

OC Board of Supervisors Report...July meetings, 11 and 18, 2017

*****OC ACLU REPORT** The last two Board of Supervisors meetings heard officers of the OC ACLU discuss their report of the OC Jail System. They stated that 5 people have died in the jail this year. Also oversight is badly needed and the OIR (Office of Independent Review) must be truly independent.

*** Discussion was held on the possibility of both **the OC Sheriff Department and the OC Fire Authority** both house their Search and Rescue helicopter services at John Wayne Airport. Currently the Fire Authority is stationed at the Fullerton Airport. This was not an agenda item, but Supervisor Spitzer wanted it discussed. More discussion was scheduled for the August 8 BOS meeting.

*** **Two types of City contracts with the OC Sheriff Dept.** Once again the cities of Laguna Niguel, Aliso Viejo, Dana Point, Laguna Hills, Laguna Woods, Rancho Santa Margarita, San Clemente, and Lake Forest renewed County law enforcement services for one year. Once again Supervisor Nelson voted no, stating that a one year contract does not bode well for future budget planning. "What happens when the next year a city decides not to renew?" He praised the cities of San Juan Capistrano, Stanton, Villa Park, and Yorba Linda for renewing with 5-year contracts. Supervisor Bartlett acknowledged that concern and agreed to ask for 5-year contracts next time around. She pointed out that the contract cities pay ~\$200 per citizen whereas the cities with their own law enforcement pay ~\$300-\$400.

*** Most of the past two BOS meetings concerned the new proposal for construction of **the CalOptima board of directors and Senate Bill 4, (Mendoza)**. Supervisors Steel and Do were very upset with Senator Tony Mendoza's bill, SB4. This bill has successfully passed through all of the preliminary committees and is predicted to reach the governor's desk soon. It states that the formation of the CalOptima board must stay in its present composition. (This board was designed by Supervisors Bartlett and Do last year.) Supervisors Steel and Do's new proposal originally stated that all current board members would need to reapply and the BOS would have more presence.

At the July 11 meeting, Supervisor Bartlett was absent and both Supervisors Nelson and Spitzer had concerns. Nelson stated that they “should not just boot people off mid-term and you also don’t just send BOS staff”. Spitzer responded, “Why remove people with so much expertise? They need to be there! It’s sad that this was agendized at the Friday deadline. Wait to decide this when Supervisor Bartlett returns.” (Supervisor Bartlett had stated in a message that she was against changing the make-up of the Cal-Optima Board.) Supervisor Nelson suggested that all 5 BOS members could serve, but he definitely was not happy doing so. It was suggested that the item be rewritten to include all 5 supervisors and to have it discussed when Bartlett was present.

At the July 25 meeting, Supervisor Spitzer suggested that this topic was “political, pure and simple.” He stated it was important to keep the professionals on the CalOptima Board. Supervisor Bartlett stated that the CalOptima Brd. members were significant and had important job responsibilities and expertise. Nelson proposed the issue be agendized one more time and include the issue of the suggested amendment not be effective until Jan. 2018. Supervisor Do again reiterated that the state legislation was interfering with local control and that Senate Bill 4, Mendoza should not be accepted. The vote to again address the topic at the August 8 BOS meeting was a vote of 3-2, with Bartlett and Spitzer voting no. Supervisor Do departed and did not return for the rest of the open BOS meeting nor for the closed session.

Stay tuned! If anyone would like to attend a BOS meeting, please contact me. Wshaf6676@aol.com The OCILo (Inter Leagues of OC) authorized Carol Bittle and me to sit with you and to explain anything you ask about later at a FREE lunch. Any interested takers??!! The BOS meetings start at 9:30 am. in Santa Ana every second and fourth Tuesday of the month. ☺

Reported by Wanda Shaffer, NOCLWV