

VALENCIA COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

ICIP WORKSHOP

SEPTEMBER 25, 2001

Chairman Alicia Aguilar called the Workshop to order at 10:15 AM

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	

AGENDA:

Discuss & Prioritize Infrastructure Capital Improvement Plan for 2002-2006

Presentation was made by Ruben Chavez from the P & Z Department and Monica Mireles from the County Manager’s Office. Mr. Chavez directed the Commission to the several handouts given to them. Mr. Chavez called attention to the ICIP List of 2001 that was approved last year. Mr. Chavez indicated that although the Legislature had appropriated funds for Valencia County, with the Governor’s veto of all capital outlay projects in the State of New Mexico, Valencia County would not receive any of the funds they had listed on their ICIP plan for 2001. Mr. Chavez would like to see where we are first before we can get to where we are going. The projects were identified along with the current status of those projects.

The first item on the list was the Landfill. It is listed in the Category of Solid Waste. The list shows the funding type that it will fall under. None of the funding was appropriated this year so Mr. Chavez recommended moving the numbers over into the 2002 column. The estimated cost would change from \$850,000.00 to \$1,200,000.00 for the first year. He recommended that the line item be split into a sub-category called Acquisitions and Closures. The Closure would be the \$1.2 million and the Acquisitions for the year 2002 would be \$3.1 million and those two projects would need to go together. He believes that the priority on this would still be number one (1). Ms. Mireles informed the commission that Representative Tripp did in fact lobby for Legislative approval of appropriations for the closure of the County Landfill, however with the Governor’s veto we will not be receiving any money. Ms. Mireles stated that the County has applied for a grant to the Environmental Department in the amount of 1.2 million dollars for closure and improvements to the Transfer Station. The County should hear from them concerning this grant sometime in October. Commissioner Pando asked where we were as far as acquiring land for a landfill. Mr. James Fernandez, County Manager informed the commission that the AG’s office made a few changes in the agreement and then it was sent to Waste Management and the County should hear something soon as to the outcome of that agreement. Commissioner Pando wanted to know, since there hasn’t been any final decision made, if that is where the Commission was heading. He was not aware of any other options, so is the Commission destined to make this decision? Mr. Fernandez stated that the commission had wanted administration to pursue the acquisition of Tri-sec and to bring it back to the Board as an action item, when a final decision could be made. Commissioner Pando mentioned that new information is available that the Board was not aware of at the time, as far as access because of the Comanche Deal. He still has many questions before he can make a final decision. Mr. Fernandez stated that the County has received a 30-day extension based on this new information and the County has asked for more information on this subject. Commissioner Daves suggested that in light of the AG’s opinion that the County sit down with all known parties and have a meeting to address these concerns. Commissioner Padilla asked when we would know whether or not the County would receive the grant and Ms. Mireles informed him that they should know in October sometime. Mr. Chavez stated that they would put the 1.3 million in under 2002 for acquisition and equipment and whatever is not received can be carried over to the following years. Chairman Aguilar mentioned that she would like to leave the \$75,000 in under 2003 so that the county could possibly look at a transfer station on the southern end of the county. Further discussion about other possibilities with the municipalities and other feasible options will be addressed to the commission through the trash committee. Mr. Chavez directed the commission to priority # 3 on the list, which is Solid Waste Transfer Station. Again they would just move the numbers over into the next year’s columns. Chairman Aguilar mentioned a breakdown of costs be available to administration so that when the Legislature says they cannot give us the full amount we can ask for the amount that is needed immediately instead of losing the whole thing.

Commissioner Daves stated that the two items of Landfill and Solid Waste should be together, itemized and listed with projected costs and be the highest priority.

Chairman Aguilar recommended the following priority list of 1. Landfill, 2. Solid Waste, 3. Plan and Design New Gov. Admin Office, 4. Judicial Complex, 5. Health Department, 6. Juvenile Detention Center, 7. Animal Control 8. Adult Detention Facility, 9. Jarales Senior Citizen Center. 10. Roads, 11. Master Wells/ Waste Water, 12. Transportation/ Corridor Planning, 12. Open Space Acquisitions/Property. 13. Tome Adelino Senior Citizen/ Community Center. Discussion followed as to the priorities. Commissioner Pando added the Master wells and water for all the communities in the County. Transportation/Corridor and Open Space were suggested by Chairman Aguilar. All Commissioners were in agreement to these priorities knowing that if there is a change here or there in the number, it would still be acceptable.

Commissioner Pando mentioned concern about so many zeros on the sheet. He felt that there should be some money in there since many of these projects cannot be done at one time. They continue through many stages and can last a couple or more years. Chair Aguilar would like to see the sheet that is attached to this, which gives the breakdown of costs, rational and justifications so that the Commission will have a better idea of what each project entails. Commissioner Pando agreed that there has to be more justification per project and breakdown of cost by phase of the project. Commissioner Daves asked when the deadline was to submit this Plan, and the Commission was informed they have an extension of 2 weeks. The plan will be presented to the Commission at the meeting on October 2<sup>nd</sup> for approval. Mr. Chavez felt that since none of these projects were going to be funded that they could just move the numbers into the next years columns. He then would get feedback from the Commission along with the new items then he would take it back, get the documentation prepared and then present it in a package to the Commission. Chair Aguilar said it would be better for the Commission to have this breakdown so that they have a better understanding of what they are agreeing to. There needs to be a good rational on each of these so that they have a better chance of being approved. Without the Commission or the Legislators seeing this breakdown they cannot reach a good understanding of what the County is doing.

Discussion continued adding to the priority list mentioned above. It was suggested that the county use the census figures as justification for all of these projects, since Valencia County is listed as the fastest growing county in the state. That alone is good justification for the Legislature. All of these things relate to the population growth that the county is feeling. Mr. Chavez informed the commission that he did consult with the Sheriff and the Fire Chief as to any input they could offer. Mr. Cherry felt that there should be some discussion about the Highland Meadows fire district. The Sheriff did map out some suggestions for sub-stations. On the list was El Cerro Mission with the facility there; it is not currently manned as well as the facility in Rio Communities and the one in Meadow Lake. Commissioner Pando mentioned that with the passage of the 1/8 gross receipts tax, he is hopeful that the Sheriff will follow his 2-year plan that was presented to the commission. Commissioner Pando also mentioned that he would like to see some type of miscellaneous file or list that all these smaller type projects can be put together and referenced, as money is available. Commissioner Daves suggested that the miscellaneous list not be part of the ICIP but be rather a part of what we have in the back pocket. Chair Aguilar mentioned that you couldn't put personnel or un-manned stations on the ICIP since it is not capital outlay. The Sheriff will need to address those matters with the money and the plan that was presented to the Commission. With the plan in effect these matters can be addressed and must come from the Sheriff through his planning. A miscellaneous file is very helpful for Administration to have ready during Legislation so that when a Representative or Senator says they may have some money available, Administration can grab from that file and put a bill together and send it up there. Commissioner Pando mentioned that is how the Hospital Study was done. Commissioner Daves mentioned that capital outlay money can be used to equip the Sheriff sub-stations and that it should be considered at the time that money may be available. And he also believed that the Highland Meadows Fire Department should be an item on the ICIP. It would also help Senator Sanchez in asking for funding since it is on the County list of priority also. Ms. Mireles informed the Commission that each of these items needs to have a specific project title in order to be on the ICIP list. General titles like Law Enforcement or Fire Stations cannot be on the list. A general list can be kept for Administration to use for Legislative bills but the ICIP needs a project title. Chairman Aguilar also mentioned that the District Attorney had approached her and did ask that the Commission consider expansion of the DA offices since the Legislators did approve another position for the District Attorney's Office. Commissioner Daves mentioned that it is an option of this County to look to General Obligation Bonds and it may be time to look at trying this route again for the Judicial Complex and Administrative Offices. It will help the Legislature to know that the County has done its part to try and raise the money.

It was concluded that Mr. Chavez would accumulate last years ICIP plans and the justifications and bring it back to the commission at Tuesdays regular meeting. The commission will prioritize the list at Tuesdays meeting.

**ADJOURNMENT: 11:35 AM**

<p><b>NOTE:</b> All proposals, documents, items, etc., pertaining to items on the agenda of the, June 19, 2001 Regular Meeting (presented to the Board of County Commissioners) are attached in consecutive order as stated in these minutes.</p>
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**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: September 16, 2001**