



Approval Authority Meeting
Thursday, November 09, 2023
10:00 AM

Virtual

REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

1. ROLL CALL

Approval Authority Chair Mary Ellen Carroll called the meeting to order at 10:00 AM and General Manager Craig Dzedzic subsequently took the roll. Chair Mary Ellen Carroll was present; Vice-Chair Rich Lucia was absent, but his alternate Colby Staysa was present for the meeting. Members Erica Arteseros, Dana Reed, Steven Torrence, Kelsey Scanlon, Raymond Riordan, Chris Hsiung, and Jeff DuVall were present. Members Jessica Feil and Mike Casten were absent, but their alternates Jason Vorhauer and Olga Crowe were present.

Following the Roll Call, Regional Grants Manager Molly Giesen-Fields welcomed all virtual attendees for the November Approval Authority meeting. Molly read the Brown Act Notice and Public Comment. She also reminded attendees to mute their microphones and turn off cameras to avoid any mechanical interference. Finally, attendees were reminded to keep public comments to 3 minutes or less.

2. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

Chair Carroll asked for any comments or questions concerning the minutes from the September 14, 2023 meeting. She then called for public comment.

One member of the public made a comment. ([Reference audio: BAUASI Approval Authority 2023 November @ 1:40](#)).

Chair Carroll then requested a motion to approve the minutes.

Motion: Approve the minutes from the September 14, 2023 Approval Authority Meeting.

Moved: Alternate Colby Staysa **Seconded:** Member Torrence

Vote: The motion was passed unanimously. ([Reference audio: BAUASI Approval Authority 2023 November @ 5:46](#)).

3. ELECTION OF OFFICERS

General Manager Dzedzic received nominations and conducted a vote on the positions of UASI Chair and Vice Chair for the 2024 term ([Reference audio: BAUASI Approval Authority 2023 November @ 6:50](#)).

Motion: Nomination of Mary Ellen Carroll as Bay Area UASI Chair

Moved: Member Reed **Seconded:** Member Arteseros

Vote: The motion was passed unanimously.

General Manager Dziejdzic opened the floor to Chair Carroll who made a statement accepting the nomination. General Manager Dziejdzic opened the floor to public comment.

There was no public comment.

Motion: Nomination of Rich Lucia as Vice Chair

Moved: Rich Lucia **Seconded:** Member Carroll

Vote: The motion was passed unanimously.

General Manager Dziejdzic opened the floor to Vice Chair Lucia who made a statement accepting the nomination. General Manager Dziejdzic opened the floor to public comment.

There was no public comment.

4. **MANAGER'S REPORT**

General Manager Craig Dziejdzic presented an update on grant updates, the UASI Management Team, and the 2024 calendar for Approval Authority Meetings. ([Reference audio: BAUASI Approval Authority 2023 November @ 11:55](#)).

General Manager Craig Dziejdzic informed the Approval Authority that RCPGP received an award of 1.5 million for FY 2023. He also reported on Cal OES' approval of the Bay Area UASI's FY 2023 Homeland Security Grant Program application for approximately \$29 million. No financial holds were placed on this grant award. Bay Area UASI is moving forward with the projects that were part of that funding.

Craig Dziejdzic thanked the AA members for supporting and signing the letter to FEMA regarding the request to include the 5 counties (Sonoma, Napa, Solano, Monterey, and Santa Cruz) to the official UASI MSA (Metropolitan Statistical Area). It is important for their recognition due to threats and hazards not being counted in those jurisdictions. In 2006, FEMA combined the MSA of San Francisco, Oakland and San Jose as a special case and has later considered that in order to maintain program continuity, changes should be kept minimal. The Approval Authority will follow-up again in 2024 with a different strategy regarding the same issue.

General Manager Dziejdzic provided the group with management update:

Matt Devine, has been promoted from CBRNE Project Manager to STC (Securing the Cities) Regional Program Manager.

Craig Mohar, the new addition to UASI Management Team, has accepted the position as Risk Management Project Manager. Craig worked for Sacramento PD, Program Manager for Grants Program.

General Manager Dziejdzic presented the proposed 2024 Calendar with 4 meetings instead of 5:

March 14, 2024
June 13, 2024
September 12, 2024
November 14, 2024

All members unanimously agreed.

One member made a comment about the venue. Member Riordan offered the new EOC in San Jose to be considered as a venue for at least one meeting next year. Member Torrence and Alternate Vorhauer commented to keep OES-Dublin as the main and centralized location for Approval Authority meetings and hold one meeting in San Jose in March 2024. *(Please see Item 10 for an update on June being selected instead of March)*

Motion: Approve the 2023 Calendar of Approval Authority Meetings in Dublin except for March 2024 to be held in San Jose EOC

Moved: Alternate Staysa **Seconded:** Alternate Vorhauer

Vote: The motion was passed unanimously.

Chair Carroll asked for Member comments or questions and there were none.

One member of the public made a comment. [\(Reference audio: BAUASI Approval Authority 2023 November @ 26:37\).](#)

5. FY24-25 GRANT PROPOSALS STATUS UPDATE

Molly Giesen-Fields, UASI Regional Grants Manager provided an overview on the grant proposal process. For FY24, 97 proposals were received with a total of approximately \$27M. For FY25, 70 proposals were received with a total of approximately \$22.M. [\(Reference audio: BAUASI Approval Authority 2023 November @ 29.12\).](#)

The UASI Management Team has completed the programmatic and fiscal review. The proposals were sent to APPROVAL AUTHORITY members for review of their respective jurisdictions. Reviews are expected to be completed by November 27, 2023. The Grants Management Team will be reaching out to Hub members for hub meetings as needed in January 2024.

There was one comment from the Board. Member Reed asked about the allocations formula whether it is for FY22, FY23 and FY24 or FY23, FY24 and FY25. General Manager Dziedzic responded that the formula will be addressed during the Risk Management presentation and update. [\(Reference audio: BAUASI Approval Authority 2023 November @ 32:26\).](#)

There was one comment from the public. [\(Reference audio: BAUASI Approval Authority 2023 November @ 33.45\).](#)

6. RISK MANAGEMENT PROGRAM UPDATE

The new Regional BATEP Project Manager, Amy Ramirez's presentation came in 2 parts:

The first part involved voting of Approval Authority members on the SPR 2023. Ms. Ramirez presented the annual SPR for approval as an action item due to the FEMA requirement that all

Homeland Security Grant recipients submit the SPR on an annual basis. This year's assessment included all the required standardized capability projects and the customized capability projects changing capacity. She presented findings, gaps, and improvements. She further explained that the THIRA (which is submitted every 3 years – Approval Authority's last submission was in 2022) is designed to assist communities with understanding risks and identify capabilities needed to address risks and threats while the SPR provides a framework to assess a community's capacity to address the threats and hazards identified in the THIRA.

The second part of Ms. Ramirez's presentation covered the Hub Funding Formula and Hub Allocation Formula composed of three components: Population – 49%; Asset Risk – 29%; and Economic Risk - 22%. ([Reference audio: BAUASI Approval Authority 2023 November @ 35:34](#)).

Two comments were made from the Approval Authority members.

Member Reed raised his concern about the 2026 big events happening in the Bay Area: Superbowl and World Cup. If doors for funding will not be opened until 2027, are there additional support funding to support the costs involved in addressing additional needs relating to the events?

Member Arteseros added that it was just announced that the 2025 NBA All Stars will be held in San Francisco in 2025.

Motion: Approve the 2023 SPR for submission to FEMA

Moved: Alternate Staysa **Seconded:** Member Riordan

Vote: The motion was passed unanimously.

One member of the public made a comment. ([Reference audio: BAUASI Approval Authority 2023 November @ 49:37](#)).

7. GRANT FUNDED PROGRAMS UPDATE

Communications & Technologies Project Manager Mikyung Kim-Molina presented updates on the Targeted Violence Terrorism Prevention (TVTP) and Domestic Violence Extremism (DVE) National Priority Area. ([Reference audio: BAUASI Approval Authority 2023 November @ 53:17](#)).

There were no comments or questions from the Approval Authority members.

One member of the public made a comment. ([Reference audio: BAUASI Approval Authority 2023 November @ 1:00:35](#)).

8. NCRIC THREAT BRIEFING – ELECTION SECURITY

NCRIC Executive Director Mike Sena presented a briefing on the current threat landscape and impact that violence in the Middle East is having on radicalization efforts by foreign terrorist organizations, as well as individuals that advocate for domestic violent extremism. Director Sena discussed the upgraded level of hate crimes and how communities can report hate crimes and suspicious activity to the NCRIC.

Director Sena also gave an update on the NCRIC preparation for the upcoming APEC Summit in San Francisco. NCRIC has dedicated staff in the 6 operation centers, available 24/7. There are multitude

agencies involved as part of the best practices protecting amendment events. ([Reference audio: BAUASI Approval Authority 2023 November @ 1:01:31](#)).

There were no comments from the Approval Authority members.

One member of the public made a comment. ([Reference audio: BAUASI Approval Authority 2023 November @ 1:10:56](#)).

9. **BAY AREA UASI TRAVEL EXPENDITURES**

CFO Tristan Levardo provided an update on travel expenditures for the period of 10/01/2022 to 9/30/23 with total charges of \$32,858.41. The biggest expenditure was in July with the Annual Homeland Security Conference in Chicago with multiple attendees, where some members gave notable presentations during the conference.

On a side note, CFO Levardo also informed the members that Bay Area UASI is releasing the FY23 MOUs that started November 9 until the next 2 weeks. ([Reference audio: BAUASI Approval Authority 2023 November @ 1:13:45](#)).

There were no comments from the Approval Authority members.

One member of the public made a comment. ([Reference audio: BAUASI Approval Authority 2023 November @ 1:15:28](#)).

10. **ANNOUNCEMENTS - GOOD OF THE ORDER**

Member Riordan has requested to go back to item #3 on holding the March 2024 meeting at the new EOC in San Jose. He requested to amend the motion due to a calendar conflict. He offered June 13, 2024 or September 12, 2024. The group had a slight preference for June.

Motion: Change meeting at new San Jose EOC meeting date from March 14, 2024 to June 13, 2024

Moved: Member Reed

Seconded: Member Arteseros

Vote: The motion was approved unanimously.

11. **GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT**

One member of the public made a comment.

([Reference audio: BAUASI Approval Authority 2023 November @ 1:21:08](#)).

Member Reed informed the Approval Authority Board that some of their staff in the Santa Clara OES will be in San Francisco to support the EOC during APEC Summit. He is thankful for this opportunity.

([Reference audio: BAUASI Approval Authority 2023 November @ 1:23:52](#)).

12. **ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 11:27 AM.