

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

Date: January 15, 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

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PRESENT: Jose M. Sanchez, Chairman; Tommie C. Martin, Vice-Chairman; Shirley L. Dawson, Member; Jacque Griffin, Assistant County Manager/County Librarian; Marian Sheppard, Chief Deputy Clerk; and, Ramai Alvarez, Deputy Attorney Principal.

**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. Shirley Dawson led the Pledge of Allegiance and Pastor Chris Martin delivered the Invocation. Chairman Sanchez noted for the record that Steve Besich, County Manager/Clerk, was not present at the meeting as he was attending to other County business.

**Item 2 - Introduction of Sylvia Allen, an Arizona candidate for the House of Representatives, District 5.**

Chairman Sanchez introduced Sylvia Allen, who is an Arizona candidate for the House of Representatives, District 5. Ms. Allen gave a brief background of her history and qualifications for this position and stated that she will be an advocate for County government as she knows the many challenges facing the County. She stated that one of her primary goals will be to fight for fairness for Arizona's rural communities, citizens and children. Each Board member thanked Ms. Allen for attending the meeting.

**Item 3 - Information/Discussion/Action to authorize the Chairman's signature on the 2007 State Lake Improvement Fund Grant Award Agreement No. 780713 in the amount of \$246,454.00, whereby Gila County shall third party sponsor the San Carlos Recreation/Wildlife Department in the renovation of the Talkalai Lake Project**

Bree'na York, Division of Health and Community Services Fiscal Coordinator, presented this agenda item. She stated that the Gila County Division of Health and Community Services has collaborated with the San Carlos Recreation and Wildlife Department to enable Gila County to third-party sponsor the renovation of Talkalai Lake with State Lake Improvement Funds (SLIF). Arizona State Parks has awarded the project, which will include the construction of 2 boat ramps, 2 courtesy docks, 2 waterless restrooms, 2 parking lots and signage. The grant award amount is \$221,807 with a 10 percent matching fund from the San Carlos Apache Tribe in the amount of \$24,647 bringing the total project cost to \$246,454. She then introduced Danielle Silvas, Arizona State Parks SLIF Grant Program Coordinator, who presented the SLIF funds in the amount of \$221,807 on behalf of the Arizona State Parks Board. She stated that the Arizona State Parks Board is very excited about the renovations to be made at Talkalai Lake. Harold Nofchissey, Director of the San Carlos Recreation and Wildlife Department, accepted the grant funds on behalf of the San Carlos Apache Tribe and thanked Gila County for working with the Tribe to develop Talkalai Lake. Supervisor Dawson mentioned the concerns about security and the possibility of the reservoir in that area flooding and/or breaking. Bernadette Goode, a member of the San Carlos Apache Tribal Council, also thanked the Board for working with the Tribe on this project. She stated that the Tribe is also concerned about Talkalai Lake and that the dam is monitored by the Bureau of Land Management to ensure there will be no collapsing. Mr. Nofchissey stated that the Tribe is looking at the possibility of building a bait shop in the Talkalai Lake area and have personnel there permanently, which would also bring more security to the area. Upon motion by Vice-Chairman Martin, seconded by Supervisor Dawson, the Board unanimously authorized the Chairman's signature on the 2007 State Lake Improvement Grant Award Agreement No. 780713 in the total amount of \$246,454.

Chairman Sanchez noted for the record that the meeting was being televised to the Young Public Schools for public input on the upcoming agenda item 11; however, connectivity issues were presently being addressed at this time.

**Item 4 - Information/Discussion/Action to award Request for Sealed Bids No. 102407-1 for the purchase of a hydraulic tail equipment trailer and industrial tilt trailer to be used by the Gila County Consolidated Roads Department.**

Steve Stratton, Public Works Division Director, stated that the new hydraulic tail equipment trailer being requested will replace the current 1953 trailer that doesn't have anti-skid braking, which is somewhat of a safety issue. He recommended that the bid for the hydraulic tail equipment trailer be awarded to Empire Transport in the amount of \$66,543.80. The second industrial tilt trailer is a smaller trailer that is pulled behind the 10-wheel dump truck that hauls the backhoe or other types of heavy equipment and is used both in

northern and southern Gila County and is usually in the north when it's needed in the south. Mr. Stratton requested an addition to the fleet of a second industrial tilt trailer, one for each location. He recommended that the bid for the industrial tilt trailer also be awarded to the low bidder, Empire Transport, in the amount of \$27,441.35. Upon motion by Supervisor Dawson, seconded by Vice-Chairman Martin, the Board unanimously awarded both trailers listed in the Request for Sealed Bids No. 091407-1 Contract to Empire Transport in the amount of \$66,543.80 for the purchase of the hydraulic tail equipment trailer and \$27,441.35 for the industrial tilt trailer.

**Item 5 - Information/Discussion/Action to approve a Professional Property/Use Rental Agreement between Gila County and Air Evac Services, Inc. whereby the County will lease a heli-pad area at the Fairgrounds to Air Evac Services in the amount of \$1,000 per month for a period of 12 months, beginning January 8, 2008.**

Mr. Stratton presented this agenda item and stated that he would first like to clarify the statement "for a period of 12 months." Currently Air Evac Services, Inc. (AES) is only anticipating the temporary use of the Fairgrounds for 3-4 months. The permanent heli-pad base for AES will be located at the Pinto Valley Mine once the facility has been built; however, sometimes there are delays in construction and rather than coming back to the Board for an extension, the rental of the Fairgrounds will be on a month-to-month basis for a period of up to 12 months. He then introduced Carmen Casillas, a member of the Globe City Council. Ms. Casillas introduced her sister, Nadine Sandoval, a 15-year flight nurse, who will be managing AES at the Fairgrounds. She also introduced Monte Gallegos, a representative for AES. Mr. Stratton explained that the County has agreed to rent 3 of the RV Park spaces to AES, which will be used to construct a 50 foot by 50 foot heli-pad north of the RV Park. The County is constructing a fuel containment area for the jet fuel and AES has agreed to help with the cost of same by providing materials and making a one-time donation of \$3,000 to the County once the heli-pad is constructed. The heli-pad will become a permanent facility, which could be used for a medical flight to land in the event an accident at the Fairgrounds. Upon inquiry from Vice-Chairman Martin about any fuel problems, Mr. Stratton explained that the fuel containment, consisting of a 550 gallon tank on a trailer, will have a lining and if any fuel spills it will go into a container and the containment does comply with all of the Arizona Department of Environment rules and regulations. However, in the rental agreement it does specifically state that AES will be responsible for any environmental concerns. Chairman Sanchez then called on Mr. Gallegos, who gave a brief presentation on the history of AES. Each Board member thanked Mr. Gallegos for the information and thanked AES for bringing their services to Gila County. Chairman Sanchez inquired about AES flight patterns over the residential and school areas. Mr. Gallegos stated that the AES service area would be a 100-mile radius and will interact with the Gila County Sheriff's Office and other local law enforcement

agencies. Mr. Stratton explained that the flight patterns have been discussed and was cleared with the prison because of their proximity to the heli-pad. The pilot has assured the County that there would be no flight patterns over the subdivision, the prison, or the roping arena, but would be going through the vacant land in that area. Upon motion by Vice-Chairman Martin, seconded by Supervisor Dawson, the Board unanimously approved a Professional/Use Rental Agreement with Air Evac Services, Inc. in the amount of \$1,000 per month for a period of 12 months beginning January 8, 2008.

**Item 6 - Information/Discussion/Action to authorize the advertisement of a Notice of Lease of Real Property notifying the public of the proposed lease of the Historic Gila County Jail and impound lot to the Globe Downtown Association, a non-profit corporation, for a period of ten years.**

Mr. Stratton stated that the County has previously attempted to renew an existing lease on the jail with the City of Globe, which had expired 2 years earlier, but without any success. The Globe Downtown Association has now requested to lease the facility and has provided liability insurance as well as insurance to cover all activities. Chairman Sanchez called on Kip Culver, Director of the Cobre Valley Center for the Arts and Director of the Historic Globe Main Street Program. Mr. Culver explained that he was present on behalf of the board for the Globe Main Street Program, whose legal name is the Globe Downtown Association. The Globe Downtown Association has occupied the historic jail and old Sheriff's Office for a period of time under a previous agreement with the City of Globe, but Mr. Culver was unaware of the reason the agreement had expired. The Globe Downtown Association is eager to continue its operation in the Historic Gila County Jail as that is where its office is located and the group wants to make this a territorial landmark that is maintained, active, available and accessible to the public. Each Board member thanked Mr. Culver for all his efforts in preserving downtown historic Globe. Mr. Stratton stated that by statute, the County has to advertise this Notice of Lease of Real Property and after publication, the item will come back to the Board for approval. Upon motion by Supervisor Dawson, seconded by Vice-Chairman Martin, the Board unanimously authorized the advertisement of a Notice of Lease of Real Property notifying the public of the proposed lease of the Historic Gila County Jail and impound lot to the Globe Downtown Association for a period of ten years.

**Item 7 - Information/Discussion/Action to review a sealed bid submitted for the purchase of tax parcel number 206-18-013-8, which is owned by the State of Arizona.**

Marian Sheppard, Chief Deputy Clerk, presented this agenda item. She stated that years ago the Board adopted a policy regarding the sale of State-owned property. The policy has a provision that applies to any person who owns property which adjoins any State-owned property. The adjoining property

owner may submit a sealed bid which is less than the total lien amount providing that proof of ownership of adjoining land is submitted with the sealed bid. The bid is then opened in a public meeting of the Board of Supervisors at which time the Board renders a decision to accept or reject that bid. This policy applies to agenda item numbers 7 and 8. Ms. Sheppard requested the Board's review of a sealed bid for the purchase of this tax parcel, which has a lien in the amount of \$385.84. She showed the Board a map and photos of said parcel. Ms. Sheppard then opened the sealed bid and stated that George Mesa submitted a bid in the amount of \$50 for the subject parcel and he has provided proof of adjoining ownership. Chairman Sanchez stated that he is very familiar with this parcel and he felt it would be beneficial for both parties to sell the property. Ms. Sheppard stated that when she receives a bid from an adjoining land owner, the one condition she asks of the bidder is to combine their tax parcel with the subject tax parcel once the quit claim deed has been recorded as this would reduce the amount of future administrative paperwork for both the County Assessor and Treasurer. The process to combine tax parcels is handled by the County Assessor's Office. Ms. Sheppard explained that most of the State-owned properties in Gila County are typically small in size and have very little value. She believes that most of the properties that are deeded to the State result from an incorrect legal description being given when a property was split into several parcels, which resulted in a portion of property not appearing on any new title of ownership. She stated that the original property owner received notices from the Treasurer regarding delinquent taxes; however, most times the owner disregards the notice believing it has nothing to do with them because the property was sold. After 7 years of non-payment of taxes, the Treasurer deeds the property to the State of Arizona. Vice-Chairman Martin stated that the subject parcel looks like it's the same size as the property the bidder already owns. Ms. Sheppard explained that the subject parcel is a complete hillside and a portion of the property is used as a walkway to the bidder's property. She advised that the Treasurer and Assessor have reviewed the property and they don't feel it could be used by any person other than the bidder. Supervisor Dawson stated, "My concern is that once the Board starts selling properties at less than what is owed, and certainly \$385 for a piece of property is a very good buy, it's going to enhance the value of his property. I don't understand accepting bids that are less than the lien amount. I think it should be a practice that the County requires these people to pay what is owed on it. It's not a big amount of money." Vice-Chairman Martin stated that she didn't want to hold the property owner hostage on this piece of land, but she doesn't want the County to be held hostage either. Chairman Sanchez stated that if the Board could sell this particular property, he felt \$50 was a good deal in order to consolidate the parcels because the subject property is an unusable hillside that is going to provide very little increase to the value of the bidder's property. Ms. Sheppard explained that the County has an internal process whereby the Treasurer and Assessor review these properties prior to being presented to the Board and she reiterated that they agree that selling the property to this bidder would be a win-win situation for

the County and the bidder. She further explained that after 7 years of non-payment of taxes, the Treasurer deeds the property to the State of Arizona and the Board holds an annual auction. Most times these properties never get sold, so she is held with the responsibility of maintaining the list that continues to grow each year. Ms. Sheppard stated that tracking these properties over the years has been an administrative nightmare for not only for herself, but also for the Treasurer and Assessor. She further stated that the County Attorney allows her to contact the parties that might be affected by these small parcels. She advises the adjoining land owners of the State-owned properties in hopes of selling them and if that happens, she is “thrilled” to sell them. Vice-Chairman Martin stated that she has a problem with the policy and is not sure it’s good to let folks know that it’s the County’s policy to take less than the lien amount. Ms. Sheppard stated that she tells interested parties that it’s a policy for the Board to consider taking less, but the policy could be revised. Vice-Chairman Martin stated that the Board might want to revisit that policy. Upon motion by Vice-Chairman Martin, seconded by Chairman Sanchez, the Board accepted the bid from George Mesa in the amount of \$50 for the purchase of tax parcel number 206-18-013-8 by a 2-1 vote. Supervisor Dawson voted “nay.”

**Item 8 - Information/Discussion/Action to review a sealed bid submitted for the purchase of tax parcel number 206-22-044-9, which is owned by the State of Arizona.**

Ms. Sheppard presented this agenda item and requested the Board’s review of a sealed bid for the purchase of this tax parcel, which has a lien in the amount of \$358.05. She showed the Board a map and photos of said parcel and pointed out that this parcel is a sliver of land in the adjoining landowner’s back yard. Ms. Sheppard explained to the Board that over the years the process has changed whereby the County Attorney’s Office has now authorized her to contact people because many people don’t realize these small parcels are located in their back yards or they think they already own these parcels. Supervisor Dawson stated that she understands those types of situations, but she doesn’t understand the previous agenda item regarding the sale of the hillside because she knows a lot of hillsides were developed from a piece of land that was wrong in the original survey. Vice-Chairman Martin stated that she would like to revisit the policy. Ms. Sheppard stated that she would provide the Board with a copy of the policy. Chairman Sanchez advised that the previous Board’s policy for selling State-owned and the reasons behind the policy should be discussed by this Board. He referenced properties that have unpaid taxes for 7 years and he stated, “If these sales don’t happen, they will continue to sit on the list forever. Under the current process they can be sold and placed back on the tax rolls for a minimal amount and it becomes a benefit to all concerned.” Ms. Sheppard then opened the sealed bid and stated that Francisco and Patricia Arvizu submitted a bid in the amount of \$50 for the subject parcel. Upon motion by Supervisor Dawson, seconded by Vice-

Chairman Martin, the Board unanimously accepted the bid from Francisco and Patricia Arvizu in the amount of \$50 for the purchase of tax parcel number 206-22-044-9.

**Item 9 – CONSENT AGENDA ACTION ITEMS:**

- A. Adoption of Resolution No. 08-01-01 renaming a road in Globe from Landfill Lane to Hope Lane.**
- B. Approval of Amendment No.1 for two Program Year July 2007 General Services Contracts between the Gila/Pinal Workforce Investment Area Board of Directors and Central Arizona Association of Governments increasing the total Adult Contract to \$733,393 and the total Youth Contract to \$662,037 for continued employment and training services provided to eligible adults and youth in Pinal and Gila Counties.**
- C. Approval of Amendment No. 6 to Contract No. RSA-E5314513 between Gila County and the Arizona Department of Economic Security to extend the Contract from January 1, 2008, through June 30, 2008, to allow the GEST Program to provide vocational rehabilitation services to Gila County clients.**
- D. Approval of Amendment No. 6 to Contract No. RSA-E5313521 between Gila County and the Arizona Department of Economic Security to extend the Contract from January 31, 2008, through June 30, 2008, to allow the GEST Program to provide vocational rehabilitation services to Gila County clients.**
- E. Approval of Intergovernmental Agreements between the 7 Gila County School Districts (Hayden-Winkelman School District in the amount of \$600; Payson Unified School District in the amount of \$2,700; Tonto Basin School District in the amount of \$600; Young School District in the amount of \$600; Globe Unified School District in the amount of \$1,800; Miami Unified School District in the amount of \$1,200; and, Pine-Strawberry School District in the amount of \$600) and the Gila County Division of Health and Community Services, Tobacco Free Environments Program.**
- F. Approval of an Intergovernmental Agreement (Contract No. HG852277) between Gila County and the Arizona Department of Health Services in the amount of \$4,508 to continue to provide HIV Prevention Program services to eligible clients for the period January 1, 2008, through December 31, 2008.**
- G. Approval of the Amendment to the Cooperative Law Enforcement Agreement (Forest Service Master Agreement No. 06-LE-11031200-002)**

**between the Gila County Sheriff's Office and the U.S. Department of Agriculture, U. S. Forest Service, Tonto National Forest for the 2008 Financial and Operating Plan in the amount of \$63,000 effective the date of the last signature through September 30, 2008.**

- H. Adoption of an Order appointing election workers and designating polling places for the February 5, 2008, Presidential Preference Election.**
- I. Approval of a Special Event Liquor License Application submitted by the Lions Club of Globe, Arizona, Inc. to provide liquor for the Gila County Sheriff's Reserve Dance to be held on Saturday, February 9, 2008.**
- J. Approval of the November 2007 monthly departmental activity report submitted by the Clerk of the Superior Court and, December 2007 monthly departmental activity report and 2007 annual report submitted by the Payson Regional Constable.**
- K. Approval of personnel reports/actions for the week of January 15, 2008.**

Departure from County Service:

- 1. Administrative Clerk – Public Fiduciary – 12-12-07 – General Fund – Lara V. McGee – DOH 03-17-04 – No reason given
- 2. Environmental Health Specialist Senior – Health and Community Service – 01-07-08 – Health Services Fund – Bhishm Naraine - Declined offer
- 3. Mobile Crew Worker/GEST Client – Health and Community Services – 01-01-08 – GEST Fund – Daryl Scott – DOH 12-11-95 – Services no longer needed

Hire to County Service:

- 4. Vehicle and Equipment Mechanic – Public Works/Auto/Equipment Maintenance – 01-14-08 – Public Works Fund – Rodney Courtney – Replacing Kenneth Dalley

Temporary Hire to County Service:

- 5. Election Worker – Recorder -01-07-08 – General Fund – Julie Haught

Position Review:

- 6. Adding two hours – Community Health Assistant Part Time – Health and Community Service – 01-07-08 – From Health Start Program Fund 80% To 74% - From Immunization Fund 20% To 19% - TB Fund 7% - Sheila Hibdon
- 7. Temporary to Regular Status – Administrative Clerk – Public Fiduciary - 12/31/07 – General Fund – Loretta Rende
- 8. Increase in minimum wage – Mobile Crew Worker/GEST Client – Health and Community Services – 01-01-08 – GEST Fund – Bobby Baldwin

9. Increase in minimum wage – Mobile Crew Worker/GEST Client – Health and Community Services – 01-01-08 – GEST Fund – Eric Butler
10. Increase in minimum wage – Mobile Crew Worker/GEST Client – Health and Community Services – 01-01-08 – GEST Fund – Ricky Cayouette
11. Increase in minimum wage – Mobile Crew Worker/GEST Client – Health and Community Services – 01-01-08 – GEST Fund – Daniel Huggins
12. Increase in minimum wage – Mobile Crew Worker/GEST Client – Health and Community Services – 01-01-08 – GEST Fund – Shirley Jack
13. Increase in minimum wage – Mobile Crew Worker/GEST Client – Health and Community Services – 01-01-08 – GEST Fund – Cynthia Meccia
14. Increase in minimum wage – Mobile Crew Worker/GEST Client – Health and Community Services – 01-01-08 – GEST Fund – Joseph Stewart
15. Change Fund Percentages – Administrative Assistant – Health and Community Services – 01-07-08 – From GEST 5% To 6% - From Housing Department Fund 15% To 15.5% - From WIA Fund 45% To 43.5% - Denise Dickison
16. Change Fund Percentages – Director – Health and Community Services – 01-07-08 – From WIA Fund 7% To 6.8% From Health Services Fund 86% To 86.2% - David Fletcher
17. Change Fund Percentages – Manager Community Services – Health and Community Services – 01-07-08 – From GEST Fund 20% To 20.5% - From WIA Fund 20% To 19.5% - Judy Smith
18. Change Fund Percentages – Fiscal Services Manager – Health and Community Services – 01-07-08 – From GEST Fund 1% To 5% - From CAP Fund 92% To 50% - From Housing Department Fund 1% To 40% - From WIA Fund 1% To .97% - From Bio Terrorism Program Fund 5% To 4.03% - Bree'na York

**SHERIFF'S PERSONNEL ACTION ITEMS:**

Hire to County Service:

19. Detention Officer – Sheriff's Office/Globe – 01-21-08 – General Fund – Heather Talkalai – Replacing Joe Leon

End Probationary Period:

20. Deputy Sheriff – Sheriff's Office/Globe – 01-21-08 – General Fund – Christopher Bender

**L. Approval of finance reports/demands/transfers for the week of January 15, 2008. (separate handout)**

**January 15, 2008:**

\$1,925,478.11 was disbursed for County expenses by check numbers 205126 through 205160 and 205163 through 205291. **(An itemized list of disbursements is permanently on file in the Board of Supervisors' Office.)**

Upon motion by Vice-Chairman Martin, seconded by Supervisor Dawson, the Board unanimously approved Consent Agenda Action Item numbers 9A-9L.

At this time the Chairman skipped agenda item 10 and moved to agenda item 11 as video conferencing connection was finally established with the Young School.

Upon motion by Supervisor Dawson, seconded by Vice-Chairman Martin, the Board convened as the Gila County Library District Board. The connection was not working again so video conferencing could not be established with the Young School.

Upon motion by Vice-Chairman Martin, seconded by Supervisor Dawson, the Board reconvened as the Board of Supervisors in order to address agenda item 10.

**Item 10 - At any time during this meeting pursuant to A.R.S. §38-431.02(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.**

Supervisor Dawson and Vice-Chairman Martin presented information on current events until connectivity was reestablished with Young and the Chairman then moved to agenda item 11 again to complete that item.

**Item 11 - Motion to convene as the Gila County Library District Board. Information/Discussion/Action to discuss the closure of the Young Public Library by the Pleasant Valley Community Library Board and possible violation of their Library Service Agreement.**

Upon motion by Supervisor Dawson, seconded by Vice-Chairman Martin, the Board convened as the Gila County Library District Board.

Jacque Griffin, Assistant County Manager/County Librarian, presented this agenda item. She stated that this item was placed on the agenda to discuss the closure of the Young Public Library (YPL) last week by the Pleasant Valley Community Library Board (PVCLB) and how this might be a violation of the Library Service Agreement between the County and the PVCLB. Ms. Griffin explained that the problem with the YPL began last August and has to do with connectivity issues, which have been observed by the Board in trying to teleconference today's meeting to Young. The County maintains an integrated online library system and has been connected to the internet for a length of time with all of the libraries in Gila County. She explained that the servers are located at the County and the libraries are connected to the County server over LAN (local area network) and telephone lines. The County has tried other systems in the past such as cable television access, wireless access and

satellite access, but these systems don't provide steady connectivity required to transmit data back and forth or adequate bandwidth. Because of all the changes in the internet over the past 10 years, the 56K phone lines are no longer big enough to allow both public internet access and the library system on the same smaller lines, so the County has been migrating to T-1 lines, which provide 10 times the capacity. Pleasant Valley has one provider, Midvale Telephone Exchange, Inc. (Midvale), so the County does not have any other choices and Midvale's infrastructure simply isn't there. Pleasant Valley is among the last of the rural areas where on the national level it's known as "the last mile connectivity" and work is ongoing to get high speed access into these remote areas. Midvale does not have a T-1 line to give the County and if the County were to insist upon that type of connectivity, because there isn't enough cable into the town, the County would be taking away from the entire community's connectivity. Since last August the County has been experiencing some real connectivity issues with the YPL. In October 2007, Midvale advised that it was going to bring DSL (digital service line) into Young, but they weren't ready to provide the DSL community-wide as it has never been tested. The County agreed with the YPL and Midvale that the County would beta test, or be the guinea pig, to establish the DSL, but all understood that it may not be stable in the beginning; however, the County was willing to try and make this happen for Young. Ms. Griffin stated that she understands the frustration level at the YPL in trying to operate the internet that is intermittent, but it's caused by connectivity to the internet. The County currently provides standardized equipment throughout all 8 libraries, which works fine until the internet goes down. She understands from Midvale that it is working on some type of high speed access and trenching in new lines; however, that is not a current solution; that's a longer-term solution. The County continues to work on finding the best solution to keep the most stable network that can be provided. She stated that apparently last Wednesday, January 9, 2008, at a PVCLB meeting, the Board's frustration hit a point where it chose an extreme solution, which was to post a notice on the library's door announcing the closure of the library. The notice stated the following: "Due to continuing connection problems with the current computer systems and the failure of the Gila County Library District to remedy the situation, the Library is unable to operate under these conditions and will close on Thursday, January 10 (2008) and will remain closed until the systems are repaired. Should you be inconvenienced by this closure, you may contact the Gila Library District." Ms. Griffin stated that she wanted the Gila County Library District Board to be aware of the closure as the notice lays the blame squarely on the County. She reiterated that the problem is a service provider issue, not only for the library, but the whole community and that Midvale has been working on the problem. The County's equipment is functioning properly and continues to be closely monitored. In reference to the Library Service Agreement, Ms. Griffin advised that the Agreement states that the YPL agrees to be open a minimum of 24 hours per week, and with the closure those hours are not being provided. Normal operating hours are 12:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. Tuesday through Friday

and 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. on Saturday. Chairman Sanchez inquired if the library is still closed. Ms. Griffin advised that the library was definitely closed on Friday as her staff was there checking the equipment, and she believes it was closed on Saturday, but was unsure if it has reopened. In further discussions, the Board agreed that there are many offline services the library offers other than the internet, and the YPL would still have the offline ability to check out books and other items to the public even if it is a little more cumbersome. Ms. Griffin advised that the most unofficial notification she received was that the Board president told her staff member that the YPL would be closing tomorrow (January 10<sup>th</sup>) and “they weren’t going to handle this over the phone and have equipment repaired over the phone anymore.” This was as close to an official notification that Ms. Griffin received until after the YPL was closed. Chairman Sanchez allowed those present at the teleconferenced meeting in Young the opportunity to speak about this issue. Sue Hornung, a resident of Young, stated that she contacted PVCLB members last night so that they could attend today’s meeting; however, none of the board members chose to attend. Ms. Griffin advised that the notice of today’s meeting was posted throughout the Young community and she also advised the PVCLB president yesterday of today’s meeting and she felt the County had done its due diligence in attempting to have a conversation between the Boards. Heather Robertson and Steve Kissling, both residents of Young, also commented that the library should remain open as the library offers much more than just the internet connection. Vice-Chairman Martin inquired if there was a way for the County to provide the same services other than through the YPL. Ms. Griffin stated that she was looking for direction as to what the Board would advise her to do. She stated that in larger communities the Gila County Library District contracts with the towns/cities to help fund the library services; however, in the small communities like Pine, Young and Tonto Basin, the County contracts with a non-profit organization to provide library services to the residents and the County fully funds those libraries. After continued discussion, it was the consensus of the Board to hold a community meeting with the residents of Young to explain the issues, provide some options, ascertain whether the residents want to continue being provided library services, and to obtain community input to determine a community solution. The Board also discussed the conditions of termination in the Agreement on page 11, which Ms. Griffin read aloud. Discussion was also held on the \$52,900, which is paid to the PVLCB for the operation of the YPL annually. Upon inquiry from Vice-Chairman Martin, Ms. Griffin explained that a payment was made to the YPL in November 2007 and another payment will be made in May 2008. Upon motion by Supervisor Dawson, seconded by Vice-Chairman Martin, the Board unanimously agreed to hold a Gila County Library District Board meeting on Wednesday, January 23, 2008, at 10:00 a.m. at the Pleasant Valley Community Center in Young.

Chairman Sanchez requested that an attorney from the County Attorney’s Office also be present at the meeting in Young. Supervisor Dawson stated that

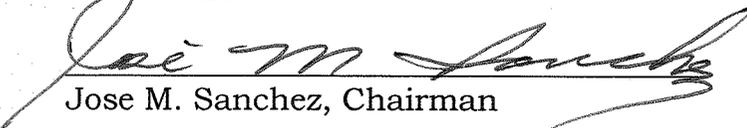
in addition to the \$52,900 provided for the YPL, every year she has been in office, her department has also contributed another \$5,000 for the YPL physical plant and storage area. Each Board member commented on the need to get the meeting publicized in Young in hopes that the residents would attend and voice their concerns. It was also requested by Supervisor Dawson that the Roads Department personnel tour Young with the Board after the meeting to view roads in Young. Ms. Griffin advised that she would have the Roads Department Superintendent and Foreman available after the meeting to address road issues.

Upon motion by Supervisor Dawson, seconded by Vice-Chairman Martin, the Board unanimously reconvened as the Board of Supervisors.

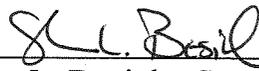
Chairman Sanchez moved back to Agenda Item number 10 to complete the Board summary of current events. Chairman Sanchez and Ms. Griffin presented information on current events.

There being no further business to come before the Board of Supervisors, Chairman Sanchez adjourned the meeting at 12:25 p.m.

**APPROVED:**

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Jose M. Sanchez, Chairman

**ATTEST:**

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Steven L. Besich, County Manager/Clerk