

MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF SILVER CITY
Joint Work Session with Grant County Commission
GRANT COUNTY ADMINISTRATION CENTER, 1400 HWY. 180 E., SILVER CITY, NM
November 6, 2007 – 5:30 p.m.

Present: James R. Marshall, Mayor
A. Judy Ward, District 1
Thomas Nupp, District 2
Simon Wheaton-Smith, District 3
Steve May, District 4

Also Present: Alex C. Brown-Town Manager-Finance Director
Yolanda C. Holguin, Acting Town Clerk

CALL TO ORDER AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

DISCUSS SEPTAGE ISSUES WITH THE GRANT COUNTY COMMISSION AND THE CITY OF BAYARD COUNCIL; This was a work session, no action was taken. – Chairman/Commissioner Rudy Martinez called the work session to order at 5:39 pm. He asked those attending to introduce themselves. He stated that the purpose of the work session was to formulate a regional solution for the septage issue in Grant County. Priscilla Lucero, Executive Director of the SWNM Council of Governments, introduced Annette Morales and Robert Marquez of Medius Inc.

Ms. Morales stated that Medius Inc. was hired by the State of New Mexico to coordinate and oversee the implementation of the Colonias Initiative Grants and gave a brief history of the Colonias. She explained how Colonias funds were administered; the rankings and definitions of Colonias funds and the importance of addressing the serious and critical issue of septage in Grant County.

The Council of City of Bayard, Council of the Town of Silver City, and the Grant County Commission discussed the septic issue, possible solutions, options for the \$350,000 in Colonias funds, and application for future funding. Chairman Martinez stated that the regional wastewater system was not designed to handle additional waste. Mr. Brown stated that the Town of Silver City had been seeking funds; and that a preliminary engineering report included five options to increase the septage capacity from 35,000 gallons to 100,000 gallons at the Silver City Plant. He stated that Option C, two holding basins, was the most viable option and could possibly be completed in eight months depending on funding. He stated that no additional personnel would be needed to operate the Silver City Plant. The Councils and Commission agreed that concentrating on the Silver City Plant would be the most reasonable answer to address the septage issue. The discussion continued in reference to possible options for additional funding, meeting with Phelps Dodge for additional time to except septage, completing preliminary paperwork for additional funds and user fees. The Commission commented that additional funding would be committed by Grant County to ensure the project's completion. All agreed to also work together to increase the capacity for septage at the Bayard Treatment Facility.

The Grant County Commission agreed that Grant County would accept and approve the grant agreement for the \$350,000, a Joint Powers Agreement (JPA) would be established between the entities and approved by Department of Finance and Administration; the Bayard Council and the Town of Silver City Council agreed. Jon Saari, Grant County's Manager, stated that he would work with the County's attorney on the JPA and have it ready for the next Commission meeting. All agreed that working together with mutual issues was a benefit to all entities.

ADJOURNMENT – Mayor Marshall made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 6:33 p.m. Commissioner Sedillo seconded the motion, all were in favor, motion passed.

/s/

James R. Marshall, Mayor

Attest:

/s/

Ann. L. Mackie, Town Clerk