

Pima County Sales Tax Advisory Committee
Meeting

Wednesday February 28, 2018
4 P.M.

Abrams Public Health Center
3950 S. Country Club Road
Tucson, Arizona

SUMMARY OF MEETING

Committee Members Present

Wendell Long, Chair
Michael McDonald, Vice-Chair
Allan Cameron
Mark Clark
Bob Gugino
Larry Hecker
Curt Lueck
Robert Medler
Dennis Minano
Anita Smith-Etheridge

Committee Members Absent

Dan Eckstrom
Larry Gibbons
Mark Miller
Charles Wetegrove
Mark Van Buren (Alternate)

MOTIONS

MOTION: Curt Lueck moved, seconded by Robert Medler, to approve the February 12, 2018 meeting summary. Motion approved 10-0.

MOTION: Dennis Minano moved, seconded by Bob Gugino, to approve the final report and recommendations with the suggested changes and non-substantive edits to wording. Motion approved 10-0.

MEETING SUMMARY

1. Welcome

The meeting began at 4:04 p.m. with a quorum.

2. Pledge of Allegiance

3. Call to the Audience

None

4. Approval of February 12, 2018 meeting summary

MOTION: Curt Lueck moved, seconded by Robert Medler, to approve the February 12, 2018 meeting summary. Motion approved 10-0.

5. Draft final report and recommendations to the Board of Supervisors

Chairman Long thanked Denny Minano, who, with the assistance of Nicole Fyffe, took the lead in drafting the report and recommendations as a place to start and noted that the Committee could certainly make changes.

Mr. Minano explained how the report had evolved from the initial process the Committee agreed to, to the sign posts, to the partially drafted report reviewed by the Committee at the last meeting, to this version. He added that the goal was to avoid a lengthy report and instead extensively footnote the report to show the systematic review of documents and testimony that the Committee had considered. The report is intended to be a basis for action by the Board of Supervisors. It answers the questions they asked and includes our findings and observations. It would be easy to have one recommendation, but there are many related policy issues and therefore it includes three. The core question before the Committee is do we have concurrence on the sales tax limited for 10 years, in the manner outlined in the recommendations.

Curt Lueck stated that the report was excellent and agreed with the format and its recommendations. Mr. Lueck suggested that the recommendations explicitly list the three questions asked by the Board of this Committee with the Committee's responses (Yes to a sales tax, for both road repair and property tax reduction, and for temporary time period of 10 years). Mr. Lueck also requested that the report reference the value of raising local revenues in comparison to how much this region would get back if the state or federal government raised transportation taxes. Mr. Lueck also requested that the recent Arizona Daily Star poll results on this issue be cited in the report.

Bob Gugino also stated support for report and recommendations and said that he specifically liked Supervisor Christy's proposal to eliminate the 25-cent road property tax if a sales tax was adopted, and requested that be included in the recommendations. Robert Medler suggested that eliminating the 25-cent property tax be a standalone recommendation, perhaps recommendation number 2. Mr. Gugino also suggested that the transmittal letter from the Chairman to the Board take the place of an executive summary.

Mr. Gugino asked County Administrator Chuck Huckelberry about the timing for the Board of Supervisors to consider this Committee's recommendations. Mr. Huckelberry replied that he plans on transmitting his recommended budget to the Board by the end of April and would like to have the Board's decision on the sales tax prior to that. The Board has an April 3rd meeting that would be timely, or even possibly the March 20th Board meeting depending on how soon this Committee concludes its work.

Mr. Gugino stated that the Committee may want to consider adopting the report and recommendations now since the Committee has a quorum, which has been difficult to get. Then the only item to bring back to the committee on March 13 would be the executive summary. Chairman Long responded that if the Committee doesn't have an

opportunity to meet again, the report with the additions looks good and there would be no requirement to approve an executive summary/transmittal letter.

Larry Hecker and Anita Smith-Etheridge stated their support for what was suggested.

Mark Clark requested that the word "unanimous" be removed from the recommendations as not all of the Committee members were able to attend this meeting.

MOTION: Dennis Minano moved, seconded by Bob Gugino, to approve the final report and recommendations with the suggested changes and non-substantive edits to wording. Motion approved 10-0.

6. Next meeting and agenda items

March 13, 2018 for the purposes of reviewing the transmittal letter. If a quorum of members is not available, the transmittal letter can be finalized by the Chairman without Committee approval.

7. Call to the Audience

John Backer stated that the roads didn't get in poor condition overnight, that passing a tax doesn't fix the roads, that the general fund portion of the state-shared vehicle license tax revenue should be used by the County to fix the roads, and that Oro Valley and Marana use general funds to fund administration of their transportation departments.

8. Adjournment

Vice-Chair McDonald thanked Chairman Long for his leadership and creating an inclusive environment for Committee members to feel comfortable discussing issues.

Meeting was adjourned at 4:40 p.m.

Pima County Sales Tax Advisory Committee
We Want to Hear from YOU!

1. Should the Pima County Board of Supervisors adopt a half-cent general sales tax?

YES / **NO** / NOT SURE (circle one)

Comment: _____

2. Should the sales tax revenue be spent on road repair, property tax reduction or some combination of both?

Road Repair ONLY / Property Tax Reduction ONLY / Combination of Both (circle one)

Comment: if passed

3. Should the sales tax be temporary or permanent?

Temporary / Permanent (circle one)

Comment: if passed

For additional information or to provide comments electronically please visit www.pima.gov/salestax or County Administrator's Office at (520) 724-8661.

Name: Therese Rubink
Address: 3731 S. Le Beaux Pk. City: Tucson State: AZ Zip Code: 85730
Email Address: RammarKet@cox.net

*See back for additional space to write comments.

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For additional information or to provide comments electronically please visit www.pima.gov/salestax or County Administrator's Office at (520) 724-8661.

Name: John Backer
Address: 995 E Mt Shibell Dr City: Sahuarita State: AZ Zip Code: 85629
Email Address: John@JohnBacker.com

Comments:

Now is Budget time

A. Take unused personnel positions, deduct from Dept. Budgets + use on roads

B. Fund Transportation Dept. Admin. from PC General Fund, use HURF for roads

C. Prioritize Core Services like roads over the special projects of fix the roads

Comments: