

NAVAJO COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS' MINUTES
Tuesday, August 23, 2016

PRESENT: Dawnafe Whitesinger, Supervisor; Robert K. Black Jr., Supervisor; Steve Williams, Supervisor; Jesse Thompson, Vice-Chairman; and Jason E. Whiting, Chairman, were present in person.

9:04 a.m. Call To Order: Pledge of Allegiance and Invocation was led by **Supervisor Whitesinger**.

CALL TO THE PUBLIC: There were no comments from the public.

CONSENT AGENDA: a) Minutes: August 9, 2016 b) Constable Reports: Holbrook, Precinct #1, July; Winslow, Precinct #2, July; and Pinetop-Lakeside, Precinct #6, July 2016 c) Approval of 3 Back Tax Land Parcels sold over the counter in the amount of \$2,806.52 d) Special Event Liquor License for Scottsdale Charros, Inc., 422 Sponsellor Siding Road, Lakeside from October 5, 2016 through October 8, 2016, for a charitable event e) Extension of Premises/Patio Permit for The Wild Women Saloon and Grill in Overgaard on September 3, 2016, for the Lion's Club Casino Night f) Approval of changing Personnel Policy 2.73-Payment of Wages to Terminated Employees to comply with the provisions of A.R.S. §23-353 g) Tax exemptions filed pursuant to A.R.S. §42-11153 as a Request for Redemption of Waiver h) Approval of Contract DI16-002107 – Amendment #5 to increase funding i) Name an unnamed existing road in the Snowflake area "Paso Drive" in Sections 9 and 15, Township 12 North, Range 23 East j) Contract signed by County Manager per Board of Supervisors Resolution: License Agreement between Navajo County and Verizon for Heber Green Tank Tower k) Letter of Support of SRP's BART Alternative Proposal l) Letter to Navajo County Citizens for the FY17 budget book m) Intergovernmental Agreement regarding the exercise of joint powers for the operation of the coalition of Arizona/New Mexico Counties for stable economic growth n) Acceptance of FY17 Victim Assistance Grant Number VA-17-058 o) Adopt Amended Resolution Number 32-07, authorizing the County Manager, or one of the Assistant County Manager's, to execute certain contracts on behalf of the county when the contract price does not exceed \$50,000: **Supervisor Whitesinger made a motion** to authorize the Chairman to sign the items in the consent agenda; motion seconded by **Vice-Chairman Thompson**. Vote unanimous approving the motion.

EMPLOYEE RECOGNITION: Navajo County Recognizes **LouAnn Scoggin** (Juvenile Detention), **Lori Romo** (Juvenile Detention), **Sheena Valdez** (Adult Probation), and **Dave' Rodriguez** (Public Works) for their excellence in personal performance far exceeding organization expectations: Lea Peterson recognized LouAnn Scoggin, Lori Romo, Sheena Valdez and Dave' Rodriguez for their excellence in personal performance. A brief presentation was shown. **Vice-Chairman Thompson** thanked all those employees who were recognized and commended those employees who nominated their fellow employees. **Supervisor Williams** indicated that this is a real tribute to be recognized out of 600 employees. **Chairman Whiting** expressed appreciation for those employees who were nominated and those who took the time to nominate for what they do for the citizens of Navajo County.

NAVAJO COUNTY FAIR:

a. **Navajo County Fair Update:** Michael Sample indicated that the fair opens on September 14 and ends on September 18. He stated that every year, the fair gets bigger and better and that the Fair Board consists of 21 volunteer members, many of whom are County employees. He thanked Navajo County for the partnership it has with the fair. He indicated that the fair will open on September 14, at 12:00 p.m., with Opening Ceremonies beginning at 6:00 p.m., which will allow those participating in 4H to bring their livestock on Tuesday evening. He spoke about some of the events which will be held at the fair, including Demolition

Derby on Thursday night and the Rodeo on Friday and Saturday nights. He stated that the fair has contracted with the Country Band, Emerson Drive, that will hold a concert. He further stated that instead of the Ranch Rodeo on Sunday, they will have the Southwest Junior Rodeo Association. He spoke about other events throughout the year, to include the local Gymkhanas once a month, Tulani Lake Roping in March, Southwest Indian Rodeo Finals the weekend after the fair, and the Southwest Junior Rodeo finals, as well. He spoke about the grandstand roofing being completed with the partnership of **Supervisor Whiting**. He stated that they were audited by the Governor's Office for the Governor's Fund, who were amazed at how they manage their finances with the partnership of the Navajo County Finance Team. He thanked the department directors and elected officials who allow their employees to volunteer during the fair, along with Sheriff Clark and his crew. **Supervisor Whiting** thanked Mr. Sample and the Fair Board and all of the volunteer hours that are put in and everything that goes into putting on the fair and all of the other events throughout the year. He spoke about the Fair Board also helping tourism and expressed appreciation for Mr. Sample's leadership and vision and partnership. **Vice-Chairman Thompson** thanked Mr. Sample for reaching out to other agencies.

- b. Consideration and possible approval of a proclamation declaring September 14 through September 18, 2016 as "Navajo County Fair Days": **Chairman Whiting** read the proclamation and asked for the Board's approval. **Vice-Chairman Thompson made a motion** to approve a proclamation declaring September 14 through September 18, 2016 as "Navajo County Fair Days"; motion seconded by **Supervisor Black**. Vote unanimous approving the motion.

ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES:

- a. Presentation to retired employee Leo Sheppard: At 9:30 a.m., Bill Bess recognized Leo Sheppard for his 9-plus years with Navajo County. He stated that Mr. Sheppard was a huge advocate of the Red Dog Gravel Project and that without his help, the 4 partners and the 10 chapters may not have united to make the partnership beneficial to all of the partners. He spoke about how Mr. Sheppard's dedication allowed the partnership to improve approximately 100 miles of road within Navajo County and the Navajo Nation. He stated that Mr. Sheppard was instrumental in setting up meetings with the different partners, which necessitated coordinating with 10 different individual chapters, including partnering with Navajo Department of Transportation, Bureau of Indian Affairs, Peabody Coal, and several school districts. He spoke about how Mr. Sheppard also met with the Navajo Nation Department of Water Resources and the Hopi Tribe to obtain water for the Red Dog projects, assisted with gravel placement, coordinated with getting heavy equipment repairs, and assisted in all the storm repairs when we had storms. **Vice-Chairman Thompson** spoke about Mr. Sheppard and his work with the Navajo and Hopi Nations and Navajo County. He thanked Mr. Sheppard for his friendship and his work. **Supervisor Black** expressed appreciation to Mr. Sheppard for his work with Navajo County and the Navajo Nation. He indicated that he looks to Mr. Sheppard as a leader. He stated that Mr. Sheppard has accumulated a wealth of knowledge throughout the years, and Navajo County community members have benefited from that. He spoke of Mr. Sheppard's ethics and hard work. **Supervisor Black** presented Mr. Sheppard with a Navajo Leadership Rug in appreciation of his service. **Supervisor Whitesinger** thanked Mr. Sheppard for his willingness to do the hard work. Homero Vela spoke about Mr. Sheppard and his work with Navajo County. He congratulated Mr. Sheppard on his retirement and wished him the very best. He further spoke about some of the projects on which Mr. Sheppard worked and that when he thinks of Mr. Sheppard, he thinks of a bridge to the Navajo Nation community, because he can step into a room and command the respect from the group and get things accomplished and represented Navajo County in the best manner possible. Mr. Vela presented Mr. Sheppard with a certificate of retirement. Bill Bess presented Mr. Sheppard with a Navajo County hat, a coffee mug and some Navajo County coasters. Mr. Sheppard thanked the members of the Board, Mr. Vela and Mr. Bess for their kind words. He expressed his appreciation for all those with whom he has worked. He spoke of the engineers with whom he has worked throughout the years and with the Navajo Nation Chapters. He spoke about his work with Districts I and II,

with former supervisor Percy Deal, who was instrumental in starting the gravel project. He spoke about former supervisor Jonathan M. Nez, who was very instrumental in beginning the hard work in the process of road graveling. He indicated that he has enjoyed the work and spoke of the partnerships. Mr. Bess invited everyone over to the Public Works building for a Navajo Taco lunch at noon.

- b. Personnel Service Awards: Congratulations to the following employees for their continued service to Navajo County: **Abbi Cluff** (Health District) 5 years; **Jesse Pollock** (Sheriff) 5 years; **Kimberly McAllester** (BOS/Admin) 5 years; **Anna Atencio** (Public Defender) 5 years; **Trenton Clatterbuck** (Health District) 5 years; **Robert Douglas** (Planning and Zoning) 10 years; **Randall Ovah** (Facilities Management) 10 years; **Boyd Bairn** (Juvenile Probation) 15 years; **Shanda Breed** (Adult Probation) 15 years; **Albert Warren** (Jail Operations) 15 years; **Marlene Sample** (Assessor) 20 years; **Albert Espino** (County Attorney) 30 years: Katherine Wright recognized Abbi Cluff, Jesse Pollock, Kimberly McAllester, Anna Atencio, Trenton Clatterbuck, Robert Douglas, Randall Ovah, Boyd Bairn, Shanda Breed, Albert Warren, Marlene Sample, and Michael Espino for their continued service to Navajo County.
- c. Consideration and possible approval of Personnel Actions: Eric Scott reviewed the 35-item Personnel Action Report. **Vice-Chairman Thompson made a motion** to approve the Personnel Action Report as presented; motion seconded by **Supervisor Whitesinger**. Vote unanimous approving the motion.
- d. Budget Update: Bryan Layton gave an update on the FY17 budget and indicated 50 percent of the County's revenues comes from sales tax, which was down \$38,000.00 in July for State Shared Tax and \$86,000.00 in July and August for County Sales Tax, which, if this trend continues, could lead to a \$1,000,000.00 shortfall for FY17. He stated that the decreases can be attributed to the energy sector. He spoke about how the County can respond by beginning to prepare specific strategies and monitor and implement reduction strategies as needed. He also spoke about looking to structural and programmatic strategies, with a County-wide perspective. He indicated that this will require intense partnerships and participation with Departments. He indicated that the Legislature is a big part of this, and, therefore, we will need to continue the conversations with the Legislature, other County managers throughout the State, CSA, and AACo to develop a common message and set of priorities. He stated that he anticipates having a recommended strategy by the next Board meeting. **Chairman Whiting** inquired as to how much data we need to look at to anticipate the trend. Mr. Layton indicated that, ideally, we would like to have 3 months, but because of the dramatic shortfall in the first two months, we need to develop strategies. He stated that we are coordinating with the Department of Revenue to obtain the current numbers. **Chairman Whiting** thanked Mr. Layton for his work with CSA and spoke about the continued cuts the County has done and the employers which have been lost and jobs which have been threatened. **Supervisor Whitesinger** made comments about the impact the budget has on departments, the organization, and services. She spoke about having the budgetary responsibility to protect the dollars. She thanked Mr. Layton for being proactive. She spoke about supporting one another. **Vice-Chairman Thompson** commended Mr. Layton for providing a head's up on the budget, and further spoke about the quality service that Navajo County provides to our citizens and expressed hope that the shortfall will be short-term. He spoke about continuing to reach out to our legislators.
- e. Consideration and possible approval of a proclamation declaring the month of September as "National Preparedness Month 2016": Mary Springer and Catrina Jenkins discussed the item, asking the Board to approve a proclamation declaring the month of September as National Preparedness Month 2016. Ms. Jenkins read the proclamation. **Vice-Chairman Thompson made a motion** to approve a proclamation declaring the month of September as "National Preparedness Month 2016"; motion seconded by **Supervisor Black**. Vote unanimous approving the motion. **Vice-Chairman Thompson** thanked Ms. Springer and Ms. Jenkins for their efforts in keeping the citizens prepared.
- f. Consideration and possible acceptance of the FY2016 Emergency Management Program Grant (EMPG) Award: Mary Springer discussed the item. **Supervisor Williams** asked about how the grant award is

comparable to previous years. Ms. Springer indicated that this year is a little bit more than years before. **Supervisor Williams made a motion** to accept the FY2016 Emergency Management Program Grant (EMPG) Award; motion seconded by **Supervisor Whitesinger**. Vote unanimous approving the motion.

- g. Presentation from BOLDPlanning on the Navajo County Emergency Operations Plan and the Navajo County Continuity of Operations Plan: Mary Springer introduced Matt Eyer from BOLDPlanning, who gave a brief presentation on the Navajo County Emergency Operations Plan and the Navajo County Continuity of Operations Plan. Mr. Jayne thanked Mr. Eyer for being present today and further thanked Ms. Springer and Ms. Jenkins.

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY: Consideration and possible approval to rescind the award of CDBG #123-16 911 Equipment Upgrade to Durham Communications Inc: At 9:29 a.m., Ken Dewitt addressed the item asking that the award be rescinded due to County procurement policies not being followed. **Supervisor Williams made a motion** to approve rescinding the award of CDBG #123-16 911 Equipment Upgrade to Durham Communications, Inc.; motion seconded by **Supervisor Whitesinger**. Vote unanimous approving the motion.

COUNTY BUSINESS UPDATE: Report from Board members, County Attorney and County Manager; **Supervisor Whitesinger** gave an update from District V. She spoke about Sunrise Ski Resort and the summer operations. She spoke about the zipline which was put in this year and stated that the full zipline tour will be closing in October. She further spoke about serving on the First Things First White Mountain Apache Regional Council for the last five years and yesterday attended the First Things First Summit and how she loves to champion for our young people in our communities. **Supervisor Black** gave a report from District I. He gave a report on the Red Dog Gravel Project. He spoke about attending the swearing in of the Chief of Police in Window Rock. He stated that he will be attending several gravel project meetings beginning tomorrow. **Supervisor Williams** reported on the Rural Arizona Policy Forum that he attended in Show Low with Paul Watson. He reported on the Heber-Overgaard Chamber Meeting. He thanked James Jayne, Bryan Layton, Mary Springer and Glenn Kephart for their time in working with him. **Supervisor Williams** spoke about the Olympics and how it touched him. He spoke about being inspired about how the athletes magnified what they had in common. He thanked his supervisors with whom he serves who he believes are very good at magnifying what they have in common for the good of the whole. **Vice-Chairman Thompson** spoke of a meeting with the Native American citizens in Winslow and the Navajo Nation Human Rights Commission. He spoke about ways to establish a quality working relationship between the Native American communities and off-Reservation communities. He spoke about the veterans and the military service. He also spoke about the budget shortfall. He spoke about a new sign which says "Welcome Veterans, Thank you Veterans." **Chairman Whiting** spoke about attending the County Manager's Association meeting in Show Low. He thanked staff and leadership to identify a few key issues that we need to be working on with the State that are fair and prudent asks. He spoke about the forest industry and that 75 jobs have been saved. He spoke about another potential industry in the vetting process which has the potential of bringing about 400 jobs to the area. He further spoke about opening day for youth football hosted in the Holbrook area. He thanked all of the volunteers who participate in helping the youth in the area.

ADJOURN: At 10:57 a.m. **Supervisor Williams made a motion** to adjourn; motion seconded by **Supervisor Whitesinger**. Vote unanimous approving the motion.

APPROVED:

DATED: September 13, 2016



Jason E. Whiting, Chairman
Navajo County Board of Supervisors

ATTEST:

Melissa W. Buckley

**Melissa W. Buckley, Clerk
Navajo County Board of Supervisors**