

MINUTES of the REGULAR MEETING
of the BOARD of COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
of SAN MIGUEL COUNTY, NEW MEXICO
HELD TUESDAY JUNE 11, 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

Deputy Clerk Elena I. Chavez administered Roll Call: Chairman Harold Garcia – present; Vice Chairman Martin Sena – present; Commissioner Bernadette Baca – present at 1:01 PM; Commissioner Max Trujillo – present. Commissioner Kenneth Medina – present.

A quorum is present.

3. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Ms. Jana Lopez 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 did not have any changes to the Agenda.

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

6. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Minutes for Approval: SM-05-14-2024.

Motion to approve minutes of RM-05-14-2024 made by Vice Chairman Martin Sena. Second by Commissioner Max Trujillo. Motion carried.

7. PUBLIC INPUT FORUM

Mr. John Ellis expressed his concern for the water crossing for CR 283 and CR A18A. Debris has caused the culverts to be blocked. During monsoon season, the water rises making it difficult to cross. During a downpour it reaches the bottom of his truck and he's concerned for people in his area who have cars. In winter, the water on the crossing freezes over and poses a hazard. Mr. Ellis has tried to contact SMC and was informed that it would be worked on. However, Mr. Ellis states that those responses have been band aids to the issue at best. He asked the Commission for a schedule to fix this problem with the crossing and for road crew to completely remove debris from road instead of piling material and debris next to the road.

Ms. Jana Lopez, founder of Neighbors Helping Neighbors and UMCOR Director, expressed her concern on the Mineral Hill area. She travels the roads frequently and has issues regarding the water crossing. At one point, she could not cross because she was in a lower vehicle and had to turn back. Her other concern are the trees on 10 North Tee Rd. She traveled that road recently and had to stop and remove tree debris from the road. She asked that SMC collaborate with FEMA to get funding to address these issues. She stated these issues pose a dangerous situation for people living in these areas being trapped in their homes or not able to reach their homes due to flooding and fallen trees.

Ms. Pat Leahan, Co-Director of Las Vegas Peace and Justice and part time UWC faculty member, thanked SMC and Mr. Antonio Padilla, Warden of SMC Detention Center who hosted a tour of the Detention Center. UWC looks for ways to enhance curriculum each school year and previously had programming at the adult re-integration center. This stopped due to COVID. During the tour, they got a sense of the needs of staff and detainees. The Citizen Advisory Meeting took place in the Detention Center prior to COVID. They reached out to Mr. Padilla who was supportive of reinstating the program. She presented a study from the Citizen Advisory Committee through the LV Peace and Justice Center and NMHU that was done in 2015. This study outlines the needs of detainees. Through that study, the Committee recommended a Treatment Center, which is in progress and the Adult Re-integration Center. She expressed gratitude to SMC for willingness to work with the Committee.

Mr. Manuel Garcia congratulated the primary election winners. He then expressed his concern regarding IPRA requests. He asks that SMC staff protect and keep those documents. He stated it is dangerous to deny documents. He has had two instances where documents were requested but not presented to him. He requests more diligence regarding IPRA requests. His final concern is in regards to the "good soldier." He defines this term as an employee who will

defend SMC. He stated there is nothing inherently wrong with this as long as the truth is told and the law is not violated. He then made a comparison of the “good soldiers” to the January 6th Capitol riot that took place in 2021 at the U.S. Capitol. He stated SMC employees are non-exempt employees who bridge the gap and support continuance between administrations and county commissions. He stated it is safer and more honorable to support the ethics and laws of the state than to be a “good soldier.” He read that the County Assessor has resigned and expressed his hopes for a new and better County Assessor.

NEW BUSINESS

8. REGULAR ORDER

a. COUNTY MANAGER/DEPUTY MANAGER’S REPORT

County Manager Joy Ansley informed the Commission on the following:

Commission allocated \$20K to the El Valle Community Center. Funds are used for library services and computers. SMC purchased computers for the center and drafted MOU to allow use of them to satisfy anti-donation issues. The computers will remain SMC property until they depreciate. The agreement is ready for Councilor Gallegos’s consideration today. *SMC received an additional request from El Valle Community Center. They applied for Congressional Direct Spending dollars and received \$563K for improvements to the building. The funds were allocated through USDA and have a match requirement. El Valle plans to meet with SMC to request assistance to meet that match requirement. Their proposal is for SMC to hire a grants manager on their behalf to apply for additional dollars to continue work on the Center. Their request is for approximately \$45K. County Manager’s office is uncertain if this is possible due to anti-donation laws and will be further discussed with Counselor Gallegos. Tentatively, El Valle will come in July to make this request. *Meeting with Sulzer Group for ideas on SMC improvements. Ms. Sulzer has contacts with non-profits who can work with SMC to review and revise rules, regulations, leases and polices in regards to code enforcement, building codes, inspections, flood work and other issues related to Planning and Zoning. They can bring people in to revise documents and help with workflow that is impacted by staffing issues, as well as help current employees and department heads with streamlining processes. *Mr. Dennis Esquibel had taken a Project Manager position in Public Works. His previous position of Emergency Manager needs to be filled soon. Mr. Esquibel is still assisting in OEM. One in-house application has been submitted so far, interviews will be held this week. *Thanks to Jorge with Council of Governments for helping SMC complete grant agreement for Emergency Manager position which is half funded by state government.

Deputy Manager Jesus Romero informed the Commission on the following:

*Assessor's Office continues to make strides and is diligently working on 2024 Evaluation. Over the last 3 months, manufactured homes department has created approximately 100 new accounts. Large majority of these accounts are around 5 years old. A few of those accounts were not previously assessed with any tax record. *Notice of Evaluations sent June 1st, 2024. Protests are expected. Tax payers have 30 days from June 1st 2024 to file a protest in the Assessor's office; this includes livestock and AG accounts. *FEMA related issues regarding manufactured homes are designated for Tuesdays and Thursdays 12:30 PM to 2:30 PM until November. *Sanborn Digital Imagery was sent and completed. There will be training with Assessor's office staff on Thursday with Kenneth Abeyta, IT Director and Deputy Manager Romero. Tentatively going 100 percent live with Sanborn by the end of June. There will be additional training with other departments who can benefit from it in July. *Construction is complete in the Appraisal Office to better accommodate staff and tax payers. *Continued work on the 2024 Summer Conference, meeting daily with individuals working on the Conference. Conference will take place a week from today. SMC will host County night in the Railyard District which is closed to the public. Movie props will be picked up to display that night. *Wrapping up construction in the IT Office to accommodate new office for staff.

Chairman Harold Garcia commented on the upcoming 2024 Summer Conference. He expressed thanks to Deputy Manager and staff who have been working on the Conference. Over 500 people are expected to attend.

Deputy Manager Jesus Romero stated that local businesses have been informed about the influx of people for that week.

*For Information Purposes Only

b. DEPARTMENT HEAD UPDATES

Mr. Benito Romero, Director of Public Works informed the Commission that this week the Emergency RFP was advertised for the haul, blade and shape, emergency road protective measures and snow removal. *Sulzer Group will be advertising for the debris removal, debris monitoring and engineering services sometime this month. *Inspections were conducted on County Roads A4A, A3A, A4B, A33, and A4C. *Scheduled inspections on the Camp Blue Haven area next month for the FEMA capturing. *County road side project that was approved by FEMA has been ordered. 150 road identification signs have been ordered and should be complete by the end of the month. *Chapelle project is at a standstill due to amount of water. Paving should continue next week. *Sheridan chip seal project has been patched but chip seal is not yet complete. *2023/2024 LGRF's are awarded and all projects have been completed: La liendre, San Jose and Myers. Chip seal for La liendre and San Jose is complete. Base course for Myers is complete. Final walkthroughs are scheduled for this Thursday with

engineer on contract. Blade and shape for Ojitos Frios, San Geromino and Camp Blue Haven is on-going. *The culvert installations are almost complete in Pine Ridge Subdivision with one culvert installation still in progress and tight blading after the moisture received this past week. *Public Works and Sulzer Group working on inspecting 23 roads, a total of 112.72 miles. 322 culverts were identified with 200 of those culverts being damaged. FEMA had originally identified only 37 damaged culverts. 19 low water crossings, 4 bridges and additional 25 roads have been damaged. The road damage is also due to change in water shed causing new flooding. Documentation is being prepared for FEMA for eligible and non-eligible work through the claims department. RFP is issued and out for advertisement. 40 additional roads were identified and submitted for consideration from FEMA. *El Llano project has been submitted to FEMA; scope and cost is estimated at about \$1.8M. After study, they will probably recommend box culvert systems. *Developed a claim for the crusher at Public Works for approximately \$200K in damage that the crusher incurred. *Sulzer Group has captured 250 miles of county roads, most of them near burn scar and impacted areas. 70 miles of video footage was documented. 19 sites were surveyed and collected. Debris removal is minimal aside from tree debris which is in the private sector side (PPD). Hazardous trees in the Camp Blue Haven and Hermits Peak Northside (CR A2, A3, and A4). *Majority of damage is Camp Blue Haven, Rociada areas and Pendaries. *Site assessments for right of way debris piles for A16B, A18A, A11A, and El Llano. Total amount of debris is about 25K cubic yards.

Commissioner Max Trujillo asked if SMC could have green waste machinery where constituents can bring in green waste from their property due to the hazardous tree debris. Within the next year, those tree branches will fall creating large amounts of bio waste.

PW Director Romero stated Public Works had originally advertised a green waste RFP in which no contractors responded. Public Works is working with Sulzer Group on the large debris removal project that includes green waste, and contractors may be interested. Currently, Solid Waste is overly impacted due to receiving debris in bags per ordinance. Bins are swapped out every other day instead of every week especially in the Rociada and Pendaries areas.

Chairman Harold Garcia inquired on the status of Los Vigiles, Sebastian Canyon and UWC crossing.

PW Director Romero stated those areas have been captured as damaged. Sebastian Canyon has large amount of debris removal.

Vice Chairman Martin Sena stated that the Mineral Hill area needs immediate attention and asked about options regarding that area.

PW Director Romero stated that once SMC gets the RFP for Emergency Roadwork, the culvert will need to be opened up. The lower water crossing on A18 has been opened about 3 times

but debris flow is immense and culverts are undersized. They continue to become impacted; water goes over the sides of the road and erodes on both sides. Mitigation is to extend the concrete imprints so that when water overflows it will no longer erode the concrete. Public Works is adding cobble stones and trying to put base course. Until the water recedes, work cannot be completed to have something accessible to the public. He then suggested an asphalt apron but the water would still need to recede.

County Manager Joy Ansley asked Mr. Romero to clarify what capturing a project means for the audience and records purposes.

PW Director Romero stated that when Public Works does a satisfaction, they go out in the field. They capture culvert systems, road drainage, erosion, debris flows, debris piles, base course, bridges, guard rails, cattle guards and any other infrastructure on county roads. Everything is captured with GPS; SMC IT and Sulzer Group work together to map out the damages. It takes about 10-15 minutes per site to capture everything as far as measurements, base course, pit run, erosion control, debris piles, PPDR, and burnt trees. Those site inspections are 12-13 hour days.

County Manager Joy Ansley elaborated further on the process, stating it is then submitted to FEMA. FEMA establishes cost estimation based on projections.

PW Director Romero then stated that the Sulzer Group does table top inspection and submits it to FEMA. SMC waits for FEMA to send it back to SMC to approve. FEMA documents everything the Sulzer Group does before it sends to SMC to sign a DI (Damage Inventory). Then it is sent to accounting, who informs SMC on what is allocated from those areas.

County Manager Joy Ansley continued, stating that once that funding is obligated through FEMA, SMC can begin designing the projects and implementation. After the projects are built, SMC goes through a reimbursement process with FEMA.

Chairman Harold Garcia stated that this a lengthy process. The project must be designed. The engineer must assess based on what the Sulzer Group prepares. Once the engineer designs the project, FEMA must approve it again. The project is sent back to SMC where it must be advertised, which takes about 45 days. It is then presented to the Commission to be awarded. The projects are large and require bonding and licensing through a contractor which takes an additional 45 days. Then SMC must authorize the bid and issue a notice of award. Chairman stated it will tentatively take an entire summer to get projects like this completed.

PW Director Romero stated that currently Public Works has emergency road protective maintenance in place.

County Manager Joy Ansley stated those measures have been in place for the last two years on an as-needed basis through funding with DFA. These “Band-Aids” are the only projects authorized so far. By FEMA’s rules, SMC cannot change something that exists. For example, culverts cannot be upsized and bridges cannot be captured as low water crossing.

Commissioner Max Trujillo stated that this conversation is a testament to the work done for the recovery process from the disaster. This process is time consuming but SMC continues to navigate to find resolutions. He thanked Mr. Romero’s work on this.

County Manager Joy Ansley stated one of the challenges that SMC has faced these last few years is the roads being perpetually affected due to flooding. Public Works will plan a project, get material made, and work on a low water crossing. The next day it could rain and ruin the work done by SMC. She acknowledged the public’s frustration, stating it is also frustrating for SMC.

Chairman Harold Garcia commented on San Miguel County’s size. It is 4,700 square miles of coverage. Within those miles, there are 513 miles of roads to maintain. SMC is doing everything to mitigate these situations as well as perform day-to-day functions in this large county.

Mr. Antonio Padilla, Warden informed the Commission on the May monthly report for the Detention Center. *There were 45 incidents in which there were no staff assaults or use of force. *Shakedowns continue on a weekly basis in every unit, housing area, and common areas. *Approximately 219 scans and bookings. *Continuing normal operations and programs including rosary services, Catholic services, AA, library services, and Narcotics Anonymous. *Ms. Pat Leahan and UWC took a tour of the facility with plans to continue Citizen Advisory Meeting. *District Attorney and federal agents ran an operation with 7 arrestees in one day. *NM State Police by order of the Governor came into SMC for a week long operation and arrested over 37 individuals in that week, working closely with SMC Sheriff’s office. *Stood by a peaceful protest at NMHU where there were no arrests. *Preparing for Fourth of July Fiestas and Rough Rider Rally for influx in arrestees during those events. *SMC Sheriff’s Office had 81 bookings. LVPD had 70 and NM State Police at 49. *Still housing for Mora County and Guadalupe County. *With the help of County Manager Joy Ansley, Warden Padilla applied for a grant for Corrections Recruitment Fund. There’s \$25 million that the Governor put aside for the fund. Hoping to get approved for the fund to help retain detention officers and recruit people for the facility.

Commissioner Max Trujillo thanked Warden Padilla for the work at the facility. He also thanked Sheriff Lopez for his work.

*For Informational Purposes Only

c. SAN MIGUEL COUNTY IAFC CWDG

Ms. Shannon Atencio, District Forester for New Mexico Forestry Division informed the Commission on funding for hazard tree removal for private land in early July. The hazard tree removal affects roadways, powerlines, structures, and private roads. Contractors take applications from the land owners in person or online. Contractor will go in and assess the trees and turn that report to the Forestry Division. Contractor will then be sent to cut down the trees and residents can keep the wood for firewood.

Ms. Abigail Plecki, Manager of CWDG Program, informed the Commission on the Community Wildfire Defense Grant which is a five year funding opportunity from the Infrastructure and Investment Jobs Act. They are on cycle 2 out of 5. During cycle 1, The International Association of Fire Chiefs, an out-of-state non-profit, put in for SMC to have trainings based on the CWPP (Community Wildfire Protection Plan) that already existed. The IA Chiefs do county wide training opportunities that include Ready-Set-Go, home assessment training, and chipper days. They will offer some recommendation for CWPP updates. They will come in to do an initial site visit mid-to-late July. Cycle 2 was awarded \$88K for the CWPP update. She left her business cards and invited SMC to put in once the next CWPP update goes out, where there are implementation projects up to \$10 million for the last 3 cycles. She stated smaller non-governmental organizations can apply as well.

d. PROMOTIONS OF OFFICERS AND LT. POSITION

Warden Padilla promoted two of his staff members. Chairman Harold Garcia administered the Oath of Office. Mr. Matthew Sanchez was promoted from Cadet to Detention Officer. Mr. Felix Griego was promoted from Detention Sergeant to Detention Lieutenant.

e. PROPOSED EASEMENT WITH LUCKY CORRIDOR, LLC FOR TRANSMISSION LINE ACCESS

Mr. Erik Aaboe, from NMRETA (New Mexico Renewable Energy Transmission Authority) presented the Commission with a proposed easement with Lucky Corridor LLC for transmission line access. Lucky Corridor is a project transmission line going from the northeast part of the state that will end at SMC Public Works yard. The PNM substation at the southwest corner of the Public Works yard is the terminus of the project. This project is intended to bring renewable energy, and wind energy from north eastern part of the state and connect into the PNM system. Mr. Aaboe worked with the County Managers Office and Public Works to look at the route through this parcel.

Mr. Nick Bamvakais, from Amren Services presented the Commission with the plan for the transmission line. The location of the proposed line will follow the road through the middle of the Public Works yard. It will be parallel to PNM's public distribution line. This leads to less of an impact of SMC property compared to a route that is not already encumbered by an existing line. There will be seven monopole structures that are direct imbed structures with no concrete foundation. They will stand at around 59 to 72 feet tall to meet all clearances on the road and surrounding structures. The span around the structure is roughly 450 feet. The start date is anticipated for late 2025. The compensation originally had a different route and the compensation presented to the Commission in their packet reflects the original project. This new route has a little less acreage but they are keeping the same appraisal amount per acre amount as easement compensation with an included \$10K in prepaid damages coming to a total of \$51,813.

Motion to accept proposed easement with Lucky Corridor LLC for Transmission Line Access made by Commissioner Max Trujillo. Second by Chairman Harold Garcia. Motion carried.

f. ADMINISTRATIVE PLAN FOR SAN MIGUEL COUNTY SECTION 8 HOUSING

Ms. Maryann Chavez-Lopez, El Camino Real Housing Authority Director, presented the Administrative Plan for San Miguel Section 8 Housing Choice Voucher Program to the Commission. The plan is revised annually. This year, the first change is the organization structure for SMC Housing Authority for San Miguel County. The PHA mission will provide safe, decent and sanitary housing conditions for the low income families and to manage resources efficiently. The PHA is to promote personal, economic and social upward mobility to provide families the opportunity to make the transition from subsidized to non-subsidized housing. There are 581 applications on the Section 8 Housing Choice Voucher. Many applicants were from Bernalillo County. To ensure that San Miguel County residents are eligible first, the second change establishes preferences for eligibility. Those preferences include families who have been terminated from HCV program due to insufficient funding, families involved with VAWA (Violence Against Women Association), chronically homeless families, elderly, disabled, employed full time, veteran, SMC residents and victims of domestic violence. If an applicant receives a voucher, they must live in San Miguel County for a year before they move. A letter will be sent to the 581 applicants indicating these changes. The third change involves HUD inspections. HUD has changed from HSQ to NSPIRE inspections. NSPIRE (National Standards for Physical Inspectional Real Estate) applies to public housing and Section 8 Housing. It took effect in July 2023 for public housing and will go into effect in October 2024 for Section 8 Housing. Ms. Chavez- Lopez has certified seven of her staff members to become inspectors for Section 8 Housing. HSQ focused on appearance for inspections. NSPIRE focuses on health, safety and

functional defects. There is a program established by the governor that assists with incentives for landlords who need to remediate inspection requirements.

Motion to approve administrative plan for San Miguel County Section 8 Housing made by Commissioner Max Trujillo. Second by Vice Chairman Martin Sena. Motion carried.

g. JOB DESCRIPTION NEW POSITION IT/RURAL ADDRESSING ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

Ms. Eileen Sedillo, Human Resource Director, presented the job description for the new position of Administrative Assistant in IT/Rural Addressing Department.

Chairman Harold Garcia asked if the position was approved in the budget.

County Manager Joy Ansley stated yes, the position has been approved and asked for IT Director Kenneth Abeyta to present the justification for the position.

IT Director Kenneth Abeyta stated his department is seeing a lot more production. IT is support for entire SMC. New projects for department are requested daily. There are many ongoing projects as well. These projects also do not include the daily duties that must be completed by current staff. Mr. Abeyta would like to add an additional position to his department to aid in the extensive workload.

Motion to approve the job description for new position in IT/Rural Addressing for Administrative Assistant made by Commissioner Max Trujillo. Second by Vice Chairman Martin Sena . Motion carried.

h. DISCUSSION OF FAIRBOARD STRUCTURE AND NEW AGREEMENT FOR USE OF FAIRGROUNDS

*Mr. Jesus Romero, Deputy County Manager, stated the old agreement approved from 2013 has not been updated and would like to discuss with the Fair Association roles, responsibilities, and insurance issues. *The new agreement would be presented to Counselor Gallegos for confirmation of legal sufficiency. *The County Fair Association came to the County Manager's Office with request to be self-sufficient and to clarify roles. SMC would be in charge of maintaining the buildings; however, small operational issues can be handled by the County Fair Association. There is concern of additions to facilities as the events grow each year.

County Manager Joy Ansley stated that SMC is liable for the buildings. The County Fair Association allows other entities and organizations to use the facilities. It has not been determined who approves them, signing lease agreements, verifying certificates of insurance from users, and establishing fees for use of facility.

Commissioner Max Trujillo commented on County Fair Association's autonomy. If they are a separate government entity they should also have their own insurance for these events.

*For Information purposes only.

i. RESIGNATION OF COUNTY ASSESSOR CONNIE GALLEGOS AND PROCEDURE FOR APPOINTMENT

Mr. Jesus Romero, Deputy County Manager, stated they received the resignation of Ms. Connie Gallegos as County Assessor. He opened the discussion with Commission Board to appoint the new assessor.

Commissioner Bernadette Baca inquired if the position is in-house.

Chairman Harold Garcia stated the Commission is tasked to appoint the Assessor. The proper protocol must be taken regardless of who the candidate is. He would like a strong advertisement. The candidates must be registered to vote. He asked that SMC reach out for guidance from NM State Tax and Revenue. He asked that County Manager Joy Ansley take the lead in creating criteria. The Commission would then interview. His criteria are someone electable, strong commitment to the public, job functions, and treated as an elected position.

Commission Max Trujillo asked if the candidate could reside outside county limits. He stated it's possible the best candidate is not from San Miguel County.

Chairman Harold Garcia stated the individual must be held to the same standards as all elected officials in San Miguel County which is a registered voter in San Miguel County.

Commissioner Kenneth Medina and Vice Chairman Martin Sena agreed with Chairman Garcia's criteria set forth.

County Manager Joy Ansley inquired about Property Tax Division participating in the interview. They reached out because the resignation letter was drafted to the director. They like to remain autonomous and neutral but she would get back to them if the Commission would like any support in that regard. SMC could advertise in the Optic, the SMC website and the radio station. She suggested a deadline in July with letters of interest and resumes be submitted.

Chairman Harold Garcia agreed, SMC should reach out to Property Tax Division and agreed with the criteria suggested.

Counselor Gallegos stated that protocol and policies were put in place that moved the primary functions of the Assessor to the County Manager's Office. Commission may have to consider a transition of the duties from the County Manager's Office back to the Assessor's Office.

Commission and County Manager discussed having an experience requirement included in the criteria. The issue is that to qualify to run for this elected position, no such experience is required. There will be more discussion and criteria presented by the County Manager to the Commission at a later date. Counselor Gallegos also stated that preferred qualities would be good to advertise to find the best candidate for the position.

Motion to approve made by Commissioner Bernadette Baca. Second by Commissioner Max Trujillo. Motion carried.

j. PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO COUNTY MANAGER CONTRACT

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

(for adjournment and re-adjournment actions refer to section after Executive Session)

Commissioner Trujillo proposes an increase to Manager Ansley's contract of \$10K because he feels it's been earned and because she chose not to include herself in the staff increases that recently took place. She didn't receive an increase in her first contract renewal in 2022; she received one in 2023, for her second contract renewal.

Motion to increase current contract by \$10K made by Commissioner Max Trujillo. Second by Vice Chairman Martin Sena.

ROLL CALL:

AYEs: H Garcia M Sena B Baca M Trujillo **NAYs:** K Medina **Motion Passes: 4-1**

k. PROPOSED RENEWALS TO OLD WOOD PROPERTY LEASES

Manager Joy Ansley informed the Commission that the lease is expiring in July 2024. She reached out to Mr. Old to confirm that he would like to renew. She stated SMC has two leases with Old Wood for two properties at the industrial park.

Mr. David Old informed the Commission that there is a potential grant for the southern facility roofing and biochar machine. *The biochar machine burns anything to fine ash and turns it into biochar which is refined charcoal. He also spoke about a grant received for a small commercial grinder that is used for small waste piles and turning them into mulch. *This mulch could have potential use for SMC. *The WPIA grant that is primarily for the expansion of the fire facility. They are installing larger conveyors and a firewood processor. *Old Wood works with Neighbors Helping Neighbors to donate cords of wood to the community using this fire processor. *His facility employs an average of 35 individuals. *Most of the wood is coming from a state forestry grant in the Ocate area.

*For informational purposes only.

I. PROPOSED LEASE AGREEMENT WITH THE CITY OF LAS VEGAS FOR EMS BASE STATION

Manager Joy Ansley stated the agreement SMC has with AMR requires SMC to house a base for the ambulance crews. SMC funded some of the construction of the EMS base through ARPA funds and SMC has hired a contractor to purchase a mobile home and set it. She has approached the City of LV to obtain a contribution of property to put the EMS base on Mills and 1st St west of Keyes Park and east of the City of LV Utility Building. SMC is proposing a 20 year lease at no cost to house the ambulance base regardless of who is providing the ambulance service. The location is ideal for emergency response.

Motion to approve proposed lease agreement with the City of Las Vegas for EMS Base Station made by Commissioner Max Trujillo. Second by Commissioner Bernadette Baca. Motion carried.

m. HERMIT'S PEAK CALF CANYON RECOVERY ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT

Ms. Amina Sena, USFS District Ranger for Pecos/Las Vegas District, informed the Commission on the work USFS has completed and ongoing projects since the Hermits Peak/Calf Canyon fires. *In regards to the burned area emergency response effort, they have been clearing roads, cleaning drainages, clearing culverts, storm-proofing roads, and cutting hazardous trees. *They are working on an agreement with Neighbors Helping Neighbors to get them cords of wood before the wood rots. *USFS has free fuel wood permits the public can obtain, allowing them access to cutting wood on the National Forest if you have a truck, chainsaw and capability. If community members are not able or do not have the equipment, USFS is working with Santa Fe Community Foundation and Neighbors Helping Neighbors to assist. *Monsoon season is soon approaching. Last year USFS put together an incident management team. There was an agreement with Mora County that allowed USFS to complete 30 miles worth of road improvements for Mora County. USFS proposal is to have a similar road agreement in place with San Miguel County. The agreement would allow USFS to help with roadwork issues for county roads leading to US Forest Service roads with their road crew. They can order VIPR (Virtual Incident Procurement) resources for post-fire monsoon response. The agreement would also allow SMC to work on forest service roads should the need arise. The first step is identification and easements of roads. From there Ms. Sena hopes to establish an agreement to work on roads together. *USFS Hermits Peak/Calf Canyon Recovery Environmental Assessment that includes reforestation efforts, getting more fuel wood to the community, opening roads, and turning low water crossings into bridges.

Commissioner Max Trujillo stated an immediate concern of his is water testing. He asked if USFS is collaborating with the City of LV on water testing. He thanked her for being an active

part in the recovery process. He asked how active the City of LV is in upgrading their filtration systems and water treatment units.

Ms. Sena stated the USFS has a water shed line of effort in regards to infrastructure at risk. USFS has LiDar flights across fire perimeter and 2D flow modeling based on those flights. They are collaborating with FEMA, DHSEM and joint information council to support USGS doing these water quality samples. In partnership with FEMA, there is a large agreement in place with USGS with the NM Environment Department to do both surface water and ground water testing. She also hopes to engage further with the City Council meetings in regards to their water treatment facilities.

Chairman Harold Garcia asked about the agreement on the roads regarding the levels of road maintenance. County roads are held to a different standard than road maintenance requirements for USFS. SMC is going to have funds to spend on the roads; he asked how they can be assured of USFS contractors being the same standard as SMC contractors.

Ms. Sena stated that USFS has road levels 1,2 and 3. 1 being for high-clearance vehicles and level 3 being for regular passenger cars. She will try and seek the best roads for the community. Her intention is to have the best roads possible provided there is funding. The road agreement would allow the USFS and SMC to address road emergency services together. She stated the funding comes from Washington Disaster Supplemental Funding. She invited the Commission to the FEMA led watershed stake holder meetings for a good avenue to speak about these efforts and collaborate more.

*For informational purposes only.

Motion for a 5 minute break made by Vice Chairman Martin Sena. Second by Commissioner Kenneth Medina. Motion carried. Break at 3:32 PM / Return to Session at 3:42 PM.

n. CONSIDERATION OF EXTENSION OF SUSPENSION ON ROAD ADOPTIONS WITHIN SAN MIGUEL COUNTY

Manager Joy Ansley stated there is a statutory process to accept private roads as county roads. SMC was overwhelmed with the current roadwork from the disaster and put into place a suspension of new road adoptions six months ago. The six months expires now in June 2024. She recommended keeping the suspension for an additional six months.

Commissioner Kenneth Medina asked how many roads we have pending for this process.

Ms. Amanda Salas, Planning and Zoning Director informed the Commission that there are 3 roads and there are some others bearing interest. The challenge is that these roads only

experienced flooding post-fire. She worked with these people to put in a FEMA claim to bring the roads up to par.

Counselor Gallegos commented on the issue being that SMC does not have a handle on the long term of adopting a new road.

Motion to accept the recommendation to extend the suspension on road adoptions for six months within San Miguel County made by Commissioner Bernadette Baca. Second by Commissioner Kenneth Medina.

o. REQUEST TO REJECT PROPOSAL FOR DESTINATION MARKETING RFP – CARROLL STRATEGIES AND RE-ISSUE RFP

Ms. Amanda Salas, Planning and Zoning Director stated SMC issued an RFP in April 2024 that received one proposal. Due to budget restraints, she is suggesting that SMC reject and reissue a new RFP in the new fiscal year.

Motion to reject proposal for destination marketing RFP and reissue RFP made by Vice Chairman Martin Sena. Second by Commissioner Kenneth Medina. Motion carried.

p. SAN MIGUEL COUNTY DETENTION CENTER CITIZEN ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Chairman Harold Garcia requested to reinstate the Citizen Advisory Committee. COVID halted the Committee's meetings. He would like to reappoint members and new members of the Committee and asked for letters of interest. He would ask they be evaluated by County Manager as well as Counselor Gallegos.

Counselor Gallegos stated that this fits in the policy making aspect of the Commission. He suggested the selection process may need to be evaluated as the previous members may no longer be qualified for the new challenges and unique situations the Detention Center faces.

Warden Antonio Padilla elaborated on integration challenges. Four or five years ago, the previous Warden applied for funding through the RISE Grant. They employed LSW's and social workers to run the program. The grant was lost; it took a year and a half to work with that group to reapply and regain funding for that program. \$200K in funding was secured last year to hire a case manager. The advertisement was out for 8 months with no applicants. Ms. Pat Leahan may have more suggestions or people interested in applying for the position. He secured an additional \$200K in funding for the upcoming fiscal year. Money is not available until July 1st. He will re-advertise and if that does not work they will look into different resources.

Motion to approve made by Commissioner Kenneth Medina. Seconded by Commissioner Max Trujillo.

9. BOARD OF FINANCE MEETING

a. CHECK REPORT MAY 2024

SMC Finance Director Katherine Sanchez presented the Commission with the May 2024 check report.

Motion to approve the check report for May 2024 made by Vice Chairman Martin Sena. Second by Commissioner Kenneth Medina. Motion carried.

b. POOLED CASH REPORT FOR MAY 2024 *

Finance Director Sanchez presented the Commission with the May 2024 Pooled Cash Report

*For Informational Purposes Only.

- The Check Report and Pooled Cash Reports are available for Public Inspection in the County Clerk's Office.

c. UPDATE ON FY22 AUDIT, FY25 INTERIM BUDGET AND Q4 DFA REPORT

Finance Director Sanchez informed the Commission on the FY22 Audit. *The exit interview was completed and there are other items requested by the State Auditor so there could be more findings. *FY23 is starting and auditors will be on-site June 17th-June 20th. *FY25 budget was submitted to DFA with a couple of minor errors that will be corrected today. Ms. Sanchez is working on adjustments for final budget as well as the Q4 DF Report.

*For informational purposes only.

Motion to adjourn the regular session of the RM-06-11-2024 and enter Executive Session made by Commissioner Max Trujillo. Second by Chairman Harold Garcia. Motion carried.

Executive Session was entered into at 4:02 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-06-11-2024 meeting of the SMC Board of Commissioners made by Commissioner Kenneth Medina. Second by Commissioner Max Trujillo. Motion carries.

Regular Session re-adourned at 5:27 PM.

Motion to resume Regular Session made by Commissioner Max Trujillo. Seconded by Commissioner Bernadette Baca. Regular Session resumes at 5:27 PM. No action taken in Executive Session.

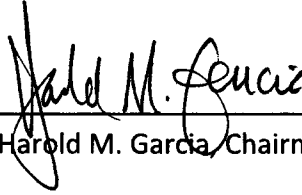
Please refer to Item j. for Discussion/Actions:

10. ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn the Regular Session of RM-06-11-2024 made by Commissioner Max Trujillo. Second by Vice Chairman Martin Sena. Motion carried.

Adjournment at 5:29 PM.

Approved the 8th of July 2024 as the Official Minutes of the Board of County Commissioners of San Miguel County New Mexico of its Regular Meeting held the 11th of July 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



Bernadette Baca, Commissioner - District 2

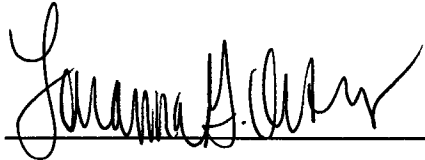


Max Trujillo, Commissioner - District 3

Absent

Kenneth C. Medina, Commissioner District 5

ATTEST:



Louanna G. Ortega, San Miguel County Clerk



Minutes submitted by Elena I. Chavez,

Reviewed/Edited 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's Office at 505-425-9331 if a summary or other type of accessible format is needed.

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