

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
GILA COUNTY, ARIZONA

Date: June 21, 2005

JOSÉ M. SANCHEZ
Chairman

STEVEN L. BESICH
Clerk of the Board

TOMMIE C. MARTIN
Vice-Chairman

By: Marilyn Brewer
Deputy Clerk

SHIRLEY L. DAWSON
Member

Gila County Courthouse
Globe, Arizona

PRESENT: Jose M. Sanchez, Chairman; Tommie C. Martin, Vice-Chairman; Shirley L. Dawson, Member (participated via telephone conference call); Steven L. Besich, County Manager/Clerk; and, Marian Sheppard, Chief Deputy Clerk.

The Gila County Board of Supervisors met in Work Session at 11:00 a.m. this date. Chairman Sanchez called the meeting to order. He stated that the ground rules for this meeting would be that no decisions would be made by the Board at this time; this was simply a time for each department to publicly present budget requests to the Board. Upon the completion of each presentation, the meeting would then be open for questions by the Board. The Board would then take all requests under advisement, and at a future meeting the finance group will then present the Board with an executive-type budget.

The Division/Department Managers and Elected Officials presented their FY 2005-2006 budget requests to the Board, as listed below.

• **Globe Regional Constable**

Department/ Presenter	2004/2005 Budget	2005/2006 Base	Additional Requests	2005-2006 Proposed
Globe Regional Constable Jesse Bolinger, Constable	\$88,174	\$83,996	\$7,645	\$91,641

Mr. Bolinger requested the following amounts be added to his base budget: \$645 for staff salary anniversary increases of 2.5%; \$5,000 for fleet vehicle charges, fuel, oil, and auto parts; and, \$2,000 for a computer, another telephone, and an office chair. The total for all requests is \$7,645. Chairman Sanchez thanked Mr. Bolinger for his presentation.

• **Payson Regional Constable**

Department/ Presenter	2004/2005 Budget	2005/2006 Base	Additional Requests	2005-2006 Proposed
Payson Regional Constable Sam Brewer, Constable	\$102,774	\$118,235	\$28,240	\$146,475

Mr. Brewer requested the following amounts be added to his base budget: \$1,275 for staff salary increases; \$600 for clothing allowance; \$100 travel expense; \$1,265 vehicle maintenance, fuel and oil; and, \$25,000 for a four-wheel drive vehicle. Mr. Brewer also stated that he wanted to bring to the Board's attention the extremely small size of his office and the need to expand, but he did not include any costs for expansion. Chairman Sanchez thanked Mr. Brewer for his presentation.

At 11:35 a.m. Chairman Sanchez called for a recess until 1:00 p.m.

At 1:08 p.m. Chairman Sanchez reconvened the meeting which began with a presentation by Sheriff John R. Armer.

• **Sheriff's Department**

Department/ Presenter	2004/2005 Budget	2005/2006 Base	Additional Requests	2005-2006 Proposed
Sheriff's Department John Armer, Sheriff	Not Provided	Not Provided	Not Provided	Not Provided

Mr. Armer did not present a formal list of requests or costs for the Sheriff's Department, but instead presented to the Board a packet of information pertaining to salaries. He then called on Tom Melcher, Chief Deputy, who gave

a presentation on the comparison of Gila County Sheriff's Department personnel salaries with those of other counties, which included deputies, detention officers, dispatch personnel, administration, and office personnel. He also requested an increase of 15 detention officers to the staff stating: "...*the current detention officers are running massive amounts of overtime, particularly in the jail and dispatch because of the shortage of employees.*" Mr. Melcher also spoke on the need for funding the training of newly-hired employees as there is a real deficit in that area, but the office is so understaffed that to send personnel for training creates an even greater staffing shortage. He also stated his concern that once employees are trained, they move to other areas because of better pay and benefits. Chairman Sanchez inquired as to the cost of the training, and he also questioned whether some type of contract could be entered into with the employee to work a certain number of years for the County once training has been provided. Mr. Besich stated that he believes the County could stipulate if a trained employee leaves earlier than the agreed upon time period, the employee could pay half the cost of their training or a portion as stipulated. Supervisor Dawson stated she would like to see a policy in force that when the County pays for employee training, the employee should be obligated to stay for an agreed upon length of time. She was interested in knowing what other counties do in this regard. Chairman Sanchez also agreed that the County needs a policy and stated: "...*when the County gives the employee free training, we expect something in return or reimbursement when they leave.*" The Board discussed various other issues of concern with Mr. Melcher and Sheriff Armer. Supervisor Dawson inquired what the total package would cost for 15 detention officers and the reclassifications. Sheriff Armer stated that he did not have those figures available at this time, but he had met with the Finance Department personnel, who would present those

figures to the Board at a later time. Chairman Sanchez inquired about requests for facilities and improvements. Mr. Armer stated that would be a whole separate issue. Chairman Sanchez thanked Mr. Armer for his presentation.

At 1:56 p.m. Chairman Sanchez called for a recess until 2:15 p.m.

At 2:27 p.m. Chairman Sanchez reconvened the meeting which began with a presentation by County Attorney Daisy Flores.

• **County Attorney’s Office**

Department/ Presenter	2004/2005 Budget	2005/2006 Base	Additional Requests	2005-2006 Proposed
County Attorney’s Office Daisy Flores, County Attorney	Not Provided	Not Provided	\$1,560,440	Not Provided

Ms. Flores gave a PowerPoint presentation on the comparison of the Gila County Attorney’s Office personnel salaries with those of other similar state and federal entities and requested the following amounts be added to her base budget: \$1,366,920 for staff salary increases and previous budget omissions of the base salaries for ten County Attorney employees and five Child Support employees, less County Attorney generated revenue of \$370,870, for a total cost for salary increases of \$996,050; \$314,390 (estimated) for employee related expenses; and, \$250,000 for operating expenses. Chairman Sanchez thanked Ms. Flores for her presentation.

Mr. Besich stated that upon completion of all the presentations, the numbers will be processed and there will be an executive-type budget submitted to the Board for its review. **(Budget materials that were presented will be kept for a period of time in the Clerk of the Board’s Office.)**

There being no further business to come before the Board, Chairman Sanchez adjourned the meeting at 3:03 p.m.

José M. Sanchez, Chairman

ATTEST:

Steven L. Besich, County Manager/Clerk