

**MINUTES  
OF THE  
LA PAZ COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS  
Monday, July 7, 2014, 10:00 a.m.  
Regular Meeting**

Chairman Wilson called the July 7, 2014, 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 Irwin, Supervisor Clapperton, County Administrator/Clerk of the Board Field, Deputy County Attorney Buckelew, Finance Director Hill, Sheriff Drum, Interim Public Works Director Simmons, Superior Court Clerk Spielman, Public Defender Field, Grants Administrator/Resource Coordinator Taft, School Superintendent Shelton, Assessor Schuler, Parks Director Bennett; and Deputy Clerk of the Board Green.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Chairman Wilson followed by the Invocation given by Pastor Louie Marsh of Christ's Church on the River.

**Presentation: "Sandy Dodge Employee Excellence Award"**

Dorothy Fenech, Safety Committee Chairman, presented Pam Shirley, Chief Justice Court Clerk from the Parker Justice Court, with the Sandy Dodge Employee Excellence Award along with a \$25 gift certificate to Walmart.

**Presentation: La Paz County Library District Exploratory Committee relating to a proposed Library District for La Paz County**

Carol Brown, Secretary for the La Paz County Library District Exploratory Committee, gave a power point presentation of the information compiled by the Committee relating to a proposed library district for La Paz County.

She stated that the proposed library district is termed a "free" library district in that it provides basic library services to the residents of the County without direct fees while using the library services.

She stated the Board of Supervisors have the statutory authority to form a library district pursuant to A.R.S. §48-3901; not requiring that it be on a ballot for a vote; and taxes may be levied sufficient to establish a library district.

She highlighted the advantages of a library district, noting that it provides for a major funding source to provide a unified standard of services while support for the individual needs of the different libraries; provides services to the outlying areas; and improves eligibility for grant funding.

She noted the only disadvantage would be the expected additional secondary property tax; however, it would free up funding already received by the County for other needs.

Ms. Brown explained that the Towns of Parker and Quartzsite libraries would not automatically “belong” to the district, but would participate by means of an agreement; and Friends of the Library would continue to be a very important element with the libraries, anticipating no change to its function.

She explained a timeline to implement the proposed district as follows: Fall 2014, a worksession with the Board of Supervisors, followed by action by the Board of Supervisors at the earliest time possible in order that changes to the property tax structure and projected levy may be initiated and continued through the budgeting session in 2015 in order that the district could go into effect on July 1, 2015. She stated that the district would be in full operation and its funding on January 1, 2016. She noted that the Towns would continue funding their libraries through the calendar year of 2015.

Ms. Brown explained that the finding of the Committee was that additional revenues are needed from the current funding of \$484,509, to provide for the shortfalls the libraries experience for such things as personnel and space needed to operate efficiently.

She detailed the needs not currently covered by the Towns or the County, such as a County Librarian, IT Technician, the “Full Cost Allocation” required by the County for administrative costs; software and licensing; and miscellaneous items that could be combined at the district level; noting a projected total of \$700,000; a cost to the taxpayer of \$.33 per \$100,000 of assessed value. She handed out to the Board a “Sample Cost Allocation” sheet detailing the figures.

Ms. Brown summated by recommending a worksession for further discussion and for public input.

Supervisor Clapperton expressed that he was in favor of a library district, understanding the value of libraries; however, he felt that if the taxpayers are asked to fund the library, it should go to a vote.

Supervisor Wilson stated that the Committee’s first concern was that it wanted the public to be able to vote on this issue; however, it was found that the Board of Supervisors did not have the authority to refer an item to the ballot; it required an initiative petition requiring 15% of qualified electors; a more laborious process. He stated it was hoped that public input could be obtained through a different method.

Ms. Brown expressed that the Committee would be more than willing to talk to the public to inform them all about the proposed library district.

**Current Event Summary**

There was none.

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

County Administrator Field presented for approval Consent Agenda Items #6(a) through #6(p).

**6(a) Approval of Minutes**

Approve the minutes of the Monday, June 16, 2014, 10:00 a.m. regular meeting; Monday, June 16, 2014, 1:00 p.m. worksession; and Wednesday, June 25, 2014, 10:00 a.m. special meeting.

**6(b) Approval of Payroll**

Approve June 1, 2014, through June 14, 2014, gross payroll, as presented, in the amount of \$399,588.83, plus employer benefit contributions of \$86,743.96, for a total of \$486,332.79, including handwritten warrants.

**6(c) Approval of Demands**

Approve the demands, as presented, for FY2013/2014, in the amount of \$768,978.02, including handwritten warrants; and for FY2014/2015, in the amount of \$9,200, including handwritten warrants.

**6(d) Appoint certified Deputy, a vacant budgeted position – Sheriff (Replacement)**

Approve to appoint Imar A. Hernandez-Garcia as certified Deputy, retroactive to June 30, 2014, at an annual salary of \$40,164.80 (L07, Step 1), a vacant budgeted position.

**6(e) Appoint 9-1-1 Dispatcher, a vacant budgeted position – Sheriff (Replacement)**

Approve to appoint Devin Husted as 9-1-1 Dispatcher, retroactive to July 4, 2014, at an annual salary of \$27,289.60 (NE001, Step 1), a vacant budgeted position.

**6(f) Appoint Administrative Secretary, a vacant budgeted position – Board of Supervisors/Elections**

Approve to appoint Nicholas C. Grenwalt as Administrative Secretary to the Elections Department/Board of Supervisors, retroactive to June 30, 2014, at an annual salary of \$23,744.40, (NE065, Step 3), increasing to \$24,377.60 (NE065, Step 4), effective December 29, 2014, upon successful completion of a six month probationary period.

**6(g) Approve appointment of election workers for the Primary Election to be held on August 26, 2014; and authorize staff to fill vacancies as required – Elections**

Approve appointment of election workers for the Primary Election to be held on August 26, 2014; and authorize staff to fill vacancies as required.

**6(h) Approve polling locations for Precincts #51, #52, #54, #55, #56, #57/62, #58/64, #59 and #60, for the Primary Election to be held on August 26, 2014 – Elections**

Approve polling locations for Precincts #51, #52, #54, #55, #56, #57/62, #58/64, #59 and #60, for the Primary Election to be held on August 26, 2014.

**6(i) Approve Arizona Criminal Justice Commission (ACJC) Drug, Gang and Violent Crime Grant agreement #DC-15-026, and a required match of funds, retroactive to July 1, 2014, and terminating June 30, 2015 – County Attorney**

Approve Arizona Criminal Justice Commission (ACJC) Drug, Gang and Violent Crime Grant agreement #DC-15-026, in the amount of \$71,499, retroactive to July 1, 2014, and terminating June 30, 2015; with a grant match of \$17,875, to be funded by the department's sub-RICO account.

**6(j) Approve Arizona Criminal Justice Commission (ACJC) grant agreement #VA-15-023, and the required match of funds, retroactive to July 1, 2014, and terminating June 30, 2015 – County Attorney**

Approve Arizona Criminal Justice Commission (ACJC) Drug, Gang and Violent Crime Grant agreement #DC-15-023, in the amount of \$49,918, retroactive to July 1, 2014, and terminating June 30, 2015; with a grant match of \$24,959, to be funded by Victim Rights Program.

**6(k) Approve Arizona Department of Health Services Intergovernmental Agreement for Tobacco Education/Prevention Services, Contract No. ADHS14-072312, retroactive to July 1, 2014, and terminating June 30, 2017; and authorize the Health Director to sign the agreement – Health**

Approve Arizona Department of Health Services Intergovernmental Agreement for Tobacco Education/Prevention Services, Contract No. ADHS14-072312, retroactive to July 1, 2014, and terminating June 30, 2017; and authorize the Health Director to sign the agreement.

**6(l) Approve to ratify the Governor's Office of Highway Safety, DUI Abatement Grant Funding Agreement, Contract No. DUIAC-E-039, for personnel and employee related expenses in conjunction with the Western Arizona DUI Task Force – Sheriff**

Approve to ratify the Governor's Office of Highway Safety, DUI Abatement Grant Funding Agreement, Contract No. DUIAC-E-039, in the amount of \$20,000, for personnel and employee related expenses in conjunction with the Western Arizona DUI Task Force.

**6(m) Approve to ratify grant agreement with the Arizona Department of Homeland Security (AZDOHS), State Homeland Security Grant Program (SHSGP) for the Continued Development of Countywide Regional Radio System for FY 2014, Contract No. 130505-03, in the amount of \$54,592, for the purchase of an additional repeater site; and authorize the Sheriff to sign the agreement – Sheriff**

Approve to ratify grant agreement with the Arizona Department of Homeland Security (AZDOHS), State Homeland Security Grant Program (SHSGP) for the Continued Development of Countywide Regional Radio System for FY 2014, Contract No. 130505-03, in the amount of \$54,592, for the purchase of an additional repeater site; and authorize the Sheriff to sign the agreement.

**6(n) Approve Western Arizona Council of Governments (WACOG) Area Agency on Aging Contract No. E86-0445604-01-15, retroactive to July 1, 2014, through June 30, 2015; and authorize the Health Director to sign the agreement – Health**

Approve Western Arizona Council of Governments (WACOG) Area Agency on Aging Contract No. E86-0445604-01-15, retroactive to July 1, 2014, through June 30, 2015, in the amount of \$108,255, for transportation services; and authorize the Health Director to sign the agreement.

**6(o) Approve Revolving Credit Agreement Amendment #10 with Wells Fargo Bank, NA – Treasurer**

Approve Revolving Credit Agreement Amendment #10 with Wells Fargo Bank, NA.

**6(p) Approve to ratify letter of support on behalf of the La Paz Regional Hospital relating to the USDA Rural Health Services Distance Learning and Telemedicine Grant Application – Board of Supervisors**

Approve to ratify letter of support on behalf of the La Paz Regional Hospital relating to the USDA Rural Health Services Distance Learning and Telemedicine Grant Application.

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

*Chairman Wilson recessed the Board of Supervisors and convened the Jail District Board of Directors at 10:30 a.m.*

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

County Administrator Field presented for approval Consent Agenda Items #7(a) through #7(d).

**7(a) Approval of Jail District Payroll**

Approve June 1, 2014, through June 14, 2014, gross payroll, as presented, in the amount of \$55,020.26, plus employer benefit contributions of \$11,220.42, for a total of \$66,240.68, including handwritten warrants.

**7(b) Approval of Jail District Demands**

Approve the Jail District demands for FY2013/2014, in the amount of \$212,297.79, including handwritten warrants; and for FY2014/2015, in the amount of \$9,600, including handwritten warrants.

**7(c) Appoint Detention Officer, a vacant budgeted position (*Replacement*)**

Approve to appoint Steve Portugal to the position of Detention Officer, retroactive to June 16, 2014, at a salary of \$31,158.40 (L02, Step 3), a vacant budgeted position, with a six month probationary period for the County, and an additional six months probation for the Sheriff's Office.

**7(d) Approve appointment of Detention Sergeant (*Promotion*)**

Approve to promote Detention Corporal James Lujan to Detention Sergeant, effective July 7, 2014, at an annual salary of \$38,604.80 (L06, Step 3), a vacant budgeted position; with a six months probationary period with the County.

**SUPERVISOR CLAPPERTON MOVED** to approve Jail Consent Agenda Items #7(a) through #7(d). Motion seconded by Supervisor Irwin, passed unanimously.

**Adopt Tentative FY 2014/2015 Jail District Budget – Finance**

Finance Director Hill presented the Tentative FY 2014/2015 Jail District Budget totaling \$3,332,000, noting that the revenues meeting the expenditures, including a "handful" of capital items that were detailed during the budget worksessions. She noted there were no new personnel line items, with the exception of the COLA increases which she would expound more with the discussion on the La Paz County budget.

**CHAIRMAN WILSON MOVED** to adopt the Tentative FY 2014/2015 Jail District Budget. Motion second by Supervisor Irwin, passed unanimously.

*Chairman Wilson recessed the Jail District Board of Directors and reconvened the Board of Supervisors at 10:43 a.m.*

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

**Adopt Tentative FY 2014/2015 La Paz County Budget – Finance**

Finance Director Hill presented the Tentative FY 2014-2015 La Paz County Budget, noting that she would go through the undecided items the Departments had requested through the previously held budget worksessions.

She stated that the property tax revenues are based on a rate of 2.2863 per \$100,000 assessment, and a Truth in Taxation Hearing notice is necessary and is being advertised.

She complimented the Parks Department and Emerald Canyon Golf Course for increased revenues over projected expenditures.

She detailed at length the usual items requested by the various Departments relating to employees, equipment, vehicles, and capital building repairs; as well as fiscal concerns created by the Task Force deficit; extraordinary circumstances and open-ended expenditures relating to medical care; long term alternatives to indigent defense, the reconciliation of ongoing deficit funds; and a method of “aggressively” reducing those deficits through transfers of funds through budget amendments over time; “aggressively” recovering indirect costs through grants; and the typical community contributions.

A brief discussion ensued regarding the amount there would be in contingency, noting that auditor did not look in favor of an amount over \$1 million, preferring that adjustments be made through a general ledger; however, Finance Director Hill did not feel that method was as transparent as she preferred, although she would follow through with the recommendation.

Supervisor Clapperton urged the County employees to think about spending and saving in their departments.

**CHAIRMAN WILSON MOVED** to approve the Tentative FY 2014/2015 La Paz County budget. Motion seconded by Supervisor Irwin, passed unanimously.

**Tax Roll Corrections – Assessor**

Deputy Chief Assessor Jones presented three (3) tax roll corrections with the net result of -\$15.88:

#2013.TRC.412S3	\$636.58	#2013.TRC.412S4	-\$580.68
#2013.TRC.412S9	-\$71.78		

**SUPERVISOR CLAPPERTON MOVED** to approve three (3) tax roll corrections with the net result of -\$15.88, as presented by Deputy Chief Assessor Schuler. Motion seconded by Supervisor Irwin, passed unanimously.

**Discussion and possible action regarding submission of a letter to Congress in opposition of S.2053 regarding the Big Sandy River-Planet Ranch Water Rights Settlement Agreement scheduled for July 9, 2014 – Board of Supervisors**

County Administrator Field stated that there are questions without answers regarding a water exchange relating to the Bagdad Mining Project involving a number of entities such as Arizona Game & Fish, Planet Ranch, and a water settlement with the Hualapai Indian Tribes. He stated it came to the County's attention through Mohave County.

He stated that La Paz County has never been formally notified of such activity and "apparently not considered a stake-holder" in these affairs and would not object to any legislation or the giving away of our water or the taking of our land. He stated that Mohave County feels the same they are treated the same way and they have hired a water attorney. He added that the bill before Congress is supposed to be completed in phases.

He stated there are a number of issues associated with this bill, one namely regarding Planet Ranch Road, which was "unlawfully" taken by the Federal Government, and a resource of revenue that have been taken away from the taxpayer's benefit.

He stated that Mohave County will supply La Paz information on what they will be presenting to the Federal government regarding this issue and two of their County Supervisors will be going to Washington to testify on this matter.

County Administrator Field stated that both Supervisor Irwin and Supervisor Clapperton attended a meeting in Mohave County regarding this matter, and the Board is supporting a letter of opposition to the proposed bill detailing the issues. He stated that "everyone has forgotten about us".

Supervisor Clapperton stated that a representative from the Freeport McMoRan Corporation, the primary operators of the Bagdad mine as well as several others in Arizona, spoke at the special meeting of the Mohave County Board of Supervisors, who gave an "excellent" presentation; however, he felt that, when it comes to the taking of water, the areas along the river have an issue and should take notice, and research how McMoran conducts their business.

Supervisor Irwin stated that she was concerned over the "three phases" spoken of at the meeting because it had the sound that a settlement was virtually already approved without the process of three phases. She added that Freeport McMoRan could not provide any documents to show any details, and any tapping into the Colorado River would not be discussed in the first phase.

She stated that the Colorado River water is a "gold mine" and already "over-allocated" and should not be given away. She added that water is a resource that runs through La Paz County, which makes the County a certain "stakeholder" in this issue, and should not be ignored.

Supervisor Irwin added that the meeting was a good one. She supported the efforts of Mohave County on this issue, who was not “taken in” by the information given to them by the Freeport McMoRan Corporation.

Supervisor Clapperton stated that bill S.2053 is being “spearheaded” by Federal Representative Paul Gosar. He added that this project has a time limit in which the water must be used within a certain period of time; however, he stated that this water is not “theirs”.

County Administrator Field stated that the Bagdad mine represents \$300 million plus to the State; however, the local area has to think what it means to them, and let it be on the record as an objection.

Chairman Wilson stated that he was unable to attend the Mohave County special meeting; however, there was much information brought back. He stated both the House, the Senate, and the entire Arizona delegation supports this bill. He stated that La Paz County receives no benefit from the Bagdad mine, which is what is used as justification for this action. He stated there will be two agreements executed; however only the copy of one agreement, minus the exhibits, which includes maps, was obtainable.

He stated that land in Planet Ranch, valued at approximately \$1.4 million, would be transferred to the Arizona Fish and Game Commission, and 10,055 acre feet of water would be moved out of the Planet Ranch/Lincoln Ranch areas to the Wikieup Wellfield for the Bagdad mine. He stated that this represents approximately \$10,000 loss in tax revenue; and in excess of 4,000 acre feet of water from La Paz County. He added that there is phrasing in the agreement regarding roads that states that reasonable access will be provided as long it complies with the Multi-Species Conservation Plan, which Planet Ranch Road does not; therefore, it could be expected that there will no longer be any access to Planet Ranch road on a permanent basis.

He stated that the County must “weigh in hard” in opposition to the land and water that will be taken away from La Paz County.

**SUPERVISOR CLAPPERTON MOVED** to support submission of a letter to Congress in opposition of S.2053 regarding the Big Sandy River-Planet Ranch Water Rights Settlement Agreement scheduled for July 9, 2014. Motion seconded by Supervisor Irwin, passed unanimously.

### **Call to the Public**

Don Fisher, from Bouse, expressed he had an idea for a “trap” or shooting range and distributed the detailed information to the Board to consider. He felt that it would grow to be a profitable investment to the area.



La Paz County Board of Supervisors  
Monday, July 7, 2014, 10:00 a.m. Regular Meeting

Landscaping, \$1,021.08; #11110749, Pitney Bowes, \$4,113.32; #11110752, Priyanka Miller, \$2,137.50; #11110755, Reddy Ice, \$2,401.05; #11110761, Laurence Schiff, M.D., \$1,225; #11110764, Shaffer Welding, \$6,814.93; #11110765, Shamrock Food Co., \$4,309.77; #11110772, Strategic Management Group, \$28,634.05; #11110773, Sudden Link, \$2,992.21; #11110775, Super Circuits, \$1,051.95; #11110776, Sysco Food Services, \$6,715.03; #11110780, Tiger Direct, \$3,626.79; #11110784, Tri-State Reporting (2), \$2,357.23; #11110785, U. S. Foodservice, \$6,064.47; #11110787, Verizon Wireless, \$3,241.29; #11110788, WACOG, \$3,750; #11110789, Walmart Business, \$1,499; #11110790, Waxie Sanitary Supply, \$1,721.76; #11110791, Fred Welch, \$10,535; #11110792, Wessel Air Conditioning, \$3,730; #11110795, White Sheet Free Shopping Guide, \$1,807.54; #11110796, Whitney & Whitney, PLLC, \$1,215; #11110799, Yuma County Financial Service, \$1,445; #11110800, Zion Bank/Public Financial Services, \$8,926.96; #11110811, Bankcard Center, \$4,418.64; #11110829, EFS LLC, \$1,447.11; #11110841, Gloria Hernandez, \$1,100; #11110842, Greenfield Logistics, \$64,361.63; #11110847, Jones, Skelton & Hochuli, \$1,284.37; #11110849, JPATS/USM S, \$1,977; #11110858, Laveen Pump, Inc., \$5,544.33; #11110861, MCI Mega Preferred, \$1,650.90; #11110868, Paragon Polygraph, \$1,350; #11110870, Parker Center, \$1,298.44; #11110879, Monica Porter, \$2,012.04; #11110890, Rivers End Trading Company, \$6,028.81; #11110891, Rusts River Glass, Inc., \$1,220.58; #11110895, Salome Justice Court, \$1,431.01; #11110896, SBA Structures, Inc., \$3,924.03; #11110899, Shell Fleet Plus, \$1,263.35; #11110901, Adrianna Smith-Hawkins, \$25,000; #11110903, Southwest Gas Corporation, \$1,112.72; #11110913, The WLB Group, \$13,332; #11110915, Tires@Wholesale, \$2,592.60; #11110923, Wells Fargo Payment Center, \$6,219.54; #11110925, West Payment Center, \$1,725.86; #11110927, Western States Petroleum, \$52,251.25; #11110932, Yuma County Juvenile, \$4,560; #11110950, Chevron & Texaco Business Card, \$1,377.06; #11110956, Desert Works Computers, \$1,373.80; #11110960, Empire Southwest, \$4,730.29; #11110961, ESRI, Inc., \$3,869.06; #11110972, Heinfeld, Meech & Co., P.C., \$9,730; #11110976, Jim Dunlap, \$8,750; #11110982, La Paz Regional Hospital, \$1,315.93; #11110993, Parker Tree Service, \$23,960; #11110996, PNC Equipment Finance, LLC, \$2,915Tree; #11110997, Precision Striping, Inc., \$10,011; #11111009, Laurence Schiff, M. D., \$1,225; #11111020, Staples Credit Plan, \$1,770.57; #11111031, V & V Manufacturing, Inc., \$1,522.11; #11111036, West Coast Sand & Gravel, \$2,297.26.