

VALENCIA COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

SPECIAL MEETING

ROAD WORKSHOP

March 22, 2000

MINUTES

The Special Meeting of March 22, 2000, was called to order by Chairman Alicia Aguilar at 9:09 AM.

PRESENT	ABSENT
Alicia Aguilar, Chairman	
Aurelio H. Padilla, Vice-Chairman	
S. T. Frank Pando, Member	
Eloy Giron, Member	
Helen Baca, Member	
James Fernandez, County Manager	
	Thomas Garde, County Attorney
	Kandy Cordova, County Clerk
Press and Public	

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Leonard Garcia.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Chairman Alicia Aguilar said there is one item on the agenda and that is 2000-2001 Road Funding/Priorities.

Commissioner Frank Pando made a motion to approve the agenda with the 2000-2001 Road Funding and Priorities. Commissioner Al Padilla seconded the motion. Motion carried.

ACTION ITEMS

(A) 2000-2001 ROAD FUNDING/PRIORITIES

Helen Cole, Road Projects Coordinator for the Valencia County Road Dept. said this is a workshop to go over the steps for road projects, how the road projects are turned into the State to receive funding on the CAP Program and the School Bus Programs. She presented a list of the steps for the projects.

Commissioner Eloy Giron asked where the Road Superintendent was. He thought he was supposed to be at this meeting. Chairman Aguilar said, "I agree with Commissioner Giron."

Helen Cole asked for direction on how to proceed, should she read the Steps for Road Projects or just discuss them.

Chairman Alicia Aguilar said they should be part of the record and Mrs. Cole could summarize the list. The list is as follows: (See Exhibit A)

1. The County receives an invitation from the State Highway Dept. to participate in the Local Government Road Fund Cooperative Agreement Programs.
2. Get a resolution for the agreements.
3. Contact each Commissioner for a road priority list and scope of work for each road.
4. Send a letter to the State Highway Dept. advising them we would like to participate and also apply for hardship funds. We also send to the State detail estimates and the resolution.
5. The information then goes before the State Highway Commission. At that time they make a decision on how much money will be distributed among the entities.
6. We then will receive a letter with the exact amount of money we will be receiving for each of the projects.
7. A final decision is made on what roads can be done with the available amount of money.
8. Affidavits are signed by both school districts that the roads being done on the School Bus Programs are indeed School Bus routes.
9. A letter is then sent to the State Highway Dept. with a starting date and a completed date for projects. At that time we also let them know that contracts have been signed with the paving contractor.
10. Start projects by setting up the following:
 - Set up paving jobs with contractor
 - Prep roads, build up, blade, shape, compact
 - Test materials and compaction of build up
 - Pave or chip seal roads
 - Testing done on asphalt
 - Have the State check work
11. When all money is used on projects and roads are completed then exhibit A is sent to the State Highway Dept. This is to advise them that projects have been completed.

Helen Cole said she did receive a letter from the State Highway Dept. stating that Valencia County is not eligible for the Hardship Funds this year. They have received these funds for the last six or seven years.

Discussion was held on the amount of money normally received from the State. Helen said for 1999-2000, the County received \$130,000.00 on the School Bus and the County had to put in \$43,333.00 with a total project cost of \$173,000.00. When they go out to get their detailed estimates they have to show them \$173,000.00 worth of road projects that are going to be done. For the Co-op Program the County received \$81,928.73 and the County had to come up with \$27,309.00 with a total project cost of \$109,238.00. On the CAP Program, the County received \$173,304.00 and the County had to come up with \$57,768.00 for a total of \$231,072.00. That is all the money that the County received.

James Fernandez said the County’s share comes from the General Fund or Gas Tax that the County receives.

Commissioner Pando asked if they were not going to have enough money to complete a road and it is on the list and there is another road that is partially done, why can’t they use the money that was allotted for the one road and use it to complete another road.

Helen said all of the roads that the Commissioner’s decided on were the ones she turned into the State. That is what they have in their records. In the past she had a good relationship with Ben Montoya from District 3 and he would allow them to substitute one road for another. He is no longer there and the person that took his place won’t allow it. They don’t even allow them to make changes on the type of work that is needed on a particular road. That is why it is so important to know what you want to do to a road before it is submitted. The only way it can be done is if the roads that were submitted are completed and there is money left over, then she can submit a request to the State to see if they can use the extra money to do the work on the particular road that was not on the list.

Commissioner Pando said he does not agree with the way this is being done and he believes something should be done to change it.

Commissioner Eloy Giron said he also has a hard time with that. When he first came into office he had a meeting with Mrs. Cole and the District 3 Supervisor Ben Montoya. He said he advised him on doing some chip sealing that was done on some of the roads. He said he was late turning in his list because he was trying to itemize on which roads needed to be done and the cost of them. He said it was coming from the State Highway Dept. that every two or three years you have to maintain these roads and bring them up to specs again. He said he didn’t know how much money they were going to get so how could he itemize the roads with the type of work and the cost. That’s why he was late turning in his list.

Chairman Aguilar said, “I think, the Commission, Commissioner Giron, and even at the beginning of last year when we met on this, it was agreed that everyone would get basically an equal share. It would be maybe a little less in one and a little more in another because it required finishing a project. In turning in the projects, I think what Mrs. Cole is looking at is, ok, in District 2 you turn in roads and the money is there, about \$100,000.00 or so. It is left up to this Commission to know whether you want to chip seal, what roads you want done, prioritize, that’s our responsibility, not the State. The State says, send them, you should know what you need and if you want to change after the fact, they’re saying…” Commissioner Giron said, “How can I go ahead and say this is my priority when I’m not going to have enough money to complete them. If we don’t have enough money to do these roads, then let’s bring the other roads up to par that we need to do.”

Chairman Alicia Aguilar said, “When you start doing that, people come to the meetings and it’s on record that these roads are going to get improved and people think it’s on the list. Mid-term or a few months later it gets changed and the people ask what happened. The Commissioner promised me two years ago, ten years ago and now it’s a new Commission and they say all these promises and they are not being fulfilled. The answer is, the Commissioner can change his mind.”

Helen Cole said they wouldn’t know if there is money left over until they are all done with every road that was submitted to the State.

Commissioner Al Padilla asked if each Commissioner could be notified of exactly what roads were submitted to the State when Helen sends in her requests. That way he wouldn’t think he has four or five roads on a list, when all that was submitted was two roads.

Chairman Alicia Aguilar asked if the Commissioner’s wanted to work on the roads where there are homes and not the whole length of the road. That could help them on the cost and free up some of the money for other roads.

Commissioner Frank Pando asked if Helen Cole could write to the State Highway Dept. and ask them to complete Shawn Court instead of paving Sunflower. She said she would let him know.

Each Commissioner submitted a list of roads from their districts.

Commission District	Name of Road	Type of Work Needed
District 1—Commissioner Pando	Alicia Circle	Pave
	Cinder Lane	Pave

	A T & T Road	Chip Seal
	Hob	Pave
	Sunflower	Pave
	Murphy Loop	Pave
	NOTE: Shawn Ct. to be paved instead of Sunflower	
District 2—Commissioner Aguilar	Avenida Alegre	Pave
	Camillo	Pave
	Vista de Las Cruces	Pave
	Jose Ignacio Garcia	Resurface
	Camino de Los Chavez	Resurface
	Airport	Chip Seal
	Vicente	Chip Seal
	Mission Park	Chip Seal
District 3—Commissioner Baca	Fermin Chavez	Pave
	Harrison Road	Pave
	Greer Road	Pave
	Victoria Road	Chip Seal
District 4--Commissioner Padilla	Avenida del Fuego	Chip Seal
	Sanchez Road loops to Padilla	Chip Seal
	Damon Road to Goodman	Pave
	Los Ranchitos	Chip Seal
	Hub Road	Chip Seal
	Marquez	Pave
District 5—Commissioner Giron	Don Jacobo Road	Pave
	Meadow Lake Road	Complete
	Fence Line Road	Chip Seal
	Amy Road	Pave
	Journey Road	Pave
	Murray Loop	Pave

Commissioner Eloy Giron said, “With the recommendations made by the Commission, I move that we take action on these roads and submit this list to Helen at this time.” Commissioner Frank Pando seconded the motion.

Commissioner Frank Pando said it does not make any sense to spend money paving a road that nobody lives on.

Chairman Aguilar said, “I would make the same recommendation that I did to Commissioner Baca regarding Harrison. When they go out there and they see that it is residential for only a mile or so, that’s how much that gets paved.”

Lillian Koger lives on A T & T Road. She said the road is terrible and they could not have gotten out today if Mr. Clinger had not brought his 4-wheel drive pickup. She asked that the road be built up, but not paved.

Betty Jean Hyland thanked Chairman Aguilar for submitting Avenida Alegre. She said they had been chip sealed a few years ago and it has not held up well. They would like to have the road paved.

Commissioner Eloy Giron said, “Three years ago, we purchased a piece of property to make our own material. We discussed buying a screener or a crushing machine to make our own base course, that was the vision that we had tied to that piece of property.” Chairman Aguilar said the property is on Aragon Road, but she understood that the Road Superintendent was looking at it for the sand and dirt. They have been hauling sand and dirt from there.

Adrian Harper, pastor of the Assembly of God Church said they have just received their deed for 10 acres on A T & T Road. He will be living at Clinger and A T & T. Doing yard work one day, he made it a point one day from 9:00 AM until 6:00 PM, and he counted 100 vehicles on the road. He said he realizes that it is people leaving and returning. A lot of people are having trouble with their tires and keeping their vehicles up. He said he realizes that the majority of the gravel is on the side of the road. He said he understands that one of the culverts got filled up because of the blading to the side. The road needs to be built up and needs a good chip and leave it alone. He said they plan to build a church out there and a place where the people in that area can come for recreation.

Leonard Garcia said he lives in Meadow Lake and the one main corridor that nobody has spoken about is the Manzano Express. There is a lot of traffic on that road. He said he would like to see the entire Commissioner’s throw their money in the pot and do the Manzano Expressway. He said that would benefit a lot of people.

Chairman Aguilar said she was going to mention that. She said she heard the Commissioners say they should look at one road where there is a need and the Manzano Expressway is just such a road and there are no funds to finish the paving.

Leonard Garcia said he believes there was money to start that project, but he does not know where the money went. He thought there was \$133,000.00 to start the paving and one of the developers was going to chip in some money for the project.

Chairman Aguilar said, "There was \$144,000.00 that was allocated, but it is going to take approximately \$432,000.00 to finish the job. If we're going to do it, it should be done to specifications to handle the heavy traffic because of the transfer station. I'm having to do the first .8 of a mile with the \$144,000.00. It looks like Representative Vicker's may be bringing home \$50,000.00 for it and would finish the first mile. It's a total of 3 miles so I'd be working on it gradually as I'm able to appropriate funds."

Commissioner Giron asked if the prior Road Superintendent had that road on his priority list of the year he first got elected. Helen Cole said, "It was about three years ago." Commissioner Giron asked what happened. Chairman Aguilar said, "I can answer that because when I came in and I talked to Mr. Gabaldon, it was down, not for paving, but he wanted to do the whole thing and it was going to be a chip seal type thing and chip seal would not hold up for heavy equipment. What I did is, I took the money and I used it to improve Otero. Orona and I used it in Los Chavez for Peyton Road and Miller. I felt it would be a waste to try and chip seal the road when there was so much traffic there."

Chairman Aguilar called for the question on the motion to get all of these roads done that the Commissioners have identified. They have prioritized them. Mrs. Cole will now take that information and work with Mr. Pena to identify the cost and the scope of the work and submit to the Highway Dept. For further clarification, these roads will not be worked on until next year.

Motion carried.

ADJOURNMENT

Commissioner Frank Pando made a motion to adjourn the March 22, 2000, Special Meeting of the Valencia County Board of County Commissioners. Commissioner Eloy Giron seconded motion. Motion carried.

NOTE: All proposals, documents, items, etc., pertaining to items on the agenda of the March 22, 2000, Special Meeting (presented to the Board of County Commissioners) are attached in consecutive order as stated in these minutes.

VALENCIA COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

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ALICIA AGUILAR, CHAIRMAN

ss

AURELIO H. PADILLA, VICE-CHAIRMAN

ss

S. T. FRANK PANDO, MEMBER

ss

ELOY GIRON, MEMBER

ss

HELEN BACA, MEMBER

ATTEST: ss

KANDY CORDOVA, COUNTY CLERK

DATE: April 3, 2000

For an official copy of these minutes and attachments see Commission Book 36 Page 772