

OFFICE OF BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
YAVAPAI COUNTY, ARIZONA

Prescott, Arizona
February 16, 2000

The Board of Supervisors met in a special session on February 16, 2000.

Present: Chip Davis, Chairman; Gheral Brownlow, Vice Chairman; John Olsen, Member; Carolyn Dicus, Assistant.

Also present: Jim Holst, County Administrator; Richard Straub, Public Works Director; Water Advisory Committee members Russ St. Pierre, Jim Williams, Ruben Jauregui, Reynold Radoccia, Tony Gioia, Doree Christensen, Jan Moore, Dennis Sundie, and Larry Tarkowski.

ITEM NO. 1. Meet in joint session with the Yavapai County Water Advisory Committee.

- a. Discussion regarding County Intergovernmental Agreement with cities and towns, which will include specific contribution amounts. Chairman Davis spoke about the amounts for contribution and Jim Holst said that the County Attorney was drawing up the intergovernmental agreement identifying what each entity was to contribute and would be sending the document out to the cities and towns. He said that the fund had been established in the County Finance Office and would be under the direction of the supervisor of this committee and that the County will review the expenditures. Mr. Holst said that the information has been here and it needed to be put into an agenda to activate getting individual funds in for when the bills start coming in. Chairman Davis said that it was a good formality and that he would like to know how the Water Advisory Committee (WAC) is going to monitor this. Mr. Holst said that there will be monthly accounts coming out for the fund from the Finance Department. Supervisor Davis asked if the WAC could appoint among themselves a treasurer to give the information to. Supervisor Olsen said this person would be the go between for the WAC and County for expenditures. Mr. Gioia said they would have to make some structural changes. Mr. Tarkowski said that will be a goal to set up before they start spending money. Ms. Moore asked if this could be the function of the coordinator position. Supervisor Olsen asked if this is going to be a yearly contribution in which Mr. O'Halleran answered that going with the program from last year, they would like matching funds for each year. He said there are a lot of in-kind contributions going on which should be included. Chairman Davis asked what kind of accounting is in place now. Supervisor Olsen said that could be one of the jobs for the coordinator. Mr. Tarkowski asked with the money the County is kicking in if it included other watersheds besides the Verde. Supervisor Olsen said he would think the Aqua Fria and others which at this point, are not of prime concern.
- b. Consider Water Advisory Committee Coordinator position proposal. Chairman Davis spoke about the formal recommendations for a coordinator position that the County would like to get from the WAC and said they would like to get it going. Mr. Tarkowski said that it will be the coordinator position who will work with the County. Chairman Davis said that it will be up to the WAC to tell the coordinator what they would like to see happen. Supervisor Olsen made a motion to approve the coordinator position, Supervisor Brownlow seconded the motion, which was then unanimously approved. Mr. Holst said that he had spoken with Mr. O'Halleran regarding the coordinator position and that the person could be set up as a County employee or it could be contracted out. Mr. Gioia said that he has a lot of resources and places that they could advertise through for this position. Supervisor Brownlow said that whoever is chosen should know a lot about hydrology. Mr. O'Halleran said that the qualifications are extensive and that they will be out in the field and not behind a desk. Chairman Davis said that he would like a couple of recommendations from WAC to the Board for a coordinating person and what function is being asked of the Board of Supervisors and what functions are the WACs. Mr. Tarkowski asked how the Board would like to be involved. Mr. St. Pierre suggested that the technical committee look at the applicants. Mr. Tarkowski said that they could then bring about three candidates to the WAC then ask the Board of Supervisors to hire. Mr. Radoccia said that they shouldn't put a number on it.
- c. Discuss proposed and future legislation. Chairman Davis said that three bills had been introduced to the legislation and the role of WAC was to review proposed legislation on how it affects the region. He

said that letters should be sent to legislators letting them know that there is an interest in the proposals. Mr. O'Halleran said that at this point, the bill for transfer of type 1 rights hadn't come up yet and that the Young's Farm bill was out of the House Committee which is dealing with a possible 10-year freeze on irrigation rights and some changes to incorporate Arizona Department of Water Resources (ADWR) wording. Mr. Foster said that Groundwater Users Advisory Council (GUAC) had taken action to support a freeze for five years. He said there was also the fact that the 10-year freeze had some proposed amendments and there were loopholes in the department's position. Chairman Davis asked about how many properties would be affected in which Mr. Foster replied that about 170, two-acre to 700+ acre properties. He said that the conditions are just proposed at this point. He said the department had not signed off on this so far and were waiting to see what happens. He said that Blewster bill is for a 25-year constant where other senators have changed it to the 10-year plan.

- d. **Discuss Young's Farm water rights issue.** Chairman Davis said that this issue was already being worked on through the meeting.
- e. **Discuss communication flow with the committee.** Mr. Gioia asked if having the minutes emailed to them helped in which Chairman Davis said that the minutes keep them updated but a coordinator would help. He said they needed to have the WAC set up a person to give direction. Mr. St. Pierre said it was his understanding that the Board was asking for a coordinator and Chairman Davis said it should be someone from within the WAC. He asked what the WAC would like to see out of the Board. Mr. Gioia said a quarterly meeting. Mr. Tarkowski said that they will come back to the Board later with some answers.
- f. **Other water issues.** Chairman Davis asked if there were any other items. Nancy Scott from Yarnell wanted to know about water issues in Yarnell. She said that they have a small aquifer and it needs to be studied. Supervisor Olsen said that this points up to the fact that there are water issues all over the County but that the water company there is responsible for the water concerns. He said that the customers need to get together and express their needs and then take them to the Corporation Commission. He said the County can only give them support by addressing the Commission. Ms. Scott said that now is the time for the County to step in and nip it in the bud. Supervisor Olsen requested Mr. Dishlip to check into the aquifer. Mr. Dishlip said he would and that they were having problems all over the state because of drought issues. Mr. O'Halleran spoke about the new Growing Smarter legislation which will identify water resources and growth and how it is going to be supplied. Chairman Davis said it bothered him that the growth plan does not show how it will impact neighboring properties. Supervisor Olsen said that there are several aquifers and very little knowledge of use about them.

ITEM NO. 2. Consider awarding bid for landscaping materials for the Verde Valley School Road. Public Works Director Richard Straub spoke saying they had received six bids for this project and that they were recommending awarding the bid to Gary's Landscape Materials at \$28.71 per cubic yard. Other bids received were: Bedrock Landscaping & Materials, \$31.40 per cubic yard; Bob David, \$32.50 per cubic yard; Fuzzy's Materials, \$45.00 per cubic yard; Stan Iverson Trucking, \$36.00 per cubic yard and Willow Lake Rock, \$37.50 per cubic yard. Supervisor Brownlow motioned to approve awarding the bid to Gary's Landscape Materials, seconded by Supervisor Olsen. Approved by unanimous vote.

There being no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned.

ATTEST:

____Clerk _____Chairman