

VALENCIA COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
RE-ORGANIZATION MEETING

January 2, 2001

Chairman Alicia Aguilar called the Meeting to order at 9:15 A.M.

PRESENT	ABSENT
Alicia Aguilar, Chairman	
Aurelio H. Padilla, Vice-Chairman	
S. T. Frank Pando, Member	
Gary Daves, Member	
Helen Baca, Member	
James Fernandez, County Manager	
Thomas Garde, County Attorney	
Tina Gallegos, County Clerk	
Press and Public	

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE Led by new member Gary Daves

INTRODUCTION OF COMMISSION, New Member, GARY DAVES, County Attorney Tom Garde, County Manager James Fernandez, New County Clerk Tina Gallegos, New Chief Deputy, Sally Perea and Sheriff Juan Julian. A welcome to Democratic Chairman Bobo Sedillo.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA.....TINA GALLEGOS
Agenda was read by County Clerk Tina Gallegos.
Frank Pando moved to accept the agenda; with a second by Gary Daves.
Motion carried.

ACTION ITEMS

a)Re-Organization.....County Commission

First item on the agenda was for re-organization, nominations for Chair. Nomination for Alicia Aguilar was made by Commissioner Helen Baca, second by Commissioner Al Padilla, opposed by Commissioner Frank Pando.
Motion Carried.

Nomination for Vice-Chair made by Chairman Alicia Aguilar for Commissioner Al Padilla second by Commissioner Baca.
Motion Carried.

b) Approve Resolution: Setting date, time & place of public meetings.....James Fernandez

Item to approve resolution, setting date, time & place of public meetings by James Fernandez, was a recommendation of staff because of numerous conflicts that take place during the year with Monday holidays and especially morning meetings taking place right after a weekend, that the meetings take place on the first and third Tuesdays of every month. Commissioner Pando questioned whether it would be night and morning. Mr. Fernandez agreed with keeping the same schedule that they have with the 10:00am meeting the first Tuesday and the evening meeting on the third Tuesday. Commissioner Aguilar commented that she liked the idea. Commissioner Pando also commented on it and made the motion to go to Tuesdays, second by Commissioner Padilla.
Motion carried. 10:00am the first Tuesday, 6:00pm the third Tuesday.

Review Policies – Regarding Public Requests & Action Items

Next item was to review policy for requests for public action items. What was allowed in the past was 2 minutes presentation for items that had not been previously placed on the agenda and Mr. Fernandez asked if they wanted that policy to continue or to be restructured or placed someplace else in the agenda. Commissioner Aguilar commented that it worked well and most of the time it did not go over 2 minutes and at least they had that rule. She then asked for comments from the Commission. Commissioner Padilla moved that they approve the recommendation and second by Commissioner Baca.
Motion carried.

Review Policies – Request for Public Information

In the late 1990's, 97-98 the county entered into an agreement for the release of public information. In reviewing the policy it was found that at that time the direction was that a policy was to be established and that a standard form would be utilized for the request of public information and maybe Mr. Garde could give additional information on that. Mr. Garde commented that back in 1995,96 there was a lawsuit filed alleging that the County was in violation of the public records act and is required to disclose certain items. The result of that lawsuit was a settlement agreement in

which the county assumed certain responsibilities mainly to apply to the terms of public records act and other conditions and thought this was what was presented to this commission that reflect the settlement agreement that was reached back in 1997. Mr. Fernandez commented that one of the requirements of that settlement was to provide any of the elected officials with the request for public information, so now that there was changes of elected officials they would be sending copies of that information to each of the departments as well as developing standardized forms that would be submitted when there is a request for public information. Chairman Aguilar questioned if now the county would have a policy that any request for information to any department would now have to come to the county managers office so there would be a public record. According to Mr. Fernandez, that would be correct, and he would notify all department heads. Commissioner Pando questioned if this had to do with the publicity in the paper criticizing the sheriff's throughout the state because some were not giving them what they wanted and how much did they have to give the press? Mr. Fernandez explained that what was required was spelled out in state statute and that would be the reason for giving each department the policies and if there was any questions it would be sent to the County Attorney for review.

Commissioner Daves asked if there was a resolution to look at. There was not and the issue was brought up as information and directional. Commissioner Daves thought that anyone wandering in should be given it, and may or may not be charged for copies. He thought the less formality the better and did not think they needed a record in most cases. Mr. Fernandez commented that this was in response to a settlement agreement that was already taking place and making sure that the county was in compliance with it. Commissioner Daves requested a copy of that agreement. It would be provided to the entire board.

Chairman Aguilar entertained a motion to ratify the county manager's recommendation. Commissioner Baca moved and was second by Commissioner Daves. Discussion followed by Commissioner Pando making comments that resolutions were pretty much spelled out and wanted to know if they were staying close to those or was it basically a guideline. Mr. Fernandez stated that the policy would be as state statute required and basically outlined the items that state statute requires for each of the department to comply with. Chairman Aguilar stated she had recently learned that they did have a court decree on public information that was agreed upon back in 1995 and each commissioner would get a copy of it.

Motion was then carried.

c) Approve Resolution: Robert's Rules of Order.....County Commission

Commissioner Pando moved that the Robert's Rules of Order Resolution #01-02 be accepted. It was second by Commissioner Baca.
Motion carried.

d)2001 Holiday Schedule.....James Fernandez

Commissioner Padilla moved to approve. Second by Commissioner Baca.
Motion carried.

Commissioner Daves had comments about the commission working well and congratulated the incumbents and was proud to join the commission.

NEXT MEETING

The next Regular Meeting of the Valencia County Board of County Commission will be held on January 8, 2001 at 10:00 AM with executive session stating at 9:00 AM in the County Commission Room at the Valencia County Courthouse. After this all meetings will be on Tuesdays. First Tuesday of the month at 10:00 AM, the third Tuesday of the month at 6:00 PM.

ADJOURNMENT

Before adjournment Chairman Aguilar congratulated the news media for all the coverage and help in notifying the public. For the record, she acknowledged Arley Sanchez from Journal South and Kathy Salstine with the News Bulletin.

Motion to adjourn was made by Chairman Aguilar at 9:36AM

NOTE: All proposals, documents, items, etc., pertaining to items on the agenda of the, Re-Organization Meeting of January 2, 2001 (presented to the Board of County Commissioners) are attached in consecutive order as stated in these minutes.

VALENCIA COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

**ss/
ALICIA AGUILAR, CHAIRMAN**

**ss/
AURELIO H. PADILLA, VICE-CHAIRMAN**

**ss/
S. T. FRANK PANDO, MEMBER**

**ss/
GARY DAVES, MEMBER**

**ss/
HELEN BACA, MEMBER**

ATTEST: ss/

TINA GALLEGOS, COUNTY CLERK

DATE: January 8, 2001

For an official signed copy of these minutes and attachments see Book 38 Page 309.