

**Pojoaque Valley Planning Committee Meeting Notes**  
**PVC Administrative Building**  
**June 10, 2004, 6:30-8:30pm**

Notes taken by Renee Villarreal

The committee started the meeting around 6:40 pm. The meeting was facilitated by Vicente Roybal. He was assisted by Jack Kolkmeier, Santa Fe County Planning Director, and Renee Villarreal, Planning Intern. Renee worked with SF County last summer and will be assisting the County, specifically the PVP Committee, for the summer months.

The meeting started off with Jack discussing that the County Open Lands and Trails Planning and Advisory Committee (COLTPAC) has money that can be used for improvements of trails and open spaces. Specifically he thinks funding can come from COLTPAC to improve and upgrade the cross-country trail as a joint project with the County, Committee, Jacona Land Grant, and the Pueblos. Jack thinks it would be a good idea for the Committee to spearhead this project. There would need to be collaboration between Pojoaque Valley Public Schools, the Jacona Land Grant, and San Ildefonso and Pojoaque Pueblos. This could be one project where we could get various political entities on board for a common interest. It may be possible to get a joint agreement with the Pueblos so they will participate. Especially since the area has some of the strongest high school cross-country runners in the state and we should capitalize on this.

David Ortiz pointed out that the Student Body is 20% Native American and he will find out how many represent the cross-country team. Mary Louise Williams said that it would be helpful to get a good map to show what is out there; where are the boundaries of the Land Grant and Pueblos, and could this trail possibly link up to Diablo Canyon and in the north to Chimayo.

David said there will be another Pojoaque school board meeting on Wednesday, June 23<sup>rd</sup>. San Ildefonso will be host. It would be a good idea to bring the cross-country trail idea up to the board to see if we can get their support. In addition, San Ildefonso will be accessible to get their input as well.

Jack mentioned that Santa Clara Pueblo already has a cross-country trail that is situated on their land. They already use this trail for cross-country meets. He also said that in order to receive COLTPAC funding, the trail must expand its uses to be a trail not only for running, but also for equestrian, bicycling, and walking access. Mary Louise also pointed out that this could give us an opportunity to incorporate environmental education, as a component to broaden the trail plan. We can think how it can all tie together. This would be a viable way to protect and natural environment in an educational setting.

Vicente Roybal-Jasso stated that he is going to start a Youth Corps group in the Valley. Because there has been a high suicide and drop out rate in the area, he thinks this is a crucial time to find alternatives for youth that feel like there is nothing worth living for, or a good reason to stay in school. With the Youth Corps, the trail project that Jack mentioned could be one of the Corps first projects in which to get involved. David mentioned that Hands Across Cultures in Nambe (Commissioner Harry Montoya's project) has some type of Pueblo Corps Restoration Youth group. We should talk to the Commissioner about this.

Jack mentioned that maybe we should have Paul Olafson, Director of the Open Space and Trails Division for SF County, to come speak to us about what COLTPAC does and how it can fit into this project.

Then Jack mentioned that if someone wants to talk to him about the Romella situation, to please contact him. If someone wants to talk to him on the phone or in person in private about the matter, he is available. For respect to Romella, the Committee does not need to talk about this publicly, but if they have any questions or concerns please contact him.

Also Sarah Ijadi has resigned, as her family will be going to Iran (where her husband's from) for a couple months. Her family will also be moving back to Albuquerque soon.

Robert Griego's wife just had a baby. He used to be one of the planners for the PVC, and will be assisting us in the planning process upon his return from paternity leave.

Jack then began to talk about how the Board of Commissioners view the role of the PVP Committee. Commissioner Montoya responded by saying that it is a means to get feedback from the committee as to what is going on in their community. Also to be informed about the wastewater study and how it could have ramifications to the Pojoaque Valley.

David said he thought the role of the committee is come up with the big picture. That water/wastewater is only a piece of it. The plan that will come out of the planning process will set precedence – and the plan will be based on the overall picture.

Commissioner Montoya said the pieces are what fit into the plan, which was sanctioned by the Board to create this community plan. Jack clarified by saying that a development review committee is the entity that looks at development as it pertains to local and general ordinances and plans. In order to become a Local Development Review Committee (LDRC) there are two criterion: (1) community must be a Traditional Historic Community next to a metro area – which keeps it from getting annexed; and (2) have to do a community plan. This plan is a problem-solving device to plan for a community's needs'. It is a land use plan

that is not a strategic plan or comprehensive per se. But ultimately this committee's plan can oversee what goes on in the Valley.

Steven Benjamin asked if the committee has legal power, or is it just an advisory committee. Jack stated that a LDRC can make decisions on some issues but ultimately will only be able to make recommendations to the Board for representation purposes. But you have to consider:

- 1) How will the ordinances function?
- 2) Will they solve the problems in the area?
- 3) Will they function as a monitoring device?

These are the questions that will come up with the creation of the community land use plan.

Jack said that communities in the past that could not get support for water/wastewater initiatives are going to have more support with the new County Commissioners on board. The Water Alliance was formed in reaction to water issues, specifically with the Aamodt settlement.

Commissioner Montoya said it is too soon to get any opinions from the Board about the Aamodt settlement and water/wastewater issues in the Valley.

David mentioned that a Watermaster, Brian Gallegos, was just appointed to the Pojoaque Basin. This person will have federal authority to turn off water in the area if he sees fit. It will be the watermaster's job to enforce the current law – which is already vague to begin with, and to also make sure that wells are being metered in the area. This is the first year that the state legislature appropriated half a million to implement Watermasters for specific basins throughout New Mexico. The Pojoaque Basin is not the only area that was appointed a Watermaster.

Steve asked if these issues should be addressed and dealt with from a regional perspective - especially because water is clearly a regional structure initiative.

Jack said that is the reason why we need to strategize. And this must involve all relationships with the area and the region. With the Tribal Summits we have made our intentions known to the Pueblos. They also made it clear, that they want strategies from the PVP Committee. Until the PVPC provides them with these, they will not be involved in the planning process.

Doug Crosby stated that he didn't know this plan was only for the traditional communities of the Valley. He said if this is the case we are doomed to failure if we do not include the Pueblos.

Jack stated again that it is by choice that they are not formally involved. But that this doesn't mean we are not planning and strategizing for the Valley region. This also includes the Pueblos, however we cannot plan for them. He reiterated

that as we move into developing strategies, we will engage all the stakeholders identified during the SWOT analyses.

We then went to the poster of the Agriculture SWOT and began adding points and ideas to the board. Some of the issues that were not included in the SWOT matrix but were written down from the discussion were:

- People building on irrigable land
- Need to locate the crop reports done by the Bureau of Reclamation – Pat C. Sandoval that in charge of the Irrigation District would be the person to contact.
- We need to be able to provide land for future generations – familial transfers
  - Close loopholes in the Code
  - Issue of variances – easy to apply for one to get around Code
  - Need to look for legal documentation on this issue
- Concept of Family Compounds:
  - Limits the consumption of agricultural land
  - What is the core value of the community addressing agricultural preservation?
  - More than one core value in the area
- Historical Land Use Patterns – very different that what we use today – the family transfer concept is fairly new
- Alternatives – Transfer of Development Rights (TDRs).

The group continued to update and revise the Agriculture SWOT. Please see the updated version as it reflects the discussion that took place during this meeting.

The meeting concluded at 8:40pm.