

**CITY OF ALAMOGORDO, NEW MEXICO
JOINT CITY/COUNTY SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES
6:00 P.M., SGT. WILLIE ESTRADA MEMORIAL CIVIC CENTER
APRIL 25, 2016**

CITY COMMISSION

**RICHARD BOSS, MAYOR
JASON BALDWIN, COMMISSIONER
NADIA SIKES, COMMISSIONER
JENNY TURNBULL, COMMISSIONER
SUSAN PAYNE, COMMISSIONER**

**AL HERNANDEZ, MAYOR PRO-TEM
ERICA MARTIN, COMMISSIONER
GEORGE STRAFACE, INTERIM CITY MANAGER
STEPHEN THIES, CITY ATTORNEY
NANCY JACOBS, CITY CLERK**

COUNTY COMMISSION

**SUSAN FLORES, COMMISSION CHAIR
JANET T. WHITE, COMMISSION VICE-CHAIR
RONNY RARDIN, COMMISSION MEMBER**

**DISTRICT 2
DISTRICT 1
DISTRICT 3**

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE / CALL TO ORDER / ROLL CALL

County Commission Chairwoman Susan Flores called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. Roll Call of the County Commission was taken by the County Clerk. The County Clerk announced there was a quorum of County Commissioners present. Roll Call of the City Commission was taken by the City Clerk. The City Clerk announced there was a quorum of City Commissioners present. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by City Commissioner Baldwin.

PRESENTATIONS

1. Discuss a consolidated Public Safety Answering Point (PSAP) between the City of Alamogordo and Otero County.

Interim City Manager Straface said they had before them the two GPA's that they worked on together.

Commissioner White spoke on the Funding and Redundancy report to Governor Martinez. (see agenda book for Power Point)

Paul Carolli with Emergency Services of Otero County spoke on the Public Safety Emergency Response End-to-End System. He said currently the County and City are paying for all the costs. (see agenda book for Power Point)

Commissioner White spoke on the strengths and weaknesses of the Draft E-911 Five Year Strategic Planning Report for 2013. (see agenda book for Power Point)

Commissioner Baldwin asked Commissioner White if any of the new equipment for \$2.2 million was eligible for grant funding. Commissioner Rardin answered they would be funding that money out of their own budget to start.

Commissioner White spoke about the start up expenses for PSAP. Commissioner Rardin asked her where the \$400,000 was coming from for eight new administration positions. She answered the DFA PSAP handbook says they couldn't just hire anyone, it had to be someone that could navigate this. She said they would hire a director, assistant and staff. He asked if this would be in addition to the staff the county and city have now. She answered yes, this requires a PSAP manager. Commissioner Rardin thought this amount was too high. Mr. Carolli stated this dollar amount was based on a worst case scenario.

Commissioner Sikes asked if other municipalities contribute the funds for PSAP. Mr. Carolli said they did not. Sheriff House said the three incorporated areas are Alamogordo, Cloudcroft and Tularosa, but since he has been sheriff Tularosa has not given them money.

Interim City Manager Straface said this was the first time the city had seen these numbers and asked the County to give them an opportunity to look at it. He said his concern was the city and county were serving the same citizens but had two separate systems and it was costing them more. He wanted to know if they had a commitment from the County to work together to get a joint PSAP. Commissioner Flores answered as a board, they hadn't made a decision.

Commissioner Flores said there were two other options, 1) they could combine PSAP and have the sheriff's department run it; 2) or do a departmental joint PSAP and Alamogordo take and run it or Otero County take and run it. Interim City Manager Straface said the City's standpoint was that they wanted a joint PSAP and were willing to work with control issues. Commissioner Flores asked if the City wanted to house the dispatch as a department. Interim City Manager Straface answered they liked the JPA that was developed by the Sheriff and Chief Ward. Chief Ward said the PSAP group had a recommendation and could answer the questions they had.

Commissioner Rardin felt it should be a joint PSAP under the County and they needed to work out a few things concerning the JPA. Interim City Manager Straface said they needed to work together and liked the idea of a board. Chief Ward spoke on a separate authority board. Commissioner Rardin felt the board should not be different authorities as stated on page 11 of the PSAP Consolidation handout; it needed to have elected officials. (see agenda book for handout)

Interim City Manager Straface stated he respected Sheriff House and his knowledge, but Sheriff House couldn't be everywhere and this is why he supported the second operational board. He explained the board was not intended to be a governance board; it was intended to give recommendations and expertise. Sheriff House agreed with Interim City Manager Straface and stated he didn't have the working knowledge of how Alamogordo Fire and Police Departments work and this was the concept behind the board.

Commissioner Rardin said he wanted the City to have control on how the City's departments were run. Chief Ward spoke on creating a new entity and payroll system for PSAP employees. Commissioner Rardin said creating a new entity may increase the dollar amount and he was not in favor of that. Interim City Manager Straface said he was not in favor of the figure \$400,000 for staffing. County Attorney Lisa Jenkins asked Interim City Manager Straface if he was taking about the County or City taking on the \$400,000 figure for the PSAP entity, and she didn't think the County could take it on. He said it would require teamwork.

Chief Ward spoke on recommendations regarding PSAP staffing. Lisa Jenkins stated the County would have to increased staff. Sheriff House said this was why it would have to fall under the City or County and he volunteered the County. Commissioner Flores suggested having a work session regarding PSAP at the county's next commission meeting. Commissioner Rardin didn't agree to have a work session and stated they needed to work on the basics and then take it to a public hearing. Commissioner Baldwin said he was ok with having an executive session with the City and County to fine tune it. Mayor Boss said he appreciates the dialog between the City and the County and thanked everyone.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Buddy Johnston commented on the following:

Mr. Johnston spoke on treating everyone fairly.

Ardin Schug commented on the following:

Mr. Schug talked about funding for PSAP and suggested having a joint PSAP. He agreed having a secondary board so dispatchers could better help the public. He spoke on state help to fund the board.

Commissioner Payne asked Interim City Manager Straface about funding from the state. Interim City Manager Straface said the state will fund the separate board. Sheriff House said the state would require a JPA that if accepted, would make you eligible for funding. Commissioner Rardin mentioned the City and County had submitted a JPA in the past that the state did not like, but rules have changed. Interim City Manager Straface stated Chief Ward gave him a copy of the DFA policy for consolidation and said they would give everyone a copy. Chief Ward went over the handout.
(see agenda book for handout)

Commissioner Baldwin asked the City Commission if they could move forward with his recommendation to use the JPA and have an executive session, while the County did the same. He also asked if they could direct staff to research the financial part of the program. Commissioner Sikes asked if they could find out what other counties had done with PSAP and what had been successful. Chief Ward said that was the foundation for the JPA's they did. Commissioner Payne asked how this would affect staff. Interim City Manager Straface said they would work with staff to minimize harm. Sheriff House said it would not affect staff retirement and stated the City had retiree health, but the County didn't so this was to be considered. Buddy Johnston didn't want to loose leave time, and Interim City Manager Straface said they wouldn't abandon their staff. Sheriff House said he wanted a list of staff for PSAP purposes.

Interim City Manager Straface told Commissioner Flores the City was moving forward with executive session and she said they will be doing the same.

Commissioner Baldwin suggested the City and the County meet twice a year to discuss any issues.

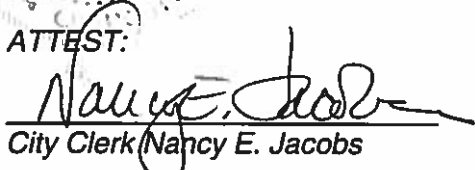
ADJOURNMENT

Commission Flores moved to adjourn at 7:44 p.m. for the County. Commissioner White seconded the motion.

Commission Baldwin moved to adjourn for the City. Mayor Pro-Tem Hernandez seconded the motion.

Motion carried with a vote of 10-0-0.



Mayor Richard Boss
ATTEST:

City Clerk Nancy E. Jacobs

(Prepared by Rachel Hughs, Deputy City Clerk)
Approved at the Regular Meeting held on May 24, 2016.