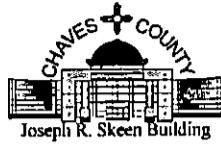




**CHAVES COUNTY
BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS**

William E. Cavin, Chairman
Jeff Bilberry, Vice Chairman



Dara Dana, Member
T. Calder Ezzell Jr, Member
Richard C Taylor, Member

William B. Williams, County Manager

ADMINISTRATIVE MEETING MINUTES

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 21, 2021

#1 ST. MARY'S PLACE, ROSWELL, NM 88203

Chairman Cavin called the meeting to order at 9:00 am. Commissioner Ezzell led the pledge and Commissioner Bilberry led in prayer. Those present were Commissioners Cavin, Bilberry, Ezzell, Dana, and Taylor. Also present were County Manager, Bill Williams, Public Services Director, Mac Rogers, Finance Director, Anabel Barraza, County Clerk, Cindy Fuller, Planning and Zoning Director, Louis Jaramillo, Sheriff, Mike Herrington, Road Supervisor, Joe West, County Treasurer, Charlotte Andrade, IT Director, Alfredo Garcia, Facility Maintenance Director, Scott Massey, media, staff, and guests.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOTION MADE TO: APPROVE THE MINUTES FROM THE SEPTEMBER 16, 2021 REGULAR ADMINISTRATIVE MEETING

MOTION MADE BY: COMMISSIONER DANA

SECOND MADE BY: COMMISSIONER EZZELL

IN FAVOR: COMMISSIONERS CAVIN, BILBERRY, EZZELL, DANA, AND TAYLOR.

OPPOSED: NONE

UPDATE ON THE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

Presenter: Mike Espiritu, President

Mr. Espiritu stated they have a couple of projects they are working on with the State and the County. They are working through the steps to find funding for infrastructure for companies. The Ascent Aviation project is moving forward. There is another aviation company that is looking at Roswell/Chaves County. They have been here for a second site visit and brought in a potential partner from Dublin who came in to see the area. The company is based out of Ft. Lauderdale. The EDC will be holding an employee workshop tonight. Across the country employers are struggling to find staffing. He was recently at the International Economic Conference and the main subject was how to find ways to generate a workforce. They are working with the Superintendents at the Valley schools for a pathway to certification programs for students. They are working towards a partnership with a program called NCCR, they do construction trades as well as other agricultural trades. These certifications would be good across the Country, but we want our youth to stay in Chaves County.

Last Thursday night the City agreed to purchase a building from Rubb. They already have two or three tenants that want to use this facility. It's all about speed of market. If we wait to build something when a company gets here, we're already late, and if the City can continue this trend to increase the inventory of the Air Center, he is hopeful this will continue to be attractive to bring Companies to Chaves County. Mr. Espiritu was asked to sit on the Eastern Area Workforce Development Board. He is hopeful he can help move the needle forward to create opportunities for the people in our County through the programs they have. The plans to redistrict the workforce boards is on hold. There is funding available that he is hoping to be able to tap into to help our educational communities.

Commissioner Cavin thanked Mike and stated that vaccine mandates are affecting our workforce. People are sitting at home collecting money with no mandate to get vaccinated. This is damaging across our Country. We have nurses and doctors that are leaving their jobs, our military is being forced, but a large part of the population not getting vaccinated are the ones sitting at home playing video games that could be a viable part of our workforce. They are not being mandated. He is not anti-vaccine, but it should be a choice. The government can't keep sending out checks to people who are capable of working. He appreciates all the hard work Mr. Espiritu is doing and stated our businesses are suffering from this and until we gain some common sense this isn't going to get any better. Mr. Espiritu stated they've held two job fairs and will hold another one in November. People are not coming out. The workshop tonight is about giving more tools to employers as they look to hire people as well as access to funding they may not know exists. It will be held at the Convention Center from 5:00 to 7:00 tonight. They have forty employers signed up to be there. There will be a job fair on November 4th focused on those who have recently applied to receive funds and as a condition of receiving those funds they must come to the job fair. It's a travesty when an employer offers employment, and the people don't show up. There is a lot of this going on as well. They will continue to find creative ways to get the ball moving forward.

UPDATE ON THE ROSWELL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

Presenter: Andrea Moore, Chairwoman

Ms. Moore stated their fall issue of Roswell Now is at the printers and should be hitting doorsteps pretty quickly and then they have a really quick turnaround for their holiday issue which has been transformed into a program for the Christmas Railway. Jacob Roebuck asked them if they would partner with him for the design and distribution for his program for the Railway. This program will reach approximately ten to fifteen thousand additional people that are outside the boundaries of Chaves County. They are looking to get this out before Thanksgiving. They have hired a new gal in the office, her name is Madeline Jones, and she recently graduated from Brigham Young. She has a degree in copyright, editing, and magazine. She helped develop and execute two different magazines while she was in college. She has been at the office everyday for about the last three weeks. Ms. Moore stated she has already seen the differences this is going to make going forward. They completed their mural on the east side of their building thanks to Eddie Macias. Eddie only asked them to pay for the paint. She is pleased to report that they are starting to see a lot of people come and take pictures and then come into the office and ask about things to do around Chaves County.

The Chamber is partnering with Life N Sports, JT used to be over at the Roswell Daily Record and has started his own weekly publication about local sports in Chaves County. The Chamber is sponsoring the Athlete of the Week. This week will be the fourth addition of his paper. They are helping him find locations to get the paper distributed. She is sad to report that as of last week we no longer have recycling in Chaves County. They are concerned about what is going to happen at the landfill and they are getting phone calls about where people can recycle. They are working on helping to fill this gap. Commission Cavin stated he received a letter he would like to hand off to Ms. Moore from a lady from Waco. He ran in to her around four months ago in a restaurant in Ruidoso. He overheard her conversation and gave her his commission card and asked her to contact him with any recommendations on how we can improve our tourism in the City of Roswell. She sent him a letter which is an apology for disparaging the City of Roswell. If she knew the opportunities, we have here she would appreciate it. Ms. Moore stated she would be happy to send her a packet of all the wonderful things they have going on. Commissioner Cavin thanked her for everything she is doing for the County and stated she is doing an amazing job.

UPDATE FROM OUR COUNTY TREASURER

Presenter: Charlotte Andrade, Chaves County Treasurer

Ms. Andrade stated the tax sale that was scheduled for November 18th has been cancelled. She spoke with the tax property division director and he stated they are still having issues with their system and until this is resolved all auctions will be cancelled and rescheduled for another date. Since they will have the delayed tax bill this year, they have been taking advantage of the time

this month to work with the Assessor's Office and go out and tag delinquent mobile homes. We have approximately 200 mobile homes that are delinquent. Some are running ten years behind. The ten-year amount falls off the tax roll by statute, so they are doing their best to bring these accounts current. She stated the County may have to schedule a mobile home auction. There has been hesitation to do this because they would basically be taking someone out of their home but when the tax process has been deliberately taken advantage of for over ten years it's time we do something. Lastly, they have around sixteen bankruptcy accounts they are processing. Charlotte and Sandra Stewart, Chaves County Assessor, agree that these accounts should be handled by the County Attorney. They had a phone conference with Stan on one particular account that is \$300,000.00. Chaves County is the only one in the State that the Treasurer's Office handles these bankruptcy cases and other Counties recommend we hand these over to the County Attorney. The \$300,000.00 account will have to be written off and is potentially funds that could have gone to school districts or the university. Commissioner Bilberry asked if the \$300,000.00 is on land or livestock. Ms. Andrade stated it involved two accounts, one was business personal property and the other was on livestock. Per Stan's recommendation, because the bankruptcy has already been closed, they have no recourse at this point and will have to do a tax roll correction.

Commissioner Taylor asked of the 200 mobile homes, how many are vacant lots and how many are occupied? Ms. Andrade stated they are going out and tagging the mobile homes along with staff from the Assessor's Office. They are making notes of the condition of the mobile homes but today she does not have a breakdown. Commissioner Ezzell asked if the \$300,000.00 debt was discharged in the bankruptcy. Ms. Andrade stated she went through all the filings and did find Chaves County to be on the list but throughout all the accounts she could not find where the County received proceeds from the bankruptcy. All the properties were sold and handled by Landmark Title. She looked in the bankruptcy court system records and she could not find anything that it was discharged or distributed. Commissioner Ezzell asked if the other fifteen bankruptcies are still open. Ms. Andrade stated that most of them have been closed but this is a continuing issue they have.

Commissioner Cavin stated they had a meeting with the City of Roswell about the property to the east of Nancy Lopez they have condemned. They also looked at the property to the south of Nancy Lopez off Atkinson. There is a company out of Colorado who owns the property. When this was brought up on the screen it showed they hadn't paid any of their property taxes since 2018. He asked Ms. Andrade to look into this because there are questionable activities going on there and this property is close to the elementary school. Ms. Andrade stated she did provide information on the lot previously discussed and she stated it's a process. They can't move forward if the owner can't be identified. She will follow up. Commissioner Cavin also asked the Sheriff to look at that property.

AGREEMENTS AND RESOLUTIONS

AGENDA ITEMS #1 THROUGH #6 WERE CONSIDERED TOGETHER:

AGENDA ITEM #1.

RATIFICATION AGREEMENT A-21-008 BETWEEN CHAVES COUNTY AND NEW MEXICO AGING AND LONG-TERM SERVICES FOR APPROPRIATION #A20E5212

AGENDA ITEM #2.

RATIFICATION AGREEMENT A-21-009 BETWEEN CHAVES COUNTY AND NEW MEXICO AGING AND LONG-TERM SERVICES FOR APPROPRIATION #A20E5214

AGENDA ITEM #3.

RATIFICATION AGREEMENT A-21-010 BETWEEN CHAVES COUNTY AND NEW MEXICO AGING AND LONG-TERM SERVICES FOR APPROPRIATION #A20E5211

AGENDA ITEM #4.

RATIFICATION AGREEMENT A-21-011 BETWEEN CHAVES COUNTY AND NEW MEXICO AGING AND LONG-TERM SERVICES FOR APPROPRIATION #A20E5210

AGENDA ITEM #5.

RATIFICATION AGREEMENT A-21-012 BETWEEN CHAVES COUNTY AND NEW MEXICO AGING AND LONG-TERM SERVICES FOR APPROPRIATION #A20E5213

AGENDA ITEM #6.

RATIFICATION AGREEMENT A-21-013 BETWEEN CHAVES COUNTY AND NEW MEXICO AGING AND LONG-TERM SERVICES FOR APPROPRIATION #A20E5209

Presenter: Georgianna Hunt, Community Development Division

Ms. Hunt stated staff is recommending ratification of approval for several agreements between Chaves County and New Mexico Aging and Long-Term Services on behalf of the Chaves County Joy Centers. There are three renovation projects involving the parking lots for the Roswell, Midway, and Lake Arthur Joy Centers. There is one for kitchen equipment for the Roswell Joy Center, and the other two are for vehicles. These agreements total \$701,395.00. There was no further discussion or questions from the Commission for Ms. Hunt.

MOTION MADE TO: APPROVE RATIFICATION OF AGREEMENTS
A-21-008, A-21-009, A-21-010, A-21-011, A-21-012, AND A-21-013
MOTION MADE BY: COMMISSIONER EZZELL
SECOND MADE BY: COMMISSIONER DANA
IN FAVOR: COMMISSIONERS CAVIN, BILBERRY, EZZELL, DANA, AND TAYLOR
OPPOSED: NONE

AGENDA ITEMS #7 THROUGH #9 WERE CONSIDERED TOGETHER

AGENDA ITEM #7.

RATIFICATION OF AGREEMENT A-21-023 BETWEEN CHAVES COUNTY AND THE NM DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION FOR APPROPRIATION #21-F2689 IN THE AMOUNT OF \$200,000.00

AGENDA ITEM #8.

RATIFICATION OF AGREEMENT A-21-024 BETWEEN CHAVES COUNTY AND THE NM DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION FOR APPROPRIATION #21-F2683 IN THE AMOUNT OF \$350,000.00

AGENDA ITEM #9.

RATIFICATION OF AGREEMENT A-21-025 BETWEEN CHAVES COUNTY AND NEW MEXICO DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION FOR APPROPRIATION #21-F2690 IN THE AMOUNT OF \$600,000.00

Presenter: Georgianna Hunt, Community Development Division

Ms. Hunt stated that agenda items #7, #8, and #9, are agreements between Chaves County and the NM Department of Finance and Administration. These are appropriations for \$200,000.00 for the walking trail, \$350,000.00 for the PVRCC improvement project in Area D, and \$600,000.00 for historic window replacement, totaling \$1,150,000.00. Staff is asking for ratification of approval for these agreements.

There was no further discussion or questions from the Commission for Ms. Hunt.

MOTION MADE TO: APPROVE RATIFICATION OF AGREEMENT A-21-023,
AGREEMENT A-21-024, AND AGREEMENT A-21-025
MOTION MADE BY: COMMISSIONER EZZELL
SECOND MADE BY: COMMISSIONER DANA
IN FAVOR: COMMISSIONERS CAVIN, BILBERRY, EZZELL, DANA, AND TAYLOR
OPPOSED: NONE

AGENDA ITEM #10

**A. APPROVAL TO LEASE (WITH OPTION TO BUY) FOR (1) 2021 770 MOTOR GRADER
B. APPROVAL OF AGREEMENT A-21-036 TO LEASE THE EQUIPMENT**

Presenter: Bill Williams, Chaves County Manager

Mr. Williams stated the Chaves County Road Department is requesting to lease a new 770G Motor Grader. Money was approved in the 21-22 fiscal budget. The contract will be with 4 Rivers Equipment Company. The total cost of a road grader is \$274,806.24 which translates to a monthly lease payment of \$3,508.35. There is a purchase option at the end of the lease for \$115,971.00. Staff recommends approval of the lease and Agreement A-21-036.

Questions and Discussion from the Commission:

Commissioner Ezzell asked how long the lease term would be. Mr. Williams stated five years. Commissioner Bilberry asked Mr. West if there will be another motor grader coming out of lease. Mr. West stated yes.

MOTION MADE TO: APPROVE THE LEASE OF A MOTOR GRADER AND AGREEMENT A-21-036
MOTION MADE BY: COMMISSIONER BILBERRY
SECOND MADE BY: COMMISSIONER TAYLOR
IN FAVOR: COMMISSIONERS CAVIN, BILBERRY, EZZELL, DANA, AND TAYLOR
OPPOSED: NONE

AGENDA ITEM #11

AGREEMENT A-21-045 – AMR AMBULANCE IHC PROVIDER

Presenter: Bill Williams, Chaves County Manager

Mr. Williams stated American Medical Response Ambulance is the new ambulance provider for Roswell and Chaves County. Chaves County has prepared this agreement to accept AMR as a provider for indigent health care so they can be reimbursed at the IHC rate. Staff recommends approval.

Questions and Discussion from the Commission:

Commissioner Ezzell wanted verification that there is a different contract for IHC compared to regular care. Mr. Williams stated yes, the City and County have a mutual contract where we hire the ambulance carrier. This is just to agree that they will accept the IHC amounts for any indigent persons who would use the ambulance.

MOTION MADE TO: APPROVE A-21-045
MOTION MADE BY: COMMISSIONER DANA
SECOND MADE BY: COMMISSIONER EZZELL
IN FAVOR: COMMISSIONERS CAVIN, BILBERRY, EZZELL, DANA, AND TAYLOR
OPPOSED: NONE

AGENDA ITEM #12

AGREEMENT A-21-046 – LEASE OF 1600 SE MAIN, SUITE E TO AMR AMBULANCE

Presenter: Bill Williams, Chaves County Manager

Mr. Williams stated American Medical Response Ambulance is the new ambulance provider for Roswell and Chaves County. AMR currently has the ability to quickly dispatch and cover the northern part of Roswell. They are requesting this lease so that they will be able to respond to Southern Roswell and into the Valley more efficiently. We agree that having an ambulance substation/office on the south side of McGaffey will greatly improve their ability to respond. Staff recommends approval. The lease amount will be \$1,325.00 monthly.

There was no further discussion or questions from the Commission for Mr. Williams.

MOTION MADE TO: APPROVE A-21-046
MOTION MADE BY: COMMISSIONER EZZELL
SECOND MADE BY: COMMISSIONER BILBERRY
IN FAVOR: COMMISSIONERS CAVIN, BILBERRY, EZZELL, DANA, AND TAYLOR
OPPOSED: NONE

AGENDA ITEM #13

AGREEMENT A-21-047 – TRANS AERO MEDEVAC IHC PROVIDER

Presenter: Bill Williams, Chaves County Manager

Mr. Williams stated that Trans Aero MedEvac is the new air ambulance provider for Roswell and Chaves County. Chaves County has prepared this agreement to accept Trans Aero MedEvac as a provider for Indigent Health Care so that they can be reimbursed at the IHC rate. Staff recommends approval.

There was no further discussion or questions from the Commission for Mr. Williams.

MOTION MADE TO: APPROVE A-21-047
MOTION MADE BY: COMMISSIONER BILBERRY
SECOND MADE BY: COMMISSIONER TAYLOR
IN FAVOR: COMMISSIONERS CAVIN, BILBERRY, EZZELL, DANA, AND TAYLOR
OPPOSED: NONE

AGENDA ITEM #14

RESOLUTION R-21-049 APPROVING CHANGE TO PERSONNEL CHART H

Presenter: Bill Williams, Chaves County Manager

Mr. Williams stated this resolution incorporates the change to chart H downgrading the Safety and Compliance Officer position. Chart H has been changed to reflect the reclassification. Along with this change staff is also requesting approval of the Human Resources position specifications. Staff recommends approval.

Questions and discussion from the Commission:

Commissioner Cavin asked Mr. Williams if he had put together the Human Resource specifications. Mr. Williams stated yes, they are attached and include very minor changes to the position description. By next week they intend to ask for applicants both in house and locally.

MOTION MADE TO: APPROVE R-21-049
MOTION MADE BY: COMMISSIONER DANA
SECOND MADE BY: COMMISSIONER TAYLOR
IN FAVOR: COMMISSIONERS CAVIN, BILBERRY, EZZELL, DANA, AND TAYLOR
OPPOSED: NONE

AGENDA ITEM #15

RESOLUTION R-21-050 – DELETION OF PROPERTY AND PROPOSED DISPOSTION

Presenter: Lucia Serrano, Assistant Finance Director

Ms. Serrano stated their approval of this resolution will allow staff to remove the attached inventory. Staff recommends approval. The old courthouse windows are on the auction website if you would like to purchase a part of history. Commissioner Cavin stated they will also come with a letter of authenticity.

There was no further discussion or questions from the Commission for Ms. Serrano.

MOTION MADE TO: APPROVE R-21-050
MOTION MADE BY: COMMISSIONER DANA
SECOND MADE BY: COMMISSIONER BILBERRY
IN FAVOR: COMMISSIONERS CAVIN, BILBERRY, EZZELL, DANA, AND TAYLOR
OPPOSED: NONE

AGENDA ITEM #16

RESOLUTION R-21-051 AND AGREEMENT A-21-048 BETWEEN CHAVES COUNTY AND NEW MEXICO DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION ACCEPTING TRANSPORTATION PROJECT FUNDS

Presenter: Mac Rogers, Public Services Director

Mr. Rogers stated the State Transportation Commission awarded Chaves County a grant from the Transportation Project Fund, (TPF), for the purposes of micro surfacing an existing roadway on

West McGaffey, West Country Club Road, and West Berrendo Road. The total estimated cost for the project is \$243,887.15; the New Mexico Department of Transportation has allocated \$231,692.79 in State TPF funds with a local match required of \$12,194.36. Staff recommends approval.

There was no further discussion or questions from the Commission for Mr. Rogers.

MOTION MADE TO: APPROVE R-21-051 AND AGREEMENT A-21-048
MOTION MADE BY: COMMISSIONER EZZELL
SECOND MADE BY: COMMISSIONER DANA
IN FAVOR: COMMISSIONERS CAVIN, BILBERRY, EZZELL, DANA, AND TAYLOR
OPPOSED: NONE

OTHER BUSINESS

AGENDA ITEM #17

PERMISSION TO PUBLISH FOR A PUBLIC HEARING REGARDING LEDA AND ORDINANCE O-109 AN ORDINANCE OF CHAVES COUNTY RELATING TO THE INTERGOVERNMENTAL AGREEMENT AND PROJECT PARTICIPATION AGREEMENT FOR ASCENT AVIATION

Presenter: Bill Williams, Chaves County Manager

Mr. Williams stated staff is requesting permission to publish for a public hearing regarding Ordinance O-109 to be held on Thursday, November 18, 2021 at 9:00 am in the Chaves County Commission Chambers during the regular commission meeting. This new ordinance relates to agreements between Chaves County and the New Mexico Local Economic Development Department pertaining to the Ascent Aviation project at the Roswell Air Center. Staff recommends approval. The actual ordinance will be written prior to the meeting so the public can look at it. It will be very similar to the one with USA Beef outlining the terms.

There was no further discussion or questions from the Commission for Mr. Williams.

MOTION MADE TO: GRANT PERMISSION FOR STAFF TO PUBLISH FOR A PUBLIC HEARING REGARDING LEDA AND ORDINANCE O-109
MOTION MADE BY: COMMISSIONER BILBERRY
SECOND MADE BY: COMMISSIONER EZZELL
IN FAVOR: COMMISSIONERS CAVIN, BILBERRY, EZZELL, DANA, AND TAYLOR
OPPOSED: NONE

APPROVAL OF CHECKS

MOTION MADE TO: APPROVE CHECKS IN THE AMOUNT OF \$2,199,318.54
MOTION MADE BY: COMMISSIONER TAYLOR
SECOND MADE BY: COMMISSIONER DANA
IN FAVOR: COMMISSIONERS CAVIN, BILBERRY, EZZELL, DANA, AND TAYLOR
OPPOSED: NONE

APPROVAL OF REPORTS

MOTION MADE TO: APPROVE REPORTS
MOTION MADE BY: COMMISSIONER DANA
SECOND MADE BY: COMMISSIONER BILBERRY
IN FAVOR: COMMISSIONERS CAVIN, BILBERRY, EZZELL, DANA, AND TAYLOR
OPPOSED: NONE

UNSCHEDULED COMMUNICATIONS LIMITED TO THREE MINUTES PER VISITOR, NOT TO EXCEED 15 MINUTES, NO FORMAL ACTION TAKEN BY THE COMMISSION

Rita Kane Doerhoefer – very narrow, unstriped Mark Road
Keep Chaves County Beautiful has been very busy in the last couple of weeks. Georgianna worked 5 ½ hours with her and Sandra worked two hours with her. The County has been given supplies, trash bags, pickers, rubber bands, and gloves, to use. They have two new partners with Keep

Chaves County Beautiful. They are partnering with the Fair Board and the Joy Center. They donated three trees to the Joy Center last year. She mentioned that at the last Commission meeting they moved the Health Department before the very scary bridge on Brasher Road and asked if they have driven that at 6:15 in the morning with a truck and a trailer? She stated she can't say enough about the Road Department and they love her bread. She doesn't know what we are going to do about recycling yet. It's very difficult to recycle when we aren't recycling here. Character Counts has a trash pick up on Saturday, they did the Chili Cheese and the Walk For Hope. They are delivering trash bags and trash cans. She met with the Facility Maintenance Manager twice this week and are working on beautifying the Courthouse. The only team that the Cubs beat were the Dodgers this year. They are not going to the Keep America Beautiful Conference this year. The Executive Director has some medical issues and when she called them they will not help the Treasurer of KCCB with her disabilities. This is the first meeting they have not been at in a very long time. She talked with a player from the basketball team in Dexter and they are going to do a cleanup there. They are not doing the mural but will use this money to see if they can get cameras.

Larry Connolly, 2815 Encanto
He's totally speechless after Rita.

Sheriff Herrington, #1 St. Mary's Place

The Sheriff thanked the NM Mounted Patrol and the Dexter Fire Department for helping at the Fair for free. These agencies put in hours of time and were there when the gates opened to when they closed every single day. Mounted Patrol had nine guys out there as well as Adult Probation and Parole and the Sheriff's Deputies. This Fair was one of the safest places you could be in Chaves County for that entire week. There were a few incidents but compared to what they've dealt with in the past it was relatively calm. The Sheriff's Department is on schedule to be fully manned by the first of the year. They just hired two laterals within the last month and another one is coming who is certified. He is interviewing two today and one tomorrow and this will completely put them at full manning. Everything is going well. Within the next two or three weeks a Deputy will start walking the halls of this complex to make sure this building is safe. He thanked the Commission.

Louis Jaramillo, Census Update

Looking through several reporting agencies, Roswell has come up with 48,422, a positive of 56. The County overall finished at 65,147, down by 498. He is still searching the numbers for Dexter, Hagerman, and Lake Arthur.

MANAGER'S COMMUNICATION

Bill Williams, Chaves County Manager

Mr. Williams thanked Lucia for doing a great job and told everyone to buy their courthouse windows on govdeals.com. They all come with a letter of authenticity. Later, we will have some from the third floor. They will look at putting a window on display at the Courthouse along with the jail door and other neat stuff that is in there. He thanked all the departments, the Clerk with elections, Treasurer's and Assessor's Offices, and Road Department who are wrapping up their chip seal project. He got a card from someone who talked about how good the quality was on the roads and how good the staff was. He stated the Sheriff's Office did a great job with the inmate that escaped and was captured. He got into an area he didn't need to be in and Facility Maintenance made repairs and got it reinforced. He thanked Deputy Parmer and Deputy Conklin who literally didn't rest until the inmate was caught the following day.

He stated we've been working with the Carlsbad Resource Management Plan for several years trying to take care of our concerns with lands with wilderness characteristics. Fifty years ago, lands were inventoried and they said they weren't pristine enough to be a wilderness area, fast forward fifty years and now they are wanting to call them wilderness when they didn't meet the criteria fifty years ago, and they are calling for large areas of land to be ACEC's, areas of critical environmental concern. We found out this week that the Lincoln National Forest is doing their management plan that should last the next ten to fifteen years and they have lands with

wilderness characteristics in there that overlap into Chaves County. They are supposed to work with local governments on this to make sure they have a seat at the table. Commissioner Bilberry has been working on this a lot. We have to continue to watch out with the Federal Government trying to take away the rights of private landowners.

COMMISSIONERS' COMMUNICATIONS

COMMISSIONER TAYLOR

Commissioner Taylor stated he would like to thank Rita Kane Doerhoefer for all of her volunteer efforts to keep this County beautified.

COMMISSIONER DANA

Commissioner Dana thanked Rita as well for all she does. As she was driving down Darby today someone had pushed a washing machine off into the road. She called Joe and once again they had to come in and clean up. She thanked Joe and his crew for the new compactor pad that is going to be out there. Someone has been out there handing out flyers about what to put in the compactors. One of her constituents chewed him out and he stood there and took it. We can't legislate how people act so she's hoping the new compactors will alleviate some of the problems we have in Midway. She thanked Mike for having security at the fair, she was able to work the first night and then had to head over to Alamogordo because her Dad was put in the hospital. It was nice to see everyone having a good time though. She found the windows and encouraged everyone to purchase some.

COMMISSIONER EZZELL

Commissioner Ezzell congratulated the Road Department for their good work on the chip seal project. Over the top appreciation to Joe and his staff. He thanked the Sheriff and his department for keeping the County safe. He also thanked the SO for their work at the fair, especially Charles Yslas and Lieutenant Mason. He was present for one of the few arrests that took place, and it was done professionally. He thanked everyone who keeps this ship afloat and stated, "you're doing an amazing job".

COMMISSIONER BILBERRY

Commissioner Bilberry thanked all the department heads and everyone in this County and what they do. The like wilderness characteristics is going to be on going for a long time until we have some changes in our federal government departments. He has some constituents down there that have called him and are pretty stirred up about what could happen to their ranching operations.

COMMISSIONER CAVIN

Commissioner Cavin stated everything went great at the fair and parade. He thanked Mike and all the first responders. He asked Commissioner Ezzell if the Roswell Police Department and Roswell Fire Department decided to just not show up. Commissioner Ezzell answered, "basically". He is part of the New Mexico County Board of Directors and went to Utah for the NACO meetings and a lot has gone on in those meetings with the 30 x 30 plan or America the Beautiful as they've called it now. Margaret Byfield gave a great presentation on this. We are already seeing this in the State of New Mexico. The Chaves County Board of Commissioners have already passed two resolutions in opposition to the federal 30x30 plan and the Governor's 30x30 plan. Game and Fish has purchased acreage northeast of Ft. Sumner. They've always been concerned with the Carlsbad R&P because they want to create like wilderness areas that will shut down ranchers, farmers, and oil and gas.

This affects land west of the Mississippi and Federal and State governments have a lot of money to purchase land. If the federal government would be forth coming with their intentions, it would take a lot of anxiety off of local governments. The Dairies are losing the subsidies and are feeling the wrath of that and are struggling with their contracts. Our workforce is not where it should be. Vaccines should be our choice not the governments. We're losing health care workers and law enforcement. He thanked everyone and stated Chaves County is an amazing family. He has been working with Jason Perry, Mayor pro tem, and they have each asked the Governor for five

million dollars for improvements at the Air Center. It's the diamond in the rough. If we want to see Southeastern New Mexico grow this is the place. We will have a joint meeting next week with the City. It would also be nice if 380 was four lanes from Roswell to the State line. He stated, "God bless this State, America, and our County".

CLOSED SESSION: PURSUANT TO SECTION 10-15-1-(H)(2), NMSA 1978 – PERSONNEL MATTERS, 10-15-1-(H)(5) – COLLECTIVE BARGAINING, AND 10-15-1(H)(7) – DISCUSS THREATENED OR PENDING LITIGATION

Commissioner Bilberry moved to go in to closed session pursuant to the sections listed above. Commissioner Ezzell seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken and Commissioners Taylor, Dana, Ezzell, Bilberry, and Cavin all voted in favor of the motion at 10:39 am.

Commissioner Bilberry moved to come out of closed session pursuant to the sections listed above. Commissioner Ezzell seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken and Commissioners Taylor, Dana, Ezzell, Bilberry, and Cavin all voted in favor of the motion at 11:55 am.

Commissioner Cavin stated that the items discussed in the closed session were limited to those specified in the motion for closure and no action was taken.

MEETING ADJOURNED: 11:56 AM

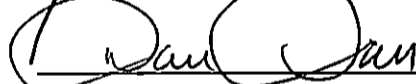
BOARD OF CHAVES COUNTY COMMISSIONERS



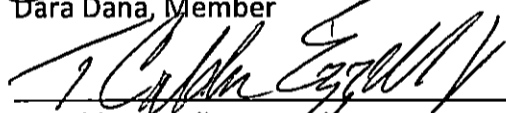
William E. Cavin, Chairman



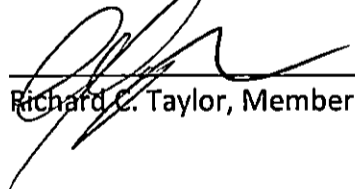
Jeff Bilberry, Vice-Chairman



Dara Dana, Member

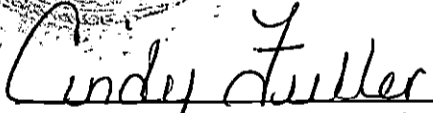


T. Calder Ezzell Jr, Member



Richard C. Taylor, Member





Cindy Fuller, Chaves County Clerk