

**MINUTES  
SPECIAL MEETING  
LUNA COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY  
COMMISSIONERS  
Friday, September 16, 2016**

**BE IT REMEMBERED** that the Luna County Board of County Commissioners met in Special Session at 9:00 a.m. on Friday, September 16, 2016 in the County Commission Chambers of the Luna County Courthouse, Deming, New Mexico, for the purpose of conducting any and all business to come properly before the Board.

**The following staff and elected officials were present:** County Manager Ira Pearson, Executive Assistant Yossie Nieblas, County Clerk Andrea Rodriguez, Chief Deputy Clerk Berenda McWright, Deputy Clerk JoAnna Zurinsky, County Assessor Delilah Rojo, Chief Deputy Assessor Barbara Cobos, Sheriff Jonathan Mooradian, Captain Kelly Gannaway, Executive Secretary Estella Ortiz, Road Director Marty Miller, Human Resources and Payroll Director Daniel Gonzales, Budget and Procurement Director Joanne Hethcox, Special Projects and Facilities Management Director Billy Ruiz, Detention Director Matthew Elwell, Executive Secretary Yvonne Baca, Grant and Compliance Officer Palmira Valentine, IT Technician Manny Armendariz.

**CALL TO ORDER:** Chairman Diaz called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. and Sammy Griego led the Pledge of Allegiance and the salute to the flag of the State of New Mexico.

**ROLL CALL:** Deputy Clerk JoAnna Zurinsky called roll. The following members of the Board constituting a quorum were present:

**Joe L. Milo, Jr., District 1  
Linda M. Smrkovsky, District 2  
Chairman R. Javier Diaz, District 3**

**PUBLIC COMMENT:** Chairman Diaz opened the floor to Public Comment: Deputy Valerie Tyler representing the Luna County Sheriff's Department came before the Board and stated that the threat of further litigation against the State Labor Board and Public Employees wanting to form a union is a grossly negligent abuse of tax-payer dollars.

Andy Gilmore commented that the organization of the union was for the purposes of better working conditions, fair treatment, and common sense improvements to policies, recruitment and retention strategies. Mr. Gilmore further stated that the County has already spent a lot of the taxpayer's money, and to please consider the reasons an overwhelming majority of workers voted to unionize.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

- a. **CERTIFICATE OF PROPERTY TAX RATES 2016:** County Manager Ira Pearson stated the rates are required to be set for the upcoming year, and introduced County Assessor Delilah Rojo to Outline the Certificate of Property Tax Rates for 2016. Ms. Rojo stated the first tax rates to set the mills, and the taxable values were received for each district, however Ms. Rojo discovered an error, which has since been rectified by the State (as of September 9<sup>th</sup>). The numbers have been verified by Ms. Rojo and they are correct. Ms. Rojo reviewed the taxable values from the previous year to this year, and explained the Certification process. Commissioner Smrkovsky motioned to approve the Certificate of Property Taxes 2016. Commissioner Milo seconded the motion which carried unanimously.
  
- b. **AUTHORIZE COUNTY MANAGER TO PURSUE LITIGATION AGAINST PUBLIC EMPLOYEE LABOR RELATIONS BOARD (PELRB) FOR VIOLATION OF PUBLIC RECORDS ACT (IPRA):** County Manager Ira Pearson summarized the history of the litigation, and the alleged violation. Mr. Pearson further outlined a chain of events, and stated that a response has been received, and if the information is what has been requested, then further litigation may not be necessary, but it is prudent to authorize the request. Commissioner Smrkovsky motioned to approve Authorization for the County Manager to Pursue Litigation Against Public Employee Labor Relations Board (PELRB) for Violation of Public Records Act (IPRA). The motion was seconded by Commissioner Milo which carried unanimously.

**ADJOURN:** Chairman Diaz adjourned the meeting at 9:19 a.m.

**ATTEST:**

**LUNA COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS**

  
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**ANDREA RODRIGUEZ, CLERK**

  
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**JOE L. MILO, JR., DISTRICT 1**

**APPROVED:** 10/13/16

  
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**LINDA M. SMRKOVSKY, DISTRICT 2**

  
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**CHAIRMAN, R. JAVIER DIAZ, DISTRICT 3**

