

**SANTA FE COUNTY**  
**BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS**  
**SPECIAL MEETING**

**April 15, 2009**

Michael Anaya, Chair – District 3  
Harry Montoya, Vice Chair – District 1  
Kathy Holian – District 4  
Liz Stefanics – District 5  
Virginia Vigil – District 2

**SANTA FE COUNTY**

**SPECIAL MEETING**

**BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS**

**April 15, 2009**

This special presentation meeting of the Santa Fe Board of County Commissioners was called to order at approximately 9:00 a.m. by Chair Mike Anaya, in the Santa Fe County Commission Chambers, Santa Fe, New Mexico.

Roll was called by County Clerk Valerie Espinoza and indicated the presence of a quorum as follows:

**Members Present:**

Commissioner Mike Anaya, Chair  
Commissioner Virginia Vigil, Vice Chair  
Commissioner Harry Montoya  
Commissioner Kathleen Holian  
Commissioner Liz Stefanics

**Members absent:**

[None]

- III. **PRESENTATION OF COLORS** - New Mexico Army National Guard.
- IV. **SINGING OF NATIONAL ANTHEM** – Cassandra Purdy
- V. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE** – Sergeant Maria Sanchez, Air Force Veteran
- VI. **STATE PLEDGE** – Sergeant Maria Sanchez
- VII. **INVOCATION** – Chaplin Jose Villegas
- VIII. **APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA**

County Manager, Roman Abeyta, noted that item IX. P, Santa Fe Alliance update was withdrawn.

Upon motion by Commissioner Holian and second by Commissioner Stefanics the agenda was unanimously approved with the change suggested by Mr. Abeyta.

## **IX PRESENTATIONS**

### **A. A Proclamation To Honor The Life Of Fallen Hero U.S. Airman Timothy Bowles**

Commissioner Holian read the Santa Fe County Proclamation as follows:

“To honor and remember the supreme sacrifice made by Staff Sergeant Timothy Louis Bowles of the United States Air Force while serving a tour of military duty in Afghanistan and to express to his family the deepest appreciation of a grateful community, state and nation for his life sacrifice and service.

“Whereas, The Santa Fe County Commission on behalf of all Santa Fe County residents acknowledge with deep appreciation the great sacrifice that SSgt Timothy L. Bowles, USAF made for the ideals of freedom and justice which are so richly enjoyed in this nation; and

“Whereas, SSgt Timothy L. Bowles, USAF stands high among those servicemen and women so honored by a grateful community, state and nation; and

“Whereas, as a committed serviceman and fourth generation of military service, SSgt Timothy L. Bowles was stationed at Elmendorf Air Force Base in Alaska and assigned to the 755<sup>th</sup> Air Expeditionary Group’s Nangarhar Provincial Reconstruction Team in Jalalabad, Afghanistan; and

“Whereas, on March 15, 2009, at the age of twenty-four, SSgt Timothy L. Bowles lost his life supporting Operation Enduring Freedom in Eastern Afghanistan; and

“Whereas, in the defense of freedom and protection of all citizens, SSgt Timothy L. Bowles left his beloved family; parents Louis and Lisa Bowles, his sister Heather Ketchmark, brother-in-law Daniel Ketchmark, nephews Jarrett and Samuel and niece Avery to serve our country and lay the foundation of peace for people everywhere; and

“Whereas, there is no greater or more courageous sacrifice a man can make than to lay down his life for a noble cause as SSgt Timothy L. Bowles has done for our Country.

“Now therefore, be it resolved by the Board of Santa Fe County Commissioners by this proclamation that we honor and remember the supreme sacrifice made by Staff Sergeant Timothy L. Bowles, USAF and with one voice offer our grateful thanks for the service and ultimate sacrifice of this heroic son of Louis and Lisa Bowles of Santa Fe County, and do hereby proclaim April 15, 2009 in honor of fallen hero.”

Commissioner Holian thanked Mr. and Mrs. Bowles for allowing Santa Fe County the

honor of paying tribute to their son, Timothy Bowles, Staff Sergeant United State Air Force and moved to approve the proclamation. Commissioner Vigil seconded and the motion passed by unanimous [5-0] voice vote.

Chairman Anaya introduced Colonel Pena from the New Mexico Army National Guard, Joseph Lucero director of constituent services at the New Mexico Department of Veterans Services, and the parents of Timothy Bowles, Lewis and Lisa Bowles.

Joe Lucero, director of constituent services at the New Mexico Department of Veterans Services, thanked the Commission for paying tribute to Timothy Bowles. On behalf of Governor Richardson, Secretary Garcia, and New Mexico 180,000 veterans, Mr. Lucero offered heartfelt condolences to the Bowles family. He said 56 New Mexicans have died in the war in Afghanistan and Iraq. The Patriot Guard Riders have been present to pay the final tribute to each of these 56 fallen heroes.

A video was presented in tribute to Timothy Bowles followed by bugler Orlando Garcia playing Taps.

Cruz Garcia, New Mexico Patriot Guard Riders, presented Mr. and Mrs. Bowles a plaque that read: "On behalf of a grateful America and the Patriot Guard Riders, please accept our sincere condolences on your tragic loss. May your pain be tempered by the knowledge that Staff Sergeant Timothy L. Bowles is a true American Hero."

## **B. A Proclamation To Honor The Life of Peter Garcia, ASD Director**

Chair Anaya introduced Mr. Garcia's family members and read the following proclamation in honor of Mr. Garcia:

"Whereas, Peter Concepcion Garcia, Jr. was born in Santa Fe, New Mexico on December 8, 1949 to Pete and Susie Garcia; and

"Whereas, Peter's siblings are Joe, Gina, Maria and Rose; and

"Whereas, Peter was an alumni of Santa Fe High School, participated on the basketball team and graduated in 1968; and

"Whereas, Peter graduated from the College of Santa Fe with a Bachelor's Degree in Business Administration, concentration in Finance and Accounting, in 1973; and

"Whereas, Peter was a Certified Government Financial Manager and member of the

Government Finance Officers Association (GFOA) and Association of Government Accountants (AGA); and

“Whereas, Peter worked for Santa Fe County from 1985-1995 as the Finance Director. During his tenure he provided vision, direction and focus to manage complex financial and administrative initiatives for Santa Fe County and most importantly, met a Santa Fe County colleague and future wife, Shellie; and

“Whereas, on February 16, 1996 Peter married the love of his life, Shellie Holmes and they raised three children; Gary, Dayna and Melody, all that he fathered with unconditional love and was the grandfather of nine grandchildren; and

“Whereas, over the next twelve years, Peter worked for the Santa Fe Public Schools, City of Santa Fe, McCurdy School and the School for the Deaf, all in high level financial positions before returning back to Santa Fe County in 2007; and

“Whereas, all who knew Peter enjoyed his keen sense of humor; and

“Whereas, among Peter’s hobbies, he loved to collect the McFarlane sports action figures and would talk your ear off about them to anyone who would listen; and

“Whereas, Peter was an avid sports fan, always dreaming of one day going to the Super Bowl, his favorite teams were the Los Angeles Lakers and the New England Patriots.

“Now therefore, be it resolved, by the Board of Santa Fe County Commissioners by this proclamation honor and remember Peter C. Garcia.”

Commissioner Stefanics said she knew Mr. Garcia for a short period of time but while working with him on the Low-Income Property Tax Rebate, it became apparent that his heart was for the people of Santa Fe County.

A video presentation was made and the family came forward to receive condolences from the Board.

[The Board recessed for 10 minutes]

**C. Presentation by National Dance Institute**  
*[Exhibit 1: NDI booklet]*

County Clerk Valerie Espinoza introduced Russell Baker, executive director for NDI.

Russell Baker introduced NDI Board Chair Cynthia Delgado and a parent of NDI students, Lynn McKelvey. Mr. Baker said this was NDI's 15<sup>th</sup> year bringing its program to New Mexico. Since inception nearly 48,000 children around the state have participated in an NDI program. While dance is the medium, the message is excellence.

A video was shown.

Mr. Baker said 6,100 students in 72 schools throughout the state will participate in this program. There are 1,500 students within 12 Santa Fe elementary schools that participate. He outlined NDI's teaching methodology and said the test scores of children involved in the NDI program are significantly better than others.

Mr. Baker mentioned the tremendous amount of resources necessary to provide this program and he thanked all those who have helped support NDI. This year NDI will provide \$1.7 million in services to the Santa Fe community.

Lynn McKelvey said her two children have danced with NDI and she discussed the importance of the program. NDI provided her children a foundational experience in being a part of the Santa Fe community. She said the performances were particularly moving and she encouraged the Commission to attend.

Cynthia Delgado, NDI chair, invited the Commission to attend an NDI event and read a couple of children's thoughts about NDI. The organization is focused on three values: excellence, belief in children and social responsibility.

Ms. Delgado thanked the public officials for their continued support.

**D. Santa Fe Children's Project Initiated by the United Way of Santa Fe County**

Commissioner Vigil said this project started as the Agua Fria Children's Zone and has evolved to the entire Santa Fe County. She introduced Katherine Freeman the program director.

Katherine Freeman said the program strives to provide a scaffolding of support to help children and families to be successful and to work on solving poverty. The Agua Fria Zone was borne from the concept and about a year ago DOH and the Maternal and Child

Health Division had the opportunity to apply from SAMHSA (Substance Abuse Mental Health Services Administration) that provided a system of child wellness and funding one local initiative that was already underway. Only six states were funded of which New Mexico was one. The funds had to flow through a local government organization and Santa Fe County agreed to do so.

Ms. Freeman said the hope of the program is to leverage change with all roads leading to literacy. She discussed New Mexico's Pre-K program and said they were working in partnership with the Santa Fe public schools. A recent study showed the tremendous value of pre-K for children. Santa Fe Children's Project provides an after school program that improves their academic performances.

Ms. Freeman said United Way is working with other state agencies and the Lt. Governor's office to create sustainable public funding for early childhood interventions. To date the primary funding source continues to be individual and corporate/workplace donors.

Ms. Freeman introduced United Way Board Chair Lucy Peterson and Board Treasurer Bill Moffet.

Commissioner Montoya asked whether the Agua Fria project would be initiated in Northern Santa Fe County and Ms. Freeman said they hoped to in the future.

Commissioner Vigil thanked Ms. Freeman for her efforts for Santa Fe County.

## **E. Employee of the Quarter**

Clerk Espinoza said she was honored to introduce Eric Barraza an invaluable employee especially during elections. Some of the comments mentioned about Eric during the nomination process for employee of the quarter were "professional, productive, generous, works long and grueling hours, never loses his cool, doesn't complain – ever, helpful, responsive, respectful, patient, intelligent, he has a good sense of humor, is kind, focused and a great friend."

Chair Anaya read the certificate of appreciation.

Eric Barraza received a round of applause and was presented a plaque.

Mr. Barraza thanked the Commissioners and Clerk Espinoza for the opportunity to serve Santa Fe County. He said he has enjoyed working for the County and thanked his co-workers for their support.

Commissioner Vigil said Mr. Barraza exemplifies the best of best that Santa Fe County offers. "We are really lucky to have you."

## **F. Recognition of Yvonne Sanchez Retirement**

In response to Chair Anaya's comment that Ms. Sanchez is too young to retire, Clerk Espinoza said she would come back and help with the voting machines.

Denise Lamb, Chief Deputy Clerk for Elections, said Yvonne Sanchez is her right hand when it comes to the Bureau of Elections. Ms. Lamb said Yvonne is multi-talented and has provided a variety of services for Santa Fe County over the years. She is regarded as one of the highest rated voting machine technicians in the State of New Mexico.

Ms. Lamb said she was counting on Ms. Sanchez to return to the Election Bureau and help during the elections.

Chair Anaya read a certification of appreciation and recognition of Ms. Sanchez' 25 years of dedicated service to Santa Fe County.

Ms. Sanchez received a stand ovation and was presented a plaque.

Ms. Sanchez thanked Santa Fe County for allowing her the privilege of working for them.

## **G. Recognition of Chaplin Jose Villegas for his years of Service as Chaplin to the Sheriff's Department**

Sheriff Greg Solano, Under Sheriff Robert Garcia, and Captain Riggs were present to honor Jose Villegas. Sheriff Solano presented Chaplin Villegas with an honorary badge and thanked him for all his services to the citizens of Santa Fe.

Chaplin Jose Villegas received a round of applause and thanked the County for the honor to serve them. He said the badge was very meaningful to him and recited a prayer.

## **H. Recognition of Sgt. Ben Encinias for 20 years of service**

Sheriff Solano said he was proud to honor Sgt. Ben Encinias who has decided not to retire this year. Sgt. Encinias serves as the Union president, SWAT commander and a shift



commander. Sheriff said he has been a pleasure to work with and he represents his constituents well. Sgt. Encinias is respectful of the citizens and provides tremendous knowledge and expertise.

Sheriff Solano presented Sgt. Encinias a plaque and he received a round of applause.

Sgt. Encinias thanked his fellow deputies for their support and watching his back.

Chair Anaya thanked Sgt. Encinias for his service.

**I. Recognition of Gigi Gonzales and Naomi Salazar for their efforts in promoting “Wellness” and making sure that Santa Fe County Employees are receiving valid information and motivational tools for living a healthier lifestyle**

Commissioner Stefanics read the certificate as follows:

“Certificate of appreciation, the Santa Fe County Board of County Commissioners, hereby acknowledges Naomi Salazar and Giselle “Gigi” Gonzales for your efforts in promoting “Wellness” and making sure that Santa Fe County Employees are receiving valid information and motivational tools for living a healthier lifestyle. The citizens of Santa Fe County and Board of County Commissioners extend sincere gratitude to your time and commitment.”

Commissioner Stefanics said she greatly appreciated the commitment these staff members have made.

Naomi Salazar accepted the plaques and thanked the Commission for this recognition. She thanked Bernadette Salazar for the opportunity to work on this project.

**J. Nate Downey & Greg Nussbaum to Discuss Education Related To Food Security And Small Family Farms**

Commissioner Holian said Camino de Paz is the school she would have gone to had she a choice as a child. She said she was honored to present the student of this school that teaches life skills.

Rachel Ortiz, Sarah Gonzales and Sarab Saraswati Kaur Khalsa discussed the importance of the biodynamic 10-acre farm that the school children tends. The farm products

are used at the school and sold at the Santa Fe Farmers Market. The students discussed the virgin forest that had once covered New Mexico, over-grazing, and pesticides that depleted the virgin forest. The students discussed the pollution in the river, loss of wildlife, loss of agricultural production, and loss of farmland.

The students developed a list of ideas to help save the world: virgin forest management policy, protect the grass lands, support wildlife growth, limit human population growth, encourage organic farming near water sources, stop mono-cropping, and work harder to protect farm land from being developed. The students stated it was economically plausible to produce quantities of food equal to our consumption and create jobs in agriculture.

Greg Nussbaum, Camino de Paz Farm Director, thanked the Commission for inviting them. He said the students come here with hope for the future. He invited the Commission to visit the farm and share a breakfast together. He discussed a paradigm shift and asked the County to look for opportunities to think out of the box. He discussed the unsustainability of the current paradigm in farming.

Mr. Nussbaum said the farm is located in Santa Cruz between Chimayo and Española where the Santa Cruz River is bordered by BLM land. If BLM vacated their land and the houses were moved from the river, and with farm management practices, Santa Fe County could go from having its current 9 day food supply to 27 days of food supply. He said there is hope and potential for reversing the trends.

Mr. Nussbaum said the farm school has had a rezoning application on file with the County for over five years. He asked that the County reconsider and approve the rezoning request.

Nat Downey, Camino de Paz Board member, said the students of the school are doing unique and important work.

### **M Recognition of Ana Pacheco for her years of service publishing *La Herencia* and the continuing articles about the elderly**

Commissioner Stefanics said the presentation was made at the last presentation meeting in Ana Pacheco's absence. She read the certificate of appreciation to Ms. Pacheco for publishing articles about the community elders and community traditions through *La Herencia* and the *Santa Fe New Mexican*. The citizens of Santa Fe County and the Board of Commissioners extend sincere gratitude for the time and commitment to preserve Hispanic culture, history and language.

Ana Pacheco thanked the Commission for this recognition. She mentioned that she met Commissioner Stefanics through Open Hands and they share an appreciation for our

elderly community. Ms. Pacheco said she was grateful to honor the elderly.

Ms. Pacheco said Santa Fe has a very rich heritage that she is very grateful to be part of.

### **Update - College of Santa Fe**

Commissioner Vigil said the College of Santa Fe is a critical issue in our community and she recognized Mayor David Coss who is serving on the Governor's College of Santa Fe Task Force along with Commissioner Stefanics.

Mayor Dave Coss said the City Council has passed a resolution recognizing the college as critical cultural, educational and economic institution for the community that should be saved. He said he was disappointed that the legislature did not act to save the institute.

The task force is promoting a partnership between the City, County and State to develop finance and curriculum directives. He hopes the school will continue with a focus on the arts. At this point, financing options are under consideration. The Mayor spoke confidently about keeping the college open stating, "If we can do the Buckman Direct Diversion project, we can do anything."

### **K. Santa Fe 400<sup>th</sup> anniversary Presentation by Maurice Bonal and Libby Dover**

Commissioner Vigil said she was proud to introduce the presenters who have been working very hard on this critical event in the community.

Maurice Bonal said the City Council has been very supportive of the 400<sup>th</sup> anniversary activities for Santa Fe. The event has garnered \$400,000 from the legislative session for the commemoration and \$122,000 from another bill as well as approval to issue a special license plate.

Mr. Bonal said the City has already contributed \$1.1 million.

Speaking about the College of Santa Fe, Mr. Bonal said as a native Santa Fean he graduated from the College of Santa Fe, in fact, most of the state government leaders are graduates of the College of Santa Fe. He said it would be devastating for Santa Fe to lose a four-year college program.

Mr. Bonal said the 400<sup>th</sup> anniversary group has worked throughout the community and country to gain funding for the events. They have a 21-member board with policies developed over the years. He said the founding date has been an interesting dialogue with the

many historians on the board. The event commemorates the founding period to the present and will serve to brand Santa Fe nationally.

Mr. Bonal remarked on the fact that it all started in Santa Fe with the Spaniards here in 1540, years prior to Jamestown and he sees the 400<sup>th</sup> anniversary as an opportunity to educate ourselves, the nation and the world about Santa Fe.

Mr. Bonal said in these economic times it is very difficult to raise money and sell an anniversary product. He said he accepted the chairmanship of the project with two provisos that it would be built like a business not a non-profit and with the All Indian Public Council participation. The AIPC has endorsed the event with the following conditions: 1) allow the Native Americans to continue their annual run from Tesuque with the City serving as the co-sponsor; 2) the Native American community will develop and produce their own documentary on the founding of the area; 3) eliminate all reference to “celebrate” and instead use the term “commemorate”; and 4) the commemoration will be conducted with dignity and respect for the Native American community.

Mr. Bonal said they hired the New York PR group that developed the Jamestown celebration and a Los Angeles based group that does large fund raising events.

Mr. Bonal thanked Commissioner Vigil for the contribution she made from her discretionary funds account.

Libby Dover, executive director of the 400<sup>th</sup> anniversary event, reviewed the “newly created legacy event.” She said it was important that this event not compete with the already robust calendar that Santa Fe has. What the program will do is develop community partnerships to brand and market under the umbrella of the 400 all of the events and organizations that already exist in Santa Fe. She said the marketing will occur on a national scale. The commemoration will continue through 2010 because the history and education task forces decided 1609 would be recognized as the year Peralta received instructions to establish Santa Fe and 1610 when the papers were officially filed in Mexico City. The marketing will focus on Santa Fe as the oldest capital city in the US. She reviewed a calendar of events starting September 5, 2009. Starting mid-summer, the City will be promoting the anniversary to create a collective conscious about the events. A marketing initiative is underway and she mentioned a list of dignitaries invited to the events.

Ms. Dover said education is very important and will include a webcast for kids. She said the website will be finished later this month and is called [santafe400th.com](http://santafe400th.com)

Chair Anaya thanked the City for their presentation.

**K. Update regarding the Santa Fe Regional Juvenile Justice Board by Judge Barbara Vigil and Jack Ortega**

Judge Barbara Vigil, 1<sup>st</sup> Judicial District Children's Court, said her district includes three counties and she was present to speak on the future of the juvenile detention center. She said the Santa Fe Regional Juvenile Justice Board has been in existence for nine years and comprised of committed individuals within government, law enforcement, education, courts, treatment providers, parents and the business community. This board works to strategize the best approach in dealing with "our toughest kids in Northern New Mexico."

Tommy Rodriguez, 1<sup>st</sup> Judicial District Chief Juvenile Probation Officer, introduced Jack Ortega from the Juvenile Justice Advisory Board, County Sheriff Joe McLaughlin, Santa Fe Policeman Jason Wagner, and Annabelle Romero from the detention center.

Mr. Rodriguez said he was here to advocate support of the Juvenile Detention Center. The facility is one of the best in the state and has become a partner in juvenile justice issues. The facility has expanded to include day reporting and will be used as a drop-off center.

Speaking with 15 years of experience in the field, Mr. Rodriguez said Santa Fe's juvenile center is professional, compassionate, considerate and respectful of the youth in the facility. He discussed the importance of keeping the facility open noting without it children will be detained far from their homes at a very critical time in their lives.

Over the year, the facility has housed children from Tarrant, Colfax, Lincoln and San Miguel counties.

Providing the law enforcement perspective, Judge Vigil said the facility will provide a location for officers to drop off youth while the parent is being located.

Tommy Rodriguez said the drop off center will provide tremendous assistance and relief to the police. He said if a juvenile is picked up for a delinquent act or crime, if the child has not reached the threshold for detention, law enforcement is required to find a parent. This procedure takes the officer off the street. The creation of a new drop-off center will enable the police to drop the child off and be cared for until the parent arrives.

Commissioner Vigil recognized Alice Sealey, Judge Vigil and the law enforcement for their fine service to the community. She noted that the BCC enacted a resolution in support of HR 1064, the youth promise act, a congressional bill that focuses on the reduction of youth in prison.

Commissioner Vigil apologized for her early departure and excused herself from the remainder of the meeting.

Officer Wagner said the drop-off center is a tremendous asset to law enforcement. He

said he was surprised to learn there was a discussion about closing the juvenile facility. When it comes to law enforcement the conversation should always be on expanding rather than reducing services.

Chair Anaya said at this point the facility is costing the taxpayers \$2 million annually. He said the County does not want to close the facility but wants to make it a viable program that can break even. He agreed with the Mr. Rodriguez that it was very important to keep the children near their families.

Judge Vigil recommended that Santa Fe County develop contracts with other counties to house youth in their facility. She said the facility is a “jewel” and should be developed to its full potential. She mentioned combining the facility with the ARC, which was a 12-bed residential treatment facility, operated by the County for federally confided youth.

Annabelle Romero thanked the Commission for their continued support of the corrections department. She said the staffing has been reduced by 50 percent because the number of children decreased. The entire facility is now licensed as a detention center. The beds are filled to capacity in the section that is open. She said she was interested in redeveloping the ARC and looks forward to a collaborative group developing ideas. Meetings are ongoing with the Eight Northern Pueblos and she will be meeting with the State Secretary of Indian Affairs to develop a program sensitive in serving the needs of Native American children. She thanked Manager Abeyta for his continued support.

Commissioner Montoya thanked the speakers for their services. He agreed that the ARC should be utilized.

- N. Recognition of Anthony Roybal of Los Amigos Weatherization Assistance Program who for more than 25 years has weatherized homes, provided fuel wood, improved indoor air quality through carbon monoxide testing, heating installation and repair, ramp and grab bar installation for the handicapped, and roof repairs to the elderly, low-income, disabled and disadvantaged through Northern New Mexico**

Commissioner Stefanics said Anthony Roybal has taken care of northern New Mexico’s elders and been tremendously valuable for the community.

Mr. Roybal received a round of applause, a plaque was presented and photos were taken.

Chair Anaya apologized that the agenda could not be completed and asked the manager to reschedule the remaining items to another agenda.

**X. ADJOURNMENT**

Commission, Chairman Anaya declared this meeting adjourned at 12:15 p.m.

Approved by:

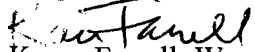
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Board of County Commissioners  
Mike Anaya, Chairman

ATTEST TO:

VALERIE ESPINOZA  
SANTA FE COUNTY CLERK

Respectfully submitted:

  
Karen Farrell, Wordswork  
227 E. Palace Avenue  
Santa Fe, NM 87501