

MORA COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSION
APRIL 20, 2023
REGULAR MEETING

1. Call to Order

Commissioner G. Trujillo called the meeting to order at 9:03 am.

2. Roll Call

Deputy Clerk Duran polled the board:

Commissioner George Trujillo - Present

Commissioner Johnny Trujillo - Present

Commissioner Veronica Serna - Present

Majority are present. Quorum has been met.

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

Commissioner G. 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.

4. Approval of Agenda

Manager Martinez recommended the Commission approve the agenda as presented.

Commissioner V. Serna made a motion to approve the agenda.

Commissioner J. Trujillo seconds the motion.

All in favor, motion carried.

5. Public Comment

Jacob Pacheco – stated he was here to address the 2nd amendment right, but he does not see it on the agenda.

Commissioner G. Trujillo stated it is not on today's agenda. He stated there will be a Special Meeting for it and it will be posted 72 hours prior to the meeting.

Joseph Griego, Ted Sandoval, Pete Martinez, Carl Cockrum, and Bethany Cockrum were all present for public comment to speak about the 2nd amendment.

Jude Regensberg – stated he is also here to speak about the 2nd amendment, he stated he appreciates the Commission for tabling this at the last meeting and allowing public input. Also, regarding the 4/10s schedule for the County Employees, he stated he is not an employee for the County, but he does advocate for those that are afraid to express their concerns. He stated a lot of the County Employees do enjoy the 4/10s schedule. One recommendation he has is a staggered 4/10 schedule, 5 days a week. Lastly, he would like to address the water study that is happening in Western Mora County, where they are still in dire need of participants.

6. Discussion – Mora County Veteran's Memorial Committee Update

Joe Gene Pacheco stated they are waiting on some bids. Manager Martinez stated they have not received feedback from Ground Work. He stated he reached out to Ted and Amy, and they are

working on a bid packet and once they have that done, they will send it to the County and then it can go out for bid.

Attorney Cruz stated she had an opportunity to speak with the President of the Mora Creative Council, Frank Maestas. They talked about next steps regarding fundraising, and they are in agreement with what needs to be included in the MOU. They will need to share it with the County's Auditor to get their approval. Further discussion took place.

7. Discussion/Action – Proclamation – Recommendation to Board of County Commission to Declare May as Motorcycle Awareness Month

Manager Martinez recommended the Commission approve this proclamation. **Richard Sturgeon** presented the proclamation to declare the month of May as Motorcycle Awareness Month to the Commission, see attached.

Commissioner J. Trujillo made a motion to approve.

Commissioner V. Serna seconds the motion.

All in favor, motion carried.

8. Discussion/Action – Recommendation to Board of County Commission to Approve NM State University College of Agriculture, Consumer and Environmental Sciences Program 2023-2024 FY Budget Request in the amount of \$41,168

Manager Martinez recommended the Commission approve the budget request.

Commissioner V. Serna made motion to approve.

Commissioner J. Trujillo seconds the motion.

All in favor, motion carried.

9. Discussion/Action – Recommendation to Board of County Commission to Approve Transfer of Fiesta Committee duties and funds to the Mora Valley Chamber of Commerce

Rosalee Trujillo presented to the Commission, and she stated that she spoke with Shane Regensberg, and he stated the Chamber of Commerce is willing to take over the Fiesta Committee. She stated there is approximately \$9,300 in the Fiesta fund that will have to be transferred over to them, and she just needs the Commission's approval.

Commissioner G. Trujillo thanked Ms. Trujillo for all the work she has done in the past years. He also asked Attorney Cruz if it is legal to transfer money to another agency.

Attorney Cruz stated that is a concern for her. She recommends the Commission approve the request to transfer the duties of the Fiesta Committee to the Mora Valley Chamber of Commerce and direct the County Manager to work with the auditor to obtain clarification whether or how the funds can be transferred. Further discussion took place.

Commissioner V. Serna made a motion to approve the attorney's recommendation.

Commissioner J. Trujillo seconds the motion.

All in favor, motion carried.

10. Discussion/Action – Recommendation to the Board of County Commission to Approve Nominations of Committee Members

Anita Moss presented to the Commission. She stated they chose to keep the same officers as before. Joe Gene Pacheco – Chair, Harold Nolan – Vice-Chair, Julian Olivas – Secretary, Max Garcia – Treasurer. Further discussion took place.

Commissioner V. Serna made motion to approve.

Commissioner J. Trujillo seconds the motion.

All in favor, motion carried.

11. Discussion/Action – Recommendation to Board of County Commission to Approve MOU with Village of Wagon Mound Allowing MC Sheriff’s Office and its staff to utilize the existing Marshall’s Office to conduct business

Sheriff Padilla presented the MOU to the Commission; he stated the only change they made was changing the Sheriff from the former sheriff to himself.

Attorney Cruz stated there will need to be a slight revision to the language next year regarding the Civil Rights Act, but for right now she recommends the Commission approve the MOU as is since it’s already been approved by the village.

Manager Martinez recommended the Commission approve the MOU.

Commissioner V. Serna made motion to approve.

Commissioner J. Trujillo seconds the motion.

All in favor, motion carried.

12. Discussion/Action – Consideration of Approval of Changes to Mora County Office’s 4/10 schedule

Manager Martinez asked if the Commission could vote against this item. He would like to come up with a work schedule. There was a member of the Community that shared their concern for the employees. Manager Martinez would like to come up with a plan to make the County better as a whole. He asked if the Commission could call a Special Meeting for this item and possibly another item or two.

Commissioner G. Trujillo stated this item concerns the Manager so he does not believe the Manager can give them a recommendation for it.

Commissioner G. Trujillo made a motion to table this item until they have a Special Meeting.

Commissioner J. Trujillo seconds the motion.

All in favor, motion carried.

Attorney Cruz stated there are two items that are similar. She stated they can table item 12 and she recommend the Commission vote against item 13 so they can make a new calendar following the 4/10 discussion. Further discussion took place.

13. Discussion/Action – RESOLUTION AMENDMENT – 2023 Holiday Calendar

Commissioner V. Serna made a motion to vote against item 13.

Commissioner J. Trujillo seconds the motion.

All in favor, motion carried.

14. Discussion/Action – Resolution regarding Law Enforcement Retention Stipends per House Bill 68

Attorney Cruz presented the resolution to the Commission. See attached. She stated this is a resolution authorizing and approving recruitment and retention appropriation for Law Enforcement Retention/Recruitment Pay in accordance with the provisions of House Bill 68.

Manager Martinez recommended the Commission to approve the resolution.

Commissioner V. Serna made motion to approve.

Commissioner J. Trujillo seconds the motion.

All in favor, motion carried.

15. Discussion/Action – Minutes

a. March 16, 2023 – Regular Meeting

Manager Martinez recommended the Commission to approve the minutes for 3/16/23.

Commissioner V. Serna made motion to approve.

Commissioner J. Trujillo seconds the motion.

All in favor, motion carried.

b. March 29, 2023 – Special Meeting

Attorney Cruz stated there are some revisions for the 3/29/23 Special Meeting minutes.

Manager Martinez recommended approving the minutes with amendments.

Commissioner J. Trujillo made a motion to approve with amendments.

Commissioner V. Serna seconds the motion.

All in favor, motion carried.

16. Department Head/Elected Official Report(s)

a. Elected Official(s)

Treasurer – Rumaldo Pino stated he was not in when they met with DFA. He stated Cordilia from DFA had some concerns about our reconciliation and he is not advised about how many years back she was looking for. Also, they met with John Jennings, with Jennings CPA LLC, that they have hired. He is looking to see what needs to be documented and he is also looking into the beginning balances they received from the auditor at the end of Fiscal Year 2021-2022 to make sure they are accurate. Mr. Pino stated they are working diligently on this. He stated this has been an ongoing problem for many years. Further discussion took place.

Mr. Pino also stated about the 4/10s that his office is against staggering days, they either want 4/10s or 5/8s.

Attorney Cruz asked if Mr. Pino can explain why his office is against staggering, since it will be helpful with the decision process.

Mr. Pino stated there cannot be only one employee in the office, they need someone to verify the end of day monies.

Commissioner Serna stated, for the record, 4/10s benefits the employees and 5/8s benefits the public.

Assessor – Rosalee Trujillo stated things are going smoothly in her office. She stated they are 20 days into the protest, they have 10 days left. Also, they were discussing the letter to condemn buildings, she stated David Montoya spoke to someone who wanted to charge \$3,000-\$5,000 per structure to give a letter but we cannot afford that. She stated she is looking for direction on how to go about this.

Attorney Cruz stated she will sit down with Ms. Trujillo regarding the paperwork that has been compiled and then she will come up with a recommendation for the next steps. Further discussion took place.

Commissioner G. Trujillo stated he has been getting calls about the fire ban, he wanted to ask David Montoya, the Commission, and the Manager what their thoughts were on the ban, should we pull it or leave it in place.

David Montoya stated half of the County is still dry.

Commissioner J. Trujillo stated there is still a big fire issue, the southern part of the county still has a lot of fire fuel.

Commissioner Serna stated it is not worth lifting the ban.

Manager Martinez stated we still have millions of acres of fire fuel that can burn, it is not worth lifting the ban.

Further discussion took place.

Clerk – Carlos Arellano stated he would like to address the Attorney regarding the minutes. He stated his employee informed him that she sent the minutes for March 29th 7 days ago and she did not receive a response from the Attorney with the revisions she discussed today in the meeting. He stated when he first came into office the Commission was responsible for looking over the minutes and sending us any necessary changes, we never had an attorney edit the minutes. He stated he does not believe we should be sending the minutes to the attorney, and he would like to know how the Commission wants it done.

Attorney Cruz thanked Carlos Arellano for his feedback. She stated we have been trying to fine tune this process for some time now. She stated she did not come on board with the intent of editing minutes, but she did notice early on while reviewing the minutes that there were some typographical errors. She stated she believes it is hard on the staff to have to go back and listen to the meeting after having to sit through it for a whole day. Sometimes the message does not get conveyed as it was voted on. She stated the Commission gave direction to the Clerk's staff to provide her with the minutes and she would provide feedback. She stated she does not change the minutes; she tracks changes on the word document so the Clerk's staff can see what edits she is recommending to them. If they agree with the edits, they can choose to accept them and if they disagree with the edits, they can choose to decline them. She stated she explains in her emails that the minutes are their responsibility, and they can either accept or decline her suggestions. She stated she sets time aside on day 8 to review the minutes because that's what was agreed on, it is not a five-minute reviewing process, it takes time. Minutes need to be finalized in ten days. Further discussion took place.

Clerk Arellano stated maybe we need more time to get the minutes done. He understands we need correct minutes for the County. He suggested having a meeting with the attorney and his staff to get this situated.

Attorney Cruz stated in the Open Meetings Act it gives us only ten days to have minutes finalized but we do have a good working relationship with the Attorney General's office and maybe we can suggest to an amendment to the Open Meetings Act changing it from 10 to 15 days. She stated we can talk about some options might be. She stated she would like to highlight that she respects the work that is done in his office, she respects him, and his staff and she respects his concern. He is supporting and lifting his employees as any good employer should do and she respects that. She wants to be able to find a way to work together and get this done right.

Further discussion took place.

Clerk Arellano suggested hiring another employee to strictly do minutes.

Commissioner G. Trujillo stated that is a good idea, they will have to look into that.

Sheriff Padilla thanked all the Veterans for serving our Country. He also thanked all the Community's members that showed up this morning to express their concerns about the 2nd amendment. He stated the Sheriff's Office has been busy. All of his deputies are certified in Crisis Intervention Training and have been busy with other trainings as well. They are working on an Animal Control Ordinance. Also, they are running into a small issue with overtime because they are short staffed. The call volume has gone up for the amount of manpower they have, he will be looking into this issue further. Further discussion took place. Sheriff Padilla thanked his staff for all their hard work.

b. Department Head(s)

c. County Manager

County Manager Martinez stated he has spoken throughout the meeting about most of the things he had in his report. He stated the road department has brought on a Senior Lead individual; he has the passion to do what it takes for the Road Department. He is starting in two weeks. Further discussion took place.

d. Human Resources

e. Announcements

f. County Commission

Daniel Casados, DWI coordinator, stated he just got back from the grant council conference and the grant was approved. He has completed his 6th week with the County as the coordinator. During that time, he had to fix both quarterly reports and he and Ms. Medina are just about finished with the third one. It is due next week.

17. Discussion/Action – Expenditure Report/Budget Report

Manager Martinez stated Edna Sena had a family emergency and had to leave. He recommends tabling items 17 and 18.

a. Expenditure Report – March 2023

b. Budget Report – March 2023

Commissioner J. Trujillo made a motion to table.

Commissioner V. Serna seconds the motion.

All in favor, motion carried.

18. Discussion/Action – Resolutions

a. Budget Adjustment Request

Commissioner J. Trujillo made a motion to table.

Commissioner V. Serna seconds the motion.

All in favor, motion carried.

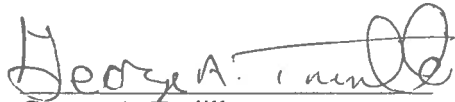
19. Executive Session

Commissioner J. Trujillo made a motion to convene into executive session at 12:27 pm.

Commissioner V. Serna seconds the motion.

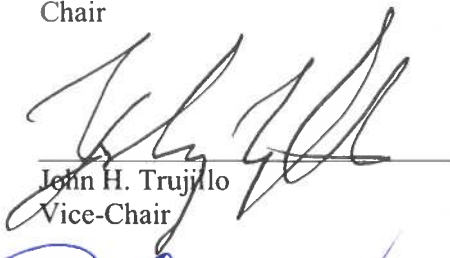
All in favor, motion carried.

MORA COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSION



George A. Trujillo

Chair



John H. Trujillo

Vice-Chair



Veronica M. Serna

Member



Carlos J. Arellano

County Clerk

Deputy Clerk Duran polled the board:

Commissioner George Trujillo - Yes

Commissioner Johnny Trujillo - Yes

Commissioner Veronica Serna - Yes

Commissioner V. Serna made a motion to reconvene from executive session at 4:44 pm.

Commissioner J. Trujillo seconds the motion.

All in favor, motion carried.

Deputy Clerk Duran polled the board:

Commissioner George Trujillo - Yes

Commissioner Johnny Trujillo - Yes

Commissioner Veronica Serna - Yes

Commissioner G. Trujillo advised decisions were not made while in executive session, personnel matters and potential & pending litigation were discussed.

Attorney Cruz recommended the Commission to rescind their vote on item 13.

Commissioner J. Trujillo made a motion to rescind the vote on item 13.

Commissioner v. Serna seconds the motion.

All in favor. Motion Carried.

Attorney Cruz stated item 13 is ripe for consideration from the Commission. See attached.

Commissioner V. Serna made motion to approve.

Commissioner J. Trujillo seconds the motion.

All in favor, motion carried.

20. Next Regular Meeting – May 18, 2023

21. Signing of Approved Documents

22. Adjournment

Commissioner V. Serna made motion to adjourn meeting at 4:49 pm

Commissioner J. Trujillo seconds the motion.

All in favor, motion carried.