

VALENCIA COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Emergency Meeting

March 6, 2009

PRESENT	ABSENT
Pedro G Rael, Chairman	
Donald E. Holliday, Vice-Chairman	
David R Medina, Member	
Ron Gentry, Member	
Georgia Otero-Kirkham, Member	
Eric Zamora, County Manager	
	Adren Nance & Dave Pato, County Attorneys
Theresa Sanchez, Deputy Clerk	Sally Perea, County Clerk
Press and Public	

1. The meeting was called to order by Chairman Pedro Rael at 8:00 A.M.

2. Chairman Rael led the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. Approval of Agenda

Commissioner Holliday moved to approve the agenda. Seconded by Commissioner Gentry. Motion carried unanimously.

Chairman Rael stated that the emergency meeting was called for due to being on a tight schedule to go to Washington DC and apply for some of the stimulus funding for the county as recommended by the two senators' offices to County Manager Eric Zamora.

4. Action Item(s)

- a) **Consideration and Approval of County Priorities to Congressional Delegation**
- b) **Consideration and Approval of Out of State Travel to Washington, D.C. to lobby for Valencia County Stimulus Fund Projects, recommendation of representatives**

County Manager Eric Zamora briefed the commission that back in 2008 the commission had voted on the legislative priorities with the top five items being; 1) Hospital planning funds, 2) Administrative Complex, 3) County Wide Road Improvements, 4) EMS Transport Building/Equipment and 5) Upgrading County IT Software.

The commission discussed the following; projects must be "shovel ready" in order to qualify for the stimulus package, time frame of when construction needs to begin, various types of other funding, general description of distribution funds, legislative advice/recommendations, scheduled meetings (at Capitol Hill, Washington) with legislative staff, benefits of receiving the stimulus package, sending a qualified representative(s), deadline dates, distribution dates, purpose of going, to create a relationship and to get Valencia County known. Concerns; out of state travel, presenting a prepared presentation, point of interest- for the Board of Commissioners to meet with state legislators (in Santa Fe), hiring a part time lobbyist, placing a resolution, and meeting with state organizations.

Chairman Rael stated the board meeting today was strictly for one reason and that was because a strong indication by two state senators (offices) had suggested that it would be a great idea for the county to send a representative (s) as soon as possible to Washington D.C. to try to get part of the stimulus money. Chairman Rael said this discussion is not favorable to that; it is now in attempts of meeting in Santa Fe instead; to intercept some of the funds and bypass Washington. He clarified as to why the commission was present and as the agenda advertised (to present the priorities to a congressional delegation and to approve out of state travel to Washington D.C). Chairman Rael recommended that the commission make a motion to adjourn this meeting due to not getting anywhere in terms of the objection today.

Commissioner Gentry said the discussion is that the urgency now has changed direction and believed that the stimulus money is going to Santa Fe, to state agencies and will be at the pleasure of the governor. In three months they will start looking at the next round of stimulus money in congress so it gives them a three month window. It seems that in the last day or so the money has moved rapidly and that's where they should attempt looking for the stimulus money.

Commissioner Kirkham suggested meeting with our legislator and talking to them and the governor with one objective in mind. Chairman Rael said all of it made sense but if they

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were suggesting that we've got a better approach than what the senator's office had told them, we are making a mistake by not going to Washington and that was the point of this meeting.

Commissioner Medina suggested hiring a lobbyist to look for monies available. Chairman Rael agreed and said we were one of the counties that didn't have one. Commissioner Gentry said at one time Valencia County did have one and that was the most revenue this county has ever had. He suggested that staff draw up a very strong and precise resolution and the commission all sign as a group and send them to the congressional delegation and then go to Santa Fe, and as Commissioner Kirkham and Commissioner Holliday had suggested, host a dinner, invite our legislators and to try to bring some stimulus money. After a lengthy discussion, the list of legislative priorities was delegated, all comments, concerns and recommendations were carefully considered.

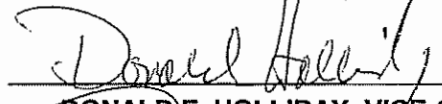
Commissioner Medina moved to approve sending two representatives, Chairman Rael and County Manager Eric Zamora. Seconded by Commissioner Holliday. Discussion followed to consider this item at a later date until further information is obtained. Commissioner Medina withdrew his motion and made the motion to not go to Washington D.C. due to the commission not having a consensus and to adjourn the meeting. Seconded by Commissioner Gentry. Motion carried unanimously.

NOTE: All proposals, documents, items, etc., pertaining to items on the agenda of the, March 6, 2009 Emergency Meeting (presented to the Board of County Commissioners) are attached in consecutive order as stated in these minutes.

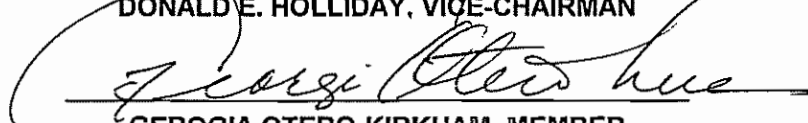
VALENCIA COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS



PEDRO G RAE, CHAIRMAN



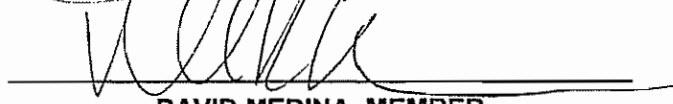
DONALD E. HOLLIDAY, VICE-CHAIRMAN



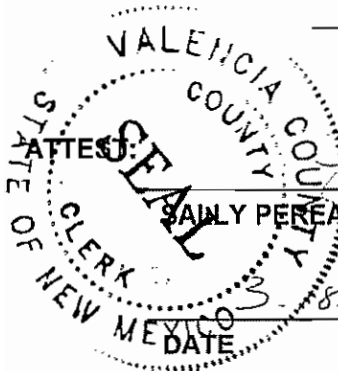
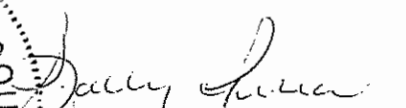
GEROGIA OTERO-KIRKHAM, MEMBER



RON GENTRY, MEMBER



DAVID MEDINA, MEMBER


ATTEST:


SAILY PEREA, COUNTY CLERK
3-8-09
DATE