

BIG PARK REGIONAL COORDINATING COUNCIL, INC. SEPTEMBER REGULAR MEETING

9:00 A.M., Thursday, 11 September 2008
Sedona Fire Station #3 - 125 Slide Rock Road, Sedona, AZ 86351

(Note - previous **MINUTES** and **EXHIBITS** may be viewed at www.BigParkCouncil.org)

Call to order - Pledge of Allegiance

1. Determine Quorum by Roll Call – 18 of the 27 Members of the Council were present and 9 absent

2. Agenda changes from Executive Board meeting – Dorothy O'Brien - the Executive Board had its monthly meeting at the Forest Service Administrative Offices, Conference Room, on Monday, 8 September 2008 at 9:30 A.M. – any changes to the agenda are reflected in the revised agenda sent out to Members

3. President's Report - Dorothy O'Brien provided an update on the following:

- (a) **Meeting with the Yavapai-Apache Nation Leadership** to discuss neighborly cooperation and consideration of issues of mutual interest.
- (b) **Sedona Village Main Street Revitalization Committee** sponsored a strategic planning workshop on 16 August presented by the Arizona Main Street program to focus on local businesses and how to move forward toward a growing, economically strong community
- (c) **Intergovernmental Meeting** hosted by the Yavapai-Apache Nation, was attended by Treasurer Dave Norton and President O'Brien who were guests of Chairman Thomas Beauty for dinner and the meeting. Agenda items included: (a) discussion of the Verde River Basin Partnership's funding issues and possible assimilation into the YCWAC; (b) the Nation will be celebrating Indian Week from September 22nd to the 26th and are looking for foursomes to play golf at Sedona Golf Resort in their tournament; (c) Verde River Days to take place on September 27th; and (d) Clarkdale expectations to have an industrial light rail soon.
- (d) **Chamber of Commerce** – ongoing meetings with various Chamber of Commerce groups representing the Big Park community
- (e) **Unincorporated Communities Leadership** – ongoing meetings with leaders of the Verde Valley unincorporated communities – note that the population of these communities is now reaching 35,000.

4. Special Guest – County Administrator **Julie Ayers** spoke on the proposed **Jail District** sales tax increase. The **Jail District** was formed in 1999 funded by a ¼ of 1 percent sales tax. State law mandates jail services and permits jail districts to be funded by a sales tax of up to ½ of 1 percent – a tax rate typical for most other communities. The following points were made:

- (a) A fully functioning jail system is essential for a safe community and a vital economy
- (b) Independent sources have found the County detention facilities to be operating professionally, efficiently and effectively
- (c) The County **Jail District** is currently not financially self-sufficient and is competing for limited General Fund resources
- (d) And, the proposed ¼ of 1 percent increase is equal to 25 cents on a \$100 purchase – 35% of sales taxes are paid by visitors

5. New Members/Member Changes – Steve Sutter was not available, so and Pinon Woods II HOA's President, Lorraine Dean, advised that she would be this Member's Representative just for this meeting. President Dorothy O'Brien advised that Steve Nelson is now the Representative of the Village of Oak Creek Association.

6. Secretary's report - Henry Reiter - the Draft Minutes of August, 2008 regular meeting were unanimously approved without changes by a voice vote

7. Treasurer's report – Dave Norton – reported on: (a) this month's financial accounting – the report can be viewed on the Council's website – www.BigParkCouncil.org – and (b) the Council's Insurance policy, which

appears to be too large a file to be posted, but the Treasurer advised that he would provide a copy to any Member who requested one.

8. Corresponding Secretary's report – Jane Petty – no report this month

9. Committee Reports – (a reminder for Committee Chairs that a short summary of their report for October, and any display material for the screen, should be submitted to Dave Norton no later than Friday, October 7th)

- (a) **Website Committee** – Jane Petty/Dave Norton – Archive Minutes and Financials are available on CD
- (b) **Recreation Committee** – Don Beard [No report]
- (c) **P&Z Committee**- Dorothy O'Brien reported this month while Mark Mumaw was out of town
 - (1) **OPC – Off Premises Canvassing** – fact finding meetings are under way with time-share businesses
 - (2) **Commercial Signage on Hwy 179** – no update this month – the P&Z Committee is seeking input from both the All-American Road Committee and the Sedona Village Business Association
 - (3) **Zambrano Rezoning Application** -
- (d) **Transportation Committee** – Tom Hutchinson for John Gillam
 - (1) **Pinon Woods Gate** – The County's Regional Traffic Study apparently will not include traffic issues regarding the Pinon Woods Gate; the \$200,000 cost of the study would increase by \$40,000 if the gate traffic issues were to be included – not a likely scenario. The Transportation Committee will continue to explore options to address the gate matter.
 - (2) **Lee Mountain Rd/Jacks Canyon Rd Intersection** – The County doesn't seem to be disposed to adding the proposed stop signs on Lee Mountain Road at its intersection with Jacks Canyon Rd.
 - (3) **Traffic Signage** – The Transportation Committee is looking for community input on traffic directional signs on Highway 179, especially at the roundabouts.

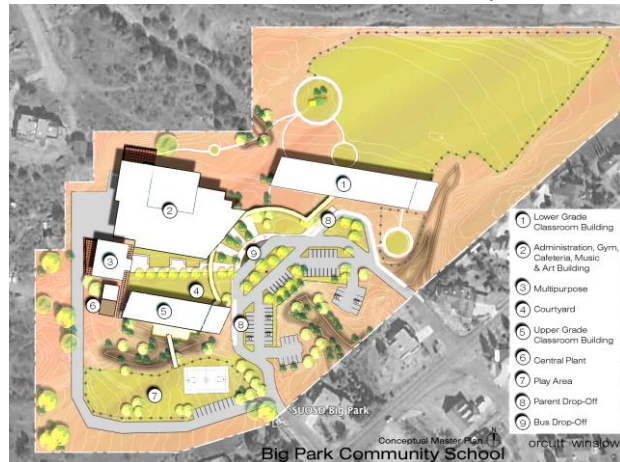
10. Visitor Presentations – Tim Carter, Superintendent of the Yavapai County Schools, spoke about:

- (a) The services provided by the County to 26 school districts
- (b) The \$150 million that is processed annually by the County on behalf of those school districts, and
- (c) The school districts elections that are run by the County

Mike Aylestock, Superintendent of the Sedona-Oak Creek Joint Unified School District #9, spoke about:

- (a) The \$73 million bond issue that was passed last November
- (b) How the Big Park School has been ranked "excellent" by the State for 5 straight years – though the State is ranked 48th or 49th in funding per pupil
- (c) How the district's tax rates compared to nearby districts – Humboldt is 82% higher, Cottonwood is 85% higher, Camp Verde is 91% higher, and Prescott was 33% higher
- (d) Architects plans for the Big Park School – those plans may be viewed at the following website: (see example to the right)

www.mccarthy.com/update/sedonausd.asp

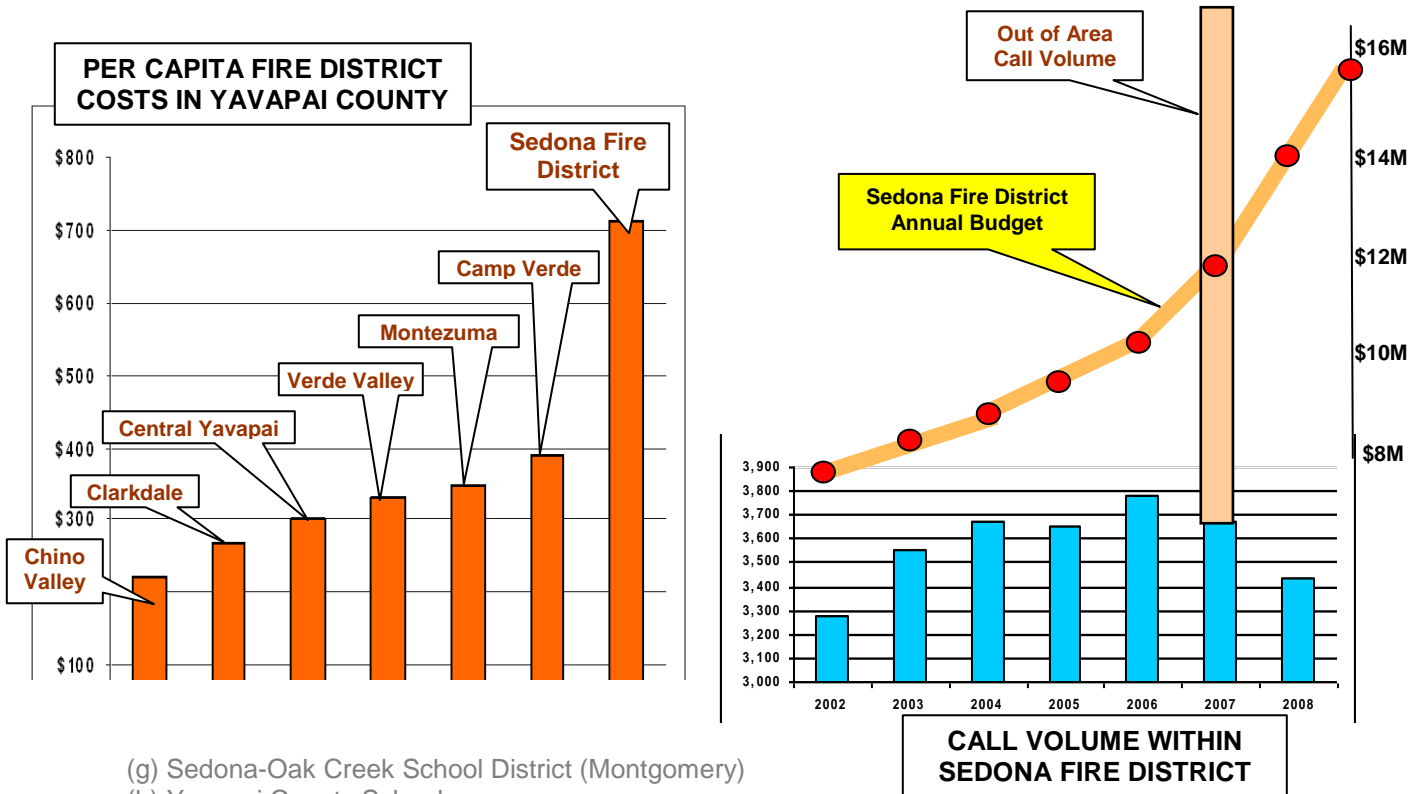


11. Other Reports – (The Council seeks to have attendees at meetings of the following organizations. In the interest of shortening meetings, these reports will be made on a rotating schedule of 2-3 per month – please see reminder about report summaries and display material agenda item #9 above)

- (a) ADOT Executive Team (Gillam & Berkshire)
- (b) Yavapai County Regional Planners Workshop (Mumaw)
- (c) Verde Valley Master Regional Trails Plan (C. Huffstetler)
- (d) Verde Valley Regional Transportation (Gillam)
- (e) Red Rock Road Enhancement Maintenance District (Graham)

(f) **Sedona Fire District** – Don Harr and Craig Dible have been conducting a financial review of the Sedona Fire District with the cooperation of the District staff. An 8-page “Update” was distributed, which this month focused on:

- (1) **Annual Budget** - The Sedona Fire District’s budget, which was \$7,854,671 in 2002, and is \$15,924,839 in 2008 – an increase of \$8,070,168, or 103% during this period.
- (2) **Comparative Fire District Per Capita Costs** - in Yavapai County, indicates per capita costs in the Sedona Fire District of \$713, compared to an average of \$310 for the rest of Yavapai County
- (3) **Call Volume Statistics** – the Sedona Fire District Communication Center handles calls for 11 agencies outside of the District. Call volume within the District is only 23% of the total.



- (g) Sedona-Oak Creek School District (Montgomery)
- (h) Yavapai County Schools
- (i) Big Park Wastewater Improvement District (Kane)
- (j) Village Library Center (Fisher)
- (k) Sedona Village Main Street Revitalization Committee (Nelms)
- (l) Community Issues Committee – Chamber of Commerce (Norton)
- (m) Verde Valley Intergovernmental Meetings (O’Brien)

12. Old Business - none

13. New Business - none

14. Announcements

- (a) Memory Walk – to take place on October 18th, from Tequa to Bell Rock and back – contact Dave Norton
- (b) Full Moon Walk – to take place September 13th – contact Kathy Nelms
- (c) Fire Board Meeting - September 24th at 3 PM at Fire Station #3
- (d) Fine Artists Show – will take place tomorrow September 12th, and Saturday, September 13th at the Village of Oak Creek clubhouse

15. Adjournment – the meeting adjourned at 10:25 AM