

CITY OF WILLIAMS

City Council Minutes

810 E Street/P.O. Box 310, Williams, CA 95987

CITY COUNCIL
COUNCIL CHAMBERS
WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 18, 2015

SPECIAL SESSION
5:00 P.M.

CALL TO ORDER:

Mayor Troughton Jr. called the meeting to order at 5:00 pm.

ROLL CALL:

Council Members Present: John Troughton, Jr., Kent Boes, Alfred Sellers, Jr., Santos Jauregui and Charles Bergson.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

Mayor Troughton invited all to join in the Pledge of Allegiance.

PUBLIC COMMENT: None.

PRESENTATION:

State of Jefferson.

DISCUSSION: Acting City Administrator Jim Saso explained to Council this was a presentation at a request from community members that represent the State of Jefferson. We were asked for forty- five minutes of our time to go over their proposal.

Steve Baird stated he was here representing the State of Jefferson movement. He stated that their goal tonight was to try and get the City of Williams to sign a Declaration and Petition to join the State of Jefferson. Mr. Baird said this is being done because of the lack of representation in the northern state. Since 1965 the Northern part of California has not had adequate representation in the state legislature and the only way to get that representation back is to create a new state with the counties that would like representation restored. During the same year in 1965, the one representative per county was diluted to population methodology which only gave the northern part of California three Senators and three Assemblymen.

The solution to this problem is to create a new state. In order to create the new state, the State Legislature would need to approve this as well as Congress. This process requires a number of

defined steps to be achieved. Declarations and Petitions to withdraw from the State of California and join the new State of Jefferson by counties that would like to be involved. These forms must then be filed with the Secretary of State of California. The Declaration is a critical step in the formation of the new state. The key to the language contained within the Declaration defines grievances borne by each county, the desire to dissolve its relationship with California and join the new state and the legal description of the physical boundaries of the county. Counties that would like to become part of this new state should first give the Jefferson Committee some indication of support. This is typically done by the Board of supervisors affirming a Declaration and Petition.

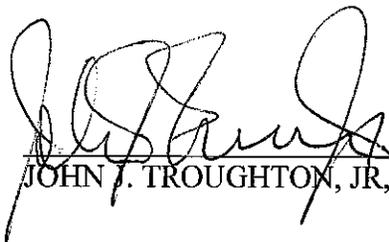
As of January 1, 2015, six counties have declarations and fourteen additional counties are in various stages of completing that goal. Steve Baird stated that the Jefferson Committee would like for the City of Williams to take a Declaration and Petition to withdraw the City from the State of California and join the State of Jefferson.

One of the biggest concerns that many people have is if the State of Jefferson is financially viable. The financial viability has been demonstrated by two different studies. The first was the result of the failed Six State Initiative that produced the Legislative Analyst Office report. The second study conducted resulted in a Variable Jefferson Viability Model that uses the population, tax rates, tax collections, county budget expenditures and K-12 education expenses for its portion of the debt owed by the population of Jefferson. The base model uses the current California tax structure and demonstrates that the new state is viable on day one.

ADJOURNED: Mayor Troughton Jr. adjourned the meeting at 5:52 pm.

ATTEST:


Mariana Pineda, Deputy City Clerk


JOHN J. TROUGHTON, JR, MAYOR

Adopted by Council: March 18, 2015