



# Agenda

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**SPECIAL JOINT SANTA FE CITY COUNCIL/COUNTY COMMISSION MEETING  
JULY 8, 2009  
5:00 P.M.  
CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS**

1. CALL TO ORDER
2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE
3. SALUTE TO THE NEW MEXICO FLAG
4. INVOCATION
5. ROLL CALL
6. APPROVAL OF AGENDA
7. CONSIDERATION OF RESOLUTION NO. 2009-\_\_\_\_\_.  
A Joint Resolution of the Board of County Commissioners of Santa Fe County and the Governing Body of the City of Santa Fe for the Purpose of Addressing Alcohol Abuse in our Community. (Mayor Coss, Councilor Dominguez, Commissioner Vigil and Commissioner Montoya)
8. ADJOURN

Persons with disabilities in need of accommodations, contact the City Clerk's office at 955-6520, five (5) days prior to meeting date.

**SUMMARY INDEX  
OF THE  
JOINT SPECIAL MEETING  
SANTA FE CITY COUNCIL AND SANTA FE COUNTY COMMISSION  
July 8, 2009**

<b><u>ITEM</u></b>	<b><u>ACTION</u></b>	<b><u>PAGE #</u></b>
<b>CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL</b>	<b>Quorum</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>APPROVAL OF AGENDA</b>	<b>Approved</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>CONSIDERATION OF RESOLUTION NO. 2009- 67. A JOINT RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF SANTA FE COUNTY AND THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE CITY OF SANTA FE FOR THE PURPOSE OF ADDRESSING ALCOHOL ABUSE IN OUR COMMUNITY</b>	<b>Approved [amended]</b>	<b>2-6</b>
<b>ADJOURN</b>		<b>6</b>

**MINUTES OF THE  
JOINT SPECIAL MEETING  
OF THE  
SANTA FE CITY COUNCIL AND SANTA FE COUNTY COMMISSION  
Santa Fe, New Mexico  
July 8, 2009**

**CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL**

A special meeting joint meeting of the Governing Body of the City of Santa Fe, New Mexico, and the Board of County Commissioners of Santa Fe County, was called to order by Mayor David Coss, on July 8, 2009, at approximately 5:00 p.m., in the City Hall Council Chambers. Following the Pledge of Allegiance, salute to the New Mexico Flag and Invocation, roll call indicated the presence of a quorum, as follows:

**Governing Body Members Present**

Mayor David Coss  
Councilor Rebecca Wurzbarger, Mayor Pro-Tem  
Councilor Patti J. Bushee  
Councilor Christopher Calvert  
Councilor Carmichael A. Dominguez  
Councilor Rosemary Romero  
Councilor Ronald S. Trujillo

**Governing Body Members Excused**

Councilor Miguel Chavez,  
Councilor Matthew E. Ortiz

**Board of County Commissioners Present**

Commissioner Harry B. Montoya  
Commissioner Virginia Vigil  
Commissioner Mike D. Anaya  
Commissioner Kathy Holian

**Board of County Commissioners Excused**

Commissioner Liz Stefanics

**Others Attending**

Galen Buller, City Manager  
Ramon Abeyta, County Manager  
Kelley Brennan, Assistant, City Attorney  
Yolanda Y. Vigil, City Clerk  
Melessia Helberg, Council Stenographer

## **6. APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

**MOTION:** Councilor Bushee moved, seconded by Councilor Dominguez, to approve the agenda as presented.

**VOTE:** The motion was approved on a voice vote with Councilors Bushee, Calvert, Dominguez, Romero, Trujillo and Wurzbarger, and Commissioners Montoya, Vigil, Anaya and Holian voting for the motion and none against.

## **7. CONSIDERATION OF RESOLUTION NO. 2009- 67. A JOINT RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF SANTA FE COUNTY AND THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE CITY OF SANTA FE FOR THE PURPOSE OF ADDRESSING ALCOHOL ABUSE IN OUR COMMUNITY (MAYOR COSS, COUNCILOR DOMINGUEZ, COMMISSIONER VIGIL AND COMMISSIONER MONTOYA).**

Mayor Coss said we are gathered here following a very serious tragedy, and to discuss the long-standing problem of alcohol abuse in our community. He said this is intolerable for our community, and as elected leaders, we want to make sure that we take the next steps to address this problem, noting the action has to happen faster than it has been.

Mayor Coss expressed appreciation to the Board of County Commissioners for its willingness to join this Governing Body in the Council chambers this evening. He said the intent of the Resolution is to form a working group of elected leaders, and sees this as flexible, because he believes almost every one of us will want to work with that group. He wants to keep this as an informal group so that everyone can participate.

Mayor Coss said there are people who have worked on this effort for many, many years, one of whom is Gail Williams from 1199 at St. Vincent's Hospital, noting that her nursing group was profoundly stricken by this tragedy. He said the Emergency Room deals with this problem daily. He acknowledged all those in attendance from law enforcement and social services which helped the community to work on this.

Mayor Coss said last week Cynthia Delgado called him about meeting to talk about the next steps. Subsequently, Ms. Delgado met with Councilor Dominguez, Commissioner Vigil, himself and others, and the result of that meeting is this Resolution. He asked Ms. Delgado to speak to the issue.

Ms. Delgado said this community is dealing again with a horrendous tragedy. She said her group, the Santa Fe Underage Drinking Prevention Alliance, was talking about how to deal with this. She said her group, as well as many of the leaders in the community, also were stricken with the irresponsible use of alcohol in our community which is impacting each one of us, very tragically, such as the accident on June 28<sup>th</sup>. It also impacts us daily in the terms of the cost of resources, and the loss of human potential.

Ms. Delgado said she contacted a few community leaders who have been working with the

Alliance to come together to share the grief and the shock and to do what is needed to really address alcohol abuse in a comprehensive way in Santa Fe County. She said the problem of alcohol abuse is wide in scope, dealing with our youth, responsible retailing of alcohol, the law enforcement and judicial systems and our health care system is well. She hopes, during the next 60 days, the leaders of this community will come together, look at what we are doing now, and where there are gaps and put together a very strategic prioritized plan to start addressing alcohol abuse in Santa Fe County.

Ms. Delgado said in 60 days we will have a plan, and 60 days isn't the answer to this problem, but it is the beginning of bringing together the energy of our community to make Santa Fe County a safer and healthier place to live. She said this is not a sprint, but it is a marathon, and we need all of the community leaders and these governing bodies to commit to making changes here in Santa Fe County. She expressed appreciation for the convening of this Joint City Council and County Commission meeting, and said the Alliance stands ready to support them in any way possible.

Chairman Anaya thanked Mayor Coss for bringing us together on this very important issue. He spoke about the accident and how this impacted the families and friends of the victims. He thanked Ms. Delgado for pulling this group together.

**MOTION:** Councilor Dominguez moved, seconded by Commissioner Vigil, to approve Joint Resolution No. 2009-67.

**DISCUSSION:** Councilor Dominguez thanked the County Commissioners for attending this evening. He said the entire community is grieving. He said these events, however tragic, provide opportunities for us. He said this isn't a new issue. He said we have made improvements, but there is still work to be done and a long way to go to make sure that people — young or old — are safe in our community, and that we are doing whatever we can to educate people about alcohol and alcohol abuse, as well as drug abuse, domestic violence and all the things which have afflicted our community over the past month or so. The intent of the Resolution is to provide an opportunity to educate ourselves, to gather the needed data, to provide solutions, and eventually to implement some of the solutions.

Councilor Dominguez said we must continue to try, regardless of what happens in the next 60-days, and we have to go beyond that, and the efforts have to be sustained and become part of our culture — continue to educate people about the dangers of drug and alcohol abuse. Councilor Dominguez offered condolences to the families and to the community for the emotional strife and the challenges of the past two weeks.

Commissioner Montoya expressed his condolences. He said this group will be looking at this issue on a more global perspective. He said, unfortunately, it takes this kind of issue sometimes to bring leaders together to work for a solution. He recognized John Paul Romero, with the Pojoaque Valley School Board, and asked that the school boards in the community and county get behind us, and work on this issue as well. He said his organization, Hands Across Cultures, has a saying, "It takes a community to change a community." He said we need to change the culture of alcohol abuse and domestic violence and make a much more healthy environment where we can raise our kids and know they, and other members of our families, will be safe from harm from irresponsible persons.

Commissioner Montoya said the County has adopted a Forfeiture Ordinance. He thanked Sheriff Solano for attending this evening and working with the County on that Ordinance. He offered the use of the County lot to the City for use in the interim while it is implementing its ordinance, noting this was the County's biggest obstacle.

Commissioner Montoya urged the community to join the City and County, as a part of this change we are trying to create to provide a safe and health community for all of our citizens.

Councilor Trujillo said he and Councilor Dominguez lost three friends to a tragic accident when they were Seniors in High School. He said this brings back memories. He said they spent time today at Cathedral Park talking with some of the teens there, and there is a healing process which is happening right now. He said the whole community has been affected, and we wonder what contribution these teens might have made to our community if they hadn't died so early.

Councilor Trujillo said laws have been adopted, but some people still don't get the message that driving while drinking is unlawful. It is sad that so many innocent lives are lost to this disease, which is alcoholism. He thanked the County Commissioners and Councilors for attending the initial meeting and beginning this process. He thanked Ms. Delgado for allowing him to do the commercials on underage drinking. He said as a parent, when things like this happen, you want to keep your children at home. However, they do have to grow up and move forward with their lives, although he will worry about his children every day. He doesn't want to see something like this to happen in Santa Fe again.

Councilor Bushee said it takes ones breath away to read about these losses, the loss of young, vibrant lives. She said there are few words we can offer to their parents in their grief. She said it is even harder when the loss is senseless, such as this one. She thanked the first responders, the emergency room care providers and others that live through this on a regular basis. She said when she was 16 years old she was hit by a drunk driver as she rode her bicycle and was lucky to survive. Councilor Bushee asked that any effort be ongoing, and if possible, be expanded to include drug abuse. She wants to find concrete tools to deal with this problem. She is still waiting for implementation of the City's forfeiture ordinance. She wants the teens to participate in this process as much as possible. She will participate at any level where there is room for her to do so, because this is very important to her.

Commissioner Holian thanked the Mayor for inviting the Commission to participate in this issue which cuts across the entire community. She said she attended a meeting last night of the Hondo Volunteer Firefighters who were the first responders to this accident, noting they were incredibly shaken by this accident. She said this issue affects every single person in the community, profoundly. She understands part of the problem is the culture which accepts drinking and driving to some extent, and believes it will take time to change this culture, and we have to start right now.

Councilor Romero expressed condolences to the families of Rose Simmons, Julian Martinez, Kate Klein, and Alyssa Trouw, and expressed wishes for the continued healing of Avree Koffman, and read a tribute to them into the record. She asked that we start the healing process with this gathering.

Commissioner Vigil said she is glad to be a part of this effort, commenting that almost everyone is affected

by this issue. She said the Resolution does include drug abuse and community and domestic violence. She said at the first meeting they recognized the global nature of this issue. She is very ready to move forward and to take a leadership role of creating zero tolerance within our own community, and to look at the issues from the perspective of treatment. She said there are many responses with which we need to move forward and make happen, and she looks forward to this. She expressed condolences to the families of the victims and to the families whose wounds were reopened with this incident. She said our leadership roles will begin to heal these wounds.

Councilor Wurzbarger thanked the Commissioners for attending and for the work done to bring these two bodies together. She said she attended three of the services of the victims. She said this cannot continue and she hopes we move forward and develop specific options and implement those changes. She believes there are long time cultural changes which are needed, and in the short term we must meet with the Legislature and the Attorney General to come up with specific, concrete things we can do in terms of prevention. She wants her family, friends and the community to take responsibility for those strategies.

**FRIENDLY AMENDMENT:** Councilor Wurzbarger would like to amend the motion to provide for a 30-day report to the Governing Body and the Board of County Commissioners on the status of the efforts of the working group, with the report to be made at a Joint Meeting of these bodies. **The amendment was friendly to the maker and second, and there were no objections by the other Councilors and Commissioners.**

Councilor Calvert thanked everyone for their attention to this problem. He said the most respect we can pay to those who lost their lives is to make sure their lives weren't lost in vain, and that some actual improvements in this area come about in the community. He is hopeful that this effort does produce things which actually will result in the changes we need to see in this community.

Chairman Anaya thanked Sheriff Solano and Under Sheriff Robert Garcia, County Manager Roman Abeyta, Becky Beardsley who handles the DWI program at the County, as well as County Attorney Stephen Ross for attending today's meeting. He said these will be key players in how we work together to combat this issue.

Mayor Coss thanked everyone for attending, saying he believes we have the expertise to do this. He said it is a combination of enforcement, education and treatment, plus more resources and more attention to the problem, which will bring change. He extended condolences to the family and the community and his personal commitment to work on the leadership role of the City and County. He said we need to act now and move forward swiftly, noting much will fall to our respective staffs to coordinate these efforts between the City and County and the community. He believes there are concrete things we can do now within the 30-60 days.

Councilor Bushee noted Angela Spence Pacheco, the District Attorney is in attendance this evening.

Commissioner Montoya recognized and thanked Larry Martinez, with Presbyterian Medical Services, who provided information regarding grief counseling and services available, noting he does a great job as the Chair of the Santa Fe County Health Policy & Planning Commission. He thanked Erica Campos from Christa St. Vincent's for attending this evening.

**VOTE:** The motion, as amended, was approved unanimously on a voice vote with Mayor Coss and Councilors Bushee, Calvert, Dominguez, Romero, Trujillo and Wurzbarger, and Commissioners Montoya, Vigil, Anaya and Holian voting for the motion and none against.

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***At the evening session of the Governing Body of the City of Santa Fe, Councilor Bushee pointed out that the action taken to adopt Resolution No. 2009-67, was done by voice vote, and it should have been done by a roll call vote.***

***MOTION: Councilor Bushee moved, seconded by Councilor Wurzbarger, to reconsider the action taken on Resolution No. 2009-67 in the Joint Special Meeting of the Santa Fe City Council and Santa Fe County Commission, for the purpose of a Roll Call vote on the Resolution.***

**VOTE: : The motion was approved on the following Roll Call vote:**

***For: Councilor Bushee, Councilor Calvert, Councilor Dominguez, Councilor Romero, Councilor Trujillo and Councilor Wurzbarger.***

***Against: None.***

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## **8. ADJOURN**

There was no further business to come before the Governing Body, and the special joint meeting was adjourned at approximately 5:45 p.m.

**Approved by:**

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**Mayor David Coss**

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**Commission Chairman Mike D. Anaya**



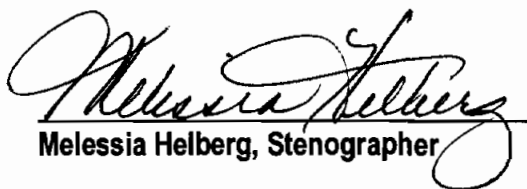
**ATTESTED TO:**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Yolanda Y. Vigil, City Clerk**

**ATTESTED TO:**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Valerie Espinoza, County Clerk**

**Respectfully submitted:**

  
**Melessia Helberg, Stenographer**