



RESOLUTION # 96-51

WHEREAS, the Torrance County Commission in regular session on Wednesday, June 26, 1996, did propose to authorize a line item transfer between two funds in the 1995-96 FY Budget and,

WHEREAS, line item transfers between two funds require approval from the Department of Finance and Administration, and

WHEREAS, we request authorization for the following line item transfer:

From	To	Amount
630-10-600	602-10-103	\$5,000
630-10-600	602-10-202	\$3,000
630-10-600	602-10-207	\$2,000
630-10-600	602-10-209	\$ 500
630-10-600	602-10-216	\$2,500
630-10-600	602-10-601	\$7,717


NOW THEREFORE, it is respectfully requested that the above request to transfer funds in the 1995-96 FY Budget be approved by the Department of Finance and Administration.

DONE at Estancia, New Mexico, Torrance County this 26th day of June, 1996.

Torrance County Commission



Bill Williams

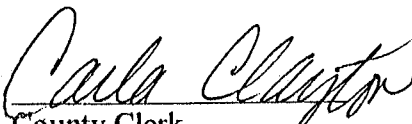


Rodger Rayner



Roy Spencer

ATTEST:



Carla Clayton
County Clerk

DFA Approval:

- Good Morning Gentlemen, I would like to Thank You for your time. I come before not as the publisher of the local newspaper but as a Estancia town trustee and as a concerned county resident.
- On behalf of the town of Estancia I would like publicly address the Law Enforcement Joint powers agreement between the town of Estancia & the county. Recent Dialougue has been exchanged and an agreement been promised between the county and the town, to extend the agreement. ButWe felt is was necessary to come before you the governing body of the Torrance county, in a public meeting so that we can have the voices of our residents heard.
- The town of Estancia is in the critical beginning stages of re-forming our town police department. It is a monumental task and we are being very carefull and trying to make good choices. We would like to have an extenstion of up to 3 months of police coverage for our town while we to put our department back together. We are looking at a two man department and would like to have back up coverage during the time we may have to send a officer to the academy.
- We also feel there should not be any charge or fee rendered to the town for the additional coverage time we are requesting.
- The people of the town of Estancia feel that we have have been short changed in our agreement and that our cries have fallen on deaf ears. We understand that there have been difficulties and money problems with in the sheriff's department but a reasonable sum of money \$55,286.00 per year plus 3 vehicles and all our former equipment has been paid or given to the county. Yet, at times too numerous to mention, our residents have called for help and have been told that there are no officers on duty. Our JPA calls for 24 hours a day 7 day a week coverage. Our contract also calls for a monthly report made to the council by either the sheriff or a representative. Since my appointment to the council in Sept. 1995 Only One written report and 2 meetings have been attended by law enforcement. One of the two meetings attended was Deputy

Encinias helping us set up a neighborhood watch program. The other meeting Deputy Garley was there but not at the direction of the department but on his own. Having the physical location of the department in Estancia does not constitute adequate coverage. The people of the town of Estancia, and the people of this fast growing county deserve better.

- I would like to take a few minutes now and share with you a few of the many experiences our town residents are telling us about. See, Mr. Chairman the problems with-in the sheriffs became the the problems of the town council when our residents cries for help went unanswered. We the mayor & governing body are the ones who have had to take the heat for the problems the department has faced. As in any situation there are many people who try to do the best job they can. We would thank the the dispatchers and the employee's of the sherriff dept that do try.
- 1. I was stopped at the post office and told this stroy of a woman home alone who called the sheriffs in regards to a prowler outside her home. She was informed that there were no county officers on duty and that state police was tied up also. They could send someone out the next day and told her to try and get a good look so she could describe him. Do you think the prowler will wait while the frightened woman gets a good look?
- 2. The town has had a serious rash of burglary, larceny, vandalism, domestic violence and untold traffic problems. Our residents have been told it would be a couple of hours to a couple of days before an officer could get back to them. In some cases there are residents still waiting for an officer to come take a report. And We have no resolution on many cases.
- 3. Our emergency personnel have been put in hazardous situations. In responding to various calls such as domestic violence, public intoxicated brawls, fires and car crashes they have had to stand by an watch and not render aid because our law enforcement could not or would not respond to aist in a timely manner. In a double fatality on the

north end of Estancia recently had our emergency people waiting for approx. 45 minutes before law enforcement showed up. At a recent middle of the night fire bordering national forest land and in a difficult area to evacuate the responding fire departments waited one hour and 45 minutes for an officer to show up to assist. Our Fire & rescue people are volunteers they do what they do because they care and they are not being paid big bucks. They deserve the best assistance possible - it may be your life or the life of some one you love some day that they save or don't.

- 4. A recent weekend bar room brawl that got taken into the sleepy streets of Estancia included two deputys and a dispatcher (check on this). A frightened resident of the town had to call 911- 3 times while watching the out of control fight in the street. Why did the officers themselves not call 911 and request officer back up? State police and Mountainair PD responded. I have heard of no accountability for the two officers involved. Yet the residents of this town are demanding accountability out of us the municipal government for their actions. Yes, we realize that the deputys are people too and deserve to have a personal life. ^{Our towns people} BUT. ~~We~~ do expect our officers to hold themselves to a higher standard of behavior. ^{It is alleged that the officers were} The people of this town feel that they should not have been in the local bar intoxicated, and that they may have helped cause the fight and they were not the heroes.
- 5. Torrance County is number one in Domestic violence among family members, we rank in the top 5 in child & elder abuse. We are at the top in assault and battery too. We are a county and a community that hits ^{each other} and hits alot, and often think the women ^{unthinkable to thought} deserve it. In a recent incident a young woman being threatened by a estranged boyfriend went into the sheriff's office at approx 4 am only to be told to go somewhere safe until an officer would be on duty later that morning. Shortly thereafter, the young woman and her 5 year old child were abducted by the boyfriend for several hours. When she showed up at the SO she had been beaten with a gun, bitten from head to toe, and badly bruised all this apparently done in the presence of her five year old. She

was transported immediately to an Alb hospital. She had informed the department who did this to her. Yet, an arrest warrant was not issued until the next day the department said she had to issue a formal statement. And to date no arrests have been made. It is too late they graciously gave him plenty of time to leave the country. State statutes dictate that law enforcement make an arrest in DV calls whether or not the victim file charges. The laws are there to protect the victims not only from the aggressor but from themselves. When speaking to a deputy on this case a family member was asked if she was aware of how many times a situation like this had happened before? This is an insult. Families of DV victims either know all too well how many times this has happened before or they don't know anything at all. No matter what a woman does ~~whether~~ she does not deserve to be abducted, pistol whipped in front of her child and then denied justice. On going DV victims and beaters are in need of help. It starts with the law enforcement. It starts with the arrest. Our county is in turmoil with its DV funding. Our women and children will bear the brunt of this action.

- On another note, 2 teenage boys were playing cactus golf on private property south of Est. recently when the golf ball went over the fence into the east hi-way dept easement. They jumped the fence to retrieve the ball. 2 officers showed up the kids ran back across the fence. The parent, who was from out of state & visiting family, said the officer threatened to take the kids in for trespassing on state land to teach them a lesson. He did indeed teach them an important lesson that cops can indeed be pigs. Kids need role models from our officials not harassment.
- I think I have shared enough with you about how important this is to the town of Estancia.
- If I may leave you with some suggestions
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- 1. What ever the problems are in the SO please get them figured out ASAP.

- 2. Hire adequate deputies and pay them well. The county pay scale is insulting to the men and women who put their lives on the line.
- 3. Set up and support a domestic violence program. The town of Estancia donates the use of a facility to the only program in the valley and not that funding is threatened.
- As the governing body of Torrance we ask that you Demand accountability from the sheriff's department. DV laws should be followed to the letter and judgments as to who deserved what should be left in the courts.
- I again would like to thank you for your time and hope we can work together to solve the problems we face. I am sure the technicalities on the JPA extension can be worked out.