



MAY 21, 2020

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 Cavin called the meeting to order at 9:00a.m. Commissioner Dana led the pledge and Commissioner Bilberry led in prayer. Those present were Commissioners Bilberry, Dana, Ezzell, Corn and Cavin. Also present were County Manager Stan Riggs, Public Services Director Bill Williams, Sheriff Mike Herrington, Finance Director Joe Sedillo, County Clerk Dave Kunko, news media, staff and guests.

MINUTES

Commissioner Corn moved to adopt the Minutes from April 23, 2020. Commissioner Ezzell seconded the motion. A voice vote was unanimous, and the motion carried.

AGREEMENTS AND RESOLUTIONS

AMENDMENT #2 TO AGREEMENT A-19-042 WITH ROSWELL/CHAVES COUNTY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

Mike Espiritu from the Economic Development Corporation (EDC) stated Chaves, Eddy and Lea Counties all have housing challenges they are facing. The EDC has been working with developers looking for solutions. This agreement would provide gap financing and provide seed money that will always be there. Commissioner Ezzell stated he did not like this idea at first. Now he is 100% on board because the money will be paid back to the EDC and reinvested. Mr. Espiritu stated these are the kinds of things the EDC should be involved in. This additional \$25,000 is for the Chaves County Economic Development Incentive for Housing. Commissioner Ezzell moved to approve Amendment #2 to Agreement A-19-042. Commissioner Bilberry seconded the motion. A voice vote was unanimous, and the motion carried.

RATIFICATION OF AGREEMENT A-20-006 WITH NMDOT – TRAFFIC SAFETY DIVISION

Lucia Serrano explained that Chaves County was awarded \$11,135 in CDWI funds under the NMDOT – Traffic Safety Division. The DWI Planning Council/Task Force recommends the funds be used for the Chaves County Court Compliance Program. Commissioner Corn moved to ratify Agreement A-20-006. Commissioner Dana seconded the motion. A voice vote was unanimous, and the motion carried.

RESOLUTION R-20-016 DELETION OF PROPERTY AND PROPOSED DISPOSITION

Lucia Serrano explained that the South East New Mexico Veterans Transportation Services would like to donate a 2009 Dodge Grand Caravan and a 2008 Hyundai Van to the North Central NM Veterans Transportation Network. Commissioner Bilberry moved to approve Resolution R-20-016. Commissioner Dana seconded the motion. A voice vote was unanimous, and the motion carried.

RESOLUTION R-20-017 APPROVAL OF INTERIM BUDGET FOR FY 2020/2021

Joe Sedillo explained current trends and indicators that are used to help in forecasting budgets. The latest check from the State shows a 9.94% increase in GRT. We have no idea what will happen in the next few months and we need to brace ourselves. He is estimating the next payment could be an 11 to 12% decrease. The interim budget includes some minor adjustments one of which is due to the minimum wage increase. Staff is recommending approval. Commissioner Ezzell stated the GRT can be very frustrating. There is no justification for the latest amount received. It seems as though the rate is totally at the whim of DFA and Tax and Revenue. It is difficult to get an accurate picture. Next month will be very ugly. Commissioner Corn moved to adopt Resolution R-20-017. Commissioner Ezzell seconded the motion. A voice vote was unanimous, and the motion carried.

ITB'S AND RFP'S

ITB-20-1 HOBSON ROAD IMPROVEMENT PHASE 2, POND IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT

Sandra Rodriguez stated the County received 2 bids for ITB-20-1, the Hobson Road Improvements Phase 2, Pond Improvements Project. Staff finds the low bidder responsive to specifications and recommends award to J & H Services, Inc. of Albuquerque. Staff also requests the Board authorize the Chairman to execute the Agreement A-20-007 in order to streamline the process and prevent funding for this project from reverting back to the State. Commissioner Bilberry moved to approve award to J & H Services and to authorize the Chairman to execute Agreement A-20-007. Commissioner Ezzell seconded the motion. A voice vote was unanimous, and the motion carried.

APPROVAL OF CHECKS

Commissioner Dana moved to approve checks in the amount of \$1,478,697.36. Commissioner Corn seconded the motion. A voice vote was unanimous, and the motion carried.

APPROVAL OF REPORTS

Commissioner Corn moved to adopt the reports for the period. Commissioner Dana seconded the motion. A voice vote was unanimous, and the motion carried.

UNSCHEDULED COMMUNICATIONS

Bill Williams thanked Rita Kane-Doerhoefer and Keep Chaves County Beautiful for their work at the Administrative Center and Midway. He is excited the Hobson Road project will proceed with Phase 2 which will connect the pond built by Flood Control. Any funds remaining after completion of the pond will be used for an overlay on the road.

County Clerk Dave Kunko updated the Commission with the latest numbers for early vote and absentee. There was discussion about the canvas, voter turnout and postage.

MANAGER'S COMMUNICATION

Stan Riggs stated there will be a Special Meeting to canvass the Primary Election on June 9th at 2:00p.m. The Regular Commissioner Meeting will be on June 18th at 9:00a.m. right after the IHC Meeting at 8:30a.m. Mr. Riggs thanked the Budget Committee and Finance Department. He stated this budget takes care of business. He thanked prior Commissions for always having tight budgets. This Commission has always been good stewards of tax payer dollars. He is very proud of this County and this budget. The regular June Meeting will include the Road Hearings. We will be closed on Memorial Day.

COMMISSIONERS' COMMUNICATIONS

Commissioner Corn mentioned a conference call with Washington D.C. and other Counties. He mentioned proposed legislation for federal bailout funds. The Hero's Act bases funds on population while the Smart Act bases the funds 1/3 on population, 1/3 severity of need, and the last 1/3 on the economy. The SRS/PILT funds are in the usual wait and see mode. These should be standalone items, instead of being attached to another bill. He stated the Endangered Species Resolution continues to be in the NACO packet. He mentioned a national NACO meeting to be held online.

Commissioner Dana thanked the Finance Department for the budget. It is really nice to be able to say we have decreased debt and still continue to provide the same amount of services. She mentioned the Governors latest news conference. GRT issues will make it tough for the rest of the year. We have a long road ahead of us. She stressed the importance of the 2020 Census and federal funding.

Commissioner Ezzell stated he was also very proud of the budget. This is accomplished with the great efforts by staff. This will continue to be a very challenging year. He thanked everyone for their hard work. He agreed with Joe Sedillo that we must show strategic patience.

Commissioner Bilberry thanked everyone for their work on the budget. He thanked Commissioner Corn for his update from the conference call. Congress really needs to look at SRS/PILT. He thanked Mike Espiritu and the EDC.

Chairman Cavin mentioned Covid-19 being a tip of the iceberg. It is magnifying health and social issues. Depression and domestic violence have intensified. You must take care of yourself. We will get through this situation. He mentioned Congress, specifically the House of Representatives adding items to bills. This really needs to stop. He is thankful the Senate balances out the madness. He thanked the Finance Department and the County for such excellent work. He stated this County takes care of business. He thanked the Sheriff and his department. He stated we saved \$196,000 on workers comp. It will be a busy June. He thanked Stan Riggs. We need to grind out the last 6 months of this year. He closed with God Bless America and Chaves County.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:16 a.m.



BOARD OF CHAVES COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

William E. Cavin

William E. Cavin, Chairman

Jeff Bilberry

Jeff Bilberry, Vice-Chairman

Dara Dana

Dara Dana, Member

T. Calder Ezzell Jr.

T. Calder Ezzell Jr, Member

Robert Corn

Robert Corn, Member

Dave Kunko

Dave Kunko
County Clerk