

**INTERGOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS SUBCOMMITTEE
MEETING MINUTES
TUESDAY, JANUARY 12, 2016
1:30 PM
MEDIA BRIEFING ROOM, CITY HALL**

Members Present:	Councilmember Joe Krier, Chair, <i>District 9</i> Councilmember Rebecca Viagran, <i>District 3</i> Councilmember Ron Nirenberg, <i>District 8</i>
Staff Present:	Carlos Contreras, <i>Assistant City Manager</i> ; Jeff Coyle, <i>Director of Government & Public Affairs</i> ; Sally Basurto, <i>Assistant Director of IGR</i> ; T.J. Mayes, <i>District 8</i> ; Eduardo Carrasco, <i>Senior IGR Specialist</i> ; Justin Renteria, <i>District 9</i> ; Christine Wright, <i>IGR</i> ; Megan Dodge, <i>IGR</i> ; Alexander J. Pytel, <i>Office of the City Clerk</i>
Others Present:	Baltazar Serna, <i>Serna & Serna</i>

Item 1. Approval of the Minutes from the October 13, 2015 Intergovernmental Relations Council Subcommittee Meeting

Councilmember Viagran moved to approve the Minutes from the October 13, 2015 Intergovernmental Relations Council Subcommittee Meeting. Councilmember Nirenberg seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Item 2. Downs Government Affairs transfer of Federal Representation Services Contract from Venable LLP

Mr. Jeff Coyle provided an overview of the Federal Representation Services Contract. He reported that Venable LLP had undergone a change in strategic direction and leadership resulting in the need to transfer the City of San Antonio's Federal Representation Services Contract to another firm. He highlighted the leadership of Mr. Tom Downs in lobbying for the City's interests and added that Mr. Downs had resigned from the Venable Team to establish a new firm: Downs Government Affairs. He stated that Venable had agreed to transfer Government Contracts with client approval to Downs Government Affairs. He noted the following options regarding the remainder of the Federal Representation Services Contract:

- Terminate the Contract and issue a Request for Proposals lasting approximately 6 months
- Transfer the Contract to Downs Government Affairs for the remainder of the Congressional Term

Councilmember Viagran asked for detail regarding the previous issuance of the Request for Proposals (RFP) and number of respondents. Mr. Coyle replied that 5 firms had responded to the initial RFP with 2 firms failing to meet the minimum requirements.

Councilmember Nirenberg moved to transfer the Federal Representation Services Contract to Downs Government Affairs. Councilmember Viagran seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Item 3. Federal Legislative Update

a) 38th Annual SA to DC Trip, February 1-4, 2016

Mr. Coyle reported that 7 Councilmembers, as well as Mayor Taylor, were scheduled to attend the SA to DC Trip. He stated that the primary focus of the trip would be FAA Reauthorization; specifically expanding the Flight Perimeter Rule to allow direct flights between Washington, D.C. and San Antonio. He noted that the lack of a direct air route negatively impacted business development, tourism, and military forces in the region.

b) Congressman Bill Shuster Roundtable to Discuss Expansion of Perimeter Boundary

Mr. Coyle explained that Congressman Bill Shuster currently serves as Chairman of the House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee which prepares the FAA Bill for consideration. He added that Congressman Henry Cuellar would be in San Antonio on January 20th with Chairman Shuster to hold a press conference at City Hall. Mr. Serna stated that the Roundtable Discussion would be held after said press conference and noted that Chamber of Commerce and Military Representation would be important to include at the Roundtable Discussion.

No action was required for Item 3.

Item 4. 84th State Interim Committee Charges

Mr. Coyle reported that many issues were carried over from the previous Legislative Session. He mentioned that a Special Hearing of the Senate Select Committee on Tax Reform was scheduled to meet in San Antonio on January 27, 2016 to make property appraisal and taxation more transparent and understandable to the public. He added that City Manager Sheryl Sculley had offered to testify at the hearing in order to communicate the City's strong financial position and fiscal management.

Chairman Krier requested that the process and delivery of the City's Legislative Agenda be discussed in a future meeting. Mr. Coyle noted that the Legislative Agenda had already been prepared for a future meeting.

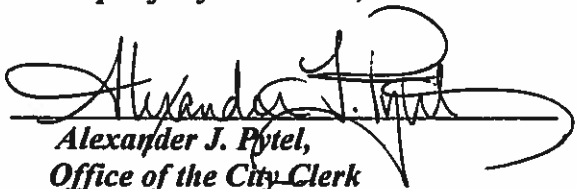
Councilmember Viagran asked for information regarding the Trans-Pacific Partnership. Mr. Coyle responded that the issue would be discussed at the next meeting in March.

No action was required for Item 4.

Adjourn

There being no further discussion, the meeting was adjourned at 2:17 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,


Alexander J. Pytel,
Office of the City Clerk


Joe Krier, Chairman