

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

Date: February 17, 2009

**SHIRLEY L. DAWSON**

Chairman

**STEVEN L. BESICH**

Clerk of the Board

**TOMMIE C. MARTIN**

Vice-Chairman

By: Marilyn Brewer  
Deputy Clerk

**MICHAEL A. PASTOR**

Member

Gila County Courthouse  
Globe, Arizona

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PRESENT: Shirley L. Dawson, Chairman; Tommie C. Martin, Vice-Chairman; Michael A. Pastor, Member; Steve Besich, County Manager/Clerk; Marian Sheppard, Chief Deputy Clerk; and, Bryan Chambers, Chief 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 Pastor led the Pledge of Allegiance and Pastor Chris Martin delivered the Invocation.

**Item 2 - Information/Discussion/Action on the method of distribution of funds from the Secure Rural Schools and Community Self-Determination Program (forest fees).**

Linda O'Dell, School Superintendent, presented to the Board a proposal regarding the distribution of funds that have been made available to Gila County from the Secure Rural Schools and Community Self-Determination Program (SRS&CSDP). The intent of the (SRS&CSDP) Act is to provide assistance to rural schools that are negatively affected by the declining revenue from timber harvest in federal lands, which have over the last few years resulted in decreased annual payments. The payments for FY 2008 were distributed to states and counties in January 2009 and the total funds received by Gila County totaled \$2,280,840. The proposal contained in the Board packet (proposed by the superintendents of the school districts within Gila County) reflected the recommendation that 5% of the total amount be set aside for roads in the amount of \$114,042 and that 95% be designated for use in the schools in the amount of \$2,166,798. Dr. O'Dell stated that in December 2008, the governing boards of 3 school districts (Payson, Globe, Pine-Strawberry) passed a resolution advocating that the distribution of forest fee funds be determined by the Board of Supervisors rather than the Gila County

School Superintendent and that the distribution of these funds should be based on student enrollment referred to as average daily membership (ADM). Dr. O'Dell stated that since taking office, she has distributed the forest fees in the same manner as her predecessor, which was that the Board of Supervisors had allocated the funds to the Gila County School Superintendent for distribution. This was in place prior to Dr. O'Dell taking office, which seemed reasonable to her. A portion of the funds were set aside for the County School Superintendent's Office for general activities and a portion was set aside and distributed for school districts based on the amount of forest acreage within each school district. Last year's allocation through the County School Superintendent's Office totaled \$312,636 and of that amount \$165,700 was distributed to 8 school districts based on acreage. She pointed out that the Hayden/Winkelman School District does not have any forest acreage; therefore, it has not previously received any funds from this source. On January 24, 2009, Steve Besich, County Manager/Clerk, facilitated a meeting of the Gila County school superintendents and all of the Gila County public school districts were represented with the exception of the San Carlos School District. The stated goal of that meeting was for all of the school superintendents to develop a funding method for distribution of this year's forest fees and a roundtable discussion was held on the forest fee legislation as well as the intent of the law. There were comments from each person present and 2 superintendents expressed their belief that the funding should be distributed solely on student enrollment. Others expressed their belief that the funding should be fairly and equitably districted. At that meeting there was general agreement around basing school district allocations on 3 different factors, as follows: 1) The base amount would be a percentage of the funding divided by 9 school districts to represent a degree of equity around the County because these are County monies; 2) Base the allocation to the schools by forest acreage, which is the legislative intent; and 3) Include a factor or a strand that would reflect ADM for student enrollment. Dr. O'Dell then presented the Board with a copy of her proposal based on 95% for schools and 5% for roads, which included \$200,000 for the Gila County School Superintendent's Office with the remainder of \$1,966,798 to be distributed equally between the 9 school districts as follows: The base of 10% divided by the 9 districts would be \$21,853; a 25% factor for forest acreage, which varied from district to district depending on the amount of forest acreage; and 65% for ADM. She stated that another factor has to do with charter schools. The Payson Unified School District (PUSD) can include the 54 students on its district ADM that attend the Payson Center for Success, a charter school sponsored by the (PUSD). She showed a spreadsheet of what the figures would be if those students were excluded. Dr. O'Dell concluded by stating that this item is now before the Board for its decision. Supervisor Pastor noted that there are 360 students in the San Carlos School District that live in Graham County. Dr. O'Dell explained that funding in every county goes by school district boundaries; however, the students residing in Graham County but attending school in San Carlos will be included in the San Carlos School District ADM count. Vice-

Chairman Martin inquired if all the superintendents present at the meeting were unanimous with their proposal. Dr. O'Dell stated, "There was a level of agreement." Vice-Chairman Martin also inquired if the distribution decision made today would have to be done next year. Dr. O'Dell stated that the distribution for next year would be at the discretion of the Board. Chairman Dawson also noted that these funds will assist the school districts because State funds have recently been cut from the school districts by the State legislature and governor. Chairman Dawson called on Casey O'Brian, Superintendent of the PUSD. Mr. O'Brien stated that at the meeting it was a fairly difficult process to allocate how best to use these funds; however, a vote was taken and the vote was unanimous. He stated that the other proposal would have a significant impact in layoffs to most of the districts. He thanked the Board for hearing this issue. Chairman Dawson stated that the superintendents need to realize that the effort that went into fully funding the forest fees was not a small effort. But it has now been fully funded for 4 years; however, the districts should not get reliant on those funds. She appreciated the effort by the group to ensure that the Hayden-Winkelman School District would also receive some funds even though that district has no forest area. Supervisor Pastor made the motion that the Board approve the method of distribution of funds from the Secure Rural Schools and Community Self-Determination Program (forest fees) as presented in the Board packet (by all the school district superintendents). Vice-Chairman Martin seconded the motion, which passed unanimously. **(A copy of the adopted proposal is permanently on file in the Board of Supervisors' Office.)**

**Item 3 - Information/Discussion/Action to adopt Resolution No. 09-02-02 in support of the Southeast Arizona Land Exchange and Conservation Act and urging the United States Senate and House of Representatives to promptly enact this legislation and to recognize Resolution Copper Company for its investments and efforts to develop a new copper mine and enhance the local, state and national economies.**

Steve Besich, County Manager/Clerk, called on David Salisbury, President and CEO of Resolution Copper Mining, to update the Board on the company's recent efforts regarding this issue. Mr. Salisbury stated that he just returned from a week in Washington D.C. where he was requesting the reintroduction of legislation for the Southeast Arizona Land Exchange Act regarding the 5,500 acres of private property that would facilitate the development of the largest producing copper mine in the U.S. and that could supply 20% of the nation's copper. He updated the Board on the mining type, the production schedule, potential for employment opportunities, economic return and environmental issues, which is Resolution Copper Mining's first and foremost commitment. He concluded by thanking the Board for its past support and requested approval of this resolution. Each Board member reiterated their support of this project and thanked Mr. Salisbury for the presentation. Mr. Besich requested that Mr. Salisbury brief the Board on the stakeholder process throughout the

State and to name those individuals who have been involved in the discussions about the land trade. Mr. Salisbury stated that Resolution Copper Mining has had complete transparency on what it is doing. Since the bill was reintroduced last week, the Company has attempted to set up meetings with all major opposition groups. Over the past 18 months, the Company has conducted over 300 stakeholder meetings and provided many group tours. He reviewed how progress on the various problem areas have been or are being resolved, which includes new rock climbing areas, protecting the San Pedro River and working with the Audubon Society; however, there is still a problem in meeting with the San Carlos Apache Tribal Council members. In dealing with tribal issues, a large area has been reserved for acorn gathering. The Apache Leap area was to have been included in the company's property, but it has now been transferred to the custody of the U. S. Forest Service, which will work with the tribes on how that is managed and a full NEPA (National Environmental Policy Act) study will be conducted. He stated that Resolution Copper Mining has attempted to address everyone's concerns and the bill introduced into Congress reflects all of those meetings with over 300 groups. Chairman Dawson stated that she shares Mr. Salisbury's frustration in sitting down with representatives from San Carlos and she will be bringing to the Board a request to use Mary Kim Titla to assist in developing relationships with San Carlos "because we are neighbors and want to work together." She requested that Mr. Salisbury remain vigilant, but maintain patience. Chairman Dawson then called on Bessie Dooly, a resident of Miami, who presented some information to the Board on cave mining and reviewed a report that states that once the surface is opened, the water works its way down and the contaminants from the mining mix with the groundwater. She also noted that a lot of the mining will be done by robotics and not humans. She requested that the Board reconsider its position as she believes the process is not safe. Chris Martin, a resident of Globe and Director of the Southern Gila County Economic Development Corporation (EDC), stated that EDC is about creating jobs and with the proposal of this mine to produce over 1,000 jobs that would be over \$100 million going into the regional economy. He requested that the Board support this land exchange because the County needs these jobs and it will make a positive impact on this community. Chairman Dawson stated, "I feel it is imperative that anyone who is in doubt about Resolution Copper Mining needs to make an appointment for a tour to see what has already been done." She stated that the 300 employees that Resolution Copper Mining has already employed have given new life to the Town of Superior. She believes that the company is a strong partner with Arizona and is not asking for a handout, but is willing to invest and pay Arizona back in billions of dollars. Chairman Dawson believes that this exchange is a good exchange and she appreciates what has been done. Upon motion by Vice-Chairman Martin, seconded by Supervisor Pastor, the Board unanimously adopted Resolution No. 09-02-02 in support of the Southeast Arizona Land Exchange and Conservation Act. **(A copy of the Resolution is permanently on file in the Board of Supervisors' Office.)**

#### **Item 4 - Information/Discussion/Action regarding additional County offices in Payson.**

Chairman Dawson stated that she has received some phone calls as to the reason the County is looking at additional office space in Payson. She stated that Frank Owens, Chief Probation Officer, is present today from the Probation Department that is crammed into inadequate space in Payson. The proposal is to move the Community Development Division, Engineering Department, Information Technology Department and Vice-Chairman Martin's office out of the Payson County complex and utilize that space to help alleviate the problems for the Probation Department. Steve Stratton, Public Works Division Director, gave a PowerPoint presentation showing the locations of the 5 proposed properties. The properties shown in the aerial view along with close-up photos included the following: 1) The current County location, 2) Main Street Grill; 3) the Women's Club with a schematic for a proposed parking area; 4) Payson Village Center [Old Department of Economic Security (DES) building]; 5) Rim View Office Park; and 6) First American Title building. Two of those properties were removed by staff, namely: 1) Main Street Grill because it did not have sufficient footage and the old walls were bearing walls that could not be configured in a manner for adequate office space and 2) Rim View Office Park because even with a reduction in the cost, it was still an unrealistic amount for the County to pay and the building has more square footage than is needed by the County. Mr. Stratton then briefly reviewed the 3 remaining properties. He showed photos of the Payson Village Center (old DES building), which had not been previously shown to the Board. In the past DES had been paying in excess of \$10,000 for the building, but the proposal to the County was substantially less. A spreadsheet was then given to the Board, which was prepared by a County consultant, Cliff Potts of the Payson Branch of Prudential Arizona Properties, to provide the costs and pros and cons for each property. It was noted that Mr. Potts was not involved with any of the proposed properties. The rental cost for the Women's Club would be for a period of 5 years (per John Nelson, Deputy County Manager) at the rate of \$3,450 per month plus maintenance, utilities and insurance. The total move-in costs for the Women's Club was estimated at \$237,991; however, after testing was completed, less asbestos was found than previously thought, so that figure was reduced by \$10,000 to \$227,991. The rent for the Payson Village Center (old DES building) would be \$4,560/month plus maintenance fees of \$2,204 per month. The total move-in costs would be \$96,875. The First American Title building best offer would be a lease/purchase with a sliding scale on the amount of rent applied toward the purchase price starting at 40% and going down to 10%. The rent would be \$5,964 per month, plus property taxes that would add approximately \$1,333 per month to the lease; however, the County portion of the property taxes becomes a null expense. The total move-in

costs for the First American Title building would be \$70,375.00 with an estimated cost of \$20,000 for office modifications. The cost to purchase the building at the appraised value would be \$985,000. Mr. Stratton noted that costs over \$20,000 to refurbish any of these buildings would have to be contracted out and it could take from 90 to 120 days to complete. The recommendation given by Mr. Potts was to lease the First American Title building. Chairman Dawson called on members of the public in Globe to speak. Ray Pugel, a resident of Payson and employed by Coldwell Banker Bishop Realty of Payson, stated that he and Lori Coleman were present on behalf of their client, First American Title Company. He reiterated some of the pros of this building for the Board to consider, which included that it is "Class A" office space; there is ample parking; good location; easy ingress and egress; has high visibility; the building has been well maintained and will have much lower maintenance fees; already contains cable; has 2 entrances; is convenient for visitors; signage is already in place as signage can be expensive; the price has been reduced to a minimum of 18% below market rates; and the building sets a professional tone for those doing business with Gila County. He also believes the cost to purchase is \$200,000 below the market value. Ms. Coleman noted that the current tenant will vacate the premises by March 31<sup>st</sup>. Mr. Stratton then presented the parking availability for each property. Chairman Dawson advised that letters were received from Steve Christensen, Chairman of the Preservation & Conservation Commission of the Town of Payson; Shelly Wayland of the Body Elegance Day Spa on Main Street; Ken Volz, Chairman of the Green Valley Redevelopment Committee; and Jayne Peace of the Payson Women's Club, all explaining the importance of the historic area of Main Street and encouraging consideration of renting/leasing the Women's Club. Chairman Dawson also called on members of the public in Payson who wished to speak. Jayne Peace Pyle, Judy Baker and Ken Volz, all residents of Payson, urged the Board to select the Women's Club for reasons varying from historic purposes to redevelopment of the Main Street area. Vice-Chairman Martin stated that when the staff first began to review this, she was looking for the best deal for the taxpayer, to follow the wishes of the town and to find a good place for 5 years. After reviewing all of the properties along with Mr. Potts recommendations, Vice-Chairman Martin concluded that the Women's Club offered the best deal for the taxpayer, the space is adequate and she believes the activity on Main Street is also important. Vice-Chairman Martin also reviewed the drawbacks, which included the age and appearance of the building, high move-in costs, shared signage with the Women's Club and parking issues, but she recommended to the Board that, in her opinion, the Women's Club was the best overall deal. Supervisor Pastor stated that he appreciated the historical values of the Women's Club; however, the County is "under the gun" to get the Probation Department relocated into adequate space. His opinion was that it made more sense to take

ownership of the First American Title building, rather than having to share a building with the Women's Club. Chairman Dawson stated that she also reviewed the possibility of relocating the Recorder's and the Assessor's Offices to the new facilities; however, a location for holding elections with handicapped accessibility would still need to be addressed. Chairman Dawson stated that she understands the value of historic buildings and locating on Main Street; however, she also knows the problems that can be encountered when remodelling old buildings such as the Women's Club. Chairman Dawson stated that in looking at the best place to house County staff and what she considered the best investment of tax dollars, she would second a motion to lease/purchase the First American Title building. Vice-Chairman Martin reiterated that she believes the Women's Club would be the best deal for the County. Vice-Chairman Martin stated, "I don't know how you say, 'Chamber, Town, etc., we're sorry. We know what is best for the County.' I will be voting against both of them. This is an indication to how well we don't listen to what the Town of Payson would like us to do." Chairman Dawson stated, "...This is not a disregard to those of you in Payson. We have had a professional make a recommendation and have realtors here speaking as to what is best for Gila County. With old buildings, the County would have to invest \$227,000 to get the Women's Club remodelled and there would always be additional problems there. The Board didn't even go into the question of the 2 hours per week that the Women's Club would still be meeting there and sharing space and I do not want to put the staff into that situation." Vice-Chairman Martin noted that the Women's Club would be using the conference room for its meetings. Upon motion by Supervisor Pastor, seconded by Chairman Dawson, the Board voted by a 2-1 vote to lease/purchase the First American Title building as presented today. Vice-Chairman Martin voted "nay." Chairman Dawson stated to Mr. Pugel that she recommended that Mr. Stratton remain vigilant in working with him as Mr. Stratton understands these are County dollars and the County needs to obtain the best price on the lease/purchase of the First American Title building. Chairman Dawson thanked everyone for attending the meeting and stated that the Board does value their opinion.

Vice-Chairman Martin advised that she received notice that Patty Power, a Washington D.C. lobbyist and consultant for Gila County, would be available to meet with the Board on agenda item number 10 by phone either now or at 1:05 p.m. Supervisor Pastor stated that he would cancel a meeting he had scheduled for 1:00 p.m. so that the Board could meet with Ms. Power at 1:05 p.m.

**Item 5 - Information/Discussion/Action to adopt Board of Supervisors Policy No. BOS-1-2009, which establishes procedures for**

**a Call to the Public during regularly scheduled Board of Supervisors' meetings.**

Chairman Dawson requested this item and stated that this would establish a simple procedure to allow the public to speak to the Board on any issue at its regularly scheduled meetings. Discussion was held as to the length of time to be allowed for the public to speak and it was the consensus of the Board to limit the time to 3 minutes. Upon motion by Supervisor Pastor, seconded by Vice-Chairman Martin, the Board unanimously adopted Board of Supervisors Policy No. BOS-1-2009, which establishes procedures for a Call to the Public during regularly scheduled Board of Supervisors' meetings.

**Item 6 - Information/Discussion/Action to allow the Chief Deputy Clerk to proceed with the administrative process of selling Assessor's tax parcel number 101-09-063-3, which is owned by the State of Arizona, to Gila County for the sales price of \$1, and to authorize the Chairman's signature on the quit claim deed.**

Chairman Dawson stated that this property needs to be cleaned up; however, no one is authorized to sign for the property to be cleaned. Marian Sheppard, Chief Deputy Clerk, advised the Board that this is a property located in Hayden that the County has had difficulty with in the past. Located on the parcel is a house that is deteriorating and has been vandalized, etc. Ms. Sheppard recommended that she be allowed to proceed with the administrative process of selling this parcel to Gila County for \$1.00. Upon motion by Supervisor Pastor, seconded by Vice-Chairman Martin, the Board unanimously voted to allow the Chief Deputy Clerk to proceed with the administrative process of selling Assessor's tax parcel number 101-09-063-3, which is owned by the State of Arizona, to Gila County for the sale price of \$1 and to authorize the Chairman's signature on the Quit Claim Deed.

**Item 7 – CONSENT AGENDA ACTION ITEMS:**

**A. Approval to terminate two cable television franchise licenses as these companies are no longer providing cable service within Gila County, as follows: Salt River Cablevision, LLC – Written notification was submitted by James Monroe, Owner, and dated 11-8-04 that this business was shut down on 6-30-04. The franchise license, which served the Roosevelt Lake area, was granted by Gila County Resolution No. 98-2-1 with an expiration date of 2-4-15. Indevideo Company, Inc. – Written notification was submitted by Al. H. Williams, President, and dated 5-8-08 that service to Gila County customers was stopped effective 6-30-08. The franchise license, which served the Gisela area, was granted by Resolution No. 92-8-2 & Franchise with an expiration date of 8-24-17.**

- B. Approval of an Amendment to the 2008-2009 Independent Contractor Agreement between Arizona Community Action Association and Gila County Division of Health and Community Services, Community Action Program, to increase funding from \$5,000 to \$10,556 for the Southwest Gas Bill Assistance Program to be used through June 30, 2009.**
- C. Approval of Amendment No. 1 to an Agreement for Energy Wise Low Income Weatherization Program Implementation between the Gila County Division of Health and Community Services and Arizona Public Service Company to provide weatherization services in the amount of \$60,000 during the period of January 1, 2009, through December 31, 2009.**
- D. Approval of the January 2009 monthly departmental activity reports submitted by the Recorder and Globe Regional Justice of the Peace.**
- E. Approval of personnel reports/actions for the week of February 17, 2009.**

Departure from County Service:

- 1. Dave Ferrell – Health and Community Services – Career and Employment Specialist Senior – 02-09-09 – WIA Fund – DOH 08-02-93 - Termination
- 2. Joanne Zache – Health and Community Services – Accountant – 02-27-09 – WIA Fund – DOH 09-30-91 – Retirement

End Probationary Period:

- 3. Veronica Gonzales – Probation – Administrative Clerk Senior – 02-16-09 – Adult Probation Services Fees Fund
- 4. Ricky Reed – Probation – Deputy Probation Officer 1 – 02-16-09 – Globe Safe Schools Fund
- 5. Erwin Diaz – Probation – Deputy Probation Officer 1 – 02-16-09 – General Fund
- 6. Douglas Wilson – Probation – Juvenile Detention Officer – 02-16-09 – General Fund

Position Review:

- 7. Sheila Hibdon – Health and Community Services – Community Health Assistant PT – 02-16-09 – From 74% Health Start Program Fund – 19%TB Fund – 7% Immunization Fund – To 80% Health Start Program Fund – 20% Immunization Fund

**SHERIFF’S PERSONNEL ACTION ITEMS**

Departure from County Service:

- 8. Sharon Brewer – Sheriff’s Office/Globe – Detention Officer – 01-29-09 – General Fund – DOH 11-16-04 - Resignation

**F. Approval of finance reports/demands/transfers for the week of February 17, 2009. (separate handout)**

\$485,638.95 was disbursed for County expenses by check numbers 215561 through 215723. **(An itemized list of disbursements is permanently on file in the Board of Supervisors' Office.)**

Upon motion by Vice-Chairman Martin, seconded by Supervisor Pastor, the Board unanimously approved Consent Agenda action items 4A-4K.

**Item 8 - 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.

**Item 9 - Information/Discussion/Action to request a salary increase for the Constable Clerk in the Globe Regional Constable's Office. Pursuant to A.R.S. § 38-431.03 (A) (1), the Board may vote to consider this matter in executive session.**

Upon motion by Vice-Chairman Martin, seconded by Supervisor Pastor, the Board convened into executive session at 12:01 p.m.

At 12:26 p.m., Chairman Dawson reconvened the meeting into regular session.

Upon motion by Vice-Chairman Martin, seconded by Supervisor Pastor, the Board unanimously voted to uphold the decision of the Personnel Department regarding this issue. (Note: The request was denied.)

Mr. Besich requested a 15-minute break to meet with Michael Frias, who will be the District Director for recently elected Congresswoman Ann Kirkpatrick. Mr. Frias is from the town of Superior and he formerly worked with Governor Napolitano. Chairman Dawson called for a recess until 12:45 p.m.

**Item 10 - Information/Discussion/Action regarding the federal economic stimulus package.**

At 1:06 p.m., Chairman Dawson reconvened the meeting and Patty Power joined the meeting via a telephone conference call from Washington D.C.

Vice-Chairman Martin presented copies to the Board which contained an overview of the authorizations and appropriations funding processes, as printed from the U. S. Senate website, and an overview about Congressional earmarks received from Ms. Power for the Board's reference. The information

describes each of the 3 processes for receiving federal funding. Vice-Chairman Martin explained about the 2008 and 2009 appropriation requests made to former Congressman Renzi. The 2008 requests were due in February of 2008 and the 2009 requests were due in February 2009. The amount of \$2.3 million was received. Next year the appropriation requests are for forest service funding and funding for the Young Road. Ms. Power stated that for the Young Road for 2008, \$735,000 was secured and \$2 million has been requested for 2009; however, she has not yet seen those bills. Vice-Chairman Martin noted that appropriations, which occur year after year, are not the same as federal stimulus funding. She stated that authorizations for the County will be submitted through the Transportation Bill, not through appropriations or the stimulus fund. The first authorization for \$3 million was received to do the design and environmental studies for the Tonto Creek Bridge and the next authorization will be for funding to build the bridge. She has heard that once the first \$3 million was funded, if those funds were used appropriately, it is usually followed by the remainder of the funding. When the Tonto Creek Bridge funding was first approved, there was a requirement for a 20% match by the County; however, that requirement has since been reduced to a 5.7% match. Vice-Chairman Martin inquired of Ms. Power if the stimulus package will delay the Transportation Bill. Ms. Power stated that the stimulus package might cause a slight delay. However, the Transportation Bill is quite large with lots of earmarks and state rules. It is funded through gas taxes and it is based on the amount of money contributed and then received back. The Bill has never been renewed on time and the scheduled date is September 9<sup>th</sup>; however, Congress will probably vote for a couple of extensions. She stated that it would be wise for the County to have its authorization requests submitted soon. Vice-Chairman Martin stated that because Ms. Power can only have a certain number of authorization requests, the County needs to give Ms. Power clear direction for its first, second and third priorities. Vice-Chairman Martin then moved to discussing the projects to be funded through the federal economic stimulus package. Chairman Dawson stated that as the stimulus projects list was being compiled, she has repeatedly brought to the Board's attention the jail project, which once funded would give the County relief and remove the possibility of a lawsuit. She believes the jail project should be the County's number one priority request for funding whether through appropriations or the stimulus package. Vice-Chairman Martin stated that she has put together a worksheet that lists all of the potential projects as of last Friday and she has done this for several reasons. Using the example of road projects, she stated that 50% of the stimulus money for roads will go to the Department of Transportation and distributed from there; 30% of the money will go to local jurisdictions, which may be distributed through Central Arizona Association of Governments although that hasn't been decided; and a decision has not been made on how the remaining percentage would be distributed. If one County road could be funded, the Board would have to prioritize which one that would be and it would be the same for the State roads, water and waste water projects. She stated that this is just the beginning of spreading out the

projects on pages that could be put in a notebook and as the stimulus funds become available, the projects would be listed for the Board to determine the project that would fit the funding. If a particular project did not fit the stimulus funding requirements, it could then be added to the requests for appropriation funding or apply for funding through a grant. Vice-Chairman Martin stated that she has done a lot of research on jails and in the stimulus funding she has not found any money available for building jails, nor in appropriation funding either. That doesn't mean it's not there; she has just not been able to locate same; however, the Board could ask Congresswoman Kirkpatrick to float an authorization. What Vice-Chairman Martin is hearing from the administrative side is that there is a mandate from President Obama to not build more prisons, so the Board needs to look at other possible alternatives for funding same. She stated that of the proposed \$787 billion stimulus package, less than \$30 billion will be going into infrastructure projects. Ms. Power is also looking for funding for forest projects. Chairman Dawson stated that in regard to the stimulus list, those making the decision on funding will need to know how fast a project can be started, how many people can be employed and how long it will sustain itself, so those details need to be added to the list along with ensuring that Sheriff Armer has all of the details included for a jail project. Vice-Chairman Martin stated that she understands there are different time sensitivities on these monies. She also understands that there will be new money for rural internet technology. Ms. Power stated that she believes the Board is on the right track. The stimulus bill was enacted to jump start the economy and for any request by formula or grant, it will be helpful to have background information ready. The Board appears to have spent a lot of time looking at the County's needs and the stimulus money will address some of those needs, but not all of them so she will continue searching for funding wherever it may be available and deliver the maximum she can to the County. As far as funding projects from the stimulus monies, at the present time the requirements are all over the board and different programs have different requirements so she is still sorting through them. Ms. Power stated that she believes the Board is in good shape in that it knows what the County's needs are and they are defined in a way that will allow her to line up stimulus money with each of those sheets. The one she is working on most intensely is the jail project. There appears to be \$3.65 billion available for different programs through the U.S. Department of Justice and \$2 billion in the Byrne program and it is her understanding that jail construction can be funded from the Byrne program. She is also still looking for construction funding in the stimulus package, but there could be other funding that could provide the funds for the jail project. As information is gathered, it will be forwarded to the County. Mr. Frias added that Congresswoman Kirkpatrick will also continue to seek funds on behalf of the County. He also advised that in regard to health care funding, there are other requirements in which the State is going to have to take action and become compliant in certain areas in order to acquire the federal funding. He stated that Ms. Kirkpatrick's office is taking these issues very seriously so that "all monies find their way into the

rural and local communities.” Vice-Chairman Martin stated that she would like the Board to have a work session with Ms. Power sometime in April.

## **WORK SESSION**

**Item 11 - Discussion of the Gila County strategic planning process by addressing a list of deliverables presented at last week’s work session, as follows:**

- **Target**
- **Timing**
- **Decide on the model for strategic planning; goal based or issue based**
- **Are we on the same page?**
- **Do we have commitment?**
- **Complete the package of reflective material**
- **Type of organization**
- **Management/leadership**
- **Time line**

Berthan DeNero, Personnel Director, gave a PowerPoint presentation and continued last week’s discussion on the strategic planning process. She began with a team development activity known as “the shield,” in which the Board participated. The discussion continued on the deliverables as listed above in the agenda item with Ms. DeNero reviewing last week’s information. She suggested that if the Board had other deliverables to add, she would then like to prioritize all of the deliverables. Each Board member gave their ideas as to what should be included in the strategic plan. Supervisor Pastor recommended that the Board develop a mission/vision/value statement, which Ms. DeNero stated would be a goal-based strategic plan and the most common. She explained that typically there will be 4-5 values that will show how the County is going to operate, what is expected, and the Board as it becomes the leader will role model those values. Chairman Dawson commented about the 365-page plan recently completed by Pinal County and Ms. DeNero noted that in the Pinal plan there were goals set, but the actions didn’t always tie to the goals. Mr. Besich stated that Pinal County spent \$500,000 for its 365-page document, which included discussions held with each department head and all elected officials, with everyone going through a whole exercise. He stated that this Board needs to keep in mind that in Gila County’s case we do need to have a mission, vision and goals, but the Board also needs to identify the strengths and weaknesses because Gila County is never going to be a county that grows by 15,000-20,000 people in a year. This County is always going to have major natural resource issues that drive a lot of the Board’s decision-making processes. Mr. Besich stated that in the past the Board/management have set a few goals and then tried to do them well and not duplicate what other organizations are doing, such as the economic development group. He stated that the Board also needs to ask if its concept of a goal is to expand

government or never tax for one dollar more than is needed to perform its mission and those philosophical things have to be grounded into the base of what the Board is trying to establish. Chairman Dawson stressed the need to articulate the good things that the County has accomplished to the public and even the elected officials so there is support and everyone is working together. She believes that once the Board has a vision, a guiding principle, then everyone might start working in the same direction. Vice-Chairman Martin preferred not to have a process of checking off a box and not getting anywhere. She gave the example of the County not having its audits done, which to her was a “check-off-the-box” thing that had to get done, but it doesn’t tell the Board where the County stands financially; only where the County has been and if we are abiding by the rules. She believes Gila County is above those counties that had their audits complete, but didn’t know where they were going. Gila County knew where it was going, but didn’t have its audits complete. She appreciates the balance of complete audits and knowing where the County is headed, but there can be a lot of planning that ends up only being about checking off boxes and what she calls “confusing order and structure.” She prefers the goal-based, value-driven approach because that is the order and to let the structure come along behind—the form and the function. She stated that even though the County doesn’t have a vision/mission statement, the County is headed in a general direction regardless. She also believes this County has the finest management team and the Board should use them better in helping to achieve its mission by letting management do management’s job. Mr. Besich added that Gila County has a great working relationship between the Board and elected officials and department heads, which does not occur in many counties. Supervisor Pastor emphasized the need for the Board to be knowledgeable of all the issues brought before the Board in order to be efficient in running an effective and cost-conscious County. Ms. DeNero stated that it appeared that a goal-based strategic plan would be appropriate with mission, vision and values statements, which could probably be accomplished in a 4-hour session. Chairman Dawson stated that if the Board has an overall mission and vision, it needs to be conveyed well and then the elected officials and department heads would have to do the action plan and carry it out. She would like the Board to meet with elected officials and department heads on a monthly or quarterly basis to share information about their respective departments/offices. The goals and objectives could continue to change and improve with the overall mission of serving the people. Ms. DeNero stated that with a goal-based strategic plan, the Board would look at strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, threats, internal and external, environment and how those can be improved as wonderful tools for strategic planning. The next item discussed was the timeline for the plan. Because of all the pending critical issues right now, Vice-Chairman Martin preferred to have one strategic planning session per month and then increase the work sessions during the summer. A proposed calendar was reviewed for holding future work sessions once a month with the next one

scheduled for March 17<sup>th</sup> followed by April 14<sup>th</sup>. No action was taken by the Board on any work session items.

There being no further business to come before the Board of Supervisors, Chairman Dawson adjourned the meeting at 2:51 p.m.

**APPROVED:**

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Shirley L. Dawson, Chairman

**ATTEST:**

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Steven L. Besich, County Manager/Clerk