

# **Road Advisory Minutes**

## **January 13, 2010**

**Members Present:** Chairman Ed Benrock Chairperson, Gail West, Mark Murdock, Chris Mayrant, Paul Montoya, Edward Medina, Barbara Jeffe, Linda McThoy, Anne Probst, Bennie G. Gomez, Paul White, Thomas Pogue, Ivan Pato

**Staff Present:** James Martinez, Robert Martinez, Lorina A. Sanchez,

**Residents Present:** None

### **Item One- Meeting called to order at 6:05 PM**

**Item Two- Roll Call-** Chairman Ed Benrock Chairperson passed around the sign in sheet, agenda, and minutes. Roll call and introductions were done.

**Item Three- Election of Chairperson and Vice Chairperson,** Ed Benrock Chairperson, stated his interest in serving as Chairperson for the next year, no one stated interest to serve at this time. Barbara motioned to cease the nominations and Chris Mayrant seconds the motion. The vote was put forth and the I's agreed for Ed to serve another year and it is so passed that Ed Benrock is the Chairperson for the current year of 2010. For the election of the Vice-Chairperson, Paul White Vice Chairperson stated his interest to serve. After Robert checks the bi-laws to see if an alternate can serve as Chair or Vice Chair and found nothing excluding alternates and a vote was taken and the I's agreed for Paul to serve as the co-chairperson and it is so passed.

**Item Four- Approval of Agenda,** Motion to approve the agenda by Ivan Pato and Paul Montoya seconds the motion.

**Item Five- Approval of Minutes,** Concerning the last minutes from the August 12<sup>th</sup>, 2009 meeting, Ed Benrock Chairperson would like a correction points out a correction needing to remove the title of co-chair to John Romero. A motion to approve the remaining August 12<sup>th</sup> minutes with the correction is made by Ivan Pato and Tom Pogue seconds the motion.

### **Item Six- Introductions,**

**Ed Benrock Chairperson-** Done during Roll Call and would like to introduce one guest he has, Marianne.

### **Item Seven- Matters from the Commission,**

**Robert Martinez-** the Commission is looking at all the committees and advisory groups to possibly streamline or consolidate duties. The road advisory committee is one being looked to possible reduce the number of times they meet. An issue is the cost that goes into every meeting and the official minutes now being required to be recorded at the County Clerks and a lot of other things that have been brought to our attention that all

committees need to adhere to so they are looking at possibly cutting back on some committees.

*Member-* Is it possible to meet quarterly?

*Robert-* That is one of the topics we will be discussing tonight during “Matters from Staff”. We will discuss what the major objectives are for this committee and recommended meeting frequency.

#### **Item Eight- Matters from the Public, None**

#### **Item Nine- Old Business,**

- **Report from Subcommittee on Road Advisory Manual**

*Ed Benrock Chairperson-* John Romero is spearheading the Road Advisory manual and couldn't attend tonight for personal reasons. We will have to carry it over. Has everyone had the opportunity to look at the draft of the Road Advisory Handbook?

*Robert Martinez-* Would like to suggest that even though the manual hasn't been adopted by the board, I would like to see that the new members get one to look at to get background information and help catch them up to speed sooner now than later when this get adopted.

*Ed Benrock Chairperson-* If you have any input in regards to the handbook, please email me or Robert so they can add it and review it in the Road Advisory handbook. It has been hanging for a long period of time and would like to get it done as soon as we can.

I wanted to mention that I was told by my book keeper that Road Advisory Members can deduct the mileage form your income tax.

#### **Item Ten- New Business,**

- **Report from Members on Road Conditions in their Respective Areas:**

##### **Area 1 Member-**

*Manny Chavez,* Not Present

##### **Area 1 Alternate-**

*Edward L. Medina,* I run the satellite office in Pojoaque, I would like to commend the Public Works Department on their response we have received on some of our requests. I would especially like to thank Robert and James Martinez. I have received a number of calls from our constituents stating they appreciate it. This felt good to hear this. Is there some way we could document that and submit it to Public Works department? We appreciate your staff in working so hard.

*Robert Martinez-* Thank you Edward and we'll make sure that the employees get that message.

##### **Area 2 Member-**

*Bennie G. Gomez,* I would also like to commend the county on some pot holes that were fixed. That was great. On CR84K, Camino Iglesia, we had floods where the graders came in and took mud and dirt off to the sides about one foot high. There was a time when we could get two cars through and now we can only get one. Can we get that cleared up?

CR101D, on the right hand side just as you enter the cattle guard, that's inside of the cattle guard, this entrance is being used for a parking lot. When it gets really muddy it gets torn up. I have been asked by constituents if we can get a truck load of sand or something to mix with the gravel to the level of the road to keep it from biting into that entrance inside the cattle guard. I see them working on 84, the bridge, the low water crossing.

**Robert Martinez-** The low water crossing should be done at the end of February.

## **Area 2 Alternate- Vacant**

### **Area 3 Member-**

**Barbara Jeffe,** Everything is silent, which is good. I think the weather has no one expecting that anything can be done, except for the snow plowing, which has been done. Thank you very much, that is a huge help.

**Robert Martinez-** Well this is starting out to be a good year.

### **Area 3 Alternate-**

**Katy Glenn,** Not Present

## **Area 4 Member- Vacant**

### **Area 4 Alternate-**

**Paul White Vice Chairperson,** CR72D, Griego Hill, needs grading. CR72B, needs grading. CR72H is snow packed and needs sand and salt. CR72A, the Tesuque Canyon RD, the bridge needs the top boards/ runners. It is also snow packed and residents have requested sand and salt.

**Robert Martinez-** We have those runners, right?

**James Martinez-** Yes.

**Robert Martinez-** Ok.

**Paul White Vice Chairperson-** CR78, the end of the road has a culvert that is crushed. A resident requested that paving be done there for a couple of feet in that corner because every time it rains it washes out into the road. CR78B which was recently paved, I got a lot of angry calls from residents about that and they were upset mostly because they didn't know it was going to be paved.

**James Martinez-** We met with them the day before we paved.

**Robert Martinez-** No, but even before then, it had been in our County Projects list that was online. After the fact they were all pretty happy.

**Paul White Vice Chairperson-** Residents were mad at me.

**Robert Martinez-** They were mad at all of us.

**Paul White Vice Chairperson-** I guess there's more work to be done on that road.

**Robert Martinez-** What else needs to be done on that?

**James Martinez-** We need to extend that one culvert and put some concrete blankets up.

**Paul White Vice Chairperson-** One resident was really concerned because at one point it's really steep coming up from the arroyo and in every snow event the county will be sanding that.

**James Martinez-** We didn't do any alterations to the road, we just paved what was there, but pavement does make it slippery.

**Paul White Vice Chairperson-** It looks like a good job. I had a request from CR73 and they wanted to reduce the speed limit and they wanted to know who to talk to about it.

**Robert Martinez-** Me.

**Paul White Vice Chairperson-** They also suggested speed bumps. There is a culvert across from the Stedman's; I didn't get the exact mileage. I just got this shortly before I left.

**Robert Martinez-** Just give them the number 992-3010 and they can ask for me or they can send me an email.

**Paul White Vice Chairperson-** On CR78, one of the residents asked when the county does bar ditch work, and the bar ditches are going to need to be cleaned at some point, that with the extra dirt they pull that they put it into Pajarito Azul, which isn't a county road, but that was a request. I was under the impression from emails going back and forth, that I was the member instead of the alternate. Commissioner Harry Montoya was involved in the discussion.

**Robert Martinez-** No.

**Paul White Vice Chairperson-** What is the process for that?

**Robert Martinez-** It would have to go to the board and get you appointed. But right now they are not dealing with any appointments or re-appointments.

**Paul White Vice Chairperson-** OK.

#### **Area 5 Member-**

**Andrew Griego,** Not Present

#### **Area 5 Alternate-**

**Garry Onstott,** Not Present

#### **Area 6 Member-**

**Thomas Pogue,** I don't have anything specific. I did however request a map for my area.

**Robert Martinez-** After the meeting I'll get with you, I've got them here.

**Thomas Pogue-** CR58, by the cattle guard as you come under the interstate, there is a big pile of rocks that I keep getting questions about on the west side of the cattle guard.

**James Martinez-** Rocks that come off the hill side?

**Robert Martinez-** No a stock pile that was left there.

**Thomas Pogue-** I don't know if people just got rid of their rocks or whether the people who are going to do some work in that nature/conservation area may have brought them in for that purpose.

**Robert Martinez-** That could be it.

**Thomas Pogue-** That road is really hard to maintain because the potholes keep coming back on the west side of cattle guard.

**Robert Martinez-** During the wintertime we just use cold mix.

**Thomas Pogue-** That's all for now and once I'll get my map I'll probably have all sorts of complaints.

**Area 6 Alternate- Vacant,**

**Area 7 Member-**

**Ivan Pato,** I would like to complaint the staff for having done a real good job of maintaining the roads, most of which are in the Rancho Viejo area. There is a great deal of concern about the Elementary School coming in. I want to compliment you for responding to my inquiries so quickly. I think you'll find that some community members may want to look at why the roundabout type design at two of the different entrances that are being planned for the school. Why were they designed in such a way, because they appear to have difficulty navigating roundabouts in general? Especially the ones on Richards, they always seem to create a lot of confusion, especially when the Catholic services let out or the College. I think it's a matter of just of educating the public which is a difficult thing to do. So the question might come up as to why the County opt for a roundabout style design for the entrances and exits to the school where they receive traffic that can be heavy at times. I didn't have an answer but I was involved in the design process. I think we can expect to see that question coming.

**Robert Martinez-** I believe Johnny Baca got with you on the process that was under taken for that.

**Ivan Pato-** Yes and I was complimenting his quick response. I don't know that that will satisfy the curiosity of some of the people I know in the community, especially those who travel that road frequently. But we'll see.

**Robert Martinez-** Well and the thing is, it's either round abouts, a stop condition or traffic signal. Roundabouts also allow free flowing traffic as opposed to a stop condition or a traffic light.

**Ivan Pato-** I agree and understand that and I just want to tell you that in the minds of certain people that are firmly for a speed hump. I just want you be aware for the fact, that it is something that as they see the school approaching completion, they get a little sore about it because it will have significant traffic on that road. Other than that everything looks great.

**Area 7 Alternate- Vacant,**

**Area 8 Member-**

**Richard Sena,** Not Present

**Area 8 Alternate-**

**Anne Probst,** I have no issues to report at this time.

**Area 9 Member-**

*Paul Montoya*, No complaints.

**Area 9 Alternate-**

*Richard Weinberg*, Not Present

**Area 10 Member- Vacant**

**Area 10 Alternate- Vacant**

**Area 11 Member-**

*Ed Benrock Chairperson*, I had a couple of things that were emailed to me tonight. Fonda Road could use grading and pot holes are developing. Reno and Monterey were graded. Appreciate the grading at Monterey; however Reno and most of the dirt roads that intersect with the asphalt have some deep holes where the dirt meets the pavement. Evidentially they are cutting across or whatever, which the county didn't fill it. It says it's required to take gravel. Some of the holes in the area are pretty good size and they are concerned about the damage they'll cause on the cars. (Ed handed the email to Robert which was handed to James Martinez)

**Area 11 Alternate-**

*Frank Schober*, Not Present

**Area 12 Member-**

*Linda McThoy*, I just have a question. Am I the only one who is terrified to come out of the shopping center, off of Vista Grande? It seems to me that it is really hard to get onto the traffic because of the traffic and the visibility. The stop sign seems to be set way in and things come around the corner really fast and there's more traffic now. Can anything be done about that?

**Robert Martinez-** Which entrance is it? Is that the most eastern entrance to the Agora? Is it further by the bank or is it closer towards 285?

**Linda McThoy-** The one closer to 285, not by the bank.

**Ed Benrock Chairperson-** That right by an island?

**James Martinez-** It's the one right across from Caliente.

**Linda McThoy-** Yes.

**Ed Benrock Chairperson-** I haven't had anybody report on that, but I'm happy to hear that.

**Linda McThoy-** I'm not happy driving that. Everything seems to be ok on area 12, a few pot holes here and there, nothing serious. I have a question, who cleans up the cattle guards?

**Robert Martinez-** Which cattle guard? The one that's just south of the under pass of the interstate, that belongs to the state. All the others on Ojo De La Baca, are ours. So that would be us who clean them.

**Linda McThoy-** One is almost filled to the top on CR51.

#### **Area 12 Alternate-**

**Mark Murdock,** I would like to thank the work done on CR51 that had base course put down about a year to a year and a half ago. It has made a tremendous difference.

#### **Area 13 Member- Vacant,**

#### **Area 13 Alternate- Vacant,**

#### **Area 14 Member-**

**John Romero,** Not Present

#### **Area 14 Alternate-**

**Jason Shepherd,** Not Present

#### **Area 15 Member-**

**Chris Mayrant,** Over the holidays I was able to drive over most of the roads out there. As you know they are mostly dirt. In general they are in good shape. Thank you for having them in good shape. CR10A, recently someone took a shotgun to some of the signs out there and we could use a couple of new signs.

#### **Area 15 Alternate-**

**Gail West,** CR21 still has no road sign, which is also known as Rambo Del Caballo and people are missing there road.

**Robert Martinez-** Are you talking about the street name is missing or the number?

**Gail West-** The number, and so it's confusing because it's one name to the south and a different name to the north. 911 Addressing said there was supposed to be a sign put out

there quite awhile back but there is still not one, so people are having a hard time finding that.

**Robert Martinez-** Did you guys recently name the road?

**Gail West-** I don't know when they named it.

**Robert Martinez-** We'll get the sign.

**Gail West-** Then on the cattle guard, one of the residents that lives further north on CR21, said their tire was ruined, there is quite a bit of metal on the cattle guard is coming up. It's the cattle guard that intersects Rambo Del Caballo and Simmons. Can we get a culvert off from Simmons to the county road? It a curve that took so much damage from the last storm, and has so many deep ruts that when they graded it the ruts are still there. Where all the residents turn on, it gathers water after the rain and the mail boxes have been wiped out. Some of the residents are having trouble getting up there because it holds water. It runs off of the Rambo Del Caballo and Calle Torreon, both drain unto Simmons. There is about an 8 inch to 12 inch step up either way.

**James Martinez-** I think there is no way that the water can go out. It is the lower part of the road and the bottom side is higher than the actual road.

**Gail West-** Yes, it's bad. My neighbor wanted to say that they had a roll over on Simmons. The part from 344 east, those first six mile are treacherous when it wet and they were asking if there was base course. They totaled their car and it is sideways on that road. The base of Simmons, the last six miles going east is pretty good. The portion going west has ruts. The road is getting used a lot, it parallels 472. It's the cut of going to 41 or 14. They had their accident during the last snow storm out there.

**Robert Martinez-** They had their accident while the road was covered with snow?

**Gail West-** It was wet and sloppy. It was right past the second cattle guard coming from 44.

**Robert Martinez-** Those of you that new members, we depend on the legislature for funding for road project, so for me to say that we have a million dollars in our slush fund or a rainy day fund that we can go do it, there is no such thing as a rainy day fund or a slush fund. Commissioner Anaya has requested a million dollars for various road improvements in the Stanley and Edgewood area, so it's possible if any money is funded by the legislature, that it could be used on that road. Unfortunately, I'm not very optimistic that much will be appropriated through the Legislature because of their economic situation. We will make sure that the road gets graded and at least the ruts are taken out.

**Gail West-** I talked to Kings Butane that delivers out there and they stated that the one portion of Simmons is becoming the most treacherous because its picked up so much traffic.

**Robert Martinez-** The majority of the time, it's because people are traveling at a speed higher than what they should on the road. Ed, you wanted to go back to Mark?



- **Status on construction projects,**

**Road Project Status Report-**

**Robert Martinez-** These projects were done by either contractors or county crew.

**CR42-** This is the road in between Galisteo and Cerrillos, the last two and half miles was paved and we had a ribbon cutting about three weeks ago. It was a big mile stone getting that road paved all the way through. I don't know if any of you were on the Road Advisory committee when Bill Good was on the Road Advisory committee for area 10 in the Cerrillos and back then Robert Anaya was the member on the Galisteo side. We started requesting funding back in 1996, 1997 and we had to pave this road in four different phases based on funding availability. It is completely paved all the way through, it is a nice road.

**Aqua Fria Phase III-** In between San Isidro Crossing and the city limits, we just completed the archaeological mitigation work that we are required to do. They are looking at going to construction around the first part of April which will include; sanitary sewer, water line, storm drain, curb and gutter and asphalt paving. This project should be done by October 2010.

**CR84G-** Completed

**CR78B-** Cancelled, we had originally thought on going further but because of NMED concerns, environmental concerns we had to cut back the paving a certain distance.

**CR72D-** The same thing with this road, NMED had issues with paving in the arroyo, so this project was cancelled.

**CR67G Ravens Ridge-**We had originally planned on paving that  $\frac{3}{4}$  of a mile, unfortunately we lost \$90,000.00 of the \$100,000.00 that was appropriated by the Legislature so we only spent less than \$10,000.00. We were able to install culverts and place millings down as a base but until we get additional funding, we won't be able to pave that road.

**Barbara Jeffe-** The report says that the funding was redirected. Where does it go?

**Robert Martinez-** What happened is the State of New Mexico, all these service tax agreements that we get for projects that are appropriated by the Legislature, what happened was any funds that we haven't encumbered, even though we had an agreement with the DOT and State of New Mexico, if that funding source was not encumbered by such and such a date we lost that money. Unfortunately they didn't say, ok you have thirty days to encumber, they just said, as of today if that money isn't encumbered we are going to take back that funding to help offset the states deficit. So it isn't that we used it for another project, the state took that money back.

**Road Department Status Report:**

**Robert Martinez-** These projects were done by Road Maintenance.

**CR91-** Placed milling down. We were fortunate enough to get millings that were donated to the county by NMDOT, they were milling 84- 285 so they gave us millings and we placed them on CR91 and on CR88D.

**CR88 Concrete Crossing-** Advantage Asphalt was hired to do this project. It is a continuation of the existing low water crossing through the Tesuque River and should be done by the end of February, weather permitting.

**Mutt Nelson Road-** We are looking at building up that roadway with either millings or base course and possible chip sealing or paving it if we can get additional funding.

**Paseo De Angel-** This is in the La Cienega area just behind the race track. There is the arroyo where they have a low water crossing and we are constructing an all weather crossing similar to what we did on Sloman Lane.

**Road Blading in El Dorado Subdivision-** We are going to start this up. We have some operators in construction, and since we don't have more funding for new projects, that will be part of crew that will be putting together in El Dorado for quite a few months to help shape up all the roads.

**Minosa Rd.-** We are going to be widening this road off of Vista Grande and install a culvert at Minosa Court.

**Culvert on Lynch Trail-** This is down South, we will be installing a culvert to prevent ponding at the intersection.

**Gabion on Estrada Redonda/ Vuelta Rosal-** In the La Tierra subdivision.

**Estrada Calabaza-** Raise the culvert.

That is what we have planned here for the near future.

### **Item Eleven- Matters from the Members,**

**Ed Benrock Chairperson-** We will be discussing the frequency of our meetings. Whether we want to have it still monthly, bi-monthly, quarterly, or whatever but do the members have anything they want to bring up at this time?

**Paul White-** I have been approached by two or three people who are concerned about the road up above CR76, the forest road beyond the county maintenance. They were wondering if the county and the forest can work something out to grade that.

**Robert Martinez-** My response would be, no, we have gone through a number of cuts here this year to eliminate more dire measures to make our budget balanced. We are avoiding layoffs and furloughs like the City and the State have had to do, our fuel budget has been cut, our overtime budget has been cut, our maintenance budget for repairing the graders and all other equipment has been cut so at this time, I don't think it would be in the best interest of the county to take on additional roads with all these cuts that we enduring.

**Ed Benrock Chairperson-** Driver Feedback signs?

**Robert Martinez-** Yes, for those of you who don't know what these are, these are those signs that flash back at you. Its radar and it tells you what you are traveling at. There are some trailer mounted ones and some that are permanently mounted ones on post.

**Ed Benrock Chairperson-** I believe that the Sheriff's Department has one or two? And the Public Works Department has one or two?

**Robert Martinez-** Correct.

**Ed Benrock Chairperson-** We have speeders in El Dorado and we haven't seen one in quite awhile. We were wondering if it would be possible to place one in Amistad and through the main El Dorado Road.

**Robert Martinez-** On Amistad, we have post mounted so we can mount the driver feedback sign in lieu of using the trailer mount. Yes we can schedule that on Amistad and El Dorado.

**Ed Benrock Chairperson-** Does anyone else have problems on one of their roads so far as speeders are concerned?

**All Members-** Yes

**Robert Martinez-** What kind of question is that Ed?

**Ed Benrock Chairperson-** Oh I shouldn't have asked that. I think we all have them and well logically if they have paved road and they are speeding and I would suggest contacting Roberts Department in regard to that.

**Robert Martinez-** And also contact the Sheriff's Department because we post the speed limit but that's all we can do, but it is up to the Sheriff's Department to enforce it. Unfortunately, their understaffed just like any other department in the county.

**Paul White-** But the signs, for example for the people that were complaining about the speeder on CR73, perhaps instead of lower speed limit if they have signs like that, it may help.

**Robert Martinez-** Right, we don't leave them there permanently, we rotate them throughout the county. I believe the Sheriffs' Department has two trailers, I think we have one, and then we have two units that are mounted on posts.

**Paul White-** Is there a chance of getting it over there, is there a rotation schedule?

**Robert Martinez-** There is a rotation schedule but if someone brings something up to our attention, we will throw it into the schedule.

**Anne Probst-** It is about the speeders on Calle Enrique, we had talked about speed humps and on another note we had also requested those business cards and I'm getting ready to go to an association meeting and would like to be able to hand some of those out to get more feedback. Do you know what the status is?

**Robert Martinez-** I'm not sure where we are on the cards, Lorina will be able to comment on that. To address the issue about speed humps, we do have a traffic calming policy that provides the installation of speed humps. The problem is that for the last four years we have not had a budget for speed humps. It calls for a petition and you have to get so many signatures, especially from the people that above the road that are more so affected by the speed humps. You just can't put speed humps; you have to put signs to warn the motorists of the speed humps. At this time there is no budget for the speed humps for traffic calming policy.

**Lorina A. Sanchez-** I believe that John Romero was working on the business cards and he was going to have members meet with you, Ed, at the last meeting to give you their information and gather that for him.

**Ed Benrock Chairperson-** Yes he was, anyone need business cards, contact me at the end of the meeting. I have a signup sheet and then I'll get the cards for you. John Romero is responsible for making up the cards.

**Robert Martinez-** Can we just do it through email, everyone that needs business cards, just email Lorina, she emails all of the notices, just email her with your information and we'll put it together.

**Member-** What information do you need? Do you need our email?

**Robert Martinez-** It says your name, what area you represent, which we know; it gives a phone number and an email address. I think that the main thing we would need from you is contact numbers.

**Ed Benrock Chairperson-** Your department will be doing this, correct?

**Robert Martinez-** Yes, John hasn't been here for quite some time, so we will do it this time around. Just email Lorina.

**Member-** We should have from our last meeting or are we going to have to do this again?

**Ed Benrock Chairperson-** I gave the notes to John.

**Robert Martinez-** Well John isn't here and John is the one who got that information. All it is, is your name and contact numbers.

**Member-** On that note, I was looking at the county website and there is a real nice link to report road problems. It does have a list of the areas but maybe we could put our contact information linked to our areas.

**Robert Martinez-** That information is old, it needs to be updated. We are working with somebody that was working on our website and he is no longer here and when we get to that person who is going to be in charge of it, we will make sure to update that information and address that.

**Member-** Getting back to discussing the number of meetings for this group, who determines that?

**Robert Martinez-** It would be the Board of County Commissioners.

**Member-** Where do they stand now?

**Robert Martinez-** They haven't made any comment about it. They are looking at all the committees as a whole. I was asked by the person who is doing the investigative work for the committees, to see what our thoughts were on meeting frequency. The commission hasn't been approached with the Road Advisory committee as of yet, My intent is to get some comments from you prior to the commission having to consider it, so I can provide them with the comments that the committee has expressed.

**Member-** I just wanted to follow up on that. I think you also mentioned that they were talking of reducing committees, is that a possibility with this committee and them phasing out this committee?

**Robert Martinez-** I don't know, they haven't discussed the Road Advisory committee specifically. What they did was they cleaned up a bunch of committees that had already fulfilled their purpose. Like a task force, they had a specific duty to perform and they were left on the books. Like for example, a committee that was formed in the 80's to come up with some recommendations, so they were cleaning house and removing all these meetings that were no longer meeting or some committees that were on the books that members were never appointed. They are just doing some house work now but eventually, they are going to look at all committees to see how to streamline them.

**Member-** I do think it is important that we do evaluate how many times we do meet a year because I just received an email from the commissioner in our area stating that if you're not going to go to the meetings, step down from the committee.

**Ed Benrock Chairperson-** That's a good way to dissolve this committee, is not to attend the meetings. We haven't had meeting since August and the commissioners will be looking at this and saying, well their not interested so why have the committee. I feel that this is a very important committee to the County of Santa Fe. We are the eyes and ears of the Public Works Department here in Santa Fe; I think we play a vital role in the overall makeup of the different committees in the county. I spoke to my commissioner in regards to it but I would like to go around the table and ask you as a member what you feel your role is as a member of this committee.

**Ivan Pato-** We are the eyes and ears for the public. I would rather be the one on the receiving end to get the phone calls from citizens having road issues. I think its good public relations because people in general have reluctance to cal government offices, it's the last thing they want to do with voice mail systems to push one for this and two for that. They don't get that by calling me. For example, the issue with the school that was

brought to me, it got addressed immediately and I was able to get back to the association with information. I think it's just good public relations for the commissioners as well. Attendance is important.

**Member-** Ed, is it possible, I mean if we all say why it's important we could all be here for a long time. Is it possible to get a vote to decide we meet either quarterly, every other month or whatever it may be? Those of us who are here know why it's important.

**Robert Martinez-** Let me read something before you take an informal vote, an action item to get a feel for what the committee members would like to do. Typically we don't; meet in December anyway, so you're down from twelve meetings to eleven. We have had quite a few meetings cancelled due to a lack of quorum. Last year in 2009, we met about five or six times.

**Barbara Jeffe-** We used to go around and look at roads and sort of prioritize.

**Robert Martinez-** That was when we had that base course funding. Due to budget cuts that has not been budgeted for this purpose. We had a few years where we didn't have that funding available but if that funding is ever revived and we get that one hundred and twenty five thousand dollars for the committee to make some recommendations on road improvements, we will resume with those tours. However, if at any time anyone would like to see what roads are up North in comparison to La Cienega or down south or vice versa, we can always schedule a tour in lieu of a meeting, that's possible.

Let me read you the ordinance that created the Road Advisory Committee and here is the purpose of the committee: 'The purpose of this committee is to identify and plan road improvement projects for Santa Fe County by establishing a mechanism whereby citizen input is allowed and concern is addressed.'

The duties are: 'The committee shall review and recommend road improvements to the Board of County Commissioners; Review and monitor road improvement projects; Research funding sources in order to establish long range planning for road improvement projects; Serve as liaison between the Board of County Commissioners and the general public; Develop and recommend construction standards for existing county roads; Meet at least once a month at a regularly time and place, giving proper notice of each meeting. Let me comment on each one of them:

**Review and recommend road improvements to the Board of County Commissioners-** That is something that this committee has done. Back in 1996, this committee put together a five year road improvement plan that we got adopted by the Board of County Commissioners that had approximately one hundred roads on that list. Unfortunately the five year road plan is going to turn out to be a ten year road plan just because of funding sources, but I believe that on that list of one hundred projects, we have completed about 60% of them. The committee's input for that program has really helped us to plan, look for funding sources, and get these projects completed. That has been a big help for budgeting purposes and seeking funding.

**Review and monitor road improvement projects-** This is why we go through the, 'Project status report,' that way you know the projects in your area, what the status is, and when the completion dates should take place, and other information.

**Research funding sources-** I don't believe it's something that this committee has done lately. Many years ago, this committee and staff used to put together a packet that was sent to the Legislature for funding for road improvement projects that this committee would put forth. About ten years ago the county started putting together an ICIP plan,

which is inclusive of facilities such as teen centers, senior centers, and includes Open Space, includes parks, includes roads, so this committee does not have to undertake that task any more. Now the five year road plan that has this committee put together with staff is forwarded to that department that puts together the ICIP. The projects that this committee has outlined as priority, is still going to the Legislature through that mechanism. I don't want you to think that the five year plan that we put together has been shelved, that is not the case.

*Serve as liaison between the Board of County Commissioners and the general public-*

That's a big one because we depend on you guys to at your home owners association meetings or volunteer fire department meetings where someone brings up an issue, and like Ivan said, some people are hesitant to call the county, so we welcome comments from you.

*Develop and recommend construction standards for existing county roads-*

That's not the case we adhere to. We adhere to State DOT standards and the county Land Use codes. That is something this committee does not have to do.

**Member-** On something like this Ivan had a comment about roundabouts and I don't care for them either. Is this something we may look at?

**Robert Martinez-** Yes but we are talking about standards,. We are not talking about using them in a certain area. We are talking about; ok the standards of the roundabout have to be fifty foot in diameter, specifications. Your point is well taken, is a proposed roundabout is for a certain development; sure the committee should be able to comment on that particular traffic calming device. It's not to say that we'll change it but at least if there's enough comment, we can have a public meeting or something. The last thing is: *Meet at least once a month at a regularly time and place, giving proper notice of each meeting.*

**Ivan Pato-** Robert, if I may address a point that got my attention on meeting once a month, would you have to amend the ordinance, if we change our minds?

**Robert Martinez-** Yes and that is what they are doing with all these other committees, where they are making changes to the committees that were adopted by ordinance or resolutions.

**Member-** We would need to go back to the County Commission.

**Robert Martinez-** We would need to amend the ordinance.

**Paul Montoya-** In the new plan, have you looked at the development plan?

**Robert Martinez-** Yes and they have incorporated our five year plan into their growth plan. They may determine that SDA something growth area is for this certain part of the county and we may not have any planned improvements for that area but to accommodate future development in there, they will put on their ICIP plan or whatever Capital improvement plan, the road that's needed to move the traffic in that SDA.

**Paul White-** Would that still be a function of the Road Advisory? I was under the impression that the CIP portion of the plan was that it would be the CPO's, the community planning organizations that would define that.

**Robert Martinez-** The function of this committee is to try and plan improvements to existing county roads. We are not talking about the committee getting involved and saying well this developer should build this road. That is Land Use job; they base the standards on the amount of traffic that is going to be generated by the subdivision.

**Paul White-** I am wondering, the county is talking about community planning organizations and those organizations would recommend the CIP funding for projects by the planning organizations. Would there be some kind of cross over between the Road Advisory and those planning organizations?

**Robert Martinez-** I am not sure how Land Use has set that up. I would think that would be.

**Paul White-** So we would be part of the CPO or would we be involved in part of the CPO process?

**Robert Martinez-** I'm not sure how that would work.

**Ed Benrock Chairperson-** I want to add, that a couple of years ago before this last bond issue, we had another general obligation bond issue in regard to the roads. How important are we? Well this committee authored this bond issue and presented it to the commissioners and they adopted it and went before the voters and they approved it with X amount of dollars back to the Public Works Department for road improvements. That is just another example of how important this committee is and how instrumental we are.

**Robert Martinez-** Based on that, I don't know if you want to call for an informal show of hands for what frequency you want the meetings to occur. I would just like to be able to have something to provide to the staff member that's working on these committees.

**Ed Benrock Chairperson-** Lets have discussion on that, do we want to meet monthly as we are doing, do we want to meet bi-monthly because we don't meet in December, do we want to meet quarterly? How important do you feel that it is to bring back the information where we can bring back the information where we can address it personally to Robert on our concerns to our residents?

**Robert Martinez-** Let me make a comment, regardless of when we meet, if you have a maintenance issue that is urgent or non-urgent, you don't have to wait for these meetings to bring it to our attention. You can call us at 992-3010; we just recently purchased some road maintenance software that is going to have a work order system that it's going to be all electronic data. We hope to have it on line to where residence can go online and fill out a work order request on county roads. My point is you don't have to wait for a meeting to bring issue up to our attention.

**Ed Benrock Chairperson-** The only thing about having a meeting is the free flow of information from us to staff where we can go back and forth. It's up to you on how often you feel we should meet whether it be on monthly, bi-monthly, quarterly.

**Member-** The meeting time is representative of what goes on and I think we can handle this four times a year, quarterly. We build up an inventory of things to talk about and I can't see why we need to meet ordinarily more frequently.

**Barbara Jeffe-** I agree.

**Anne Probst-** Frankly also if we utilize that mechanism, if the work orders works out the way you want it to, if not we still have email to Lorina and to Robert and to James for those critical issues. I think if we do that if we have better representation we can also hope we can get our commissioners to attend every now and then.

**Member-** If we get to the point of participating in the planning process like we have in the few years past, we may want to go back to more frequent meetings. Given the kind of options we have to look at here in the next year or so it looks like we could handle our business quarterly.

**Robert Martinez-** And I do see that road improvement plan having to be updated in a couple of years because we have completed at least 60% of the roads. Hope fully in a couple of years it will be down to 80% to where we need to start working on our next plan.

**Ben Gomez-** I concur with Anne, in the sense that I believe in the quarterly. Another reason is the budget is shot and to try to get money from the Legislature is going to be touch.

**Member-** Is anyone at Public Works monitoring how this economy is going to affect our services to our different areas?

**Robert Martinez-** No, we're out there heading the streets. We got the Finance Department who takes care of all those budgetary issues. We are still busy; we may not be able to improve many roads in the next couple years. We certainly will improve our maintenance because we have extra personal who were strictly in construction that will now be helping out in maintenance, so this could be a plus.

**Ed Benrock Chairperson-** Ok any other discussion?

**Member-** I wanted to speak a little about funding and the way this committee could be more active in securing more funding.

**Robert Martinez-** Definitely, when we go to the Legislature annually for projects, we encourage people to contact their senator or representative to show they are in support of the project. I would recommend that you find out who your representative is and contact them and support our projects.

**Ed Benrock Chairperson-** Anybody else? Ok I'm going to take a vote and we'll start off with the monthly meeting. Is anyone in support of a monthly meeting?

**Ben Gomez-** What is the common reason given why people don't attend a meeting?

**Robert Martinez-** We don't get a reason, we just get confirmation as to whether they will attend or not.

**Ben Gomez-** Well there are people who miss it very frequently like every month. I don't think whether we meet as little as three months or whatever, I don't think they will show up anyway. I just wondered.

**Robert Martinez-** The most reason that I hear is because they are out of town.

**Paul White-** I noticed a speaker phone there, is there a way that people that can't physically make it to the meeting to join the meeting by speaker phone?

**Ed Benrock Chairperson-** I don't know that, that would be legal.

**Ben Gomez-** In my experience, it wouldn't be legal unless you had extenuating reason for not being physically present such as you were calling from the hospital, usually.

**Robert Martinez-** I don't know, we could check with our Legal Department.

**Paul White-** I've been on a number of boards and we've actually written in the Bi laws that you can call in by speaker phone, I don't know if that would be helpful?

**Robert Martinez-** That is something to consider.

**Ed Benrock Chairperson-** Ok, no one is in support of continuing the monthly meeting, correct? Alright, what about bi-monthly, is anyone in support of that? We have two. Alright, what about quarterly? Overwhelmingly. Do we need a vote count?

**Robert Martinez-** No, this is just informal; it's not an action item that's on the agenda. At this point in time, I don't think we need any formal vote; it is something I wanted to get feedback from you so when I have this discussion with the staff member that's



overseeing the committees, I have some kind of response for her when she asks what frequency of meetings the committee would support.

**Ed Benrock Chairperson-** Can special meetings be called?

**Robert Martinez-** Special meetings can be called.

**Ed Benrock Chairperson-** so even though the committee is accord with quarterly meetings we can call a special meeting from time to time or when warranted.

**Item Twelve- Matters from County Staff and Attorney,**

**Ed Benrock Chairperson-**Anything you want to bring up?

**Robert Martinez-** Yes, I mentioned the road maintenance software that we just purchased and the vendor is proving the training to staff at this time so it's going to be a couple of months before we get this up and running. I'm hoping that here in the near future that work order system will be able to go on the internet so residents and anybody else can make requests through the internet. We still take calls over the phone: this will be a mechanism where we can track requests and see if they have been filled, that way if we ever get somebody that's says, CR76 was not bladed, in a year we can go back and in matter of seconds show how many times it was bladed. So that's a positive. There again if you have an issue don't wait till the meeting to bring it to our attention. Just bring it to us through the phone, email and we will do our best to address it. The last thing that I have, is for those of you who don't have maps and list, I have some here, so if you need some, stick around after the meeting and I will get you set up with a road list and a map.

**Item Thirteen- Adjournment**

Motion for adjournment by Bennie Gomez and second by Ivan Pato at 7:27 PM.