

AGENDA

APACHE AND NAVAJO COUNTIES MAYORS AND COUNCILMEMBERS ASSOCIATION

Thursday, July 14, 2016 – 12:00 Noon

Tom & Suzie's Diner

2001 Navajo Boulevard (former Pizza Hut building), Holbrook, Arizona*

1. **Call to Order**
2. **Prayer/Pledge**
3. **Luncheon**
4. **Old Business**
 - A. Approval of Meeting Minutes of April 21, 2016
5. **New Business**
 - A. Showcase by City of Holbrook
 - B. Presentation of Legislative Update and Explanation of Services Provided by League of Arizona Cities and Towns (League Staff)
 - C. Selection of Chair for the Apache and Navajo Counties Mayors and Councilmembers Association
 - D. Selection of Vice-Chair for the Apache and Navajo Counties Mayors and Councilmembers Association
 - E. Assignment Schedule to Staff Regional Booth at Annual League of Arizona Cities and Towns Conference (Mayor Daryl Seymore)
 - F. Brief Update on Route 66 White Mountain GeoTour (Mayor Daryl Seymore)
 - G. Brief Updates by Area Legislators
 - H. Brief Update by REAL AZ Development Council
 - I. Brief Updates by Other Cities and Towns/Counties
 - J. Next Association Meeting: Thursday, October 20, 2016, in Winslow
6. **Adjournment**

*Directions: If driving from the west on I-40, take exit 286 (Navajo Boulevard), turn left, drive northeast 0.8 mile, and the restaurant will be on the left (west) immediately after Super 8. If driving from the south on Highway 77, continue northeast through three stoplights, and the restaurant will be on the left (west) immediately after Super 8.

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE APACHE AND NAVAJO COUNTIES MAYORS AND COUNCILMEMBERS ASSOCIATION HELD ON THURSDAY, APRIL 21, 2016, AT 12:00 NOON AT SNOWFLAKE FIRE STATION, 324 W. 4TH SOUTH, SNOWFLAKE, ARIZONA

MEMBERS PRESENT: Daryl Seymore, Mayor, Show Low; Mike Allsop, Councilmember, Show Low; Rennie Crittenden, Councilmember, Show Low; Brent Hatch, Councilmember, Show Low; Kerry Ballard, Vice Mayor, Snowflake; Lynn Johnson, Councilmember, Snowflake; Byron Lewis, Councilmember, Snowflake; Shawn Palmer, Vice Mayor, Taylor; David Smith, Councilmember, Taylor; Greg Smith, Mayor, Pinetop-Lakeside; Stephanie Irwin, Councilmember, Pinetop-Lakeside; Leslee Wessel, Councilmember, Pinetop-Lakeside; Bryce Hamblin, Mayor, Eagar; Steve Erhart, Councilmember, Eagar; Kay Hauser, Councilmember, St. Johns; Thomas Chacon, Councilmember, Winslow

STAFF PRESENT: Ed Muder, City Manager, Show Low; Morgan Brown, Attorney, Show Low; Tami Ryall, Town Manager, Eagar; Gus Lundberg, Town Manager, Taylor; Steve Pauken, City Manager, Winslow; Brian Richards, Town Manager, Snowflake; Barbara Flake, Town Clerk, Snowflake; Bryan Layton, Assistant County Manager, Navajo County; Paul Watson, Assistant County Manager/Economic Development Director, Navajo County; Mary Jane Springer, Emergency Management Director, Navajo County; Brannon Eagar, Chief Deputy Sheriff/Emergency Management Director, Apache County

GUESTS: Rick Stilgenbauer, Chief of Arizona, U.S. Senator John McCain; Austin Kennedy, Legislative Assistant, U.S. Senator John McCain; Bryant Herrera, Area Specialist, Rural Development, U.S. Department of Agriculture; Sharon Adams, Community Outreach, U.S. Representative Ann Kirkpatrick; Buchanan Davis, Outreach Coordinator, U.S. Senator Jeff Flake

1. Call to Order

Mayor Seymore (Show Low) called the meeting to order at 12:00 p.m.

2. Prayer/Pledge

The invocation was given by Buchanan Davis (Sen. Flake) and the Pledge of Allegiance was led by Mayor Seymore.

3. Luncheon

4. Old Business

A. Approval of Meeting Minutes of January 21, 2016

Councilmember Lewis (Snowflake) stated he attended the meeting but was not listed with the members present. Sharon Adams (Rep. Kirkpatrick) said she wanted added to the minutes under "Updates by Area Legislators" that anyone could contact her to talk about the campaign and to get contact information.

VICE MAYOR BALLARD (SNOWFLAKE) MOVED TO APPROVE THE JANUARY 21, 2016, ASSOCIATION MINUTES, AS AMENDED; SECONDED BY MAYOR SEYMORE; PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

5. **New Business**

A. Showcase by Town of Snowflake

Vice Mayor Ballard said Snowflake and Taylor are partnering on a number of issues. For one, the police departments have been combined for some time with Snowflake as the administrator and now the fire departments are combined with Taylor as the administrator. Walmart has opened and the two towns are sharing sales tax collections. The Town of Snowflake worked to save the railroad and it is now being utilized. He said negotiations are continuing with a chicken producer to possibly launch a farming operation. The Town is also working on attracting more forest industries to the area.

B. Presentation Regarding White Mountain Fire Restrictions Working Group and Coordination of Joint Efforts by Apache and Navajo Counties (Mary Jane Springer, Navajo County, and Brannon Eagar, Apache County)

The emergency management directors for the two counties, Ms. Springer (Navajo County) and Deputy Sheriff Eagar (Apache County), presented the four main areas of concern to deal with the threat of wildfires.

Mitigation – Mitigation was important and the counties worked with the various communities to prepare plans to make them safer from catastrophic fires. They did a Threats and Hazards Identification and Analysis (THIRA), then created a Community Wildfire Protection Plan. The plan, now under public review and comment, provided a mechanism for fire districts and departments to receive hazardous fuel mitigation grants and for the county to work with local cities and towns and the Forest Service. The county would also start updating the Hazard Mitigation Plan in June 2016.

Preparedness – Preparedness was another important component, which included the Ready, Set, Go! program, firewise education, the Ready Navajo and Apache County emergency notification systems, and training and tabletop exercises. The White Mountain Fire Restrictions Working Group met weekly and had been established to ensure making informed decisions if restrictions were necessary to enact, ensure a coordinated effort across jurisdictions, and to provide public information and outreach. They put a lot of effort into getting

information out to the public through 311info.net, 311 (for callers), Facebook, Twitter, and media public service announcements.

Response – Response was also important, with local communities and first responders partnering to respond to fires or other emergency situations. Plans were in place and the teams were trained and ready.

Recovery – A recovery plan was important in case of an emergency event and would involve many agencies working together within the community. All disasters started locally and once the emergency was over, it fell on the local communities to put things back together. It was imperative to expand our partnerships with each other to have strong resilient communities, including involving VOADs (Volunteers Active in Disasters), COADs (Communities Active in Disasters) and CERT teams.

C. Update on Route 66 White Mountain GeoTour (Lisa Horne, White Mountain Event Management) – by conference call

Mayor Seymore said it takes a lot of work to organize the GeoTour once the geocaches are placed. He said that the sponsorships can still be obtained.

Consultant Lisa Horne of White Mountain Event Management was conferenced in. Ms. Horne said additional geocache locations are needed from Navajo County, Pinetop-Lakeside, St. Johns, Taylor, and Winslow. She also said approved social media verbiage is needed from Navajo County, Snowflake, Springerville, Taylor, St. Johns, and Winslow. She emphasized that planning cannot move forward until sponsorships are secured. She explained there are several sponsorship levels ranging from \$100 to \$1,000. A sponsor's company name will be listed on the website's Sponsor Page and mentioned on Facebook and Twitter. In addition, restaurants and hotels/motels will be listed as a Cache Dash Points participant on a printable game-playing Passport. She said, to date, Show Low has secured six sponsorships for a total of \$1,700 and Winslow has a sponsorship for \$100, but there have been no other sponsorship submissions.

D. Issues of Regional Interest to Present to League of Arizona Cities and Towns

Mr. Pauken (Winslow) asked everyone to contact Senator Carlyle Begay and urge him to vote no on HB2568 (community facilities districts; formation; governance). He stated that the League of Arizona Cities and Towns is opposed to the bill. He also asked those communities represented by Senator Sylvia Allen to contact her and urge her to vote no.

Mayor Seymore said that Ken Strobeck, Executive Director of the League, has been invited to attend the next Association meeting.

Councilmember Wessel (Pinetop-Lakeside) said road conditions in Pinetop-Lakeside are bad. Mayor Seymore said he was told by ADOT (Arizona

Department of Transportation) that the agency would be doing milling and overlaying next month on state highways in the area.

E. Updates by Area Legislators

Rick Stilgenbauer (Sen. McCain) introduced Austin Kennedy, Legislative Aide for Senator McCain. Mr. Kennedy said communities can speak with him regarding any issue. He thanked the communities for spending time with Buchanan Davis, Outreach Coordinator for Senator Flake, and Senator McCain last week. He said there were conversations regarding 4FRI (Four Forest Restoration Initiative), wolves, and energy. He came from Washington, D.C. to visit Springerville, adding that the power plant is still a concern. He reported that work is being done on an Army Corps of Engineers issue. He said they are watching the issue of the Western Area Power Administration (WAPA), which delivers energy and power, about raising its rates.

Mayor Seymore asked about the new clean air regulations and how they affect this area. Mr. Kennedy said it is up to the EPA (Environmental Protection Agency). He said President Barack Obama issued an order and there is compliance even though this issue is being argued in the courts. Mr. Davis (Sen. Flake) said we have to wait until this Administration ends to reverse any regulations and Senator Flake knows it is an important issue. Mr. Kennedy said they are working with the Department of Energy and rural areas to buy energy off this grid. He added that there is no opportunity to protest the rules and Congressional leaders stand between the customer and the agency.

Mr. Davis said that they are heavily engaged in the forest industry and doing what they can to move it forward. He said they understand that if this industry fails, it would not be good for the area.

Mayor Smith (Pinetop-Lakeside) said as a result of ECO (Eastern Arizona Counties Association) working with Senator McCain, he has seen progress. However, the caveat is if there is a fire, funding is lost. He said the top priority is to get appropriations, not merely pass legislation.

Bryant Herrera (USDA Rural Development) said the office's staff has doubled to two. He said a million dollars in lending and \$60,000 in grant monies have been issued. He is visiting local utility offices and doing community outreach. He reported that six to eight families are on the path to home ownership in Clay Springs, Aripine, and Concho. USDA Rural Development can lend up to \$141,000 in Navajo County and \$134,000 in Apache County, which will be increasing to \$176,000 and \$153,000, respectively.

Ms. Adams (Rep. Ann Kirkpatrick) reported the Congresswoman is involved in these important issues by supporting projects and seeking funding, and is also involved in the EPA's response regarding the Animas River spill.

F. Update by REAL AZ Development Council

Mr. Watson (Navajo County) said he is actively involved in all the issues mentioned by our Congressional representatives. He said the next meeting of the REAL AZ Development Council will include a discussion of forest industries and a tour of the biomass plant. He showed a new video regarding economic development in Navajo and Apache counties. Mayor Seymore suggested that maybe a link to this video could be part of the GeoTour event.

G. Updates by Other Cities and Towns/Counties

Mayor Hamblin (Eagar) reported that John Wayne Days will be held June 3 and 4 and Eagar will hold a July 4th celebration.

Mayor Smith reported that there will be a nature presentation by Ron Miller on April 30, a half-marathon on August 6, and a Rural Policy Forum sponsored by the Chamber of Commerce from August 10 through 12.

Mr. Lundberg (Taylor) reported CDBG (Community Development Block Grant) funds were used to add new wheelchair-accessible playground equipment at Freeman Park. He said Trapper Days will be held at the end of May and the July 4th Rodeo will be the first weekend in July.

Mr. Pauken (Winslow) reported the Cinco de Mayo celebration will be held at Eagle Pavilion and will include live bands. He said with the help of ADEQ (Arizona Department of Environmental Quality), an old Route 66 hotel has been demolished and the owners have a good offer on the property. He thanked all the communities that responded with mutual aid following the officer-involved shooting in Winslow and appreciated the cooperation among the responding communities. He said the floodplain map for Winslow is certified and thanked all three Congressional offices for participating in this effort. He said residents that are now out of the floodplain are saving on insurance costs.

Councilmember Hauser (St. Johns) reported horse trials are held annually and annual motorcycle racing will be held July 3 in a special area developed for this event.

Mayor Seymore said Show Low's new wastewater treatment plant will be operational soon and the city will soon start construction of a new police facility. He said May 7 is the city's 63rd anniversary, and the celebration includes the annual BBQ Throwdown (a barbecue competition) with 35 participants. He said Firehouse Subs will cater the next Association meeting when it is held in Show Low since they will be opening a restaurant in Show Low.

H. Next Association Meeting: Thursday, July 21, 2016, in Holbrook. (*Note: meeting date is moved to Thursday, July 14, 2016 per email dated April 26, 2016.*)

6. **Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned.

Daryl Seymore, Chair

DRAFT