



VALEO

Tuesday May 19, 2020 6:00 PM

Via Zoom and Facebook Live

Jhonathan Aragon – Chairman, Valencia County Board of County Commissioners

Gerard Saiz – Vice Chair, Valencia County Board of County Commissioners

Tom Mraz – Commissioner, Valencia County Board of County Commissioners

Danny Monette – County Manager, Valencia County

Brian Culp – Valencia County Fire Chief

Tesa Mast – IT Director, Valencia County

Angie Womack – Admin. For Valencia County Manager and Board of County Commissioners

Greg Martin – Administrator, Village of Los Lunas

John Gabladon – Village of Los Lunas Fire Chief

Jerah Cordova, Mayor, City of Belen

Peggy Gutjahr – Mayor Pro Temp, City of Rio Communities

Joshua Ramsell- Councilmember, City of Rio Communities

Jim Winters- Councilmember, City of Rio Communities

Bill Brown - Councilmember, City of Rio Communities

Richard Goshorn – Councilmember, Village of Bosque Farms

William Kennedy- Councilmember, Village of Bosque Farms

Bryan Burks - Councilmember, Village of Bosque Farms

Call to Order: 6:00 PM

Pledge of Allegiance – Danny Monette

New Business: COVID-19 Response:

Brian Culp: This will be a tag team with Chief Gabladon. We have really evolved with something that we have never done before and may never do again. I give a lot of credit to all the Fire Departments, Elected Officials, and Directors. We have set up a work from home, our EOM, we are able to hold meetings.

Los Lunas Fire Department and Valencia County Fire Department has learned how to do testing and have really been helping the two nurses from Public Health. We have also been able to test Adelante, and congregate centers (assisted living facilities).

Looking forward, we are looking at the recovery effort. Within the Valencia County government – we have created stations with thermal scan, sanitizer, have sick no sick policy. Credit given to Chief Gabladon for the making of disinfectant that can kill virus in 2 minutes.

We have opened up the treasurer's office so people may pay other than online. We worked with SOS and Clerk to get the PPE for the workers and voters.

I know the government (State) is opening things back up – the big message that the fire department wants to put out is that we have the capability of still having spread. Following of protocols is essential.

John Gabladon: Chief already covered a lot. We have had a lot of support. We need to continue the support we have had and get to our staff about the precaution. If we do get a positive it could result in 6-7 people if not more being shut down. It is important that we come up with alternatives to operate if this happens. Also Greg Martin has been in the thick with us in all this. Our EOC is up and running and we have a joint center if needed. Ultimately we have been working hard.

Greg Martin: For this group and this audience, we have been meeting for the last 3-4 years, we knew we would need a forum to discuss different topics. We have always worked well together. This allows the local officials to see how we come together to build. This is also for communication sake, to see what is working and what isn't. I agree with the fire chiefs, our efforts have been very well executed and we have done a relatively good job managing the situation.

Brian Culp – The only other thing we need to add is that this is not ending. EM is now providing PPE for medical, dentist, detention centers, and congregate centers (assisted living facilities). We had a positive come out of Central. We have more people out and about with everything opening up.

Greg Martin – VLL is phasing back open – the library, museum, and rec center are still closed. We have continued to allow employees to telework but still serve the public. As our plan progresses, there will be step by step and capacity limitation structure. It mirrors quite a bit what the state is doing. Trying to stay conscious of keeping staff and public safe. We see this going through the summer. Our public meetings have transitioned to WebEx going forward.

Brian Culp – County wise the only thing on opening is we are open for voting unless they have appointments for another office. We need to realize that any time things can shift (exposures). The OAP facilities will probably be some of the last departments to open up – dependent on ALTSD.

John Gabladon: One thing we have all seen is that we have not been able to figure out anything for class of 2020. We have stated our grounds. State Police are having to answer for their actions for assisting in the Bosque Farms parade. We are still working and will continue working to get something for the kids. There is a gathering tomorrow organized via word of mouth and Facebook by the parents and kids. The high schools at 8pm will have the lights on to honor the graduates.

Jhonathan Aragon – Is anyone wanting to ask any questions?

Gerard Saiz – Thank you and keep up the good work.

Jerah Cordova – The City of Belen is doing really well right now. We have only seen 12 cases in Belen. Very happy that we have had the testing here twice a week and the mass testing events. I will continue to advocate for a full time testing center in Valencia County so we can focus on the areas of greatest concern. We have not seen a significant revenue impact judging by GRT in March. Small business still struggling. We are ready to get our economy started again.

Peggy Gutjahr– I want to thank all the first responders. This really establishes how well we all work together. The City has a very small staff and not completely dependent on GRT. We are slowly opening city hall. All but a couple people have been tested. We have followed the guidelines and have supplies available. The staff is gradually being notified. We are now doing our meetings virtual. Appreciative of how people are following the guidelines and working together. Like Greg said, this is an excellent example of how well everyone is working together and communicating.

Jerah Cordova – I have a question for some of the emergency officials about testing on another mass level. I have a concern that we are getting ready to run out of testing supplies. Are any of the officials hearing the same thing?

Brian Culp – What is happening at DOH is that they are allotting a certain number of testing supplies to each county. After today's event, Valencia County Fire Department went to an assisted living facility and conducted another 20 tests. Valencia County Adult Detention has tested staff and getting ready to test detainees and have tests available to test as they come in. Los Lunas Fire Department has been able to test facilities in need. We are trying to hit those large groups and looking for asymptomatic within the groups. A lot of this is supply and demand. We are doing about 5k tests a day in the State.

Jerah Cordova: Brian, you and Chief Ruff are doing an outstanding job down here.

Jhonathan Aragon: Any last questions for our first responders? I would like to give another thank you to Chief Culp and Chief Gabladon. Especially with this being an election year, they have made this a smooth process. Our team here has done a great job to provide continued services to our citizens. Thank you for our talk tonight, this is a pretty big topic that rules our world right now. It's a great deal to be able to collaborate with all of the municipalities.

Danny Monette – Be compassionate to your employees. We had a possible exposure last week and Chief Culp and his staff jumped in and handled it. We are offering mental health and webinars for emotional health. Look out for your people they are the back bone of what we do.

Greg Martin: Thank you for that Danny, I agree. I do need to acknowledge the absence of Mayor Griego. He is at home and feeling fine though he wished he could be with us tonight.

Next meeting August 18, 2020 - Rio Communities

November 17, 2020 – Village of Los Lunas

Adjourn at 6:46 PM