

Minutes For August 5, 2003

The Solano County Board of Supervisors met in regular session on this day at 8:32 a.m. The meeting was called to order by Chairman Kromm. Present were Supervisors Forney, Silva, Vasquez and Chairman Kromm; Supervisor Kondylis arrived at 8:35

CLOSED SESSION: The Board moved into Closed Session at 8:33 a.m. to discuss Meet and Confer: All Bargaining Units, with Yolanda Irigon, Chief Negotiator. The Board moved out of Closed Session at 9:08 a.m.

The Solano County Board of Supervisors reconvened on this day at 9:10 a.m. with the Pledge of Allegiance and a moment of silence.

PRESENTATIONS

(Item 7) RESOLUTION NO. 2003-171 RECOGNIZING MARIA RUEGER UPON HER RETIREMENT FOR HER MANY YEARS OF SERVICE TO SOLANO COUNTY, AND PLAQUE OF APPRECIATION, APPROVED

On motion of Supervisor Kondylis and seconded by Supervisor Silva, the Board acted to adopt Resolution No. 2003-171. The Board further acted to authorize a Plaque of Appreciation for Maria Rueger. So ordered by a vote of 5-0. (see Resolution Book)

On behalf of the Board, Chairman Kromm presented Ms. Rueger with Resolution No. 2003-171 and a Plaque of Appreciation honoring her upon her retirement after 23 years of service to Solano County as an Eligibility Benefits Specialist II in the Department of Health and Social Services.

ITEMS FROM THE FLOOR

PRESENTATION OF THE 2002/2003 SOLANO COUNTY GRAND JURY FINAL REPORT

Jack Morris, outgoing Grand Jury Foreman, presented the Board with the 2002/2003 Solano County Grand Jury Final Report, and introduced the incoming 2003/2004 Grand Jury Foreman Lou Burgelin.

APPEARANCE BY DONALD TIPTON, RE VARIOUS ISSUES

Donald Tipton, Vallejo, voiced his concerns regarding appointees to committees, consolidation of precincts for the recall election, the use of punch cards for the election, the cost of the touch voting system that is not being used, and with the potential for Brown Act violations with email.

APPEARANCE BY MIKE MURASKO RE ROAD PROBLEMS ON MIX CANYON ROAD

Mike Murasko, Vacaville, noted several previous appearances before the Board regarding repairing Mix Canyon Road, noted the need to access his property to cut fire breaks for fire safety since several of his buildings have burnt down over the last ten years, offered to repair the road himself, noted his family has owned the property since 1896 and feels he has a right to get to his property and to be able to maintain it.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

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

(Item 17A) Adoption of a resolution to provide dental and vision coverage under Solano County's Dental and Vision Plans to Domestic Partners as defined by Family Code Section 297, removed from the Consent Calendar.

So ordered by a vote of 5-0.

CONSENT CALENDAR

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

(Item 13) MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS MEETING OF JUNE 24, 2003; BUDGET HEARINGS JUNE 30, 2003, JULY 1, 2003, AND JULY 2, 2003; SPECIAL MEETING JULY 8, 2003, as outlined in the Agenda Submittal from the Clerk of the Board dated August 5, 2003, incorporated herein by reference, approved.

(Item 14) RESOLUTION NO. 2003-172 AMENDING THE LIST OF NUMBERS AND CLASSIFICATIONS OF POSITIONS (OFFICE OF FAMILY VIOLENCE PREVENTION, LIMITED TERM VOLUNTEER COORDINATOR), adopted. (see Resolution Book)

(Item 14B) PUBLIC FACILITIES FEES CONTINGENCY TRANSFER IN THE AMOUNT OF \$374,910 TO VACAVILLE UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT LIBRARY DISTRICT (VUSDLD), as outlined in the Agenda Submittal from the County Administrator's Office dated August 5, 2003, incorporated herein by reference, approved.

(Item 15) RECLAMATION DISTRICT #2084 FIVE YEAR AUDIT WITH ANNUAL BUDGET THRESHOLD OF \$60,000, as outlined in the Agenda Submittal from the County Counsel dated August 5, 2003, incorporated herein by reference, approved.

(Item 16A) RESOLUTION NO. 2003-173 AMENDING THE LIST OF NUMBERS AND CLASSIFICATIONS OF POSITIONS (GENERAL SERVICES), adopted. (see Resolution Book)

(Item 16B) CONTRIBUTION OF \$7,000 FROM SOLANO COUNTY WATER AGENCY RE WATER WAYS EDUCATION PROGRAM AT LAKE SOLANO PARK, as outlined in the Agenda Submittal from General Services dated August 5, 2003, incorporated herein by reference, approved.

APPROPRIATION TRANSFER FROM UNANTICIPATED REVENUE IN THE AMOUNT OF \$7,000, as outlined in the Agenda Submittal from General Services dated August 5, 2003, incorporated herein by reference, approved.

(Item 17B) RESOLUTION NO. 2003-175 APPROVING AMENDMENT TO THE MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING WITH PUBLIC EMPLOYEES UNION, LOCAL ONE, REPRESENTING UNIT #16 - MID-MANAGEMENT EMPLOYEES, (2.5% LONGEVITY @ 25 YEARS), adopted. (see Resolution Book)

(Item 18) CONSOLIDATION OF ELECTIONS FOR CITIES, SCHOOL DISTRICTS, AND SPECIAL DISTRICTS FOR THE NOVEMBER 4, 2003 CONSOLIDATED DISTRICTS ELECTION, as outlined in the Agenda Submittal from the Registrar of Voters dated August 5, 2003, incorporated herein by reference, approved.

(Item 19A) CERTIFICATION AGAINST SUPPLANTING FOR THE PUBLIC HEALTH PREPAREDNESS AND RESPONSE TO BIOTERRORISM, as outlined in the Agenda Submittal from Health and Social Services dated August 5, 2003, incorporated herein by reference, approved and Chairman authorized to sign said certificate on behalf of Solano County.

(Item 19B) APPROPRIATION TRANSFER OF UNANTICIPATED REVENUE IN THE AMOUNT OF \$57,000 RE CHILD WELFARE SERVICES REDESIGN PROJECT, as outlined in the Agenda Submittal from Health and Social Services dated August 5, 2003, incorporated herein by reference, approved.

(Item 19C) RESOLUTION NO. 2003-176 APPROVING THE SUBMISSION OF A GRANT APPLICATION TO THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA (FAMILY PLANNING), adopted. (see Resolution Book)

(Item 20) GRANT IN THE AMOUNT OF \$610,000 FROM THE FEDERAL AVIATION ADMINISTRATION RE TAXIWAY WIDENING/REALIGNMENT PROJECT AT THE NUT TREE AIRPORT, as outlined in the Agenda Submittal from Transportation dated August 5, 2003, incorporated herein by reference accepted and Director of Transportation authorized to sign said grant agreement.

SPECIAL DISTRICTS GOVERNED BY THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS:

Rural North Vacaville Water District

(Item 21) Minutes regarding this matter are contained in the Rural North Vacaville Water District Minutes Book.

ORDERS

(Item 17A) RESOLUTION NO. 2003-174 TO EXTEND DENTAL AND VISION COVERAGE TO DOMESTIC PARTNERS OF SOLANO COUNTY EMPLOYEES AND TO AMEND THE MEMORANDUMS OF UNDERSTANDING WITH SEIU LOCAL 1280, REPRESENTING MISCELLANEOUS CLERICAL, PARAPROFESSIONAL, AND PROBATION EMPLOYEES AND SEIU LOCAL 535, REPRESENTING HEALTH AND WELFARE EMPLOYEES TO REFLECT THE COVERAGE, ADOPTED

Director of Human Resources Yolanda Irigon reviewed the information contained in the Agenda Submittal from her department dated August 5, 2003, incorporated herein by reference, regarding providing dental and vision coverage for Domestic Partners.

There was a short discussion regarding the provision of health care, dental and vision to domestic partners by comparable counties, and the process for registration and de-certification with the State for same sex couples.

Murry Bass, Suisun, noted opposition to extending vision and dental benefits to domestic partners, and voiced concern with unintended consequences, with increased costs to the taxpayers, and with endorsing this alternative life style. John Takeuchi, Fairfield, voiced concern with homosexual relationships, with providing family type benefits to active homosexuals, and expressed concern with paying for these benefits with tax dollars, and requested this matter not be approved.

Rev. Robert Fuentes, Holy Family Old Catholic Church, feels this is a fairness issue and is a way for people to have health insurance, and feels the County may have additional costs for services if the coverage is not provided.

Donald Tipton, Vallejo, noted union support, and feels this will help the community.

On motion of Supervisor Kondylis and seconded by Chairman Kromm, the Board acted to adopt Resolution No. 2003-174 to Extend Dental and Vision Coverage to Domestic Partners of Solano County Employees and to Amend the Memorandums of Understanding with SEIU Local 1280, Representing Miscellaneous Clerical, Paraprofessional, and Probation Employees and SEIU Local 535, Representing Health and Welfare Employees to Reflect the Coverage. So ordered by a vote of 5-0. (see Resolution Book)

(Item 23) FURTHER CONSIDERATION TO BE GIVEN FOR THE CREATION OF A FAMILY VIOLENCE COUNCIL AND POSSIBLE REORGANIZATION OF VIOLENCE PREVENTION COUNCILS

Assistant County Administrator Darby Hayes reviewed the information contained in the Agenda Submittal from his department dated August 5, 2003, incorporated herein by reference, suggesting the consideration of forming a

multi-disciplinary council to look at domestic violence issues and to work towards a more focused approach. This would begin a process over the next 120 days to look at the various councils and boards to restructure the relationship between the County and those boards to improve the approach to family violence. The request is to accept the proposal in concept and to charge staff to collaborate with the various boards regarding the relationships, and to develop a unified approach to addressing family violence.

County Counsel Dennis Bunting noted that at this time there are no requests to dissolve or eliminate any of the committees that presently exist.

Carolyn Thomas-Wold, Director Office of Family Violence Prevention, gave a brief background on the efforts of the ad hoc committee, and how the proposal came forward. The goals are to be able to better respond to family violence issues, to spend County dollars in a more conscientious and responsible way, to be able to better track and account for those dollars, and to ensure County staff are being productive. Ms. Thomas-Wold noted members of the roundtable that included Chief Probation Officer Gemmi Grossi, Health and Social Services Director Patrick Duterte, District Attorney Dave Paulson, Presiding Judge Scott Kays, Immediate Past Superintendent of Schools Wendell Kuykendall, Sheriff Gary Stanton, Assistant County Administrator Darby Hayes, Assistant Deputy County Administrator John Taylor, Ms. Thomas-Wold, Supervisor Kondylis and Supervisor Silva.

Violet Barton-Bermudez, Fairfield, expressed concern that information relating to this matter has been withheld from the public and the effected boards and commissions, the lack of notification, with the accuracy of the report, and requested the Board carefully consider the ramifications of these recommendations.

Lt. Reggi Garcia, Vallejo Police Department and Solano Partnership Against Violence (SPAV), outlined a history of SPAV, expressed concern with the allegations of the lack of communication, that the multitude of volunteer hours are not being considered, and noted the County does have a model family violence program.

Supervisor Kondylis feels there is good communication between the Board and the individual councils, but there is a need for better collaboration and communication between the councils. The big problem is territoriality. We need to find better ways to look at the entire issue and provide the framework that would promote communication and efficiency, and feels this is the beginning of the process.

Rev. Robert Fuentes, Elder Abuse Prevention Council, noted the need for the councils to be diverse which promotes the diverse outlook providing a comprehensive solution to family violence, discussed the charge of the committee, and the work that is done by the councils without County funding. Rev. Fuentes expressed concern with the lack of any reference to any of the positive outcomes by any of the councils, the exclusion of any of the council in the process, and the closed process of the ad hoc committee.

There was a brief discussion regarding the possible makeup of a Family Violence Collaborative Council, communication, territorial issues, and the entire issue of family violence.

Gayla Reiter, Chair SIDS Committee, expressed shock, noted the donation of thousands of volunteer hours, work that has been done by the committee, continuing difficulties in resolving the SIDS issue, and feels the mission of the committee is not complete. Ms. Reiter noted the vast majority of costs for the committee have been borne by the committee itself, the only cost is for the attendance of a Public Health Nurse at the meetings, and discussed the need to continue to be an official committee of the Board of Supervisors.

Elaine Rairden, citizens volunteer and Chair of SPAV, noted volunteering with several groups that address family violence, voiced concern with the lack of opportunity for community input, the lack of collaboration between councils, efforts by SPAV to strengthen relationships and share information and resources with other organizations, feels all can work together to create a culture of consultation and collaboration, and requested all parties be allowed to work together to develop a plan that is responsive to the vision of the Board.

Kathy Dineen, Fairfield Police Department, SPAV and the Child Abuse Prevention Council (CAPC), outlined a letter submitted, incorporated herein by reference, addressing claims of little coordination or collaboration, fragmented efforts, and with the thousands of staff hours used to attend meetings. Ms. Dineen expressed grave concern regarding the goals, and feels the ability to focus on a specific need and devote the time and resources needed may work best.

Pat Nicodemus, Vice-Chair CAPC and SPAV, agrees there is always room for improvement, voiced concern that the effected committees were not included, errors in the report, and requested a decision be postponed to allow time for the groups to hear the concerns and work to solve the problems as a group. Ms. Nicodemus discussed the successes of the Children's' Network Council, and feels the problems can be resolved by working together.

Becky Billing, Children's Network, spoke on behalf of the SIDS committee noting all the work and training they have done, the importance of being recognized as a standing committee of the Board, the importance of collaboration of all of the groups and how many of these groups do cross paths. With limited resources and increased accountability it is important to work collaboratively, staff time is well spent especially when meeting at lunchtime, and feels the mission of the SIDS Committee is not accomplished.

Kim Thomas, Children's Network, voiced concern with the staff report, the effected parties were not included in the reorganization, and the proposal to discontinue Board appointments to the Children's Network Council. Ms. Thomas provided a Chronological Flow of Statutory Requirements, incorporated herein by reference, and noted Solano County is getting national and international recognition for the collaboration that goes on here, the benefits for the collaborative process and partnerships, the benefits by following the mandates of SB997, the Children's Trust Fund and CAPIT legislation, and noted the loss of funding if the Network Council is decommissioned. Ms. Thomas requested this matter be tabled to allow time for the boards and commissions to meet to resolve the concerns presented by the Board.

Cynthia Kay, Children's Network Board, voiced extreme concern

regarding the misinformation in the report, not conducting this evaluation as an open process, why the Children's Network is lumped with family violence when the network covers the whole myriad of what happens to children 0 to 18, why the boards and commissions were excluded from the process, that all the volunteer time and energy is not being recognized, and requested the matter be tabled.

Cheryl Stumbaugh, volunteer, discussed improved outcomes as a result of duplicate efforts, shared resources and a narrow focus by the Solano Parenting Partnership, networking opportunities, and requested the item not be approved.

Christie Speck, Napa Solano Head Start & Early Head Start, discussed the benefits of the variety of services available to families in the County, the varying missions of each council represent the diversity of the populations, the variety of programs that compliment each other, and the value of each council and what they offer.

Loretta Huddart-Wolfe, Vacaville, noted she is an employee in the Health Education Division of Public Health, the benefits of the community councils, staff attends the meetings to keep abreast of what is going on in the community, grant requirements for community projects and the utilization of resources, feels there may be other ways to address the concerns stated in the report, collaborative efforts, and urged the Board consider alternative recommendations generated by the community.

Jennifer Ocon, Children's Network, questioned how the term "family violence" is being defined, why the organizations named cover many more issues, voiced concern with the number of staff hours listed, discussed the benefits of duplication of efforts, discussed how the many issues intertwine, noted some staff are being paid through a grant attained by the Children's Network, and how the network is working to make the collaboration happen, and the legal implications and impacts need to be considered more carefully before anything is done.

Kim Johnson, Children's Network, read a letter from Vallejo Mayor Tont Intintoli dated August 4, 2003, incorporated herein by reference, expressing his concerns about the reorganization of what is referred to as "violence prevention councils", and requested the Children's Network be allowed to continue the designation as the County's official SB997 entity.

Rosemary Kennedy, Children's Network, noted the value of collaboration, voiced concern with inaccuracies in the report, and urged the councils be allowed to give input on how the issues can be resolved.

Nicole Bandy, Children's Network - Parenting Partnership, discussed the effects of violence on families, feels this proposal does not include the community, the design is flawed, this process must begin with a collaborative process, and noted the collaboration with the over 40 agencies within the Children's Network.

Tai Venuti, Children's Network, read a letter from President of the Children's Network Board of Directors Mary Dickey dated August 1, 2003, incorporated herein by reference, expressing her deep concern with the proposed action, requested the actions not be approved, and requested input

from the councils in efforts to improve collaboration be allowed.

Kathy Sawyer Shisheto, Fairfield, discussed her son that died of SIDS, and emphasized the importance of the work that is being done by the SIDS Committee, and requested the work continue of this viable committee.

Shelly McEwan, Executive Director Child Haven, discussed the collaboration through years, the uniqueness of the services for families, voiced concern with lack of information, posed questions for further consideration on any decisions, asked if this is an effort to dismantle the Children's Network as an umbrella organization, and voiced concern with incorrect information in the report.

Jacque Wolfram, Maternal, Child, Adolescent Health (MCAH) Advisory Board had to leave but left written comments, incorporated herein by reference, noting collaborative work being done, and requested the Board consider input from the MCAH, other councils and community groups.

Robert DePillis, SIDS Advisory Committee, noted the many obstacles overcome by the SIDS Committee, the need for the committee to continue the support and education efforts, and requested the committee be allowed to continue as a committee of the Board.

Dorothy Steel, Children's Network Council, noted the years of volunteer service she has given, with most of the groups that family violence is not the primary focus, voiced concern with the effects the recommendations would have, and feels this proposal is not good for the children.

Chairman Kromm also noted receiving letters from Executive Director of Youth and Family Services Billy Middleton requesting delaying any action on the item, from Chair of the Child Abuse Prevention Council Deborah Davis protesting the item, and from MCAH Advisory Board Jacque Wolfram requesting further discussion between the Board and the committees.

Supervisor Kondylis noted Solano County is taking family well being to a higher standard than most counties, families are still being affected by violence, much still needs to be done to reduce family violence, feels this is a beginning to find a better ways to improve the well being of lives of children and families. This proposal is a start, with staff coming back in 120 days, and further outlined the goals. Supervisor Kondylis urged the Board move forward, and that she and Supervisor Silva continue on an ad hoc basis and start meeting with people.

Supervisor Silva discussed the formation of the Office of Family Violence Prevention, noted more coordination is necessary, is looking for answers to many of the questions posed by constituents to ensure they are getting the full benefit, communication needs to stay open between the organizations, people appointed to boards or commissions need to be productive, the public process needs to begin with all the organizations to meet and give the Board an outline of what each is doing, and how the groups can work more cohesively and efficiently. The County needs to get the full benefit of each and every dollar spent. Supervisor Silva voiced concern with "professional" meeting goes, the need for County staff to be produce positive results when attending meetings, feels this is an opportunity for everyone to come together, front line workers/ staff/officers need more education and training on this issue. Supervisor Silva

proposed some language changes for the recommendations. Supervisor Silva noted how important it is to work together to meet the needs of the community in the most cost effective efficient way. Over the six months the SIDS Program will be looked at to see if it is still viable and if the goals are being met.

Supervisor Forney noted the need to keep the Board informed and providing copies of meeting minutes, and the need for all the groups to get together to bring recommendations back to the Board.

Responding to questions posed by Supervisor Forney regarding if it is mandatory that the Board establish certain groups, County Counsel Dennis Bunting noted some councils are mandatory and some are discretionary, and discussed the potential for legal consequences for appointments. A legal review will be done.

Chairman Kromm feels many expressed the need to do a better job of communication and coordination and to look at not duplicating services, all the people active in the community want to be involved in the process. Chairman Kromm noted the model things the County is doing, and voiced concern with the Board appointment process.

Responding to questions posed by Chairman Kromm regarding dismantling the Children's Network, Mr. Hayes noted there was no intent to dismantle the Children's Network nor to remove it as the umbrella agency, but feels the Children's Network is not the proper umbrella agency for the family violence issue.

Supervisor Vasquez thanked all the volunteers for all the work they have done, noted there is still room for improvement, and hopefully this umbrella will help us with that.

Supervisor Kondylis suggested adding a recommendation Number 4 to evaluate a system of results based progress evaluations.

Supervisor Silva read the proposed changed recommendations:

1. Discuss the creation of the new Family Violence Council;
2. Review the structure and the County's relationships with the Children's Network Council, Child Abuse Prevention Council, Elder Abuse Prevention Council and the Solano Partnership Against Violence;
3. Review the structural relationship with other Councils, Boards and Commissions dealing with family violence;
4. Evaluate a system of results based progress evaluations;
5. Appoint Supervisor Kondylis and Supervisor Silva to the Board ad hoc committee to continue to work on these issues.

On motion of Supervisor Silva and seconded by Supervisor Kondylis, the Board acted to approve the recommendations as listed above. So ordered by a vote of 5-0.

(Item 24A) FREDERIC W. BARNES APPOINTED TO THE SOLANO COUNTY PLANNING COMMISSION

On motion of Supervisor Kondylis and seconded by Chairman Kromm, the

Board acted to appoint Frederic W. Barnes to the Solano County Planning Commission for a term to expire January 31, 2007. So ordered by a vote of 5-0.

(Item 24B) MICHAEL PALMAFFY REAPPOINTED TO THE GREATER VALLEJO RECREATION DISTRICT

On motion of Supervisor Kondylis and seconded by Chairman Kromm, the Board act to reappoint Michael Palmaffy to the Greater Vallejo Recreation District for a term to expire September 7, 2007. So ordered by a vote of 5-0.

ADJOURN - This meeting of the Board of Supervisors adjourned at 12:37 p.m.

Duane Kromm, Chairman

Maggie Jimenez
Clerk to the Board of Supervisors