

**MINUTES
WORK SESSION
LUNA COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
Wednesday, May 8, 2019**

BE IT REMEMBERED that the Luna County Board of County Commissioners met at 9:00 a.m. on Wednesday, May 8, 2019 in the County Commission Chambers of the Luna County Courthouse, Deming, New Mexico, for the purpose of conducting a Work Session.

CALL TO ORDER: Chair Smrkovsky called the meeting to order at 9:03 a.m. and led the Pledge of Allegiance and the salute to the flag of New Mexico.

ROLL CALL: Deputy Clerk Pilar Salcido called roll. The following Commissioners constituting a quorum were present:

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

SERVICE AWARDS: Joe Padilla from Economic Development completed five years of service with Luna County. Mr. Padilla was unavailable to receive his service award.

PRESENTATIONS/ANNOUNCEMENTS: Bruce Ashburn of the Public Service Company of New Mexico (PNM) gave an extensive presentation regarding recently passed legislation which requires increased renewable energy. Mr. Ashburn informed the Commission of the new requirements for power companies to use renewable energy as follows: 40% by 2025, 50% by 2030, and 100% by 2040. The goal is to be 100% zero carbon omissions in New Mexico which would put PNM in a lead position throughout the nation as far as investor owned utilities. He stated that in order for PNM to hit their goals they need to help their customers reach their goals. Mr. Ashburn requested the County to sign a Notice of Intent to proceed with the program. Mr. Ashburn would like to have the notice of intent completed and received by 5/24/2019. PNM will be presenting the program to the PRC on May 31, 2019 and would like to present the program fully subscribed because PRC is more likely to agree to the program if it is.

Steve Cabiedes from Research & Polling Inc. explained the reason the adjustment of precinct boundaries is due to the recently adopted House Bill 407, which is also called the 50 Year Clean Up Act. Since the adoption of early voting and the large number of the public voting early, the number of people voting on Election Day is going down, precincts were not being divided as they should have been. The law changed, which said if you have 750 votes by all methods combined, that precinct was up for a split. The other thing the law did was create a population county criteria for splitting as well. It states that by the last centennial census, which in this case was 2010, If the number of people counted in the precinct was 2,500 or more, the precinct is a candidate for a split. This was adopted and signed by the Governor this year. There were five precincts in Luna County that either had more votes than 750 or more than 2,500 people in those precincts. Mr. Cabiedes confirmed these were not changes to the original precinct lines nor did the precinct shape change in Luna County. Chair

Smrkovsky confirmed that these changes did not impact the district at all, just precincts within the district.

PUBLIC INPUT: Christy Ann Harvey from Deming Luna County Main Street advised the Commissioners of events and service request which Main Street is working on:

- National Night Out
- Salsa Festival
- Block Party June 15th Horizon Band will be playing. Spruce and Silver will be blocked off
- Hers Boutique – Need façade assistance
- Highlighting and safety lighting at Leyendecker Plaza
- Detailed business outreach survey to reinvigorate downtown area
- Mentors advisory board to mentor new business owners
- Policy brief for City on what others are doing in the State on vacant properties and what we may be able to do with the nuisance ordinance on vacant properties and how they look.
- New Mexico Main Street has asked them to host fall quarterly here in Deming. Ms. Harvey would like to get the County's help on that because the County is a major partner of Main Street and would like to have a speaker from the County for this event.
- Wells Fargo and Union Pacific grants and New Mexico resiliency alliance
- Jesse Kriegel gave plans for the radio shack building. He will begin the mural when he gets out of school and will also be doing some painting on the pavilion.

John Richmond of the Chamber of Commerce wanted the County know what they are working on:

- Currently have 200 Chamber members that are active
- Best of Kingdom of the Sun Campaign May 4th through 19th voting will be May 27th – June 9th
- Annual Meeting June 14th at St. Clair's Winery 5:00pm
- Increased Facebook page promotion to 1,150 followers
- Great American Duck Race
- Salsa Festival
- Southwest New Mexico Parade
- National Night Out
- Continue to work on updating website, Deming App and the resources that are available

Diana Storm a resident of Luna County expressed concerns regarding the minority group trying to close down Love You Back Animal Rescue Sanctuary and the news that aired recently regarding Love You Back. She thanks Assistant Manager Chris Brice for professionally answering the newscaster's question. She feels the comments made by the individuals interviewed by news were "out right laddish" lies.

Mike Reitz from DAGSHIP gave update on the dogs rescued from the Ruff Ruff Sanctuary. DAGSHIP received 14 dogs from the Humane Society and 13 of them were emaciated and infested with parasites including ring worm, tape worm, ticks, 200 ticks were removed from one dog alone. He expressed his concerns regarding the conditions of these dogs coming from the animal shelter and feels they rescued the dogs from the Humane Society. He stated that when the dogs were removed from the property in December they were not in this bad of shape. Mr. Reitz stated that when he received paperwork to transfer the dogs from the Humane Society none of the information was correct or matched. They were not able to figure out which dogs were which, if they had shots, none had any veterinary care, nor were they spade or neutered. DAGSHIP is currently fund raising. They

had to build more kennels and currently have these dogs in foster homes. They plan to start transferring them out in the next two weeks as soon as their health has adjusted. Mr. Reitz asked the Commission if a date had been set for the animal ordinance. County Attorney Chuck Kretek indicated that maybe by the end of May. Mr. Reitz asked to be informed when a date is set so that he can inform the groups around New Mexico who want to participate.

COMMISSIONERS AND STAFF DISCUSSION ON REGULAR MEETING AGENDA ITEMS: The Luna County Board of County Commissioners presented the Regular Meeting Agenda items for presentation and discussion by attending members of the public. *(*Note: Items were presented for discussion only and no actions were taken.)** The following agenda items were discussed:

Agenda items were not discussed due to lack of time.

ADJOURN: Upon motion made by Commissioner Sweetser and a second made by Commissioner Reedy. Chair Smrkovsky adjourned the meeting at 10:03 a.m.

ATTEST:

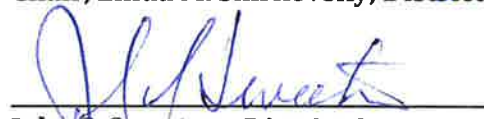

Andrea Rodriguez, Luna County Clerk

Approved: June 13, 2019

**LUNA COUNTY BOARD OF
COUNTY COMMISSIONERS**


Barbara L. Reedy, District 1


Chair, Linda M. Smrkovsky, District 2


John S. Sweetser, District 3