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SANTA FE CITY & COUNTY: ADDRESSING ALCOHOL ABUSE SIXTY (60) DAY REPORT PRESENTATION

JOINT CITY COUNCIL & COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSION MEETING

September 17, 2009 – 5:30 pm to 7:00 pm

Santa Fe Public Schools Board of Education Chambers

610 Alta Vista, Santa Fe, New Mexico

MEETING AGENDA

- I. Call To Order
- II. Roll Call
- III. Pledge Of Allegiance
- IV. State Pledge
- V. Invocation
- VI. Alcohol Abuse in Santa Fe County Overview
- VII. Committee Reports
 - a) Education
 - b) Judicial And Law Enforcement
 - c) Treatment
 - d) Alcohol Taxation
- VIII. Public Comment
- IX. Approval of the Santa Fe City and County: Addressing Alcohol Abuse Committee Recommendations.
- X. Adjournment

SUMMARY INDEX
OF THE
JOINT SPECIAL MEETING
SANTA FE CITY COUNCIL AND SANTA FE COUNTY COMMISSION
September 17, 2009

<u>ITEM</u>	<u>ACTION</u>	<u>PAGE #</u>
CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL	Quorum	1
APPROVAL OF AGENDA	Approved	2
ALCOHOL ABUSE IN SANTA FE COUNTY – OVERVIEW	Information/discussion	2
COMMITTEE REPORTS:		
EDUCATION	Information/discussion	2-4
JUDICIAL & LAW ENFORCEMENT	Information/discussion	5-8
TREATMENT	Information/discussion	8-9
ALCOHOL TAXATION	Information/discussion	9-10
PUBLIC COMMENT		10-11
APPROVAL OF THE SANTA FE CITY AND COUNTY: ADDRESSING ALCOHOL ABUSE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS	Direction	11-12
ADJOURN		12

**MINUTES OF THE
JOINT SPECIAL MEETING OF THE
SANTA FE CITY COUNCIL AND SANTA FE COUNTY COMMISSION
Santa Fe, New Mexico
September 17, 2009**

I. 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 September 17, 2009, at approximately 5:30 p.m., in the Board of Education Chambers, 610 Alta Vista, Santa Fe, New Mexico. 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 Ronald S. Trujillo

Governing Body Members Excused

Councilor Miguel Chavez
Councilor Matthew E. Ortiz
Councilor Rosemary Romero

County Commissioners Present

Commissioner Kathy Holian
Commissioner Harry B. Montoya
Commissioner Liz Stefanics

County Commissioners Excused

Commissioner Mike D. Anaya
Commissioner Virginia Vigil

Others Attending

Galen Buller, City Manager
Ramon Abeyta, County Manager
Yolanda Vigil, City Clerk
Melessia Helberg, Council Stenographer

A copy of the packet for this meeting is incorporated herewith to these minutes as Exhibit "1."

A copy of the sign-in sheet for this meeting is incorporated herewith to these minutes as Exhibit "2."

Mayor Coss introduced Angelica Ruiz, Chair of the Santa Fe Board of Education, and thanked her for making the space available to the Governing Bodies of the City and County for this meeting. He introduced Glen Wieringa, Department of Education, Rachel O'Connor, State DWI Czar, Tita Gervers, Santa Fe Public Schools. He thanked all of the Committee members for their work in preparing the 60-day report for the joint meeting.

V. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

MOTION: Commissioner Stefanics 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, Trujillo and Wurzbarger, and Commissioners Holian and Stefanics voting for the motion, none against and Commissioner Montoya absent for the vote.

Commissioner Montoya arrived at the meeting

VI. ALCOHOL ABUSE IN SANTA FE COUNTY – OVERVIEW

Roman Abeyta presented the overview via power point, noting they used a Community Change model from Harvard Business School in this effort. Please see Exhibit "1" for specifics of this presentation.

VII. COMMITTEE REPORTS:

A. EDUCATION

Carmichael Dominguez, Chair, thanked the members for their attendance at the meetings, noting they met 4-5 times over the past 30-40 days. He thanked City staff, especially Kanci Hollis for keeping him informed and for her assistance in staffing the Committee. Councilor Dominguez recognized Shelley Mann-Lev and Frank Magourilos to present the Committee report.

Shelley Mann-Lev and Frank Magourilos presented information from the Education Committee Report which is in the meeting packet. Please see Exhibit "1" for specifics of this presentation.

Ms. Mann-Lev noted in its deliberations the Committee considered the cost effectiveness of the programs.

Mr. Magourilos said the biggest difficulty and the challenges for all of us as a community, as a leadership, is to really collaborate and stick together with this. He reiterated that no one agency or any one person can make a difference, but together we can, noting the joint effort in this room this evening.

Councilor Dominguez asked all of the members of the Education Committee in attendance to please stand, and he thanked them for the good job they are doing in this effort.

The Mayor, Councilors and Commissioners commented, made suggestions and asked questions as follows:

- Commissioner Montoya asked the number of schools which are recommended for the Social Norms Program in Santa Fe County. Mr. Magourilos said he would like to have at least one school for a pilot project at approximately \$20,000 for one school. He said we need to evaluate and make sure it is working and implemented in the correct way.
- Commissioner Montoya would like the numbers and cost to implement the program across the Board in the schools.
- Councilor Trujillo asked about 5th graders. Mr. Magourilos said the curriculum is geared for grades 4-6. He said the onset age of drinking is 13 years old so it is important to implement the program prior to the actual behavior, and this is the reason that 5th grade is ideal based on the research. He said if there is adequate funding, it could be done for grades 4-6, but if they have to choose only one grade, 5th grade is best because of the early onset of alcohol use.
- Councilor Trujillo would like to look at doing the program even earlier, noting that the younger children were instrumental in getting their parents to use seat belts. Mr. Magourilos said they can look at that possibility. However, each curriculum is done by Ph.D. researchers who had done a lot of different studies, and analyzed the data, and the National Registry of Best Programs and Practices has determined that it is age appropriate for grades 4-6, although they can look at implementing the programs in the 4th Grade.
- Councilor Dominguez said during the process the Committee discussed that there aren't many programs offered at the real early pre-school intervention phase, so there is also a gap that exists there.
- Commissioner Stefanics asked, regarding the Screening & Brief Intervention recommendation, if this can be done in schools that don't have a school based person. Ms. Mann-Lev said yes, it can be done as long as there are trained people. She understands even volunteers have been trained to do this, and doesn't necessary require a mental healthy therapy degree or a physican's degree, although it often enhanced if somebody has those skills. She said, depending on staffing which is available, we could train teachers, counselors and nurses.

- Commissioner Stefanics asked the grade level for this program. Ms. Mann-Lev said Screening and Brief Intervention has been documented nationally to be effective with the adult population. There is insufficient evidence with adolescents. However, through the work of Sangre de Cristo Community Health Partnerships with adolescents, we found we have gotten the same outcomes with adolescents as with adults in terms of reduction in binge drinking and harmful alcohol use. She said it is for high school and above. However, in middle schools there are issues around screening and parental consent, and at the middle school level, participation would require parental consent. She said any persons age 14 and over are entitled to receive confidential services and consent for themselves.
- Councilor Stefanics asked what schools do currently if students appear at the school site and they are under the influence of alcohol. Ms. Mann-Lev said it varies by public and private schools. She said in Santa Fe County they have the Teen Court. She said being intoxicated at school is a violation of the Code of Conduct, and being intoxicated in the City is a violation of the law for someone under the age of 21.

Ms. Mann-Lev said intoxicated students at the school have a medical evaluation, and it is up to the school as whether or not law enforcement is involved. She said in the Santa Fe Public Schools, the parents are notified and students are sent home with a mandatory 3-day suspension and a referral to Teen Court where an assessment is done and there are different consequences. Once the student return to school, there is support for them through a student assistance specialist to stay on track

- Commissioner Stefanics noted approximately 1/3 of the middle school students are drinking, which means some are going to school under the influence, noting she finds this to be a major percentage. Ms. Mann-Lev reiterated the resources to evaluate and assist students with problem drinking.
- Commissioner Stefanics asked if there are nurses in every school. Ms. Mann-Lev said all but one middle school has a nurse, but that school has a health education coordinator who can do this kind of work when the nurse isn't there, but all of the other secondary schools have full time nurses.

Commissioner Stefanics asked if that funding is in jeopardy, and Ms. Mann-Lev said absolutely.

Commissioner Stefanics said we need to be careful and cautious about this in the future in terms of cuts, and we need to make sure we don't take away resources for this purpose.

- Commissioner Holian asked if they collect data after a year to evaluate effectiveness of these programs. Ms. Mann-Lev said the schools are committed to the evaluation of these programs.

B. JUDICIAL & LAW ENFORCEMENT

Billie Blair, Chair, Chief Aric Wheeler, Vice-Chair and Cynthia Delgado presented the Judicial and Law Enforcement Recommendations. Please see Exhibit "1" for specifics of this presentation.

Chief Wheeler spoke about the vehicle impoundment program which has been implemented and is having success, noting the Committee moved forward on its short term goal in this regard.

The Mayor, Councilors and Commissioners commented, made suggestions and asked questions as follows:

- Councilor Bushee said she is glad the vehicle seizure ordinance is being implemented. She asked if the Committee looked at seizure after two DWIs. Chief Wheeler said yes, noting the ordinance allows forfeiture on the first offense. Councilor Bushee said generally, the seizure is after 3 offenses. She asked if there is any movement by Albuquerque to reduce the number of violations before seizure. She believes it would be a preventive tool.

Chief Wheeler said they did look at tightening seizure, and that can be explored further and look at other agencies that have considered it and the pros and cons of why we should or should not do it.

Mayor Coss said it is important to have consistency between the City and County polities.

Councilor Bushee asked if the County serves alcohol in any public places. Ms. Blair said they looked at that and the County does not, and the County has a model ordinance.

- Councilor Bushee understands there will be a lot of exemptions to that, because we have the Convention Center, the golf course and El Museo, and they are serving only beer at the Farmer's market. She noted all of the facilities at the Railyard are City owned, and have restaurants. She said she has heartburn that there is a bar at the Airport, and that we have to have alcohol when we play golf and sports. She said this puts the City at a greater risk and liability. She would like to see discussion on this issue, but she believes there will be so many exemptions to the ordinance that it may not serve the purpose and intent. She understands that it has to be at the Convention Center for weddings and such.
- Ms. Blair said it would be the recommendation of the Committee to have as few exemptions as possible.
- Councilor Bushee is glad the County has a model ordinance, and wants the City to develop such an ordinance..
- Ms. Delgado said they discussed at the Committee that many of the examples are covered under SID regulations, and go through compliance checks and the businesses have a great deal of regulation and are in facilities which can be managed in terms of access for young people. She said we are trying to keep it as appropriate as possible. She said the goal of the Committee is not

to ban alcohol, but to identify its most appropriate place in our community and in community celebrations.

Councilor Bushee said she understands. She said the City has the ability to get very inexpensive beer and wine licenses at its public facilities, which gives her concern.

- Ms. Delgado said they have already begun working with the City Attorney and staff as to how that ordinance will look and she will take this back.
- Councilor Bushee said she isn't saying we shouldn't have wedding toasts with champagne at the Convention Center, but she wants to point out that the majority of spaces will have public or private venues selling alcohol.
- Councilor Trujillo said Chief Wheeler said he will have a DWI calendar by November 1st, and asked if it will state the dates and locations of DWI checkpoints.

Chief Wheeler said they are still discussing that, but they want it to be publicly acknowledged that there will be checkpoints. He said obviously they won't give all of the information, but they are looking at it as an information tool that can be put forward so that there is a public awareness. He said the goal is the deterrent factor. He said a number of studies indicate that there is a huge deterrent factor which comes with public education. He said there were discussions in Committee about the "Days of Summer," and the campaign with Erik Estrada and the actual impact. He said they had discussions as to what is accomplished with DWI checkpoints and the real intent. Is it to apprehend individuals or actually looking to deter individuals from drinking and driving. He said they are figuring out the balance, which is the intent of the calendar. He said they may not give specific dates, but indicate that during specific weeks they should be on the lookout for DWI roadblocks, which he believes minimizes the number of drivers who are willing to take that risk.

- Commissioner Holian asked if a first time DWI conviction results in losing the license for a substantial period of time. Chief Wheeler said for a first offense, the license may be taken up to 90 days through an administrative process at the MVD. He said this is something the Committee can explore further.
- Rachel O'Connor said the State laws have changed regarding license revocation in New Mexico. She said on conviction of DWI, a person loses their drivers license for one year and is required to drive with an ignition interlock for that year. She said if you are convicted of a DWI, the only way you can drive is with an ignition interlock license for a certain period of time on all convictions.
- Commission Montoya commended Chief Wheeler on his expeditious implementation of the impoundment law. He asked if there is data on what Santa Fe County has done. Chief Wheeler said no, and the Committee realized there are a number of differences between the City and the County ordinance. The Committee decided to gather data for the next year from both programs and look at the strength and weaknesses of both programs, and how to evaluate those to determine how or whether to amend the ordinance to streamline the program. He said during the

Committee processed they discussed a lot of the problems Santa Fe County experienced, and we learned from the County's and Albuquerque's mistakes, and streamlined our program to avoid those problems.

- Commissioner Montoya commented on the request to support the Governor's DWI package for the Legislature. He said the County is looking at it from the perspective of being held harmless in terms of any additional costs. He said the Association of Counties has also discussed this. He said the County's concern is that there will be increased jail time which means increased costs, noting the County already is subsidizing its jail for more than \$1 million from the General Fund. Any increase in these costs would have a impact on the County's operations.

Chief Wheeler said this was part of the discussion in the Committee, and he also is looking at the increased jail costs resulting from mandatory sentencing of 3 days for first time DWIs which would deplete his budget. He said Ms. O'Connor spoke to the issue, and he had to focus on the intent of the entire committee and its long-term goal. He said, as the Police Chief, ultimately he wants to reduce DWIs. If this bill works as it is intended, he will see an initial spike in the costs, but the long term goal would be to see a reduction in DWI offenses. He said Ms. O'Connor explained that some of the fines and penalties would be returned to some of the counties that would face hardships.

Ms. O'Connor said the Governor's bill proposes a substantial increase in penalties – 48 hours in jail for a first time offense. Staff is in the process of calculating the costs associated with this. She said the Governor's Office and her intent is to provide some revenues from the increased fees and fines in the bills to be used for incarceration cost, noting many counties have faced shortages in terms of increased incarceration. She said it is their intent to provide a mechanism to return funds to counties, particularly on the change of the felony law which they think will be the most expensive costs in incarceration. She said, "We are sensitive to that and to the challenges that it would bring to the County if we do not."

- Commissioner Montoya thanked Ms. O'Connor for that sensitivity.
- Councilor Calvert said the governing body is always reviewing alcohol licenses at Council meetings. He said it really is a "procedural nothing," and the City really has no authority – if we deny the license, we will be overruled or the State will bypass the City. He said it is a waste of resources, plus it gives the perception that the City rubber-stamps the licenses and doesn't care. He would like this to be changed if we don't have the ability to deny a license. He spoke about two situations where he voted to deny a license.

Ms. O'Connor agreed. She said legislation was introduced last year to change the power of the local governing body in terms of the licensing process. She said the State has had frustration as well regarding its ability to turn down a liquor license. She believes the current Secretary of Taxation & Revenue would support this change. She urged the Committee to have a discussion with the Taxation & Revenue Secretary.

- Councilor Trujillo said last year the City adopted the red light camera ordinance, and noted the Governor said the fees to the State would be used for these kinds of programs, and he hopes those funds are going for the intended purposes.

Ms. O'Connor said there was legislation which put some of the revenue from the red light camera program into DWI and in a variety of other areas. She said the State has not seen a cent of those funds in terms of reducing DWI. She said the State took a \$2 million hit this year since New Mexico is now out of the top ten states in terms of the worst states in the nation. She said, "In terms of my discussion with Commissioner Montoya, the direct fees and fines, per your comments, that are included... the intent is to put those back in to cover incarceration costs. As you said, Commissioner, we would love to see some of the red light camera monies, but we have not seen them to date in terms of the Traffic Safety Bureau, I believe, was the designated recipient of those at the state agency level."

Councilor Trujillo hopes to see some of those funds soon.

C. TREATMENT

Erika Campos, Mary Justice, Arturo Gonzales and Dr. Kraska, presented the recommendations of the Treatment Committee. Please see Exhibit "1" for specifics of this presentation.

The Mayor, Councilors and Commissioners commented, made suggestions and asked questions as follows:

- Mayor Coss said to match the supply with the demand is a great challenge. He asked the dollar estimate to implement the Medically Monitored Care piece so, for example, his mother isn't waiting in the emergency room for 6 hours at the front door because others are coming in the back door.

Dr. Kraska said a lot of dollars already are being spent, and the question is how to consolidate resources. He can a collaborative effort could get us through this relatively inexpensively, although capital costs of rebuilding will drive costs up.

- Ms. Justice said the Committee is looking at the Albuquerque model. She said the County purchased the old Charter Hospital, and described those efforts and funding. She said all ERs are suffering from the same problem and are being overwhelmed with people who are intoxicated or high on drugs who really don't need that level of medical attention. She talked about the Albuquerque program which is a mini-ER. They want to evaluate that to see whether it would be useful in Santa Fe. She said they don't know what it would cost to implement that program in Santa Fe.

Dr. Kraska said this could be a cost savings in many ways, and there is an opportunity to consolidate resources. He said there are many economic benefits in changing the way we do this. He said this care and the protocol followed need to be simple and routine and well established.

He said this isn't re-creating the wheel and he believes the economic benefits would be robust in terms of service to the community, access to care at the Emergency Room, and ultimately to stop the cycle of abuse that we see here.

- Arturo Gonzales said there is some data, noting one of the advantages of the evidence based programs is that we have to do a lot of data collection and analysis. He said in the follow-up, there was a 30% sample of patients. Some of the results indicated there was a 60% reduction in the use of emergency rooms as the result of having early interventions from the programs. There was a 40% reduction in arrests and involvement with corrections. He said there was a \$2 million savings to the health care and judicial systems based on the reductions of the utilization of the ER and the jail system.
- Commissioner Stefanics said then the Committee at this time isn't ready to make any specific recommendations about how the sobering center might be changed.

Ms. Campos said no. She said the Committee continues to meet and they definitely support having a medically monitored capability, but they still are looking at how that happens. They really want to look at the Albuquerque model, assess that, and such, noting it will be a few months before they can look at it. She said they are talking about opening the triage at mid to the end of October.

Dr. Kraska said he would like to see this move forward. He said understanding the physical plant, the protocols and the number of beds is important, but he would like to see us come to some sort of conclusion in the next 30 days. He thinks this won't be done, but believes we can be well on our way in the next 30 days.

Commissioner Stefanics would like information so it can be included in the recommendations.

- Commissioner Montoya thanked Dr. Kraska for bringing up the other alcohol related causes of death. He said the initial intent of the sobering center was to get to the point of relieving the tensions and over-burdening of the emergency room and the jail. He would support the efforts of this Committee to make sure that we get there.
- Councilor Calvert said there is "no magic solution." He said all of the Committees need to look at prioritizing its recommendations, as well as along with the other committees. He said when it comes to the more capital intensive recommendations, we need to make sure we don't over-spend in one area, and use the dollars effectively. He said we need coordination between the different programs to be sure that dollars, which are in short supply, are used cost effectively.

D. ALCOHOL TAXATION

Roman Abeyta presented the recommendation of the Alcohol Taxation Committee. Please see Exhibit "1" for specifics of this presentation.

Commissioner Stefanics commented that we really need the local option tax to do the things we need to do.

VIII. PUBLIC COMMENT

Philip Trujillo lifelong resident of Santa Fe. He is happy with the hard work. He said he can relate to everything discussed. His only son, age 28 years old, is serving a six year sentence with corrections in connection with a homicide on December 15, 2005, noting his best friend was killed in the accident and an innocent man was injured. Mr. Trujillo said he struggled with alcohol abuse until December 23, 2005, and it is unfortunate that the terrible tragedy was the occasion to quit drinking. He has been sober since that time, commenting he was a "professional drunk driver" for almost 20 years. He urged support for what you are trying to do here. He wants to do everything he can to prevent another underage person from following that path and winding up like his son. He is willing to participate on any committee or panel to do what he can.

Leah Tatum, Monte del Sol School, recommended that you get teenagers from schools to get a student council together and see what they think we should do as well. She said she lost a lot of her friends this summer in an accident. She said a lot of people stopped drinking, and people are trying to be more responsible when they drink and have designated drivers. She said teenagers know what teenagers are thinking and what they can do to help.

Commissioner Stefanics suggested sending letters to the different schools asking for recommendations.

David Zamora, Friendship Club, said this is a non-profit organization started by AA 30 years ago, which has been host to many meetings of AA as well as other recovery groups. He said it is a very low key organization. It is non-profit and independent of AA and they would like to be a part of the solution to this problem. He said they have a huge amount of knowledge and wisdom about recovery from the disease of alcoholism. He will speak with Ms. Justice about serving on one of the committees.

Loralee Freilich, said she has worked on many committees to help further education, and to help remedy some of the problems with the drinking situation. She asked a local printer to honor the memory of the teenagers killed this summer by creating a self-adhesive brightly colored sticker. She will go to the point of sale of alcohol in Santa Fe and asked them to affix the sticker on the on bottle to remind the people buying the alcohol that he has a responsibility. She said, the sticker says in English/Spanish "I'm Smart! I will not drink and drive." She decided to do this on her own.

Ms. Freilich said we need a media blitz involving the parents, saying kids watch parents pull pills from the medicine cabinet and where kids begin seeing this. She said parents should set an example for the kids. It is important to make a community statement that all of us are responsible. She is concerned

about the statistics this evening regarding young kids and we have to nip it fast at an early age. We need residential centers where kids and adults can learn daily living skills. She monitored the Magistrate Court and took classes, and mingled with offenders. She found many don't have a GED or high school diploma, and are parents. They have no jobs or a dead end job and many don't speak English. She went to the Governor and Legislators for mandates legislatively and she believes that the fines need to be much much higher. She wants changes in the Courts in sentencing to mandate people to get a GED, and wants vocational testing and school for those without a job. She wants classes in English to be mandated. She thinks everyone getting a drivers license should have a GED or a high school diploma. She wants things to be done here.

IX. APPROVAL OF THE SANTA FE CITY AND COUNTY: ADDRESSING ALCOHOL ABUSE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS.

Cynthia Delgado thanked all of the Committees for their incredible work over the past 60 days. She said it has been a pleasure working with them and their commitment and dedication has been an inspiration. She said every committee submitted their reports within the deadline in preparation for this presentation. She said we have spent the past two hours this evening giving a picture of the issue of alcohol abuse and some of the solutions we need to move forward. She asked this body to approve this work to move this work forward. She thanked each of the elected officials for their leadership and commitment to improvement and sustainability.

MOTION: Commissioner Montoya moved, seconded by Councilor Dominguez, to approve the recommendations of the four Committees.

MAYOR COSS INDICATED THERE IS NOT A QUORUM OF THE COUNCIL FOR A VOTE. Mayor Coss noted there is no longer a quorum of the City Council in attendance. He said we can take a vote of the entire group. He suggested putting this on the agenda for the next Council meeting for adoption.

Commissioner Montoya suggested that the Commission should do the same thing at the County Commission meeting on September 29, 2009.

Mayor Coss said we need to do move quickly, and doesn't believe another two-hour presentation is needed on September 30th, because the majority of the Council was here and heard the recommendations. He believes we can adopt it on September 30, 2009, at a full City Council meeting.

Ms. Delgado said they appreciate the support, noting the Committees are eager to continue moving forward. She asked that those in attendance support approval in the City Council and County Commission meetings so we can continue to move this important work forward in a forceful and committed way.

Mayor Coss said he would like to see another meeting such as this one in 60-90 days, because he believes it keep the momentum moving forward.

Ms. Delgado said, based on some of the significant work which has to be done, she would to come back to this body in 90 days so that there will be significant work to report and bring to the elected leadership.

Commissioner Montoya thanked everyone for their work and attendance, saying this is not a closed process.

Mayor Coss said he supports the Committee recommendations. He said he has talked about changing the way the City is involved in this, noting this will put us at the Legislature supporting the Governor's Legislative package and the Attorney General's Legislative package on local option. He said the City of Santa Fe has never done this before and has always worked on capital outlay, but has never worked on this issue at the Legislature.

Mayor Coss said he doesn't want to go in and take anyone's liquor licenses away, nor from El Museo or the Convention Center, the Airport or the Golf Course. He said it is fair warning that we don't want alcohol to be served in our parks any more.

Mayor Coss said we tried to involve people in the industry, but he doesn't see that engagement on this question. He said we are addressing this issue at the most expensive ends of the question which is either in the emergency room or at the jail, which are the most expensive places to treat this problem. He does support the local option. He said we need health care reform in this country very soon. He supports all of the recommendations and stands in awe of the people who worked on these Committees, and wishes there were more participation from the business community on this question.

V. ADJOURN

There was no further business, and the special joint meeting was adjourned at approximately 7:45 p.m.

Approved by:

Mayor David Coss

Commission Chairman Mike D. Anaya

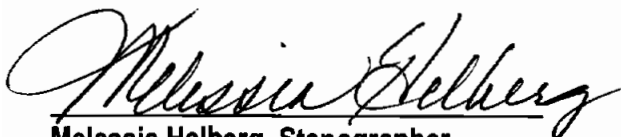
ATTESTED TO:

Yolanda Y. Vigil, City Clerk

ATTESTED TO:

Valerie Espinoza, County Clerk

Respectfully submitted:



Melessia Helberg, Stenographer