

MINUTES of the REGULAR MEETING
of the BOARD of COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
of SAN MIGUEL COUNTY, NEW MEXICO
HELD TUESDAY JULY 8, 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; Commissioner Max Trujillo – present. Commissioner Kenneth Medina – absent.

A quorum is present.

3. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Commissioner Bernadette Baca 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 Vice Chairman Martin Sena. Motion carried.

6. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Minutes for Approval: RM-05-14-2024
SM-05-31-2024

RM-06-11-2024

SM-06-12-2024

Motion to approve minutes of RM-05-14-2024, SM-05-31-2024, RM-06-11-2024, SM-06-12-2024 made by Vice Chairman Martin Sena. Second by Commissioner Bernadette Baca. Motion carried.

7. PUBLIC INPUT FORUM

Mr. Jose Maestas informed the Commission regarding Cinder Road and Palo Verde Road flooding. He stated that several years ago, Palo Verde Road was half dirt road, half paved. City Manager Thomas Clayton organized a meeting with the immediate neighborhood and it was determined that a large gabion basket would be built on the south side of Palo Verde to capture excess rain. A holding pond would be put in place just south of the intersection. At this time a culvert existed that crossed Cinder Rd; all three were removed when the road was paved. Mr. Maestas suggested an environmental study be done to alleviate the flooding problems on Cinder Rd.

Mr. Jasper Vassau asked the Commission to adopt Apache Mesa Rd in the future. He knows there is a freeze on adopting roads. He stated Apache Mesa Rd is 7.8 miles from CR 84 and 11 permanent residents live on that road. They spend \$25-\$35K each year grading that road. He asked if the Commission could do a study to determine if they can adopt this road when the freeze is over. The road would need base course.

Mr. Jose Maestas Jr came before the Commission to discuss the flooding on Cinder Rd. His family has lived on the land for generations. Once Cinder Rd was paved, the flooding became worse over the last decade. On the corner of Cinder Rd and Palo Verde, he stated the road is almost gone and impassable by car. He suggested an environmental study be done in that area.

NEW BUSINESS

8. REGULAR ORDER

a. COUNTY MANAGER/DEPUTY MANAGER'S REPORT

County Manager Joy Ansley informed the Commission on the following:

*Trust for Public Lands, a non-profit in New Mexico, is working on a grant application to construct a road to the Sabinoso Wilderness Area parking lot. They are applying through SMC because only a local government can apply for the amount of funds they need to complete this project. The project is in conjunction with the BLM since it is on BLM land; the application is for \$140K. If it's awarded, SMC will have to enter an agreement with the non-profit for the administration of the grant. SMC will need to oversee contracting part of the road since the

road is in the County. Their idea was to transfer the funds to them but SMC cannot do that due to anti-donation laws. SMC could submit the application and figure out the process and procedures after SMC is funded. It is a good project that would increase tourism. *The advertisement is out for County Assessor position. The deadline for applications is July 19th at 3PM. The Commission will conduct interviews. Deputy County Manager Jesus Romero and Human Resources Director Eileen Sedillo are working on the interview questions that the Commission can use. After the deadline, a Special Meeting will be scheduled with the Commission Board to conduct the interviews. *SMC applied for economic development grant for the Wood Business Park with the help of North Central Economic Development District. The application amount was \$1M with a 10% match. Application was successful and SMC will receive the funds. County Manager will work with North Central for assistance with administration. *Working this month with Old Wood to renew existing leases in Wood Business Park. *Sandbag distribution operation at City Hall parking lot on Grand Ave. Sandbags are available to city and county residents and will be available from 10AM-6PM daily and are self-serve. The sandbag operation has been a joint effort. There has been a local contractor helping, several youth groups and volunteers, and Type 3 incident management team from the Forest Service.

Deputy Manager Jesus Romero informed the Commission on the following:

*Working with Chief Deputy Assessor Doreen Garcia-Lujan in the Assessor's Office to conduct interviews for two vacancies in the Assessor's Office and planning to have those interviews mid-week. *Notice of values went out June 1st; there are approximately 100 protests. With that amount, staff can complete those in a relatively short time period. *Manufactured homes or issues related to FEMA will be handled Tuesday and Thursday 12:30PM-4:30PM until November. *Construction has been completed in the IT office to make an additional office for staff. *2024 Summer Conference was completed and turned out to be a huge success. Deputy Manager Romero thanked all those who helped with the Summer Conference. He thanked the City of Las Vegas Mayor and Manager for their assistance and support as well as Lucas Marquez, Community Development Director who went above and beyond for SMC. Thanks to Warden Antonio Padilla for the spectacular golf tournament. Thanks to Vidal Crespin and his staff for a great job at the corn-hole tournament. In addition, thanks to the committee for their efforts in putting on this event. SMC had a total of 560 registered attendees including vendors and approximately 450 of those guests attended the dinner and dance.

*For Information Purposes Only

b. DEPARTMENT HEAD UPDATES

Mr. Martin Aguilar, Road Foreman informed the Commission on Pine Ridge Road and Blue Ridge Hill projects, which are completed. *Due to flooding, there has been additional help from local contractors and National Guard. *The deep ditches on A3 are completed. *There are many issues with the roads due to recent flooding. *Mr. Aguilar thanked his crew for the hard work during this emergency. *Two graders were sent to east side of SMC to deal with flooding. *Solid Waste is overwhelmed.

Commissioner Max Trujillo stated his district was substantially affected by the floods. SMC cannot help with private lands and driveways affected by flooding due to anti-donation clause. He stated there are many people who need help and asked the public if there are any volunteers who would like to assist.

Fire Chief Andrew Duran informed the Commission that the volunteer fire departments have contributed approximately 450 man hours during the water and sandbag distribution. *Last year, a new sandbag machine was purchased. The machine works well and made 720 sandbags on the first day of the flooding that were distributed. *One person was rescued from their residence during the flooding emergency. A family was evacuated from CR A3 due to no access in or out of property. His department will continue to support the community.

Commissioner Max Trujillo asked if a public announcement could be made to residents about the FEMA flood claims.

Planning and Zoning Director Amanda Salas informed the Commission that she has been working with the public information officer for the City of Las Vegas over the past couple of weeks to get FEMA to put out a statement on the flooding claims. *Regarding the sandbag distribution, the average amount produced daily is about 2,500 over the last two weeks which is 202,000 sandbags total.

DWI Program Director Vidal Crespín informed the Commission that during Summer Conference while some staff attended, compliance staff worked in the office overseeing clients. There are 233 active clients. 6 Clients are on bench warrant status, 1 incarcerated, 18 are attending treatment court and 17 are non-compliant. *Compliance staff completed their 10 percent income match for the fiscal year. Compliance fees completed in the fourth quarter can be rolled over to the next fiscal year and claimed as income. *Prevention staff is doing summer activities at the Recreation Center. Flooding halted those activities but will soon continue. *Safe Ride van operated for the Summer Conference and assisted 65 passengers. *Finishing the fourth quarter reports for DFA as well as bylaws and operating procedures.

Warden Anthony Padilla informed the Commission on the Detention Center June monthly report. *Summer Conference Golf Tournament was successful where 50 participants received prizes. *5-7 illicit contraband was confiscated during the booking process at the facility.

*Average population was 78. *Four fights occurred at the facility, most of the altercations are due to inmates struggling with mental health issues. *13 grievances filed; inmates complained about shaving products and commissary item lists. *Continuing with programs including library, church services twice a week, Catholic daughters perform rosary services once a week, and AA program is ongoing. *Bookings are as follows: Sheriffs 41, LVPD 28 and NM State Police 28. *Working on criteria for the oversight committee. *RFP for inmate telephone services and inmate food and commissary services.

Sheriff Christopher Lopez thanked Warden and his staff on his preparation during the emergency flooding.

Public Works Director Benito Romero informed the Commission on advertisement for emergency road work measures for the blade, shape, haul and place protective measures and snow removal with opening bids on July 12th. *Sulzer Group will advertise for the debris removal, debris monitoring program and engineering services. FEMA approved debris removal funds due to amount of debris. *Site inspections have halted in the past three weeks due to amount of water. *Flood damage assessments for county roads have not been completed yet. *Signs for Road Sign Project have been purchased. *Bins for the Bin Project have been delivered. Next step is scheduling installation for the new compactors. *Emergency repairs on CR A3, A3A for erosion control where they filled bar ditches, widened roads to make them passable. *CR A4A: blade and shaped and removed some debris in piles within the road. *CR A1 in La Tewa: repaired both water crossings. *CR A18: fixed lower water crossing but has received substantial damage since. Culverts were opened but silted. The silt must be removed and hopefully the water will recede. *El Llano Road: conducted a temporary culvert installation of approximately 200 ft. of 24 inch culvert, 200 ft. of 20 inch culvert and 30 ft. of 30 inch culvert on some driveways to prevent flooding. *With the help of National Guard on CR A19 and A20, removed silt. *On CR C24: lost low water crossing. One of the contractors assisted with repairs. *Williams Drive: debris removal. *County Acres: re-blade and shape as most base course was lost. *Los Vigiles: debris removal and removing debris off the Water Treatment Center. *FEMA funding approved for \$4.4M for equipment project.

Commissioner Max Trujillo stated residents on Williams Drive are in need of help due to the flooding.

PW Director Benito Romero stated that area needs to be re-engineered. The pipe that carries water is a 48 inch culvert underground and is about 300 ft. in length. The culvert that accepts the water before the drop off is about an 18 inch culvert. Three driveways that have culverts are plugged. SMC can repair those culverts and that could divert some water.

Vice Chairman Martin Sena asked about the Chapelle area.

PW Director Romero stated that SMC has not been there due to the weather. A contractor attempted to dry chip so that they could begin to asphalt the area again but a substantial amount of chips were lost due to weather. Once the weather clears, they can begin work in Chapelle area, and chip seal in Sheridan.

*For Informational Purposes Only

c. RECOGNITION OF PUBLIC WORKS EMPLOYEES FOR OBTAINING CDL

Public Works Director Benito Romero introduced Manuel Olivas, Paul Sandoval and Leonard Marquez and recognized them for earning their Commercial Driver's License. Paul Sandoval and Leonard Marquez were not present due to covering Solid Waste Department. Mr. Romero stated that there will be another employee testing today to obtain their CDL.

*For Information Purposes Only

d. RECOGNITION OF CONFERENCE COMMITTEE FOR THE SUCCESS OF NM COUNTIES ANNUAL CONFERENCE

Deputy Manager Jesus Romero gave a brief thanks again to the committee for the success of Summer Conference. He had recognized them both at the Summer Conference and in his Deputy Manager Report. He also thanked the sponsors for the event including the Sulzer Group.

Vice Chairman Martin Sena also thanked Chairman Harold Garcia for the Rodeo that took place during the Conference.

Commissioner Max Trujillo thanked Warden Antonio Padilla for his work on the Golf Tournament.

*For Information Purposes Only

e. RECOGNITION OF SAN MIGUEL COUNTY SAFETY OFFICER FOR NM COUNTIES SAFETY AWARD

Deputy Manager Jesus Romero presented the 2024 RAP Award for San Miguel County to Mr. Richard Rivera for successfully completing 10 years of New Mexico County Risk Awareness Program and reducing workers compensation claims by 58 percent and multi-line claims by 12 percent. Mr. Rivera was absent this meeting.

*For information purposes only.

f. RESOLUTION NO. 07-08-2024-HR INSURANCE PREMIUMS – AFFORDABLE CARE ACT

HR Director Eileen Sedillo requested the Commission approve Resolution No. 07-08-2024-HR Insurance Premiums. On June 21st, State of NM informed SMC that insurance premiums are increasing by 10 percent. Ms. Sedillo met with County Manager Joy Ansley and Finance Director Katherine Sanchez to budget for this. Every time SMC gets an increase in insurance premiums, SMC is required to meet mandate for employer shared responsibility for the Affordable Health Care Act. SMC will move from having three tiers to one tier. One tier would be the 25/75 percent where employees pay the 25 percent and SMC pay 75 percent.

Chairman Harold Garcia asked about the impact on the budget due to the budget being submitted.

Ms. Sedillo had met with Finance Director Katherine Sanchez in March 2024 to discuss the approximate increase before the draft or final budget was submitted. There is an increase of about \$47K to the budget, and is finalized into the budget, said Finance Director Sanchez.

County Manager Joy Ansley elaborated on the resolution and stated due to the recent employee pay increases, it was easier to consolidate into a one tier only plan.

Motion to approve Resolution No. 07-08-2024-HR Insurance Premiums – Affordable Care Act made by Commissioner Max Trujillo. Second by Commissioner Bernadette Baca. Motion carried.

g. LGRF PARTICIPATION RESOLUTIONS

Public Works Director Benito Romero presented the Commission with the following LGRF Participation Resolutions:

Resolution SMC-07-8-2024-COOP-L400666 for CR B28A & B28B

Resolution SMC-07-8-2024-SB-L400673 for CR B41E

Resolution SMC-7-8-2024-CAP-L400680 for CR Vista de Vegas

Motion to approve all three LGRF Participation Resolutions made by Commissioner Max Trujillo. Second by Vice Chairman Martin Sena. Motion carried.

h. MATCH WAIVER RESOLUTIONS

Public Works Director Benito Romero presented the Commission with the following Match Waiver Resolutions:

SMC-07-8-2024-CAP-L400680 for CR Vista de Vegas

SMC-07-8-2024-COOP-L400666 for CR B28A & B28B

SMC-07-8-2024-SB-L400673 for CR B41E

Motion to approve all three Match Waiver Resolutions by Vice Chairman Martin Sena. Second by Chairman Harold Garcia. Motion carried.

i. OUT OF STATE TRAVEL & SGT. PRESENTATION

Warden Antonio Padilla introduced Mr. Dominic Pacheco and presented him with a Certificate for Appreciation for Promotion to Sergeant. He has been with the Detention Center for six months. Previously he had worked in Corrections for six years. Chairman Harold Garcia read the Oath of Office.

*For Information Purposes Only

Warden Antonio Padilla requested to attend the 154th Annual Congress of Corrections Conference in Nashville, Tennessee to learn about the Ignite Program on August 15th through 18th. RFP will be submitted for tablets for inmates for the Ignite Program. The tablets will allow inmates to earn certificates through online programs.

Motion to approve request for out of state travel made by Vice Chairman Martin Sena. Second by Commissioner Bernadette Baca. Motion carried.

j. UPDATE ON ALTA VISTA REGIONAL HOSPITAL

CEO of Alta Vista Regional Hospital Robert Nelson did not present.

k. PROCLAMATION DECLARING SEPTEMBER AS UPPER PECOS WATERSHED AWARENESS MONTH

Commissioner Max Trujillo requested to declare September as Upper Pecos Watershed Awareness Month.

Motion to approve the Proclamation Declaring September as Upper Pecos Watershed Awareness Month made by Commissioner Max Trujillo. Second by Bernadette Baca. Motion carried.

ROLL CALL:

AYEs: H Garcia M Sena B Baca M Trujillo **absent:** K Medina

Motion Passes: Unanimously

9. BOARD OF FINANCE MEETING

a. CHECK REPORT JUNE 2024

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

Motion to approve the check report for June 2024 made by Vice Chairman Martin Sena. Second by Commissioner Max Trujillo. Motion carried.

b. UPDATE ON FY22, 23 AND 24 AUDIT

SMC Finance Director Katherine Sanchez stated that FY22 had one finding. She is in contact with auditor to discuss that item and complete FY22. Auditors were on-site June 18th and June 20th to begin FY23 and FY24.

*For Information Purposes Only

c. Q4 DFA REPORT

SMC Finance Director Katherine Sanchez updated Commission on status of Q4 DFA Report. Finance is making adjustments. The deadline is July 31, 2024.

*For informational purposes only.

d. FINAL FY25 BUDGET

SMC Finance Director Katherine Sanchez updated the Commission on the status of the final budget. Ms. Sanchez will request a special meeting to approve the final budget. The deadline is also July 31, 2024.

Chairman Harold Garcia inquired about final budget; specifically the notes and comments that Commission had at the last budget meeting.

Ms. Sanchez stated those will be addressed in the special meeting.

*For Information Purposes only

Motion to adjourn the regular session of the RM-07-08-2024 and enter Executive Session made by Commissioner Bernadette Baca. Second by Commissioner Max Trujillo. Motion carried.

Executive Session was entered into at 2:10 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.

No action taken in Executive Session.

Motion to adjourn Executive Session and resume Regular Session made by Commissioner Bernadette Baca. Second by Vice Chairman Martin Sena.

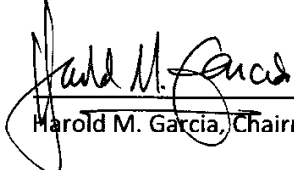
Regular Session resumes at 3:30 PM.

10. ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn the Regular Session of RM-07-08-2024 made by Commissioner Max Trujillo. Second by Commissioner Bernadette Baca. Motion carried.

Adjournment at 3:30 PM.

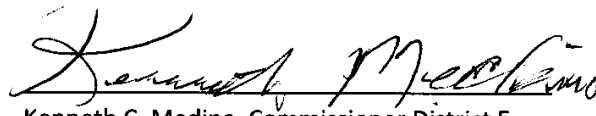
Approved the 13th of August 2024 as the Official Minutes of the Board of County Commissioners of San Miguel County New Mexico of its Regular Meeting held the 8th of July 2024 at 1:00 PM in Suite 201 of the San Miguel County Administration Complex, 500 W. National Ave.

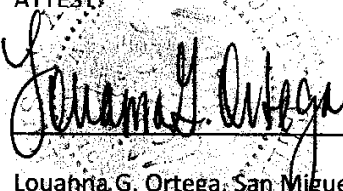

Harold M. Garcia, Chairman - District 1


Approved telephonically
Martin Sena, Vice-Chairman - District 4


Bernadette Baca, Commissioner - District 2

Absent
Max Trujillo, Commissioner - District 3


Kenneth C. Medina, Commissioner District 5

ATTEST

Louahna G. Ortega, San Miguel County Clerk


Minutes submitted by Elena I. Chavez

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