

**PROCEEDINGS OF THE SPECIAL MEETING OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
HELD ON TUESDAY, APRIL 19, 2011 @ 1:00 P.M.
IN THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS EXECUTIVE CONFERENCE ROOM
LOCATED AT 1415 MELODY LANE, BUILDING G, BISBEE ARIZONA**

Chairman Call called the Special Meeting of the Board of Supervisors to order at 1:00 p.m. All three supervisors were present: Pat Call, Chairman; Ann English, Vice-Chairman; Richard Searle, Supervisor. Also attending were Mike Ortega, County Administrator; Jim Vlahovich, Deputy County Administrator; Carlos De La Torre, Community Development Director (with staff members Karen Riggs, County Engineer & Terry Couchenour, Right of Way Agent); LH Hamilton, Facilities Director; Britt Hanson, Chief Deputy County Attorney; Dave Fifer, Deputy County Attorney and Katie Howard, Clerk of the Board.

ACTION

Board of Supervisors

1. NOTE: THIS ITEM WILL BE HEARD IN OPEN SESSION--

Approve a letter of appreciation to Governor Jan Brewer for her role in budget negotiations with the State legislature on behalf of Arizona's counties.

Supervisor Searle made a motion to approve the letter of appreciation to Governor Jan Brewer for her role in budget negotiations with the State legislature on behalf of Arizona's counties. Vice-Chairman English seconded the motion and it was approved 3-0.

Facilities

2. NOTE: THIS ITEM WILL BE HEARD IN OPEN SESSION --

Oppose action contemplated by the Arizona Corporation Commission (ACC) to approve a request for a rate increase for Sulphur Springs Valley Electric Cooperative per kWh charge to \$0.00988 (up from \$0.007937) and, based on ACC's staff recommendation, to also raise the caps by 62% in each rate class (this cap increase was not requested by SSVEC), which would result in an estimated increase of \$20,800 per year to Cochise County.

Mr. Ortega told the Board that this action by the Arizona Corporation Commission (ACC) would increase annual costs for Cochise County by more than \$20,000.

Mr. LH Hamilton explained that the renewable energy program that SSVEC has in place, which is approved by the ACC, is for businesses and residences. The rate in place now was insufficient to retire the number of requests received by SSVEC, so they requested a rate increase with the ACC—SSVEC felt that this rate increase would be sufficient over four years to cover the number of requests. SSVEC, he said, did not request a cap increase. ACC staff however, also recommended increasing the caps for residences, businesses, industry etc. Mr. Hamilton explained how the caps affect Cochise County with nine meters. Additional costs would be nearly \$21,000 next year, he said. The rate increase would be miniscule but the cap increase is substantial. SSVEC is opposing the ACC staff's recommendation.

Supervisor Searle stated that this will affect a lot of people besides the County: farmers, commercial businesses, etc. We should oppose this move, he said.

Chairman Call stated that he thinks renewable energy is a good idea, but this is not the way to go about it. Things are already tough.

Mr. Hamilton advised that the earliest the ACC will hear this matter is one week from today, on April 26, 2011.

Motion by Supervisor Searle, seconded by Vice-Chairman English to oppose the action contemplated by the Arizona Corporation Commission to approve a request for a rate increase for Sulphur Springs Valley Electric Cooperative per kWh charge to \$0.00988 (up from \$0.007937) and, based on ACC's staff recommendation, to also raise the caps by 62% in each rate class which would result in an estimated increase of \$20,800 per year to Cochise County.

The motion passed unanimously. Mr. Hamilton left the meeting.

Board of Supervisors

3. Discussion and possible action regarding Right-of-Way acquisition relative to the NRCS Pomerene Dam Construction Project.

STATUTORY AUTHORIZATION FOR EXECUTIVE SESSION

A.R.S. §38-431.03, Paragraph A, Subparagraphs 3, 4 & 7

Motion by Vice-Chairman English, second by Supervisor Searle to move into Executive Session. The motion was approved unanimously.

The Board moved into Executive Session at 1:18 p.m.

The Board came out of Executive Session at 1:47 p.m.

No action was taken on Item 3.

There being no further business before the Board, Chairman Call adjourned the meeting at 1:47 p.m.

APPROVED: _____
Patrick G. Call, Chairman

ATTEST: _____
Katie A. Howard, Clerk of the Board