

**MINUTES
OF THE
LA PAZ COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
Monday, February 5, 2018, 10:00 a.m.
Regular Meeting**

Chairman Wilson called the February 5, 2018, regular meeting of the La Paz County Board of Supervisors to order at 10:00 a. m. Elected Officials and Department Heads present were: Chairman Wilson, Supervisor Minor, Supervisor Irwin, County Administrator Drake, Deputy County Attorney Buckelew, Sheriff Risen, Assessor Camacho, Community Development Administrator Yackley, Health Director Shontz, Finance Director Krukemyer, Elections Director Scholl, Human Resource Director Frantz, School Superintendent Price; and Deputy Clerk of the Board Green. Tim Pickrell of Squire, Patton and Boggs LLP, was also present.

Chairman Wilson led the Pledge of Allegiance followed by the Invocation given by Pastor Jose Garcia of the Parker Apostolic Church.

Presentation: “Sandy Dodge Excellence Award”

Dorothy Fenech, Safety Committee Chairman, recognized Lisa Lovell, Chief Deputy Assessor, with the January 2018, Sandy Dodge Employee Excellence Award, along with a \$25 gift certificate to Walmart.

Assessor Camacho expressed appreciation for Chief Deputy Assessor Lovell as well as for the Sandy Dodge Excellence Award opportunity to recognize the County’s employees.

County Administrator and/or County Supervisor’s Current Event Summary: The County Administrator or Board Member may present a brief summary of current events summarizing recent occurrences without any discussion or feedback from the remainder of the board. The Board will not propose, discuss, deliberate or take legal action on any matter mentioned in the summary unless the specific matter is already properly noticed for legal action, and then only at such time as that matter comes before the board itself pursuant to its meeting agenda. A.R.S. § 38-431.02(K)

County Administrator Drake stated that the second Public Hearing for the May election would be held at a special meeting after the regular meeting at 11:00 a.m.

He stated that the Arizona Division of Occupational Safety and Health (ADOSH) representatives would be coming on February 27, 2018, for their introductory presentation to staff relating to the three-year safety program the County has signed up for.

He added that he received a call from Congressman Gosar’s office inquiring about a request from the media regarding Alamo Lake, which he felt brought the level of attention “up a notch”.

Supervisor Irwin stated that there would be a first public participation meeting by the Bureau of Land Management's on the Lower Colorado River Travel Management Plan, on February 13, 2018, from 4:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. at Blythe City Hall, and stated it would be important that those using the trails in the areas of Ehrenberg, Cibola, Palo Verde, Blythe, and Yuma and Imperial Counties get involved.

She added that a second meeting would be on February 15, 2018, from 4:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. at the Hilton Garden in Yuma.

County Administrator Drake stated that he had attended the Arizona City and County Managers Association Semi-Annual Retreat; "had some very good meetings with important people"; with ideas of advancing the County further, on such topics as recruitment of qualified candidates for open positions, and he expressed it was well worth attending.

CONSENT AGENDA (*Discussion and possible action on the following items*):

County Administrator Drake presented for approval Consent Agenda Items #5(a) through #5(f) through #5(f).

5(a) Approval of Minutes

Approve the minutes of the Tuesday, January 16, 2018, 10:00 a.m., regular meeting; and Wednesday, January 24, 2018, 1:00 p.m., special meeting.

5(b) Approval of Payroll

Approve January 7, 2018, through January 25, 2018, gross payroll, as presented, in the amount of \$373,129.63, plus employer benefit contributions of \$87,923.31, for a total of \$461,052.94, including handwritten warrants.

5(c) Approval of Demands

Approve the demands already remitted as presented, for FY2017/2018, in the amount of \$582,651.83, including handwritten warrants; and approve in advance to pay the demands as presented, for FY2017/2018, in the amount of \$125,866.58, including handwritten warrants; for a total of \$708,518.41 in expenditures.

5(d) Approve transfer of a Deputy to the position of Civil Deputy – Sheriff (Replacement)

Approve to transfer Deputy Tim Knowles from Deputy to Civil Deputy, retroactive to January 29, 2018, at an annual salary of \$59,383.58 (L08, Step 15).

5(e) Approve the Arizona Department of Public Safety Victims of Crime Act (VOCA) Victim Assistance Grant Program, Federal Grant #2016-VA-GX-0046, Sub-grant Award Agreement, retroactive to October 1, 2017, to September 30, 2020, in the amount of \$228,021, with a match of \$57,006, to be funded by AG and ACJC funding; providing 100% of the Victim Advocate and VA Assistant salaries; and authorizing the County Attorney to sign the agreement – County Attorney

Approve the Arizona Department of Public Safety Victims of Crime Act (VOCA) Victim Assistance Grant Program, Federal Grant #2016-VA-GX-0046, Sub-grant Award Agreement, retroactive to October 1, 2017, to September 30, 2020, in the amount of \$228,021, with a match of \$57,006, to be funded by AG and ACJC funding; providing 100% of the Victim Advocate and VA Assistant salaries; and authorizing the County Attorney to sign the agreement.

5(f) Approve Letter of Engagement from Walker & Armstrong LLP, for the preparation of financial statements to June 30, 2017 – Board of Supervisors

Approve Letter of Engagement from Walker & Armstrong LLP, for the preparation of financial statements to June 30, 2017.

SUPERVISOR MINOR MOVED to approve Consent Agenda Items #5(a) through #5(f). Motion seconded by Supervisor Irwin, passed unanimously.

Chairman Wilson recessed the Board of Supervisors and convened the Jail District Board of Directors at 10:10 a.m.

CONSENT AGENDA (*Discussion and possible action on the following items*):

County Administrator Drake presented for approval Jail Consent Agenda Items #6(a) through #6(d).

6(a) Approval of Jail District Payroll

Approve January 7, 2018, through January 25, 2018, gross payroll, as presented, in the amount of \$54,163.53, plus employer benefit contributions of \$10,454.84, for a total of \$64,618.37, including handwritten warrants.

6(b) Approval of Jail District Demands

Approve the Jail District demands already remitted as presented, for FY2017/2018, in the amount of \$72,538.03, including handwritten warrants; and approve in advance to pay the Jail District demands, as presented, for FY2017/2018, in the amount of \$21,115.93, including handwritten warrants; for a total of \$93,653.96 in expenditures.

6(c) Approve appointment of an Uncertified Detention Officer, a vacant budgeted position, retroactive to January 29, 2018; and upon successful completion of an Arizona Detention Academy within one year, and once certification obtained, a promotion to Certified Detention Officer (Replacement)

Approve to appoint C. J. Markel to the position of Uncertified Detention Officer, retroactive to January 29, 2018, starting at an annual salary of \$31,378.46 (L02, Step 1), increasing to \$32,057.38 (L02, Step 2) upon successful completion and certification of an Arizona Detention Academy within one year, and a six-month County probation period; and an additional six-month probation for the Sheriff's Office.

6(d) Approve appointment of a Certified Detention Officer, retroactive to January 29, 2018, a vacant budgeted position (Replacement)

Approve to appoint Eduardo Lopez to the position of Certified Detention Officer, retroactive to January 29, 2018, at an annual salary of \$32,057.38 (L02, Step 2); and a six-month County probation period; and an additional six-month probation for the Sheriff's Office.

SUPERVISOR IRWIN MOVED to approve Consent Agenda Items #6(a) through #6(d). Motion seconded by Supervisor Minor, passed unanimously.

Chairman Wilson recessed the Jail District Board of Directors and reconvened the Board of Supervisors at 10:12 a.m.

REGULAR AGENDA (Discussion and possible action on the following items):

Discussion and possible action on the draft La Paz County Employee Handbook – Human Resources

Human Resource Director Frantz stated that this item was the finalized version of the new policy and procedure handbook for the County, requesting approval.

Supervisor Minor expressed that the handbook was a “critical document” for the County and expressed appreciation along with County Administrator Drake and Chairman Wilson for the work put in by Human Resource Director Frantz and all others involved to complete the new handbook.

CHAIRMAN WILSON MOVED to adopt the La Paz County Personnel Policy and Procedure Handbook, effective February 5, 2018. Motion seconded by Supervisor Minor, passed unanimously.

Approve the addition of the Nationwide Schwab Personal Choice Retirement Account to our existing Nationwide supplementary benefit plan – Human Resources

Jim Keeler, Program Director representing Nationwide Schwab, spoke telephonically regarding the addition of the Nationwide Schwab Personal Choice Retirement Account to their Nationwide supplementary benefit plan.

He stated that there had been interest expressed by employees to invest some of their funds or to hire a registered adviser with Schwab. He added that Schwab does not intend to be an administrator and a Memorandum of Understanding would need to be signed with Schwab to provide these services. He further added that Schwab had recently lowered their trading fees.

SUPERVISOR MINOR MOVED to approve the addition of the Nationwide Schwab Personal Choice Retirement Account to their Nationwide supplementary benefit plan. Motion seconded by Supervisor Irwin, passed unanimously.

Approve Intergovernmental Agreement with the Secretary of State for participation in the Electronic Registration Information Center (ERIC) – Recorder

Recorder Baker requested approval of an Intergovernmental Agreement with the Secretary of State for participation in the Electronic Registration Information Center (ERIC).

Chairman Wilson asked for the meaning of the acronym “NCOA” in the agreement that was not defined.

Recorder Baker stated that the acronym stood for National Change of Address; a report that is already used in the Recorder’s office for updating information; however, the ERIC program will gather information from various sources throughout the country and give five different reports each year to assist the office in updating address information and decease records.

SUPERVISOR MINOR MOVED to approve Intergovernmental Agreement with the Secretary of State for participation in the Electronic Registration Information Center (ERIC) for the Recorder’s office. Motion seconded by Supervisor Irwin, passed unanimously.

Approve Arizona Supreme Court Funding Agreement for Court Security Improvements for the Salome Justice Court; authorizing Judge Slaughter to sign the agreement – JP5

Finance Director Krukemyer, on behalf of Judge Slaughter, requested approval of an Arizona Supreme Court Funding Agreement for Court Security Improvements for the Salome Justice Court.

He explained that the grant is for a magnetic door system in the amount of \$9,990; an audio-visual system for \$854.96; a panic button system at \$10,845; and security door at \$785.61; for a total grant amount of \$22,475.57.

County Administrator Drake added that the grant funds need to be used by July 31, 2018.

SUPERVISOR IRWIN MOVED to approve Arizona Supreme Court Funding Agreement for Court Security Improvements for the Salome Justice Court in the amount of \$22,475.57; authorizing Judge Slaughter to sign the agreement. Motion seconded by Supervisor Minor, passed unanimously.

Approve Exclusive Negotiation Agreement with 174 Global Corporation – Board of Supervisors

SUPERVISOR MINOR MOVED to approve Exclusive Negotiation Agreement with 174 Global Corporation, retroactive to January 1, 2018. Motion seconded by Chairman Wilson, passed unanimously.

Approve to appoint the Arizona Attorney General's Office to represent La Paz County in Solarcity Corp. et al v. Arizona Department of Revenue et al, Arizona Tax Court case no. TX2016-000876, a tax appeal for tax year 2017, regarding central valuation by the Department of plaintiffs' owned grid-tied photovoltaic systems; and authorize the Deputy Clerk of the Board to waive service – County Attorney

Deputy County Attorney Buckelew requested approval to appoint the Arizona Attorney General's Office to represent La Paz County in Solarcity Corp. et al v. Arizona Department of Revenue et al, Arizona Tax Court case no. TX2016-000876, a tax appeal for tax year 2017, regarding central valuation by the Department of plaintiffs' owned grid-tied photovoltaic systems; and authorize the Deputy Clerk of the Board to waive service.

He added that utilities and solar projects are centrally valued by the Department of Revenue and there is a legal battle that has been going on for some years; and La Paz County is only involved in a small way; however, the Attorney General's office is requesting all Counties approved this action in order that their office can represent them for Tax Year 2017.

CHAIRMAN WILSON MOVED to appoint the Arizona Attorney General's Office to represent La Paz County in Solarcity Corp. et al v. Arizona Department of Revenue et al, Arizona Tax Court case no. TX2016-000876, a tax appeal for tax year 2017, regarding central valuation by the Department of plaintiffs' owned grid-tied photovoltaic systems; and authorize the Deputy Clerk of the Board to waive service. Motion seconded by Supervisor Minor, passed unanimously.

Call to the Public: This is the time for the public to comment. Members of the Board may not discuss items that are not specifically identified on the agenda. Therefore, pursuant to A.R.S. § 38-431.01(H), action taken as a result of public comment will be limited to directing staff to study the matter, responding to any criticism or scheduling the matter for further consideration and decision at a later date

Chairman Wilson stated that he had received a letter that he was requested to read at this Board meeting. He stated it was from Daniel S. Evans, member of the Centennial Interchange Investments, LL; addressed to the Board regarding a development located at I10 Freeway and Avenue 75E; expressing that the development of this property “will finally occur”, and acknowledged Nora Yackley, Community Development Administrator and Skip Becker of the Economic Development Corporation for assisting them with the development. He added that the groundbreaking for the development will be in 2018 and promises to be “the most dynamic project in La Paz County and would provide much needed tax revenue”.

Adjournment

Chairman Wilson adjourned the meeting at 10:30 a.m.

APPROVED:

/s/
D. L. Wilson, Chairman

ATTEST:

/s/
Diane Green, Deputy Clerk of the Board

The following La Paz County demands were audited, approved and ordered paid by the La Paz County Board of Supervisors: #11131342, APS, \$3,620.17; #11131344, Ashworth Consulting, LLC, \$2,428; #11131348, Blue 360 Media, \$1,790.37; #11131350, Colorado River Funeral, \$2,094; #11131351, Empire Southwest, \$4,097.37; #11131353, Frontier, \$7,882.16; #11131355, Internal Revenue Service, \$33,482.95; #11131356, La Paz Regional Hospital, \$2,347.66; #11131362, Sionics Weapon System, \$5,479.73; #11131364, Walker & Armstrong, \$12,447; #11131367, Western Alliance Bank, \$29,612.95; #11131368, Yuma County Juvenile, \$3,440; #11131370, Abbey Stubbs & Ford, LLC., \$7,500; #11131371, Weston Akalski, \$1,455; #11131374, Arizona Department of Revenue, \$4,547.51; #11131375, Arizona Emergency Products, \$8,717.86; #11131376, AZ Counties Insurance Pool, \$53,943.74; #11131377, AZ Department of Economic Security, \$15,173.02; #11131395, Guardian Air, \$3,366.76; #11131398, Brandon Jaramillo, \$1,455; #11131402, Lexigen Science & Law Consult, \$2,450; #11131404, Gabriel

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Marcurio, \$1,455; #11131407, Trevor McIntosh, \$1,455; #11131412, Parker Funeral Home, Inc., \$1,801; #11131417, Pitney Bowes Reserve Acct, \$1,000; #11131418, Precision Striping, Inc., \$14,180; #11131421, Michael Radford, \$3,415.50; #11131425, Rosenfeld, Gust, PLC, \$2,325; #11131430, Laurence Schiff, \$4,175; #11131433, Southwest Gas Corporation, \$1,186.1; #11131436, TASC, INC., \$1,226.50; #11131442, Fred Welch, \$49,980; #11131443, White Sheet Free Shopping, \$2,330.70; #11131488, Frontier, \$7,712.16; #11131493, LS Appraisal Services, \$4,500; #11131495, Parker Oil Products, Inc., \$6,423.35; #11131503, Verizon, \$3,313.01; #11131510, Cintas Fas Lockbox 636525, \$1,053.70; #11131515, Desert Mountain Corp., \$1,715.84, #11131519, Michael Leland Frame, \$15,630; #11131522, Growers Oil Company, \$3,574.16; #11131529, La Paz Solar LLC, \$3,723.74; #11131531, MCI, \$1,591.74; #11131538, Pima County Treasurer, \$2,300; #11131539, Pitney Bowes Purchase, \$1,000; #11131540, Precision Striping, Inc., \$8,469; #11131548, Staples, \$9,068.08; #11131551, Strategic Management Group, \$5,906.85; #11131554, Symbol Arts, \$1,382; #11131556, Thomas L. Wing, \$1,513.15; #11131557, Thomson Reuters-West, \$1,304.28; #11131565, Zumar Industrites, \$1,588.10; #11131567, Arden Industries, \$2,341.49; #11131568, AZLGEBT, \$185,380.94; #11131570, Elected Officials Retirement, \$4,402.24; #11131573, Public Safety Retirement, \$12,486.50; #11131577, Standard Insurance, \$10,162.602; #11131583, Western Arizona Humane Society, \$1,005.