continued from July 8, 2020

The Commission will consider approval of the 2020-21 Work Plan.

d.) Orange LAFCO Communications Plan and Amendment to Professional Consultant Services Agreement with CV Strategies

The Commission will consider the approval of the Communications Plan prepared by CV Strategies and the amendment to the professional services agreement with CV Strategies.

What's Blue and Green All Over?

PPIC Releases New Survey on California Political & Environmental Issues

The Public Policy Institute of California just released results of their recent survey conducted July 8-17, 2020. The survey of 1,561 adult Californians has a margin of error of +/- 3.4%. A sub sample of 1,032 likely voters yields a margin of error of +/- 3.9%.

It is striking to see just how environmentally sensitive and politically liberal Californians have become.

First, some of the key political results among the 1,561 respondents:

Are you registered as a Democrat, a Republican, another party, or are you registered as a decline-to-state or independent voter?

- 49% Democrat
- 26% Republican
- 23% independent
- 2% another party

Do you approve or disapprove of the way that Governor Newsom is handling environmental issues in California?

- 69% approve
- 29% disapprove
- 1% don't know

Regardless of your choice in the November 2020 presidential election, which of these candidates would do a better job handling environmental issues in the U.S.? Joe Biden, the Democrat, or Donald Trump, the Republican?

- 70% John Biden, the Democrat
- 29% Donald Trump, the Republican
- 1% don't know

Which political party do you trust to do a better job in handling environmental issues in the U.S.? The Democratic Party or the Republican Party?

- 69% Democratic Party
- 30% Republican Party
- 1% neither
- 1% don't know

What do you think is the most important environmental issue facing California today?

- 18% global warming, climate change, greenhouse gases
- 14% air pollution, vehicle emissions, smog
- 11% loss of forests, forest fires, wildfires
- 10% water supply, drought, reservoirs
- 8% landfills, garbage, sewage, waste, recycling
- 6% coronavirus, COVID-19

5% pollution in general
4% too much government regulation, politicians, environmentalists
3% water pollution of ocean, rivers, lakes, streams, beach pollution
18% other
3% don't know

Would you say that the supply of water is a big problem, somewhat of a problem, or not much of a problem in your part of California?

38% big problem
43% somewhat of a problem
18% not much of a problem
1% don't know

Do you think that pollution of drinking water is a more serious health threat in lower-income areas than other areas in your part of California, or not?

70% yes
29% no
1% don't know

How serious a health threat is pollution of drinking water in your part of California to you and your immediate family? Do you think it is a very serious, somewhat serious, or not too serious of a health threat?

16% very serious
31% somewhat serious
52% not too serious
1% don't know

How about droughts that are more severe? Are you very concerned, somewhat concerned, not too concerned, or not at all concerned?

58% very concerned
30% somewhat concerned
8% not too concerned
4% not at all concerned
– don't know

How about building desalination plants on the California coast? Do you favor or oppose this proposal?

68% favor
28% oppose
6% don't know

Would you say that air pollution is a big problem, somewhat of a problem, or not much of a problem in your part of California?

36% big problem
46 somewhat of a problem
17 not much of a problem
– don't know

How serious of a threat is global warming to the economy and quality of life for California's future? Do you think it is a very serious, somewhat serious, not too serious, or not at all serious of a threat?

- 48% very serious
- 32% somewhat serious
- 12% not too serious
- 8% not at all serious
- don't know

How about increased rising sea levels? Are you very concerned, somewhat concerned, not too concerned, or not at all concerned?

- 34% very concerned
- 40% somewhat concerned
- 17% not too concerned
- 10% not at all concerned
- don't know

Do you favor or oppose the state law that requires 100 percent of the state's electricity to come from renewable energy sources by the year 2045?

- 77% favor
- 21% oppose
- 2% don't know



Orange County COVID-19 Stats

ORANGE COUNTY COVID-19 STATS	AS OF 8/19/2020	AS OF 7/13/2020
CUMULATIVE CASES TO DATE	44,507	25,255
CUMULATIVE DEATHS TO DATE	833	424
DEATHS REPORTED TODAY	18	1
CUMULATIVE TESTS TO DATE	565,386	314,191
TESTS REPORTED TODAY	5,282	6,791
CASES CURRENTLY HOSPITALIZED	419 *	674 *
CASES CURRENTLY IN ICU	124	235
CUMULATIVE RECOVERED TO DATE	35,860 *	10,554 *

* = INCLUDES **ICU** CASES



Where Orange County Ranks [as of 8/19/2020]

LOCATION	POPULATION	CONFIRMED CASES	DEATHS
CALIFORNIA	40,129,160	638,831	11,523
LOS ANGELES COUNTY	10,247,557	223,418	5,273
RIVERSIDE COUNTY	2,468,145	48,062	912
ORANGE COUNTY	3,228,519	44,507	833
SAN DIEGO COUNTY	3,370,418	34,962	626
SAN BERNARDINO COUNTY	2,217,398	42,005	568



LATEST PRESIDENTIAL POLLS

Former Vice-President Joe Biden continues to maintain his lead over President Trump in the national polls. Clearly, both COVID-19 and the suffering national economy, has taken its toll on President Trump's popularity.

DATE	POLL	RESULTS	SPREAD
AUGUST 19	THE HILL / HARRISX	BIDEN 45, TRUMP 39	BIDEN + 6
AUGUST 17	CNN	BIDEN 50, TRUMP 46	BIDEN + 4
AUGUST 17	ABC NEWS / WASH POST	BIDEN 54, TRUMP 44	BIDEN + 10
AUGUST 16	NBC NEWS / WALL ST JRNL	BIDEN 50, TRUMP 41	BIDEN + 9
AUGUST 16	CBS NEWS / YOUNG	BIDEN 52, TRUMP 42	BIDEN + 10
AUGUST 13	THE HILL / HARRISX	BIDEN 44, TRUMP 40	BIDEN + 4

ENSO METER



The Pacific ocean has finally budged slightly towards a predicted La Niña. A majority of models are predicting La Niña conditions for about six months and then a return to a weak El Niño pattern.

The lack of El Niño is certainly not helping our northern California reservoirs, as they are now running behind our historical averages.



Reservoir Conditions

Ending At Midnight - August 18, 2020

CURRENT RESERVOIR CONDITIONS

