

# VALEO November 16, 2021

## **In Attendance:**

Gerard Saiz – Valencia County, Chairman

Joseph Bizzell – Valencia County, Commissioner

Mike Milam – Valencia County, Clerk

Orlando Montoya – Valencia County, HR Director

Angie Womack – Valencia County, Manager’s Office

Randy Gutierrez – Valencia County, Warden

Nancy Jo Gonzales – Valencia County, Community Development/OAP Director

Charles Griego – Village of Los Lunas, Mayor

Greg Martin – Village of Los Lunas, Administrator

Dr. Martin Moore – City of Rio Communities – City Manager

Ralph Mimms – Contactor for City of Rio Communities – Community Development

Julia Dendinger – Valencia County News Bulletin - Reporter

- 1) Call to Order by Board of County Commissioner – Chairman, Gerard Saiz**
- 2) Pledge of Allegiance – Led by Ralph Mimms**
- 3) Introductions - Everyone**
- 4) Approval of minutes: Motion for approval by Gerard Saiz, Second by Greg Martin**

## **5) New Business**

- Valencia County Older Americans Program – OAP/Community Development Director, Nancy Jo Gonzales**

Nancy Jo Gonzales gave an overview of what the Older Americans Program is. The funding for the program comes from Federal and State funds, with the remaining balance being carried by the County in the amount of \$360,000 per year. The budget has remained pretty flat, so the use of CARES and ARAP funds have been a game changer.

With CARES and ARPA funds, the OAP sites have been able to purchase new vehicles, expand kitchens, and remodel centers.

The Senior population is having a hard time currently without the social interactions due to centers either being closed or only open for food service. The program was awarded \$7,000 for a vaccination outreach program in December. Collaboration with all municipalities is vital for a safe opening.

We have been doing grab and go food service on top of the home deliveries. This is a free service to Valencia County Seniors. We see a couple of thousand dollars in donations annually which is an asset.

We are currently working on bringing a center to Highland Meadows.

- **Valencia County Adult Detention – Warden, Randy Gutierrez**

Warden Gutierrez stated that during the pandemic we are facing more issues of detainees trying to come into the facility with drugs and other contraband.

We have ordered the Intercept/Tek 84 Full Body Scanner – External and Internal. This device will run photos through the APHIS system, take temperatures, and detect anything that is within the clothes or body. This device will keep the amount of contraband coming into the facility down.

The current demographics for the facility are 22 females and 130 males, with age ranges from 18-80 years old.

Any monies that the detainee comes in with will be put on their “books” to use for commissary, phone time, and entertainment (tablets, movies, books)

We have implemented the GED program on the tablets for anyone wanting to complete their general education. There is currently a 10% activity rate on this.

The normal turnaround from intake to release is about 14 days.

More funding, programs, mental health care, and job programs need to be funded and distributed to the facilities from the State level.

- **Valencia County Ordinance 2021-04: Removal of Inactive, Broken, or Replaced Utility Poles – Commissioner, Joseph Bizzell**

Commissioner Bizzell explained that with so much new infrastructure and different utilities going in within Valencia County, I am seeing a lot of broken, rotting, leaning utility poles that are an eyesore and may become a danger to the residents of the county.

Usually NEC and NSEC give 7 days for the removal of an old utility pole if it has been replaced.

The owner of the utility pole is usually the last utility provider that has touched the pole. The issue we are having is that no one wants to claim responsibility for the pole.

The poles are creosote soaked so they cannot be burned or disposed of.

The VC Ordinance 2021-04 was passed a month ago and has not gone into enforcement as of yet.

**6) VALEO 2022 Calendar – Village of Los Lunas, Administrator Gregory Martin**

Administrator Martin discussed the Articles of Association and referred to previous minutes.

Participation in VALEO is key to keep the communication open with all the municipalities. We would really like to see more people coming to the meetings.

Meetings will be held quarterly, the 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday of the month: February 15, 2022, May 17, 2022, August 16, 2022, and November 15, 2022. Los Lunas will take February, May did not have any takers, City of Rio Communities will take August, and Valencia County will take November.

**7) Next Meeting: February 15, 2022 – location TBD**

**8) Adjourn at 6:48 PM**