



**FEBRUARY 15, 2018**

The Board of Chaves County Commissioners held their Regular Commission meeting in the Commission Chamber of the Joe Skeen Building, #1 St. Mary's Place in Roswell, New Mexico. Chairman Corn called the meeting to order at 9:00a.m. Commissioner Bilberry led the pledge and Commissioner Duffey led in prayer. Those present were Commissioners Bilberry, Duffey, Cavin and Corn. Commissioner Ezzell was present by phone. Also present were County Manager Stan Riggs, Public Services Director Bill Williams, Sheriff Britt Snyder, Treasurer Charlotte Andrade, Finance Director Joe Sedillo, County Clerk Dave Kunko, news media, staff and guests.

#### **MINUTES**

Commissioner Duffey moved to approve the Minutes from January 23, 2018. Commissioner Bilberry seconded the motion. A voice vote was unanimous and the motion carried.

#### **PRESENTATIONS**

Goddard High Senior Emily Doss presented James Duffey and the Commissioners a picture of her and 2 Commissioners with the lamb they purchased. She stated she learned about raising and showing lambs from Commissioner Duffey and thanked him for all his help over the years. She hopes to get her major at NMSU in Range Management and a minor in Wildlife Management.

#### **AUDIT PRESENTATION**

Scott Eliason from Jaramillo Accounting Group gave an overview of the audit. He stated there were no significant findings. He stated it was a very good audit and the Finance Department does a great job of keeping things in order. He went over the financial statements. He also mentioned the required reporting of the non-cash pension expense for the PERA Pension Plan as well as the Retiree Health Care reporting.

#### **AGREEMENTS AND RESOLUTIONS**

##### **AGREEMENT A-18-002 APPLICATION WITH NMDOT FOR CDWI FUNDS**

Lucia Serrano stated the DWI Task Force is requesting \$15,553.00 for the Chaves County DWI Program. The Chaves County Sheriff stated \$5,900.00 would be for an in-car Video Camera for the DWI Officers. \$6,000.00 is for State Police overtime and \$3,653.00 is for DWI Media Awareness. Commissioner Ezzell moved to approve Agreement A-18-002. Commissioner Cavin seconded the motion. Chairman Corn questioned the \$6,000 for the State Police and felt a better use of the funds might be the Compliance Program. Sheriff Snyder stated the Task Force has always given \$6,000 to the State Police. Commissioner Duffey stated we rely on volunteers from this committee and he recommended that we move forward with their request and revisit this for next year. Chairman Corn felt there were better ways to spend the money. Commissioner Cavin stated the money may not be there next year. A voice vote was 4 to 1 and the motion carried. Chairman Corn voted against the motion.

##### **RESOLUTION R-18-005 PREPAYMENT OF PROPERTY TAXES OPTION**

Charlotte Andrade explained that Resolution R-18-005 would provide property owners with the option of making prepayment of property taxes in 10 monthly payments beginning on June 1<sup>st</sup> of the year in which the tax bill is prepared and ending March 1 of the following year. There are other counties that have implemented this procedure. She mentioned that the technology is already in place to accomplish this task and there will be no additional cost to the County. Patsy Davidson a taxpayer in Chaves County stated she had asked the Treasurer about this option and stated it would really help her to be able to pay monthly rather than in a lump sum. She asked that the Commission consider this option. Commissioner Duffey asked what percentage of voters use this option in the counties that offer it. Charlotte Andrade was not sure of the percentage. Ms. Andrade stated they would target senior centers. Joe Sedillo stated he did not see any issues in offering this option. Ron Lethgo and Mark Willard were very positive about this effort. Ms. Andrade stated in order to use this option the taxpayers bill would have to be a minimum of \$100.00. Commissioner Ezzell stated he would like to see

the \$100.00 minimum bill stated in the resolution. Ron Lethgo stated this was a good idea and he saw no negative issues and there is no contract. Commissioner Duffey would like to see prepayments mentioned rather than 10 monthly payments. Commissioner Duffey moved to table this resolution. Commissioner Ezzell seconded the motion. Chairman Corn stated the voice vote was one in favor and one against so the motion failed. Chairman Corn asked how there could be no cost because they should at least receive a receipt. Ms. Andrade stated a receipt is printed if requested by the tax payer. Chairman Corn also asked the percentage of tax payers that use this option in other counties. Ms. Andrade was not sure. Chairman Corn asked how many people have requested this option. Ms. Andrade stated at least 10%. Commissioner Duffey moved to table Resolution R-18-005. Commissioner Bilberry seconded the motion. A voice vote was unanimous and the motion carried.

## **OTHER BUSINESS**

### **2018 COMMISSION COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS**

Mr. Riggs stated the only change in Committee Appointments that he was aware of was that Commissioner Duffey would move from the Finance Committee to the Road Committee and Commissioner Ezzell would move from the Road Committee to the Finance Committee. Chairman Corn asked if there were any other requests. Commissioner Duffey moved to approve the Committee Assignments as stated. Commissioner Bilberry seconded the motion. A voice vote was unanimous and the motion carried.

### **2018 CHAVES COUNTY ROAD HEARING APPLICATIONS AND APPOINTMENT OF FREEHOLDERS**

Bill Williams stated they had received 15 road vacation applications and 9 of those came from the Chaves County Road Department. Mr. Williams also stated this resolution is for appointing freeholders and they are Steven Chaves, Travis Johnson, Alan Theobald and Jim Gill as the alternate. Commissioner Bilberry moved to accept the applications and appoint the freeholders. Commissioner Cavin seconded the motion. A voice vote was unanimous and the motion carried.

### **FY 19 LOCAL DWI GRANT AND DISTRIBUTION APPLICATION**

Lucia Serrano stated the Chaves County DWI Program is applying for funding under the FY 2019 Local DWI Grant/Distribution Funds. The estimated distribution for FY 2019 is \$322,987.00. The Chaves County DWI Program is requesting \$72,500 under the competitive grant. She stated this is approximately \$52,000 less than last year and they are looking at additional funding sources. Commissioner Cavin moved to approve the FY 2019 Local DWI Grant and Distribution Application. Commissioner Duffey seconded the motion. A voice vote was unanimous and the motion carried.

### **APPROVAL OF CHECKS**

Commissioner Duffey moved to approve checks in the amount of \$2,034,269.79. Commissioner Bilberry seconded the motion. A voice vote was unanimous and the motion carried.

### **APPROVAL OF REPORTS**

Commissioner Duffey moved to approve the reports for the period. Commissioner Cavin seconded the motion. A voice vote was unanimous and the motion carried.

### **UNSCHEDULED COMMUNICATIONS**

Larry Connolly stated he was one of the taxpayers that asked if he could make monthly payments. Monthly payments would be a good option for the elderly. Monday night at the City of Roswell there was discussion about the zoo. Rita Kane-Doerhoefer gave an excellent presentation.

Rita Kane-Doerhoefer stated the only 2 entities that asked for DWI Funds were the Sheriff and the State Police. The zoo project has a great layout. She downloaded the presentation and will make sure the County gets a copy. Maybe the County could get a representative on the committee and help with grant writing.

Charlotte Andrade stated her office is looking at a new credit card company that can offer more options to taxpayers. When taxes are being collected there can be long lines and it is a long walk for some people to come all the way into the building. She is looking at a secured drop box that would allow taxpayers to leave their payment without getting out of their car.

Ron Lethgo pointed out that the Statute does state the tax bill is at least \$100 but it is in 38.2 and not 38.3.

Richard Joy stated he has seen that Picacho Road is up for vacation and he stated if this is closed he and some neighbors would be landlocked and he is opposed to this closure. Chairman Corn stated the freeholders will go out first and it will be published when they will meet and they should be addressed first. Then dependent upon their findings, the Commissioners view the roads after a public hearing is held. There will be at least 3 opportunities to be heard.

Glen Waller stated if Picacho Road is vacated he would be landlocked.

Steve Ellison stated he bought a couple ranches in that area and he is only requesting to close the portion that goes up to his house and it isn't part of Picacho Road.

#### **MANAGER'S COMMUNICATIONS**

Mr. Riggs stated they have been working on the Off-Road Vehicle Ordinance and we should have a public hearing in April. Currently the Capital Outlay is looking good and he thanked Georgianna Hunt, Joe Sedillo, Bill Williams and Joe West. In addition to the elevator at the courthouse there are funds for Hobson Road and vans for the veterans group. The local legislators did a good job. We will begin the budget process very soon.

#### **COMMISSIONER'S COMMUNICATIONS**

Commissioner Ezzell stated the Airport Bill was amended and the House concurred.

Commissioner Bilberry thanked James Duffey for all he has done for the local youth. He thanked Joe West and the Road Department and Finance on the audit report.

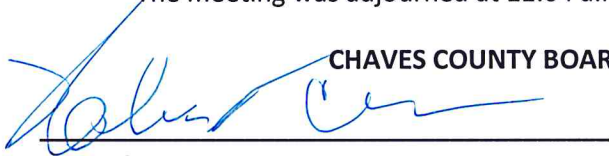
Commissioner Duffey thanked Commissioner Bilberry for the nice comments. He stated volunteers will change this country. It takes all of us. He said he appreciates County Employees coming up with new ideas.

Commissioner Cavin stated the Airport Authority is great for our economic future. There will be a lot of work going forward. He mentioned the upcoming trip to D.C. These are tough times for military and first responders. We must provide protection for our kids. He thanked the County and stated God bless America.

Chairman Corn stated he was on an interesting conference call yesterday about some reorganization referencing the land management in the West. He is not sure if it includes the Department of the Interior and Forest Service, but he intends to find out. He stated he has a final copy of HB197 for the Airport Authority and he would like to draft a letter to the Governor and have everyone sign it encouraging her to sign this legislation. Mr. Riggs felt like they could get the letter ready by early next week. This is a great opportunity for the whole region. There is a lot of work to be done to get this started. He thanked the employees of the County. He stated the Road Hearings were a step by step process.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:04 a.m.

CHAVES COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS



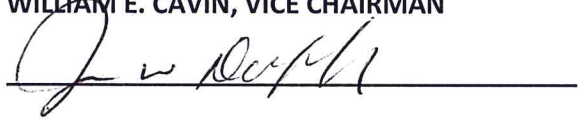
ROBERT CORN, CHAIRMAN



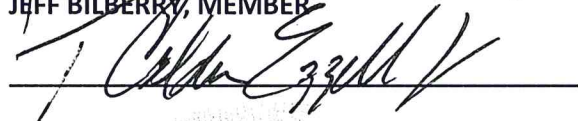
WILLIAM E. CAVIN, VICE CHAIRMAN



JEFF BILBERRY, MEMBER



JAMES DUFFEY, MEMBER



T. CALDER EZZELL JR., MEMBER

ATTEST: 

DAVE KUNKO, COUNTY CLERK

