

**Special Meeting**

**January 30, 2007**

The Board of County Commissioners, in and for the County of Otero, State of New Mexico, met in a Special Meeting at the Civic Center 800 E. First Street Room #A in Alamogordo, NM County and State aforesaid. Meeting called to order by the Chairman at 11:00 a.m., January 30, 2007.

Present:

Doug Moore	Chairman
Clarissa McGinn	Vice-Chairperson
Michael Nivison	Absent
Ray Backstrom	Assistant County Manager
Pamela Heltner	Commission Liaison
Christina Nuno	Deputy Clerk
Don Carroll	Mayor
Ron Griggs	Mayor-Pro-Tem
Pat McCourt	City Manager
Inez Moncada	Commissioner
Ed Cole	Commissioner
Marion LedFord	Commissioner
Chris Lujan	Commissioner
Steve Brockett	Commissioner

**DRAFT**

The Special meeting was called to order at 11:00 a.m. by Mayor Don Carroll and Chairman Doug Moore.

Mayor Carroll stated the purpose of the meeting is to discuss exiting contracts and agreements between the County and City where they are providing services jointly.

1. Animal Shelter: Since 1994 the City of Alamogordo Animal Control and Otero County Board of Commissioners have operated under a Memorandum of Understanding for the care, maintenance, and euthanization of animals. Pat McCourt stated the city's concern is the size of the facility because of the growth in the area, there are more animals. The county's portion is to pay for housing of the animals. Mr. McCourt stated what needs to be addressed is space and that the operational part needs to be improved. Commissioner McGinn stated staff needs to work on the language and get an updated contract signed.

2. Otero County Detention Center Fees: According to Mr. McCourt the city has requested an analysis of the detention center's budget. They have not been able to locate a service agreement addressing the cost per day for prisoners arrested on municipal charges since the 1990 agreement. The city pays \$80 a day per prisoner plus medical expenses. Mr. McCourt stated what the city is requesting is a breakdown on the cost of what the county is charging for city prisoners. Commissioner Moore stated it cost four million to operate the detention center. Mayor Carroll stated the city just wants a better understanding of the cost to operate the facility and the rate. If the city has a better understanding of the cost, they could better assist the county. The city just gets the rate, but not informed of the entire situation. Commissioner Moore stated it gets very complex and difficult because they have prisoners from city and county. Commissioner Moore stated it is very important to do a new agreement.

3. Dispatch Services: Mayor Carroll stated in May of 2003 American Medical Response (AMR) met with the ambulance board. The board meets annually to review the ambulance contract and joint powers agreement between the City of Alamogordo and Otero County to provide ambulance service. A

second joint powers agreement was created for Ambulance Dispatch Services. The joint powers agreement outlined the Department of Public Safety as the entity providing the ambulance dispatch services. A prorated payment method was established between the affected entities the City of Alamogordo, County of Otero, and Village of Tularosa. Within the joint powers agreement, the county agreed to act as fiscal agent. The county is to invoice the city and Village of Tularosa quarterly for ¼ of the budgeted amount set forth in the agreement. The cost sharing for the ambulance service dispatch is done on a percentage based on population. Mayor Carroll stated there will be a meeting next week with the ambulance authority. At that time they will get the budget and will hear from the ambulance provider as to what they will be proposing as the rate. The city will get an updated report on their cost for dispatch and that will set the percentage rate for each entity for the coming year.

4. Transportation of seniors: Mayor Carroll stated the city annually comes before the County Commission and provides a request for reimbursement for services that the city is providing from the senior center to county residents. He stated historically the county has funded less than what they requested. It seems that the county has no interest in seeing the breakdown from the city's request as to how they arrived to those numbers. Commissioner McGinn stated during the last budget cycle they discussed those same issues, they also went through those specifics with staff from the Alamo, Tularosa and Cloudcroft Senior centers during their budget process to understand the breakdowns as to what it would cost. Since 2000 the county has been funding at the same level and at that time gas prices were going up as inflation has and the cost of operating such services for the county residents has risen. The county came up with an equivalent amount for each of the senior centers for transportation and that's where they provided \$22,000 funding level. On the La Luz home delivered meals the city provides services between eight to ten individuals in the area surrounding the city limits. At the time of the county's budget there were only eight individuals on

the La Luz meals on wheels, that number was significantly less than what the city's request was. Mr. McCourt stated they provide a growth number of people that could come onto the service during that budget year. They budgeted for about eleven to twelve individuals on the La Luz program at \$22,984, the city's request of \$29,144 was based on fifteen individuals and that hasn't been the case in several years. Commissioner McGinn stated she understands during budget time that you have to budget for a number of people who could be using that program. She stated perhaps to do this is to charge the county per the actual of number of people using that program or service. Mayor Carroll stated they could do that and it's probably the fairest way per individual meal delivery basis. Commissioner Moore stated they will do all they can and give what they can, because there is never enough money. Mayor Carroll stated they can do it on a structure per unit service basis.

5. Relief Route to White Sands Boulevard: The west First Street Project has been divided into two phases. Phase 1 includes the work between the relief route and the Union Pacific Railroad. Approximately one-half of Phase 1 is within the city limits. Phase 2 is from the Union Pacific Railroad to White Sands Boulevard. Mayor Carroll stated as he understands it the county's fund for construction for part of the relief route that lies in the county and they are wanting to spend those funds before they revert back to the state. The city can utilize the county's portion as part of the construction. Commissioner Moore stated if the city is ready to break ground staff should prepare an agreement.

6. Real Estate Exchange: Mayor Carroll stated that Michael Shyne is proposing to trade some of his property at 209 Tenth Street for the city's property in La Luz. He is proposing to the city to exchange his property that is next to the new Historical Center for a tract of land the city owns in the La Luz Canyon which is east of the community of La Luz. According to Mayor Carroll, Mr. Shyne wants to acquire the property and donate it to Otero County as a buffer zone and ancillary use for the county shooting range.

If the county thinks that is something they might be interested in pursuing, they can work out the details. Mayor Carroll stated their main concern is future development for protecting their water sources out there and if they can work that out then they are willing to do it. The county and city both agreed that the land swap will be beneficial.

There being no further business the special meeting adjourned at 12:50 p.m.

APPROVED:

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Doug Moore, Chairman

ATTEST:

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Robyn Silva, County Clerk

Joint Special Meeting January 30, 2007