



OFFICE OF THE COCONINO COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

SPECIAL EMERGENCY SESSION MINUTES

JULY 29, 2019

9:00 a.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 and Supervisor Elizabeth Archuleta (joined the call at approximately 9:10 a.m. via phone), Supervisor Art Babbott was also present telephonically.

Absent: Vice Chair Jim Parks, Supervisor Matt Ryan

Also Present: City of Flagstaff City Manager Barbara Goodrich, Deputy County Manager/Public Works Director Lucinda Andreani, Information Technology Director Matt Fowler, Executive Assistant to District 4 – Steven Flanagan, Administrative Specialist to District 4 – Leland Jones, Information Technology Manager Helen Costello, Director of Emergency Management Todd Whitney, Flagstaff Public Works Director Andy Bertelsen, County Special Initiatives Director Kim Musselman, Flagstaff Streets Director Scott Overton, Flagstaff Vice Mayor Jamie Whelan, County Engineer Christopher Tressler, Clerk of the Board of Supervisors Lindsay Daley.

Also Present telephonically: Public Affairs Director Eric Peterson, Director of Arizona Division of Emergency Management Wendy Smith-Reeve, Flagstaff City Council Member Regina Salas. There were more on the phone that did not introduce themselves.

County Emergency Director Todd Whitney called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. and stated that this is an Emergency Operations Center policy meeting for the Museum Fire emergency. The intent of the meeting is to provide updates regarding the emergency and its impact to the community.

A representative from the National Weather Service that was on the phone provided a weather update. There is a 50% chance of storms on Tuesday and even more potential for storms and rain on Wednesday.

County Emergency Management Director Todd Whitney provided an Emergency Operations Center update. He went over the objectives, which include:

- coordinate recovery and flooding mitigation efforts with regional partners
- support actions to enhance life safety, property protection for all citizens
- provide timely and accurate public information and warning to all residents and travelers
- provide information and coordination with elected officials, regional partners, volunteers agencies and the State of Arizona Emergency Operations Center
- Continue to support incident and recovery needs and current operations

Director Whitney provided an update on the response costs to date: approximately \$140,000 for volunteer time, Emergency Operations Time, supplies and equipment and the pre-disaster mitigation costs is approximately \$815,000- not including public works employee time. Director Whitney explained that there are five sandbag machines on site and they have ordered approximately 300,000 more sandbags.

Deputy County Manager Lucinda Andreani, County Engineer Christopher Tressler, Flagstaff Streets Director Scott Overton and Flagstaff Public Works Director Andy Bertelsen provided an update on flood mitigation efforts.

Deputy County Manager Andreani stated they are doing well on getting approvals of property owners. There was a Northern Arizona University crew out helping with sandbags.

County Engineer Christopher Tressler showed a map on the wall and explained that as you get towards Dortha Street and past Cedar Street, staff is trying to teach people that they are vulnerable and recommend to them what they need to do.

Flagstaff Streets Director Scott Overton stated that the City has brought in Woodson Engineering to help assess and their engineering group is starting to work south and into the neighborhood.

Flagstaff Public Works Director Andy Bertelsen stated that the City is preparing a stormwater map right now as well as a map showing the utilities. He stated that they need to debrief the entire group and City staff and that Jim Janecek is also doing a lot of work looking at the drainages.

At this point in the meeting it was affirmed that Chairwoman Fowler and Supervisor Archuleta were on the phone at 9:10 a.m.

There was a discussion regarding the process of deployment once flooding starts. Engineer Tressler stated that the County is working with JE Fuller and that it is important to have the linkage for the City to be able to respond. Director Bertelsen stated that Scott Overton is working with Carl Fuller and they will set thresholds to be able to then deploy. Deputy County Manager Andreani stated that Christopher Tressler needs to deploy the Flood Director system today.

Flagstaff City Manager Barbara Goodrich stated that in response to an email that many people received regarding sandbags on sidewalks, they are having boots on the ground look where there may be sandbags on sidewalks and the City will look and see if they are placed properly; however, the priority is handling the emergency.

Supervisor Archuleta stated she agrees with Manager Goodrich's response. She and the Mayor are planning to have "street meetings" throughout the neighborhood and this can be something they touch on at those meetings with residents.

Those present continued to discuss flood mitigation efforts. Deputy Manager Andreani explained that the majority of what will happen in Sunnyside is sandbags around the homes and that is 90% of the mitigation. They still need to look at who is at the highest risk and work out from there. She stated that they do not have enough resources to do everyone's sandbags in Sunnyside so they need to hit those at the highest risk and again work out. She stated that the County has brought in a contracted Engineer Chris Duza and he is putting eyes this morning on the mitigation efforts to make sure there is nothing in place that has adverse impacts. Engineer Tressler stated they are moving fast and worked through the weekend and are anxious to see what the rain does to then guide what more needs to be done with mitigation. Deputy Manager Andreani stated that the weather has now changed to a slight chance of storms this afternoon and that the expected peak is this Wednesday. She stated that she has talked to the crews that will be out doing ground work and told them that when flooding occurs to get to high ground.

County Public Affairs Director Eric Peterson provided an update on public information efforts. He stated that the Joint Information Center is now virtual. Clare Harper with the City of Flagstaff is running the call center today and there will be people rotating in throughout the week to manage the call center. There has been a low volume of calls into the call center. He stated that they have messaging prepared for any flooding and as of now the Mt. Elden Estates neighborhood is still in the "Set" stage.

Flagstaff City Manager Goodrich stated that there were concerns yesterday after the Paradise meeting that there was a message going out that staff had told residents that when flooding occurs people should seek shelter. She stated that they are making contact with people in the neighborhood to make sure they know that when flooding occurs they should shelter in place.

Deputy Manager Andreani stated that 1600 pieces of mail is going out today to both occupants and property owners with information on expected flooding as well as a resource list and sandbag wall diagram. She thanked Supervisor Archuleta for making a call to the Forest Service regarding the rain gages and allowing the County to get in to install the gages.

Supervisor Archuleta stated that she and the Mayor are planning out their street meeting for the week and asked if Christopher Tressler can provide an update at the 4:30 pm policy meeting as to the plan he is working on.

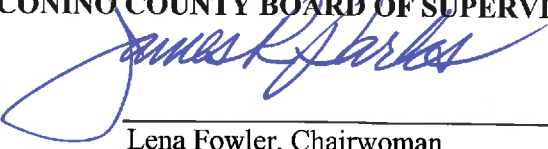
Councilmember Jamie Whelan stated that her concern is that as there may be lower hazard in the Sunnyside neighborhood, the impact may be greater for families. She stated that Sunnyside needs help and that when Christopher's plan is done we will need to get out there. Deputy Manager Andreani stated that there will also be a need for Spanish translators.

Chairwoman Fowler thanked everyone for their work. County Manager Jimmy Jayne also thanked everyone.

There was no action taken by the Board of Supervisors at this meeting.

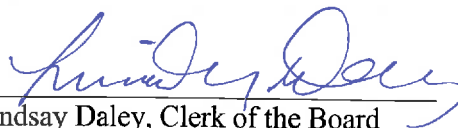
Emergency Director Whitney adjourned the meeting at 9:35 a.m.

COCONINO COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS



Lena Fowler, Chairwoman

ATTEST:



Lindsay Daley, Clerk of the Board

