

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

Date: September 17, 2013

MICHAEL A. PASTOR

Chairman

MARIAN E. SHEPPARD

Clerk of the Board

TOMMIE C. MARTIN

Vice-Chairman

By: Marian Sheppard
Clerk of the Board

JOHN D. MARCANTI

Member

Gila County Courthouse
Globe, Arizona

PRESENT: Michael A. Pastor, Chairman; Tommie C. Martin, Vice-Chairman (via ITV); John D. Marcanti, Supervisor; Don E. McDaniel Jr., County Manager; Bryan B. Chambers, Deputy Attorney Principal; Jacque Griffin, Assistant County Manager/Librarian; Marian Sheppard, Clerk of the Board; and Laurie Kline, Deputy Clerk.

Item 1 – CALL TO ORDER - PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE - INVOCATION

The Gila County Board of Supervisors met in a regular session at 10:00 a.m. this date in the Board of Supervisors' hearing room. John Marcanti led the Pledge of Allegiance and Reverend Steve De Santo of the Shepherd of the Pines Lutheran Church in Payson delivered the invocation.

Item 2 – REGULAR AGENDA ITEMS:

A. Information/Discussion/Action to adopt Proclamation No. 2013-06 to proclaim September 24, 2013, as National Voter Registration Day in Gila County and to encourage all citizens to register to vote.

Sadie Tomerlin, Gila County Recorder, stated that this request is being presented to county boards of supervisors in Arizona and throughout the nation in an effort to reach potential voters who otherwise would not be reached. Ms. Tomerlin provided the statistic that in 2008; 6 million Americans did not vote because these citizens missed the deadline or did not know how to register to vote. It is the recommendation of the Recorder that the Board of Supervisors adopt this proclamation to assist Gila County citizens with registering to vote and to help bring awareness to the importance of voting. Chairman Pastor inquired as to the activities that have been planned to support this effort to which Ms. Tomerlin replied that staff of the City of Globe and the Town of Payson will be working with the Recorder's Office staff to provide refreshments and assist citizens with voter registration, either online or

on paper. Vice-Chairman Martin asked if the media will be notified. Ms. Tomerlin replied that the media will be informed later this week. Upon motion by Vice-Chairman Martin, seconded by Supervisor Marcanti, the Board unanimously adopted Proclamation No. 2013-06 to proclaim September 24, 2013, as National Voter Registration Day in Gila County and to encourage all citizens to register to vote. **(A copy of the Proclamation is permanently on file in the Board of Supervisors' Office.)**

B. Information/Discussion/Action to authorize the advertisement of Invitation for Bids No. 082213 - Aggregate Hauling to Forest Road 512, Young, Arizona.

Jeff Hessenius, Finance Division Director, stated that on August 19, 2013, the Board approved entering into Project Agreement 13-RO-11031200-018 with the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA), Forest Service, Tonto National Forest for aggregate resurfacing of Forest Road 512 (Young Road.) It is the recommendation of the Finance Director that the Board authorize the advertisement of the above stated invitation for bids for two consecutive weeks in the Arizona Silver Belt.

Chairman Pastor asked for clarification that this bid invitation is exclusively to "haul" the aggregate material and not to resurface the roadway. Mr. Hessenius affirmed that was correct. Chairman Pastor also wanted to know if this project included resurfacing the entire Young Road. Steve Stratton, Public Works Division Director, explained that the project includes approximately 4.5 miles of the road; however, it will not cover the entire road due to a reduction in the amount of funding provided for this project by the federal government. Mr. Stratton further stated that the cost of aggregate at the time the project begins will also determine the tons of aggregate that will be hauled to resurface the road. Additionally, the project will commence at the top of Highway 260 approximately at the Gila/Coconino County borderline and will move downwards towards Young.

C. Information/Discussion/Action to submit comments to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service regarding the Proposed Revision to the Nonessential Experimental Population of the Mexican Wolf (*Canis lupus baileyi*), and the implementation of a Management Plan.

Jacque Griffin, Assistant County Manager/Librarian, advised that there are several components with regard to submitting comments to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) which pertain to Mexican wolves. Today's agenda item is for the Board of Supervisors to approve submitting comments to the USFWS on two issues relating to the Mexican wolf under the Endangered Species Act (ESA), which must be submitted no later than September 19, 2013. She advised that there is another public comment period which ends October 28, 2013, for the purpose of submitting comments on delisting the gray wolf

and identifying the Mexican wolf as a separate species, and modifying the ESA Section 10(j) rule. She proceeded to review the comments that will be submitted today, if approved by the Board of Supervisors. Ms. Griffin further advised that the Board of Supervisors needs to stay informed and involved in every step of this Draft Environmental Impact Statement process because at least 2 of the 5 proposed alternatives include adding wolf release sites within Gila County.

Chairman Pastor advised that 3 public participation forms were submitted with regard to this agenda item. He called on Shawn McEwen.

Shawn McEwen of Young, Arizona outlined his concerns and stated that he is very much opposed to any introduction of wolves to the Young area because of the negative impact on hunting, ranching, and other industries. Chairman Pastor replied that the Board is listening to public comments and is working toward an equitable agreement and further stated that additional public meetings will be held for further discussion on this issue. Vice-Chairman Martin was in agreement with the concerns and stated, "At this stage of the game, the question is not, 'Are we going to have wolves or aren't we going to have wolves?' What we are weighing into is how we would have wolves." She emphasized that it is important to submit comments to include a statement that the County would like to have the ESA Section 10(j) rule kept in place in order to manage the wolves. She further added that the Board needs to weigh in on the procedural, process and structural side of this issue. Supervisor Marcanti confirmed that Mr. McEwen is on the Young mailing list and will be receiving a letter regarding this issue. He further stated that the USFWS, S. Fish and Wildlife Service has spent \$1,200,000 on this project since 1994; therefore, it is unlikely that the federal government will waiver from continuing with this project.

Chairman Pastor invited the next public comment speaker, John Schafer of Young, Arizona to the podium to address the Board. Mr. Schafer stated that the wolf in question here is a mix of "half wolf/half dog." He explained that his sister lives in Reserve, New Mexico where the wolves were first introduced and that he and his sister both know of people who have lost cattle by way of these wolves with no reimbursement being provided by the federal government. Additionally, he stated that the children that live there in Reserve have to wait for school buses in cages. Children that live in Glenwood, New Mexico had to stay in at recess time because of the wolves "lurking around." Mr. Schafer stated that he subscribes to the New Mexico Stockman magazine and in this month's issue there was an article about a coalition of counties in Arizona and New Mexico that are expressing concerns that this "project is a failure." In the same article it stated that 176 sheep were killed on a ranch in Idaho from one raid of wolves and, yet again the federal government did not provide any reimbursement to the owners of the sheep.

Chairman Pastor thanked Mr. Schafer for his comments and advised that this is an “ongoing” project for the County and that Vice-Chairman Martin and Ms. Griffin are very much involved in the effort to voice the concerns of the County as well as keeping the Board apprised of the situation with regard to the release of the Mexican wolf into Gila County.

Supervisor Marcanti commented that the above mentioned letter states that there are 110 animals in population. He then inquired as to whether or not the number of animals listed on page four, under the heading, “Mexican Wolf Recovery Plan deficiency” of the letter to the USFWS is the total number of wolves in population at present or the total number that are going to be released into Arizona and New Mexico. Vice-Chairman Martin replied that the number of wolves believed to be in population is 100 and that number satisfies the original release number. She added that the USFWS will not divulge the exact number of wolves planned to be released into the County despite the County’s attempts to get an answer regarding the number to be released in the future to achieve a stable population of the Mexican wolf. Ms. Griffin added that there are 250 wolves in captive breeding sites that could possibly be released into New Mexico and Arizona.

Chairman Pastor called on the third speaker in the audience, Jane Haynes of Payson, Arizona who expressed concerns regarding the Elk’s Youth Camp at Workman’s Creek near Young, Arizona. She stated that there are many children that attend the camp from May to June and she was opposed to releasing Mexican wolves near this area where there are children. Ms. Griffin stated that there will be a final draft Environmental Impact Statement released in approximately January or February of 2014, and that further public meetings are scheduled regarding this issue. She stated that the County has only seen chapters one and two of the proposed Management Plan, and that the County is trying to keep abreast of the situation. Upon motion by Vice-Chairman Martin, seconded by Supervisor Marcanti, the Board unanimously authorized the submission of written comments to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service regarding the Proposed Revision to the Nonessential Experimental Population of the Mexican Wolf (*Canis lupus baileyi*), and the implementation of a Management Plan.

D. Information/Discussion/Action to approve an Intergovernmental Agreement between Gila County and the Town of Payson for an economic development grant in an amount not to exceed \$43,400 to fund various community events, and to fund an economic development plan and program which the Board of Supervisors determines will improve or enhance the economic welfare of the inhabitants of Gila County.

Vice-Chairman Martin, whose Supervisorial District comprises the Town of Payson, stated that this item was being presented to the Board because it reflects a change in the County’s process to provide financial assistance to local

communities. She wants the County to be able to “fill the gaps” with these types of organizations that have fund-raising events in accordance with the County’s economic development grant application process. Vice-Chairman Martin advised that, in the past, such requests have been handled in a “piece meal process,” so rather than submitting a Memorandum of Understanding from the Town to the Board of Supervisors for approval each time funds are being requested by the Town, she thought it would be best if the Town submitted all of its economic development events into a one-time funding request for these upcoming events. She advised that these funds would be used for the Town’s fiddler’s contest, soccer tournament and next year’s “saw dust festival.” Supervisor Marcanti was in favor of this request in order to satisfy the immediate needs of the Town of Payson as the Finance Department is working to streamline the process for requesting economic development funds.

Chairman Pastor advised that in the past, the Board of Supervisors annually funded economic development through two separate economic development committees or organizations that were formed in northern and southern Gila County. He recalled that the last 3 years the Board provided funding to both committees/organizations; it was in a total amount of \$125,000 per year. He stated, “We stopped that two years ago because we weren’t getting any bang for our buck.” Chairman Pastor advised that the stakeholders on these committees/organizations changed and recently there have been some preliminary discussions to possibly involve Central Association of Governments (CAG) to form a regional economic development group to include Gila County and the cities and towns. He added that the County could consider contributing to such a group. He suggested that the Board not take an action on the item as presented until CAG could meet with the economic development groups in the near future. He further added that currently there is a County process in place and individual requests for these events could be presented in the future to the Board through that process providing the request for funding a single event is not more than \$5,000. Chairman Pastor expressed a concern that other municipalities would begin requesting “bundle funding” for their activities that are planned throughout the next one and one-half years. Even though Chairman Pastor believes the current economic development funding request process is working well, he will verify that with the Finance Director after the meeting.

Vice-Chairman Martin was opposed to making the Town of Payson wait for funding until a revised economic development plan is in place. She stated that there is an immediate need from the Town of Payson, which she believes is a reasonable request. She did agree that the County needs to take a look at creating a Countywide economic development plan. She expressed concerns that in 2005, at which time this issue was last addressed, it took approximately 2 years to develop a viable plan, which currently doesn’t satisfy the immediate needs of the Town of Payson. Supervisor Marcanti agreed that

the Board should take a closer look at this issue and that he supports granting the immediate funding needs of the Town of Payson. Upon motion by Supervisor Marcanti, seconded by Vice-Chairman Martin, the Board approved an Intergovernmental Agreement between Gila County and the Town of Payson for an economic development grant in an amount not to exceed \$43,400 to fund various community events, and to fund an economic development plan and program which the Board of Supervisors determines will improve or enhance the economic welfare of the inhabitants of Gila County. The vote passed by a 2 to 1 vote, with Chairman Pastor voting against the motion.

Item 3 – CONSENT AGENDA ACTION ITEMS: (Any matter on the Consent Agenda will be removed from the Consent Agenda and discussed and voted upon as a regular agenda item upon the request of any member of the Board of Supervisors.)

A. Approval to adopt Resolution No. 13-09-03 amending Rule 23.2- Holidays of the Gila County Merit System Rules and Policies Handbook, designating the Friday after the fourth Thursday in November as a legal holiday in place of the second Monday in October. (A copy of the Resolution is permanently on file in the Board of Supervisors' Office.)

B. Approval of FY 2014 Victims' Rights Program Award Agreement No. AG# 2014-004 between the Gila County Attorney's Office and the Arizona Attorney General's Office in the amount of \$34,000 to cover the existing salary and employee-related expenses for a full-time advocate, with no cash match funds required, and for the period July 1, 2013, through June 30, 2014.

C. Approval of the Section Eight Management Assessment Program (SEMAP) Certification to finalize the FY 2013 U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) contractual obligations and to ensure that the Gila County Public Housing Agency receives a performance rating from HUD.

D. Acknowledgment of the resignation of Industrial Development Authority (IDA) Board member William Long; and further, the appointment of Gerald Kohlbeck to the IDA Board of Directors to fulfill Mr. Long's unexpired term of office, effective immediately and expiring May 17, 2016.

E. Approval of a Special Event Liquor License Application submitted by the Gila County Rodeo Committee to serve liquor at the Gila County Fairgrounds on September 20-21, 2013.

F. Acknowledgment of the February 2013 monthly activity report submitted by the Globe Regional Justice of the Peace's Office.

G. Acknowledgment of the July 2013 monthly activity report submitted by the Payson Regional Justice of the Peace's Office.

H. Approval of the August 27, 2013, BOS Meeting Minutes.

I. Acknowledgment of contracts under \$50,000 which have been approved by the County Manager for the weeks of August 19, 2013, to August 23, 2013; and August 26, 2013, to August 30, 2013.

J. Approval of finance reports/demands/transfers for the weeks of September 10, 2013, and September 17, 2013.

September 10, 2013

\$265,173.06 was disbursed for County expenses by check numbers 256492 through 256601.

September 17, 2013

\$1,494,633.78 was disbursed for County expenses by check numbers 256602 through 256746. **(An itemized list of disbursements is attached to the minutes.)**

Chairman Pastor advised that Supervisor Marcanti declared a conflict of interest with regard to Service Agreement No. 080913 with Marcanti Electric Inc. contained in Consent Agenda action item "I." Upon motion by Vice-Chairman Martin, seconded by Chairman Pastor the Board approved Consent Agenda action item "I" Supervisor Marcanti abstained from voting on item "I."

Upon Motion by Vice-Chairman Martin, seconded by Supervisor Marcanti, the Board unanimously approved Consent Agenda action items 3-A through 3-J, excluding item 3-I.

4. CALL TO THE PUBLIC: Call to the Public is held for public benefit to allow individuals to address the Board of Supervisors on any issue within the jurisdiction of the Board of Supervisors. Board members may not discuss items that are not specifically identified on the agenda. Therefore, pursuant to Arizona Revised Statute §38-431.01(H), at the conclusion of an open call to the public, individual members of the Board of Supervisors may respond to criticism made by those who have addressed the Board, may ask staff to review a matter or may ask that a matter be put on a future agenda for further discussion and decision at a future date.

There were no requests to speak from the public.

5. 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.

Each Board member and the County Manager presented information on current events.

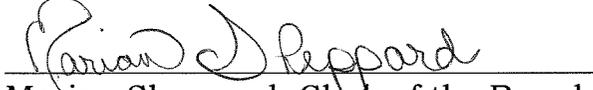
There being no further business to come before the Board of Supervisors, Chairman Pastor adjourned the meeting at 11:11 a.m.

APPROVED:



Michael A. Pastor, Chairman

ATTEST:



Marian Sheppard, Clerk of the Board