

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Guillermo Gandara Sr.
Guillermo Madrid, Jr.
Mary B. García
Gloria M. Rodríguez
Jesús Gandara Jr.

STAFF PRESENT:

Manny Soto, Interim City Manager
Manuel Rubio, City Clerk
Olivia Navarro, Assistant City Clerk
Jerry Wallace, City Attorney

1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m.

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE AND A MOMENT OF SILENCE

Pledge of Allegiance led by *Manny Soto*

3. ESTABLISHMENT OF QUORUM

A roll call was held and a quorum was established with four members present

A motion was made by Jesus Gandara seconded by Gloria M. Rodriguez to move the *Presentation to be before the Public Comment*. Motion carried with Guillermo Madrid, Jr., Mary B. García, Gloria M. Rodríguez and Jesús Gandara, Jr., voting aye. Motion passed.

PRESENTATION:

5. PRESENTATION BY LIZ ROMO WITH DARS WORKFORCE.

MANNY SOTO, JR.

Luz Romo, Job Developer for Workforce Solution made presentation (see Exhibit "A")

4. PUBLIC COMMENT

Ralph Duran, Maria Reyes, Suky Ramos, David Guzman and Bill Arballo spoke during public comment.

CONSENT AGENDA:

6. APPROVAL OF REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES OF 11/19/09, 12/10/09 AND 12/16/09. *MANNY SOTO, JR.*

7. APPROVAL OF REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES OF 02.03//11 AND SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES OF 02/15/2011. *MANNY SOTO, JR.*

A motion was made by Jesus Gandara, Jr. seconded by Gloria M. Rodriguez *to approve the consent agenda.* Motion carried with Guillermo Madrid, Jr., Mary B. Garcia, Gloria M. Rodriguez and Jesús Gandara, voting aye. Motion passed.

8. DISCUSSION AND ACTION EMERGENCY SHELTER PLAN FOR THE CITY OF SOCORRO IN THE EVENT OF NATURAL AND OTHER DISASTERS DISPLACING OUR CITIZENS. (THIS ITEM WAS TABLED DURING THE MEETING OF 02/17/11). *MANNY SOTO, JR.*

A motion was made by Gloria M. Rodriguez seconded by Jesus Gandara, Jr. *to approve item number eight (8).* Motion carried with Guillermo Madrid, Jr., Mary B. Garcia, Gloria M. Rodriguez and Jesús Gandara, voting aye. Motion passed.

9. DISCUSSION AND ACTION ON AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF SOCORRO, TEXAS ADOPTING AN AMENDED BUDGET APPROPRIATING FUNDS FOR A BUDGET INCREASE IN THE AMOUNT OF \$20,000 DOLLARS FOR THE RIO VISTA COMMUNITY CENTER. (THIS ITEM WAS TABLED DURING THE MEETING OF 02/17/11). *MANNY SOTO, JR.*

A motion was made by Gloria M. Rodriguez seconded by Jesus Gandara, Jr. *to delete item number nine (9).* Motion carried with Guillermo Madrid, Jr., Mary B. Garcia, Gloria M. Rodriguez and Jesus Gandara, voting aye. Motion passed.

10. DISCUSSION AND ACTON ON APPROVAL OF THE JOB DESCRIPTIONS FOR JUVENILE CASE MANAGER AND COURT COORDINATOR FOR THE MUNICIPAL COURT. *MANNY SOTO, JR.*

Maria Reyes spoke on this item.

A motion was made by Jesus Gandara, Jr. seconded by Gloria M. Rodriguez *to approve item number ten (10).* Motion carried with Guillermo Madrid, Jr., Mary B. Garcia, Gloria M. Rodriguez and Jesus Gandara, voting aye. Motion passed.

11. DISCUSSION AND ACTION ON APPROVAL FOR PROPERTY & EVIDENCE/CRIME SCRENE TECHNICIAN AND BAILIFF/WARRANT OFFICER FOR THE POLICE DEPARTMENT. MANNY SOTO, JR.

A motion was made by Jesus Gandara, seconded by Gloria M. Rodriguez to *approve item number eleven (11)*. Motion carried with Guillermo Madrid, Jr., Mary B. Garcia, Gloria M. Rodriguez and Jesus Gandara, voting aye Motion passed.

12. DISCUSSION AND ACTION ON APPROVAL OF THE JOB DESCRIPTION FOR RECREATION ASSISTANT FOR THE COMMUNITY CENTER. MANNY SOTO, JR.

Suky Ramos spoke on this item.

A motion was made by Jesus Gandara seconded by Gloria M. Rodriguez to *approve item number twelve (12)*. Motion carried with Guillermo Madrid, Jr., Mary B. Garcia, Gloria M. Rodriguez and Jesus Gandara, voting aye Motion passed.

13. DISCUSSION AND ACTION ON APPROVAL OF REVISED SECTION OF EMPLOYEE HANDBOOK TO REMOVE FISCAL YEAR VACATION STIPULATION TO CONFORM TO CITY ANNIVERSARY DATE POLICY AND ACCRUAL AND SCHEDULING OF VACATON TIME AS APPROVED BY THE CIVIL SERVICE COMMISSION. MANNY SOTO, JR.

David Guzman and Bill Arballo spoke on this item.

A motion was made by Guillermo Madrid, Jr. to *table item number thirteen (13)*.

Mr. Guillermo Madrid, Jr. rescind his motion to table.

A motion was made by Guillermo Madrid, Jr. to *approve item number thirteen (13)*. Motion carried with Guillermo Madrid, Jr., Mary B. Garcia, Gloria M. Rodriguez and Jesus Gandara, voting aye Motion passed.

14. DISCUSSION AND ACTION ON JUVENILE CASE MANAGER POSITION FUND. MANNY SOTO, JR.

Judge Vidales spoke on this item.

A motion was made by Jesus Gandara, Jr. seconded by Mary B. Garcia to *approve item number fourteen (14)*. Motion carried with Guillermo Madrid, Jr., Mary B. Garcia, Gloria M. Rodriguez and Jesus Gandara, voting aye Motion passed.

15. DISCUSSION AND ACTION ON APPROVAL FOR MIP TRAINING FOR ACCOUNTING TECHNICIAN TO BE HELD IN AUSTIN, TEXAS ON MARCH 13-16, 2011. MANNY SOTO, JR.

A motion was made by Gloria M. Rodriguez seconded by Mary B. Garcia to *approve item number fifteen (15)*. Motion carried with Guillermo Madrid, Jr., Mary B. Garcia, Gloria M. Rodriguez and Jesus Gandara, voting aye Motion passed.

- 16. DISCUSSION AND ACTION TO AUTHORIZE THE CITY ATTORNEY TO WORK WITH SITES UNDER THE SUPERVISION OF THE CITY MANAGER TO REVIEW SOCORRO'S DISTRICTING PLAN FOR COMPLIANCE WITH STATE AND FEDERAL LAW AND TO SUBMIT MULTIPLE PROPOSALS OR ALTERNATIVE DISTRICTING PLANS TO APPORTION THE CITY OF SOCORRO'S POPULATION AND SUBMIT THE PLAN SELECTED BY THE CITY COUNCIL, ALONG WITH THE RECENT ANNEXATION, AND CHARTER AMENDMENTS AFFECTING VOTING TO THE VOTING SECTION OF THE UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE, CIVIL RIGHTS DIVISION FOR PRECLEARANCE AS REQUIRED BY THE FEDERAL VOTING RIGHTS ACT OF 1965.** **BLANCO, ORDONE & WALLACE, P.C.**

Joe DeTuro spoke on this item.

A motion was made by Jesus Gandara, Jr. seconded by Mary B. Garcia to *approve item number sixteen (16)*. Motion carried with Guillermo Madrid, Jr., Mary B. Garcia, Gloria M. Rodriguez and Jesus Gandara, voting aye Motion passed.

- 17. EXCUSE ABSENT COUNCIL MEMBERS.** **MANNY SOTO, JR.**

A motion was made by Gloria M. Rodriguez seconded by Jesus Gandara, Jr. to *delete item number seventeen (17)*. Motion carried with Guillermo Madrid, Jr., Mary B. Garcia, Gloria M. Rodriguez and Jesus Gandara, voting aye Motion passed.

ADDENDUM TO THE REGULAR AGENDA:

- 18. DISCUSSION AND ACTION TO APPROVE AN ADMINISTRATIVE REVISION TO THE GRANT WRITER/GRANTS MANAGER CONTRACT TO BORDER COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT CONSULTANTS, INC, DBA BORDER HOUSING SOLUTIONS.** **MANNY SOTO, JR.**

A motion was made by Gloria M. Rodriguez seconded by Mary B. Garcia to *approve item number eighteen (18)*. Motion carried with Guillermo Madrid, Jr., Mary B. Garcia, Gloria M. Rodriguez and Jesus Gandara, voting aye Motion passed.

A motion was made by Gloria M. Rodriguez seconded by Mary B. Garcia to *move into Executive Session at this time*. Motion carried with Guillermo Madrid, Jr., Mary B. Garcia, Gloria M. Rodriguez and Jesus Gandara, voting aye Motion passed.

THE CITY COUNCIL CONVENED INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION AT 7:27 P.M.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

THE CITY COUNCIL RECONVENED BACK IN SESSION AT 8:32 P.M.

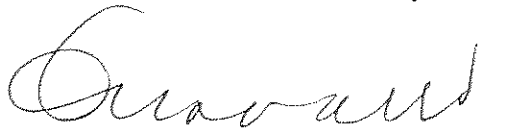
**21. DISCUSSION AND ACTION ON LEGAL ADVICE RECEIVED BY LEGAL
COUNSEL IN EXECUTIVE SESSION. **MANNY SOTO, JR.****

A motion was made by Jesus Gandara, Jr. seconded by Gloria M. Rodriguez to *authorize our water counsel or city attorney to file legal action to enforce the city of Socorro's zoning and building and development codes in connection with construction projects within the city of Socorro which do not have city zoning and building permits.* Motion carried with Guillermo Madrid, Jr., Mary B. Garcia, Gloria M. Rodriguez and Jesus Gandara, voting aye Motion passed.

22. ADJOURN

A motion was made by Gloria M. Rodriguez seconded by Mary B. Garcia to *adjourn at 8:33 p.m.* Motion carried with Guillermo Madrid, Jr., Mary B. Garcia, Gloria M. Rodriguez and Jesus Gandara, voting aye Motion passed.


Guillermo Gandara, Sr. Mayor


Olivia Navarro, Assistant City Clerk


Date when minutes were approved

Exhibit "A"

3-10-11 atty

“Breaking Barriers: Employing Youth with Disabilities”



Agenda

- Who are we?
- Breaking Barriers
 - What is it?
 - Who's involved?
 - How does it work?
 - Results
- Questions

Who are we?

- One of 28 workforce boards in the state of Texas
- Funding comes from the U.S. Department of Labor through the Texas Workforce Commission
- Our mission is to unite job seekers and employers
- 13 locations, cover six counties (Brewster, Culberson, El Paso, Hudspeth, Jeff Davis and Presidio)
- Strategic plan revolves around education, employment and economic development

Our Vision

A strong network of strategic alliances which builds a gainfully employed workforce based on employer needs in a competitive global economy.

Our Mission

To provide skilled workers for employers by advancing education, employment and economic development opportunities.

Services: Job Seekers

- Job Search Assistance
- Job Referrals
- Resume Preparation
- Interviewing Skills
- Job Training
- Veteran Services
- Child Care
- Transportation
- Continuing Education
- G.E.D.
- Career Counseling
- Employment for disabled
- Tutoring/Mentoring

Services : Employers

- Labor Market Information
- Tax Credit Benefits
- Employee Recruitment
- Employee Screenings
- Job Placement Orders
- Rapid Response
- Training Grants
- Job Fairs
- Labor Law

Breaking Barriers:

- Breaking Barriers is a program for youth with disabilities that takes place during the summer.
- Developed from idea at the University at Arkansas, brought to El Paso via CHIRP members
- The program is a collaborative effort with two other agencies that serve the disabled community.

Breaking Barriers: Goals

- Provide youth with disabilities the opportunity to experience the world of work. They earn their first paychecks, build their resume and walk away with a reference.
- For employers, aside from the subsidized assistance, the program educates them on the benefits of employing someone with disabilities and sheds any additional fears or myths.

Breaking Barriers: The Partnership

- The program works in collaboration with Volar Center for Independent Living and The Texas Department of Assistive and Rehabilitative Services (DARS). The two organizations refer youth customers and provide job coaching and case management while the workforce board subsidizes up to 100 hours of their wages and assists with job placement and additional case management.

Breaking Barriers: Funding Breakdown

- Subsidized employment: WIA Youth-Workforce Solutions
- Employer Breakfast & celebrations: Donations
- Case management: DARS/URG
- Job Development: DARS/URG
- Recruitment/Accommodations: DARS
- Support services: URG
- Community Support: VOLAR

Breaking Barriers: Results

- During the first year, 30 students were assisted through 14 employers
- In 2009, students doubled and employers tripled
- In 2010, we assisted 80 students
- This year our goal is to assist 100 students

Breaking Barriers: Employers

Positions Snapshot

- Bakery
- Food service
- Landscaping
- Child care
- Clerical
- Tech assistant
- Teacher's aide
- Pet caretaker
- Sorting/stocking
- Plumber assistant

Employer Snapshot

- School districts
- Pet stores
- Goodwill
- YWCA
- Recreation center
- City of El Paso
- Body shops
- And many more

Questions

