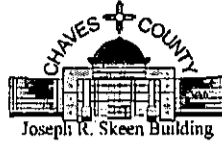




**CHAVES COUNTY  
BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS**

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

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**SPECIAL ADMINISTRATIVE MEETING MINUTES  
THURSDAY, MARCH 10, 2022  
CHAVES COUNTY ADMINISTRATIVE CENTER – JOSEPH R SKEEN BUILDING  
#1 ST. MARY'S PLACE, ROSWELL, NM 88203**

**CALL TO ORDER**

Chairman Cavin called the meeting to order at 9:00 am.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Commissioner Ezzell led the pledge and Commissioner Taylor led in prayer.

**DETERMINATION OF QUORUM**

Those present were Commissioners Cavin, Ezzell, Dana, and Taylor. Commissioner Bilberry was absent. Also present were County Manager, Bill Williams, Public Services Director, Mac Rogers, IT Director, Alfredo Garcia, County Clerk, Cindy Fuller, Sheriff, Mike Herrington, media, staff, and guests.

**AGENDA ITEMS**

**1. CANVASS OF THE 2022 MUNICIPAL OFFICERS ELECTION**

*Presenter: Dave Kunko, City of Roswell Elections*

Mr. Kunko stated the County Clerk's Office was instrumental in getting this accomplished. He also thanked those that stayed in the Clerk's office because he knows they are short-handed. The County Clerk's Office stepped up and did a great job and really helped a lot. He also thanked people from the city. He introduced interim City Clerk, Amalia Martinez and City of Roswell Attorney, Parker Patterson, who were in the audience. The city employees on the main floor really pitched in and made this all work. Mr. Kunko referred to the handout that the Commissioners received. There were 25,528 registered eligible voters, 5,540 ballots were cast for a percentage of 21.7%. The next page in the handout showed all the candidate totals which changed slightly since election night. He stated the county summary report shows vote totals by precinct. He then went to the Summary bucket report, which shows absentee on the machine, absentee hand and shows federal overseas hand tallies. They had two of those and they were added on election night. On "election day provisional by hand", they had three provisional ballots. One was qualified and the other two were unqualified. You'll see a vote for the Mayor's Office and on the next page there's a vote in ward 4 from the provisional hand tallies. He presented some signature sheets and asked the Commissioners to sign those should they find the canvass to be complete.

Further questions and comments from the Commission:

Commissioner Taylor thanked Mr. Kunko for the excellent report and all the information. Commissioner Cavin asked about the election day convenience center issues with the internet or computers. Mr. Kunko stated this was a computer issue. This happened a little bit during the early vote period, and they told him they had it fixed. It would start buffering. They told him this was fixed but it's the same issue they had on election day as well. The only way they could fix it was to restart those systems and they'd pick up right where they left off. Commissioner Cavin asked if he thought it was a software issue or just the computers themselves. Mr. Kunko stated he thinks it's a software issue. They are aware of it and he's glad it happened in a smaller election

than before you get to the Primary or General. He would hope they would have that fixed by May when we start early voting.

MOTION MADE TO: APPROVE THE CANVASS FOR THE 2022 MUNICIPAL OFFICERS ELECTION  
MOTION MADE BY: COMMISSIONER EZZELL  
SECOND MADE BY: COMMISSIONER DANA  
IN FAVOR: COMMISSIONERS CAVIN, EZZELL, DANA, AND TAYLOR  
OPPOSED: NONE  
ABSENT: COMMISSIONER BILBERRY

The Commissioners thanked Mr. Kunko.

**UNSCHEDULED COMMUNICATIONS LIMITED TO THREE MINUTES PER VISITOR NOT TO EXCEED 15 MINUTES. NO FORMAL ACTION WILL BE TAKEN BY THE COMMISSION.**

Rita Kane Doerhoefer, very narrow, unstriped, needs to be mowed, Mark Road  
Ms. Doerhoefer stated it was fun on Tuesday. She had 966 people come through her polling place. She was told she was going to have three Clerks; they gave her two. Finally, at 3:00, Dave called her and told her they had a third clerk for her, and Emma was wonderful. The only glitches they had was when they opened the tray at quarter of ten, the tray to put the paper in, the computers went to sleep but Tim was right on the ball getting everything worked out. She had one candidate who was running the parking lot and standing on the corner that everyone complained about, so she went out to chat with the candidate and her sister. Then she had two ladies from Albuquerque flagging people down about signing a form for a write in for Governor. There wasn't much she could do but they were there for five hours. She chatted with them several times. She had more people come to her polling place because they said it was too difficult to go to the city. They didn't want to climb the stairs or go into that elevator and a couple of them said they could not find where the County was voting. They were coming from the South and once they saw there was no sign by Area D they never came around to the front.

They had a good group that was working. She let Kathryn go to the bathroom after five hours. They were slammed, nobody got lunch, nobody got breakfast except for donuts, nobody went anywhere. They had no spoiled ballots or provisional ballots. She called Stephanie and Casey and she got a note from them thanking her. If she was a commissioner, she would give the County Clerk's staff a day off because they worked their butts off. They were there to help, and they did help. She has been calling the Governor and the President and she finally said the heck with them, and she called Robert Manfred, he has not called her back either. The only one who has ever called her back was Jeff, (Commissioner Bilberry), and she did talk to Mac and Bill about some other issues they will hear about next week. She didn't have a watcher or challenger and she was waiting for the emissary from the Secretary of State's Office to come down, she never showed. Robert Manfred is the Commissioner for major league baseball.

Tim Jennings, 2716 N Pennsylvania #48

He encouraged the Commissioners to order a porta potty for the next two elections for Rita's location and they will put one at the city. If they go out to the diversion dike that failed, it's coming along quite well. They are lucky they got a good source of dirt at a reasonable price. They have the new scraper, it's huge. It holds 23 ½ yards. It's amazing to see how well and fast it works. They would be done with that had they not been delayed about three months on the price of the dirt. They need a civil engineer; Dick needs help out there. He needs an assistant. His knowledge is unbelievable. Commissioner Ezzell asked if he got a response from his letter to the Corps. Mr. Jennings stated not yet. He did find an individual who used to work for the Corps, and he thinks he can help us get a gate on there. He's really encouraged about that.

Cindy Fuller, Chaves County Clerk

Ms. Fuller stated she would like to address the sign issue that Rita brought up. She stated they were unable to use Area D for voting in this election because it's under renovation, so her amazing staff made some signs that were hung up out there. Then there was a very windy day that destroyed their sign structure, so they did their best to place some A frame signs for people to know they needed to use the front doors. They posted things on Facebook and tried their best

to let people know where to vote. This was the busiest site, so people figured it out. She stated it's always a pleasure to work with Dave and they were happy to help him. The city was glad he was at the helm and running the election for them. It was nice to meet the interim city clerk, Amalia, and she was very kind to them. She thanked her staff. It's hard to jump in in the middle of an election that isn't yours and run it and they were amazing. They picked up where they needed to and did everything that needed to be done. Commissioner Cavin asked if everything went well for filing day on Tuesday. Ms. Fuller stated it went well and they are still in the qualification process which will be completed by Tuesday.

There were no comments online.

#### **MANAGER'S COMMUNICATION**

Mr. Williams thanked all the amazing people, county staff, city staff, all the people that made this election go as well as it did. They are going to do their very best, but not sure they will make it for the Primary election, to have Area D open again. They will probably make it by the general election. He reminded everyone that next Thursday will be the regular county commission meeting and the following week, 21<sup>st</sup>, at 2:00 pm they're having a joint meeting with Eddy County, Lincoln County, Otero County, and Chaves County and the United States Forest Service to talk about their proposed forest management plans which they did not include any of us in or the policy making decisions. They are proposing 403,000 acres within the four counties to be converted to wilderness areas and we weren't even contacted which is against all their policies which requires them to coordinate with us in anything such as that.

#### **COMMISSIONERS' COMMUNICATIONS**

##### **COMMISSIONER TAYLOR**

Commissioner Taylor thanked the County staff and the city staff for all their hard work. It sounds like they really did a great job on the city election. Our county staff stepping up was tremendous and he thanked them. The only thing he looks at is the percentage of voters that turned out, it's pathetic that only 21.7% of the registered voters cared enough to vote. It seems like we have this pattern, election after election, where people think, they don't have to bother voting. He thinks back about 35 years ago on a trip to Europe, they were in Germany, staying in the home of the owners of Christmas by Krebs, it was in the fall, and they were having their national elections. They had their election on a Sunday, and he thinks the voter turnout was 93, 94, or 95% of the people went and voted. He's never forgotten that. When you're in a country that had gone through war and had Hitler running the country and they lost all their freedoms, they now appreciate elections, and they go vote. People all over this country need to turn out and vote in every election.

##### **COMMISSIONER DANA**

Commissioner Dana thanked the County Clerk's Office and Cindy for her leadership. She's glad we could jump in and help. There aren't any questions about it or well, let us think about it, when the job needs to be done the county jumps in. She appreciates this attitude in all our departments. Everything went smooth on Tuesday for filing day. She didn't get any hassles from the girls, they helped her tremendously. If the last two weeks did not teach us anything, it hopefully taught us we need to get out and vote. That is our first line of defense in everything that has happened. The way to change is get out and vote. You hear from too many people that my vote doesn't count. As someone who has squeaked by on several elections, hopefully this one won't be like that, she knows that every vote does count. We need to make sure the Primary and General elections are the change that people are seeking to find. It's now, everything we are seeing in our nation and world is happening and it's time for change. She appreciates everything our County does and stated it's phenomenal. Chaves County is a leader in our state among all 33 counties.

##### **COMMISSIONER EZZELL**

Commissioner Ezell stated he doesn't really have anything to add to the prior comments and kudos to everyone who did such a good job, and we'll get geared up for the Primary.

**COMMISSIONER CAVIN**

Commissioner Cavin echoed all the comments that were made, and he is thankful for this family we have here in Chaves County that do the things that are important for the citizens of Chaves County. To Commissioner Taylor and Dana's points, they do get a lot of complaints from people on different issues and the question you must ask them is did you go to the polls and vote? We've had several things put on our ballots in the state of New Mexico in the last ten years and we ask, what were people thinking when they voted for this? Commissioner Duffey won by a vote, so votes do matter. You must get out there and do your due diligence. He congratulated those that filed to run for second terms. Some don't have opponents, and some do across the State. It's all about being in elected office for the right reasons and that's to make a difference for the citizens of Chaves County and the city of Roswell. He had someone compliment him today on how well the County and City are working together as far as the Police Department and Sheriff's Department and how they always have each other's backs. This is extremely important for our citizens to see this. He thanked the Clerk's Office. He looks forward to a bright future for the county and city to work together and get things done for our community.

**CLOSED SESSION: PURSUANT TO SECTION 10-15-1(H)(2), DISCUSS LIMITED PERSONNEL MATTERS, SECTION 10-15-1(H)(7), DISCUSS THREATENED OR PENDING LITIGATION.**

MOTION MADE TO: GO INTO CLOSED SESSION  
MOTION MADE BY: COMMISSIONER EZZELL  
SECOND MADE BY: COMMISSIONER DANA  
ROLL CALL VOTE:  
COMMISSIONER TAYLOR: YES  
COMMISSIONER DANA: YES  
COMMISSIONER EZZELL : YES  
COMMISSIONER CAVIN: YES

MOTION MADE TO: COME OUT OF CLOSED SESSION  
MOTION MADE BY: COMMISSIONER EZZELL  
SECOND MADE BY: COMMISSIONER DANA  
ROLL CALL VOTE:  
COMMISSIONER TAYLOR: YES  
COMMISSIONER DANA: YES  
COMMISSIONER EZZELL : YES  
COMMISSIONER CAVIN: YES

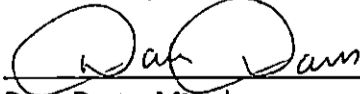
Commissioner Cavin stated that the items discussed in the closed session were limited to those specified in the motion for closure and no action was taken.

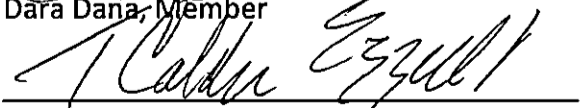
The meeting was adjourned at 10:23 am.

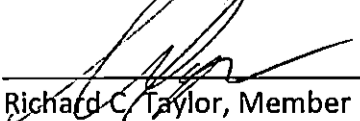
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