SUMMARY OF MEETING

Committee Members Present

Larry Hecker, Chair
Carolyn Campbell, Vice Chair
Pat Benchik
Gary Davidson
Pete Delgado
Paul Diaz
Jesus Gomez
Byron Howard (after summary vote)
Terri Hutts
Rebecca Manoleas
Ted Prezelski (after summary vote)
Chris Sheafe
Thomas Six
Dan Sullivan
Tom Warne
Greg Wexler

Committee Members Absent

A.C. Marriotti
Peter Backus
Rene Gastelum
Harry George
Kelly Gomez
David Lyons
Wade McLean
John Neis
Patty Richardson

1. Welcome

Meeting began at 8:05 a.m. with a quorum.

2. Approval of Meeting Summary

The meeting summary from the March 20, 2009 meeting was approved 14-0.

3. Future Sewer Revenue Bond Election – Deliberation and Possible Action on Timing

County Administrator Chuck Huckelberry provided a memorandum to the Committee prior to the meeting, with the recommendation that the sewer revenue bond election be postponed until 2010. Mr. Huckelberry summarized the memorandum, and stated that the bond election could wait until 2010. Alternative funding methods include pay as you go and private financing, both of which would result in higher sewer rate increases than sewer revenue bonds.
Tom Six noted that the memorandum from Regional Wastewater Reclamation Director Mike Gritzuk showed that contracts must be let by December 2010 and January 2011, and asked if a 2010 election provided enough time to meet these deadlines. Mr. Huckelberry responded yes.

Gary Davidson noted that Mr. Gritzuk’s memorandum included a large increase in sewer rates prior to a 2010 election, and asked whether this was a concern. Jeff Nichols, Deputy Director of Administration and Finance for Wastewater, responded that Mr. Gritzuk’s memorandum assumed pay as you go financing, but since the memorandum was written the determination has been made that alternative bridge financing would be available such that the rate increase would not be as drastic.

Chris Sheafe spoke in support of a 2009 sewer revenue bond election with the reason being that less items would be on the 2009 election ballot and therefore there may be more of an opportunity to explain to the public why it is so important to fund this measure.

Dan Sullivan stated that the Committee had previously discussed the negatives of holding a 2009 general obligation bond election and felt that those issues would similarly impact a sewer revenue bond election if held in 2009.

Terri Hutts stated that she agreed with Mr. Sheafe, but couldn’t support the cost of a separate bond election estimated at $2 million.

Chairman Hecker stated that on top of the $2 million cost to taxpayers for a separate bond election, that it may be difficult to raise funds for 2 separate campaigns in 2009 and 2010.

Tom Warne respectfully disagreed with Mr. Sheafe and stated that he did not think we would lose anything by deferring to a 2010 election.

**MOTION:** Vice-Chair Campbell moved, seconded by Dan Sullivan, to recommend a sewer revenue bond election in 2010. Additional language was accepted into the motion, so that the final motion read as follows: After further consideration regarding the timing of a sewer revenue bond election in 2009, the Committee’s previous recommendation has changed such that we now recommend deferring a 2009 sewer revenue bond election to 2010. Motion approved 14-2.

4. 2010 General Obligation Bond Election – Deliberation and Possible Action on Timeline

It was noted that the Committee has requested a Call to the Audience at the beginning of the agenda. Ms. Fyffe noted the mistake and stated that on future agendas that will be the case. Chairman Hecker asked whether any member of the audience wished to speak at this time.

Chuck Catino with BAJA Sports stated that Mr. Huckelberry had recommended reducing the proposed funding for the softball field project in Green Valley and two other nearby projects by 60 percent. He asked that these cuts be looked at again in light of the GO bond election being deferred until 2010.

A planning timeline for a 2010 GO bond election was provided to the Committee prior to the meeting. The timeline could also serve for the sewer revenue bond election now that the Committee has recommended deferring that election to 2010 as well. The timeline
proposed that the Committee go on break during the summer and hold meetings from September 2009 thru January 2009 to deliberate on projects and total dollar amount. This would then permit the Board to consider the recommendations from February 2010 to July 2010 and then call the bond election. July 2010 to September 2010 would be spent on drafting the bond implementation plan ordinance. Early voting starts on September 30, 2010, with the election on November 2, 2010.

Vice-Chair Campbell asked if September thru January was enough time for project level deliberation if the Committee met just once a month. Ms. Fyffe noted that the timeline was flexible and the Committee could extend meetings a couple months longer if needed.

Chris Sheafe stated that it would be helpful to identify priorities for the projects per category, like the Parks subcommittee did, so that it would be clearer which projects to fund or not fund depending on funds allocated. Mr. Sheafe also noted that projects should be chosen so as to provide benefits to all areas of the County and each sector of the community.

Terri Hutts stated that she hoped stimulus funds would reduce the project demands.

Chairman Hecker stated that budgetary constraints of all the jurisdictions may impact the proposed project requests.

Mr. Huckelberry stated that the County may or may not see stimulus funding. But that the shortfall for the Joint City/County Court Complex, for which $70-$80 million had been proposed in a future bond election, could possibly be funded with a $10 surcharge per case filing. This option is currently being evaluated and is more likely than stimulus funding.

**MOTION:** Dan Sullivan moved, seconded by Tom Warne, to accept the proposed 2010 bond election timeline. Motion approved 16-0.

6. **Future Agenda Items and Next Meeting**

It was agreed that the next meeting would be held on August 28, 2009, at the same time and location. The meeting agenda will include:

A. The Committee’s end of year oversight obligations and consideration of amendments if necessary

B. 2010 bond election: update from County on total capacity available for 2010 bond program, discussion on how to go about allocating that capacity between the various categories of projects, how to go about prioritizing projects within those categories, whether subcommittees needed to meet again, and proposal from County for another set of public open houses or alternative forms of public outreach.

Tom Six noted that there is a lot we can learn from the data generated by the survey.

7. **Call to the Audience**

No members of the audience spoke at this time.

8. **Adjournment**

Meeting was adjourned at 8:45 a.m.