

Work Session

November 12, 2014

The Pinal County Board of Supervisors convened at 9:30 A.M. this date. Chairman Smith called the meeting to order.

Presentations and audio files of the meeting can be found in the minutes section of the Board of Supervisors website www.pinalcountyz.gov

Present: Chairman Anthony Smith; Vice-Chairman Todd House; Supervisor Pete Rios; Supervisor Cheryl Chase; Supervisor Stephen Q. Miller; Chief Civil Deputy County Attorney, Chris Keller; County Manager, Greg Stanley; Clerk of the Board, Sheri Cluff and Deputy Clerk of the Board, AmberLee Taylor.

Chairman Smith announced that item 7 on the agenda was removed at the request of the sponsor.

Point of Personal Privilege

Supervisor Chase commented that for almost two years the Board has seen departments change salaries and positions. Some came before the Board and some did not. In some cases, the salaries of a few of the top positions, when combined, added up to as much as \$240,000 - \$350,000. She said the increase for a few of the Board's executive assistants was due to their many combine duties which other departments have 3-4 people to cover. The salary of \$57,000 for those three executive assistant's is comparable to the national and state salaries for jobs of this type. Supervisor Chase felt the Board has worked with everyone to do the best it can for the employees, but some of the requests are outrageous. Additional information is available for view and she submitted a copy of her comments to the Clerk of the Board.

Supervisor Rios announced that State Senator Jones Osborn of Yuma, Arizona passed away this past week. He served as a State Senator for 20 years and was respected throughout the state as someone who cared about all people. Secondly, Supervisor Rios addressed the press release issued by Sheriff Babeu regarding the Sycamore Canyon Academy and the identification of a minor by name. Sycamore Canyon Academy is reluctant in dealing with the press and they protect their children so they have not responded to the negative article. Supervisor Rios said he spoke with someone from Sycamore Canyon and he was informed that whenever there is a power outage, it triggers a 911 call automatically. There were several outages due to the storms in the area which is why there was an increase in 911 calls. Additionally, the press release identified the child from being from Central America, but the Academy identifies the child as being from Tucson, Arizona.

Recognizing Lonnie Madewell for his 43 years of service to Pinal County. Lonnie is currently the foreman of the Public Works Arizona City Crew.

County Manager, Greg Stanley, recognized Lonnie Madewell for his 43 years of service to Pinal County. Mr. Madewell was presented with a plaque and a Public Works coin of excellence. The Board thanked Mr. Madewell for his service.

Mr. Madewell thanked the Board and Greg for the recognition.

Supervisor Pete Rios recognized former Pinal County Supervisor, David Snider, in the audience.

Update on Air Quality issues.

Mike Sundblom, Air Quality director recognized Colleen McKaughan, Associate Director of EPA, Region 9, in the audience. She was available to answer any questions the Board may have. Pinal County has been working closely with her staff in the relocation of the Cowtown monitor. In 2014, staff recorded values that concerned them with regard to continuing to meet the 24 hour PM2.5 standard at Cowtown. Ramifications could include reversing the EPA Clean Data Finding and Pinal County being required to complete a full SIP. The daily sampling began August 1, 2014 and as of October, the measured values remained below critical level.

Chairman Smith added that the actions taken by the operator of the feed lot have contributed to the remedy.

A new issue Mr. Sundblom discussed with the Board was the request by ADEQ to have the County operate a continuous daily monitor at TS1N R8E Apache Junction site and ADEQ will supply the equipment. Mr. Sundblom felt that daily monitoring at that site would be beneficial to the citizens, would help justification for future exceptional events and would help to avoid jeopardizing recent clean data finding for the Phoenix PM10 area. He added that by doing this, it would result in less operational time for County staff.

The Board was supportive of the change and directed staff to move forward.

Mr. Sundblom informed the Board that the process staff was to take in order to revise the Hearing Board Definition was completed. Staff plans to bring the permitting threshold rule to the Board in early 2015 in order to revise it to conform to changes in the state rules. Mr. Sundblom explained that staff is studying the general permits to streamline the process, looking at long term major source rule revisions in 2015-2016 and reviewing permit fees for possible revision as well.

Supervisor House would like to see burn permits available online.

Mr. Sundblom agreed and staff is looking to do that. Currently they can be done via email and phone. He continued to report the department's activity.

Staff updated the Board on the Cowtown monitor relocation. Solar power can be challenging and batteries and panels have been added to ensure constant data can be acquired. Staff performs regular instrument checks and maintenance, periodic data review. A monthly conference call with EPA is held in order to keep Region 9 very informed. Staff is working to develop an evaluation procedure to evaluate the data at the end of the process. Mr. Sundblom expects the process to be completed in July 2015.

The EPA guidance suggested the Cowtown monitor be relocated to a similar site and the data collected indicates that both the Hidden Valley site and the White and Parker Site are similar. Evaluation of the data at the end of the process will determine the best site based on the similarity of concentrations, source representation, population represented, future planned use of area and the availability of the monitor site.

Colleen McKaughan with EPA, Region 9 complimented staff for their transparency of the process. There will be a technical evaluation at the end of the data collection period to determine comparability of both sites. Ms. McKaughan was happy to be included in the process.

Greg Stanley expressed concern that the Hidden Valley site will end up being another Cowtown and asked if the County would be able to build a case for White and Parker.

Ms. McKaughan said the White and Parker site looks good, but the technical justification might be a little more difficult.

Bas Aja with the Arizona Cattleman's Association commended the department for communicating the change to daily sampling very well and agreed it was a good idea. He asked the Board if he could expect a smooth transition to the new site once selected.

County Manager, Greg Stanley did not anticipate having any of the issues experienced previously regarding site selection.

Work Session on the Central Arizona Governments (CAG) Regional Transportation Plan by CAG staff/project team to review and discuss the recommendations. (Andy Smith, Central Arizona Governments Transportation Planning Manager)

Andy Smith with CAG presented the Regional Transportation Plan. The presentation was of the planning done prior to 2011 and included all of Pinal and Gila County. At that time an assessment of existing transportation plans was done, desired needs were

identified and policies and strategies were created. During the next phase much discussion was had between ADOT, State Land and the local communities to redefine the scope of work and to identify a future base transportation network. Mr. Smith discussed at length the near-term, mid-term and long-term projects specific to what Pinal County may be interested in. Mr. Smith said the recommended scenario for the 2040 Network would be Increased Roadway Capacity on Existing Major Roadways, New Freeways/High Capacity Roadways, New arterial connectivity to high capacity roadways, Interim connectivity between SR-24, N/S Corridor and US-60. The details of the presentation can be viewed on the County website referenced at the beginning of the minutes.

Supervisor Rios asked what would be the reason to spend money on the bypass near Gold Canyon if we link the corridor before the bypass.

Supervisor House said the main driver for the bypass is to get around the Renaissance Festival traffic.

Mr. Smith said the challenge is that the need for the north south corridor has been determined based on existing population. The theory is to maintain the integrity of US 60 while working a re-route and maintain capacity.

Supervisor Chase pointed out the festival is seasonal and wondered if the cost outweighed the amount of money coming in from the festival.

Chairman Smith said there were a few projects, currently in the planning process, not listed in the presentation.

Mr. Smith said that he would follow-up and get back to the Chairman with additional information. He added that public meetings will be held on November 17th at Walker Butte, November 18th at Santa Cruz High School, November 19th at Apache Junction High School and November 20th at Florence Elks Lodge.

Presentation by Access Arizona on their 1st Quarter FY2014-2015 Activity Report.

Tim Kanavel, Pinal County Economic Development Director introduced Jim Dinkle, Executive Director, Access Arizona who presented the quarterly report for fiscal year 2014-2015. In this quarter, Pinal County co-sponsored the kick-off of Access Arizona's Business Retention and Expansion Program. Luke Jackson with Access Arizona has spent time visiting with several employers and of those employers, it is projected that in the next 2-3 years, they have plans to create 750-800 new jobs. During budget discussions, the County allocated \$150,000 for a deal closing fund. Guidelines and an application has been drafted which will come before the Board for review and consideration. Mr. Dinkle briefly discussed recruitment mentioning Tractor Supply Company, Food for Life, Tesla Charging Center, Buffalo Wild Wings, etc. In

summation, the team has netted 100 million in new investments and close to 300 job creations. There has been a decline in the unemployment rate in Pinal County from over 8% in January to 7.1% today. The team proposed an Interstate 8 logistics corridor from Interstate 10 to the California State line. There has been improved communications with stakeholders with the weekly newsletter. There will be an annual meeting on February 26, 2015 at the New Robson Ranch Banquet facility in Eloy, Arizona. Mr. Dinkle felt that the team needs to address a new model for economic development.

Supervisor Miller encouraged everyone to view the report attached to the agenda item online.

Presentation by the Pinal County Water Augmentation Board supporting their monetary request from the county.

David Snider, Water Augmentation Authority Board Chair and Executive Director of the Authority appeared before the Board to present the goals and functions of the Authority.

Joe Singleton briefly discussed the formation of the authority and explained that the PCWAA consists of a volunteer Board of Directors. Their goal is to support the development of responsible, collaborative, and sustainable water planning and management in the Pinal Active Management Area. The AMA consists largely of the western part of Pinal County based on state subdivisions. The statutory purpose of the Authority includes regional water planning, assisting water providers in meeting requirements of Groundwater Management Act 1980, cooperating in augmenting water supplies and representing Pinal AMA interests in the development of Arizona water plans. The Authority advocates for comprehensive and responsible water resource management policy at state and local levels, represents regional voice and point-of-contact on water issues and seeks partners and collaborative partnerships. PCWAA's role for members includes water resources planning and regional solutions, water planning policy for Cities and Towns in annexation and development agreements, general plans, strategic water planning policy, zoning, changes in comprehensive land use plans and water law, consulting with Cities and Towns on assured water supply, advise municipalities or other water service providers on the Central Arizona Groundwater Replenishment District issues, recharge programs with and on behalf of its members and consulting on water-related issues and reporting requirements. The challenge has been funding. The authority is authorized to issue revenue bonds, but not general obligation bonds. They are allowed to annually request up to \$200,000 from AMA Conservation and Augmentation Assistance (CAA) Fund. That fund is generated by .50 for every acre foot of ground water that is pumped in the AMA. Typically that generates revenue of \$300,000 - \$400,000 annually. The disbursement of those funds are at the discretion of the ADWR Director and are only used to support projects. They are not used for staffing.

Chairman Smith asked if there were any current projects being done to remedy the issue of water supply.

David Snider explained that the authority helps the only two municipalities, Eloy and Florence, within the Pinal County AMA that have CAP contract water. The authority helps to subsidize the cost of that water so that agriculture can use the water in lieu of pumping ground water. This is good because they are using a renewable supply and the pumps are left off. The Authority is currently discussing a similar relationship with the Arizona Water Company. The Authority continues to look at other opportunities such as working with Arizona Water Bank to have them continue to bring water and recharge it in the AMA. There has been discussion about partnering with the Water Bank in the Central Arizona Ground Water Replenishment District in a recharge facility, but that is very costly. As a governing entity, the Authority wants to have the pump tax money generated by people pumping water in the Pinal AMA, to benefit people of the AMA. Staff persons such as Joe are beneficial, but the authority did not want to take that money from the pump tax so the authority is approaching the cities and the County to request a contribution of \$20,000 each to go to the cost of having staff.

The Board continued discussions of how the authority benefits the County.

Chairman Smith said there has been a request to bring this item back at a future meeting to consider the requested funding.

Discussion of proposed position control changes within the Pinal County Attorney's Office as follows: Item 1) Authorization to exceed step 3 up to and including a step 13 if necessary. Step Increase - Capital Attorney (Position #89/Grade 442) from Step 3 (\$139,471 with ERE) to Step 13 Salary (\$174,741 with ERE) and Capital Attorney (Position #110/Grade 442) from Step 3 Salary (\$139,471 with ERE) to Step 13 (\$174,741 with ERE); Item 2) Position Change – Convert Family Advocacy Center Director I (Position #4378/Grade 432) from Step 3 Salary (\$88,221 with ERE) to Director II (Position TBD/Grade 434) Step 3 Salary (\$96,492 with ERE); Item 3) Position Change – Convert Community Liaison (Position#4287/Grade 129) Step 3 Salary (\$77,738 with ERE) ; to Director II (Position # TBD/Grade 434) Step 3 Salary (\$96,492 with ERE); and Item 4) Position Change – Convert Public Information Officer (#4312/Grade 432) Salary Step 1 (\$84,303 with ERE) ; to Director II (Position # TBD/Grade 434) Step 3 Salary (\$96,492 with ERE).

The above item was removed per staff's request.

Chairman Smith announced that he would like to change the order of the agenda and break for lunch and hold the executive session item as the Board has lunch then reconvene for the Citizen Satisfactory Survey discussion.

Executive Session

11:55 A.M. - Motion was made by Supervisor House and seconded by Supervisor Rios to recess into executive session. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

Executive session pursuant to ARS 38-431.03(A)(3) for legal advice concerning the results of a jail staffing study prepared by MGT.

Present: Chairman Anthony Smith; Vice-Chairman Todd House; Supervisor Pete Rios; Supervisor Cheryl Chase; Supervisor Stephen Q. Miller; County Manager, Greg Stanley; Assistant County Manager for Administrative Services, Leo Lew; Clerk of the Board, Sheri Cluff.

Outside Counsel, Brad Holm participated telephonically.

The executive session began at 12:10 P.M.

1:05 P.M. – Chairman Smith adjourned the executive session and reconvened the regular meeting of the Board of Supervisors.

Work Session to discuss the draft Pinal County Citizen Satisfaction Survey

Kent Taylor, Director of Open Space and Trails discussed the citizen satisfactory survey. The survey aligned with the revised strategic plan and was more thorough in explaining county services. The working group appointed by the County Manager kept as many of the same questions as the 2010 survey for benchmarking purposes.

The Board pointed out changes they would like to see made to the survey questions.

Mr. Taylor hoped to have the changes made and open the survey online within the next week. The survey will run through the 3rd week of January. There will be a manual version available and a Spanish language version as well. The same language option was available four years ago and only one person took advantage of it.

The meeting stood adjourned at 2:07 P.M. The next regular meeting of the Pinal County Board of Supervisors will be on Wednesday, November 19, 2014 at 9:30 A.M.

PINAL COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

AmberLee Taylor

AmberLee Taylor, Deputy Clerk of the Board