

Tuesday November 12, 2024  
County Commission Room  
Roosevelt County Courthouse  
Portales, New Mexico 88130

The Roosevelt County Commission met in regular business meeting on Tuesday November 12, 2024 at 9:00 a.m. in the County Commission Room with those present being: Commissioner Paul Grider, Commissioner Roy Lee Criswell, Commissioner Rodney Savage, Commissioner Tina Dixon, Commissioner Dennis Lopez, County Attorney Michael Garica by zoom, County Manager Annette Kirk, Clerk Mandi Park, Treasurer Layle Sanchez, Assessor Stevin Floyd, Detention Administrator Shayla Ramsey, MAT Program Coordinator Kris Paulus, Human Resources Coordinator Gemma Martin, Road Superintendent Juan Dominguez, GIS Technician Johnny Montiel, Sheriff Javier Sanchez, IT Technician Brandon Brooks, Attorneys Brandon Huss and Grace Phillips by zoom and presenters Brianna Berskson, Josh Jenks, Beatrice Sampson, Jaime Mears, Thane Hutcheson, Peter Kelton, Charles Garcia, and Eugene Varbal and community members Malin Parker, Cassidy Self, Tandy Delk, Robert Brown, Sharon Rowley, Raymond Mondragon, Julie Surina, James Bordegaray by phone.

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

Invocation – Commissioner Criswell

Pledge – Commissioner Dixon

- 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 Criswell-Yes, Commissioner Dixon-Yes, Commissioner Savage-Yes, Commissioner Lopez-Yes.
- 2) **Approval of Minutes:** A motion to approve the minutes from the October 22, 2024 regular meeting was made by Commissioner Grider with a second from Commissioner Grider. Commissioner Grider-Yes, Commissioner Criswell-Yes, Commissioner Dixon-Yes, Commissioner Savage-Yes, Commissioner Lopez-Yes.
- 3) **Approval of Accounts Payable and Payroll:** A motion to approve the payables and payroll from October 1 - 31, 2024 was made by Commissioner Savage with a second from Commissioner Lopez. Commissioner Grider-Yes, Commissioner Criswell-Yes, Commissioner Dixon-Yes, Commissioner Savage-Yes, Commissioner Lopez-Yes.
- 4) **Executive Session:** At 9:03 a.m. Commissioner Grider made a motion to go into executive session with a second by Commissioner Criswell. Commissioner Dixon stated only those items on the agenda will be discussed in the closed session. Those present for the closed session include all 5 commissioners, Ms. Kirk, Mr. Garcia, Detention Administrator Ramsey, MAT Program Coordinator Kris Paulus, and NM Counties Attorneys Grace Phillips and Brandon Huss. Commissioner Grider-Yes, Commissioner Criswell-Yes, Commissioner Dixon-Yes, Commissioner Savage-Yes, Commissioner Lopez-Yes. At 9:32 a.m. Ms. Ramsey and Ms. Paulus left the closed session. At 9:48 a.m. Commissioner Savage made a motion to come out of executive session with a second by Commissioner Dixon. Commissioner Grider-Yes, Commissioner Criswell-Yes, Commissioner Dixon-Yes, Commissioner Savage-Yes, Commissioner Lopez-Yes.
  - A. As a result of the executive session, Commissioner Lopez made a motion to turn over MAT Program litigation to Grace Phillips. Commissioner Grider-Yes, Commissioner Criswell-Yes, Commissioner Dixon-Yes, Commissioner Savage-Yes, Commissioner Lopez-Yes.
- 5) **Informational Items:** Peter Kelton, attorney with the Rodey Law Firm, representing the County through the IRB process, gave an overview of the process. Mr. Kelton stated Industrial Revenue Bonds are not an obligation of the county. Jaime Mears with the Orsted group answered questions regarding the project. School superintendents in attendance asked questions about the funding, safety, erosion, etc. Mr. Kelton presented a scenario of the distribution of funds to the school districts based on the formula set forth in the IRB process.
- 6) **Public Requests:** There were no public requests.
- 7) **Elected Officials and Department Heads Reports:**
  - Clerk:** Ms. Park stated the office is thankful the election is over, and the canvass of the election is further down the agenda.
  - Court Compliance:** Ms. Jiminez was not in attendance. Ms. Kirk stated Ms. Jiminez would have a report at a future meeting.
  - Detention:** Ms. Ramsey stated the facility count is 59 with 13 female detainees and 46 male detainees in custody. Of those, 12 are out-of-county detainees. She stated Quay County was billed \$30,000.00, Curry was billed \$375.00, Eddy was billed \$625.00 and Cannon Air Force Base was billed \$5,250.00 for the month of October. She stated there are currently 11 detainees participating in the MAT program with all 11 receiving both group and individual counseling. She stated there are 9 in the program receiving medication, and 2 that are not in the program who are receiving medication. There are 6 waiting to be interviewed to get into the program. Ms. Ramsey stated there are 3 participating in GED Classes, 11 participating in Yoga and 10 in sexual health. They are currently accepting applications for parenting classes and have just finished anger management classes. Ms. Ramsey also stated there have been 79 intakes, 79 releases, and 20 transports in addition to the current facility count.
  - Road:** Mr. Dominguez stated they are hauling caliche to South Roosevelt Road Z and South Roosevelt Road 34 as well as SRR AU west of Kenna and NRR AP. Blades are working their routes and fixing a lot of wash-outs. SRR 4 ½ is next to be chip sealed. They have been busy with pothole patching and tree trimming. Bus Routes are a priority. While we are thankful for the rain, it creates issues with roads.
  - Manager:** Ms. Kirk stated the Ethics board met and chose to dismiss the complaint. She noted the quarterly finance report was submitted a day late, but is complete. Ms. Kirk gave updates on easements with the state land office, black water solar, and gearing up for construction at the Bonem House to build out the EOC. There is



some urgency to incur ARPA funds for the project. She stated Mr. Spinks requested permission to remove the old horse stalls at the outdoor arena. She stated they are not on the asset list. She stated she has a meeting scheduled with fire chiefs to discuss the agreements negotiated with the Dora Volunteer Fire Department.

**Commissioners:** Commissioner Grider welcomed Gemma to Roosevelt County, glad to have her in the human resources position. Commissioner Criswell stated the ethics committee meeting was a waste of time, as they do not have any real authority to make any changes or take any action. Commissioner Criswell also noted there are other items that need to be hauled to auction or salvaged. He reported the toilet in the extension office is in need of maintenance, and the east and north entrances to the building have water coming in under the doors since the new sidewalks were installed.

#### 8) Old Business:

**A. Discussion and Consideration of Right of Ways of County Roads with the State Land Office:**

Commissioner Savage stated he is ready to move forward with the easements from the state land office. It would save the count a great deal of money to do it sooner rather than later. They are offering a cost of \$1.16 per rod in the amnesty program versus the \$30.00 per rod at fair market value. After much discussion of rod count, who benefits, privately deeded land, cost/value, the fence project, etc., Commissioner Dixon made a motion to postpone the vote until another meeting, with a second from Commissioner Savage. Commissioner Lopez. Commissioner Grider-Yes, Commissioner Criswell-Yes, Commissioner Dixon-Yes, Commissioner Savage-Yes, Commissioner Lopez-Yes.

**B. Discussion and Consideration of the Fence Project on North Roosevelt Road AV:** Commissioner Savage made a motion to postpone this item as well, with a second by Commissioner Lopez. Commissioner Lopez. Commissioner Grider-Yes, Commissioner Criswell-Yes, Commissioner Dixon-Yes, Commissioner Savage-Yes, Commissioner Lopez-Yes.

#### 9) New Business:

**Canvass – 2024 General Election Held November 5, 2024:** At 11:44 a.m. Commissioner Lopez made a motion to recess Board of County Commission and go into County Canvass Board. Commissioner Grider-Yes, Commissioner Criswell-Yes, Commissioner Dixon-Yes, Commissioner Savage-Yes, Commissioner Lopez-Yes. Ms. Park presented the county canvass stating there were a total of 6666 ballots cast, of those 6626 were machine tallied, and 40 were hand tallied. 1 was provisional and 2 were FWAB, a third FWAB was not eligible to be counted as the voter was not registered in Roosevelt County. Ms. Park stated there were 468 absentee ballots requested prior to the deadline, all 468 were mailed out, of those 428 were returned before the polls closed. Ms. Park noted there were 21 ballots received via ballot drop box, one ballot received belonged to Curry County and Curry received one that belonged to Roosevelt. Both were transported to the proper county to be counted. Ms. Park stated there were 503 Same Day Registrations processed during the election cycle. Ms. Park stated Mr. Munoz was out of town for work, but has expressed his intent to participate in BIPO and the remainder of the commission meetings this year prior to taking office in January. Ms. Park stated the voter turn-out represented 57.24% of the eligible voters. She also noted each of the uncontested candidates had high vote-of-confidence ratings, with Senator-Elect Boone receiving votes from 82% of the voters casting ballots. Ms. Park requested approval to count both the eligible FWAB ballots and the provisional ballot. At 11:50 a.m. Commissioner Dixon made a motion to come out of Board of Canvass and reconvene Board of County Commissioners with a second by Commissioner Savage. Commissioner Grider-Yes, Commissioner Criswell-Yes, Commissioner Dixon-Yes, Commissioner Savage-Yes, Commissioner Lopez-Yes.

**A. Request for Approval of the 2024 General Election Canvass Report:** Ms. Park requested approval of the canvass report. Commissioner Grider made a motion to approve the canvass report and include the 2 FWAB and 1 provisional ballot in the final count to bring the total ballots cast to 6666, with a second by Commissioner Lopez. Commissioner Grider-Yes, Commissioner Criswell-Yes, Commissioner Dixon-Yes, Commissioner Savage-Yes, Commissioner Lopez-Yes.

**B. Discussion of RGH Event at the Jake Lopez Building on December 6, 2024 and Request for Approval of a Private Celebration Permit by RGH/Enchantment Vineyards:** Cassidy Self stated Roosevelt General Hospital would like to host their annual employee holiday party at the Jake Lopez Community Center and requested approval of the private celebration permit for that event. Commissioner Criswell made a motion to approve with a second from Commissioner Lopez. Commissioner Grider-Yes, Commissioner Criswell-Yes, Commissioner Dixon-Yes, Commissioner Savage-Yes, Commissioner Lopez-Yes.

**C. Request for Approval of a Summary Replat of Tract 2 and Tract 3 of the Villegas Subdivision of Roosevelt County:** Mr. Montiel stated the replat is within the City of Portales' 3-mile jurisdiction. He stated it has been approved by the city. It combines two lots into one 3.45-acre tract which will be known as Tract A. He stated there were no adverse opinions and it meets all of the rules and regulations of the subdivision ordinance. Mr. Montiel requested approval of the replat. Commissioner Lopez made a motion to to approve the requested replat with a second by Commissioner Dixon. Commissioner Grider-Yes, Commissioner Criswell-Yes, Commissioner Dixon-Yes, Commissioner Savage-Yes, Commissioner Lopez-Yes.

**D. Discussion and Consideration of EOC & Bonem Building Renovation Proposal and Permission to Replace the Fire Alarm and Remove the Fire Suppression System:** Ms. Kirk introduces Mr. Eugene Varble as the contractor for the project. Mr. Varbel stated the old fire alarms and suppression system are outdated and obsolete, making it very expensive to maintain. He stated since the category of the purpose of the building has changed, that removal of the suppression system is acceptable. Replacing the alarm system would be more cost effective than maintaining the old system. Commissioner Lopez made a motion to remove the suppression system and replace the alarm system, with a second by Commissioner Savage. Commissioner Grider-Yes, Commissioner Criswell-Yes, Commissioner Dixon-Yes, Commissioner Savage-Yes, Commissioner Lopez-Yes.

**E. Discussion and Consideration of Letter to President-Elect Donald Trump in Support of Yvette Herrell for consideration of Department of Interior Committee:** Commissioner Dixon requested the county manager



draft a letter in support of Ms. Herrell for appointment to a position with the Department of the Interior within President Trumps administration to be sent to the president elect. Commissioner Dixon made the motion to draft and send the letter, with a second by Commissioner Savage. Commissioner Grider-Yes, Commissioner Criswell-Yes, Commissioner Dixon-Yes, Commissioner Savage-Yes, Commissioner Lopez-Yes.

10) **Resolutions-Ordinances-Proclamations:**

A. **Consideration of Resolution 2024-39 Revising the Roosevelt County Emergency Action Plan as adopted by Resolution 2017-11:** Mr. Montiel state the resolution is an update to the emergency action plan formerly adopted. He requested adoption. Commissioner Grider made a motion to adopt the revised plan with a second by Commissioner Criswell. Commissioner Grider-Yes, Commissioner Criswell-Yes, Commissioner Dixon-Yes, Commissioner Savage-Yes, Commissioner Lopez-Yes.

B. **Discussion and Consideration of Resolution 2024-40 Revising the Roosevelt County Detention Center Policy and Procedure Chapter F: Detainee Program Section 1: Programs and Services 5: A-C as adopted by Resolution 2024-15:** Ms. Ramsey stated this resolution revises the policy adopted earlier this year to update programs and services and eligibility criteria for participation. Commissioner Dixon made a motion to approve the resolution with a second by Commissioner Savage. Commissioner Grider-Yes, Commissioner Criswell-Yes, Commissioner Dixon-Yes, Commissioner Savage-Yes, Commissioner Lopez-Yes.

C. **Consideration of Ordinance 2024-03 to Issue Taxable Industrial Revenue Bonds (Blackwater Solar Center, LLC Project) in an Amount not to Exceed Three Hundred Fifteen Million Dollars (\$315,000,000.00) in Connection with a Proposed Solar Photovoltaic Electric Generating and Storage Project Located within Roosevelt County, New Mexico:** Commissioner Grider made a motion to approve the ordinance, with a second by Commissioner Dixon. Commissioner Grider-Yes, Commissioner Criswell-Yes, Commissioner Dixon-Yes, Commissioner Savage-Yes, Commissioner Lopez-Yes.

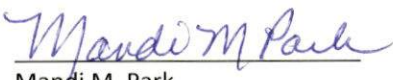
11) **Contracts/Agreements/Procurements:**

A. **Request for Approval of 2024 Emergency Management Performance Grant for \$20,564.00 for Salary and Benefits:** Mr. Montiel thanked Ms. Weems for all of her work on this grant. He stated the \$20,564.00 received from the EMP Grant would cover half of the salary for an emergency management specialist in his office, the other half would be funded by the county and has been budgeted and the position added to the organizational chart during the budgeting process. He stated the position is essential to the success of the department. He was asked if the position would be grant funded in the future. Mr. Montiel stated the position would be contingent upon continued grant funding, but stated the funds are available and the process is non-competitive, so recurring funding is very likely. Commissioner Dixon made a motion to approve the grant, with a second by Commissioner Lopez. Commissioner Grider-Yes, Commissioner Criswell-Yes, Commissioner Dixon-Yes, Commissioner Savage-Yes, Commissioner Lopez-Yes.

12) **Media Communication:** No media was present.

13)**Adjourn:** The meeting was adjourned at 12:15 p.m.

ATTEST:

  
Mandi M. Park  
County Clerk

BOARD OF ROOSEVELT  
COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

  
Tina Dixon  
Commission Chair

