

**MINUTES of the REGULAR MEETING**  
**of the BOARD of COUNTY COMMISSIONERS**  
**of SAN MIGUEL COUNTY, NEW MEXICO**  
**HELD TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 14, 2023 AT 2:00 PM**

ZOOM LINK is active. At least 72 hours in advance of this meeting, the following agenda for today's meeting was posted and available for public inspection on the San Miguel County Website at [www.co.sanmiguel.nm.us](http://www.co.sanmiguel.nm.us) and available in hard copy at the office of the San Miguel County Manager.

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

Chairman Harold Garcia called the meeting to order at 2:01 PM at the SMC Commission Chambers at 500 W. National Avenue, Suite 201, Las Vegas, New Mexico 87701.

**2. ROLL CALL**

Sr. Deputy Clerk Jacob Gonzales administered Roll Call: Chairman Harold Garcia present, Vice-Chairman Martin Sena [present, joined-in at 2:06PM], Commissioner Janice Varela virtual presence via Zoom, Commissioner Max Trujillo present, and Commissioner Kenneth Medina present.

A quorum is present.

**3. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Mr. Shaun Sanchez, newly appointed US Forest Supervisor for Sangre de Cristo and Jemez Mountain ranges, led the chambers in the Pledge and:

**4. SALUTATION TO THE NEW MEXICO STATE FLAG:**

**"I salute the flag of the State of New Mexico and the Zia Symbol of perfect friendship among United Cultures".**

**5. APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

County Manager Joy Ansley asked to include an additional item as item "j.(a)" for Match Waivers for TPF Funds.

Motion to approve Agenda with changes indicated made by Commissioner Max Trujillo. Second by Commissioner Kenneth Medina. Motion carried.

## **6. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Minutes for approval are RM-01-10-2023.

Motion to approve minutes of RM-01-10-2023 made by Commissioner Max Trujillo. Second by Commissioner Kenneth Medina. Motion carried.

## **7. PUBLIC INPUT FORUM**

Mr. Manuel Garcia informed the Commission that the bill being sponsored by Senator Griggs (R-34-NM) regarding burn practices, operations decisions and funding for the USFS was tabled. Mr. Garcia also informed the Commission/public the 28<sup>th</sup> Annual Tribute to Hispanic Legislators will be an event at the current session.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### **8. REGULAR ORDER**

#### **a. NATIONAL LATINO BEHAVIORAL HEALTH ASSOCIATION\***

Dr. J Rocky Romero virtually presented to the Commission information about the services provided by NLBHA for mental health problems created [exacerbated] by the fire and disaster of the Calf Canyon/Hermit's Peak fires/floods.

\*For Informational Purposes Only

#### **b. INTRODUCTION OF ACTING DISTRICT RANGER FOR PECOS & LAS VEGAS\***

Mr. Paul Hancock, Interim District Ranger of the USFS, introduced Mr. Shaun Sanchez, Forest Supervisor for the Sangre de Cristo and Jemez mountain ranges, spoke on the USFS determination to work closely with the communities in regards to prescribed burns and continued economic development with outdoor tourism, and; lot allotments, virtual collaring for grazing livestock, road and hazard tree upkeep, and permits for firewood.

\*For Informational Purposes Only

#### **c. COUNTY MANAGER/DEPUTY MANAGER'S REPORT\***

Manager Joy Ansley informed the Commission on the following matters: \*A symposium on the Hermit's Peak/Calf Canyon Fires will be held March 23, 2023 from 9:00AM-3:00PM at NM Highlands University. \*NMC Summer Conference 2024 will be hosted by San Miguel County in Las Vegas June 17-21, 2024. County planning committee will assist in set-up of the Conference. Chairman Garcia asked for the City to contribute to this conference as the economic draw is of benefit to the City. \*RFP for Ambulance Services was issued and due February 24, 2023.

\*FEMA issued directives for Community Disaster Loans for Road repairs. Maximum loan is \$5M, and most often these loans are forgiven after project is completed. \*HB 29 Substance Abuse Treatment Programs funded by the opioid settlement agreement. The County will need to testify regarding its budgeting allocation.

Deputy Manager Jesus Romero informed the Commission on the following matters: \*DC Environmental conducted four air quality tests at the Public Health building in Las Vegas. \*4-H Building will have gutters replaced, and a new water line installed. \*County Fairgrounds had a water leak that has been capped off and installing a new water line with a couple of shut-off spigots to be added. \*Legislative priorities outlined and submitted for Sherriff's office, Ribera Cultural Center and the Treatment Center. \*Ongoing reviews of project in Solid Waste with consultant Bob Lewandowski. \*Continued managerial consults with Human Resources on ongoing personnel issues. \*KFUN update and KNMX update. \*Bird spikes on administration building installed. \*Assessor's office assistance regarding taxpayers concern. \*Planning and Zoning concerning abatement and condemned property concerns. \*Safety director ongoing proposals to make the County a safer place to work. \*Roger's Mortuary conversations continue regarding disposal of unclaimed corpses in SMC morgues.

\*For Informational Purposes

#### **d. COVID UPDATE\***

Manager Joy Ansley informed the Commission the update by Emergency Manager Dennis Esquibel will need to be tabled as Mr. Esquibel is on a tour with FEMA, et.al.

Motion to table Covid update made by Commissioner Max Trujillo. Second by Vice-Chairman Martin Sena. Motion carried.

#### **e. DEPARTMENT HEAD UPDATES\***

Road Foreman Johnny Trujillo informed the Commission that grading of county roads is on-going. New material has been added in the area known as Las Dispensas. Snow removal is on-going especially in Pecos area.

Katherine Sanchez informed the Commission that her goal as Finance Manager for SMC is to streamline accounting practices utilizing online practices to minimize paper waste.

Kenneth Abeyta, IT Director, informed the Commission that a new firewall has been installed to protect against hacking. \*Sheriff dash cams were installed and new data network system is in place to host the data received. \*The Wi-Fi signal at the Public Works facility has been boosted. \*New copy machine service contract is finalized for the county with many departments receiving new machines. \*Will be attending the Cyber-Security Conference.

\*For Informational Purposes Only

**f. SAFETY COMMITTEE MEETING AGENDA**

Deputy Manager Jesus Romero asked for this meeting to be removed from the Agenda. This is a discussion item, so no action needed to remove from Agenda.

**g. SAN MIGUEL EARLY CHILDHOOD COALITION UPDATE\***

Ms. Masie Estep, Childhood Development Specialist, made a presentation to the Commission regarding the statistics on the many concerns and needs of children in SMC. The Coalition offers programs to enhance the quality of service and care provided to the county youth.

\*For Informational Purposes

**h. PUBLIC WORKS PROJECT AND CRUSHER UPDATES\***

Public Works Director Benito Romero informed the Commission on the status of Country Acres project completion of June 30, 2023. This may require an extension request. Pendaries is on winter suspension which will be lifted on March 1. Los Vigiles is mostly complete only lacking speed-bumps and signage. Storrie Project is complete with exception of Engineer's checklist. Sheridan is on winter suspension which will be lifted March 1. Chapelle is on winter suspension and will be lifted March 1. Bernal overlay is complete. San Ysidro, Gallinas and El Llano chip seal is complete. Chico and Harris will be lifted from winter suspension on March 1. 2023 Projects: Tecolote match waiver approved for \$42,000; Blanchard match waiver for \$33,000. San Juan TPF was awarded \$950K; match waiver will be approved for \$47,500. Mechanic services PO has been issued for the County's crusher. Repairs total around \$23K and parts are en-route to SMC.

\*For Informational Purposes

**i. LGRF ROAD SELECTION FOR FY-23/24**

Public Works Director Romero asked the Commission for submissions to add to the LGRF Road Selection FY-23/24. The Commission decided to add: San Jose, CR B27 and La Lliendre roads to the LGRF.

Motion to approve adding San Jose, CR B27 and La Lliendre to FY-23/24 LGRF made by Chairman Harold Garcia. Second by Commissioner Kenneth Medina. Motion carried.

**j. TPF ROAD SELECTION FOR FY-23/24**

Public Works Director Romero asked for submissions to add roads to the TPF Road Selection FY-23/24 and to rank the Commissions selections as follows: 1. Camp Luna mill and overlay,

2. Sheridan, and 3. CR B65A, and 4. San Ysidro.

Motion to approve ranked choices – 1. Camp Luna, 2. Sheridan and 3. CR B65A and, 4. San Ysidro to add to TPF Road Selection FY-23/24 made by Chairman Harold Garcia. Second by Vice Chairman Martin Sena. Motion carried.

**j-a. MATCH WAIVERS FOR TPF FUNDS**

Public Works Director Romero asked for approval of TPF match waivers for TPF funds for \$47,500 for the San Juan project (5% of \$950K project total).

Motion to approve San Juan project 5% match of \$47,500 made by Commissioner Max Trujillo. Second by Commissioner Kenneth Medina. Motion carried.

**k. AWARD CONTRACT FOR ENGINEERING FOR EAST PECOS WATER DISTRIBUTION LINE**

Alex Tafoya, Consultant to SMC, asked the Commission to approve the RFP/Engineering Services for CBDG# 21-C-RS-i-01-G-50 for a 402 foot water line in East Pecos. Two proposals received: Souder Miller Associates and Souenna Design and Architecture. Souenna did not follow the specifications of the RFP, and Mr. Tafoya recommends the contract be awarded to Souder Miller Associates. The County will act as Fiscal Agent for this project.

Motion to award contract for East Pecos Water Distribution Line to Souder Miller Associates made by Commissioner Max Trujillo. Second by Commissioner Janice Varela. Motion carried.

**l. ACCEPT CBDG GRANT NO. 21-C-NR-04-G-91 FOR ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT GRANT FOR BARELA TIMBER**

Alex Tafoya, Consultant to SMC, asked for approval of the CBDG grant for Barela Timber in the amount of \$500K. The environmental review process has been started and Barela Timber needs to inform the Commission on what type of equipment the grant will purchase.

Motion to approve made by Commissioner Max Trujillo. Second by Commissioner Kenneth Medina. Motion carried.

The Commission and County Manager thanked Mr. Tafoya for securing two CBDG grants.

**m. AWARD CONSTRUCTION CONTRACT FOR RESIDENTIAL TREATMENT CENTER**

County Manager Joy Ansley asked to award and approve the construction contract for Residential Treatment Center. Base bid: \$3,942,000 with additional bids of \$48,000 (fencing); \$102,000 (exterior concrete); \$46,100 (framing); \$7,500 (card readers). These bids are from Franken Construction.

Motion to approve and award contract for construction of Residential Treatment Center to Franken Construction made by Vice Chairman Martin Sena. Second by Commissioner Kenneth Medina. Motion carried.

**n. RATIFICATION OF MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING WITH CITY OF LAS VEGAS FOR OPERATION OF SENIOR CENTERS**

County Manager Joy Ansley asked for ratification of the approved MOU City of Las Vegas Senior Center Operations.

Motion to ratify \$75K MOU - City of Las Vegas/SMC - for operation of Senior Centers made by Commissioner Max Trujillo. Second by Commissioner Kenneth Medina. Motion carried.

**o. RATIFICATION OF RESOLUTION 12-20-22-COMMISSION ENDORSING 100% COMMUNITY**

County Manager Joy Ansley asked for ratification of the approved resolution 12-20-22-Commission endorsing 100% community.

Motion to ratify Resolution 12-20-22-Commission endorsing 100% Community made by Vice Chairman Martin Sena. Second by Commissioner Janice Varela. Motion carried.

**p. APPROVAL OF FEASIBILITY STUDY FOR THE SAN MIGUEL COUNTY RODEO FACILITY**

County Deputy Manager Jesus Romero asked for approval of the \$50K planning grant for the SMC County Rodeo Facility.

Motion to approve Feasibility Study – SMC County Rodeo Facility made by Vice Chairman Martin Sena. Second by Commissioner Max Trujillo. Motion carried.

**q. FY-24 DWI APPLICATION APPROVAL**

DWI Director Vidal Crespín asked for approval of the application to the NMDFA to participate in the local DWI Grant Distribution Program for \$256,816 plus a \$50,000 grant request for a total of \$306,816.00

Motion to approve FY-24 DWI application made by Commissioner Max Trujillo. Second by Chairman Harold Garcia. Motion approved.

**r. RESOLUTION 02-14-23 COMMISSION IN SUPPORT OF REGIONAL FIRE TRAINING FACILITY**

City Councilman David Romero presented the Commission with a resolution requesting support of construction/expansion of a regional fire training facility and an emergency response center

at the city airport. This need was highlighted during the Hermit's Peak/Calf Canyon Fire. This facility will serve as a fire retardant facility for the region. Luna Community College, NM Highlands University, SMC, Mora county, and Pecos will all benefit educationally and logisitically.

Motion to approve Resolution 02-14-23 Regional Fire Training Facility by Commissioner Max Trujillo. Second by Commissioner Kenneth Medina. Motion carried.

**9. BOARD OF FINANCE**

**a. BUDGET ADJUSTMENT RESOLUTION**

Katherine Sanchez, SMC Finance Director, asked for approval of Budget Adjustment Resolution to allocate HRSA and ARPA funds and to cover cell phones/internet services for all departments, Sheriff's office needs an increase for unleaded gasoline; fire grants, Chamber of Commerce and Dental/Health Clinic.

Motion to approve Budget Adjustment Resolution made by Chairman Harold Garcia. Second by Vice Chairman Martin Sena. Motion carried.

Motion to adjourn the Regular Session and enter Executive Session made by Commissioner Kenneth Medina. Second by Commissioner Max Trujillo. Motion carried. Executive Session was entered into at 3:55 PM.

**EXECUTIVE / CLOSED SESSION**

Limited Personnel Matters, as permitted by NMSA 1978, Section 10-15-1(H)(2) (as amended) of the Open Meetings Act, more specifically personnel matters regarding specific County departments:

Certain Purchases, as permitted by NMSA 1978, Section 10-15-1(H)(6) (as amended) of the Open Meetings Act, and Section 13-1-116 of the Procurement Code:

Attorney-Client Privilege pertaining to Threatened or Pending Litigation, as permitted by NMSA 1978, Section 10-15-1 (H)(7) (as amended) of the Open Meetings Act, More Specifically:

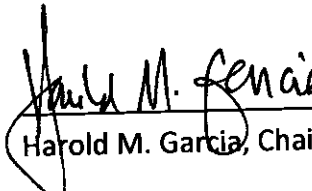
Motion to adjourn Executive Session and re-adjourn Regular Session made by Commissioner Kenneth Medina. Second by Commissioner Max Trujillo. Motion carried. RM re-adjourned at 5:43 PM.

**10. ADJOURNMENT**


Motion to adjourn RM-02-14-2023 made by Commissioner Kenneth Medina. Second by Vice Chairman Martin Sena. Motion carried. Adjournment at 5:44 PM.



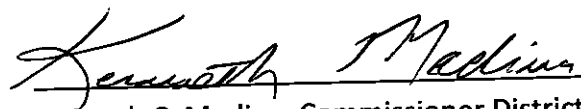
Approved this 14th day of March, 2023 as the Official Minutes of the Board of County Commissioners of San Miguel County New Mexico, of its Regular Meeting held February 14, 2023 at 2:00 PM.

  
Harold M. Garcia, Chairman - District 1

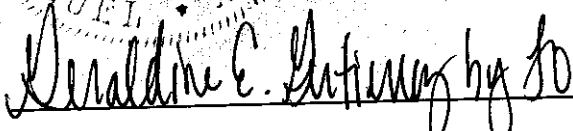
  
Martin Sena, Vice-Chairman - District 4

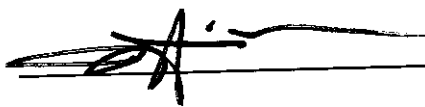
  
Janice C. Varela, Commissioner - District 2

  
Max Trujillo, Commissioner - District 3

  
Kenneth C. Medina, Commissioner District 5



  
Geraldine E. Gutierrez, San Miguel County Clerk

  
Minutes submitted by Jacob P. Gonzales

### **NOTICE TO PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES**

If you are an individual with a disability who is in need of a reader, amplifier, qualified sign language interpreter or any form of auxiliary aid or service to attend or participate in the hearing(s) or meeting(s), please contact the San Miguel County Managers Office at (505) 425-9333 at least one week prior to the meeting or as soon as possible. Public documents, including the agenda and minutes, can be provided in various accessible formats. Please contact the county at the above number if a summary or other type of accessible format is needed