

**County of Mora  
Board of Commission  
Special Meeting  
Monday, December 30, 2019**

**1. Call to Order**

Commissioner Maestas called the meeting to order at *1:10 p.m.*

**2. Roll Call**

Commissioner Lionor F. Maestas	-	Present
Commissioner Veronica Serna	-	Excused
Commissioner Alfonso J. Griego	-	Present

**3. Pledge of Allegiance and Salute to the Flag of the State of New Mexico**

All in attendance recited the Pledge of Allegiance and Saluted the Flag of the State of New Mexico.

**4. Approval of Agenda**

Commissioner Maestas requested adding an information item on the Mora County Complex to be item # 8, reorder thereafter.

*Commissioner Griego made a motion to approve as amended.*

*Commissioner Maestas second the motion.*

*All in favor. Motion carried.*

**5. Public Comment**

Public Comment was held throughout the meeting.

*-Nancy Quintana*

*-Kathleen Dudley*

**6. Discussion/Review/Action – Resolution - 2020 Mora County Holiday Calendar**

County Manager Ansley presented the 2020 Mora County Holiday Calendar, with one request, to observe Martin Luther King Day on Thursday, December 24, 2020.

*Commissioner Griego made a motion to approve as presented.*

*Commissioner Maestas second the motion.*

*All in favor. Motion carried.*

**7. Discussion/Review - Presentation of Mora Hemp and Adult Use Cannabis Resolution (DRAFT) – Mora County Planning and Zoning Board**

(Public Comment) *Nancy Quintana*- Mrs. Quintana shared her concerns on the Mora hemp and adult use cannabis. Mrs. Quintana's concerns are the legalization of hemp and cannabis and if it should become legalized, the affect it would have on the youth of Mora County. Another concern she shared is on how the laws would be enforced to protect the citizens.

*Kathleen Dudley*- Ms. Dudley shared her concerns on the Mora hemp and adult use cannabis. Ms. Dudley stated she has lived in an area where cannabis was legalized. She stated, any kind of drug takes away a person's purpose and way of life. She does not endorse the legalization of these drugs. Another thing she wanted to mention is that she is starting a weekly music session at Tapetes de Lana every Wednesday at 6:00 p.m., open for anyone who would like to join.

Planning and Zoning Board Member, Gilbert Quintana presented the DRAFT Resolution for Mora Hemp and Adult Use Cannabis.

Mr. Quintana stated the Planning and Zoning Committee passed the resolution on certain conditions. It is in the Committee's interest to involve the Commission with their concerns. The committee went through a thorough dialogue which led to a draft resolution that was passed through the committee, under the conditions that the Commission would look at the particular points before they act on it. As of now there is still a lot of grey area. Mr. Quintana stated, to his knowledge there is no current law on the matter, which is very critical because they want to make sure that the concerns they have are also incorporated into that bill.

One big issue was on taxation and the increase to taxes. In the State of Colorado, the taxes they raise are much greater than what they are bringing in so consequently they thought they were going to bring in more than they are and in a state with less population like New Mexico, our protection should be carefully guarded.

Enforcement for testing of being under the influence of cannabis is another critical issue that needs to be addressed and incorporated in the resolution. Licenses are another issue they would like to address and make sure is added to the resolution as well as safety for the community.

Mr. Quintana stated he doesn't feel that it is going to be an easy process and he would like to see the law before any final decisions are made, so there is some type of assurance so the P&Z Committee can come back to the Commission and present with full heart and desire and well thought mind and intellect that this is a good thing for New Mexico and Mora County.

There was discussion on the resolution being preempt to State law.

County Attorney Associate, Brett Phelps stated that the resolution is not to preempt State law, he stated realistically Mora County would be giving more of a statement of purpose or ideals, whereas the specific concerns are all legitimate concerns that are going to be more largely addressed at the State level or they will leave the counties to draft full blown regulations on the matter.

Weather it passes or not this year, it's probably sooner rather than later. It was his understanding that the reason this was brought up is to help Mora "get a seat at the table" when it comes to drafting these regulations, once the regulations are passed through the House of Representatives and Senate, there is going to be a whole bunch of state wide departments that are going to be drafting these regulations. The main reason for the draft resolution is to show that Mora County is committed in regulating it in a way that is most beneficial.

Commissioner Maestas stated that each issue should be identified in their own individual resolution that way there is a clear idea of what they are doing. When we look at a resolution like this we are not going to be able to avoid what is coming because it is coming. There isn't a comfortable level of understanding. Maestas stated the Commission is a long way away from acting on anything right now. He feels that they should be focusing on what is unauthorized growing right now because that is what is happening throughout the community.

Commissioner Maestas made a request for Manager Ansley to contact the State and find out who has permits to be growing hemp, to identify what is legal and what is not.

Commissioner Maestas is requesting the P&Z Committee revisit the draft resolution and present an updated version to the Commission, emphasizing on the major priorities that are in affect now and be prepared for future priorities because they are coming, and handling one item at a time will help to avoid a convoluted resolution. Commissioner Maestas stated that it is necessary to be proactive to protect the citizens of Mora County. Commissioner Maestas stated there is a 30 day legislative session coming up in 3 weeks, he is requesting the necessary individuals revisit the priorities on the matter and present it to him.

#### **8. Discussion/Information- Mora County Complex**

Commissioner Maestas gave a report on the County Complex. Maestas stated, the report shows the different phases for the Complex. He researched the purchase orders and the invoicing and presented checks and budget line items. This process took two months to compile. The Contractors are questioning \$359,000. It is from Maestas' findings that there is little to no money owed to the contractors. The other issues are due to the change of administration and departments that caused the lack of drawdowns in the amount of \$2.3 million dollars, \$1.4 million has been resolved.

Commissioner Maestas stated there are two more items pertaining to litigation in regards to the complex that was brought to his attention, which will be discussed during executive session.

#### **9. Executive Session**

Commissioner Maestas made a motion to convene into executive session.

Commissioner Griego second the motion on a roll call vote

Commissioner Maestas	-	yes
Commissioner Serna	-	excused
Commissioner Griego	-	yes

Convene into executive session at **2:31 p.m.**

Commissioner Maestas made a motion to reconvene into regular session.

Commissioner Griego second the motion on a roll call vote

Commissioner Maestas	-	yes
Commissioner Serna	-	excused

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Commissioner Griego - yes

Reconvene into regular session at *4:00 p.m.*

**10. Next County Commission Meeting**

This item was not discussed

**11. Signing of Approved Documents**

All approved documents were signed.

**12. Adjournment**

*Commissioner Griego made a motion to adjourn.*

*Commissioner Maestas second the motion.*

*All in favor. Motion carried.*

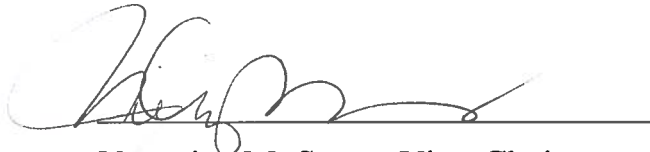
*Meeting adjourn at 4:00 p.m.*

*Manager Ansley stated for the record, no decisions were made only discussion on litigation matters.*

MORA COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONER



Lionor Frank Maestas, Chair



Veronica M. Serna, Vice-Chair



Alfonso J. Griego, Member



Attest: 

Carlos J. Arellano, County Clerk

