

April 1, 2008
Roosevelt County Courthouse
Portales, New Mexico 88130

The Roosevelt County Commission met in regular session Tuesday April 1, 2008, at 9:00 am in the Commissioner's Room in the Courthouse, with those present being: Commissioners Gene Creighton, Paul Grider, Dennis Lopez, and David Sanders, County Manager Charlene Hardin, County Attorney Randy Knudson, County Clerk Janet Collins, Clerk's Chief Deputy Linda Connelly, Sheriff Darren Hooker, Deputy Rick Short, Deputy Malin Parker, Detention Lieutenant Don Burdine, Road Superintendent John Bohm, County Treasurer Nancy Belcher, County Assessor Tex Belcher, Rev. Gary Piepkorn, Fire Chief John Bridges, Kevin Spears from the DA's Office, Fair Board President Tim Allison, and Portales News-Tribune Reporter Thomas Garcia. Commissioner Bill Cathey was absent.

Chairman David Sanders called the Meeting to order.

Rev. Gary Piepkorn led an invocation and County Sheriff Darren Hooker led the Pledge of Allegiance and the Salute to the Flag of the State of New Mexico.

Motion to **Approve Minutes** of the March 18, 2008 Regular Meeting was made by Commissioner Creighton with a second by Commissioner Grider. 4 yes votes.

Motion to **Approve Minutes** of the March 18, 2008 Indigent Meeting was made by Commissioner Grider with a second by Commissioner Lopez. 4 yes votes.

Motion to **Ratify Bills and Payroll** through April 1, 2008 was made by Commissioner Creighton with a second by Commissioner Grider. 4 yes votes.

Request for Letter Requesting Cooperation Agency Status Concerning the Mexican Wolf 10J Rule Scoping and EIS. Joe Delk, Paragon Foundation via telephone.

Mr. Delk addressed the Commission via speakerphone regarding Cooperating Agency Status with the US Fish and Wildlife Service. The main objective in obtaining status would be for local government to have a voice in decisions regarding the Mexican Wolf recovery program. Seventeen New Mexico Counties have requested Cooperating Agency Status. NMAC unanimously voted to oppose the recovery program as its present form. The Mexican Wolf program has caused heavy losses in livestock in Catron County and the surrounding area. Motion to request Cooperating Agency Status was made by Commissioner Lopez with a second by Commissioner Creighton. 4 yes votes.

Resolution 08-06 Authorizing Roosevelt County to submit a recycling and illegal dumping grant application to the NM Environment Department.

Ms. Hardin reported that her office had become aware of a grant from the NM Environment Department that would benefit the county's efforts to stop the illegal dumping of calf carcasses and trash along the county roads. The application is for \$10,000 with an in-kind contribution of \$2,500 and will be used to clean up the sites and for public awareness and education. Commissioner Lopez commended the administration for locating the grant. Motion to approve the grant application was made by Commissioner Creighton with a second by Commissioner Lopez. 4 yes votes.

Resolution 08-07 2008 Annual Certified County Maintained Mileage

The County currently maintains 1273.82 miles of roadway.

Commission District 1	-0- miles
Commission District 2	154.21 miles
Commission District 3	421.40 miles
Commission District 4	305.53 miles
Commission District 5	392.68 miles

Motion to certify the mileage report was made by Commissioner Grider with a second by Commissioner Creighton. 4 yes votes.

Elected Officials/Department Heads

Tax Assessor Tex Belcher reported that he had a recent visit from a member of the New Mexico office of Taxation and Revenue. He did not agree with her recommendations regarding special use designation of small grassland tracts and automatic evaluation hikes. The changes were recommended but not mandatory and he does not plan to make any changes at this time.

County Treasurer Nancy Belcher reported that she had done some research on CD and Bond rates as requested by Commissioner Creighton. She was able to find a 10-year CD with Wells Fargo and Callable Bonds for 6 years. She recommended that we wait for a more favorable interest rate and reminded the Commission that she was not comfortable with long-term investments without their direction.

Sheriff Darren Hooker asked Deputy Malin Parker to report on the illegal dumping problem. Deputy Parker reported that the problem was continuing but one individual had been caught. In response to a question from Commissioner Lopez, Deputy Parker reported that no one had received a reward for a tip on illegal dumping and that the source would remain anonymous. Possible solutions mentioned for the cattle carcasses were transporting to the Clovis landfill or help from a local dairyman in composting. Deputy Rick Short reported that there had been 64 reports, 46 arrests and 68 citations with 3 DWI's in the month of March. Roosevelt County has seen a reduction of Meth Labs in recent months.

Detention Center Lieutenant Don Burdine reported that he is housing 52 detainees, 9 of which are female. He reported the new facility is working out well.

John Bohm Road Superintendent reported that his crews had been doing clean up work and tree trimming around the county waiting for rain before beginning any major road repair.

Manager Charlene Hardin asked Kevin Spears to give a report on the renovations of the District Attorneys Office. The building has issues with the floor and possible termite infestation. Manager Hardin wanted the Commission to be prepared for a request in the nature of ten to eleven thousand dollars to complete the renovation.

Commissioner Lopez encouraged the other Commissioners to begin preparing for the DOT meeting in Portales. It would be a good opportunity to network and discuss all the road projects in the county.

Fair Board President Tim Allison responded to Questions by the Commission by reporting that the new bleachers were in place at the fairgrounds and plans are being finalized for electrical work.

RCCDC Report Mr. Randy Knudson again stated that he was very optimistic about some business ventures that may be finalized in the near future. He also stated that Elida was receiving help on a web page to capitalize on highway 70.

Public Input

None

Executive Session pursuant to 10-15-1 NMSA 1978 Commissioner Grider made a motion to go into executive session to discuss limited personnel matters at 9:55 am. Commissioner Lopez made a second, 4 yes votes. At 10:34 am Commissioner Grider made a motion to come out of executive session with a second by Commissioner Lopez.

Action required from Executive Session

No action was taken and none required.

Media Communication

Portales News-Tribune Reporter Thomas Garcia asked for clarification on the Mexican Wolf issue.

Meeting adjourned at 10:36 am.

ATTEST:

BOARD OF ROOSEVELT COUNTY
COMMISSIONERS

E. Janet Collins

David C. Sanders

County Clerk

Commission Chairman