

**MINUTES  
LEAGUE OF ARIZONA CITIES AND TOWNS  
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING**

Friday, August 2, 2024 at 10:00 a.m.  
Via Zoom Video/Audio Conferencing

**MEMBERS**

**President**

Douglas Nicholls, Mayor, Yuma

**Vice President**

Kevin Hartke, Mayor, Chandler

**Treasurer**

Mila Besich, Mayor, Superior \*

Ken Budge, Mayor, Bisbee  
Craig McFarland, Mayor, Casa Grande  
Robyn Prud'homme-Bauer, Mayor, Clarkdale  
Alexis Hermosillo, Mayor, El Mirage  
Ginny Dickey, Mayor, Fountain Hills  
Brigette Peterson, Mayor, Gilbert  
Jerry Weiers, Mayor, Glendale  
Al Gamos, Mayor, Globe  
Joe Pizzillo, Mayor, Goodyear \*  
Cal Sheehy, Mayor, Lake Havasu City  
Tom Schoaf, Mayor, Litchfield Park

Ed Honea, Mayor, Marana  
Nancy Smith, Mayor, Maricopa  
John Giles, Mayor, Mesa  
Jerry Bien-Willner, Mayor, Paradise Valley  
Jason Beck, Mayor, Peoria  
Kate Gallego, Mayor, Phoenix  
Stephanie Irwin, Mayor, Pinetop-Lakeside  
Tom Murphy, Mayor, Sahuarita  
David Ortega, Mayor, Scottsdale \*  
Corey Woods, Mayor, Tempe \*  
Regina Romero, Mayor, Tucson \*

\*Not in attendance

President Douglas Nicholls called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. He then led the Executive Committee in the Pledge of Allegiance.

**1. REVIEW AND ADOPTION OF MINUTES**

President Douglas Nicholls requested a motion on the adoption of minutes from the May 10 and May 17, 2024 meetings. Mayor Tom Murphy of Sahuarita moved to approve the minutes; Mayor Brigitte Person of Gilbert seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.

**2. LEGISLATIVE POLICY OVERVIEW AND SESSION UPDATE**

Executive Director Tom Belshe acknowledged the successful session and discussed planning for future projects, emphasizing data gathering, especially on housing. He then introduced Legislative Director Tom Savage to provide a legislative update. Tom provided a summary of the current legislative session's results, highlighting that the new laws report was out with 110 bills included.

He also addressed a few unresolved issues including anti-racketeering fund sweeps and the implementation of new zoning and approval time frame reporting requirements for cities and counties, which are due by September 30th.

Another significant discussion involved housing-related interim projects and newer measures related to starter homes, short-term rentals, and homelessness. The need for prompt completion of model ordinances and compliance documents before legislative deadlines for January 1st was also covered.

There was an emphasis on continuing to actively engage in legislative matters, notably homelessness and housing supply issues, with engagement from executive and legislative stakeholders.

### **3. LEGAL UPDATE**

Executive Director Tom Belshe welcomed and introduced General Counsel Nancy Davidson to provide a legal update. Nancy provided a comprehensive legal update involving recent court rulings, legal strategies, and legislative changes:

Open Meeting Law - Jerry O'Grady had authored an opinion regarding open meeting laws, specifically about serial discussions among council members that might imply a quorum. The opinion confirmed that such meetings were not necessarily violations unless there was evidence of serial communications and shared voting intentions.

Accessory Dwelling Unit Ordinance - Nancy announced an anticipated finalization of the accessory dwelling unit ordinance, targeting its availability for review by mid-next week. Key issues still under discussion included ensuring that accessory dwelling units remain affordable and defining what constitutes a kitchen.

Court Cases - Nancy discussed impactful court cases such as the grants pass case reversing a decision about camping regulations on public property and a Mesa case regarding notices of claims that reaffirmed judicial precedents related to gift clause applications.

Amicus Briefs - Nancy filed an amicus brief in a City of Mesa case involving notification requirements. Another brief was being prepared concerning a Scottsdale ballot measure about TPT.

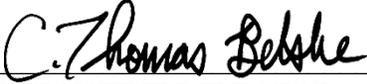
Bill Concerns - Clarification was provided about HB 2080 relating to filling vacancies by appointment. Attendees were reassured that cities not currently filling a seat by appointment need not worry for this election cycle.

### **4. 2024 LEAGUE ANNUAL CONFERENCE UPDATE**

Executive Director Tom Belshe welcomed and introduced Deputy Director Matt Lore to provide the 2024 League Annual Conference Update.

Matt reported that the League Conference was slated to occur from August 27–30, 2024 at the Biltmore Resort. Significant increases in attendance were noted, posing space constraints leading to a change in the usual luncheon arrangements, notably removing the two-tiered head table setting. Members were advised to confirm their accommodation arrangements with the League as rooms were in high demand.

Seeing no further business, President Douglas Nicholls adjourned the meeting at 10:45 a.m.

  
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

  
PRESIDENT