

AGENDA

APACHE AND NAVAJO COUNTIES MAYORS AND COUNCILMEMBERS ASSOCIATION

Thursday, April 21, 2016 – 12:00 Noon

Snowflake Fire Station

324 W. 4th South, Snowflake, Arizona*

1. **Call to Order**
2. **Prayer/Pledge**
3. **Luncheon**
4. **Old Business**
 - A. Approval of Meeting Minutes of January 21, 2016
5. **New Business**
 - A. Showcase by Town of Snowflake
 - 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)
 - C. Update on Route 66 White Mountain GeoTour (Lisa Horne, White Mountain Event Management) – by conference call
 - D. Issues of Regional Interest to Present to League of Arizona Cities and Towns
 - E. Updates by Area Legislators
 - F. Update by REAL AZ Development Council
 - G. Updates by Other Cities and Towns/Counties
 - H. Next Association Meeting: Thursday, July 21, 2016, in Holbrook
6. **Adjournment**

*Directions: When you get to the Town of Snowflake, continue on Main Street until you reach West 4th South (where McDonald's is located), then turn west, drive three blocks, and you will see the fire station on the left (south side of West 4th South).

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE APACHE AND NAVAJO COUNTIES MAYORS AND COUNCILMEMBERS ASSOCIATION HELD ON THURSDAY, JANUARY 21, 2016, AT 12:00 NOON AT TAYLOR FIRE DEPARTMENT, 411 PAPERMILL ROAD, TAYLOR, ARIZONA

MEMBERS PRESENT: Daryl Seymore, Mayor, Show Low; Rennie Crittenden, Councilmember, Show Low; Tom Poscharsky, Mayor, Snowflake; Kerry Ballard, Vice Mayor, Snowflake; Lynn Johnson, Councilmember, Snowflake; Fay Hatch, Mayor, Taylor; Shawn Palmer, Vice Mayor, Taylor; Jason Brubaker, Councilmember, Taylor; Carl Cosper, Councilmember, Taylor; David Smith, Councilmember, Taylor; Greg Smith, Mayor, Pinetop-Lakeside; Patrick Place, Vice Mayor, Pinetop-Lakeside; Leslee Wessel, Councilmember, Pinetop-Lakeside; Bryce Hamblin, Mayor, Eagar; Steve Erhart, Councilmember, Eagar; Kay Hauser, Councilmember, St. Johns; John Richardson, Councilmember, St. Johns; Pete Hancock, Councilmember, St. Johns; Bob Schlesinger, 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; Geri Judd, Town Clerk, Taylor; Brian Richards, Town Manager, Snowflake; Steve Pauken, City Manager, Winslow; Joseph Dedman, Jr., Sheriff, Apache County; Brannon Eagar, Chief Deputy Sheriff, Apache County; KC Clark, Sheriff, Navajo County; Bryan Layton, Assistant County Manager, Navajo County; Paul Watson, Assistant County Manager/Economic Development Director

GUESTS: Kenny Evans, Mayor, Town of Payson; Bobby Davis, Economic Development Director, Town of Payson; Kelly Riggs, Information Technology Director, Gila County; Sharon Adams, Community Outreach, U.S. Representative Ann Kirkpatrick; Buchanan Davis, Outreach Coordinator, U.S. Senator Jeff Flake; Bryant Herrera, Area Specialist, Rural Development, U.S. Department of Agriculture; Rick Stilgenbauer, Outreach Director, Senator John McCain

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 Mayor Hatch (Taylor) and the Pledge of Allegiance was led by Councilmember Smith (Taylor).

3. **Luncheon**

5. **New Business**

A. Presentation Regarding Creating Redundant System for Broadband Services (Mayor Kenny Evans, Town of Payson)

Mayor Evans (Payson) said there have been three Internet outages affecting Payson within the past 10 months and talked about their impact on the community and the resultant loss of \$125,000 in direct business revenue. He added that Payson lost a large potential business customer because of the lack of Internet and communication dependability. In response, a committee has been formed to find a solution, which will help all rural communities.

Bobby Davis, Economic Development Director for the Town of Payson, said unlike rural communities, metropolitan areas have consistently reliable service. The focus is to find a reliable broadband solution for the Rim country that will tie all rural areas together.

Kelly Riggs, Information Technology Director for Gila County, said there needs to be a system in place that allows one network rolling over to a different network in case of an outage to keep business running. He said in addition to a need for more resources, people needed to take responsibility and prevent outages from occurring.

A brief discussion followed about creating a redundant system. Mr. Watson (Navajo County) said the Better Broadband Summit meets in this area. There will be a survey sent to different agencies to identify community needs. Ms. Adams (Rep. Kirkpatrick's office) said she attends the Better Broadband Summit meetings and invited municipalities to contact her if they wanted to share any concerns with Rep. Kirkpatrick.

4. Old Business

A. Approval of Meeting Minutes of September 3, 2015

COUNCILMEMBER ERHART (EAGAR) MOVED TO APPROVE THE SEPTEMBER 3, 2015, ASSOCIATION MINUTES; SECONDED BY MAYOR POSCHARSKY (SNOWFLAKE); PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

5. New Business (continued)

B. Showcase by Town of Taylor

Councilman Brubaker (Taylor) thanked the Silver Creek Senior Center for providing the meal for today's meeting and acknowledged the staff for all their efforts to help the community. He shared highlights about Taylor, including the Walmart under construction. Walmart would be the anchor tenant in the new shopping complex. He said the current Walmart site plan includes a drive-through pharmacy and a bus pull-out with parking spaces for riders. Pads for five stores fronting the new Walmart are under construction, two of which are plumbed for restaurants. Burger King has started construction on one of these

sites. Also, Calvary Chapel, currently located in Snowflake, will be starting construction on a new church in Taylor. Finally, he reported that in March, Taylor and Snowflake fire departments joined to form Taylor-Snowflake Fire and Medical.

C. Presentation on County Law Enforcement and Public Safety Issues and Efforts (Sheriffs of Apache and Navajo Counties)

Sheriff Clark (Navajo County) said through a partnership with the insurance pool, all officers have been outfitted with body cameras. Body cameras allow for quicker prosecution, saves money and time, and protects citizens and officers.

Sheriff Clark said there is a new jail visitation system in Navajo County. Inmates may now "instant message" family members, which allows children to visit parents electronically without going to the jail facility. He said property crimes are tied to some type of addiction. He shared statistics of drugs seized in Navajo County and felt that prescription drug abuse is tied to illegal drug use. He reported that the medical marijuana facility in Holbrook is looking to expand.

Sheriff Clark said a training academy for sheriff and police recruits will be established through a partnership with the Northeast Citizen's Academy, which will be an economic plus for the area. The academy will feature local instructors. He said a grant has been obtained from Twin Arrows Casino for a shooting range.

Sheriff Dedman, Jr. (Apache County) said an assessment was done to gauge citizens' thoughts about the Apache County Sheriff's department. He added that the department has a good relationship with municipalities and state departments.

D. Demonstration and Discussion Regarding Regional Geocaching Event (Gus Lundberg)

Mr. Lundberg (Taylor) showed a brief video featuring two of his daughters to demonstrate how easy it is to find a geocache. He said the objective is to create new geocache sites to bring visitors to the area and recommended 10 sites per participating community.

Discussion followed about the best time of year to hold the event, who will coordinate the prizes, and setting up a website. The attendees chose fall 2016 for the finale event. Consultant Lisa Horne will coordinate the regional event with the assistance of a planning committee of geocaching representatives, coordinate prizes, and create a website.

Mayor Seymore said names of each participating location's geocaching representative should to be submitted by the end of January.

E. Discussion of Suggested Topics of Mutual Interest for January 28, 2016 Legislative Day

Mayor Seymore said there is no change to HURF (Highway User Revenue Funds) funding, and the PSPRS (Public Safety Personnel Retirement System) bill has issues to tackle with a new governing board installed. He noted a couple of House bills that are being considered and suggested contacting state representatives concerning HB2026, Municipal Tax Exemption.

F. Updates by Area Legislators

Mr. Davis (Sen. Flake's office) said it's been a busy new year and he is working with property owners and the federal government concerning natural resources.

Ms. Adams said Representative Kirkpatrick is working on mining issues and strongly supports the VA (Veterans Administration). She invited anyone with feedback or input on the campaign to contact her.

Mr. Stilgenbauer (Sen. McCain's office) said the annual NACO (National Association of Counties) conference is scheduled to begin February 20 in Washington, DC. The National League of Cities' Congressional Conference is the second week of March, and he offered his assistance to arrange visits with government officials, as requested, for those attending the conference.

Mr. Herrera (USDA) said his office is active in Winslow working on grant programs and transactions have been completed for plumbing and roofing grants in the Holbrook area. He added that the USDA issued a public service announcement and has sent 32 packages for loan and grant requests for plumbing and roofing assistance.

G. Update by Real AZ Development Council

Mr. Watson (Navajo County) said he appreciates efforts by the Town of Payson to find a solution to reduce broadband outages. He is relying on several individuals to identify ideas that will enhance broadband capacity and redundancy.

Mr. Watson said the Apache Railway is intact, thanks to a private investor and the cattle company. He gave a brief update of industry projects in the area. He discussed forest-related issues and said the wood supply is low for local companies and expressed the need to streamline the process with the Forest Service.

Mr. Watson introduced Brian Layton, Assistant County Manager, who started over a week ago.

H. Updates by Other Cities and Towns/Counties

Mayor Pocharsky (Snowflake) said he is looking forward to Walmart's opening and reported that a new Family Dollar will be constructed in Snowflake.

Mr. Pauken (Winslow) anticipated big changes in the City of Winslow's budget next year and said the city's finances are taking shape. He reported that FEMA (Federal Emergency Management Agency) can change flood maps, but it doesn't mean lenders will stop requiring flood insurance. He invited lenders, realtors, and insurance carriers to attend a meeting on this issue. Mr. Pauken also reported that it will cost Winslow \$11 million for a levy to protect the town from flooding.

Councilmember Richardson (St. Johns) said National Bank just opened in town.

Mayor Smith (Pinetop-Lakeside) reported that revenue is up and expenses are down in Pinetop-Lakeside.

Ms. Ryall (Eagar) said the town is in the process of hiring a Police Chief and is working on an industrial park master plan. She reported that Eagar is bringing back John Wayne Days.

Mayor Seymore (Show Low) said the new police facility is moving forward with a new designer and contractor. He reported that the annual community fast held during the holidays raised \$17,000 to help those in need.

I. Next Association Meeting: Thursday, April 21, 2016, in Snowflake

6. **Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 2:15 p.m.

Daryl Seymore, Chair