

Tuesday, October 17, 2023
County Commission Room
Roosevelt County Courthouse
Portales, New Mexico 88130

The Roosevelt County Commission met in regular business meeting on Tuesday October 17, 2023 at 9:00 a.m. in the County Commission Room with those present being: Commissioner Paul Grider, Commissioner Tina Dixon, Commissioner Roy Lee Criswell by zoom, Commissioner Rodney Savage, Commissioner Dennis Lopez, County Manager Amber Hamilton, County Attorney Michael Garcia by zoom, Clerk Mandi Park, Assessor Stevin Floyd, Special Programs Coordinator Carol Acosta-Flores, Special Programs Coordinator Carla Weems, Assistant County Manager Liliana Rivera, Sheriff Javier Sanchez, Chief Deputy Sheriff Bryan Holmes, Treasurer Layle Sanchez, RCCDC Executive Director Jodi Diaz, Eastern New Mexico News staff writer Landry Sena, and community member Angie Smith.

Call to Order – Commissioner Grider at 9:00 a.m.

Invocation – Amber Hamilton

Pledge – Commissioner Grider

1. Approval of Agenda: A motion to approve the agenda was made by Commissioner Savage, with a second from Commissioner Lopez. Commissioner Grider-Yes, Commissioner Dixon-Yes, Commissioner Criswell-Yes, Commissioner Savage-Yes, Commissioner Lopez-Yes.

2. Approval of Minutes: A motion to approve the minutes from the October 3, 2023 regular meeting was made by Commissioner Dixon, with a second from Commissioner Grider. Commissioner Grider-Yes, Commissioner Dixon-Yes, Commissioner Criswell-Yes, Commissioner Savage-Yes, Commissioner Lopez-Yes.

3. Approval of Accounts Payable and Payroll: Commissioner Savage made a motion to approve the September payables and payroll with a second from Commissioner Grider. Commissioner Grider-Yes, Commissioner Dixon-Yes, Commissioner Criswell-Yes, Commissioner Savage-Yes, Commissioner Lopez-Yes.

4. Informational Items: Ms. Diaz presented the biannual Economic Development report for the RCCDC. She identified the staff and board of directors and thanked supporters. She stated there are currently 3 prospects for new businesses to come to the area. She stated the first is very close to signing contracts and is an agricultural related retail business. The other 2 are food and beverage retail operations. Ms. Diaz stated there is a new lead for an additional business. She stated there are 2 LEDA grant applications in the works, and 6 possible applicants have been given the LEDA grant application paperwork. Ms. Diaz stated she recently attended the governors conference with other area representatives. She also attended events in Austin and Las Vegas. The Las Vegas event held in May had more than 20,000 in attendance. The Austin event in August was much smaller but also very beneficial. Ms. Diaz stated the RCCDC has awarded 13 facade improvement grants, with ten of those being completed and paid out. She stated there were more than 80 attendees at the spring hiring event and there was positive feedback from participating employers. She shared her focus on business retention and expansion aspects. By surveying existing businesses, they are identifying barriers and areas of need that can be addressed to help local businesses. She stated working with MyMar to resurface South Roosevelt Road 6 and Industrial Drive was one example of the cooperative effort between industry and government to help business and the local economy. Ms. Diaz stated the RCCDC banquet is scheduled for November 13, 2023.

5. Public Requests: There were no public requests.

6. Elected Officials and Department Heads Reports:

Clerk: Ms. Park stated early voting began on October 10th in the Clerk's Office, with 88 ballots cast already. She stated there have been 60 absentee ballots mailed and 2 returned to this point. Election school for poll officials will be held on Thursday at the Jake Lopez Building. Poll officials get a refresher training prior to every election. Early voting will begin on October 21st at the Jake Lopez Building, with convenience hours. Those hours are noon to 8:00 pm Tuesday through Friday and 10:00 am to 6:00 pm on each of 3 Saturdays. Election day is November 7, 2023.

Treasurer: Ms. Sanchez reported that tax bills will be sent out next week. She stated tax bills can be paid online as well as in the office. Ms. Sanchez stated there will be a tax lien sale tomorrow morning at 10:00 am here in the commission room. The tax sale held in June had to be rescinded, and those same properties will be sold tomorrow October 18, 2023.

Ms. Sanchez reported the general fund balances for July and August as follows: She stated the general fund beginning cash for July 1, 2023 was \$2,925,747.90 with debits of \$464,994.02 and credits of \$685,235.96 leaving an ending balance of \$2,705,505.79. The August beginning balance was \$2,705,505.79 with debits of \$400,425.86 and credits of \$598,696.19 leaving an ending balance of \$2,507,235.63 as of the end of August.

Healthcare: Ms. Acosta-Flores requested the commission go into Indigent Healthcare Board. At 9:18 Commissioner Lopez made a motion to go into Indigent Board with a second by Commissioner Grider. Commissioner Grider-Yes, Commissioner Dixon-Yes, Commissioner Savage-Yes, Commissioner Lopez-Yes. Commissioner Criswell did not cast any further votes until the executive session. Ms. Acosta-Flores reported 20 claims totaling \$16,267.54 had been submitted. She recommended the approval of 16 of those claims totaling \$12,439.54 and denial of the remaining 4 claims totaling \$3,828.00. Ms. Acosta-Flores also presented a request for indigent burial. Asking the commission to approve a payment of \$1,000.00 to Riverside Crematory in Albuquerque. She stated Riverside would also store the cremains for the required 2-year time frame. At 9:23 Commissioner Lopez made a motion to come out of Indigent Healthcare Board with a second by Commissioner Savage. Commissioner Grider-Yes, Commissioner Dixon-Yes, Commissioner Savage-Yes, Commissioner Lopez-Yes. Commissioner Lopez made a motion to approve the indigent healthcare report with a second by Commissioner Savage. Commissioner Grider-Yes, Commissioner Dixon-Yes, Commissioner Savage-Yes,

Commissioner Lopez-Yes. Commissioner Lopez made a motion to approve the indigent burial request with a second by Commissioner Savage. Commissioner Grider-Yes, Commissioner Dixon-Yes, Commissioner Savage-Yes, Commissioner Lopez-Yes.

Manager: Ms. Hamilton noted chipseal of Industrial drive should be complete by the end of the day. She stated Highlands will also be complete this week. Those projects finish up the LGRF and TPF funding. Ms. Hamilton stated the parking at the law enforcement complex and magistrate court has been rehabilitated, patched and resurfaced.

Ms. Hamilton presented the annual state of the county report. She stated there are 93 positions in the county organizational chart. The FY22 audit showed a strong stable financial picture, with no findings, which is consistent with FY16-FY21. She stated the county has a high Moodys rating; AA2 – AA3, up from A3 in 2015. The Moodys rating is very similar to an individual's credit score. Ms. Hamilton stated there is currently a little more than \$8,000,000.00 in reserves and approximately \$3,000,000.00 in the special reserve for one-time use capital expenses. She spoke about the goals identified in the strategic planning retreat and the bold steps taken to achieve those goals. Ms. Hamilton stated having the 5-year road plan in place has been beneficial, with 55 miles of roadways being enhanced or rehabilitated. She stated the majority of the TPF road funds have been expended. Ms. Hamilton stated the detention center has received a second re-accreditation. The detention center has also seen success with the MAT Program. Ms. Hamilton noted the progress toward a regional behavior health facility and the collaborative efforts among many regional entities. Ms. Hamilton listed the boards and committees she serves on.

Commissioners: Commissioner Lopez stated he would again like to address Lime Street. He would like to try to work with businesses in the area to address the condition of the road way and the drainage. Commissioner Lopez invited other commissioners to ride with him in the ENMU Homecoming parade on Saturday. Commissioner Dixon stated she and Commissioner Criswell have attended NACO meetings. She serves on the EELU steering committee and they have been discussing the 30x30 declaration. She stated she, as an individual, is working with others to stop the 30x30 push. There will be a meeting at 6:00 pm on October 23, at the Methodist Church to hear from Kelly Goss, and others affected by the declaration. She stated there are multiple counties hosting similar meetings to inform the public of how the 30x30 declaration will affect them.

7. New Business:

A. Discussion and Update on Continued Public Service Negotiations with the City of Portales –

Commissioners: Commissioner Dixon stated there had been no further negotiation with the City, but Fire Chief Cathey had presented to City Council and asked for their blessing to present to the County Commission. Chief Cathey will present at the November 14, 2023 commission meeting. No action was necessary.

B. Request for Approval of Asset Disposal by Public Auction of a 2008 Chevy Impala from the Detention Center; a 2009 Ford F250, two 2005 Kenworth T600 Trucks and a 2012 John Deere 310K Backhoe from the Road Department:

Ms. Hamilton noted a mistake in the agenda, listing the two Kenworth trucks as 2005 models, those vehicles are 1995 models. Commissioner Lopez made a motion to approve the disposal of the listed assets including the two 1995 model Kenworth T600 trucks, with a second by Commissioner Grider. Commissioner Grider-Yes, Commissioner Dixon-Yes, Commissioner Savage-Yes, Commissioner Lopez-Yes.

8. Resolutions – Ordinances – Proclamations:

A. Consideration of Proclamation Declaring November 4, 2023 as “Walk to End Alzheimer’s Day” in

Roosevelt County: Ms. Hamilton read the proclamation aloud. Commissioner Dixon made a motion to approve the proclamation with a second from Commissioner Lopez. Commissioner Grider-Yes, Commissioner Dixon-Yes, Commissioner Savage-Yes, Commissioner Lopez-Yes.

B. Consideration of Resolution 2023-42 Supporting the 2024 New Mexico Counties Legislative Priorities:

Commissioner Dixon stated the NMAC board met and voted on the legislative priorities for the 2024 session. She requested the Commission approve the resolution supporting those priorities listed in the resolution. Commissioner Grider made a motion to approve the resolution with a second from Commissioner Savage. Commissioner Grider-Yes, Commissioner Dixon-Yes, Commissioner Savage-Yes, Commissioner Lopez-Yes.

9. Contracts – Agreements – Procurements:

A. Request for Approval of Award of RFP 2024-04 Food Services at the Roosevelt County Detention Center:

Ms. Rivera stated a 30-day extension with the current provider has been reached and asked to table this item until the November meeting. Commissioner Lopez made a motion to table the award, with a second by Commissioner Dixon. Commissioner Grider-Yes, Commissioner Dixon-Yes, Commissioner Savage-Yes, Commissioner Lopez-Yes.

B. Request for Approval of Intergovernmental Agreement with the 9th Judicial District Attorney’s Office and Roosevelt County Sheriff’s Office:

Sheriff Sanchez requested approval of the agreement which would allow the Sheriff’s Office to work with the District Attorney’s Office to serve felony warrants as part of the HB2 funding allocation. Commissioner Dixon made a motion to approve the agreement with a second by Commissioner Lopez. Commissioner Grider-Yes, Commissioner Dixon-Yes, Commissioner Savage-Yes, Commissioner Lopez-Yes.

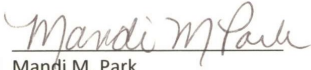
10. Executive Session: Commissioner Dixon made a motion to go into executive session at 10:02 am with a second by Commissioner Lopez. Commissioner Dixon read from the agenda the topics of discussion for the closed session. Commissioner Grider-Yes, Commissioner Dixon-Yes, Commissioner Savage-Yes, Commissioner Lopez-Yes. Commissioner Criswell joined the executive session at 10:38 am. At 10:41 am Commissioner Dixon made a motion to come out of executive session with a second by Commissioner Lopez. Commissioner Grider-Yes, Commissioner Dixon-Yes, Commissioner Criswell-Yes, Commissioner Savage-Yes, Commissioner Lopez-Yes. Commissioner Grider stated no action was taken in executive session, but action is necessary as a result of the executive session. Commissioner Dixon made a motion to authorize County Attorney Mr. Garcia to draft a

petition for declaratory judgement regarding the detention center, with a second by Commissioner Savage. Commissioner Grider-Yes, Commissioner Dixon-Yes, Commissioner Criswell-Yes, Commissioner Savage-Yes, Commissioner Lopez-Yes.

11. Media Communication: Ms. Sena with the Eastern New Mexico News left the meeting when the executive session began. There were no media inquiries.

12. Adjourn: The meeting was adjourned at 10:42 a.m.

ATTEST:


Mandi M. Park
County Clerk

BOARD OF ROOSEVELT
COUNTY COMMISSIONERS


Paul Grider
Commission Chair

