

Public Comment for Upcoming Commission Meeting

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**Comments:**

What does a local county commissioner do?

County commissioners are elected officials who oversee county activities and work to ensure that citizen concerns are met, federal and state requirements are fulfilled, and county operations run smoothly.

County commissioners spend a lot of time working with and representing people.

Understanding, ones role in society is vitally important especially when you make a decision to uphold the responsibility of the people of a given society. There is one word missing in the above definition and that word is SHOULD The County commissioners SHOULD spend a lot of time working with and representing the people. I believe that to mean all people.

I am against the current ordinance that has been presented before the commissioners on Jan 25th. I believe that the ordinance has merit but not in it's current form or definition. Certainly, the feeding of any animal along a major thoroughfare or Hwy is a dangerous practice by it's vary nature. I think we can all agree to that and certainly do not advocate feeding along the roadside or any HWY. I also believe in Placitas we have an abundance of HOA's and other such rules and am not an advocate of more government intervention especially on personal property. I do believe there can be a fair and equitable ordinance drawn up with the input from both sides representing the current issue at hand. However, this can not be done when there is bias or the ordinance is weighted to one side or the other. The ordinance must take into consideration many factors not just hyperbole or exaggerated claims of inconclusive evidence without facts that support a conclusive reality. This takes time and effort and this is where I feel the commissioners fall short because in order to get this right it can't happen with one or two meetings. As you can see there are many who feel very strongly about this issue and are polarized one way or the other and all these opinions have merit and need to be considered.

Where is the thorough documentation or study to prove that in fact the feeding of such animals has been the cause of these recent accidents. Where are the reports concerning these accidents accessible to the community on the action that law enforcement has followed up on to conclude that in fact feeding along the Hwy is the cause of such recklessness and endangerment and not speed.

There hasn't been any what so ever that I am aware off.

In the past year starting with the accident in the village in which a young man driving in excess of speeds of over 75 mph while being video taped by a vehicle from behind hit and killed a horse and then speed off and was ultimately arrested. This individual was released with minor fines and 1 year probation yet your ordinance calls for \$300 fine and 90 days in jail is that JUSTICE? Where was the outraged from the Sherriff's office for this incident? Why was there no front page article in the Sign Post in June? Crickets, nada, nothing and in my opinion that young man got off with a slap on the wrist. I called the DA and she didn't even have the decency to return the call.

That is an elected official that has little concern for her constituents.

Recently, at approximately midnight on Jan19th there was a horse hit and killed adjacent to the library entrance. Again, no reporting on the the validity of the accident in which I believe Sherriff Mills is making reference to at the commissioners meeting on Jan 25th stating that and I quote from the paper "That is an area where people have been feeding them" I am wondering why there is no reference to the SPEED of the vehicle that hit the horse and any such remarks on the 75ft long skid mark left by the Truck??? I am no expert on skid marks but that is over 75ft why no mention of the estimate speed of that vehicle??? Why are none of you Elected officials at the commissioners meeting addressing the epidemic of reckless driving that happens on a daily basis along HWY 165 that has been documented ad nauseum and not mentioned once or addressed by any of the fine citizens concerned for our safety and welfare. Fortunately, no child, bicyclist or individual walking along the road has been mowed down by a vehicle traveling in excess of the speed limit.

Sherriff Mills says he is not horse expert and that horses go where they are being feed this is true and they also cross certain areas of the HWY that they have been crossing long before the HWY was present. Did he or any other officer do their due diligence and search out where that horse was allegedly feeding and conclude that this was the cause of the accident or just hypothesize this as reality???

In nature, horses travel up to 20miles a day when grazing and finding grass and water. It is not unlikely that this is a natural corridor as I have seen the horses cross the HWY many times seeking grazing in this general area. There is this assumption by those making judgements of these situation that clearly know very little or much at all of the circumstances and the plight of these horses and their habitat. We humans have continuously encroach upon their habitat and do nothing less than blame them for their mere existence as nothing more than a nuisance to our homes , vehicles and safety.

What about the horses??? Who speaks for them on that commission??? or the constituents that appreciate, support and love their presence in Placitas??? Does not one of you have the courage? Since they have NO influence or voting privilege are they simply expendable and really not necessary??? Do your due diligence, do the job you were ELECTED to do represent the entire people neither those for or against find the ground that considers all sides and find the resolve to do what is right not what is convenient. Take the time to get this RIGHT some of us are counting on you to do your job. Thanks you for your time and service.