

**TALAVERA COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION (TCA)  
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES  
Held September 18<sup>th</sup>, 2021, 6:00pm – 7:30 pm,  
Via Zoom**

Next Meeting: Winter

Type of Meeting: Annual

**I. Greetings.**

**Perry Ashby, TCA President**, welcomed the Community Representatives, meeting attendees, new residents, and introduced the current Board members. It continues to be a very difficult year for all of us as this pandemic continues to affect/infect our lives for the foreseeable future.

**Perry Ashby** – President  
**Helen Foster** – Vice President  
**Steve Tarro** – Treasurer  
**Jerry Wertz** – Member at Large  
**Robert Tyk** – Member-at-Large  
**Karen Armstrong** – Secretary and Webmaster

**New Neighbors** and/or **new TCA Members.**

**Welcome to all!** So glad to have our new neighbors join us:

**Community Representatives**

**Shannon Reynolds** - County Commissioner, (575) 339-5819; [sreynolds@donaanacounty.org](mailto:sreynolds@donaanacounty.org)  
**René Molina** - Engineering Supervisor, Doña Ana County

**II. Treasurer Report.**

**Steve Tarro, TCA Treasurer**, submitted the following:

Purchased 1yr, 2yr, & 3yr \$5k CDs. Rates are .25%, .30%, and .35%.

\$23,961.61	beginning bal	<b>1/1/2021</b>
6,150.00	deposits	
<u>2,723.82</u>	expenses	
\$12,337.79	ending bal	<b>9/15/2021</b>
\$15,000.00	3 CDs @	
	\$5,000 each	3/22/2021
<b>\$27,337.79</b>	<b>Total Bal</b>	<b>9/15/2021</b>

Appreciation expressed to everyone paying annual membership dues. Perry noted that all donations are used solely in support of the Talavera Community. Biggest expense is the annual mailout promotion which guarantees a larger membership, along with post office box, website maintenance and fees.

**III. CleanUp**

**Jerry Wertz, Member at Large and Volunteer CleanUp Coordinator**, gave the days' cleanup report: 11 residents volunteered their Saturday morning. Many thanks given to those residents picking up trash along Soledad Canyon on a regular basis. We temporarily have a dumpster by the fire station for dumping yard waste.

**IV. TCA News:**

**What is the TCA?**

- We are not an HOA. No hardcore rules, fines or enforcements
- We are just a Communication Conduit for all of Talavera
- Website, Email, Direct Mail, and Newsletter
- Our Goal is to preserve and improve our Quality of Life

**TCA Elections**

It is required by our By-Laws that we hold elections very year, rotate two. Candidates for Secretary and Member-at-Large (2) are up for grabs starting 2022. Send an email to the Board [Talavera.Comm.Aссо@gmail.com](mailto:Talavera.Comm.Aссо@gmail.com) if you have any interest in volunteering your services.

**Talavera Improvement Projects**

The TCA is soliciting spending Ideas. We need volunteers to research specific spending projects.

**Pet Waste Stations**

The TCA purchased, installed, and maintain three as a Pilot Program. We have added trash cans for each station. The fourth station has been purchased and will be installed. Bob Tyk has volunteered to pick up and dispose of the waste as needed. Real solution: Pick up your pet's waste and dispose of it properly.

**Talavera Propane Coop**

The Coop currently has over 300 Members. Price is \$2.25 a gallon plus a regulatory compliance charge of \$6.71 per fill.

**Rattlesnakes and Coyotes**

It is the time of the year that rattlesnakes, coyotes, and bobcats get active. Rattlesnakes creep into garages or sheds to stay warm. They do a great job of rodent control and are mostly non-aggressive by nature. We have a list of

locals on the TCA Website who will help with relocating rattlers. Perry picked up 10 in the last two weeks despite bandaged hands! Coyotes are still very much around so protect your pets and children. There is a new varmint in the neighborhood: black tailed weasel, again, great for rodent control.

### **Dark Sky**

Anyone new to the neighborhood needs to know and appreciate the Dark Sky requirements. Note, we have no streetlights in the entire community. Outside lights need to be directed toward the ground. Perry gets frequent complaints about non-compliance. Our night skies are important! Please limit the light pollution! We have a consumer guide to [Night Sky Friendly Lighting](#) on our website that includes the NM Law.

### **VI. Community Update**

**Karen Armstrong** – We have a new email for the TCA: [Talavera.Comm.Aссо@gmail.com](mailto:Talavera.Comm.Aссо@gmail.com)

### **Natural Gas Project**

[Talavera Gas Project Update](#) is a link to view project status and schedule.

Please Email and/or phone **Carl Clark** for any natural gas concerns: 575-528-3548, [cclark@las-cruces.org](mailto:cclark@las-cruces.org)

### **EL Paso Electric Substation Project**

**Commissioner Reynolds** has forwarded this information from **Rico Gonzales** of EPE.

All paperwork and plans have been completed, the project is shovel ready and construction is slated to start in the next month or so. The current schedule has the substation operational by mid second quarter next year, before peak summer season. Below are highlights of the construction and what the neighbors in Talavera can expect to see as the fourth quarter makes the round to 2022.

Recent milestones of construction

- Grubbing and grading of the substation completed 8/10/21
- Foundations for Transformers completed 8/12/21
- Installed surface road (there is no plan to pave the road to the substation) completed 8/23/21

Work scheduled to begin in 4th quarter 2021:

- Ground grid
- Exterior wall

- 115 kV and 345 kV Transmission line restructure and reconducting – these lines need to be raised within the existing easement
- Electrical Equipment (buses, transformers, etc.) delivered to substation and begin installation

Forwarded from Bryn Davis

We are struggling with the external wall simply to get a color match with the BLM specified shade and it is not available – this is really a supply issue related to Covid. When that sorts out – this time frame could move (hopefully) up.

We have the transformers physically placed and are working on a lot of the at and below grade infrastructure. There is no plan to have a paved road into the site.

**René Molina** - Engineering Supervisor, reported that there are plans to backfill the holes in the multiuse path border areas that received significant water runoff damage by the “500-year (rain) event.” In the areas most susceptible to rock debris runoff, there are plans to pave over the rock border between the road and multiuse path.

The county is looking at adding an asphalt curve at the edge of the multiuse pavement (Ladera Canyon area) to direct waterflow along the path for discharge at historic locations.

Perry gave a special “THANK YOU” to the individual using his personal grader to clear the road at Catamount Drive and Soledad Canyon after the latest major rainstorm left Soledad impassable by anything other than a tank.

Perry asked Mr. Molina how to get a road repair funded and on the County’s list. Perry specified the deterioration of Motherload and Cripple Creek Roads.

Mr. Molina said he and another county road rep will be inspecting Soledad Canyon next week to determine repair needs. Mr. Molina requested any potholes be reported asap. The TCA has a link on our website for reporting road/sign damage. [FLAP](#) funding has enabled a 2025 Dripping Springs Road Improvement Project to be planned (city limits to the prior Dripping Springs Improvement Project). During the interim, Dripping Springs will be patched as needed.

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Carl Clarke update: Phase 3A construction is completed, however we are waiting to have a final inspection on all streets that pertain to Phase 3A. Phase 3B is the final phase of the project, this has yet to bid. Phase 3B is everything south of Soledad Canyon Road east up to Ventana View Road, and on the north side of Soledad Canyon Road where it starts at Rock House Road east to Tierra Blanca Road. We anticipate this bidding in September with possible construction starting in November.

Those that did not get to ask/raise questions or comment, please call or email the County Representatives or email the TCA at [talavera.comm.asso@gmail.com](mailto:talavera.comm.asso@gmail.com).

**Commissioner Shannon Reynolds** stated that if there are any questions or concerns, please

contact him by phone (575) 339-5819, or email [sreynolds@donaanacounty.org](mailto:sreynolds@donaanacounty.org)

**Talavera Community Association Dues**

If you haven't already, please support your Talavera Community Association by submitting your \$25 voluntary annual membership fee to:

**Talavera Community Association**

**P. O. Box 1057  
Mesilla Park, NM 88047**

**TCA Board Members**

- President:** *Perry Ashby*
- Vice President:** *Helen Foster*
- Treasurer:** *Steve Tarro*
- Member-at-Large:** *Jerry Wertz*
- Member-at-Large:** *Robert Tyk*
- Secretary:** *Karen Armstrong*

**Webmaster:** *Karen Armstrong*