

MINUTES of the REGULAR MEETING
of the BOARD of COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
of SAN MIGUEL COUNTY, NEW MEXICO
HELD TUESDAY, MARCH 12, 2024 AT 1:00 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 and available in hard copy at the office of the San Miguel County Manager 505-425-9333. Contact Manager's Office for ZOOM link 505-425-9333.

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Harold Garcia called the meeting to order at 1:00 PM in the SMC Commission Chambers at 500 W. National Avenue, Suite 201, Las Vegas, New Mexico 87701.

2. ROLL CALL

Chief Deputy Clerk Jacob Gonzales administered Roll Call: Commissioner Harold Garcia – present; Commissioner Martin Sena – present; Commissioner Janice Varela – present; Commissioner Max Trujillo – not present at roll call; arrived at 1:34 PM. Commissioner Kenneth Medina – present.

A quorum is present.

3. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Ms. Monica Duran 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

Commissioner Janice Varela asked for "p" Village of Pecos Update to be presented when Mayor Telesfor Benavidez is present in the Chambers. [Ultimately, was presented after item "c"].

Motion to approve Agenda with indicated change made by Commissioner Kenneth Medina. Second by Commissioner Janice Varela. Motion carried.

6. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Minutes for Approval: SM-02-13-2024 Detention Center; RM-02-23-2024; SM-02-19-2024; and SM-03-04-2024.

Motion to approve minutes of SM-02-13-2024 Detention Center; RM-02-23-2024; SM-02-19-2024; and SM-03-04-2024 made by Vice Chairman Martin Sena. Second by Commissioner Kenneth Medina. Motion carried.

7. PUBLIC INPUT FORUM

Mr. Tim Hagerman, NM NE Economic Development District, will hold their annual meeting at Hewlett Hall at NMHU at 1:00 PM on March 22, 2024. NEEDO would like to set up an informational booth at the NMC Conference held in Las Vegas in June 17-19, 2024. LEEDs program will be launched in a couple of months for \$15-25K for equipment of a commercial kitchen. The Economic Development certification will allow an organization, if selected, for \$40K per year for up to ten years.

Ms. Catherine Kahn spoke on the importance of San Miguel County's role in maintaining stewardship of land and water in northern NM. Ms. Kahn encourages County Administration to heed special attention to trees being removed along county roads and easements. These trees are healthy and should be kept growing as the county has lost many trees in the HPCC fire and floods.

Mr. Manuel Garcia encouraged the Assessor's office to continue its drive to create proper assessments in previously assessed real and business property, and is concerned that an elected official was asked to resign by the manager's office – cause for removal should have followed statute. Mr. Garcia also asked what the County policy is in assessing livestock. Mr. Garcia also stated the Legislature ought to change educational and age requirements for candidacy filing for the Assessor.

NEW BUSINESS

8. REGULAR ORDER

a. COUNTY MANAGER/DEPUTY MANAGER'S REPORT*

County Manager Joy Ansley informed the Commission on the following:

* The upcoming RFP for legal services for damages sustained by the HPCC disasters will benefit from input from the contract award for consultant services slated for later on this Agenda in developing ratings and questions for the RFP. * If SMC were to increase GRT by 10% through Commission approval it would generate \$517K in revenue to offset rising ambulance service

costs. * Rural Healthcare Delivery Fund has sent notice that funding for the treatment center has been put on hold until an operations plan is developed and budget confirmed. SMC has asked NMBHI to operate the facility and no answer has been received. HSD has indicated reapplication for funds will be allowed in the summer and reallocated. * A resolution was passed allowing for overtime for staff/employees working the HPCC disasters would be compensated if those wages would be reimbursable by FEMA, and FEMA has not issued a ruling on that disbursement; however, Clarity Collins SMC/NCNMEDD Disaster Relief Consultant, has found a funding source to cover these overtime costs. A special payroll will be issued for employees eligible for compensation. * Several years ago a developer asked for approval to build a transmission line through the property at the Public Works facility off Airport Road. The county is building a shooting range on the SE corner of the property and SMC manager and staff are proposing the easement be granted to the transmission line developer but that the scope of the easement be centered on the road through the PW property. There will be a need for a revamped presentation on the requested easement change. * FEMA HPCC Claims Office has requested biweekly progress meetings. * Audit Review and Completion Meetings are ongoing; Manager Ansley has requested that 2022 audit be completed and ready for submission by end-of-March. * Meetings to track revenue and other funding streams received by the Treasurer's Office and Finance office are ongoing to develop strategies to better allot funds to the proper line items and accounts. * Funding was received from the Law Enforcement Recruitment Program to retain two existing positions and create two new deputy positions. The grant covers costs 100% for the first year; 50% for the second year, and 25% for the third year. * County Construction Projects: Sheriff's Building – PNM will be connecting electric on Thursday and Manager Ansley is hopeful move-in can begin end-of-March. The Treatment Center progress is moving along nicely. The Clerk's Voting Tabulator and Election Building is nearing completion. There are concerns with the Shooting Range and a meeting is scheduled with the contractor(s) and architects on Thursday.

Deputy Manager Jesus Romero informed the Commission on the following:

* The Assessor's office requested 30-day extension for the Notice of Values, and the notice will be published in the Optic for three weeks consecutively. Deputy Manager Romero has dedicated about 70% of working hours to assist in streamlining the Assessor's office in defining employee expectations and seeking avenues to increase productivity. The Property Profile Cards will be delivered to the Assessor's office in the upcoming week after having being scanned by Terralogic to index with the Property Accounts on Eagle Assessor. * Manufactured Home is being inundated with new appraisals and reappraisals of MH damaged in the disasters. * Continued progress in planning the NMC Summer Conference. * Maintenance is addressing housekeeping and renovations in the DWI/Fire Building as well as the main administrative complex.

*For Informational Purposes Only

b. DEPARTMENT HEAD UPDATES*

Mr. Martin Aguilar, Road Foreman, informed the Commission that the county is now using a new blade bringing the total to three with one more expected "soon". The blading and shaping continues throughout the county on County Roads. A lot attendant at the Pecos Convenience Center has been hired to assist Henry who has been working the Pecos site solo. Manuel Olivas has also been hired for the road crew. The amount of base course at PWD is 15,000 yd³. 2022-23 LGRF bids will be opened April 2024. Site visits for 2022-23 TPF will be done this week.

Mr. Kenneth Abeyta, SMC IT Director, informed the Commission that the Public Works Facility off Airport Road is being outfitted for broadband connectivity by Plateau. The new audio and camera connections in the Chamber will be completed on March 26th.

Ms. Amanda Salas, P&Z Supervisor, building permits are rising steadily. Business License renewals currently number 317 with 50 due for renewal. Lot splits are increasing in Ilfeld and Rowe areas. Cannabis production currently has 13 operating licenses. April 2022 daycare was approved and is gearing up to open soon. Five film permits have been approved and will be approving another two for upcoming filming.

Ms. Angie Lyster, Film Coordinator for Las Vegas/San Miguel County, is working on getting a digital license approved for filming. The International Film Commission will be hosting a film professional's conference, as well as the domestic conference being held in Los Angeles.

Mr. Andrew Duran, SMC Fire Chief, informed the Commission that the Rowe VFD has received their ISO rating and it has been reduced to ISO-5. Rowe Chief Eric Lucero, Molly Padilla and the entire crew worked tirelessly to reduce this rating. Sheridan and El Pueblo VFDs will be rated this year in June. Acequia cleaning time requires burning of green waste, etc., and permits shall be obtained from the district Volunteer Fire Department or at SMC Fire/Emergency Office at 518 Valencia Street. The County will be utilizing a digital tracking system for equipment and tenders, etc. The Rowe VFD will be receiving their tender end-of-March, hopefully.

Mr. Vidal Crespín, SMC DWI Coordinator, informed the Commission the FY-2025 LDWI Grant application has been submitted. Prevention programs continue being presented at the three local school districts. There are 209 enlisted clients in the DWI program. Safe-Ride is available by calling the DWI office and arranging pick-up times.

Mr. Antonio Padilla, SMCDC Warden, informed the Commission there were 136 bookings in February and two new employees have been hired.

Chairman Harold Garcia informed the Commission that Commissioner Janice Varela, District 2, has resigned effective April 12, 2024. Chairman Garcia expressed appreciation and respect for the efforts made on behalf of citizens of San Miguel County during the various positions and consultations Commissioner Varela has served SMC. Applications and resumes to fill the district 2 term are being asked of the Community to be turned into the Manager's Office by March 25, 2024 for consideration by the Governor for appointment. Chairman Garcia also thanked Representative Ambrose Castellano D-70, for his efforts to support needs in San Miguel County in the recent legislative session. The Addiction Treatment Center is receiving \$1.5M.

*For Informational Purposes Only

c. INTRODUCTION OF NMDOT EMPLOYEE

Mr. John Herrera, LGRF Project Manager for Dist. 4 NMDOT, introduced Monica Duran, LGRF Project Coordinator.

p. VILLAGE OF PECOS UPDATE

Mayor Telesfor "Ted" Benavidez asked for a meeting with the County and the Village to discuss best practices policies in operation of the Pecos Convenience Center. Mayor Benavidez also printed out photos of vehicles he has taken that are dumping their trash at the Pecos site after-hours who he believes are not Pecos citizens or even citizens of San Miguel County. Mayor suggested window decals to show payment to SMC Solid Waste Division. The Mayor asked for a meeting on a public/private road which is used for emergency services. The Village is in discussion with East Pecos to set-up water and sewage plans that will serve both East and the Village of Pecos. A fire water tank (300K gallons) will be placed at the Medical Center to be used for fires rather than using the Village's community water. A scholarship in Mayor Telesfor Benavidez name has been set-up, please contact the Pecos Municipal Offices for application for this namesake scholarship of the Mayor for Pecos and WLV seniors.

d. RESOLUTION OF COUNTY ROADS MAINTAINED ANNUALLY

Mr. Benito Romero, PW Director, asked for approval of the 2024 County Road Log as Resolution SMC003-12-2024-RA04. The road log contains 511.45 miles of roads maintained by San Miguel - County.

Motion to approve Resolution SMC-03-12-2024-RA04 made by Commissioner Max Trujillo.
Second by Vice Chairman Martin Sena. Motion carried.

e. RESOLUTION OF SPONSORSHIP 2024-2025 TPF PROJECTS

Mr. Benito Romero, PW Director, asked for approval of Resolution No. SMC-03-12-2024-1-Ribera to submit an application for FY-2024-25 Transportation Project Fund.

Motion to approve Resolution No. SMC-03-12-2024-1-Ribera made by Vice Chairman Martin Sena. Second by Commissioner Max Trujillo. Motion carried.

PW Director Romero asked for approval of Resolution No. SMC-03-12-2024-2-C48 and Cinder Rd to submit an application for FY-2024-25 Transportation Project Fund.

Motion to approve Resolution No. SMC-03-12-2024-2-C48 and Cinder Rd made by Commissioner Max Trujillo. Second by Chairman Harold Garcia. Motion carried.

PW Director Romero asked for approval of Resolution No. SMC-03-12-2024-3-Williams Dr. and Dora Celeste Rd. to submit an application for FY-2024-25 Transportation Project Fund.

Motion to approve Resolution No. SMC-03-12-2024-1-Ribera made by Commissioner Max Trujillo. Second by Chairman Harold Garcia.

f. LETTER OF SUPPPORT FROM SAN MIGUEL COUNTY FOR SMCFCHC

Ms. Meaghan Irrig, Health Council Coordinator, asked for approval of the Letter of Support for the San Miguel County Family & Community Health Council.

Motion to approve Letter of Support for SMCFCHC made by Commissioner Janice Varela. Second by Commissioner Kenneth Medina. Motion carried.

g. SMCFCHC UPDATED ROSTER WITH NEW MEMBER

Ms. Meaghan Irrig, Health Council Coordinator, asked the Commission to ratify the appointment of new member Jasmine Meyer with Presbyterian Health Services to the Roster of SMCFCHC.

Motion to approve Jasmine Meyer to the SMCFCHC made by Commissioner Max Trujillo. Second by Commissioner Janice Varela. Motion carried.

h. NEW JOB DESCRIPTION: DETENTION CENTER AUDIT COMPLIANCE & STAFF DEVELOPMENT MANAGER

HR Director Eileen Sedillo asked for approval for this revamped position which was previously listed as two positions at the Detention Center. The primary focus is the recertification of the Detention Center and its processes and staff development.

Motion to approve job description – Detention Center Audit Compliance and Staff Development Manager made by Commissioner Max Trujillo. Second by Vice Chairman Martin Sena. Motion carried.

i. RECOMMENDATION BY THE SMC LODGER’S TAX ADVISORY BOARD TO AWARD PECOS BUSINESS ASSOCIATION FOR THE 2024 LODGER’S TAX GRANT FUNDING CYCLE IN THE AMOUNT OF \$10,204.00

Ms. Amanda Salas, P&Z Director, asked for approval of the application submitted to receive a grant funded by the SMC Lodger’s Tax Advisory Board for the 2024 Lodger’s Tax Grant in the amount of \$10,204 to the Pecos Business Association. The Association is finalizing their business license with P&Z Director Salas.

Motion to approve Pecos Business Association as the recipient of \$10,204 for the 2024 Lodger’s Tax Grant Funding Cycle made by Commissioner Janice Varela. Second by Commissioner Max Trujillo. Motion carried.

j. PROPOSED PROFESSIONAL SERVICES AGREEMENT WITH THE SULZER GROUP FOR DISASTER RECOVERY CONSULTANT SERVICES

County Manager Joy Ansley asked for approval of the PSA with Sulzer Group for disaster recovery consultant services.

Motion to approve Agreement for Disaster Recovery Consultant Services with the Sulzer Group made by Commissioner Max Trujillo. Second by Commissioner Janice Varela. Motion carried.

ROLL CALL:

AYEs H Garcia M Sena J Varela M Trujillo K Medina **unanimous**

k. PROPOSED MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT WITH NM HIGHLANDS UNIVERSITY FOR GOLF COURSE CONTRIBUTION

County Manager Joy Ansley informed the Commission NMHU re: Gene Torres Golf Course has submitted an MOA between NMHU, City of Las Vegas and San Miguel County about items discussed at the February 13th presentation by NMHU President Dr. Sam Miner and Regent Member Mr. Bill Garcia in planning the development and action plan for the golf course. At the February meeting, the Commission stated an apprehension to agreeing to a funding plan of three years without proof of significant action on the deliverables of development and use of the facility. The Commission through an approved motion stated that the County would fund one year with updates from NMHU within the funded year on the progress and development of the MOA with the Gene Torres Golf Course/NMHU. Manager Ansley made edits to the

Agreement sent by NMHU regarding the funding request and will forward those changes to NMHU and the City of Las Vegas. Manager Ansley also indicated NMHU is reticent in allowing the use of the Golf Course for the Roadeo Equipment Competition being held during the NM Counties Conference being hosted by SMC in June. These notations will also be highlighted as changes to the MOA sent by NMHU.

Motion to table until NMHU and City of Las Vegas responds to changes indicated on Memorandum of Agreement to coincide with contingencies voted upon and approved at February 13th meeting in reference to the funding request by NMHU for the Gene Torres Golf Course made by Commissioner Janice Varela. Second by Commissioner Max Trujillo. Motion carried.

ROLL CALL:

AYEs H Garcia M Sena J Varela M Trujillo K Medina

***Unanimous passage to [TABLE] Contingent on MOA modifications noted above re: NMHU/Gene Torres Golf Course Funding Request and City of Las Vegas**

Motion for a 5+minute break made by Commissioner Kenneth Medina. Second by Vice Chairman Martin Sena. Motion carried. Break at 2:32 PM / Return to Session at 2:47 PM.

I. REVIEW AND ALLOCATION OF ARPA FUNDS

County Manager Joy Ansley informed the Commission that the first part of ARPA funds received will be reported to Treasury in November that spending is complete on the \$2,649,118.50 allocated. The Commission discussed reallocating \$400K from the Tecolotito VFD while survey and correct property legal descriptions and ownership issues for the property housing the proposed Fire Station. The reallocation will be as follows: \$150,000 Crushing Material; \$100,000 Ambulance building; and, \$150,000 for Public Works Vehicles.

Motion to approve the reallocation of \$400K of ARPA funds made by Commissioner Max Trujillo. Second by Vice Chairman Martin Sena. Motion carried.

m. * + PROPOSED EMPLOYEE INCREASES * +

*Discussion in Executive Session; action/discussion notes will be added after the Commission exits Executive Session and re-adjourns the Regular Session.

+County Manager Joy Ansley recommend the Commission bring employees to midpoint on the compensation schedule per Manager Ansley's recommendation in February. Chairman Garcia asked if every employee will be brought to midpoint. Manager Ansley stated all but one

employee will not be at midpoint – until progress in that position is realized. Chairman Garcia expressed concern at this notification.

[1] Motion to raise all employees earning less than \$65K to midpoint made by Commissioner Kenneth Medina. Second by Vice Chairman Martin Sena. Motion failed.

ROLL CALL:

AYE M Sena K Medina

NAY H Garcia J Varela M Trujillo

[1] Motion failed to raise all employees earning less than \$65K to midpoint.

[2] Motion to bring all employees to midpoint made by Commissioner Max Trujillo. Second by Commissioner Janice Varela. Motion carried.

ROLL CALL:

AYE H Garcia J Varela M Trujillo

NAY M Sena K Medina

[2] Motion to bring employees to midpoint, per Manager Ansley’s February recommendation, carried.

n. RESOLUTION SUPPORTING EAST PECOS MUTUAL DOMESTIC WATER CONSUMERS ASSOCIATIONS SANITARY SEWER SYSTEM

Commissioner Janice Varela asked for approval of the Resolution supporting East Pecos in their endeavor to connect to the Pecos Wastewater Treatment Plan to safely dispose of the sewage that reduces potentiality of drinking water and Pecos River contamination.

Motion to approve Resolution in Support of East Pecos Mutual Domestic Water Consumer’s Associations Sanitary Sewer System to connect to Pecos Wastewater Treatment Plant made by Commissioner Max Trujillo. Second by Commissioner Kenneth Medina. Motion carried.

o. AWARD BID FOR CDBG-21-C-NR-I-04-G-91, HYDRAULIC PALLET FORK AND 6-WAY DOZER BLADE ATTACHMENT

Mr. Alex Tafoya, Development Consultant, asked for approval to reject the bid received from 4Rivers Equipment for failing to accurately submit the bid application requirements.

Motion to reject 4Rivers bid for CDBG-21-C-NR-I-04-G-91 made by Commissioner Janice Varela. Second by Vice Chairman Martin Sena. Motion carried.

Mr. Tafoya expressed respect and appreciation for the contributions to San Miguel County by Commissioner Janice Varela in the various roles she has served the citizens of San Miguel County.

9. BOARD OF FINANCE MEETING

a. ACCOUNTS PAYABLE REPORT – FEBRUARY 2024

Ms. Katherine Sanchez, SMC Finance Director, presented the Commission with the February 2024 accounts payable list report and asked for approval.

Motion to approve February 2024 Accounts Payable Report made by Commissioner Janice Varela. Second by Commissioner Max Trujillo. Motion carried.

b. POOLED CASH REPORT – FEBRUARY 2024*

Finance Director Sanchez presented the Commission with the February 2024 Pooled Cash Report – For Informational Purposes Only.

- The Accounts Payable and Pooled Cash Reports are available for Public Inspection in the Clerk's Office.

c. UPDATE – FY-2022 AUDIT

Finance Director Sanchez informed the Commission the 2022 Audit should be complete by end-of-April.

Motion to adjourn the regular session of the RM-03-12-2024 and enter Executive Session made by Commissioner Kenneth Medina. Second by Commissioner Max Trujillo. Motion carried.

Executive Session was entered into at 3:33 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) or 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.

Motion to exit Executive Session and re-adourn the Regular Session of the RM-03-12-2024 meeting of the SMC Board of Commissioners made by Commissioner Max Trujillo. Second by Commissioner Kenneth Medina. Motion carries.

Regular Session re-adjourned at 6:04 PM.

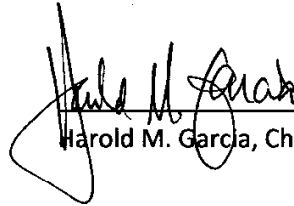
- Please refer to item 'm' for Actions/Discussions

10. ADJOURNMENT

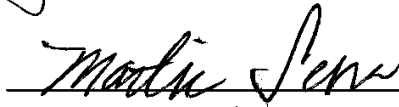
Motion to adjourn the Regular Session of RM-03-12-2024 made by Vice Chairman Martin Sena. Second by Commissioner Max Trujillo. Motion carried.

Adjournment at 6:17 PM.

Approved the 8th of April 2024 as the Official Minutes of the Board of County Commissioners of San Miguel County New Mexico of its Regular Meeting held the 12th of March 2024 at 1:00 PM in Suite 201 of the San Miguel County Administration Complex, 500 W. National Ave.



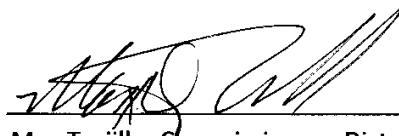
Harold M. Garcia, Chairman - District 1



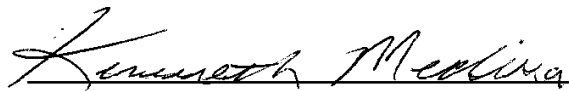
Martin Sena, Vice-Chairman - District 4



Janice Varela, Commissioner - District 2

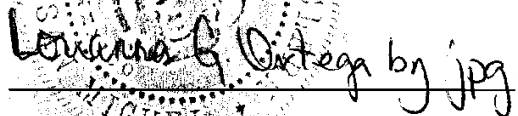


Max Trujillo, Commissioner - District 3



Kenneth C. Medina, Commissioner District 5

ATTEST:



Louanna G. Ortega, 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 Manger's 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 Clerk at 505-425-9331 if a summary or other type of accessible format is needed.

Contact: mstroud@co.sanmiguel.nm.us | jgonzales@co.sanmiguel.nm.us