

## Minutes For June 1, 2004

The Solano County Board of Supervisors met in regular session on this day at 8:35 a.m. Chairman Silva called the meeting to order. All members were present.

CLOSED SESSION: The Board moved into Closed Session at 8:36 a.m. to discuss Potential Litigation: one case; Property Negotiations: 300 County Airport Road, Corporate Hangar 4, Vacaville; negotiating parties – Veronica Ferguson, General Services Director and Kathy Gibson, Interim Airport Manager; Doug Carlisle, Cowtown Investments, LLC; under negotiation - price and terms; Property Negotiations: Vacaville parcel numbers: 129-220-170, 129-220-180, 129-220-060 and 129-240-070; negotiating parties – Veronica Ferguson, General Services Director, Kathy Gibson, Interim Airport Manager, Paul Wiese, Engineering Services Manager, Dale Pfeiffer, City of Vacaville; under negotiation – price and terms. The Board moved out of Closed Session at 9:28 a.m.

The Solano County Board of Supervisors reconvened on this day at 9:31 a.m. with the Pledge of Allegiance and a moment of silence.

### PRESENTATIONS

7. PROCLAMATION HONORING JASON COFFMAN, A MEMBER OF BOY SCOUT TROOP 195 IN VACAVILLE, CALIFORNIA ON HIS ACHIEVING THE EAGLE SCOUT AWARD, APPROVED

On motion of Supervisor Vasquez and seconded by Supervisor Kromm, the Board acted to approve the Proclamation. So ordered by a vote of 5-0.

On behalf of the Board, Supervisor Vasquez presented the proclamation to Jason Coffman.

Kathleen Heeren, Chairwoman of the Vacaville Veterans Memorial Association, thanked Mr. Coffman and Troop 195 for all the volunteer work they have done to help the Veterans and the Fischer House located at Travis AFB.

### ITEMS FROM THE FLOOR

#### APPEARANCE BY GEORGE GUYNN, JR. RE VARIOUS ISSUES

George Guynn, Jr., voiced his concerns regarding the voting system and the public having to pay for the mistakes for the Diebold System; with the Pension Obligation Bonds and feels the employees are getting more benefits than the County can afford, and feels the public should have had a vote on the Pension Obligation Bonds.

#### PUBLIC COMMENT ON CONSENT CALENDAR

14. County Administrator's Office:

Receive status report on Solano County Court Appointed Special Advocate (CASA) Program; authorize the Office of Family Violence Prevention to submit three (3) grant applications to National Court Appointed Special Advocates Association for supplemental funding in the amount of \$26,500 for the period July 1, 2004 to June 30, 2005

Chuck Ramey, Court Executive Officer, representing Juvenile Court Presiding Judge Garry Ichikawa, noted strong support by the Solano County Family Law and Juvenile Judicial officers for the County CASA program, the tremendous accomplishments with this program, and urged continued financial support for this program.

16. Sheriff/Coroner:

Authorize the Auditor-Controller to pay expenses in excess of \$5,000 in the amount of \$4,507 for costs related to the memorial service for Deputy John Sandlin

George Guynn, Suisun, voiced concern with the County paying for memorial services for Deputy Sandlin.

Several Supervisors reminded Mr. Guynn that Deputy Sandlin was a 20-year volunteer that was killed serving the people of Solano County, and that it was appropriate for the County to hold a

memorial services in his honor.

#### APPROVAL OF AGENDA

On motion of Supervisor Kromm and seconded by Supervisor Vasquez, the Board acted to approve the submitted Agenda, incorporated herein by reference, with the following modifications:

15B. Adoption of a resolution and records retention schedules for the Treasurer/Tax Collector/County Clerk, removed from the Agenda.

So ordered by a vote of 5-0.

#### CONSENT CALENDAR

On motion of Supervisor Vasquez and seconded by Supervisor Forney, the Board acted to approve the following Consent Calendar items by a vote of 5-0.

13. MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS MEETING OF MAY 11, 2004, as outlined in the Agenda Submittal from the Clerk of the Board dated June 1, 2004, incorporated herein by reference, approved.

14. THREE (3) GRANT APPLICATIONS TO BE SUBMITTED TO THE NATIONAL COURT APPOINTED SPECIAL ADVOCATES (CASA) ASSOCIATION, as outlined in the Agenda Submittal from County Administrator's Office dated June 1, 2004, incorporated herein by reference, approved.

15A. SALE OF A CHAPTER 8 TAX-DEFAULTED PROPERTY ON THE SOUTHERN END OF SANTA MONICA STREET, FAIRFIELD TO MERCY PROPERTIES CALIFORNIA, as outlined in the Agenda Submittal from Treasurer/Tax Collector/County Clerk dated June 1, 2004, incorporated herein by reference, approved.

16. AUDITOR-CONTROLLER TO PAY EXPENSES RE MEMORIAL SERVICE FOR DEPUTY JOHN SANDLIN, as outlined in the Agenda Submittal from Sheriff/Coroner dated June 1, 2004, incorporated herein by reference, approved.

#### ORDERS

18. PROPOSED WORKFORCE REDUCTION, FAILED

Director of Human Resources Yolanda Irigon reviewed the information contained in the Agenda Submittal from her department dated June 1, 2004, incorporated herein by reference, regarding initiating the layoff process.

County Administrator Michael Johnson noted that depending on what actions the Board takes at Budget Hearings that begin June 28, 2004, the Board will make policy decisions regarding funding levels, and will conduct Beilensen Hearings.

Responding to questions posed by Supervisor Kondylis regarding the County getting one month of savings if the notices are not sent until after Beilensen Hearings, Director of Health and Social Services Patrick Duterte noted the County would be saving approximately \$80,000 per month of County dollars, this action will allow Human Resources to give staff sufficient time to prepare if there are going to be layoffs. Supervisor Kondylis noted the need to review the entire budget, and the need to get the information on what services are going to be impacted, what the level of service will be, and review the reserves before any decisions are made regarding layoffs.

Mr. Johnson discussed departments working to meet their budget target, this action will start the layoff process and will not affect the layoff, it will position the County to go through the process.

Supervisor Kromm voiced concern with waiting to do the noticing and the possible loss of additional positions, requested information on what the loss of Federal and State funds will be with the loss of positions, and posed questions regarding the 12 vacant positions listed in the report, responding Britt Ferguson, County Administrator's Office, noted the department is requesting the 12 vacant positions not be deleted, but to allow the positions be filled as funding becomes available.

Supervisor Forney discussed the possibility of adding back some of these positions during

Budget hearings, the stress this poses for the entire department, and feels the Beilensen and Budget Hearings should be done before any notices are done, responding to these comments Mr. Duterte noted notification now will give the employees two months to prepare for any layoffs.

Chairman Silva noted this would give time for meet and confer with the unions.

Supervisor Kondylis voiced concern with recommendations to backfill \$1.5 million with MSA money for Health and Social Services when there are millions of dollars in reserves and the MSA money was suppose to provide extra things over an above the basics provided by the County, responding Mr. Duterte noted that the recommendation will be presented during budget to fund additional positions that were going to be cut by the MSA Committee.

There was a brief discussion regarding the advantages of early notification to the employees, and attempting to find ways to better deal with layoffs.

Supervisor Kondylis expressed concern with cutting the process short, and the unknowns with the State Budget.

Chairman Silva voiced concerns with a Code Enforcement Officer position being cut.

Sueilyn Anhalt, Mental Health nurse, feels the proposed layoffs will have significant impacts on the clients, on the Mental Health Program and on the community in general. Ms. Anhalt noted the proposal is to transfer some of the outpatient clinicians to crisis, without filling any of the outpatient clinician positions, and discussed the lag time for the inexperienced clinicians transferred to crisis and the problems that can cause. The clients will not receive the level of care they need, and further discussed the effects to the clients and the additional associated costs the County could face. Ms. Anhalt discussed the effects cuts to clerical staff will have, and noted ultimately the clients will be the ones who will lose.

Sandra Johnson, client, discussed the anxiety these proposed cuts are having on her, the help she has received, and how much the services are needed.

Nina Smith, Mental Health Outpatient worker, noted the outpatient clinic is currently working with greatly reduced staff, individual therapy sessions are no longer offered, the significant impacts if the outpatient staff is transferred to crisis, the outpatient clinic is turning people away, additional cuts will mean further restricting the target population, and asked the Board reconsider the necessity of the cuts and to go to the reserves for funding to preserve these already reduced services.

Art Grubel, Executive Director SEIU Local 1280, provided the Board with statutes relating to Beilensen Hearings, incorporated herein by reference, feels the County is out of conformance with the Beilensen Act in not providing the 14 day notice for reductions in program and employee services, and voiced concern if the County should be doing any cuts today. Mr. Grubel feels if the Board takes this action the options will be limited, the entire picture needs to be looked at for the County before cuts are made, the Board must decide the priorities and determine if it is important enough to use the reserves, noted the County will be losing two Code Compliance officers instead of one and asked the decision be delayed until the June 28, 2004 Budget Hearings.

Skip Thomson, Assessor/Recorder, discussed the importance of the Code Compliance Officers his personal experience and the important role the Code Enforcement Officers play in identifying properties that have been improved or built without permits and the collection of additional tax dollars from these properties.

Anes Lewis-Partridge, SEIU 535, noted there will also be a number of extra-help workers in crisis being eliminated before the regular employees, suggested the unions and Human Resources discuss the full picture as to the cuts and actions before any decisions are made.

Responding to questions posed by Supervisor Kondylis regarding notification to the unions, Ms. Irigon noted the unions were noticed May 19, 2004; and that Human Resources cannot meet with the unions to discuss the layoffs until the Board takes action.

County Counsel Dennis Bunting noted this is not a Beilensen Hearing or a violation of the 14-day notice requirement; this is really a notice to the employees.

Chairman Silva noted this action would allow discussions with the union representatives.

Supervisor Kromm discussed layoff procedures in the private sector and the lack of employee notification, the difficulties for layoffs, the need for departments to manage their budgets, feels employees should be notified which positions are at risk, requested a spreadsheet on how much General Fund money has been put into the big departments over the last 3 years, and would rather begin the process earlier rather than later.

There was a brief discussion regarding when the layoffs will occur relative to when the Board takes action, and delays that will occur if no decision is made until Budget Hearings.

Supervisor Vasquez feels the Agenda Submittal does give employees warning, questioned how long the layoffs will be prolonged if the notices go out until June 28th, and if the unions can meet with Human Resources, responding Ms. Irigon noted it would take at least another month to get through the process.

Mr. Johnson noted this action is authorizing Human Resources to begin the behind the scenes work such as developing a seniority list before Budget Hearings, and will provide more complete information for the Board to make a decision.

Supervisor Forney discussed the detrimental effects when a seniority list is developed, how this affects the employees, and the loss of productivity.

Mr. Grubel noted, as per the Civil Service Rules, that the County must give 20 days notice on the seniority list allowing employee time to appeal, but the Board must take action to lay off regular employees before a seniority list can be developed, feels this action will lay people off, and further voiced concern about following the Civil Service Rules.

Supervisor Kondylis voiced concern about the services these employees provide directly to clients, and that this action will cut services.

For clarification Mr. Bunting noted there are no conflicts with the Civil Service Rules or the Beilensen Act laws, this action is like a preparation. If you give direction to Human Resources on June 28th, after the Budget and Beilensen Hearings, then the Civil Service Rules will take effect for the publication of the seniority list.

A motion was made by Supervisor Kromm and seconded by Chairman Silva, to approve staff recommendations to implement a workforce reduction. Motion failed by a vote of 2-3, Supervisors Vasquez, Kondylis and Forney voted no.

19. CHILDREN AND WEIGHT COALITION'S STRATEGIC PLAN, "CHILDREN AND WEIGHT: TAKING ACTION IN SOLANO COUNTY", RECEIVED

The Board was provided with an Agenda Submittal from the Department of Health and Social Services dated June 1, 2004, incorporated herein by reference, regarding the Children and Weight Coalition's Strategic Plan.

Kitty Lenhart, Supervising Public Health Nutritionist Department of Health and Social Services and Co-Chair of the Children and Weight Coalition, provided the Board with a packet of information, incorporated herein by reference, containing an overview of the Children and Weight Program, an Executive Summary, the Children and Weight: Taking Action in Solano County Strategic Plan, a copy of California Agriculture magazine, and a poster outlining the importance of physical activity and healthy eating.

Diane Metz, Co-Chair of the Children and Weight Coalition and UC Davis Cooperative Extension Home Economic Advisor, reviewed a visual presentation, incorporated herein by reference, on the Children and Weight Coalition Strategic Plan. Ms. Metz began with Children and Weight Coalition Works Together, Why Are We Talking about Children and Weight, Obesity Trends Among Adults from 1990 through 2000, Obesity Trends Among U.S. Adults, Bay Area: Obesity, Diabetes Among Solano Adults, Trends in Overweight for Children 2-5, Percent Overweight: Solano and the U.S., Poverty and Obesity, Medical Consequences of Childhood Overweight, Psychological Consequences of Childhood Overweight, Is Overweight a Lifelong Issue, Let's Rally Around Things We Can Change, Parenting Style, Eating Patterns, Physical Activity, TV and Screen Time, Positive Roll Models, Evidence Based Interventions, and Recommendations.

There was a brief conversation regarding changes in the Fast Food Industry to make available more foods that have a better nutritional value, additional health studies being done related to causes of obesity, what actions people can take at the community level, what actions are being taken in the schools and school districts, and the Contra Costa/Solano Food Bank relocation and distribution changes.

APPOINTMENTS/RESIGNATIONS TO BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS:

On motion of Supervisor Kondylis and seconded by Supervisor Vasquez, the Board acted to approve the following appointments and/or resignations to Boards and Commissions. So ordered by a vote of 5-0.

18. JIM N. WHALEN APPOINTED TO THE AIRPORT LAND USE/AVIATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE, as outlined in the Agenda Submittal dated February 3, 2004, incorporated herein by reference, for a term to expire January 1, 2005.

ADJOURN - This meeting of the Board of Supervisors adjourned at 11:56 a.m.

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John F. Silva, Chair

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Maggie Jimenez  
Clerk to the Board of Supervisors