

## Minutes of May 17, 2011, ECIA Road Committee Meeting

The meeting was called to order by Chair Nolan Zisman at 4:00 P.M. Also in attendance were members Dale Knapp, Bob Burdette, Linda Pierce, Fred Raznick , and GM Bill Donahue.

Attending as potential new members were Joel Hopko and David Brown. Representing Santa Fe County was Robert Martinez, County Road Manager.

There was no one for Public Forum and no open Old Business.

### New Business:

The meeting was devoted to getting answers from Mr. Martinez to the following questions that had been submitted to his office in advance:

1. Q. What is the county going to do about the cracks in Avenida Vista Grande? Who is responsible for these cracks--the county or the paving company? What if anything will the County do to prevent this from happening in the future?

A. Although the contractor has indicated they are responsible for repairs under their warranty, there is uncertainty from a legal perspective they may be able to follow through. As a result, the County has requested quotes from other firms to do crack-sealing on Av. Vista Grande. As a result of the problems with the Av. Vista Grande project (Public Works Director ignored recommendations of staff regarding the specs of the work that was to be done), the County Board of Supervisors has established the requirement that any future contract over \$100,000 will require a formal bidding process be used.

2. Q. What are the grading guidelines for the dirt roads? How do these apply In particular to the area on Herrada between Compadres and Estacada. (i.e., why does the results of grading this section look different than other graded dirt roads?)

A. Grader/plow operators are instructed to 1) move any accumulated base course from the sides of a road back to the driving surface of the road; and to 2) endeavor to slope the shoulder down from the driving area to permit runoff to the sides instead of having water pool on the road; and 3) to remove snow as quickly after a storm as possible to reduce the amount of precipitation available to melt on the road surface. What probably happened on Herrada was the grader operator either did not follow procedures or was instructed to "move the mud off the road". This should not have happened. The County will follow up to prevent this type of grading from happening in the future.

3. Q. What is the status of the "big 5" in Eldorado (Herrada Rd., Av. Amistad, Av. Buena Ventura, Balsa Rd. and Encantado Road)?

A. These roads continue to be on the County's ICIP list. As adequate funding from the Legislature appears not to be imminent the other alternatives for funding include establishment

of special assessment districts or revenues from the sale of bonds. (It was pointed out that the results of the survey last summer suggested residents are not willing to incur additional taxes via special assessment district) to pay for paving these roads, leaving bonds as the only viable alternative). The next opportunity to float bonds will be in the Nov 2012 general election. While the County's priority for bond revenues includes construction of a new "Southeast" connector between Rabbit Road and the Community College, and paving County Road 55A, Mr. Martinez recommended we bring the need for paving these roads to the attention of Commissioner Stefanics. As a result of this discussion, we will put on the agenda for our July meeting a discussion of priorities for these roads, as well as Mr. Martinez' suggestion we may also want to apply for bond funding for more base course for other dirt roads in need. He also suggested we do not attempt to segment any main road such as Herrada but rather go with the entire length.

4. Q. What can be done re: the water (lake) at Mimosa/Compadres? What is the County willing to do?

A. Mr. Martinez vaguely recalled this problem and after a recap of the situation indicated a willingness to take a look at the problem. He agreed that, from the explanation of the problems, a culvert under Mimosa Rd. connecting the Av. De Compadres bar ditches on either side might be an appropriate solution. Nolan will send him a copy of the original write-up of the situation and offered to meet with a County representative on site to review the situation.

5. Q. What are the oversight plans for roads like Verano Loop, and how can we provide residents the assurance of quality work?

A. There are two scenarios for road paving projects. When an outside contractor is used, the County will also engage the services of a qualified engineer to serve as their field representative to monitor the progress and quality of the work against the projects engineering specifications. When the County performs the work with their own people, as is the case on the Verano Loop network, a road maintenance supervisor and soil engineer are on hand to assure the work meets county standards.

6. Q. What is the "trigger" or impetus for the county to repair our roads (i.e., grading, applying gravel, applying base course)?

A. A majority of work done on our roads starts with a "sighting" by the county maintenance representative assigned to this area. Input from the ECIA Road Committee helps direct this person to the perceived problem areas. The county now has a dedicated 4-person crew and grader to their roads in the Eldorado area (Eldorado plus two other county owned-maintained roads in the vicinity). When not engaged in special project work they will be assigned to grade and repair Eldorado roads on a weekly basis. Besides grading, the County will spread base course when budgets permit on severely problematic roads; they seldom use gravel. The crew is currently doing special project work but should soon be back working on Eldorado roads.

7. Q. Will the County assume responsibility for pruning of trees or shrubs that impair the vision

of motorists at Eldorado road intersections or other hazardous areas?

A. Yes, as a sufficient number of such requests are received (via our Road Problem Report form), they are willing to send out a crew to prune these back.

8. Q. What is the scope of the revamped County Road Advisory Committee?

A. The main objective of the revamping is to align the 15 positions' geographic responsibility to coincide with the five Commissioner districts and to "streamline" their activities. Going forward the committee will be responsible for reporting problems and affirming on an annual basis the census of County owned-maintained roads (which is used as a basis for federal and state funding). The Eldorado area representative will be responsible for the roads in Eldorado and two other County roads in the area. Representatives will be appointed in the June-July time frame.

9. Q. What can be done about missing or clogged driveway culverts that are causing water to erode the driving surfaces of the adjacent roads?

A. If, during road inspections, it is determined that such a situation exists, it should be reported to the County who will inspect the situation and, if warranted, will follow up with the enforcement people to get the situation rectified.

In addition to discussing these questions, Mr. Martinez was handed a list of roads rating 1.5 or worse in our recently completed inspection. He expressed the County's appreciation for the work we do in providing timely input that can be used to schedule the grader and address other road-related issues. The County's web site will soon have a "portal" available by which residents can report road problems directly to the County's data base. We will monitor this and adjust procedures accordingly.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:00 P.M.