

**Pojoaque Valley Planning Committee Meeting Summary**  
**Thursday, July 27, 2006 6:30pm – 8:30pm**  
**Sammy Quintana Community Board Room**

*(Note: This is a meeting summary and is not intended to give the meeting contents in its entirety. If you would like to get more details about the meeting, please contact another committee member that was present at the meeting, or the SF County Planning staff.)*

The meeting was opened by David Ortiz at about 6:40pm.

**News from the Committee**

Amelia Garcia commented that she was glad that superintendent Tony Trujillo came to our last meeting. It shows that she is interested in what we are trying to do, especially utilizing what we can from the old school building for educational and community purposes. David O. added that she gave us ideas regarding education that will help us formulate our goals. Jack said that the County will write her a thank you letter.

Chuck gave us an update on the Qwest settlement and on high speed Internet connections for the Valley. He passed around a newspaper article describing a settlement between the PRC and Qwest. Qwest must put \$265 million into infrastructure (for the entire state) over the next 42 months. If all goes well, some areas could have DSL by the end of the year. There will be a PRC meeting Wednesday, August 2<sup>nd</sup> regarding this issue.

**Infrastructure Capital Improvements Plan (ICIP)**

ICIP refers to money requested by the County and allocated by the state legislature for specific projects. The money would be funneled through the County.

Renee gave us list of projects that were funded in Santa Fe County last year, with three projects for the Pojoaque Valley highlighted. These were (1) Pojoaque Valley Agricultural/Commerce Center (\$100,000), (2) Pojoaque Valley Community Center (\$200,000) and the Pojoaque Valley Senior Center (\$200,000). Items (2) and (3) will be used to begin planning for the community center that is part of our plan. Although the two centers are listed separately, they can be combined into one building. The group then discussed what projects we should ask for in next year's funding.

**The Multi-Purpose Trail**

We agreed that the trail should be on the list. Jack will talk to experts in the County and on COLTPAC to come up with an appropriate amount to request. We would also ask for COLTPAC money for building the trail. Harry Montoya said that we should keep Pojoaque Pueblo informed of our plans as they are considering a river trail that could possibly connect to our proposed trail.

**Acequias**

David O. suggested that we request \$500,000 per year for Pojoaque area acequias. If this money is approved, the funding would go to the County, and then individual acequias would apply to the County for money. He commented that the County already supports the acequias by helping with maintenance. He suggested that if we get the money, it could be used to improve one acequia per year, as a demonstration/pilot project. He suggested criteria for choosing which acequia to do first would be a combination of the number of parciantes and the current condition of the ditch. Otra Banda, El Rancho, Los Indios and Barrancas could be priority candidates.

## **Wastewater Treatment**

Jack told us that the Pueblos are planning a wastewater system, and the schools will be the first non-Pueblo entity to connect to it. David O. told us that a previous plan to set up a system that would handle waste from Española down through Pojoaque has changed and will not include Pojoaque. That is why the Pueblo has decided to handle wastewater.

Harry Montoya told us that the plant will serve Indian and non-Indian people, and that it will be located where the existing holding ponds are. The design has been completed. The intent is to serve the area from Nambe Pueblo possibly as far as San Ildefonso. The Jacona Land Grant and San Ildefonso have expressed interest, but nothing firm has been worked out. The projected cost is \$11 million to hook up people from Nambe to El Rancho. Harry said that the Joint Powers Agreement between SF County and Pojoaque Pueblo is nearly complete. One issue is that the County wants perpetual easements from the Pueblo. Another issue is what will be done with the treated water (also called return flow credits.) The County wants the treated water to go into the acequias. David O. told us that the schools were unable to obtain return flow credits for their wastewater at this time, but that could change. Harry suggested that we ask for an additional \$1 million a year from ICIP for this project.

## **Pojoaque Community Center**

Jack said that the \$400,000 that was allocated for a Senior and a Community Center this year can be used for design and planning. We want to remain flexible about where the buildings will be until we see what can be worked out. Harry told us that the money is usually available for 4-5 years, and that although the money was allocated for two purposes, it was assumed that a joint center would be built. The money was not allocated specifically for the Jacona Land Grant location. Jack noted that although the L-wing of the old school will be demolished, it still might be possible to build on that site. The County could possibly rent the site from the School District.

Ben Gomez added that the El Rancho community center has obtained \$220,000 to expand.

Levi Valdez asked who will control how the \$400,000 will be spent for the proposed centers. Jack said that if our plan results in an entity like a community council, this entity may be able to allocate the money. Otherwise, the County will be in charge of the allocation.

## **Action Plans**

Jack emphasized that our plan must contain things that the County can act upon. We focused on Action 1C: "Provide community support for a quality education and create more job opportunities and recreation for Valley youth."

We agreed that we should go to the youth now to help with the plan development. We discussed the idea of youth focus groups. We also discussed the possibility of making a presentation during an assembly. Renee thought that would not go over well, and thought going to individual classes or school organizations might be better. There were suggestions to get ideas using email or a blog. Carl agreed to set up a mailbox if that is what we decide to do. This Action plan will be put on hold until school is in session and we figure out what steps to take next to get student input.

The next meeting will be Thursday, August 10<sup>th</sup> where we will discuss Goal 2: "Insure a clean water supply" and the Actions associated with this goal.

Notes by E.B. and R.V.