

BY-LAWS FOR THE
COUNCIL OF FRESNO COUNTY GOVERNMENTS

WHEREAS, the County of Fresno and certain Cities of Fresno County, California, have executed a Joint Powers Agreement creating the Council of Fresno County Governments; and

WHEREAS, the Joint Powers Agreement designates the Council of Fresno County Governments to perform certain duties; and

WHEREAS, the organizational structure, process and functions of the Council of Fresno County Governments are specified in the Joint Powers Agreement;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED:

1. The By-Laws of the Council of Fresno County Governments shall be specified herein, except that these By-Laws shall not limit, restrict, modify or supercede those activities or duties conferred or implied in the Joint Powers Agreement.
2. Membership in the Council of Fresno County Governments shall be as provided in the Joint Powers Agreement of March 25, 1976.
(Date)
3. The Council, as specified in the Joint Powers Agreement, shall constitute the governing body of the Council of Fresno County Governments.
4. The Council shall hold regular meetings on the last Thursday of every month, at such time and location as may be prescribed by vote of the membership at a previous meeting. In the event such meeting date should fall on a holiday or the day before a holiday, the membership at its next

preceding meeting, or prior thereto, shall fix another convenient date for such regular meetings. If no time or location is so prescribed, the Chairman, or his representative, shall fix said time and location.

Special meetings may be called by the Chairman or his representative at any time. The members shall be notified in writing of all special and regular meetings; written nature of meeting shall be forwarded by first class mail or other appropriate means not less than seven days prior to the meeting.

All regular and special meetings shall be conducted in accordance with the Ralph M. Brown Act, as amended.

5. The duly authorized representatives of a majority of the members in good standing which represent a majority of the total population of the member agencies shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of all business of the Council.
6. Except as provided herein or in the Joint Powers Agreement, the most recent edition of Robert's Rules of Order shall constitute the parliamentary authority for the Council.
7. Officers of the Council shall consist of a Chairman and Vice-Chairman, who shall be elected from the duly authorized representatives of members in good standing. Their duties shall be as follows:
 - a. Chairman: To preside over all meetings, maintain order, decide questions of parliamentary procedure, call special meetings, and such other duties as elsewhere herein provided.

b. Vice-Chairman: To perform the duties of the Chairman in the absence of such officer or upon disqualification of such officer.

8. Nomination and election of officers shall be held at the March meeting of each year, and such officers shall serve a one-year term. Any vacancy during the term shall be filled by nomination and election of such officer for the remainder of the term.
9. Nominations may be made by a committee of duly authorized members in good standing appointed by the Chairman and approved by the Council or from the floor by duly authorized representatives.
10. An election for each office, beginning with that of Chairman, shall be held immediately after all nominations have been declared closed by the Chairman. If there is more than one nominee for any office, voting shall be by roll call in accordance with the voting formula as established by the Joint Powers Agreement.
11. Officers shall take office immediately after their election or as soon thereafter as practicable, and serve until disqualified or their successors are duly elected, whichever condition occurs first.
12. The Policy Advisory Committee, as specified in the Joint Powers Agreement, and such committees as established by the Council shall select a Chairman and Vice-Chairman in June of each year from among its members. The duties of the Policy Advisory Committee shall be:
 - a. To hold meetings and conduct business as deemed appropriate under the Joint Powers Agreement.
 - b. To advise, recommend to and assist the Council, as required, to carry out Council functions.

- c. To review and recommend to the Council all business which is to come before the Council, including but not limited to, the annual budget and work program, Overall Program Design, reports, studies, plans and policy items.
 - d. To review and comment on applications submitted to the Council of Fresno County Governments for A-95 review.
13. The Policy Advisory Committee shall hold regular meetings each month, at such time and location as may be prescribed by vote of the committee members. In the event such meeting date should fall on a holiday, or the day before a holiday, the membership at its next preceding meeting, or prior thereto, shall fix another convenient date for such regular meeting. If no time or location is so prescribed, the Chairman, or his representative, shall fix said time and location.

Special meetings may be called by the Chairman or his representative at any time. The members shall be notified in writing of all special and regular meetings; written notice of meeting shall be forwarded by first class mail or other appropriate means not less than seven days prior to the meeting.

Business may be conducted when there are at least five (5) members present to perform the duties of the Policy Advisory Committee. Any motion or action of the Policy Advisory Committee in order to be deemed carried or approved must receive an affirmative vote from a majority of the members present.

14. The Council agenda shall be established by the Executive Director.

Subjects for inclusion on the agenda of the Council shall be directed to the Executive Director sufficiently in advance of the Council meeting so as to be reviewed by the Policy Advisory Committee.

- a. Agenda subjects proposed by the Council shall be referred to the Policy Advisory Committee for its review and recommendation.
 - b. Agenda subjects proposed by persons or organizations not members of the Council shall be placed on the agenda following review and recommendation by the Policy Advisory Committee.
 - c. All subjects on the Council's agenda shall be accompanied by a report from the Policy Advisory Committee, which report shall include the Policy Advisory Committee's voting on the subject.
 - d. The Council Chairman may establish time limits or any other control measure he deems appropriate for presentation or comment.
15. The Council agenda shall be included in written notice of meeting and forwarded to Council members as specified elsewhere herein. Items of an emergency nature which require immediate action by the Council may be added to the agenda upon concurrence of a majority of the members in good standing present and representing a majority of the population of the member agencies.
16. All administrative work of the Council shall be performed by or under the direction of an Executive Director, or if specifically directed by the Council, the Policy Advisory Committee. The duties of the Executive Director shall be:
- a. To serve as Secretary to the Council and Policy Advisory Committee.

- b. To serve as Secretary to such committees as the Council may establish.
- c. To keep a good and sufficient record of the proceedings and business of the Council.
- d. To keep a record and ascertain the qualifications of each duly authorized representative.
- e. To maintain files for all reports, correspondence and other business of the Council, the Policy Advisory Committee and other committees as may be established.
- f. To coordinate the work program and budget of the Council.
- g. To assist member agencies in making application for Federal funds.
- h. To maintain a record of all financial transactions.
- i. To transmit to his successor all books, records and files of the Council of Fresno County Governments in his possession.
- j. To perform such other duties as may be assigned.

17. Membership costs, as specified in the Joint Powers Agreement, shall be due and payable at the start of the Council of Fresno County Governments' fiscal year. The Executive Director shall provide each member agency written notice of its cost due not later than thirty (30) days prior to the due date. If the costs to be shared are not paid within sixty (60) days of the date they are due and payable, the member agency shall immediately be sent written notice by first class mail, advising amount due and consequences of non-payment. If payment is not made within ninety (90) days of the date due and payable, the member agency shall immediately be sent written notice that it is not longer a member in good standing, as specified in the Joint Powers Agreement, and no

longer carries voting privileges in the conduct of the business of the Council of Fresno County Governments.

Good standing shall be restored to a member agency immediately after payment of delinquent costs is received.

18. A proposed annual Overall Work Program (OWP) for the ensuing fiscal year shall be prepared by the Executive Director and presented to the Policy Advisory Committee for their approval in January of each year. The Policy Advisory Committee shall have forty-five (45) days and shall review and prepare a preliminary OWP by March 1 of each year.

A proposed annual budget for the ensuing fiscal year shall be prepared by the Executive Director and presented to the Policy Advisory Committee for their approval in February of each year. The Policy Advisory Committee shall have forty-five (45) days and shall review and prepare a preliminary budget by April 1 of each year. The budget shall be a financial plan to undertake the work program of the Council. The Council shall review and adopted the budget and OWP at or before the May meeting.

19. The Fresno County Counsel's Office shall provide all legal services to the Council of Fresno County Governments, the Council and any committees as specified in the Joint Powers Agreement, except the Council may retain independent legal counsel when it deems appropriate.
20. The Council shall be responsible for making all amendments to these By-Laws.
 - a. Proposed amendments may be originated by the Council or any duly authorized representative to the Council.

- b. Proposed amendments may not be finally acted upon unless all of the members have been given written notice thereof at a prior meeting or by mail at least 15 days prior to the date of the meeting at which final action is to be taken.
- c. Amendment to these By-Laws shall require the approval of a majority of the governing bodies of the Joint Powers Agreement representing a majority of the population of the member agencies.