



OFFICE OF THE COCONINO COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

SPECIAL EMERGENCY SESSION MINUTES

JULY 22, 2019

4:00 p.m.

**The Coconino County Emergency Operations Center, the Northern Arizona Center for Entrepreneurship and Technology (NACET) building,
located at 2225 N. Gemini Road, Flagstaff, AZ.**

Present: Chairwoman Lena Fowler, Vice Chair Jim Parks, Supervisor Art Babbott, Supervisor Elizabeth Archuleta and Supervisor Matt Ryan.

Also Present: Representative Bob Thorpe, Sheriff Jim Driscoll, City of Flagstaff Mayor Coral Evans, City of Flagstaff Manager Barbara Goodrich, City of Flagstaff Contracts Manager Stacey Brechler-Knaggs, City of Flagstaff Fire Chief Mark Gaillard, County Manager James Jayne, Deputy County Manager/Public Works Director Lucinda Andreani, Director of Special Initiatives Kim Musselman, Volunteer for United Way Sybil Smith, Executive Assistant to District 4 – Steven Flanagan, Executive Assistant to District 2 – Theresa Munoz, Director of Emergency Management Todd Whitney, City of Flagstaff Councilmember Charlie Odegaard, Interim State Forester David Tenney, Policy Advisor to Governor Doug Ducey - Hunter Moore, National Weather Service Meteorologist Brian Klimowski, County Engineer Chris Tressler, Chief Deputy Sheriff Bret Axlund, City of Flagstaff Public Works Director Andy Bertelsen, Public Works Trade Supervisor Sam Beckett, City of Flagstaff Operations Manager Mark Richardson, Flagstaff Chief of Police Kevin Treadway, Arizona Public Service Division Manager John Haro, City of Flagstaff Water Reclamation Manager Jim Huchel, City of Flagstaff Streets Director Scott Overton, Public Affairs Intern Julian Wolff, Public Affairs Director Eric Peterson, Clerk of the Board of Supervisors Lindsay Daley and Deputy Clerk of the Board of Supervisors Valerie Webber.

Also present via telephone: City of Flagstaff Councilmembers Scott Odegaard, Jim McCarthy, Jamie Whelan, Austin Aslan and Flagstaff Deputy City Manager Shannon Anderson.

Chairwoman Fowler called the meeting to order at 4:01 p.m. She stated the reason for the meeting on short notice is due to the Museum Fire.

Emergency Session:

1. Consideration and possible action affirming the Declaration of Emergency issued by Chairwoman Fowler on July 22, 2019 pursuant to A.R.S. 26-311, regarding the Museum Fire, proclaiming the existence of an emergency.
Emergency Management

Chairwoman Fowler stated she signed a Declaration of Emergency earlier this afternoon and asked if there was a motion to affirm the Declaration of Emergency.

Action: approve, **Moved by:** Supervisor Art Babbott, **Seconded by:** Supervisor Elizabeth Archuleta. The motion passed unanimously.

2. Consideration and possible action authorizing the County Manager to review, approve and execute on behalf of Coconino County, the Intergovernmental Agreement between the Northern Arizona Intergovernmental Public Transportation Authority (NAIPTA) and Coconino County, defining the roles and responsibilities for public transportation services during Emergency Operations Center engagements; effective July 22, 2019. **Public Works**

Emergency Management Director Todd Whitney explained that approval of the agreement would solidify an Intergovernmental Agreement between the agencies, which would allow the use of NAIPTA services if needed; for example, to move people from shelter sites to additional shelter sites.

Action: approve, **Moved by:** Supervisor Art Babbott, **Seconded by:** Vice Chair Jim Parks. The motion passed unanimously.

The Board of Supervisors and City of Flagstaff City Council were briefed on the status of the Museum Fire and issues resulting, as follows:

Sheriff Driscoll noted Deputies have spoken to residents from the communities that will be impacted. The evacuation is to give responders an opportunity to do the fire back burns.

Public Affairs Director Eric Peterson provided an update on communication outreach and issues related to the fire approaching the cell towers on Devil's Head; potential loss of cell phone service North to Page.

Arizona Public Service Division Manager John Haro said if the fire were to go up to APS lines on Devil's Head, they will de-energize the line. If they lose one line, they will lose the other and rely on backup generation.

United Way Volunteer Sybil Smith said they are starting to get calls for donations and volunteers.

Deputy County Manager/Public Works Director Lucinda Andreani stated staff is looking at having a community meeting tomorrow night at 7:00 p.m. at Flagstaff High School.

County Manager James Jayne said the intent of the meeting is important, however, it has not been confirmed by the Forest Service yet.

Sheriff Jim Driscoll spoke about the potential for the County to enact a County Ordinance implementing a fire ban.

There was discussion regarding the imposition of a fire ban.

Chairwoman Fowler felt that staff should start talking to the Forest Service about a ban.

Supervisor Babbott asked what the weekly Monday morning call/briefing was where they discuss that decision and said he has no problem reaching out to Art Gonzalez with the Forest Service.

City of Flagstaff Fire Chief Mark Gaillard stated that he does not think the Forest Service is planning to implement fire restrictions at this time.

Meteorologist Brian Klimowski mentioned it is raining now and they are expecting moderate monsoon conditions throughout the week.

Supervisor Archuleta stated that when she went door to door in Timberline, a few residents expressed their desire for fire restrictions.

Sheriff Driscoll affirmed they are hearing the same thing.

Mayor Coral Evans stated that every year the Council talks about fire restrictions and they are talking about this in the middle of a catastrophe. She would like to see the fire ban set sooner in the season.

Supervisor Matt Ryan said he would favor moving on something right now as a precaution; they can always adjust.

Vice Chair Jim Parks stated he has heard concerns from those who want to have a fire ban. He stated the caution is necessary, he would be in favor of a restriction.

Chairwoman Fowler asked if staff could work with the Forest Service to implement a fire ban and the County to work in conjunction with them.

Deputy County Manager/Public Works Director Lucinda Andreani went over a map that was handed out (*a copy of which was provided to the Clerk*). She highlighted the current burn activity and a watershed (Spruce Ave).

County Engineer Christopher Tressler explained that the top of the watershed has burned. JE Fuller Engineering will start running models to see what will be running off for drainage.

Meteorologist Brian Klimowski stated there will be pockets of 1 to 1.5 inches.

Engineer Tressler said they are working with the City of Flagstaff to focus on areas they will need to respond to. The County will go in and place jersey barriers in the area that was evacuated today.

Deputy County Manager/Public Works Director Lucinda Andreani stated they need to know how fast and deep the water will flow. Right now they will use a 500 year floodplain. There will be stations for sandbag distribution and Natural Resources Conservation Service, Forest Service, County, City of Flagstaff and Department of Emergency and Military Affairs will be working together. The Burned Area Emergency Response (BAER) team will be coming in next week. The BEAR team leader will be clarified in the next couple of days. She said there are 2 rain gages up there now and the City has 2-3. This will be critical for notifications regarding flooding.

City of Flagstaff Streets Director Scott Overton is preparing equipment and man power to keep roads open. He stated that he does not know what they are responding to; however, they have been clearing culverts for the last 6 weeks preparing for monsoons.

Director Andreani stated that they will run the model overnight and they are looking upstream where there are some areas they can mitigate and hold the fan (water fanning out). They will start talking to people tomorrow. The level of communication for this certain area needs different messaging and specifically with this set of property owners.

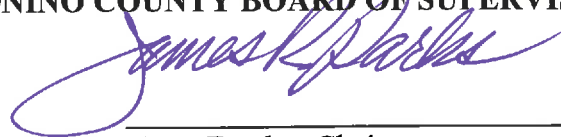
Supervisor Babbott talked about the Mt. Elden Estates community.

Meteorologist Klimowski stated they will be watching closely and issuing warnings for the area as they watch.

Chairwoman Fowler stated they will continue the discussion tomorrow, there will be a meeting at 8:00 a.m.


There being no further discussion, the meeting was adjourned at 4:55 p.m.

COCONINO COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS



Lena Fowler, Chairwoman

ATTEST:


Lindsay Daley, Clerk of the Board of Supervisors