**MORA COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSION**

**April 17, 2023**

**Budget Work Session**

1. **Call to Order**

**Commissioner George Trujillo** called the meeting to order at 4:45 pm.

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

**Commissioner George Trujillo** led the audience and Board in the Pledge. All in attendance recited the Pledge and saluted the Flag of the State of New Mexico.

1. **Roll Call**

**Deputy Clerk Garcia** polled the board:

**Commissioner George Trujillo - Present**

**Commissioner Johnny Trujillo - Present**

**Commissioner Veronica Serna - Absent**

*Majority are present. Quorum has been met.*

1. **Approval of Agenda**

Commissioner George Trujillo suggested to Strike Item #5 from the agenda.

**Commissioner Johnny Trujillo** made motion to approve the agenda with change.

**Commissioner George Trujillo** seconds the motion.

*All in favor, motion carried.*

1. **Public Comment – Struck from Agenda**
2. **Discussion – 2023/2024 Fiscal Year Budget Review**

Ms. Edna Sena presented. See Attached.

Ms. Sena stated these are just estimated amounts based off March 31, we still have 3 more months of revenue to come in. Ms. Sena proceeded to read the report by each line item.

Commissioner George Trujillo asked Ms. Sena to go back to Current Property Taxes (Page 1), Ms. Sena stated these amounts are just estimates, the actual amount in the revenue is $1,070,423. Ms. Sena stated we are higher than we were last year at this time. Commissioner George Trujillo asked what Cost to Treasurer is, waiting for Treasurer’s Office to come on Zoom. Mrs. Josephine Montoya stated that was where insufficient money goes into, copies, etc.

* **Commissioner Veronica Serna** arrived at 4:54 pm after Ms. Sena started presenting.

Ms. Sena proceeded to present the report, continuing at MVD VIN Inspections (page 1). Commissioner Veronica Serna asked what the Sheriff Fees are. Mrs. Montoya stated those are fingerprinting, driving tests, civil service items, etc.

Ms. Sena stated the actual current General Fund Total Revenues is $3,821,656. Commissioner Veronica Serna stated we have exceeded what we estimated because of GRT. Ms. Sena stated that is not including the taxes that are coming in and any other revenue that is coming in. Commissioner George Trujillo asked Ms. Rosalee Trujillo if there have been any protests, Ms. Trujillo stated she has had maybe 10. Ms. Trujillo stated they have picked up value while they were assessing the burned areas. Commissioner Serna asked if the homes have been replaced with Modular Homes, Ms. Trujillo stated that a couple have done that, and the value of the mobile home is estimated to be more than the value of the home that burned so the taxes increased. Commissioner George Trujillo asked about the trailers that are through FEMA, Ms. Trujillo stated those are still under FEMA, so they’re exempt until they actually go to the landowner. Commissioner Veronica Serna stated they won’t go to the landowner they will go to the homeowner, the victim. Commissioner George Trujillo stated that the victim will be given the option to purchase after a set period, he also stated the trailer park owner has the option to purchase the mobile home as well. Ms. Trujillo stated some have gotten 5th wheels, but she cannot pick those up because they are subject to registration through the MVD. Commissioner Veronica Serna asked Ms. Ashley Aragon if anyone has registered the 5th wheel that they claim were donated to them. Ms. Aragon stated that she does not recall the name Commissioner Serna stated. Commissioner Johnny Trujillo asked if there was a time limit to register those. Ms. Trujillo stated they are supposed to register the 5th wheel within 30 days. She also stated that sometimes when they are donated the person doesn’t always get the title or anything else.

Ms. Sena stated she will continue, going by each department, again these are estimates. Commissioner Veronica Serna stopped Ms. Sena and asked going back to the GRT, do we know how much of that is cannabis sales. Ms. Sena stated cannabis is separate. Commissioner Serna asked if she already went through that, Ms. Sena stated no, she doesn’t have it on this report because it was not on the Treasurer’s report.

Ms. Sena stated the Fire Protection Fund amounts are estimated as of the 2nd half. Information on pages 3 & 4 have actual amounts highlighted.

Commissioner Veronica Serna asked Ms. Sena how the funds from the County Indigent GRT (Page 5) get dispersed. Ms. Sena stated she can show her on the budget side, we have the state Medicaid and the safety net care pool. Commissioner Serna asked if we can distribute what’s left to needy residents. Ms. Sena stated probably. Commissioner Serna stated some residents use the Ambulance and can’t pay their bill, can we use those funds for that, Ms. Sena stated we will know more towards the end of the fiscal year. She stated right now they are where they are supposed to be to cover those expenses. Ms. Rosalee Trujillo asked if there was an indigent fund for funeral expenses, Commissioner George Trujillo stated yes there is one.

Ms. Sena stated MC Complex I (Page 6) is at $815,00.00 from the settlements that came in and the insurance claim. Commissioner George Trujillo asked if the CDBG was for EMS, Ms. Sena stated yes. Commissioner George Trujillo asked Brenda if there were any updates on the EMS. Ms. Brenda Casados stated they need to look for money to drill a well, it wasn’t included in the grant. Commissioner Veronica Serna stated there was $10,000 for water, but when Kevin Balciar retired and turned it over to a new set of architects, they were going to certify the new plans under them and it was about $40K+, they said they can’t pay for something they have already paid for. Further discussion took place regarding options to get water from the Water Association, cannot afford to lose the grant. Commissioner George Trujillo asked what the hold up on the building is, Mrs. Bernadette Chavez stated that its getting held back at least 45 days for the government to clear them since the architect is changing. Was advised they can’t tap into the community well. A drilling company stated they can give a quote, but they need a formal request for a permit. They are complying with all the requests, yet they have had no results. Commissioner George Trujillo asked Manager Eugene Martinez if he could meet with someone from the water association in person to get an answer regarding this request. Manager Martinez stated their water usage will be residential. Ms. Casados also stated they need to know the exact location where the building will be at Cleveland Park and how many entrances/exits, due to a conflict with the easement. Commissioner Johnny Trujillo stated that since the building will need a fire hydrant the building will need an 8-inch line, it’s not going to be just a service line. Commissioner Veronica Serna asked Ms. Sena if there were any more ARPA funds left, Ms. Sena stated they are no longer able to use it for Premium Pay and Revenue Loss, ended April 10, 2023; we can use it for water infrastructure. Commissioner Serna asked if the $17K they have can be reauthorized to be used for the water issue. Mrs. Chaves stated that Ex-Manager Joy Ansley used $8K of those funds, which were originally $25K, to pay for an architect to start off the CDBG Grant. Ms. Temarah Barela stated that the funds would have to be reallocated since the wording stated those funds are to be used to house the ambulance. Ms. Barela stated that Alex Tafoya has already reached out to someone to utilize those funds for a well, he has not heard back from DFA to see if we can proceed with utilizing the CDBG funds for a well. Commissioner George Trujillo stated the best thing we can do is apply for a permit and get things moving forward.

Ms. Sena stated that is the end of the revenues. Ms. Sena continued with the presentation of the 2023-2024 Operating Budget, Department Budget Requests.

Ms. Sena stated that on the County Commission section the only thing she wanted to discuss was Other Attorney Fees (Page 11). There are no longer any litigations existing, so she wasn’t sure what dollar amounts to put there. Commissioner George Trujillo stated to just put $25K and we will move funds if we need to.

Ms. Sena stated that her and Manager Martinez stated they were going to include a cost-of-living increase across the board for all employes of $2.00. Ms. Sena looked into the budget and stated we can afford it.

Ms. Sena stated that the elected official amount for the Assessor’s Office went up 20% as a newly elected/re-elected official. Ms. Trujillo is also requesting an additional $9K increase for herself for her Appraisers I, II, III, & IV (Page 14) according to new house bill that passed, she is not present to explain this.

(Page 17) Commissioner Veronica Serna asked if there are any vacancies, Ms. Sena stated as of right now there’s the one that they are filling, there were interviews today for that position. Commissioner Serna asked if money was received for equipment from capital outlay, Commissioner George Trujillo stated $75K, Commissioner Serna stated that is not enough to do anything. Commissioner Verna asked Manager Martinez if he had the list she gave him, Mr. Martinez stated it was still pending, she requested to add a Vactor truck to that. Commissioner George Trujillo asked if we could add a line item for training, if we get a Vactor truck we will need the employees to get trained. Manager Martinez stated that the company will send an operator to give a brief training on the operation of the truck, we are short-staffed as it is, but if we can get the funds for it would be good. Commissioner George Trujillo stated that may Eric Garcia can train, Commissioner Veronica Serna stated he can be brought on as a consultant. Commissioner George Trujillo stated the State Highway can do training as well.

(Page 18) Ms. Sena stated on 205 Road Special Projects she (Ms. Sena) is going to carry over all the amounts, Ms. Geraldine Vigil hasn’t given Ms. Sena the dollar amounts, Ms. Sena requested to have them ready by the Public Hearing next week. Commissioner Veronica Serna stated with regards to the Monte Aplanado Road (as well as other roads that have been damaged due to fire/flood) people can submit tort claims for damage to their vehicles. Commissioner Serna requested the Clerk’s Office to keep track of tort claims that have to do with damage to anything that was caused by the fire/flood. Commissioner George Trujillo stated that the DOT was going to fix the Monte Aplanado Road, then the fire came so they stopped, they had already done 60% of the project; the question is who is going to pay the $300K for that project so far, Ms. Sena responded with FEMA. Commissioner Veronica Serna asked for a bill from Bohannan Huston Construction to add to Eric’s list. Commissioner George Trujillo stated they were going to award a bid within a week, Manager Martinez confirmed. Commissioner Veronica Serna asked if they were going to approve that on Thursday, Commissioner George Trujillo stated yes, he thinks so.

(Page 19) Ms. Sena stated she doesn’t have a definite amount for 206 Emergency Medical Service, so she just moved that over. Ms. Sena stated 208 Farm and Range hasn’t been used, this can be used on roads and pesticides, she has a list, we’ve never utilized those funds.

(Page 20) Ms. Sena stated the 209 Fire Protection amounts will not be entered until June 30th when she turns this into DFA.

Commissioner Johnny Trujillo asked Manager Martinez what’s being done about getting the Road Department clothing/uniforms from the money from the scrap. Ms. Sena stated once a year they had an allowance to get clothing. The amount received from scrap metal varies so it would be difficult to create a budget for clothing to come out of this. Ms. Sena stated there was an issue and this was halted. Further discussion took place regarding allowance for Road Department to acquire safety clothing. Ms. Sena stated there is an account set up at Popular Dry Goods for an allowance for clothing and shoes once a year.

(Page 25) Ms. Sena stated the 222 County Fire Excise will change because they operate on the GRT’s and she won’t have the totals until the end of June. Ms. Sena stated she doesn’t have totals for 223 DWI Program because they haven’t approved their budget, this comes from DFA.

(Page 26) Ms. Sena stated she discussed the Premium Pay with Manager Martinez, since April 10th they put a stop to Premium Pay. Ms. Sena will move that $150K to Other Capital Purchases and can be used for water infrastructure, Ms. Sena stated that will be a decision for the Commission. Commissioner George Trujillo requested to add money for Commissioner’s Travel to attend conferences. Ms. Sena stated they can revisit that and make any changes at the Public Hearing.

(Page 27) Commissioner George Trujillo asked if it is legal for the Mora Fiesta Committee to transfer funds to the Mora Chamber since they will be taking over the Mora Fiesta’s. Ms. Sena stated this money was fundraising money, we may need to ask the attorney and auditors. The auditors didn’t like that we were collecting money from minors and that we were holding money for fundraising to pay for entertainment. Ms. Sena stated she is unsure of what NFRD Title III is, was advised it was something with the fire departments, no one knows that it is for, hasn’t been expended for anything. Commissioner George Trujillo asked if we could purchase business cards for all the employees. Ms. Sena stated that will be up to each department; Commissioner George Trujillo said a good card though, like the state cards.

1. **Adjournment**

**Commissioner Veronica Serna** made motion to adjourn meeting at 6:48 pm

**Commissioner Johnny Trujillo** seconds the motion.

*All in favor, motion carried.*

**MORA COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSION**

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George A. Trujillo

Chair

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John H. Trujillo

Vice-Chair

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Veronica M. Serna

Member

 **ATTEST:**

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 Carlos J. Arellano

 County Clerk