

Tuesday, December 5, 2023
County Commission Room
Roosevelt County Courthouse
Portales, New Mexico 88130

The Roosevelt County Commission met in regular business meeting on Tuesday December 5, 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, Commissioner Rodney Savage, Commissioner Dennis Lopez by phone, County Manager Amber Hamilton, County Attorney Michael Garcia, Clerk Mandi Park, Probate Judge Kendall Terry, Assessor Stevin Floyd, Assistant County Manager Liliana Rivera, Interim Road Superintendent Juan Dominguez, Detention Administrator Shayla Ramsey, Chief Deputy Sheriff Bryan Holmes, Treasurer Layle Sanchez, Special Projects Coordinator Carol Acosta-Flores, Special Projects Coordinator Carla Weems, Portales Fire Chief Timothy Cathey, Dora Fire Chief Paul Luscombe, Arch Fire Chief Jay Lang, Milnesand Volunteer Firefighter Ken Orman, Paramedic Hugh Frank, Elida Volunteer Fire Chief Darrell Chenault, community members Angie Smith and Alan Carter.

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 Grider. 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 November 14, 2023 regular meeting was made by Commissioner Dixon, with a second from Commissioner Criswell. Commissioner Grider-Yes, Commissioner Dixon-Yes, Commissioner Criswell-Yes, Commissioner Savage-Yes, Commissioner Lopez-Yes.

3. Public Requests: Alan Carter stated the commissioners are elected to run the county. He feels like the way the ethics ordinance is written gives too much authority and power to the County Manager. He stated employees need to have a voice with the commission. He stated not everything needs to run through the office of the county manager. Angie Smith echoed Mr. Carter's remarks. She stated she also has concerns with areas within the ordinance that contradict other portions of the same ordinance. Toni Whitecotton thanked the commission for all the work done at the fairgrounds and asked for continued open communication.

4. Elected Officials and Department Heads Reports:

Probate Judge: Judge Kendall Terry gave his annual report to the commission stating there had been 41 probate filings during calendar year 2023. Of those, 30 were probates and 11 were misc. filings such as proof of authority and small estate affidavits. Judge Terry also stated he had held workshops through Legal Resources for the Elderly. He stated he would like to offer additional workshops that would reach a broader audience regarding Probates, Wills, Trusts, etc. He asked Attorney Garcia if he could provide those educational seminars. Mr. Garcia replied he would look for someone with expertise in that area.

Treasurer: Ms. Sanchez reported the September general fund cash balances as having a beginning balance of \$2,507,235.63 with debit of \$1,086,086.64 and credits of \$1,229,963.28 leaving and ending cash balance of \$2,363,358.99. Ms. Sanchez stated it is tax collection time. First half payments are due by December 10, 2023, but since the 10th is Sunday, the deadline is extended to close of business on the following business day. She reminded everyone to get their property tax payments in before the 12-11-2023 deadline to avoid interest and penalty.

Detention: Ms. Ramsey reported the facility count at 71 with 14 female detainees and 57 male detainees in custody. Those include 35 out of county detainees. She expects that number to continue to rise. She stated Quay County was billed \$113,750.00 for the month of November. Chaves County was billed \$3,750.00 for the month. Ms. Ramsey reported 15 participants in the MAT Program with 5 receiving medication and all 15 participating in both individual and group counseling. She stated there are 9 waiting to be accepted into the MAT Program. She also stated there are 7 detainees participating in GED classes. Parenting classes will resume in January when the university semester starts. The 15 detainees participating in the MAT program also participate in yoga.

Indigent Health Care: Ms. Acosta-Flores requested to go into indigent board meeting. At 9:18 a.m. Commissioner Lopez made a motion to go into indigent board, with a second by Commissioner Savage. Commissioner Grider-Yes, Commissioner Dixon-Yes, Commissioner Criswell-Yes, Commissioner Savage-Yes, Commissioner Lopez-Yes. Ms. Acosta-Flores presented the indigent healthcare report. She stated there were 19 claims submitted, totaling \$12,196.48. She recommended payment of 11 of those claims totaling \$6,197.48 and denying 8 claims totaling \$5,999.00. Ms. Acosta-Flores stated Portales Police Department had taken 2 arrestees in for medical treatment and one patient had Medicaid. At 9:25 a.m. Commissioner Lopez made a motion to come out of indigent board, with a second by Commissioner Savage. Commissioner Grider-Yes, Commissioner Dixon-Yes, Commissioner Criswell-Yes, Commissioner Savage-Yes, Commissioner Lopez-Yes. Commissioner Grider made a motion to approve indigent claims as recommended by Ms. Acosta-Flores, with a second by Commissioner Savage. Commissioner Grider-Yes, Commissioner Dixon-Yes, Commissioner Criswell-Yes, Commissioner Savage-Yes, Commissioner Lopez-Yes. There was additional discussion about who is responsible for medical care for arrestees from other agencies prior to being booked into the detention center. Ms. Acosta-Flores stated it is the responsibility of the arresting agency to provide medical clearance before an arrestee can be booked in.

Road: Mr. Dominguez stated there are crews working on the capital outlay project on SRR 20. A Cattle Guard crew is working in the Milnesand area. They are patching potholes and maintainers are on their blade routes. He stated Ms. Flores-Acosta has submitted another RAID Grant to take care of some dumped tires. Ms. Acosta-

Flores will have additional information about the RAID grant, public service announcements and tire amnesty days at a future meeting. Commissioner Savage notified Mr. Dominguez of a pothole forming on just south of the intersection with SRR 7 on SRR P. Ms. Hamilton reminded the commission that there would be a road and fleet workshop following the December 19, 2023 regular meeting.

Manager: Ms. Hamilton said She stated maintenance has finished upgrades at the Jake Lopez Community Center including flooring and paint in the fair office and McAlister Room. They are now waiting on a backhoe contractor to make plumbing repairs to old collapsed lines. They are working on the improvements to the Kacahuatle room. She stated the drainage repair and the ADA sidewalk repair at the fairgrounds is complete and the paint on the fencing at the entrance is almost complete. Ms. Hamilton stated the audit is now complete and was submitted on time. Once it is approved by DFA, it will be posted to the website. She stated there is a meeting scheduled with the architect regarding the courthouse entrances replacement plans. She stated the architect will report to the commission in January regarding the fairgrounds plan and will receive their feedback and public input. Ms. Hamilton stated the Emergency Operation Center project will exceed the scope, so an architect will have to be used for the design of the EOC. Ms. Hamilton stated use of GRT for emergency services would have to go to a voter referendum and shared the information provided by NM Taxation and Revenue Department concerns about the taxing capacity of both entities. . She stated administration is working on a bold step in the communication vehicles laid out in the strategic planning meeting. They will have a master's student working to set up social media outlets for the county and drafting policy for use of those outlets as details are being finalized with ENMU. She stated she is working with bond council on the early pay-off of debt service, which should be ready to present at the next meeting. Ms. Hamilton reported on her travel with the civic leaders through Cannon Air Force Base. She stated they had traveled to Air Force Bases in to San Antonio Texas, Del Rio Texas and Maxwell Alabama and attended a graduation ceremony and a citizenship ceremony. She stated it was very educational and impactful.

Commissioners: Commissioner Savage thanked Mr. Dominguez for patching the potholes that he asked about in the previous meeting. He also told Mr. Dominquez about forming potholes on SRR 8 near NM 88. He stated that road needs work. The 55-mph speed limit is becoming a safety hazard due to the condition of the road. Commissioner Criswell stated there are several blacktops in his district that will be lost if not resurfaced soon. He stated the cattle guards have to get cleaned out.

5. New Business:

A. Consideration of Acceptance of Donation from Hershall Carmichael of a 1926 Road Grader:

Commissioner Criswell stated he had been contacted by Mr. Carmichael who would like to donate a 1926 Road Grader to the county to be put on exhibit at the fairgrounds. Commissioner Grider asked about the condition. It was running but has not been used in the last 15 years. Commissioner Criswell made a motion to accept the donation, with a second from Commissioner Savage. Commissioner Grider-Yes, Commissioner Dixon-Yes, Commissioner Criswell-Yes, Commissioner Savage-Yes, Commissioner Lopez-Yes.

B. Discussion and Consideration of Additional Capital Outlay Requests: Ms. Hamilton stated she had received a request from LaCasa to include a 60x60 metal storage building in the county's capital outlay requests. Ms. Hamilton told La Casa, that the ICIP process is complete, but she would bring it to the commission. She also suggested they seek funding through Aging and Long-Term Services for the construction of the storage building. Commissioner Lopez asked if the request also included ADA compliant doors. It does not. No action was taken.

C. Discussion and Possible Action with Rural Fire Departments: Commissioner Dixon asked rural fire departments how they could be affected by the Portales Fire Department being told to pull back services to the city limits. All departments expressed the same concerns about not being able to handle an increased call volume particularly in ambulance calls. There could be loss of lives. Floyd, Dora, Elida, Arch and Milnesand were all represented. All agreed they need the expertise of the Portales Fire and EMS. Dora Fire Chief Paul Luscomb stated he would see a 450% increase in call volume if Portales was not allowed to respond to calls in the Dora fire district. He stated brush fire calls are reimbursed by State Forestry, but it is barely a break-even reimbursement. All Chiefs want everyone to understand how costly it is to provide Fire and EMS services. No department can afford to continue to be neighborly without getting paid. After much discussion, no action was taken.

6. Resolutions – Ordinances – Proclamations:

A. Discussion of the Roosevelt County Ethics Ordinance: Commissioner Criswell stated the ethics ordinance the way it is written gives too much authority to the County Manager. He cited a few sections where staff were required to go through administration to bring concerns to the commission. Others interpreted the sections differently. Commissioner Criswell made a motion to do away with the ethics ordinance, with a second from Commissioner Dixon. After much discussion, a vote was taken. Commissioner Grider-No, Commissioner Dixon-Yes, Commissioner Criswell-Yes, Commissioner Savage-No, Commissioner Lopez-No. The commission felt the ordinance needs revision for clarity, but did not need to be thrown out completely. Commissioner Savage asked commissioners to come back with specific amendments to the ethics ordinance to be considered at the next meeting.

7. Contracts – Agreements – Procurements:

A. Request for Approval to Utilize CES Contract No. 2023-01-C2112-ALL for Solar Project Feasibility

Assessment by Souder, Miller & Associates for Various County-Owned Facilities: Ms. Acosta-Flores requested approval of a feasibility study for a solar project to provide power to Detention and fairgrounds facilities. Commissioner Savage made a motion to approve the request, with a second by Commissioner Grider. Commissioner Grider-Yes, Commissioner Dixon-Yes, Commissioner Criswell-Yes, Commissioner Savage-Yes, Commissioner Lopez-Yes.

B. Request for Approval of Grant Award 23-ZH5053-42 for NM Regional Recreation Centers Quality of Life Program for \$1,011,300: Ms. Acosta-Flores requested approval of the grant award, stating this is a quick turn-around time of only 7 months. She stated the shovel ready projects including ADA bleachers, covered horse stalls, ADA picnic area and restrooms at the fairgrounds could be done using these funds in that timeframe. Commissioner Grider made a motion to approve the award with a second by Commissioner Savage. Commissioner Grider-Yes, Commissioner Dixon-Yes, Commissioner Criswell-Yes, Commissioner Savage-Yes, Commissioner Lopez-Yes.

C. Request for Approval of Award of Contract to Supply Three-Eighths Minus Chip Seal Aggregate to K. Barnett & Sons, Inc.: Ms. Rivera requested the contract for 3/8- chip seal aggregate be awarded to K. Barnett & Sons, as they were the lowest bidder for the aggregate. Commissioner Dixon made a motion to approve the award with a second by Commissioner Criswell. Commissioner Grider-Yes, Commissioner Dixon-Yes, Commissioner Criswell-Yes, Commissioner Savage-Yes, Commissioner Lopez-Yes.

D. Request for Approval to Utilize the Statewide Price Agreement SPA-10-00000-20-00036AA to contract with Summit Food Service, LLC at the Roosevelt County Detention Center: Ms. Rivera requested use of the state price agreement for Summit Food Services, stating an RFP had been published twice with only one proposal submitted each time. Both times the proposal was outside of the available budget for food service at the detention center. Ms. Rivera added Summit provides food services at neighboring facilities and could easily transition to serving RCDC. Commissioner Grider made a motion to approve the use of the state price agreement with a second by Commissioner Savage. Commissioner Grider-Yes, Commissioner Dixon-Yes, Commissioner Criswell-Yes, Commissioner Savage-Yes, Commissioner Lopez-Yes.

E. Request for Approval of Intergovernmental Agreement with Portales Municipal Schools: Chief Deputy Bryan Holmes requested approval of the agreement to place a resource officer in the Portales Schools. Commissioner Dixon asked if this grant could be used for rural schools first. Mr. Holmes explained the Portales schools are ready to match the grant funds. He also stated the goal is to have resource officers countywide at some point. Commissioner Savage made a motion to approve the agreement with Portales Schools with a second by Commissioner Grider. Commissioner Grider-Yes, Commissioner Dixon-No, Commissioner Criswell-Yes, Commissioner Savage-Yes, Commissioner Lopez-Yes.

F. Request for Approval of Grant Agreement with the NM Department of Transportation Traffic Safety Division for the Roosevelt County Sheriff's Office: Chief Deputy Holmes requested approval of the grant agreement, stating the funds are used for staffing and additional deputy hours for traffic programs as well as other programs. Commissioner Dixon made a motion to approve the agreement with a second by Commissioner Grider. Commissioner Grider-Yes, Commissioner Dixon-Yes, Commissioner Criswell-Yes, Commissioner Savage-Yes, Commissioner Lopez-Yes.

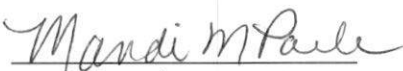
8. Media Communication: There was no media present and there were no media inquiries.

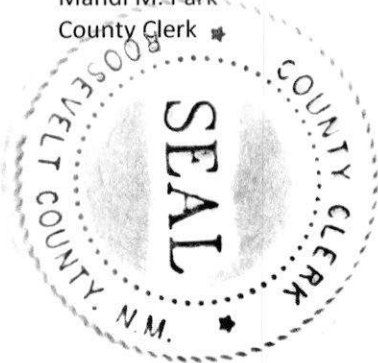
9. Recess: Commissioner Grider recessed the meeting at 11:37 am to conduct the annual detention center inspection.

10. Annual Commissioners Detention Center Inspection: Commissioners Savage, Criswell and Grider met at the Roosevelt County Detention Center at noon with Ms. Hamilton, Administrator Ramsey and Lt. Layher to tour the detention center for the annual inspection. The inspection concluded at 1:14 pm.

11. Adjourn: The meeting was adjourned at 1:14 p.m.

ATTEST:


Mandi M. Park
County Clerk



BOARD OF ROOSEVELT
COUNTY COMMISSIONERS


Paul Grider
Commission Chair

