

**MINUTES OF THE FOWLER CITY COUNCIL  
SPECIAL MEETING  
MAY 24, 2011**

Mayor Cardenas called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Councilmembers Present: Cardenas, Aguayo, Darling, Parra, & Simonian

City Staff Present: City Manager Elias, City Clerk Davis, Finance Director Wong, Community Development Director Deaver, Public Works Director Weisser, City Attorney Wolfe, Acting Fire Chief Lopez, Acting Police Chief Snow

An invocation was given by Father George Arakelian. Roll call was taken.

**PUBLIC PRESENTATIONS**

Fowler Chamber of Commerce President Craig Mellon thanked the City for their assistance in helping make the recent "Serve Fowler" community beautification and clean-up event a success.

**CONSIDER AND APPROVE: CONSOLIDATED OFFICIAL RESPONSE TO THE 2010-2011 FRESNO COUNTY GRAND JURY FINAL REPORT #5**

City Attorney Wolfe circulated the draft official response to the Fresno County Grand Jury Final Report #5. The Report was the result of their investigation into the discovery of a backlog of Fowler Police Department criminal cases that had not been filed with the District Attorney's Office. The Mayor called for a brief time period for the Council and audience members to read the City's draft response, which agreed with five of the Grand Jury's seven findings, but disagreed with a number of statements made in the report.

Several citizens and audience members expressed their concerns, asking questions about why the criminal reports were not filed, how it happened, and why the problem went on for so long. City Manager Elias explained the history of events that brought the issue to light, noting that the enormity of the backlog was not discovered until after former Chief Darrell Jamgochian took a leave of absence in November 2010. Since then, Police Department staff have been diligently taking steps to review and process the reports.

The Council discussed the City's draft response. Mayor Pro-Tem Aguayo made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Parra, to approve the Consolidated Official Response to the 2010-2011 Fresno County Grand Jury Final Report #5. The motion carried on a 4-1-0 roll call vote: Ayes: Aguayo, Parra, Simonian and Cardenas. Noes: Darling. Absent/Abstain: None.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Having no further business, Councilmember Simonian made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Mayor Pro-Tem Aguayo, and the meeting adjourned at 8:45 p. m.