

**MARICOPA COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS MINUTE BOOK**

**FORMAL SESSION  
January 3, 2005**

The Board of Supervisors of Maricopa County, Arizona convened in Formal Session at 9:00 a.m., January 3, 2005, in the Board of Supervisors' Auditorium, 205 W. Jefferson, Phoenix, Arizona, with the following members present: Andrew Kunasek, Chairman, District 3, Fulton Brock, District 1, Don Stapley, District 2, Max W. Wilson, District 4 and Mary Rose Wilcox, District 5. Also present: Fran McCarroll, Clerk of the Board; Shirley Million, Administrative Coordinator; David Smith, County Administrative Officer; and Paul Golab, Deputy County Attorney. Votes of the Members will be recorded as follows: aye-no-absent-abstain.

**INVOCATION**

Shannon Smith, delivered the invocation.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Laura Bierl, led the assemblage in the Pledge of Allegiance.

**CHAIRMAN'S REMARKS**

Andy Kunasek, Chairman  
Maricopa County Board of Supervisors

Chairman Kunasek took a few moments to thank everyone who helped him in his chairmanship during 2004. He said, "Of course, I owe a great deal to my fellow board members and their staffs. I also want to give a special thanks to the employees of Maricopa County, especially those who worked so hard on the Maricopa Integrated System transition. Later today we'll have a meeting to officially "hand over the keys", review our progress and discuss with the new Special Health Care District Board, those things we still need to do.

Maricopa County had a very good year. We retired our General Obligation Debt – a feat that is unprecedented for a government of this size, or any size for that matter. We successfully dealt with a number of public health issues, although we can and will do better in the future.

This year also saw a reorganization, consolidation of the Public Works Departments that have streamlined our operations and saved taxpayers millions of dollars.

There were many accomplishments large and small this year. I want to highlight my favorite: The Maricopa County Trail. This year we closed the planning portion of the effort. Five County citizens, community leaders, county staff and representatives of the federal, state and local governments worked for 3-years on a 200+ mile trail alignment encompassing the Valley and connecting the county's 9 Regional Parks. The Board of Supervisors adopted their plan, the product of their hard work, this year. It has been and will continue to be a Herculean effort by this Board, our Parks, Transportation and Flood Control and the entire community, to turn this vision into reality. Some trail construction has begun, but we have a long way to go.

Finally, I want to thank the countywide elected officials for their contributions to Maricopa County's success and good name. Rick Romley has retired after 16-years of outstanding service to the community. Doug Todd, in many capacities in government, also retired after 12-years as County Treasurer. Thanks to both of them for their service, and thanks to Helen Purcell, Sandra Dowling, Joe Arpaio and Michael Jeanes for your service and for the strong spirit of cooperation with the Board of

**MARICOPA COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS MINUTE BOOK**

**FORMAL SESSION  
January 3, 2005**

Supervisors. I look forward to working with our new colleagues, Dave Schweikert, Andy Thomas, and Keith Russell. I think the 12 of us and our staffs make quite a formidable team.

It's been a good year, and I look forward to an even better year in 2005."

**OATH OF OFFICE CEREMONY**

The Honorable Colin Campbell, Presiding Judge, Maricopa County Superior Court, conducted the swearing-in ceremony. The following individuals were elected in November. Names indicated with an asterisk (\*) were present to be sworn in.

**SWEARING-IN OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS**

District 1	Fulton Brock*
District 2	Don Stapley*
District 3	Andy Kunasek*
District 4	Max Wilson*
District 5	Mary Rose Wilcox*

**SWEARING-IN OF COUNTYWIDE ELECTED OFFICIALS**

Superintendent of Schools:	Sandra E. Dowling*
Recorder:	Helen Purcell*
Sheriff:	Joe Arpaio
Assessor:	Keith Russell*
Treasurer:	David Schweikert*
Attorney:	Andrew Thomas*

**SWEARING-IN OF JUSTICES OF THE PEACE**

East Phoenix No. 2 Justice Court	Michael W. Orcutt
Maryvale Justice Court	Jesse R. Miranda
North Mesa Justice Court	Lester N. Pearce
Northeast Phoenix Justice Court	Jacque McVay*
Northwest Phoenix Justice Court	Rebecca Macbeth
South Mesa/Gilbert Justice Court	Sam Goodman
North Valley Justice Court	Gerald Williams*
Scottsdale Justice Court	Michael Reagan*

**SWEARING-IN OF CONSTABLES**

East Phoenix No. 2 Justice Court	Annette Clark*
Maryvale Justice Court	Frank L. Canez*
North Mesa Justice Court	Ed Malles
Northeast Phoenix Justice Court	Doug Middleton
Northwest Phoenix Justice Court	Robert G. Weaver
South Mesa/Gilbert Justice Court	Phil Freestone*

FORMAL SESSION  
January 3, 2005

**ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS FOR 2005 AND PASSING OF THE GAVEL**

Motion was made by Supervisor Stapley to nominate Supervisor Max W. Wilson as Chairman of the Board of Supervisors for the year 2005. The motion was seconded by Supervisor Brock. Supervisor Wilson was elected chairman by unanimous vote (5-0).

**2005 CHAIRMAN'S ADDRESS**

Incoming Chairman Max W. Wilson

Newly elected chairman, Max Wilson, thanked those present and said he appreciated and was honored by the vote of confidence from his fellow colleagues. He continued,

"I have long considered myself a lucky man. I would like to introduce my wife of 44 years- Judy. We have raised four wonderful daughters Laura, Tracy, Shannon & Amy. My daughters are now raising their children in Maricopa County, which seems to be growing faster than my eight grandchildren are and whoever thought anything could grow faster than grandchildren do.

I am humbled by the faith in my leadership the voters of District 4 have shown, by re-electing me to the Board. I want to assure my constituents and my fellow Board members that I will do the best job I know how in leading this County as Chairman over the next year. Supervisor Kunasek, Supervisor Stapley, Supervisor Brock and Supervisor Wilcox you have been great mentors and I thank you.

Let me take a moment to express my sincere appreciation to my colleague, my friend, Andy Kunasek.

Andy, you have been a Chairman who quietly governs with an absolute moral compass. You have led us over the past year through some difficult challenges. As a token of our appreciation – I'd like to present to you this plaque with sincere gratitude for all your hard work. (Chairman Wilson presented outgoing Chairman Kunasek with a large, engraved wall plaque highlighted by a gold gavel to commemorate 2004 as his year as Chairman of the Board of Supervisors.)

During my three years as Maricopa County Supervisor, I have had the pleasure of working with some talented people. Of course that includes my fellow Supervisors, whom I am glad to work with on a daily basis. We may not always agree on all the issues but I know each of you represent your district with a pure heart.

**My #1 Goal: ENSURE LOW TAXES AND A COST-EFFECTIVE BALANCED BUDGET**

As the population of Maricopa County continues to grow we will continue to meet the growing demand for services. Maricopa County will continue to build new facilities as they are needed and as we can afford them.

I would like this Board to consider the adoption of a policy outlining a commitment to sustainable environmentally friendly building practices for County facilities. I would like to quote an American Statesmen Bernard Baruch, "Millions saw the apple fall but Newton was the one who asked why". This board needs to ask why don't we build our buildings to last 100 years? We are in a position to examine long-term investments as opposed to short-term solutions.

We would expect that the implementation of a policy adopting sustainable environmentally friendly building practices would yield cost savings through reduced operating costs, and would provide a healthy work environment for County employees and visitors to County facilities. More importantly, we would contribute to

**FORMAL SESSION  
January 3, 2005**

the realization of the Board of Supervisor's stated goal of protecting, conserving and enhancing the regions' environmental resources and help establish a community standard of sustainable buildings for Maricopa County.

By maximizing our efficiencies in Capital Improvements, we can avoid costly rental space in the future. I welcome the idea of collaborating with other jurisdictions to maximize our dollars. We have met with City of Phoenix officials to work on joint projects downtown in order to better serve our combined customers, the taxpayers.

Speaking of the taxpayers, it is worth repeating that our tax rate is now at its lowest point ever in Maricopa County history and we retired all of our General Obligation bonds. However, it is my goal as your new Chairman to achieve yet another rate decrease in the next budget year. I realize this will not be easy to accomplish but I believe it is possible.

The Office of Management and Budget have advised me we have major budgetary items that will impact our upcoming financial decisions. These include:

- Increased payments to the State for ALTCS, our long Term Care program, are estimated to go up by another \$5-\$6 million next year. Maricopa County will seek relief from the State for the additional \$6.5 million in ALTCS costs shifted to the County in the years 2002 and 2003, which will restore equal treatment among the counties.
- The upcoming increase in health and dental benefits for our employees affects the County's contribution by up to \$10 million.
- The mandated Arnold vs. Sarn Mental Health IGA increase will require an additional \$1.5 to \$2 million. I will support Supervisor Stapley and all his efforts with the Serious Mentally ill in our jails.
- And if the State goes back on their word, Maricopa County is likely to continue to pay the \$32 million that we absorbed to help the State out during its financial crisis.

Nothing would please me more than to find additional cost savings and efficiencies in our county to off-set these huge financial impacts, while providing taxpayers additional relief from property taxes. I know all of my colleagues and all of the County departments will work closely with the County Manager and the Office of Management and Budget to make this goal a reality.

#### **Luke**

My family, faith and military service have shaped me as a person. We must never forget those who have sacrificed their lives to allow us this opportunity to govern. Maricopa County is home to the world's largest fighter training base and the only active duty F-16 training base. Luke AFB trains approx 90% of all F-16 pilots in the world, and graduates on average 900 F-16 Pilots and 1000 Crew Chiefs per year. If Luke were a country, it would have the worlds 5th largest Air Force. Not only does Luke Air Force Base protect us on an international arena but also many of its employees are instrumental in our communities. Many serve as scout leaders, lay-ministers or crisis counselors and are instrumental in this Valley's terrorism response team. I will ensure this good neighbor relationship continues for many years to come. (The Chairman introduced Brigadier General Crane and expressed his thanks for Luke's contribution to the County, State and Nation for all their efforts and for those who are now overseas fighting the war.)

#### **MCDOT**

Farsighted regional transportation planning is another one of Maricopa County's essential missions. In the past few years our Maricopa County Department of Transportation has developed many complex and major projects throughout the Valley but we must challenge the way we move traffic in the future. I'm calling upon the Department of Transportation to commit expenditures of \$50-million a year on new and

FORMAL SESSION  
January 3, 2005

improved roadways in our county's most rapidly growing and expanding areas. This will make certain we fulfill the commitment we have long made to our residents of building the right system at the right time and at the right cost.

**People Business**

No matter what kind of work you do for Maricopa County, you are in the People Business. From Animal Care & Control to MCDOT Road Maintenance, customer service is a must. I come from a business background where it is easy to know your customers. You neglect them and you are out of business. Even though Government generally does not go out of business, taxpayers must receive the best value for their dollar. If we fail to serve the taxpayers responsibly, we lose the trust of the people. In turn we must ensure our employees feel valued and are treated with respect. I have asked our County Manager to look into an incentive plan to help combat employee turnover and retain top performing employees.

Over the next year, I have great hopes that we can accomplish all of these objectives and tackle a few more. It is my hope we will be able to work with Arizona State University and Doctor Crowe in his vision for the future. In doing so, we must keep the Sundome open and operating for all our residents to enjoy.

This Board has already proven, during the last few years that it is capable of great things. Our work, our strong efforts, and our successes, are something we can all be proud of. However, the team you see before you today could not have accomplished these feats without the help of our remarkable workforce. Maricopa County departments, from Planning & Zoning to the Flood Control District, from the Star Call Center to MCDOT, have all proven to me that our employees are the best of the best.

I want to take this opportunity to recognize that its not just policy makers that run this County. I would like to share with you a little video that highlights Maricopa County's success in 2004. And hopefully to show where we have been so we will know what paths to follow into the future.

[Chairman Wilson showed a video presentation on some of the many things that were accomplished by the Board of Supervisors during 2004.]

Chairman Wilson asked the other four Board members to introduce the members of their families and friends who were present.

**MEETING ADJOURNED TO CHAIRMAN'S RECEPTION**

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned to the Chairman's reception in the lobby of the Administration Building, 301 West Jefferson.

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Max W. Wilson, Chairman of the Board

ATTEST:

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Fran McCarroll, Clerk of the Board