

**BOARD OF SUPERVISORS MINUTES
GILA COUNTY, ARIZONA**

Date: May 27, 2008

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 (via video conference), Vice-Chairman; Shirley L. Dawson, Member; Steve Besich, County Manager/Clerk; Marian Sheppard, Chief Deputy Clerk; and, Jeff Dalton, Deputy County Attorney.

Item 1 – Call to Order – Pledge of Allegiance – Invocation

The Gila County Board of Supervisors met in Regular Session at 10:00 a.m. this date. Supervisor Dawson led the Pledge of Allegiance and Debi Savage delivered the Invocation.

Steve Besich, County Manager/Clerk, requested a moment of silence in memory of Brent Brown, Policy Advisor for Rural Affairs for the Governor of Arizona and a good friend to Gila County.

Item 2 - Information/Discussion/Action to change position control number 2306 from Deputy Attorney Senior (grade 56) to Deputy Attorney Principal (grade 63).

Daisy Flores, County Attorney, requested this agenda item and explained that in her office the attorney's schedule for hiring consists of three levels of attorneys. Ms. Flores would like to hire an attorney with 5 years of experience; however, the current positions available limit her in hiring someone of this level and caliber. This applicant would normally fit into the County Attorney's schedule as a Deputy Attorney Principal, which would be at grade 63 based on the applicant's years of experience; however, the current open position is for a Deputy Attorney Senior at grade 56. She requested that the Board allow this position control number 2306 for a Deputy Attorney Senior to be changed to a Deputy Attorney Principal so she can recruit this person with greater experience into the County Attorney's Office. Supervisor Dawson expressed her concern of keeping intact the validity of the salary study that the County had done and making certain that this request has gone through the proper

process to be recommended for a change. Mr. Besich explained that presenting this agenda item to the Board is the correct process to request approval of a change in the payroll system as is being done by Ms. Flores. He stated, "This is the appropriate forum for that discussion to take place and for the Board to take an action." He felt it was necessary to clarify whether the Board would be approving an Attorney Principal slot from this point forward or if this new employee were to leave and the next new hire did not have the same experience, he questioned whether the position would return to an Attorney Senior at grade 56. Mr. Besich stated this is one of the first cases the County has had to deal with and he wondered if this type of change should be tracked or how the elected officials determine the level of expertise and education that is needed to staff their offices. Supervisor Dawson replied that was exactly the reason the Board had a market salary survey study conducted and thereafter established a salary and compensation schedule "to eliminate playing this game." She also stated that her concern is if a different person is hired to fill this position at some point in the future, would that person be placed at a grade 63, even though he/she only has qualifications for a grade 56 or less position? Ms. Flores replied that decision would be made by the Board if/when that situation occurs. Vice-Chairman Martin stated that she did not want to breach the salary and compensation schedule that is in place; however, she felt that Ms. Flores was simply requesting the grade increase in order to hire a much more qualified person and she supported that request. Upon motion by Vice-Chairman Martin, seconded by Supervisor Dawson, the Board unanimously approved changing position control number 2306 from Deputy Attorney Senior (grade 56) to Deputy Attorney Principal (grade 63).

Item 3 – Information/Discussion/Action for possible direction to staff regarding the Keddington Payson Facilities Forward Report and Sheriff Armer’s proposal to move the Sheriff’s Office Administration and remodel the existing jail facility in Globe.

Steve Besich stated that the County held elections to fund new jail/court facilities, which was voted down by the public. Since that election, a citizen’s committee was formed in the Payson area, which is known as the Payson Future Facilities Committee, to assess the costs and future locations for Payson facilities. The Committee issued its Keddington Payson Facilities Forward Report, a copy of which was included in the Board’s informational packet. Mr. Besich advised that he also requested the Sheriff, Courts and County Attorney to provide input on priorities for their respective offices and all had responded to his inquiry. Also, a presentation was given a month ago by the Sheriff’s Office outlining some potential jail renovations. Mr. Besich scheduled this agenda item in order to have a discussion so that the Board could provide some direction to staff and for the elected officials to address their priorities to the Board. Mr. Besich also wanted to note to the Board that the current State Legislature is in discussions about an \$8-\$10 million hit to the 13 small counties in order to balance the State’s budget so this would have a major impact on funding for County projects. Mr. Besich stated that in his

letter to the Board he offered some options for the Board's review. He inquired if the Board desires to go ahead and appraise the Payson properties as the County must have an appraised value which cannot be exceeded prior to a possible purchase. He requested direction from the Board in order to work with the elected officials and staff in attempting to meet some of these needs in a timely fashion. He noted that something needs to be done in regard to the Payson Probation Department. Supervisor Dawson stated that the 96 beds listed for the Payson jail facility, in her opinion, needed to be readdressed and adjusted down for economical reasons. She also stated that the Board needs to know the appraised value of the NAPA building next to the Sheriff's Office in Payson. Vice-Chairman Martin stated that at a previous meeting the Board instructed staff to proceed on addressing these critical needs, but she felt that the properties should be appraised first to give the Board both short-term and long-term ideas and options. Vice-Chairman Martin stated that some of the projects like the Globe jail facility and Payson Probation Department need to be completed very quickly and that may or may not fit in with the Keddington proposal, which seemed to her to be more of a long-term solution. Chairman Sanchez stated that the Board needs to address both short-term and long-term solutions to these critical issues while also looking at the 2009 and following years' deficit at the State level and these funding shortages the County will be faced with from the State. Mr. Besich stated that the NAPA building was appraised last year at \$535,000 for 6,000 square feet. Chairman Sanchez stated that he wasn't present at the meeting when the Keddington group presented its report; however, in his opinion it is in direct contrast to the recommendations presented by the Gila County Facilities Planning Citizens Advisory Committee. He felt it would be incumbent for this and future Boards to try to get those "two schools of thought" together and work out the differences. In the meantime, Chairman Sanchez thinks it is critical that the Board needs to decide upon some short-term solutions. Supervisor Dawson recommended closing Colcord Road in Payson and as far as moving the Sheriff's Office administrative offices, there is still the problem of where to move those offices. The Board also needs to know if new pods that will be used to house female prisoners can fit on the County's current property and the total costs involved. Vice-Chairman Martin recommended that the staff bring to the Board some prioritized recommendations for what the County can do for the least amount of money to get the best possible solution for the next 4-5 years and then follow up with recommendations on what to do in the next 15-20 years. Chairman Sanchez called on Sheriff Armer for his comments. Sheriff Armer stated that the staffing costs were completely left out of the Keddington Report. He stated that a new full-service jail in Payson to house 96 to 100 inmates would cost as much to staff as the present jail in Globe. He stated, "It would require 34 new employees at a cost of over \$2 million annually just for the staffing costs, which would include laundry, detention officers, food service, etc., and would not include costs like training, medical and employee supplies." He also stated that outside medical services run \$35,000/ year for Gila County and that amount is a real bargain because at Yavapai County the costs exceed \$800,000/year. Another special issue in regard to Payson is the cost of living

in northern Gila County. Given the current salary of a detention officer, the cost of a house in Payson at a minimum of \$1,700/month would be out of reach for the typical detention officer. Sheriff Armer stated that to alleviate the overcrowding at the Globe jail by adding the modules would cost \$600,000-\$750,000. Another possibility would be to expand the jail facility into the existing structure currently occupied by the Sheriff's administrative services staff and a rough estimate would be \$1 million to renovate that space. The administrative services staff would then have to move to a modular building similar to the Guerrero building of 1,400 square feet at a cost of \$1.5 million. He stated, "Those are strictly short-term 'bandaids' for a problem that is rapidly growing to the point it's going to overtake us real soon." Chairman Sanchez inquired about immediate needs at the Payson jail. Sheriff Armer replied that the Payson Sheriff's Office is functioning adequately with the exception of the booking facility. Jim Askew, Undersheriff, added that there are issues with the control panels, fire panels and generator that should also be discussed. In concluding this item, Mr. Besich verified that the priorities from this conversation with the Board include the following: Close Colcord Road in Payson; follow up on the possible purchase of the NAPA building in Payson for relocating the Probation Department, which would allow the Clerk of the Court to expand into the old Probation Department area; and, utilize the Sheriff's recommendations in conjunction with the Public Works staff on renovating the current Globe jail facilities and administrative facilities for the Sheriff's Office, all at an approximate cost of \$4-\$5 million. Vice-Chairman Martin also requested that staff communicate with the Keddington group about the County's short-term problems that need to be addressed immediately and their proposals will be addressed at a later date. Mr. Besich inquired if there was any value in obtaining appraisals at this time on the 3 alternative sites proposed in the Keddington Report or if that should be a long-term goal. Vice-Chairman Martin stated that while those properties are good sites and appropriate, they may not be available at the time that the County can address those long-term goals. She recommended that the County not expend any funds at this time for appraisals, to which Supervisor Dawson also agreed and particularly because of the economy crisis. Supervisor Dawson made the motion to instruct staff to begin working immediately on addressing the needs of the female prisoners through the possible acquisition of a modular unit to house them; that staff look at the cost and bring concrete figures back to the Board on what it would cost to remodel the jail and for administrative needs; that the County get an appraisal of the NAPA building in Payson; and, that the County close Colcord Road in Payson. Vice-Chairman Martin also requested that the Board instruct staff to contact the Keddington group regarding the County's long-term and short-term plans, which Supervisor Dawson added to her motion. The motion was seconded by Vice-Chairman Martin and unanimously approved by the Board. (Note for the record: A Public Participation Form with written comments in reference to agenda item 3 was submitted by Bessie Dooly, a resident of Claypool, after this item was concluded.)

Item 4 – Information/Discussion/Action to declare the Sheriff’s Office 18-foot 1984 Sunset Patrol Boat #06 as surplus property and donate same to the United States Coast Guard in lieu of their support for law enforcement efforts on Roosevelt Lake.

Sheriff John Armer stated that in the last two fiscal budget years, the County acquired \$214,000 in grant money for patrol boats. This 18-foot 1984 Sunset Patrol Boat #06 is surplus property and the most the County could receive at an auction for this boat would be \$2,000. He advised that the U. S. Coast Guard maintains a presence with the Sheriff’s Office at Roosevelt Lake. A trailer owned by the Coast Guard is located at the lake and Coast Guard personnel help the County staff not only at the Command Center and Roosevelt Substation, but the Coast Guard also puts its boat on the water and helps with boat assistance to the owners, thereby allowing the Sheriff’s Office to address more serious issues. Sheriff Armer recommended that this boat be sold to the Coast Guard for a nominal fee of \$1.00. He stated that the United States government prohibits the U.S. Coast Guard from operating boats that are non-government owned. Upon motion by Vice-Chairman Martin, seconded by Supervisor Dawson, the Board unanimously declared that the Sheriff’s Office 18-foot 1984 Sunset Patrol Boat #06 be declared as surplus property and authorized the sale of the boat to the United States Coast Guard for \$1.00 to support their efforts with public safety.

Item 5 - Information/Discussion/Action to begin the process of disposing of an unnecessary public roadway shown as cul-de-sacs off of Standage Drive providing access to Lots 93-96 and Lots 97-100, Tonto Village Two, Official Map No. 245, Gila County Records.

Steve Sanders, Public Works Division Deputy Director, stated that these cul-de-sacs off of Standage Drive were never built or created; they are basically located in someone’s front yard. The County has disposed of one public roadway to the west and now the homeowners to the east are requesting the County to begin the process of disposing of this unnecessary public roadway. The Public Works Division has no objection to this proposed action. Upon motion by Supervisor Dawson, seconded by Vice-Chairman Martin, the Board unanimously approved the beginning of the process to dispose of an unnecessary public roadway shown as cul-de-sacs off of Standage Drive as noted above.

Item 6 - CONSENT AGENDA ACTION ITEMS:

A. Approval of the renewal of an Agreement between Gila County and the Arizona State Forestry Division in the amount of \$40,000 for fiscal year 2007-2008 for the purposes of planning and implementing specific environmental programs. [Note: These funds will be used for the Environmental Economic Communities Organization (ECCO)].

- B. Adoption of Resolution No. 08-05-03 naming a road in Payson to be called Peaceful Lane. (A copy of the Resolution is permanently on file in the Board of Supervisors' Office.)**
- C. Approval to appoint Gerald Wyman Foster, George H. Spears and Annalee Frances Spano as Precinct Committeemen to the Gila County Democratic Party.**
- D. Authorization of the Chairman's signature on a Bank of America 36-month Municipal Lease Agreement at \$275.52/month (\$3,306.24 annually) and Interstate Copy Shop 36-month Maintenance Agreement at a cost of \$0.011 per copy for one Toshiba E Studio 452 Digital Copier with RADF and Finisher Fax Kit that will be used by the Globe Regional Justice of the Peace.**
- E. Approval of an application submitted by Steven Morken to temporarily extend the premises/patio of the Rimside Grill located in Pine, Arizona, for the dates of June 13-14, 2008.**
- F. Approval of a fee waiver request submitted by the Gila County Rodeo Committee to utilize the Fairgrounds Exhibit Hall for the Gymkhana awards previously scheduled for May 17th and June 7th at the rodeo arena and now rescheduled for June 1, 2008.**
- G. Approval of the May 13, 2008, BOS meeting minutes.**
- H. Approval of the April 2008 monthly departmental activity report submitted by the Clerk of the Superior Court.**
- I. Approval of personnel reports/actions for the week of May 27, 2008.**

Departure from County Service:

- 1. Courtroom Clerk – Clerk of Superior Clerk – 05-16-08 – General Fund – Josie Cademartori – DOH 08-06-07 – Services no longer needed
- 2. Social Services Case Manager Senior – Health and Community Services – 06-06-08 – CAP Fund – Rick Croy – DOH 11-30-92 – Resigned

Hire to County Service:

- 3. Administrative Clerk Senior – Juvenile Detention – 05-19-08 – General Fund – Martha McAfee – Replaces Teresa Martin del Campo

Temporary Hire to County Service:

- 4. Administrative Clerk – Public Fiduciary – 05-15-08 - General Fund – Peggy Valencia

End Probationary Period:

- 5. Administrative Clerk – Elections – 06-23-08 – General Fund – Eric Mariscal

SHERIFF'S PERSONNEL ACTION ITEMS

Departure from County Service

6. Detention Officer – Sheriff’s Office/Globe – 05-12-08 – General Fund – Douglas Young – DOH 04-28-08 – Resigned

Position Review:

7. Rescind resignation – Detention Officer – Sheriff’s Office/Payson – 05-19-08 – General Fund – Scott Ardrey

J. Approval of the finance reports which lists disbursements that will be issued during the week of May 27, 2008. (separate handout)

\$902,456.93 was disbursed for County expenses by check numbers 208649 through 208801. **(An itemized list of disbursements is permanently on file in the Board of Supervisors’ Office.)**

Upon motion by Vice-Chairman Martin, seconded Supervisor Dawson, the Board unanimously approved Consent Agenda action items 6A-6J.

Item 7 - At any time during this meeting pursuant to A.R.S. §38-31.02(K), members of the Board of Supervisors and the Chief Administrator may present a brief summary of current events. No action may be taken on issues presented.

Each Board member and Mr. Besich presented information on current events.

There being no further business to come before the Board of Supervisors, Chairman Sanchez adjourned the meeting at 11:27 a.m.

APPROVED:

Jose M. Sanchez, Chairman

ATTEST:

Steven L. Besich, County Manager/Clerk