

NAVAJO COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS MINUTES
TUESDAY, MARCH 11, 2008

9:30 a.m. Call to Order: Supervisor Brownlow led the Pledge of Allegiance and offered the invocation.

PRESENT: J.R. DeSpain, Chairman; Jerry Brownlow, Vice Chairman; Percy Deal, Supervisor; Jesse Thompson, Supervisor; David Tenney, Supervisor; James Jayne, County Manager; and Darlene Fraley, Clerk of the Board. Mel Bowers, County Attorney, was not present due to impaneling a new Grand Jury.

CALL TO THE PUBLIC: Sylvia Allen addressed the Board, stating she is a candidate for the Arizona House of Representatives and is visiting all jurisdictions in five counties.

CONSENT AGENDA: a) Back tax land deed; b) Sympathy letters for Homero Vela, Linda Houle, Lynda Sonin and Gordon Terracina; c) Name an existing road in the Show Low area "Summer Haven Lane" in Section 33, Township 10 North, Range 22 East; d) Name an existing road in the Show Low area "Wild Bill Way" in Section 33, Township 10 North, Range 22 East; e) Constable Reports: Holbrook #1 January, Winslow #2 January; f) Special Event Liquor License for fund raising event to be held April 12, 2008 for the benefit of St. Anthony School to be held at 6734 Country Club Drive, Pinetop; g) Renewal of undercover plates for the Navajo County Sheriff's office: **Supervisor Brownlow made a motion** to approve and authorize the Chairman to sign the Consent Agenda items; motion seconded by Supervisor Thompson; vote unanimous approving the motion.

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS:

- a. Consideration and possible approval of a Proclamation Declaring March 11, 2008 the Day of the Lady Bulldogs: **Supervisor Thompson made a motion** to approve the Proclamation Declaring March 11, 2008 the Day of the Lady Bulldogs; motion seconded by Supervisor Deal; vote unanimous approving the motion. Supervisors presented the proclamation to the Lady Bulldog team with Coach Petranovich and the captain of the team thanking the board for this proclamation and discussing the challenges they had to face to become state champions.
- b. American RV and Navajo County Recognizing Excellence: Supervisors presented a certificate and fruit basket as sponsored by American RV to Sharon Macedo of the WIA program and Deputy County School Superintendent Tami Phillips for their outstanding contributions to their departments and county operations.
- c. Personnel Awards: Supervisors presented pins recognizing the number of years employees had worked for the county: Five Years—Richard Garcia, Gary Otterbeck, and Latanya Bakurza; 10 years—Allyn Isaacs and Mary McConnell.

HUMAN RESOURCES: Consideration and possible approval of Personnel Action report: Gail Calisen reviewed the 20 item written report. **Supervisor Brownlow made a motion** to approve the Personnel Action report; motion seconded by Supervisor Thompson; vote unanimous approving the motion.

NAVCo COALITION AGAINST DRUG ABUSE: Discussion of NAVCo Coalition's fund raising event: Kirk Grugel discussed education and prevention activities that the Coalition has participated in and advised the board that on April 15 between 6:30 and 7:00 every major television station will run Crystal Darkness followed by an hour long television/radio partnership at Show Low City Hall where a panel will be available for the "Voice of Recovery". Mr. Grugel and Supervisors discussed anticipated funding cuts and the impact they will have on the program. Supervisor Deal encouraged that, if there must be cutbacks, they are done equally across the county because of the intense need on the reservation for assistance with the meth problem.

PETRIFIED FOREST national park: Introduction of new Superintendent Cliff Spencer who will discuss programs and attractions: Superintendent Cliff Spencer provided a brief personal and professional history that

included being with the Park Service 24 years and has been at the Petrified Forest for five weeks. He introduced Scott Williams of Archaeological Collections and Jay Theur, Park Archaeologist. He discussed plans for the park that will include improving the facilities and making an effort to improve signage for tourists, hiring additional staff and continuing with the land acquisition. Supervisors welcomed Mr. Spencer to his new position.

APACHE-SITGREAVES FOREST SERVICE:

- a. Report of the modified proposed action for the Public Motorized Travel Management Program for the Apache-Sitgreaves National Forests: Ed Collins, District Ranger for Lakeside Ranger District, introduced Acting Black Mesa Ranger District Ranger Jack Green and provided a history of the Travel Management Program. He reported that during the revision process it became evident the proposed comments were not considered in the adoption of the plan and forest service staff was charged with considering these comments, modifying the plan accordingly and opening up the modified plan for comments. He discussed presentations they had made with user groups and discussed the major changes to the plan as well as the challenges in implementing. He reported this process is only the starting point and they welcome local participation to improve it. Supervisor DeSpain advised that Supervisors addressed this item in Washington and Supervisor Tenney stated he and Supervisor Brownlow hear from constituents on this issue on a daily basis. He further stated that even though the Forest Service states they are closing a limited number of roads, in actuality roads will be closed to public traffic that on paper may already be closed but historically have been open to traffic. He pointed out two people could be talking about the same road with one maintaining it is closed on paper and the other person aware that the road is actually open. He stated that residents' lifestyle would be negatively impacted if they could not access grazing, stock tanks and other forestry related activities. Mr. Collins advised that these same roads were always intended to close following the purpose for which they had been established. There was intense discussion in which all Supervisors, Rangers Ed Collins and Jack Green, and County Manager James Jayne participated. Mr. Jayne discussed the expense and monumental task of putting signs on all forest roads. Supervisor Deal advised that the forest road closures could have an impact on the Native American community since the forest has always been a source for herbs and plants needed in their culture. It was agreed that County staff and Supervisor Brownlow and Supervisor Tenney would meet with Mr. Collins and other Forest Service personnel to attempt resolution of these issues.
- b. Consideration and possible submittal of public comments related to the modified proposed action for the Public Motorized Travel Management Program for the Apache-Sitgreaves National Forests: Supervisor Tenney stated that at this point he did not believe the board is ready to submit comments and this could be considered following the dialogue with the Forest Service.

ADMINISTRATION: Navajo County Strategic Planning Update: Lou Schmitt, Strategic Planning facilitator, reviewed progress of this process that started in the Public Works department and now involves all other departments. He advised this process includes planning, ethics training, identifying problems and opportunities, and developing a plan for performance. Mr. Schmitt responded to board questions and the board thanked him for his guidance through this process.

PUBLIC WORKS:

- a. Consideration and possible adoption of **Resolution Number - 08** authorizing the support of an application by the Town of Pinetop-Lakeside to the Greater Arizona Development Authority for a Technical Assistance Grant for 50% of the cost of the feasibility study to study the reconstruction of the Porter Mountain Road bridge over Billy Creek in Pinetop-Lakeside James Matteson reviewed this request advising this partnership will accomplish what the single entities could not do separately. In response to questions he advised the county share is budgeted; the road is in good physical condition but only has two lanes when five lanes are needed; and there is a sharp curve that should be modified. **Supervisor Brownlow made a motion** to adopt

Resolution Number 15 - 08 authorizing the support of an application by the Town of Pinetop-Lakeside to the Greater Arizona Development Authority for a Technical Assistance Grant for 50% of the cost of the feasibility study to study the reconstruction of the Porter Mountain Road bridge over Billy Creek in Pinetop-Lakeside; motion seconded by Supervisor Thompson; vote unanimous approving the motion.

- b. Consideration and possible adoption of Intergovernmental Agreement to share the cost on a 50% basis for the Porter Mountain Road Feasibility study for the reconstruction of the Porter Mountain Road Bridge over Billy Creek in Pinetop-Lakeside: James Matteson advised this action is necessary to complete the partnership on this project. **Supervisor Brownlow made a motion** to approve the Intergovernmental Agreement to share the cost on a 50% basis for the Porter Mountain Road Feasibility study for the reconstruction of the Porter Mountain Road Bridge over Billy Creek in Pinetop-Lakeside; motion seconded by Supervisor Tenney; vote unanimous approving the motion.
- c. Bucking Horse Improvement District Board of Directors' Session: **Supervisor Tenney made a motion** to enter into the Bucking Horse Improvement District **Board of Directors' Session**; the motion was seconded by Supervisor Thompson; vote unanimous approving the motion.
- i. Consideration and possible adoption of Resolution Number _____ - 08 approving the assessment diagram of this District: Following Carol Fraley's presentation of the assessment diagram, **Supervisor Brownlow made a motion** to adopt **Resolution Number 16-08** approving the assessment diagram of this District; motion seconded by Supervisor Tenney; vote unanimous approving the motion.
- ii. Notification by Superintendent of Streets of the recording of the Assessment for the Bucking Horse Improvement District: Dusty Parsons reported staff is very pleased with the assessment number that came in much lower than estimated and staff, Jim Matteson and Carol Fraley, are to be commended for a conscientious job producing great results. It was noted that no action is needed for this item.
- iii. Consideration and possible adoption of Resolution Number _____ - 08 to set a public hearing on the district assessment for April 15, 2008: **Supervisor Brownlow made a motion** to adopt **Resolution Number 17 - 08** setting a public hearing on the district assessment for April 15, 2008; motion seconded by Supervisor Tenney; vote unanimous approving the motion.

Supervisor Tenney made a motion to return to regular session; motion seconded by Supervisor Thompson; vote unanimous approving the motion.

- d. Mountain View Improvement District Board of Directors' Session: **Supervisor Tenney made a motion** to enter into the Mountain View Improvement District **Board of Directors' Session**; motion seconded by Supervisor Thompson; vote unanimous approving the motion
- i. Consideration and possible approval of a Professional Services contract with Willdan for the engineering services for Mountain View Improvement District: Dusty Parsons advised this is an engineering service and the county has contracted with Willdan previously. **Supervisor Brownlow made a motion** to approve a Professional Services contract with Willdan for the engineering services for the Mountain View Improvement District; motion seconded by Supervisor Tenney; vote unanimous approving the motion.

Supervisor Tenney made a motion to return to regular session; motion seconded by Supervisor Thompson; vote unanimous approving the motion.

- e. Consideration and possible approval of funding in an amount not to exceed \$2,500.00 from District II and \$2,500.00 from District III LTAF II funds for vehicle operating expenses for Alice's Place: Dusty Parsons discussed this request that is eligible for LTAF II funding. Supervisor Thompson and Supervisor DeSpain discussed this program, advising it is a good program for all communities on and off the reservation. **Supervisor Thompson made a motion** to approve funding in an amount not to exceed \$2,500.00 from District II and \$2,500.00 from District III LTAF II funds for vehicle operating expenses for Alice's Place; motion seconded by Supervisor Tenney. Supervisor Tenney requested that a staff member contact Rim Country Senior Center to discuss their needs. Supervisor DeSpain stated the new director for Silver Creek called last week and advised he would submit a request to him and Supervisor Tenney in the future. Mr. Parsons stated he would follow up on these requests. Vote unanimous approving the motion.
- f. Update on road conditions related to recent declaration of emergency: Leo Sheppard displayed pictures of Operation Grey Mud that depicted the recent flooding that created deplorable road conditions on BIA roads that are also school bus routes. Dusty Parsons reported that the Oraibi Wash was a topic of discussion in

Washington, DC with Leroy Gishi of the BIA. It was agreed that following the most recent moisture, the even deeper erosions will now require very expensive reconstruction that requires a lot of cooperation among all agencies. Mr. Sheppard thanked all agencies that participated in Operation Grey Mud. Supervisor Deal expressed appreciation to the board for their understanding and support in issuing an emergency declaration to participate in this operation, Emergency Management and the Public Works team for their response, Mr. Sheppard for coordinating transportation and the Washington delegation who carried the message to Washington. It was announced that Supervisor Thompson got a commitment from the BIA and Federal Lands to come to the reservation (Kayenta) on May 15th and 16th and that San Juan County officials will participate.

BOARD BUSINESS: Chairman DeSpain reviewed the upcoming board calendar that includes March 19th Small Counties and March 20th CSA. All supervisors discussed activities within their district, legislative and budget issues at the state level, and the intense and beneficial meetings that were conducted in Washington DC. They thanked staff for their support while in DC and expressed appreciation for Supervisor Tenney's stand on travel management.

ADJOURN: At 12:34 p.m., **Supervisor Tenney made a motion** to adjourn; motion seconded by Supervisor Brownlow and vote unanimous approving the motion.

APPROVED:

DATE:

J. R. DeSpain, Chairman

April 15, 2008

ATTEST:

Darlene Fraley, Clerk of the Board