



MINUTES

**California Film Commission Board Meeting
February 01, 2013
1:30 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.
SAG - AFTRA Conference Room
5757 Wilshire Blvd.
Los Angeles, California**

COMMISSIONERS IN ATTENDANCE

Hilary Armstrong
Bob Blumenfield
Steve Dayan
Lindy DeKoven
Janet Knutsen
Megan McGuinness
Mike Miller
Keith Weaver

EX-OFFICIOS/DESIGNEES IN ATTENDANCE

Amy Lemisch, Director, California Film Commission
Tonya Hoover, State Fire Marshal, State Fire Marshal's Office
Ben Ho, Division Chief, State Fire Marshal's Office

GUESTS

Eva Bitar, City of L.A.
Erik Deutsch, Excel PR Group
Ed Duffy, Teamsters Local 399
Joanie Haenelt, Kern County Film Commission
Eve Honthaner, CFC
Assemblymember Mark Levine
Miguel Luevano, CHP
Leah Medrano, California Film Commission
Cindy Moore, State Fire Marshal's Office
Ilyanne Morden Kichaven, SAG-AFTRA
Michael Owens, Office of Assemblymember Bob Blumenthal
Ferdinand Ordon, Caltrans
James Parsegian, State Fire Marshal's Office
David Phelps, AICP
Charla Tettters-Stewart, Imperial County Film Commission
Travis Stewart, Imperial County Film Commission
Daniel Tarica, Office of Controller Wendy Greuel

I. CALL TO ORDER and WELCOME; INTRODUCTION OF MEMBERS/GUESTS - Keith Weaver

Chairman Weaver thanked SAG-AFTRA for the use of their conference room. Members and Guests self-introductions.

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES - Keith Weaver

Motion to approve the Minutes from August 10th was made and unanimously approved.

III. NOMINATING COMMITTEE – PRESENTS NOMINATIONS FOR OFFICERS (POSITION OF CHAIR, VICE-CHAIR AND SECRETARY) - Janet Knutsen

Nominating Committee member Janet Knutsen presented the committee's recommendations for Officers of the Board. The Committee's nominations for officers were:

Keith Weaver for Chairperson;
Steve Dayan for Vice Chair and
Hilary Armstrong for Secretary.

Motion to elect the proposed slate of officers was made and unanimously approved.

IV. DIRECTOR'S REPORT - Amy Lemisch

Governor's Budget Called for Reorganization of State Departments

The Governor's Reorganization Plan will go into effect July 1, 2013. The plan will restructure the BTH Agency to a Transportation Agency. The CFC is moving to the *Governor's Office of Business and Economic Development* along with a few other BTH departments (I-Bank, Tourism, Small Business Loans). Transition has already begun and Exec. Director Lemisch is actively working with Go-Biz to review administrative needs. At the request of the Director of Go-Biz – there will be an Executive Roundtable discussion in March.

CFC Staffing

- Jim Fitzpatrick retired from the Deputy Director position on Dec. 31.
- Film & TV Tax Credit Program Director Nancy Stone will be taking a leave of absence for four months.
- There are currently staff shortages due to excessive leave balances and Personal Leave days.
- The CFC staff along with all other state employees has a 5% pay cut this fiscal year with one unpaid day off per month.
- A new Special Consultant temporary position was approved and Eve Honthamer will start in this position next week.

CFC Events / Marketing - Upcoming

April 19 – CFC annual VIP breakfast – at the London West Hollywood / sponsor supported.

April 20 – CA Locations Conference – Trade Show with the Film Liaisons in California Statewide (FLICS). This year it is being expanded to include seminars and panels, sponsor supported.

Outreach – Public Engagements:

Ms. Lemisch gave a summary of the CFC's speaking engagements.

Model Film Ordinance effort

Model Film Ordinance – Best Practices – The CFC continues to work with LAEDC on outreach to encourage more cities to adopt film friendly policies. LAEDC has spearheaded the distribution of the Model Ordinance to all cities in L.A. County.

Cities of Arcadia, Carson, Duarte, Pico Rivera, and Simi Valley have already made positive changes based on the CFC's Best Practices and Model Film Ordinance.

Media

News article summaries on film production and CA Film & TV Tax Credit Program were distributed.

V. TAX CREDIT PROGRAM REPORT - Leah Medrano, Program Coordinator

Tax Credit Program Current Fiscal Year

On Sept. 30 – Governor Brown signed tax credit extension legislation (AB2026 and SB1197) which extended the program through 2016-17.

As reported in August, the CFC received a record 322 applications with 27 projects initially reserved credits and nearly 300 projects placed on the waitlist. By the end of 2012, over 70 projects moved off the waitlist for a credit allocation. Credits continue to become available due to accepted projects dropping out for various reason. Currently there are over 200 productions hoping to get credits this fiscal year.

Regulatory Process

All projects submitted as of Jan. 1, 2012 and admitted into the program have had to comply with the recently enacted AB1069 requirements. Applicants are now required to submit the following information via encrypted email:

1. A detailed narrative statement regarding the extent to which the credit affects the choice of filming location.
2. Financial information from both public and non-publicly traded companies.
3. From publicly traded companies, a listing of locales which that company and/or its affiliates finance motion picture productions.

All "D" projects – the projects submitted June 1, 2012 – are complying with these statutory requirements.

Operations Report

Review of Film Ordinances: Several Southern CA local municipalities requested a review of their ordinances based on prompting by SCAG and LAEDC.

Online Permit System: Caltrans may not be able to continue hosting the on-line permit system once the transition to Go-Biz is complete. Other vendors and estimates are being researched.

State Properties: 2012 Film Permit Stats were presented.

Parks—Continue to be filmed extensively especially in the Los Angeles District.

Caltrans— CFC is working with the MTA in anticipation of requests to film on the 110 Fwy MTA Express Lanes.

Recent state road filming includes:

- "Need for Speed" - Mendocino - April
- "Walk of Shame" – 710 – Alhambra - February
- "Hangover 3" – 73 in Orange County – Oct 20 & 21

Dept of Corrections—Nelles reopens to filming – location agreement, personnel staffing resolved, thanks to former board member Howard Schwartz for his assistance.

LA County Film Coordination--- CFC participated in meetings with LA Co. Fire Dept stakeholders, LA City Film Task Force and SAFFE (Fire Depts and Special Efx).

Deputy State Fire Marshal Cindy Moore conducted the State Fire Marshal's quarterly fire safety training class in October.

Production Alerts issued:

- A. Special Conditions now in effect for filming on Highway One in SLO & Monterey due to construction repairs on Hwy 1; Affects Bixby Bridge.
- B. EB 105 near LAX; Downtown Moratorium to comply with FilmLA Moratorium

Technology Upgrade in CFC Offices: New Firewall and Router installed in August and three T-1 lines installed in September.

VII. REGIONAL FILM OFFICE REPORT – IMPERIAL COUNTY – Charla Teeters, Film Commissioner

Imperial County Film Commissioner gave a presentation on filming in Imperial County. The mission of the film commission is to attract filming and media to Imperial County maximizing the county's economic potential by promoting locations, accommodations, services needed for filming. The film commission works to streamline the film permit process by working with cities, state and federal entities. Last year 47 projects were traced which added an estimated \$1.5 million to the local economy

VIII. NEW BUSINESS – Keith Weaver

None

IX. PUBLIC COMMENT

None

X. BOARD MEETING SCHEDULE FOR 2013:

May 14, 2013 (Sac)
August 9, 2013 (L.A.)
November 8, 2013 (L.A.)

XI. ADJOURNMENT – Keith Weaver

The meeting was adjourned at 2:50 p.m.