

VALENCIA COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Special Meeting

May 25, 2005

PRESENT	ABSENT
Mary J. Andersen, Chairman	
Georgia Otero-Kirkham, Vice-Chairman	
Paul Edward Trujillo, Member	
Ron Gentry, Member	
Lynette Stublefield, Member	
Michael R. Trujillo County Manager	
	Wimberly Law Firm, County Attorney
Tina Gallegos, County Clerk	
Press and Public	

Chairman Mary Andersen called the meeting to order at 5:00 PM.

Chairman Andersen asked Commissioner Kirkham to lead the Pledge of Allegiance.

Approval of Agenda

Commissioner Trujillo moved for approval. Seconded by Commissioner Kirkham. Motion carried unanimously.

Chairman Andersen stated this budget being presented tonight is a good one and has taken countless hours of administrative effort and three full days of Commission discussion and direction. She said the citizens of Valencia County will be pleased to know that this is a unique budget, it has the consensus of all five Commissioners and for that she wished to commend them. Commendation is also due to former Chairman Gary Daves. He was responsible for sharing important information to Commissioner Trujillo and herself, which led to the efforts to remove the Cornell contract and take over the County’s Detention facilities. An action in which she and Commissioner Trujillo take pride in and justifiably so. The cost of savings will be about a million dollars a year. This gave this new Commission the optimism to be proactive and set new direction and strategies for county operations. This Commission understands that roads are a critical need and the budget will reflect six new staff members and two more graders for the road department. Chairman Andersen said this Commission is also authorizing the implementation of a information technology department which will consolidate the GIS needs for the County in one department and will eliminate the duplication of efforts and resources. Chairman Andersen thanked her fellow Commissioners for their hard work and innovative thinking.

Commissioner Trujillo also thanked this Commission for following through on certain changes that were set in motion beforehand and for going through this budget so thoroughly. Every line item was reviewed and Commissioner Trujillo stated this Commission operates very well together and he is proud to serve on it. Commissioner Trujillo thanked Chairman Andersen for her insight and experience for her follow through that led us to presenting this budget tonight. Commissioner Trujillo thanked his fellow Commissioners as well for their hard work on the budget.

Action Items:

Consideration of the Preliminary 2005/2006 Fiscal Year Budget

Mr. Trujillo presented a power point presentation on the budget. He stated this Commission’s priorities are employee salary increases, countywide road issues, closure of the old landfill and final cleanup of Conejo Transfer Station site, and the consolidation of the IT Department and GIS Division. Another priority has been to reserve funds for next year’s ongoing commitments. Mr. Trujillo said this Commission has had several workshops to thoroughly cover the budget process. Commissioner Kirkham wanted Mr. Trujillo to expand on the salary schedule and job description that the Commission discussed during their workshop. Mr. Trujillo said this Commission did work on developing a salary schedule. A major component is still missing and that is a desk audit. This Commission wants to make sure that employee titles are correct. Employees that have been here for 3 to 4 years are making the same wage as entry level employees. We have inequities basically that need to be rectified. We want to make sure we have the technical background on doing a desk audit or assessment so that job descriptions or classifications can be written that meet the work that is being done. This will be a budgetary impact to make sure that everyone is on equal footing. The desk audit will be equalized based on work performance. **Exhibit A**

Commissioner Gentry discussed the lighting and fencing of the west parking lot, where the employee’s park, this was not included in this budget and he would like to see it be included. The parking lot needs to be secure for the employees and this would be an added \$20,000 adjustment. Commissioner Gentry moved to amend the budget to include this item, the lighting and fencing of the parking lot, total amount, \$20,000. Seconded by Commissioner Stublefield. Motion carried unanimously.

Commissioner Gentry discussed the consolidation of the IT Department and the GIS Department. Also the vehicle maintenance, which is being farmed out to different places in the County, what he would like to see done is putting in two more bays in the road department and putting in their own staff to do general maintenance. This would consolidate the maintenance costs.

Chairman Andersen said her recollection during the workshops was to put a maintenance person in the road department but we need to look at what the total cost would be.

Mr. Trujillo said this is only a preliminary budget; the final budget will be in July, so at that point this can be included.

Resolution 2005-44, Adopting the 2005/2006 Fiscal Year Budget for submittal to the Local Government Division of the Department of Finance & Administration

Commissioner Gentry moved for approval. Seconded by Commissioner Trujillo. Discussion Commissioner Stublefield said she would like to see two departments see an increase. Commissioner Gentry withdrew his motion for approval. Commissioner Trujillo withdrew his second. Commissioner Stublefield proceeded with discussion and stated her concern is that we give everyone a raise, every department; with this budget two departments are not getting raises. The Sheriff's Office did get their PERA and they are risking their lives daily and are still underpaid. Commissioner Stublefield said public safety was one of the issues she ran on when she got elected and also the Adult Detention Center are underpaid. And she would like to see these two departments get raises. Commissioner Stublefield said she would like to see the salary increase across the board.

Commissioner Kirkham said she would like to see the deputies get something as well. The Detention Center she feels are okay because Cornell did have a salary schedule. Commissioner Kirkham asked Mr. Trujillo how would this affect the budget.

Mr. Trujillo said it would be an additional \$200,000. Mr. Trujillo offered a handout to the Commission for review with the different salary schedules. Discussion ensued with Mr. Trujillo stating that with PERA and a \$2.00 raise in the past for the Sheriff's Office, they have seen a little increase but the other County employees have not. This could still be looked at a future date when monies become available for the Sheriff's Office and Adult Detention Center.

Commissioner Trujillo discussed the salary chart on the basis of .75c raise versus .90c increase.

Commissioner Gentry discussed the County employees have not had a raise and have been put back on reduced work week, while the Detention Center did a salary schedule with the exception of the Sheriff deputies, but meanwhile they did get a raise and PERA. If we get unexpected revenues, we can look at these two departments at mid-year.

Sheriff Perea said he did not realize they were not being considered for a raise, he does appreciate the raise with the PERA, they are attempting to catch up with pay and benefits with other departments just within the County. It has been four years since they got a raise.

Commissioner Trujillo said the Sheriff's Office has worked with us when we weren't able to give them the PERA consideration and we told him we will get to that and we held true to our promise. As with this we will look at raises at mid-year.

Mr. Trujillo and staff took some time to figure in the raises for all departments and discussed figures with the Commission. Discussion ensued.

Commissioner Trujillo stated other than the corrections and sheriff's department a .90c an hour raise which impacts the County by an additional \$40,000 over a 75c raise suggested as an option for those two departments. Taking into consideration some smaller raise because we did equalize them in other areas or they wait until we deal with the juvenile detention center budget and look for a more substantial raise out of those monies.

Commissioner Kirkham asked if we close the juvenile detention center will this process take one month, two months, six months or a year? Mr. Trujillo said we are under a joint powers agreement with Sandoval County to operate that facility. In terms of time limit maybe three months.

Sheriff Perea agreed with Commissioner Trujillo and said he can live with the promise and wait for something to come around.

Michael Oliver, Adult Detention Center said he commends this Commission as well as the entire County and a lot of issues have been settled regarding this budget, as far as the Detention Center, we want to make sure that the decision is based on the best thing for the County. Mr. Oliver said this is a good beginning for the Detention Center and as far as salaries go, we will get there eventually.

Commissioner Trujillo made a motion that we budget for a .90c raise for all the employees other than the Adult Detention Center and the Sheriff's Department with the understanding that upon resolving this situation with the Juvenile Detention, that monies will be a priority for raises for the Detention

and Sheriff's Department or if another source becomes available in the interim, we will look at them as a priority. Seconded by Commissioner Kirkham. Motion carried unanimously.

Commissioner Trujillo moved for approval on the budget as amended. Seconded by Commissioner Stublefield. Motion carried unanimously. **Resolution 2005-44. Exhibit B**

Approval of FY 05-06 County Organization Chart

Commissioner Gentry moved for approval. Seconded by Commissioner Trujillo. Motion carried unanimously. **Exhibit C**

Adjournment

Commission adjourned at 6:30 PM.

NOTE: All proposals, documents, items, etc., pertaining to items on the agenda of the Special Meeting, May, 25, 2005 (presented to the Board of County Commissioners) are attached in consecutive order as stated in these minutes.

VALENCIA COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

**ss/
MARY J. ANDERSEN, CHAIR**

**ss/
GEORGIA OTERO-KIRKHAM, VICE-CHAIR**

**ss/
PAUL EDWARD TRUJILLO, MEMBER**

**ss/
RON GENTRY, MEMBER**

**ss/
LYNETTE STUBLEFIELD, MEMBER**

ATTEST: ss/

TINA GALLEGOS, COUNTY CLERK

DATE: June 17, 2005