

**MINUTES  
REGULAR MEETING  
LUNA COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
Thursday, August 8, 2019**

**BE IT REMEMBERED** that the Luna County Board of County Commissioners met in regular session at 10:00 a.m. on Thursday, August 8, 2019 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: Deputy County Manager Byron Hollister, County Attorney Charles C. Kretek, Administrative Assistant Laura Garcia, Clerk Andrea Rodriguez, Chief Deputy Clerk Berenda McWright, Deputy Clerk Pilar Salcido, Assessor Michelle Holguin, Chief Deputy Assessor Isabelle Enciso, Sheriff Kelly Gannaway, Captain Michael Brown, IT Technician James Ozment, Administrative Assistant Debra Seats, DWI Coordinator Edith Vasquez, LCDC Director Chris Brice, Executive Assistant Yossie Niebles, Grant Specialist Michael ODonnell and Community Health & Well Being Director Jessica Jara.

**CALL TO ORDER:** Chair Smrkovsky called the meeting to order at 10:02 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 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**

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA:** Chair Smrkovsky entertained a motion to approve the agenda as presented. Commissioner Sweetser motioned to approve the agenda as presented. Commissioner Reedy seconded the motion which carried unanimously following a roll call vote.

**MINUTES:**

- **Work Session – July 12, 2019:** Upon a motion made by Commissioner Sweetser and a second by Commissioner Reedy the Minutes of the July 12, 2019 Work Session were unanimously approved.
- **Regular Meeting – July 12, 2019:** Upon a motion made by Commissioner Reedy and a second by Commissioner Sweetser the Minutes of the July 12, 2019 Regular Meeting were unanimously approved.
- **Special Meeting – July 18, 2019:** Upon a motion made by Commissioner Sweetser and a second by Commissioner Reedy the Minutes of the July 18, 2019 Special Meeting were unanimously approved.
- **Special Meeting – July 26, 2019:** Upon a motion made by Commissioner Reedy and a second by Commissioner Sweetser the Minutes of the July 26, 2019 Special Meeting were unanimously approved.

**ELECTED OFFICIALS REPORTS:** County Clerk Andrea Rodriguez reported they just returned from Local Election School. She mentioned all local governments will be having an election in November of the odd numbered years going forward. She also mentioned that on July 22, 2019 the Secretary of State's Office mandated realignment of offices because now the odd numbered districts are going to run with the President and the even numbered districts will run with the Governor. Chair Smrkovsky mentioned this process is being contested and may not take place if the Supreme Court rules this to be unconstitutional. She also mentioned that on September 17, 2019 oral hearings with Judges, New Mexico Counties and other groups will be heard.

Assessor Michelle Holguin reported the front desk is busy with daily duties including processing deeds, changing addresses and helping with answering questions in the office, on the phones and by e-mail. The GIS Department has almost completed troubleshooting the areas on the maps and will be merging with Triadic as soon as tax bills are mailed out. She also mentioned the Assessor's, Clerk's, and Treasurer's offices are getting ready to go live online with Triadic. Ms. Holguin reported the appraisal department is almost complete with processing protests. She also mentioned two appraisers passed the IAAO course with high scores and will be getting ready for their second course as it becomes available. Ms. Holguin informed the Board that due to HB407 when the Assessors department gets ready to certify the tax rates the Department of Finance Authority (DFA) will issue two sets of rates, one high and one low. Depending on the outcome of the School Bond Election one or the other will be implemented. She also reported that due to the new process the Treasurer will have to file for an extension and tax bills will likely be mailed out later than usual which will also offset the delinquent dates which will need to be adjusted.

Treasurer Gloria Rodriguez reported the Board recently received a revised financial report. Ms. Rodriguez explained the reason for the revised report is because amounts were put in incorrect line items which have been corrected but the total amounts were correct. Ms. Rodriguez also reported for the fiscal year collections, 91% was collected for current taxes and 95% on the delinquent taxes. She also mentioned the Treasurer's Office is working on balancing the July reports.

Sheriff Kelly Gannaway reported most of the stats for the month of July are down from last month. He mentioned they had one vehicle theft which is up from last month. Overall totals are down for criminal and the non-criminal side is up, accidents and DWI are down. Mr. Gannaway mentioned the Sherriff's Office is in the process of promoting a Sergeant and a Corporal, they are also in the process of hiring a Court Security Officer. Sheriff Gannaway said they had a big turnout for National Night Out, they cooked over 600 hamburgers and the Police Department cooked over 600 hot dogs and they both ran out with individuals still lined up. He thanked everyone who participated he would like to see this event continue in the future.

**COUNTY MANAGER'S REPORT:** Deputy County Manager Byron Hollister reported on the following.

- Federal inmate count is 389 and total inmate count is 911
- Starmax revenue for July was \$145,431 as compared to last year July \$139,637 which is \$6000 above last year's total.

- The County currently has 10 vacancies, 2 dispatchers, 1 Court Security Officer, 5 Detention Officers, a Planning Director and a Grant Writer position.
- The County is working with the City in putting together a kids fishing derby for the opening day of the pond which is scheduled for the first week of November. The kids will be allowed to take two catfish and five trout home per child, children under sixteen years of age will not require a fishing license. Main Street and Rotary Club have committed to helping out with this event.
- An Internal Solar Study is being done on Starmax, the Learning Center and the Detention Center buildings. The study will be presented to the Board at a later date.
- Gun Range for Law Enforcement. The City is willing to share Centennial Park and all the land to the left for future gun range expansion. Initial plans is for law enforcement training but maybe in the future something can be built for public use. They are still working on logistics and more discussion is forthcoming.
- A Directors Meeting will be scheduled soon and communication regarding the meeting will be sent out by Laura Garcia going forward. The first meetings topic will be the new evaluation system and discussion on what was learned from the strategic planning sessions.
- The Learning Center flooring needs to be selected. The Commissioners are asked to help with the color scheme.

**INDIGENT CLAIMS REPORT:** Chair Smrkovsky entertained a motion to table the Indigent Claims Report as Budget & Procurement Director/Indigent Claims Administrator Joanne Hethcox was not present. A motion by Commissioner Sweetser and a second by Commissioner Reedy was made to table the Indigent Claims Report for the month of July until next month.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:** Alberta Morgan commented that the building southwest of the Learning Center which is the head start building would be a good building to consider for a solar project.

Susan Shiffner lives on Sunshine Rd. SE. She is having issues with the Waterloo Onion Shed and the disposal of onions. She would like help from the Board to resolve this issue.

**CONSENT AGENDA:** Upon a motion by Commissioner Reedy and a second by Commissioner Sweetser the following items of the Consent Agenda were unanimously approved following a roll call vote.

- a. Accounts Payable: \$899,558.57
- b. Payroll: \$1,105,780.62

**NEW BUSINESS:** Chair Smrkovsky reviewed each item on the New Business Agenda with the Commissioners:

- a. **Resolution 19-44 Southwest New Mexico Council of Governments:** Chair Smrkovsky read Resolution 19-44 and explained this organization provides services by helping with grants. Chair Smrkovsky entertained a motion to approve Resolution 19-44 Southwest New Mexico Council of Government Services contract showing David McSherry as the member and Commissioner Barbara Reedy as the first alternate and Chair Linda Smrkovsky as the second alternate. Commissioner Reedy motioned to approve Resolution 19-44 Southwest New Mexico Council of Governments Services.

Commissioner Sweetser seconded the motion which carried unanimously following a roll call vote.

- b. Discussion and Consideration for approval of Strategic Planning session Results-Vision, Mission, Committees, Committee Members:** Deputy County Manager Byron Hollister would like to get the vision and mission statements approved at this time and the committees can be approved at a later time. Chair Smrkovsky entertained a motion to approve the alternative statements for both Vision Statement and the Mission Statement. Commissioner Reedy motioned to approve alternate statements for both Vision and Mission Statements. Commissioner Sweetser seconded the motion which carried unanimously following a roll call vote. Commissioner Sweetser nominated Commissioner Reedy to be our representative on the Luna County Committee. Commissioner Smrkovsky seconded the motion which carried unanimously following a roll call vote.
- c. Discussion and Consideration for approval of Discontinuation of Work Sessions for remainder of calendar year.** Chair Smrkovsky entertained a motion to amend Resolution 19-01 item 3 to read "A Work Session may be called by the Chairperson or a majority of the Commission members upon 72 hours (3 days) notice. The notice shall include an agenda for the meeting or information on how members of public may obtain a copy of the agenda. The agenda shall be available to the public at least 72 hours before any work session meeting." Commissioner Sweetser motioned to approve amendment of Resolution 19-01. Commissioner Reedy seconded the motion which carried unanimously following a roll call vote.

**DISCUSSION:**

- a. Census 2020** – Tabled for next month
- b. Ordinance 98 Animal Control:** County Attorney Charles Kretek explained Ordinance 98 Animal Control will be published for public review on September 19, 2019.
- c. County Lodgers Tax** – Waiting to see what NM Counties True will be rolling out.

**UPCOMING MEETINGS:** Chair Smrkovsky announced the following upcoming meetings and mentioned that a Budget meeting will also be scheduled.

Regular Meeting – September 12, 2019 at 10:00 a.m.

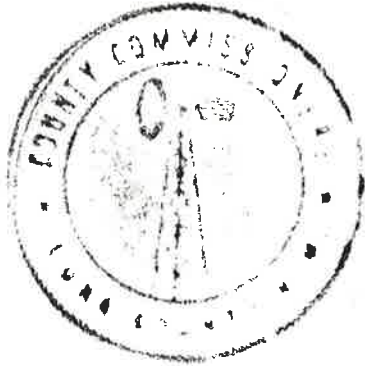
**ADJOURN:** Upon a motion made by Commissioner Reedy and a second made by Commissioner Sweetser the meeting was adjourned at 11:28 a.m.

ATTEST:

*Andrea Rodriguez*

ANDREA RODRIGUEZ, LUNA COUNTY CLERK

APPROVED: *September 19, 2019*



LUNA COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

*Barbara L. Reedy*

BARBARA L. REEDY, DISTRICT 1

*Linda M. Smrkovsky*

LINDA M. SMRKOVSKY, DISTRICT 2

*John S. Sweetser*

JOHN S. SWEETSER, DISTRICT 3