

EMERGENCY MEETNG

August 06, 2006

The Board of County Commissioners, in and for the County of Otero, State of New Mexico, met in a Emergency Meeting at the Otero County Courthouse in Alamogordo, County and State aforesaid. Meeting called to order by the Chairman at 9:00 a.m., August 6, 2006; and he announced that reasonable notice for this meeting was given to the Alamogordo Daily News, and to Radio Stations, KPSA, KINN and KYEE.

Present:

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| Doug Moore | Chairman |
| Clarissa McGinn | Vice-Chair person |
| Michael Nivison | Member |
| Dr. Martin Moore | County Manager |
| Ray Backstrom | Assistant County Manager |
| Dan Bryant | County Attorney/Conference Call |
| Pamela Heltner | Department Secretary |
| Christina Nuno | Deputy Clerk |

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Commissioner Moore gave the invocation and led the Pledge of Allegiance and the Salute to the Flag of the State of New Mexico.

Commissioner Moore stated the purpose of the meeting is to declare a State of Emergency within Otero County on recent flood events. The county has lost infrastructures as well as other villages, municipalities and townships.

Paul Quairoli, Emergency Service Coordinator, approached the Board to show photographs of the events in the mountains and the work they have been doing in the last couple of weeks. Mr. Quairoli stated

there have been two events even though it's been a week of non-stop rain. He stated the reason he is requesting a State of Emergency was to identify two areas with problems. On August 1, 2006, Timberon received approximately five to six inches in 12 hours. These heavy rains caused flooding and as a result large amount of water runoff which impacted infrastructure belonging to Otero County and the Timberon Water Sanitation & District. He stated when they did their preliminary damage assessment they identified at least thirty seven (37) separate areas that will require moderate to extensive repair. He said he is anticipating at least \$300,000.00 of damage to the area of Timberon. Commissioner Moore asked if this is only damage to the Governmental body of Timberon and if it does not consider losses of individuals or private property. Mr. Quairoli stated that was correct. He stated items identified in the PDA (Preliminary Damage Assessment) were debris removal from culvert pipes, grading of roadways, filling eroded roadways with material, recovering of exposed water pipes, bridge repair, and possible bridge replacements.

On August 6, 2006, Alamo Canyon had substantial amount of rain which is yet to be determined. These heavy rains collected in the base of the Alamo Canyon and proceeded into Oro Vista and Boles Acres. The heavy flow reached the community of Boles Acres as a four foot high wall of water immediately over whelmed the culvert system and caused flooding. He said attempts were made to deploy sand bags to protect the ditch which failed to contain the water running through it. As a result of these breaches, large amounts of water run off began to flow into residential properties. He stated that in an attempt to protect these properties from the flood waters and any future flooding the culvert pipes that restricted flow in Becky Street and Penny Avenue were removed. As a result it has impacted infrastructure belonging to Otero County. Mr. Quairoli proceeded with his presentation of pictures of the damage to Timberon. The pictures were provided by the Timberon Water & Sanitation District.

Mr. Scott Millar, Board of Directors of the Timberon Water & Sanitation District, stated that on

Saturday they had another rain and lost access to Rocky Trail Road and it was not passable; however they are working on it. Commissioner Moore stated that they are always caught in dilemmas with the culverts. The culverts have always been a challenge just like Riata Road where the arroyo goes through. There have been deaths in that arroyo. He stated for several years the county has been trying to get enough money to put culverts in that crossing. The county has put depth markers in the water because a substantial amount of water runs through from Laborcita Canyon when it rains. Commissioner McGinn Stated Riata Road had to be closed again with the rain they had last night. She also asked Mr. Quairolì where else did they have to respond over the course of the weekend with heavy rains. He stated mile marker 74 and 75, by Alamo Rosa, Laborcita Canyon, and La Luz. In Laborcita Canyon and in the La Luz area the culverts got filled. Also a section of Highway 54/70, north of Alamo Rosa got flooded and the Department of Transportation had to be called to remove debris. Also flooded was mile marker 97 and 98, right at the county line past Three Rivers.

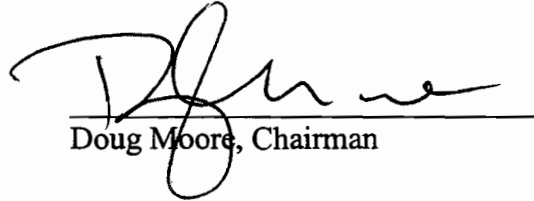
Commissioner McGinn stated what they really need to do is all sit together and look at how they are going to respond to several events in the County at the same time.

Commissioner Moore stated June and July had events that were dramatic and created flooding in different areas in the County. He stated the County Commission are attempting to have a joint meeting with the city to discuss what their capabilities are and what is the process by which they achieved the ability to build a core of engineer's \$50 million dollar project. The Commission is also looking at the challenges should they create a flood district. Commissioner Moore stated there are people who continue to experience storm events that exceed 100, 200 year event floods and some cases 500 year. He stated no matter how clean they get the ditches and culverts he doesn't feel their infrastructure is capable of handling a flood of that magnitude. Commission Moore stated he would like to stress to the public that they prepare

to defend themselves and be ready to take action and evacuate when they see a big cloud going up Alamo Canyon especially if they are in that water shed they need to start sand bagging.

Commissioner Moore made a motion to declare Otero County State of Emergency. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Nivision. A vote was taken and the motion passed unanimously. There being no further business before the Board the Chairman adjourned the meeting at 9:55 a.m.

APPROVED:



Doug Moore, Chairman

ATTEST:



Robyn Silva, County Clerk

Emergency August 6, 2006