

**MINUTES
SPECIAL MEETING
LUNA COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY
COMMISSIONERS
Tuesday, April 10, 2018**

BE IT REMEMBERED that the Luna County Board of County Commissioners met in Special Session at 6:00 p.m. on Tuesday, April 10, 2018 in the Andres Silva Conference Center, 119 E. Pine Street, Deming New Mexico, for the purpose of conducting a joint meeting with the Deming Board of Education and the City of Deming to consider a joint resolution between County Of Luna, City Of Deming, Village of Columbus & Deming Public Schools for a pre-k program.

The following Luna County staff were present: County Manager Ira Pearson, Assistant County Manager Glory Juarez, Administrative Assistant Yossie Nieblas, Chief Deputy Clerk Berenda McWright, and Deputy Clerk Myrna Duarte.

The following members the Deming Board of Education were present: Bayne Anderson, Matt Robinson, Sophia Cruz, Ron Wolfe, and Superintendent Dr. Arsenio Romero.

And the following members of the City of Deming City Council were present: Benny Jasso, Victor Cruz, Joe Milo, David L. Sanchez, Roxanne Rincon and City Administrator Aaron Sera.

The Village of Columbus was not present.

CALL TO ORDER: The meeting was called to order by Assistant Luna County Manager Glory Juarez and each entity called their own roll.

ROLL CALL: Deputy Clerk Myrna Duarte called roll. The following members of the Board constituting a quorum were present:

**Barbara L. Reedy, District 1
Linda M. Smrkovsky, Chair, District 2
John S. Sweetser, District 3**

NEW BUSINESS:

APPROVING JOINT RESOLUTION 18-19 BETWEEN COUNTY OF LUNA, CITY OF DEMING, VILLAGE OF COLUMBUS & DEMING PUBLIC SCHOOLS FOR A PRE-K PROGRAM: Deming Public Schools Superintendent Arsenio Romero and Executive Director of Curriculum and Instruction Frank Parker discussed the importance of preschool programs for three to four-year-old children in Luna County and recommended approval of the joint resolution which would allow the schools to take advantage of funding appropriated for pre-k education at the 2018 state legislative session.

The boards discussed the possibility of making changes to Resolution 18-19 Joint Resolution between the City of Deming, Luna County, Village of Columbus and Deming Public Schools for a Pre-K Program to specifically include the Children Youth and Families Division. City of Deming Administrator Aaron Sera suggested including CYFD as a joint participant in the title of the resolution. School Board Member Matt Robinson suggested removing the word "is" in the third paragraph and adding a number eight sentence under the third Whereas stating "Support cooperation with other early childhood programs including but not limited to CYFD and Head Start."

Crystal Pena the Deming Coordinator for HELP NM Office urged the panel to have CYFD added to the joint resolution. With Ms. Pena's request arose debate on if the government entities were to add CYFD to the resolution would it cause a problem with future funding, seeing as CYFD is a state program. There was also concern that adding CYFD to the joint resolution could cause a problem if any other early childhood education providers were excluded.

Sophia Cruz Secretary for the Deming Public Schools Board of Education, advised that number two in the third paragraph states, "Provide continuity and coordination between local early childhood programs and schools". Mrs. Cruz stated the language in the section includes all early childhood pre-k programs and/or organizations, so there is no need for the board to add CYFD to the resolution.

The Schools and the City motioned to approve the resolution with the language which includes adding CYFD into the body of the resolution.

Mr. Pearson stated that he was uncomfortable with making major last minute changes to the resolution. Chair Smrkovsky also expressed concerns with the possibility of excluding other entities.

Upon a motion made by Dr. Cruz, the City of Deming approved the resolution with the changes as presented by Matt Robinson.

Board of Education President Matt Robinson motioned to approve the resolution with the changes and the motion died due to lack of a second.

Commissioner Smrkovsky entertained a motion to approve the resolution with the suggested changes and there was no motion or second forthcoming.

Luna County Manager Ira Pearson suggested changing the joint resolution by replacing the word "program" with "education" to make the resolution work for any entity applying for funds.

The School Board approved the resolution with the changes suggested by Mr. Pearson.

Commissioner Smrkovsky entertained a motion to approve the resolution with the changes suggested by Mr. Pearson. Barbara Reedy so moved. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Sweetser and unanimously approved following a roll call vote.

The debate continued between the City, the County and the School Board with Mr. Robinson of the School Board and City Councilor Cruz campaigning in favor of specifically including CYFD in the body of the resolution.

School Board Superintendent Romero stated that he was not opposed to having CYFD included in the resolution.

The City rescinded their original resolution and motioned to approve the resolution with the changes suggested by Mr. Pearson and the changes suggested by Mr. Robinson.

The School Board approved the resolution with the changes suggested by Mr. Pearson and the changes suggested by Mr. Robinson with a three to one vote.


Commissioner Smrkovsky entertained a motion to rescind their previous approval of the resolution. Barbara Reedy so moved and the Commissioner Sweetser seconded.


Commissioner Smrkovsky entertained a motion to approve Joint Resolution 18-19 between County of Luna, City of Deming, Village of Columbus and Deming Public School for pre-K Education, with the changes suggested by Mr. Pearson and the changes suggested by Mr. Robinson. Commissioner Sweetser so moved. Commissioner Reedy seconded the motion and the motion was unanimously approved following a roll call vote.

ADJOURN: Upon a motion made by Commissioner Sweetser and a second made by Commissioner Reedy. Chair Smrkovsky adjourned the meeting at 7:35 p.m.

ATTEST:

**LUNA COUNTY BOARD OF
COUNTY COMMISSIONERS**


Andrea Rodriguez, Luna County Clerk


Barbara L. Reedy, District 1

Approved: May 10, 2018


Chair, Linda M. Smrkovsky, District 2

ABSENT
John S. Sweetser, District 3