

**MINUTES  
OF THE  
LA PAZ COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS  
Monday, October 20, 2014, 10:00 a.m.  
Regular Meeting**

Chairman Wilson called the October 20, 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, Grants Administrator/Resource Coordinator Taft; Public Defender Field, Finance Director Hill, Golf Professional Benton, Health Director Shontz, Facilities Maintenance Director Harder, Assessor Schuler, Community Development Administrator Yackley, County Attorney Rogers, Park Director Bennett; and Deputy Clerk of the Board Green.

Chairman Wilson led the Pledge of Allegiance followed by the Invocation given by Pastor Julian Barbara of the Calvary Christian Fellowship.

**Presentation: “Sandy Dodge Employee Excellence Award”**

Dorothy Fenech, Safety Committee Chairman, presented Michael Evans, Facilities Maintenance Worker I, with the Sandy Dodge Employee Excellence Award along with a \$25 gift certificate to Walmart.

**Presentation to employees recognizing twenty (20) years of service to La Paz County**

Chairman Wilson recognized Connie Mathewson and Mary Bierbrodt, Administrative Assistants for the Health Department, with a plaque commemorating their twenty (20) years of service to the County.

**Current Event Summary**

County Administrator Field stated that the State is reporting that revenue growth in Arizona was not near as anticipated, with funding shortfalls anticipated for the 2015/2016 fiscal year. He noted that when it “comes down to the numbers” there will be a struggle at the Legislative Summit, as well as to the efforts by counties to provide mandated services.

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

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

**CONSENT AGENDA (continued)**

**6(a) Approval of Minutes**

Approve the minutes of the Monday, September 22, 2014, 10:00 a.m. worksession; and Monday, October 6, 2014, 10:00 a.m. regular meeting.

**6(b) Approval of Payroll**

Approve September 21, 2014, through October 4, 2014, gross payroll, as presented, in the amount of \$399,974.91, plus employer benefit contributions of \$85,373.84, for a total of \$485,348.75, including handwritten warrants.

**6(c) Approval of Demands**

Approve the demands, as presented, for FY2014/2015, in the amount of \$455,221.60, including handwritten warrants.

**6(d) Approve to appoint Mechanic I, a budgeted position – Golf Course (Replacement)**

Approve to appoint Francisco Sanchez as Golf Course Mechanic I, effective October 20, 2014, at an annual salary of \$31,099.01 (NE049, Step 6), a budgeted position.

**6(e) Approve to appoint and reappoint Board Members to the Board of Adjustment – Community Development.**

Approve to appoint Mark Peretik to the La Paz County Board of Adjustment effective November 1, 2014, to term expiring November 19, 2015; and reappoint Todd Cramer, term to expire on January 12, 2018, and Nina Chumley, term to expire on July 15, 2018.

**6(f) Approve to reappoint Board Members to the La Paz County Hospital District - Elections.**

Approve to reappoint Phyllis Gormely and Lois Moore as Board Members to the La Paz County Hospital District, renewing November 30, 2014, to expire November 30, 2018.

**6(g) Approve to appoint Jim Putz-Artrup as Justice of the Peace Pro Tem for the period beginning November 6, 2014, through November 5, 2015, pursuant to A.R.S. §22-121 – Superior Court**

Approve to appoint Jim Putz-Artrup as Justice of the Peace Pro Tem for the period beginning November 6, 2014, through November 5, 2015, pursuant to A.R.S. §22-121.

**6(h) Approve recommendation to the Arizona Department of Liquor Licenses & Control for temporary change of premises/patio permit application submitted by Sara Eula Leath dba Blue Bar II for their Toys for Tots Christmas Cycle Run fundraiser on December 7, 2014; located at 3365 Highway 95, Parker, AZ – Board of Supervisors**

Recommend approval to the Arizona Department of Liquor Licenses & Control for temporary change of premises/patio permit application submitted by Sara Eula Leath dba Blue Bar II for their Toys for Tots Christmas Cycle Run fundraiser on December 7, 2014; located at 3365 Highway 95, Parker, AZ.

**6(i) Ratify recommendation to the Arizona Department of Liquor Licenses & Control for temporary change of premises/patio permit application submitted by Kandi Scott dba Strokes Bar & Grill for the Enduro Boat Race Banquet on October 24, 2014; located at 8010 Riverside Drive – Board of Supervisors**

Ratify recommendation of approval to the Arizona Department of Liquor Licenses & Control for temporary change of premises/patio permit application submitted by Kandi Scott dba Strokes Bar & Grill for the Enduro Boat Race Banquet on October 24, 2014; located at 8010 Riverside Drive.

**6(j) Approve Intergovernmental Agreement with Buckskin Fire District for the General Election to be held on November 4, 2014 – Elections**

Approve Intergovernmental Agreement with Buckskin Fire District for election services for the General Election held on November 4, 2014.

**CHAIRMAN WILSON MOVED** to approve Consent Agenda Items #6(a) through #6(j). Motion seconded by Supervisor Irwin, passed unanimously.

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

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

County Administrator Field presented for approval Jail Consent Agenda Items #7(a) and #7(b).

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

Approve September 21, 2014, through October 4, 2014, gross payroll, as presented, in the amount of \$56,929.29, plus employer benefit contributions of \$11,661.50, for a total of \$68,590.79, including handwritten warrants.

**CONSENT AGENDA (continued)**

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

Approve the Jail District demands for FY2014/2015, in the amount of \$49,303.33, including handwritten warrants.

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

*Chairman Wilson recessed the Jail District Board of Directors and reconvened the Board of Supervisors at 10:14 a.m.*

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

**Approve to ratify a non-matching grant application to National Rifle Association for “Installing a Permanent Trap Shooting Range” project at the Bouse Shooting Range – Community Resources**

Grants Administrator/Community Resource Coordinator Taft presented a grant application through the National Rifle Association (NRA) for approval by the Board for the installation of a trap shooting range at the Bouse Shooting Range.

She stated that Bouse community volunteers have been bringing their own equipment to the range to support development of the shooting range, and without advertising or promotions, has served 211 people within a short time, just as a “put it together” grass roots effort.

She explained that the grant through the NRA would provide \$46,716 for a trap house, trap thrower, voice activated release, concrete for walkways, picnic tables, a ramada, signage, and an 8 x 10 foot metal storage container. She added that the grant requested that the area be raked; and she stated she indicated on the application that partial funding could be possible in order to ensure acquiring the grant. She further added that the County should be hearing something back at the end of the year.

Supervisor Clapperton asked what benefits would be gained by the project.

Grant Administrator Taft answered that the project would generate activity from the youth, such as from 4H, Boy Scouts; and hunters in the area could use it to improve their aim and reflexes; Parker Police Explorers are in support of it for fire arm safety and proficiency, a key component in the grant award.

Supervisor Clapperton expressed gratitude to Grant Administrator Taft, the NRA and those that worked “diligently” in the community of Bouse for this project.

**SUPERVISOR CLAPPERTON MOVED** to ratify submission of a non-matching grant application to National Rifle Association (NRA) for the installation of a trap shooting range at the Bouse Shooting Range. Motion seconded by Supervisor Irwin, passed unanimously.

**Tax Roll Corrections – Assessor**

Deputy Chief Assessor Jones, on behalf of Assessor Schuler, presented twenty-six (26) tax roll corrections at the net amount of -\$9,393.02 as follows:

#2012.TRC.419S1	-\$86.08	#2013.TRC.419S1	-\$28.30
#2013.TRC.419S2	-\$64.60	#2013.TRC.419S3	-\$80.64
#2013.TRC.419S4	-\$168.16	#2014.TRC.419S7	-\$99.60
#2014.TRC.419S8	-\$79.06	#2014.TRC.419S9	-\$425.52
#2014.TRC.419S10	-\$28.26	#2014.TRC.419S11	-\$74.52
#2014.TRC.419S12	-\$82.20	#2014.TRC.419S13	-\$22.64
#2014.TRC.419S14	-\$173.28	#2014.TRC.419S15	-\$277.26
#2014.TRC.419S16	-\$720.42	#2014.TRC.419S17	+\$103.18
#2014.TRC.419S18	-\$554.52	#2014.TRC.419S19	-\$2,236.04
#2014.TRC.419S20	-\$800.98	#2014.TRC.419S21	-\$831.78
#2014.TRC.419S22	-\$554.52	#2014.TRC.419S23	-\$800.98
#2014.TRC.419S24	-\$554.52	#2014.TRC.419S25	-\$554.52
#2014.TRC.419S26	-\$86.16	#2014.TRC.419S27	-\$111.64

**CHAIRMAN WILSON MOVED** to approve twenty-six (26) tax roll corrections with the net result of -\$9,393.02 as presented by Chief Assessor Jones on behalf of Assessor Schuler. Motion seconded by Supervisor Irwin, passed unanimously.

A brief discussion ensued deciding to discuss item #12 on the agenda before item #11.

**Approve terminating the existing Child Support Contract between La Paz County and the State of Arizona, thereby transitioning Child Support Services and Enforcement back to the State of Arizona – Finance**

Finance Director Hill requested approval to terminate the Child Support Contract between La Paz County and the State of Arizona, transitioning Child Support Services and enforcement back to the State of Arizona. She noted the Executive Summary she submitted to the Board in their meeting packets, stating that the most recent contract was approved in 2010.

She stated that La Paz County is only one of two Counties that was still contracting with the State to provide Child Support services. She stated that partial funding is provided through the State, with 35% coming from the General Fund, which translated into \$80,000 to \$100,000.

She explained that every year, as the General Fund became “leaner”, the question was asked as to how the County could continue to provide the mandated services. She added that every year it was asked why the County continued to provide Child Support Services when the State was able to do so. She stated that Child Support Services had been “on the table”; however, not pursued; at least not until the fire occurred at that location.

Finance Director Hill explained that, with the fire, decisions as to what to do came to the forefront; such as whether to find a way to go forward with permanent housing, or take the opportunity to send it to the State; something the State had expected would happen.

She stated that a frank discussion was held with staff in the Child Support Division as to the direction the County should take and what that would mean for Child Support personnel, which was the primary concern. She added that the County received assurances from the State that they would keep Child Support Services in La Paz County along with the current staff, and the State asked for the County’s Child Support personnel wage information in order to budget appropriately those positions.

She stated the mutual agreement to end the contract with the State takes 30 days; meanwhile, on the short term, equipment, files, and furniture had been secured and relocated to the Judicial Training Room after the fire. She added that another conversation with the State began, suggesting an option that a contract could be in place for the use of an attorney from the County Attorney’s office.

She recommended that, from an economic standpoint; with a potential savings of up to \$100,000 out of the General Fund, and to the taxpayers; that there be a swift transition of the Child Support Division, providing no loss of services to County residents.

County Attorney Rogers expressed that he thought it would be a mistake to take away the County’s Child Support Division. He noted the good work they do, and added that it was an unexpected turn of events for the employees. He felt that it would further hinder his ability to obtain the additional attorney’s he needed for his office; and felt the County would eventually regret this action.

Chief County Attorney Hobbs also expressed that State Control of the Child Support Division would not be a favorable direction to go, and asked that the Board take more time to consider what action it would take.

Supervisor Clapperton stated that Child Support Enforcement services continue to function all over the state. He noted that there was no documentation provided to the contrary with regards to the advantages, other than statements that began with “I believe”. He reiterated the cost savings to the tax payers with the proposed changes.

Deputy County Attorney Buckelew noted that there were actually three counties that provided child support services other than La Paz, that being Navajo and Pinal County. He believed the State would most likely enter into an intergovernmental agreement with the County relating to the services it would provide.

George Nault stated that he did not think anything should be given the State.

Finance Director Hill stated that she had answers to a few of the comments made. She explained that the County itself is an arm of the State; and there is nothing that the County does that is not mandated, even child support services. She stated "someone has to do it". She added that it was fortunate for the County that the State provided some of the funding.

She acknowledged that the County does have qualified staff in the Child Support Division; however, unless the State misrepresented themselves, that same qualified staff will be there for the State's Child Support Enforcement; there would be no loss of services, skills or continuity; and the County's taxpayers would save \$100,000.

She addressed County Attorney Roger's comments, explaining that there are funds for his staffing concerns, noting that the legal assistant and attorney positions open have not yet been filled; and if his attorneys were working on any of the child support cases, he would now be free of that for them to work on other cases.

Chairman Wilson commended the Child Support Division employees, Finance Director Hill, and those that spoke regarding the proposed transition. He stated that the three concerns that were an issue were addressed, namely, that the affected employees would be taken care of; the continuity of services to the children of La Paz County; and the economic factor for the County.

**SUPERVISOR CLAPPERTON MOVED** to continue discussion of the proposed termination of the Child Support Contract between La Paz County and the State of Arizona, to the Monday, November 3, 2014, regular meeting. Motion seconded by Supervisor Irwin.

Chairman Wilson asked if continuing the item would impact the current location of the Child Support Division, available only through the end of October.

Finance Director Hill stated that all eventualities were discussed for short term possibilities, noting that the need for office space could be shared at the Department of Economic Services; and she would pursue that option in this case.

**MOTION PASSED** unanimously.

La Paz County Board of Supervisors  
Monday, October 20, 2014, 10:00 a.m. Regular Meeting

**Approve agreement with Arizona Office Technologies and Wells Fargo Bank through State Contract for the lease and maintenance of two (2) copier/fax/scanner machines for the Child Support and County Attorney offices, budgeted items; authorizing the County Attorney to sign the agreement – County Attorney**

Discussion ensued concerning this item that was already continued from the previous regular meeting of October 6, 2014.

Chairman Wilson suggested that separate agreements be submitted at that time in order to resolve the purchase of at least one of the copiers.

**CHAIRMAN WILSON MOVED** to continue the agreement with Arizona Office Technologies and Wells Fargo Bank through State Contract to the Monday, November 3, 2014, regular meeting, for the lease and maintenance of copier/fax/scanner machines for the Child Support and/or County Attorney offices. Motion seconded by Supervisor Irwin, passed unanimously.

**Discussion and possible action to go into Executive Session pursuant to A.R.S. §38-431.03(A)(3) & (4) for the purpose of discussion or consultation for legal advice and in order to instruct the public body's attorney on how to proceed in a proposed settlement in the matter of Castle Rock Communities, LLC, v. La Paz County, Arizona Tax Court, cases no. TX2011-000690 (tax year 2012) and TX2012-000087 (tax year 2013), consolidated – Board of Supervisors**

Deputy County Attorney Buckelew stated that information submitted to the Board was enough to decide whether or not an offer would be made to resolve this case, and the Executive Session would be for the purpose of receiving instruction for a proposed settlement, if that action would be taken.

**CHAIRMAN WILSON MOVED** to go into Executive Session pursuant to A.R.S. §38-431.03(A)(3) & (4) for the purpose of discussion or consultation for legal advice and in order to instruct the public body's attorney on how to proceed in a proposed settlement in the matter of Castle Rock Communities, LLC, v. La Paz County, Arizona Tax Court, cases no. TX2011-000690 (tax year 2012) and TX2012-000087 (tax year 2013), consolidated. Motion seconded by Supervisor Clapperton, passed unanimously.

**Convene into Executive Session: 11:02 a.m.**  
**Reconvene to Open Meeting: 11:27 a.m.**

La Paz County Board of Supervisors  
Monday, October 20, 2014, 10:00 a.m. Regular Meeting

**Discussion and possible action to approve Offer of Judgment in the matter Castle Rock Communities, LLC, v. La Paz County, Arizona Tax Court, cases no. TX2011-000690 (tax year 2012) and TX2012-000087 (tax year 2013), consolidated – County Attorney/Assessor**

**SUPERVISOR IRWIN MOVED** to approve making an Offer of Judgment in the matter Castle Rock Communities, LLC, v. La Paz County, Arizona Tax Court, cases no. TX2011-000690 (tax year 2012) and TX2012-000087 (tax year 2013), consolidated. Motion seconded by Supervisor Clapperton, passed unanimously.

**Call to the Public**

There were no comments.

**Adjournment**

Chairman Wilson adjourned the meeting at 11:28 a.m.

APPROVED:

\_\_\_\_\_  
/s/  
D. L. Wilson, Chairman

ATTEST:

\_\_\_\_\_  
/s/  
Dan Field, Clerk of the Board

**The following demands were approved, audited and ordered paid by the La Paz County Board of Supervisors as follows:** #11112821, A.L.E.R.T., \$3,859.63; #11112825, APS, \$1,523.58; #11112830, Arizona Counties Insurance Pool, \$10,685.77; #11112831, Arizona Department of Revenue, \$2,680.38; #11112834, AZLGEBT, \$206,291.99; #11112860, Colorado River Joint Venture, \$1,332.58; #11112865, Data Center, \$2,759.15; #11112866, Davis Building Supply, \$1,329.12; #11112867, Desert Weed Control, \$3,690; #11112878, Election Systems & Software, \$1,553.58; #11112881, Empire Southwest, \$25,381.88; #11112894, Gloria Eagle PA-C, \$1,125; #11112897, Greenfield Logistics, \$24,024; #11112901, Hermosa Veterinary Clinic, \$1,475; #11112909, ID Security Online, \$2,525; #11112922, La Paz County Landfill, \$11,139.90; #11112924, La Paz County Treasurer, \$2,650.36; #11112930, LR Anderson, LLC, \$1,630; #11112947, Network Services, \$3,728.09; #11112956; Parker Motor Company, Inc., \$6,432.62; #11112957, Parker Office Supply, \$2,002.47; #11112958, Parker Oil Products, Inc., \$11,900.91; #11112961, Parker Tree Service, \$8,250; #11112964, Paul R. Peterson Construction, Inc., \$21,325.50; #11112965, Phillip W. Esplin, PC, \$1,400; #11112973, Pro Petroleum, Inc., \$43,757.86; #11112987, RWC International, \$1,015.90; #11113006, Standard Insurance, \$11,230.10; #11113010, Suncor Industries, Inc., \$1,461.61; #11113015, The Masters Touch, LLC, \$5,968.28; #11113016, Tiger Direct, \$16,045.76; #11113017, Tires@Wholesale, \$1,723.16; #11113022, U. S. Foodservice, Inc., \$1,219.88; #11113023, Verizon Wireless, \$1,444.31; #11113028, Western States Petroleum, \$2,484.94; #11113031, YCESA Support Services, \$1,500.