

MINUTES, 21 September 2008 MEETING
WHLA BOARD of DIRECTORS
DATIL, NM

The WHLA BoD met on Sunday 21 September 2008 at the Cook residence at 4 PM MDT. Members Cook, Shepherd, Brown and Schaefer were present. Guests were Association members Ruth Cook, Jonille Shepherd, Jamie O'Gorman and Betty Schaefer. We conducted business as follows:

- Secretary Schaefer read the minutes of the 20 August 2008 BoD meeting. Same were approved with one addition: It was noted that we authorized President Cook to seek legal counsel regarding the ongoing property easement dispute.
- Treasurer Brown presented the current (1-1-08 through 9/21/08) financial report; it was approved.
- Fred Shepherd reported on his plans for roads maintenance this fall. After discussion and agreement on 2 additional culverts, his plan was approved.

As old business:

- We again discussed the issue of the existing four easements affecting eight properties with boundaries common to Sugarloaf Subdivision (to the west and/or north of the Highlands). President Cook led with his report covering his meeting with Mr. Ron Shortes. In brief: Mr. Shortes indicated that our interpretation of the background and status is correct. In particular, he concurs that, in event of a situation in which an individual or party could not evacuate because of a barrier and injury or loss resulted, 4 parties could, as the situation now stands, be held liable: the owners of the two properties involved, the WHLA BoD, and Mr. J. Laude. Following lengthy discussion, we agreed to:
 - Obtain written opinion from Mr. Shortes, and
 - Notify by letter each of the owners of the eight properties involved of their exposure, and again request their cooperation in resolution of this issue.
- We again discussed the specific "Cost of Living" index to be used in setting annual assessment rates. It was decided to table the matter until the December meeting.

As new business,

- We reviewed and approved President Cook's draft 2009 calender.
- We decided to give up our existing NM Sales Tax ID number, as it requires 2 annual reports but provides us nothing.
- We agreed to join the newly-formed San Augustine Water Coalition (formed to fight the "water grab" reported earlier), and further, to contribute \$100 to it (the Coalition has a pro bono counsel, but counsel's expenses require reimbursement).

We determined to next meet at the Shepherd residence at 4 PM MST on Sunday 14 December 2008.

We adjourned at 5:10 PM MDT.

Respectfully submitted this 28 September 2008, John F. Schaefer, Sr., Secretary 2008-2009.