

**VALENCIA ASSOCIATION OF LOCAL ELECTED OFFICIALS (VALEO)
QUARTERLY MEETING**

**City of Belen – City Hall Council Chambers
Tuesday, May 23, 2023, 6:00 PM – 7:00 PM**

MINUTES

1. Call to Order

City of Belen Mayor Robert Noblin called the meeting to order at approximately 6:05 p.m., and encouraged attendees to help themselves to burritos from Montano's provided by the City of Belen

2. Introductions

3. City of Belen Mayor Robert Noblin invited all present to introduce themselves. The following individuals were present:

1. Robert Noblin, Mayor, Belen
2. Joseph Bizzell, County Commissioner
3. Joshua Kerns, Parks and Rec Director
4. Charles Griego, Mayor Village of Los Lunas
5. John Gabaldon, Village of Los Lunas Fire Chief
6. Tommy Sanchez, VRECC District Director
7. Gregory Martin, Village Administrator, Los Lunas
8. Jim Winters, City Councilor, Rio Communities
9. Lawrence Gordon, Councilor, Rio Communities
10. Philip Sublett Valencia County P and Z
11. Art Apodaca, City Councilor, Rio Communities
12. Peggy Gutjahr, Mayor Pro tem, Rio Communities
13. Marty Moore, City Manager, Rio Communities
14. Steven Holdman, City Councilor, Belen
15. Tracy Armijo, City Councilor, City of Belen
16. Frank Ortega, City Councilor, Belen
17. Roseann Peralta, City Manager, City of Belen
18. Dorothy Flores, City Clerk, City of Belen

4. Review of Past Minutes

City of Belen Mayor Robert Noblin referenced copies of minutes from the last VALEO meeting on February 21, 2023.

5. New Business

I25 Showcase Basketball Tournament Presentation

Presented by Joshua Kerns City of Belen Parks & Recreation Director/Economic Development. He explained the process of how the I25 Showcase has come about. We now have 213 teams which surpasses our goal. Facilities being utilized are 14 and 21

basketball courts. Belen Community Center, Belen High School Main, Belen High School Auxiliary gym, Belen Middle School, Dennis Chavez Elementary School, St. Mary's here in Belen, Isleta Recreation center court 1 & court 2, Hope Christian High School in Albuquerque, Valencia High School court 1 & court 2, and auxiliary, Los Lunas High school main gym and auxiliary, and middle school, Century High School, Daniel Fernandez Recreation, Albuquerque basketball club, Menaul High School, and 2 courts at Del Norte High School. We have now expanded into Albuquerque.

The Community impact is going to bring \$300-\$500K to Valencia County for this weekend. It is also helping a lot of programs that are in the community here. They help keep score, concession, St. Mary's, Belen Middle School, they all benefit from this as a fund raiser. Isleta is being helped with youth sports as well as for Belen.

We will have 112 Officials that will be utilized during this event. He presented the trophy that will be giving out. For marketing each player will get a clear draw string clear bag. We want to make this a more community event in Valencia County event. The trophy is marble rock made by Travertine and a ball signed by Kenny Thomas, ex-NBA player. 2nd place trophies are made by Able and Willies. Communities being impacted by this event are Belen, Los Lunas, Albuquerque, Rio Rancho, Laguna, Silver City, Las Cruces, Gallup, Clovis, Hobbs, Farmington, Espanola, Farmington, Socorro, Magdalena, Las Vegas, Los Alamos, Pojoaque, Alamo, Shiprock, Maxwell, Mora, Penasco.

Teams coming in our; 6 from Colorado, 27 Texas, 5 Arizona, 1 Boise Idaho, 1 Chiwawa, Mexico.

Partnerships we have Belen Consolidated Schools, Los Lunas Consolidated, Village of Los Lunas, Pueblo of Isleta, Hope Christian, Menaul, Del Norte, APS. McDonalds, Buffalo Wild Wings, Subway, Little Caesars, Ribs.

Josh asked what we can do as a community within Valencia County, i.e., a community event, carnival, or special event to pull together. He also added that he invites College recruits to come in and watch games. Last year 8 kids got letters for acceptance to colleges.

It was asked of Josh if he has a committee to work with. Josh advised "no". It seems he should have an advisory board at least. Josh agrees with this and will work on this. Roseann Peralta, City Manager added that they would like to know throughout the county when and if they have special events to contact Joshua so he can add to the packet to help each other out.

Countywide Emergency transport services:

Tommy Sanchez, VRECC gave a short presentation of what is currently going on with AMR and the issue of Status Zero. The situation is with transport to meet the needs in Valencia County. I wanted to make everyone aware of the "what if?" Dr. Barrett added that there are lots of moving parts to this and puts us in a challenging situation to try and get our patients to the Hospital. There is space to work with AMR, i.e., software may help and give us better tools, and get AMR to the calls that result in transport vs having our own staff to do the transport. AMR does have some pilot projects with the hopes that it will help us. Councilor Holdmans asked what is the worse case situation if

AMR pulls out. John Gabaldon, Fire Chief advised that there is a secondary resource/services with Superior transport. Dr. Barrett added that we may have to do things a little differently and find spaces to improve, i.e., dispatch, software, etc. There was some discussion regarding not having a hospital in Valencia County. If there was one this would help AMR and meet the needs of the patients. John Gabaldon, Fire Chief reminded those of the policy meeting taking place through NMML. He asked if everyone could attend as this will be a situation that will be brought up and can use the support for the additional funding.

6. Old Business

Hospital Update:

Joseph Bizzell, County Commissioner gave an update regarding the status. He advised that hopefully in the next 45-60 days we should know the location. He advised he is unable to offer a lot of information at this time. They are in negotiations with landowners. We have the RFP, 5 contractors, we are going to narrow it down to 3. Councilor Frank F. Ortega asked about the \$50M, it was advised that this was extended until 2025 and then the Feds gave it about another year, year and a half, so until 2026/27. The problem is that when they did the Mill Levy it was totally wrong. \$50M is not a lot of money, it will take a lot more than that to build a hospital. Out of the studies that they did, Medicaid/Medicare is going to grow in the next 5 years and is moving forward. One thing he did ask when we find out where it is going to please rush the zone change as soon as possible!

Interchange Update:

Charles Griego, Mayor Village of Los Lunas gave the update. The interchange is moving, we were able to get another \$45M to the project, we are at \$147M which will allow phase I to begin. We have a large amount of contingency built into it. We should be in front of MRCOG in May or June from dormant to active. The design should be complete by November, out to bid by March and award in June with hopes to start next year. We meet on the 2nd Tuesday of each month with approximately 40 people representing various agencies. We should have a news release sometime in June.

7. Future VALEO Meeting Schedule

- August 15, 2023, Hosted by City of Rio Communities
- November 23, 2023, Hosted by Valencia County

8. Adjourn @ 7:23 pm