



**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

**SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES
THURSDAY, MAY 12, 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 8:35 AM.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Commissioner Dana led the pledge and Commissioner Bilberry led in prayer.

DETERMINATION OF QUORUM

Those present were Commissioners Cavin, Bilberry, Ezzell, Dana, and Taylor.

Also present were County Manager, Bill Williams, Public Services Director, Mac Rogers, Facility Maintenance Director, Scott Massey, Detention Center Director, Justin Porter, Road Supervisor, Joe West, Interim IT Director, Andrew Rey, Finance Director, Anabel Barraza, County Clerk, Cindy Fuller, County Assessor, Sandra Stewart, County Treasurer, Charlotte Andrade, Planning and Zoning Director, Louis Jaramillo, Sheriff, Mike Herrington, media, staff, and guests.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOTION MADE TO: APPROVE THE MINUTES FROM THE MEETINGS HELD ON APRIL 14, 2022, AND APRIL 25, 2022
MOTION MADE BY: COMMISSIONER DANA
SECOND MADE BY: COMMISSIONER EZZELL
IN FAVOR: COMMISSIONERS CAVIN, BILBERRY, EZZELL, DANA, AND TAYLOR
OPPOSED: NONE

AGENDA ITEMS

BUDGET PRESENTATIONS

ANABEL BARRAZA, CHAVES COUNTY FINANCE DIRECTOR

Ms. Barraza thanked all the Departments for turning in their budgets on time. She stated each Commissioner received a workbook. On the first summary page everything is compared to the general operating fund with revenues and expenditures compared to all Chaves County funds. Chaves County funds include all the Fire, grants, restricted, etc., and the general operating funds are only the general operating funds for Chaves County. When they met with the Budget Committee, they looked at all the revenue trends first. This year the positives include the windmill project, Oso Grande, that was in construction but is fully constructed now and the other one is the gross receipts taxes. They have seen an increase trending in gross receipts tax and most of this is due to the online sales which was passed as of July 1st. There were still some other decreases in revenue, and they were still conservative because there are so many unknowns within this year. Regarding expenditures, they are still encountering many obstacles due to the increase in fuel, increase in prices for products and also the delay in products arriving. They continue to focus on the County and its valued assets, as well as short term and long-term goals. They try not to defer maintenance and she thanked Scott Massey for pointing them to some of the projects that they need to look at. The other one is the main foundation which is Chaves County employees. The employees were very grateful for the proclamation passed last month

and the employee picnic. Thanks to this foundation we have all our community services like roads, indigent needs, law enforcement, safety, internal services, elected officials and their services and the trust from our taxpayers for our accountability and transparency. She paraphrased a quote from Richard Branson, "Chaves County employees are its greatest asset, and our people are our product". The biggest focus for this year was investing in our foundation which is the employees and infrastructure. In this budget they have several projects, a new Health Department, Courthouse roofing, and other projects. Also in this budget is the increase for Chaves County minimum wage to \$15.00 and adjusting all other levels and charts by five percent for a cost-of-living adjustment. Tentatively in the budget is the mandatory one percent PERA increase, and they are asking the County to absorb the employees' portion of the half percent of that.

On the second page, budget recapitulation, you can see all the beginning cash balances that they have estimated as of July 1st. Once they close out the fiscal year the numbers will be a true cash balance. The \$53,935,717.00 is what will tentatively come before the Commission on May 26th as an approval. This is not just the general operating fund, it's all the funds. The third page shows the general operating budget. The worksheet showed the past couple of years, the activity, final budgets, and what has been requested. There were some adjustments recommended by the Finance Committee and Department Heads. The overrun costs over revenue are within its tolerance amount showing at \$79,397.00. The next page is the expenditure summary and is more detailed by category and department. It shows the actuals for the past couple of years, final budget, and what was requested along with the adjustments. The last couple of summary pages shows all the other Departments and funds including Volunteer Fire Departments, Indigent, some of the grants, and public safety.

***MIKE HERRINGTON, CHAVES COUNTY SHERIFF
BUDGET REQUESTS***

Sheriff Herrington thanked Anabel and Lucia for assisting him with his budget as well as Janet and the Undersheriff. He would like to talk about some of the increases and the reason for them. Line item 401-7-751-105 is overtime. They requested a \$6,000.00 increase because the Sheriff's Office Clerks fall under this overtime and there has been an influx of IPRA's and people being out. The IPRA's have overrun them. They have to work late at night, come in on their days off, and Sundays to get these out in a timely manner. Line item 401-7-752-231, Non-Expendable Supplies, they requested an increase of \$48,000.00 to replace the computers the Deputies carry in their cars. They are asking for the Tough Books which are meant for patrol duties. Under line item 401-7-752-238, Uniform Expenses, they raised this by \$10,000.00 for boots. They would like to have boots that are uniform and can withstand the elements they go through.

Questions/Comments from the Commissioners

Commissioner Cavin stated he thinks the Tough Books are a great necessity and keeps us from having to continue to pay for repairs on the ones they are using now.

SHERIFF'S OFFICE CAPITAL OUTLAY REQUESTS

Sheriff Herrington stated they are asking for two BMS Ranch Pony 700 EFI 4x4 seater UTVs that are off road vehicles they can use to rescue people who are stuck in the sand or have other issues. They don't currently have what they need. The cost of these is \$15,498.00 each, \$30,996.00 for two. People are getting stuck, and they have to ping phones to find them. The last ones they have had were elderly people. They took another ATV that is not off road, they went as far as they could and then walked the rest of the way in, also dealing with snakes and other elements. This is very important for them to provide better service to Chaves County. The other item was the Firearms Training System for \$50,000.00. They are withdrawing this request at this time because there is a newer version they would like to look at after the new year. They are also waiting for the dispatch area to become available so this can be set up.

Questions/Comments from the Commissioners: None

**JOE WEST, CHAVES COUNTY ROAD SUPERVISOR
BUDGET REQUESTS**

Mr. West thanked Anabel and Lucia for their continued help and thanked his staff. Most of his budget is the same but he did go up on a few items. 651 is his staff and is pretty much the same. The 231 lines have \$1,000.00 for the purchase of a computer. The 652 lines are the Shop. He increased supplies by \$5,000.00. The lines under 653 are pretty much the same. Line 402-6-653-251 rentals/leases, these are the leases on their equipment. There is about a \$200,000.00 change. He'll go into this more on the Capital Outlay. The \$800,000.00 in 402-6-653-291 originally was one million dollars. This is what they use to pay for cattle guard materials, culverts, and double penetration chip seals. This was raised last year from \$675,000.00 to \$800,000.00 and they will expend this by June. He thanked the Commissioners for raising this last year. On Road Projects/Other – there is a pretty substantial increase. They put in for a TPF Grant with the NM Department of Transportation. Last year they got around \$243,000.00 from this grant that they used to resurface Country Club, Berrendo, and McGaffey. The project was completed two weeks ago and looks good. Two years ago, they did a complete reclamation on Country Club from Sycamore to the Relief Route and last year they did a complete reclamation on Berrendo from Montana to the Relief Route. They will have to do the same with McGaffey but it will be different because it used to be a State Road that is now a County Road and has asphalt under it as compared to chip seal. This year they put in to replace the bridge on Brasher which is a \$1.25 million dollar project. TPF is 95/5. The State will pay 95% and the County will pay 5% which is \$62,500.00. They already have \$500,000.00 in funding that the Legislators were able to gain.

Anabel stated the \$2.5 million showing as an adjustment for Paving Projects is derived from the CAP/CO-OP and school bus requests. Mr. West stated they haven't heard anything back from NMDOT. The Commission meets on the nineteenth of this month. Last year they didn't get any school bus funding only CAP and COOP. Hopefully it will be different this year. Commissioner Cavin asked if no school bus funding was because of COVID? Mr. West stated he hasn't been told that but it's a very good possibility. It was Statewide, no one got funds. Vector control is the same, this is the mosquito control they do in conjunction with the City. They spray all of Chaves County. We do have mosquitos even though we haven't had a drop of rain.

ROAD DEPARTMENT – CAPITAL OUTLAY REQUESTS

Mr. West stated their total is \$780,000.00. They are requesting a new distributor for \$300,000.00. Their current distributor is a 2006 model. This shoots the hot oil or emulsions on the ground and is pretty much the center piece of the chip seal operation. The new distributor would be larger. When oil is delivered, they have two hours from when the truck arrives to when it leaves. If they exceed the two hours, they are charged up to \$175.00 per hour and this can get pricey. A bigger truck will obviously hold more emulsion. Most of the prices are inflated. They are requesting a Kubota tractor for \$55,000.00 and this was approved by the Finance Committee to look for one of these now. No one in New Mexico has one, Angelo has been calling Florida. They will continue looking. Items C, sign truck (\$65,000.00), and D, on demand air compressor (\$20,000.00) go hand in hand. Their sign truck is ten to twelve years old. The air compressor will replace the older tow behind compressor they currently have. The next item is a solar electronic message board that the Finance Committee approved for \$20,000.00. They pick this up on Monday. They already have one message board but it's hard to advertise a job and only do one end. The last item is for two John Deere motorgraders in lieu of renewing the existing leases for \$320,000.00. They recently purchased four motorgraders that were at the end of their lease in March/April for a little over half a million dollars including the extended warranties. If they go to purchasing instead of leasing, they will save around \$95,000.00 per unit every five years. That's about \$20,000.00 per year per motorgrader. A current blade through a CES contract is \$306,000.00, current market value for a motorgrader like we have, ten years old, is about \$150,000.00. Showroom floor price is half a million.

Questions/Comments from the Commissioners: None

**JUSTIN PORTER, DETENTION CENTER DIRECTOR
BUDGET REQUESTS**

Mr. Porter thanked Anabel for helping him with his first budget. He believes they did a good job trying to cut some of the spending, but they also had a few increases. In the 641 lines, there was

an increase in vehicles, they don't need to replace any, but some need some TLC. In supplies and tools, he requested an increase of \$3,500.00 because of the costs and the upcoming accreditation. In the 642 lines there was an increase of \$4,500.00 in the non-expendable supplies. They have some equipment that the SORT team and facility team uses that is in need of replacement including gas masks, filters, and some of the equipment that is used for protection when dealing with disruptive detainees. Professional Services, they have some programs where they check in visitors, they print badges for them that tell them where they are allowed to be when they walk around the facility. They also have some contractual services where uniforms get washed, laundered, and prepared as part of the road team.

The line items in 645 are for the juvenile budget. The biggest impact he is requesting is that the juvenile housing go up \$100,000.00. Last year it was \$450,000.00 and this year he is asking for \$550,000.00. They are averaging seven juvenile detainees being housed daily throughout the year. The cost for housing detainees has gone up. They received a letter from Dona Ana County saying they are increasing their daily costs. The daily cost is \$200.00 to \$250.00 per day per detainee. They are spending between \$45,000.00 and \$60,000.00 per month to house juvenile detainees. They have a couple of high-profile cases that are going to take a while to work through the Courts. Right now, they have three that are charged with extremely violent charges, and this will be slow to get through the process. Ms. Barraza stated that a few years ago when the Commissioners were trying to decide whether to close the juvenile facility the operating expenditures at that time were over \$1.1 million. There has been an increase in violence for these juveniles and we have had several housed. The operating expenses are still under 1 million they are \$629,550.00 proposed for next year.

Mr. Porter stated in the 684 lines they are currently working through the medical contracts. They are in negotiations with a new medical provider. Once this is done the information will be presented, hopefully later this month for approval. He is also asking for an increase in line 684-268 from \$16,000.00 to \$20,000.00 for housing of prisoners. They have a couple of detainees that are being housed at the Department of Corrections and he must pay housing fees for them. These are usually people that have medical issues that are beyond the medical staff's ability to care for. This comes at a daily cost as well. He also has Counties that bill them that are housing our detainees. He did some research and has been working with other Counties and there is a statute they can look at that may be able to impact that and save us some money in that line item.

Questions/comments from the Commissioners: None

CAPITAL OUTLAY REQUESTS

Mr. Porter stated he is needing a couple of equipment items: an ice machine for the kitchen at \$10,974.74, three washers to do laundry for the detainees at \$32,716.80, two of their washers currently are not in service, and a flat skillet for the kitchen at \$30,334.93.

Questions/comments from the Commissioners: None

SCOTT MASSEY, CHAVES COUNTY FACILITY MAINTENANCE DIRECTOR BUDGET REQUESTS

Mr. Massey thanked Anabel, Lucia, Sandra, Georgianna, Mac, and Bill for helping him with his first budget. He stated the budget is pretty much the same with the exception of a few line items. In the 230-supply line they are seeing drastic increases in custodial supplies and shipping costs. The 257-line item, they have a lot of projects including aging HVAC systems, water heaters, and boilers that need to be updated. The custodial needs have changed within our county facility. The quotes that were done through an RFP before he got here were quite high, so they are looking to bring this inhouse if possible. This would save money based on the quotes they received. It will also give us better control of our facilities.

CAPITAL OUTLAY REQUESTS

The Courthouse roof is one of their projects. About two thirds of the Courthouse roof is in the same condition as the roof was on this building a year ago. Over the past several months they have done a lot of patching, but it is aged out. We need to protect our Courthouse and get a new roof on two thirds of the building. There is a need for a foyer on the west end of this building. We have a wind tunnel and anytime the wind is blowing the draft from the west doors being opened goes through the whole building. This affects our utility costs, and we believe adding a foyer would improve the efficiency of this building. There is a need for some mini split units in some of our IT server rooms. The Fire Marshall made us move to a Halon system and that has to be in an envelope, it can't be shared with the rest of the building. Some of the boilers are twenty years old and need to be replaced, they are leaking, and they would like to get this done before the winter months. At the Detention Center there is a need to clean the duct work. Some sidewalks at the Courthouse need replacing, they have cracks and are heaving from tree roots. This is a liability issue that we need to address soon.

Questions/comments from the Commissioners:

Commissioner Cavin stated he appreciates Scott bringing these things to their attention because they don't want to defer on maintenance.

CHARLOTTE ANDRADE, CHAVES COUNTY TREASURER

BUDGET REQUESTS

Ms. Gurule stated she requested a part time position last year and was successful in that. They hired but unfortunately that person sought full time employment here at the County. They have held ten interviews and are having difficulty filling that position. They are in second half collections and can't find people to fill that part time position. She has requested that this position become full time so they can have a fully staffed office.

Questions/comments from the Commissioners: None

CAPITAL OUTLAY REQUESTS

Ms. Andrade has requested \$10,000.00 for furniture but she will forego that request if the part time position can become a full-time position. One of her senior staff members has indicated she will be retiring at the end of the year and that will leave her short staffed. She has less than three years left in her position, Toni is anticipated to run, and she would like to leave the office in a good position with fully trained staff. They retain a 99% collection rate and have continuously carried this over the past several years. The Commission depends on the Treasurer's Office to do this. The office brings in about 18% of the County revenue but only have 2% of the expenditures. This is an entry level position and would be minimal on increasing salary costs. They have shut down their drive-up window because they don't have the staff to maintain it. She and Toni are covering the counter to maintain the collections. In order to do their jobs, they need an additional full-time position. Ms. Barraza stated the impact would be \$18,196.00.

Questions/comments from the Commissioners: None

SANDRA STEWART, CHAVES COUNTY ASSESSOR

BUDGET REQUESTS

Ms. Stewart stated she has asked for one position upgrade from a GIS Tech to a GIS Specialist and she asked that we have a general classification change in the GIS Mapper position. She changed the job descriptions and the reason she did this was because with their new GIS project they are going to be in a position to do a lot of things and provide a lot of information that they hadn't been able to do in the past. The mapper positions become very important and by upgrading one and changing the other she can justify paying 50% of both of those salaries out of the one percent fund. This actually creates a small savings out of the general fund of about \$35,000.00.

CAPITAL OUTLAY REQUESTS

They have the Pictometry program with Planning and Zoning that was a three-year project. This will be year three and is in the one percent capital outlay. They also have a 2003 Expedition, 2005, and 2007 trucks that the Appraisers use. These are in great need of being replaced. Sandra

Rodriguez told her about two trucks that were available right now and worked with her to get these procured. They have received one of the trucks and the second one is due to come soon. Those were then moved out of this current budget. Those also come out of the 1% fund not out of the general fund. Out of this budget she is asking to replace the 2003 Expedition. She also stated her required reports are at the end of the workbook.

Questions/comments from the Commissioners:

Commissioner Cavin thanked Ms. Stewart for using the 1% fund to fund a lot of the items she is requesting. We have over 6,000 square miles of County and a lot of it is not like driving around in Albuquerque, it's important to have the vehicles. He appreciates the budget she put together. Ms. Stewart thanked Anabel, her staff and Sandra Rodriguez for all of their help.

AGENCY PRESENTATIONS

MIKE ESPIRITU, PRESIDENT OF ROSWELL-CHAVES COUNTY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

BUDGET REQUESTS

Mr. Espiritu thanked the Commission for the past year and their support moving this County forward economically. They have requested an increase in their funding for the next fiscal year. We're all aware of how the pandemic impacted everyone's daily lives and the business environment. They realize they must change and improve their process to be more competitive in this environment. More people are working from home and just not accessible, companies don't want you in their doors, it's just a different environment to try and attract companies to expand and grow. The change for them is to add an additional person who will market the digital world we live in today. They want to drive more opportunity for Chaves County. He stated the EDC in Chaves County is funded well below what other EDC's are funded. This past year they added a full-time person which created more opportunities for them to work with local businesses. They have increased membership and are growing. They are a full-service economic development corporation. They place a high priority on workforce and there are great strides being made in our County. They don't charge anyone for services. He recently attended the Air Show in Dallas and had a number of appointments with companies. The Air Center is their largest priority, but they have other projects as well and good things are happening for the future. The aviation community recognizes this area because of the aerospace project, Ascent Aviation. They appreciate their past support and continued support and hopefully additional funding to get them over the mark. They have also asked the City of Roswell to increase their funding by double.

Questions/comments from the Commissioners:

Commissioner Cavin thanked Mike for everything they do for the community not just with the Air Center but everything they do. He stated they had a great meeting with the University and appreciates the hard work they are doing.

MARCOS NAVA, HISPANO CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

BUDGET REQUESTS

Mr. Nava stated when he first came to Roswell it was supposed to be a four-year stay, he's been here seventeen years and loves it. He has been the Executive Director for the Hispano Chamber of Commerce for three years. This is an organization with a long tradition of 37 years, it had been dormant, and they jumped started it. They were making good headway and then COVID hit, and they came to a slow down. He needs some help in the office to take it to the next level and to serve more people in the County. They are requesting \$25,000.00 to do the following: hire a part time person that would work 20 hours a week and help him do some administrative work, he is not good at social media and needs someone who can help with this. They bring speakers to some of their workshops and some people charge, they have no budget for this and he's asking for funding to pay them. He is requesting \$12,480.00 for the part time position, \$6,000.00 for social media and \$2,000.00 for speakers. They work with the National Hispanic Association and this year's convention will be in Phoenix and he would like to be able to attend. During these conventions they hold a lot of workshops where he can get educated. He is requesting \$2,000.00 for this purpose. They just held a wonderful event this past weekend on the Courthouse lawn. It was a safe and fun event. He had to provide a program that was local, but people tell him he

needs to have a headline band that will attract people in bigger numbers. If he combines all of his requests, it comes up to \$25,000.00. He appreciates the opportunity to be here and to be able to work with the Commission and re-establish the relationship.

Questions/comments from the Commissioner:

Commissioner Ezzell asked Mr. Nava what the other sources of funding are. Mr. Nava stated the City of Roswell, membership, and events they put on. Last year Cinco de Mayo was cancelled due to COVID, the Pinata Festival was successful and other events.

Commissioner Taylor asked how much funding they receive from the City of Roswell. Mr. Nava stated \$30,000.00.

Commissioner Dana asked how many members they have. Mr. Nava stated that when he first took over there were about 300 members, they started cleaning it up, and got it to 150 a couple years ago, COVID hit and they were able to maintain those numbers, then they lost some people that they couldn't renew their membership. Today they are just short of 100 members.

Commissioner Dana asked if they have been able to come up with an audit. Mr. Nava stated they have retained a firm and it will be done by the end of August. They signed a letter of engagement. Commissioner Ezzell asked if they have members from the Valley. Mr. Nava stated yes, Dexter and Hagerman. There is a member from Dexter that was doing well but through their association was able to grow tremendously and now owns two food trucks. He is their newest Board member.

ANDREA MOORE, ROSWELL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

BUDGET REQUESTS

Ms. Moore stated they are not asking for any increase in funding from the previous year. She is just asking for the same funding to continue to help with things like their magazine, outreach with tourism, and to continue helping the local businesses within the entire boundary of Chaves County.

Questions/comments from the Commissioners:

Commissioner Cavin thanked Ms. Moore and stated she has done a great job of grabbing the reins and pulling things back into the right hand. They appreciate the hard work the Chamber does for our community.

Anabel Barraza stated the allocations tab has all the Agency requests. Some Agencies were unable to attend the meeting today and some are online ready to answer any questions.

ANDREA STAPP, INTERIM DIRECTOR FOR THE CHAVES COUNTY EXTENSION OFFICE

BUDGET REQUESTS

Ms. Stapp stated they did ask for an increase this year because the State approved a seven percent increase across the board. They are funded a third Federal, a third State, and a third County. Shannon Wooten retired, and she was at full Professor's pay, they rehired at a lower pay so there wasn't a big jump in their request.

Questions/comments from the Commissioners: None

Anabel Barraza thanked the Finance Committee. She believes this is a great, strong budget and she appreciates their support. Commissioner Cavin stated it's great for the County that they have increased the budget to include a \$15.00 minimum wage. He's hoping negotiations can be taken care of with the Sheriff's Department so they can get something done there, unfortunately, once they vote on the budget that's what it's going to be.

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

There were no comments from anyone in the Commission Chambers.

There were no comments online.

MANAGER'S COMMUNICATIONS

Mr. Williams stated this is an amazing job done by the Staff, Department Heads, and Finance Committee. When we look at the total revenues compared to the total expenditures and we are only \$79,000.00, State statute requires 10%. Anabel stated the tolerance amount is about one and half percent. Mr. Williams stated this comes from all of us working together and reducing requests by \$2.8 million. We try to make sure that the money people have entrusted us with is spent wisely. Anabel made the comment that our staff is our main priority, and this is why we are able to do so many good things in Chaves County, why we are one of the Counties people turn to and ask questions because our staff is wonderful. He and Anabel pushed for the cost-of-living increase for the employees because it's been several years since they received this. He thanked the Commission for their consideration of this increase. It's overdue and the staff is deserving. He likes to bring up when we have public involvement, agencies came in today to talk to them about their services, the towns in the Valley request money every year and they bring so much to our County. Every week he calls the Chamber of Commerce and EDC with a question, they are always there and willing to help us with any question we have. He talked to Mike a couple of days ago about a new opportunity for our community and he's already on it and making connections. He thanked them for all the work they do and for the good use of the funding they receive from the County. Cooperative Extension Service answers questions for everybody in the County. They provide answers to questions we have with living day to day in this community. The Chaves County 4H and FFA Fair always under promises and over delivers. They are providing for our children and grandchildren, a way of life that really goes a long way. He thanked the staff, department heads, Anabel, Lucia, and Sandra, who have all done a lot of work to make sure this budget worked out so well. He applauded the Commissioners and stated it's because of them we are in such good shape.

COMMISSIONERS' COMMUNICATIONS

COMMISSIONER TAYLOR

Commissioner Taylor thanked the Staff and all the Department Heads for the hard work they put into this budget. It's great to see a good budget.

COMMISSIONER DANA

Commissioner Dana thanked everyone for all that they do to keep our County running and operating within the means that we have. She was speaking with someone this morning and told them they would be going over the budget and would not be asking the taxpayers for more taxes. We will not increase our taxes, we live within our means, especially in this day and time. She bragged on the 4H kids that went to Raton. There were a lot of kids shooting .22 shot gun archery and they all did marvelous. Some of the shooters will be going to Nationals in Nebraska. We are very proud of that, and she thanked Andrea for the great programs that they have for the kids of Chaves County. This goes to show we do invest in our Community, County, and Citizens.

COMMISSIONER EZZELL

Commissioner Ezzell stated he would like to reiterate all the thanks to everyone, especially the Department Heads and all of those that came before the Finance Committee. With their commitment to raising what they pay our family members, those who work for Chaves County, they had a big hill to get over, \$15.00 minimum wage and a 5% increase across the board, that money had to come from somewhere. They appreciate the sacrifices the Department Heads have made in toning down some of their budget requests because this is what is enabling them to give pay raises to everybody. He thanked Anabel, Lucia, and everybody for making it a lot easier to serve on the Finance Committee.

COMMISSIONER BILBERRY

Commissioner Bilberry thanked the Finance Committee, Department Heads, and everyone that has worked hard on this. It shows the dedication to the County and the people here and he thanked them for their hard work.

COMMISSIONER CAVIN

Commissioner Cavin stated he would like to echo what the other Commissioners have said. We have a great family here serving the citizens of Chaves County and everyone is greatly appreciated. It's great we have the ability to give those pay increases to everyone and try to take care of those needs. Right now, we are in a bad situation in this Country with inflation, the price of gas, and we have summer coming up where people want to be able to take their families on trips. It's over a \$100.00 for him to fill up his truck with gas right now. It's unfortunate. He appreciates the hard work by Commissioner Ezzell and the Finance Committee as well as everyone who came in. He told Anabel they did an amazing job helping with all the departments to put this budget together. It's a great budget and he looks forward to the last six months of his term as a County Commissioner. He will finish strong and do great things for Chaves County and this Community. He thanked Bill for taking the lead as the County Manager. He thanked everyone who presented and stated it's been a good workshop. He thanked the Commissioners and stated God bless America, this State, and Chaves County.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:08 am.

BOARD OF CHAVES COUNTY COMMISSIONERS



Cindy Fuller
Cindy Fuller

Will 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

Richard C. Taylor

Richard C. Taylor, Member