

**MORA COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING
December 29, 2023**

1. Call to Order

Commissioner G. Trujillo called the meeting to order at 9:14 a.m.

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

All in attendance recited the Pledge and Saluted the Flag of NM.

3. Roll Call

Deputy Clerk Duran polled the Board:

Commissioner George Trujillo – Present

Commissioner John Trujillo – Present

Commissioner Veronica Serna – Present

4. Approval of agenda

County Manager Joseph Garcia stated, yeah, we can approve it as is, Mr. Chairman.

Commissioner G. Trujillo stated, you heard the recommendation, do I hear a motion.

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

Commissioner J. Trujillo second the motion.

All in favor. Motion carried.

5. Public Comment

John Vigil – Mr. Vigil stated, For the record, here I am again three years later. I've been going over your milage report, I did a couple of emails to some employees here at Mora County stating that the milage report that I've been going around to various different county roads and they don't coincide with road log. They don't match. I brought up A036 because on the milage report you got it 16 feet wide. When I went there and measured it its as narrow as 10 feet wide. There's a house on one side and there's railroad ties on the next one. So the point I'm trying to make is that it's just not correct at all. B008 in Chacon and I've driven it all my life. It's only two miles that I can get to and it's 3.4 miles on the milage report. That's a mile and a quarter that's off, and a mile and a quarter might not be a lot when you're going down I 25 about 100 miles an hour 75 whatever but you know, on a mountain a mile of land, you'd have to be going through a lot of people's properties. So you know, I urge, I think we were here like three years ago saying that they were incorrect and the commissioners were going to check into it to see how they can correct it. It is causing a lot of problems. I urge the commissioners to finally do something about

it to correct the milage report. I don't know where it stayed. I think the last County Manager that was here, well not the last one but I think he was previous to the last one, Michael Rivera was supposed to. I think back then it was supposed to be corrected or look into it still three years later. I think I even addressed Tramperos Road, which I think is B015 I think, saying that it's on the mileage report as 4.3 miles it's only 2.6 miles when I drive it so you know these inconsistencies need to be corrected. This has a lot of effect on people from the past that they can litigation current and I know it's not going to stop at that. I mean, I've already addressed Mrs. Serna when she was first elected I addressed her on this issue that they were all incorrect. I told her you could either do two choices, correct that or turn a blind eye. Nothing has been done about it. I urge you please to correct this milage report before any other people get into litigation with Mora County. It cost unduly burden and expenses that don't need to be here. It's your job to correct it. Thank you.

County Attorney Cruz stated, Chairman, on zoom you have Jude Regensberg with his hand up, so I presume that he wants to say something.

Jude Regensburg- Mr. Regensberg stated, good morning, Chair Trujillo, County Commission, I'm not too sure if you were given the letter that I emailed earlier this morning. If it was provided to you or not?

Commissioners stated, yes.

Mr. Regensberg stated, this letter was delivered to, at the time, manager Martinez in March. And for whatever reason, it fell through the cracks. And this is addressing the county road problem throughout the county. For the last 10 years, I have to addressed the same three roads, there on this letter with the discrepancies that do not match the county road maintenance log. So at minimum, each commissioner has heard me say this at least three times. And nothing's been done with these road logs. And the first time that I addressed the commission 10 years ago, is that the discrepancies were affecting the professional work that I do. I did not know how to address these discrepancies, I asked reached out to the Commission for help. Nothing's changed. And the reason I'm addressing it now in December, that gives the commission two months, January and February, to come up with some kind of plan. before March, before this commission, again, blindly adopts the road maintenance logs were submitted to the state. This rollout needs to be audited. It needs to be fixed, it needs to be changed. There's a lot that needs to be happening with the road. And I just want to make it clear that it's a maintenance log. The maintenance log does not provide ownership to the county for the road surface. At this time, Mr. Chair, I do appreciate it. And we will see you next year.

Commssioner G. Trujillo stated, thank you Mr. Regensberg. Anyone else, public comment?

County Attorney Cruz stated, Chairman, could I briefly make a comment regarding the statements on the road logs? There has been ample conversation and commission meetings regarding the log. Of course, you have a new county manager, we've had

meetings to get him up to speed on all of the various topics of concern related to the county. Our most recent meeting was two days ago. And we did have conversation regarding the road log. So I just wanted you to know that I did have an opportunity to visit with the manager and he will be building a strategy to address this issue.

Commissioner G. Trujillo state, thank you Tina, I agree with Mr. Regensberg, we have two months to fix it. I think it should be fixed by April.

County Manager Garcia stated, I'll get it done Mr. Chairman.

6. Discussion: Update by Mora County Veterans Committee

Larry Garcia stated, for those who don't know me, my name is Larry Garcia. I'm representing the Mora County Veterans Committee. I don't have very much today. But on a brief note, I'd like to let you know that we're working right now on the resolution for the designation in the county roads. Thanks to miss Cruz, she gave us some direction and the process to take to accomplish our task. So that'll probably be done in the near future. I know it takes time, but we'll be working on that. We'll probably even set off our work session. Another item is that we're on board with special projects in on the capital outlay funding request. So we probably will be included on their request. We've had meetings with the architect and I think it's the consensus of the whole committee to go ahead and do this instead of going individually and requesting capital outlay. Any questions on this, please address those questions to me. Or you can attend our meetings. We have meetings every second Tuesday of the month at one o'clock. So are there any questions right now on the veterans committee? I do want to thank, and we are very grateful to the county commission for offering us 110% support for the Veterans Memorial. Thanks again. Mr. Garcia, here, our manager has been very supportive. He's gone the extra mile to help us out. And that's about it that I have for today. And I wish we wish you all a prosperous New Year, and hopefully, our county can get things done in a good way, in a positive way. So thank you..

7. Discussion: 2023 Third Quarter Mora Creative Council/Mora Mainstreet Report presented by Ilka Villarea

Inka Villarea stated, Good morning, everyone. My name is Inka Villarea, and I am the Executive Director of the Mora Creative Council, who runs the program, the Mora Main Street. And I would like to present a little bit of what it's all about, because now that we are entering a New Year, this is an excellent tool to use by the county in order to bring economic development to this county. I was hoping that we could see some of the slides, so you could understand a little bit what the program is about. Historically, the Mora Main Street is a national movement that is used mainly to preserve historical assets, while at the same time helping communities in the downtown areas. In New Mexico, the Main Street Program is in different counties and cities of New Mexico. This program helps to build capacity by this training, the executive directors, the board, and all the people interested in the county, we can bring in people to learn a little bit more of how we can

develop the economy and to preserve historic buildings. The role of Mora Main Street, it can be a very special tool that can be used by the County. We can make a list of the historic properties here on Main Street and work on that together with the specialists in order to preserve the history because we are much into preserving the history and the culture of this community. We also participate and support activities to increment the economy here. This year, we had a strategic transformation. It is to build upon local assets to develop a glorified Creative Economy of Mora, what does that mean? We have been able to, with the support of the county, be able to be awarded and creative industries and this is going to result in the first craft, Mora market in the months of May and June, we will be able to have on Main Street, the market for local vendors, artisans to sell their products. This is an extraordinary opportunity, we are going to also provide support, through the county of course, support to these vendors that are going to be presenting their products because we're going to have workshops that are going to start from February to April to prefer them on business strategies, how to present their products, how to be able to market in them in social media. So there is an enormous opportunity to bring all these people that pass through Mora and don't stop. And they will know that every Saturday in the month of May and June, we will have a market that will have food trucks we will have musicians we will have entertainment so everybody is invited to support the local artisans and vendors here in Mora. The other project that we will be able to accomplish next year is the front of the library, the cargo library, we, Mora Main Street was awarded a USDA development grant and in the front of the of the library, there is going to be a Wayfinding and community centers. This will help visitors because people come here and they will have a Wayfinding pole and they will be showing things like all the attractions that are here, the businesses because we expect to have a lot of businesses opening soon. So we are working towards having this wayfinding pole. And also this will be a community area where people can sit down and they just want to just have grab something, and eat there, communicate with each other, it's going to be an attraction center, so other businesses will be encouraged to beautify this passing of the 518 here. So I just wanted to mention all these highlights, and I expect to work very actively with the commissioners and now that we have a new manager so thank you for listening.

8. Discussion/Action : Approval of Minutes

- a. November 20 , 2023 - Regular Meeting**
- b. December 7, 2023- Special Meeting**
- c. December 12, 2023- Special Meeting**
- d. December 15, 2023- Emergency Meeting**
- e. December 19, 2023- Special Meeting**

Attorney Cruz stated, Chairman, items A through E are not ready for consideration today.

Commissioner V. Serna made a motion to table items A through E.

Commissioner J. Trujillo seconds the motion.

All in favor. Motion carried.

9. Discussion: Elected Official and Department Head Report(s)

a. Elected Official(s): County Assessor, County Clerk, County Treasurer, and Sheriff's Office

Assessor – Rosalee Trujillo stated, I don't really have much to report today. I'm actually at home sick. The only thing I needed to report was that one of my staff, Chantel Sena, did pass her level three appraisal. So she is currently a level three needs just one more to be state certified. I really don't have like a lot like I said to report today, but I will for the next meeting.

Sheriff – Attorney Cruz stated, Mr. Chairman, with regard to the sheriff's office, the sheriff did let me know that he's out of town today. But he did want to report to the commission that he is in the process of working on his capital outlay request. And he's going to be communicating that to the manager and also sharing that with the Commission. And he also wanted the members of the public to know that his school resource officer, Omar Cortes, will be attending his training in Golden Colorado now in January.

b. Department Head(s) 1. EMS; 2. Planning and Zoning Department; and 3. Road and Solid Waste Department

Planning and Zoning – Brad Sena stated, the planning and zoning committee is down three, there's going to be three vacancies that are advertised. The deadline for the letter of interest is going to be January 12. So anybody interested can email me or bring it to my office. The planning and zoning office has issued over 60 E911 addresses for FEMA purposes and phone and internet. I don't have much more to report. At this time. I would like to thank the commission, Ms. Cruz and Mr. Garcia, for the premium pay that was given to the employees.

All stated, you're welcome.

Commissioner V. Serna stated, I have a question if I may, Mr. Chairman. Your Planning and Zoning committee, the policy states that they can serve two consecutive terms. Do you have any right now that are expiring that are eligible to serve another term.

Brad Sena stated, I believe so.

Commissioner V. Serna stated, and they also need to submit a letter of interest if they want to continue?

Brad Sena stated, yes.

Further discussion took place.

c. County Manager

Manager Garcia stated, I have a long list of items. I could just briefly go through them because I just administrative a lot of it is. Ms. Cruz and I are working on the application for the extra \$11 million from Senate Bill six into into the state fund. There's a fire chief's meeting that's going on. I think it's January 4 No got there. And I wanted to present to them just the importance of preparedness because we are gonna get flooding I'm sure especially with all the snow. Been working on getting credit cards, trying to get credit cards, because we need our own Zoom account. Thank you

Ms. Cruz and commissioner for allowing us to use your Zoom account. But we need to get our own. Sheriff needs his own credit card, manager's office needs its own, and Southwest doesn't provide them, Community First does. So that's that's another issue. I think we need satellite phones for key people, in case of another disaster, I think that will be crucial. That was attorney Cruz's idea, which is a great one. Further discussion took place.

Attorney Cruz stated, Chairman, could I briefly acknowledge the manager, the manager stepped in to a very tumultuous first week with the snow event. And he handled it masterfully, right, the meetings that took place, the coordination, the board that was set up at the sheriff's office to make sure that people were assigned to particular locations, I know that he fielded hundreds of phone calls during that timeframe, some of them being people that were stranded and are needing immediate assistance. And he did not hesitate to ensure that those people were attended to and taken care of. In addition, as it relates to the administrative aspects of the job, just trying to get up to speed on all things that have been happening with the county, we've had meetings via zoom, we've had meetings in person and he asks the right questions, he wants to be informed, and he wants to make the right decisions as it relates to the overall operations of the manager's office, he's wanting to implement systems and processes to ensure efficiencies. And he's working closely with Stephanie on that. And the team that you now have in the manager's office is probably the most resilient one that I've seen. And we're only in two weeks of his service. And that's something that's to be commended. Stephanie certainly has not had a whole lot of training, because there's not a lot of institutional memory within the office. But she's building it for herself. And she accepts the feedback that's being provided to her and she takes a lot of initiative. She's available on weekends when we had the emergency meeting. And something needed to be posted. She was posting from her cell phone to make sure that the Open Meetings Act was being complied with as well. So I just want to recognize the efforts that they're undertaking the level of cooperation that they're demonstrating. It's a very collaborative relationship that they're both cultivating and they're to be recognized, celebrated and uplifted for the efforts that they've been taking in a very difficult time.

d. Human Resources

DesMarie Romero presented her report to the Commission, see attached.

Emergency Manager, David Montoya stated, these are some events that for the upcoming year Swiftwater rescue training. We got a grant through clarity for \$37,862 to purchase equipment. I believe she said she had sent the paperwork to Stephanie to be signed so we can submit it so the money can be sent to the county so we can purchase that. After we get that money, we can schedule the training for Swiftwater. As you know, last year, when we had some flooding we had Swiftwater rescue teams coming in from North Carolina, Ohio, was here in New Mexico from Farmington. So

it's something that is needed. And then on our communication grant for replacement of the repeaters, I have here Mr. Trujillo from advanced communication send me the paperwork that needs to be signed to and that they're ordering parts, and he wants to meet with me to discuss the way the system is going to work. I think the repeaters will be in sometime in March or April, they're backordered. Further discussion took place.

Attorney Cruz stated, Mr. Chairman, with regard to this swift water grant, it something that's processed through FEMA through the public assistance side. So it's something that we'll be sharing with the Singleton Triber team to make sure that it's not going to interfere with the claim that's ultimately going to be filed because \$35,000 To be frank, is a drop in the bucket with regard to what the county needs to receive in order to have a robust Swiftwater plan in place. So you don't want to be accepting pennies by way of \$35,000, when really, you're going to need millions of dollars in order to ensure that the public is properly protected. So it's something that's been provided to me, and I'll be visiting with Singleton Triber, about that proposed grants. Further discussion took place.

e. Announcements

Attorney Cruz stated, I think one thing that came to mind I understand that the something for the manager and the commission to consider the legislative conference is going to be taking place during the week when your first regular meeting is scheduled on January 18. So just something for you to consider, you may need to reschedule the regular meeting for January 18th. And I know some of you are going to be in attendance at that conference. Discussion took place.

f. County Commission

10. Discussion/Action: Resolution Approving 2024 Calendar for Mora County

Manager Garcia stated, this has been presented to you in your packet and I recommend for approval.

Commissioner g. Trujillo stated, Mr. Garcia, how many legal holidays that the state provided or isn't there a law to that effect? I thought it was 13 days.

Attorney Cruz stated, the list of holidays that you've identified on their chairman they track state law, I believe one additional holiday that may not be on the calendar within the state is the Good Friday holiday. But it's something that certain public entities do have. So you've had that on your calendar since I've served as county attorney, indigenous peoples day it shows up in October, used to be Columbus Day. Juneteenth is now a national holiday. So it's also observed in June. So all of those holidays are holidays that are typically celebrated in some form or fashion.

Commissioner G. Trujillo stated, and two days for Christmas? I thought it was only one day?

Attorney Cruz stated, ordinarily it's one day but what you have done within the county is, for Thanksgiving, you allow staff to have two days off Thanksgiving Day and then the Friday after.

Commissioner G. Trujillo stated, here one day for Thanksgiving, but we give two days. Because we don't do another holiday. We switch that holiday for the two days in Thanksgiving. I don't know why there's two days for Christmas, I don't want to be negative, but I don't see why there's two days.

Attorney Cruz stated, that's just the practice that the county has had for at least two years that I've served as county attorney.

Further discussion took place.

Commissioner G Trujillo stated, I have an issue with it because of the public, the public needs that day to do their business.

DesMarie Romero stated, when we look in 2024, and I believe I can't answer for past, but Erisa who is the state, they do all of our benefits, their calendar is very, very identical to ours, the only difference with theirs is on Juneteenth, they will celebrate it on the 19th. and we are going to observe it on the 20th. But this calendar, all the holidays that are there, I checked the state calendar as well as the HR affiliate calendar. We actually do have like, I know, you're saying that like the state was 13 days, that's what they require, or that's the recommendation. But Erisa, who part of the state, this is really identical to there's the only difference is the 19th and the 20th. And if you want I can also go and get all the calendars that were submitted. So you can kind of compare other counties, the state, as well as Mora County, if you'd like

Manager Garcia stated, Or, Mr. Chairman, if the suggestion, we could just take care of it right now, just like motion to eliminate that that day.

Commissioner G. Trujillo stated, I think we eliminate December 24th because it's not a holiday.

Attorney Cruz stated, Chairman, I can propose something for your consideration. What some public entities will do is, say we won't observe a particular holiday on a as currently assigned, and we'll observe it a little bit later, you could say that Juneteenth is going to be observed on December 24, that would be an option as well, so that you're addressing that concern as it relates to the additional day. So it'd be observed later in the year. Because I would think that staff might want to have Christmas Eve off versus June 18. So that's just an option for the commission to consider.

Commissioner V. Serna stated, Mr. Chairman, if I may, if you I mean, you stated earlier that we should follow the state calendar. She's researched it and it's the state has those days off? It seems like it's a practice strict statewide. So I don't know what the problem would be to observe those 14 days.

Further discussion took place.

Manager Garcia stated, I recommend a motion with the exception of the 24th.

Commissioner J. Trujillo made a motion to approve the amended 2024 Calendar.

Commissioner V. Serna seconded the motion.

All in favor. Motion carried.

11. Discussion/Action: Staffing of the County Manager's Office

Attorney Cruz stated, Mr. Chairman, this relates to conversation that the manager has had pertaining to the need for either a deputy or assistant manager. So I know he wanted to discuss that topic with you.

Manager Garcia stated, Yes, thank you, Mr. Chair. Commissioners. Yeah, I think there's definitely a need for an assistant manager. I don't know how you want to title it, or if you want to title it that or not. But there's definitely a need for one. This It's a busy place.

Commissioner V. Serna stated, the commission has already approved the position. I believe it's a deputy county manager. I don't know what the exact description of that position is. But that part is already approved. But filling it would be a situation that you in finance would probably have to deal with.

Further discussion took place.

Manager Garcia stated, I just recommend to table it and I'll work on it with our attorney and with Miss Edna and we'll come up with something.

Commissioner J Trujillo made a motion to table this item.

Commissioner V. Serna seconded the motion.

All in favor. Motion carried.

12. Discussion/Action : Expenditure Report/Budget Report

a. Expenditure Report – 2023

Edna Sena presented the expenditure report to the Commission. See attached.

Edna Sena and Manager Garcia recommended to approve.

Commissioner V. Serna made a motion to table this item.

Commissioner J. Trujillo seconded the motion.

All in favor. Motion carried.

b. Budget Report – 2023

Edna Sena presented the budget report to the Commission. See attached.

Edna Sena and Manager Garcia recommended to approve.

Commissioner V. Serna made a motion to table this item.

Commissioner J. Trujillo seconded the motion.

All in favor. Motion carried.

13. Discussion/Action: Budget Adjustment Request

Edna Sena presented the budget adjustment request to the Commission. See attached.

Edna Sena and Manager Garcia recommended to approve.

Commissioner V. Serna made a motion to table this item.

Commissioner J. Trujillo seconded the motion.

All in favor. Motion carried.

14. Discussion/Action: Next Steps involving submission of Disaster Recovery Loan

Attorney Cruz stated, item number 14 Is the disaster recovery loan. You will recall, during one of the early meetings with Mr. Garcia, there was conversation about how the county may be able to apply for a recovery loan, which would provide, as I understand it up to \$3 million for operational expenses.

Edna Sena stated, that is the CDL loan (Community Disaster Loan).

Attorney Cruz stated, so the community disaster loan, this was something that was presented during a meeting with Mr. Garcia, Ms. Sena, Clarity Collins and Mr. Sena, were also in attendance. Our understanding at that time was that the deadline to submit the application was, will be January 31st of 2024, which is why the manager asked that this item be placed on the agenda for conversation. My understanding from that meeting Ms. Sena, was that you would need to do something as it related to revamping the budget. So I guess if you could update the commission regarding any conversations that you've had with Miss Collins, regarding this opportunity, that would be helpful.

Edna Sena stated, they were requiring that we submit the last four years of the budget, which is the revenues, we needed to show that we had a revenue loss due to the disaster. I put together a spreadsheet for them. But it wasn't what they needed, they needed the way that the auditors submitted. But I wasn't sure if we were going to proceed with it at the time, because we're still kind of on the fence about it. So we need to discuss with them what they really need from me. Because I know they wanted more detail on the revenue loss. They want it made on a specific spreadsheet. So we were supposed to talk to them and I haven't heard back from Clarity.

Further discussion took place.

Attorney Cruz stated, Mr. Chairman, again, it didn't say disaster recovery loan, it should have been CDL. But the point is, the minutes will reflect we're talking about a CDL. There is no action that needs to be had because of what I found by looking back at past minutes, because that vote was already taken before. So you just need to have the discussion. And that's already taken place. The direction that's been provided to staff is to get in contact with FEMA to find out what more is needed so that that application can be finalized.

No action needed.

Road Superintendent – John Romero stated, So I have a truck at Roberts, and I have a PO for it. But I need to get it paid so I can bring it to Diego, because it's an insurance claim. And Diego bid it at first time at \$24,000. And they thought it was too much. So I took it to Roberts trucking. And they charged me \$900 To they sent after they got done doing everything they sent the quote and, and we did a requisition, but we just need to get some money though. So we can pay him so I can go pick up that truck and get it to Diego. Because Roberts truck, bid it at \$67,000.

Manager Garcia asked, is it a wrecked truck?

John Romero stated, they laid it on its side. You know, it's the underside and, and so anyway, they will reject his because his his quote was only good for 60 days. And it took

longer than that. So he did \$42,000. So the insurance said they'll pay for it. But I need \$900 so I can go get it from Albuquerque and bring it to him to fix it. And he can't find where he sent the quote. He said I know I sent it. But I called him last night or yesterday. And he went to his computer, and he couldn't find the quote. I said send us a quote because he told me it was going to be \$560, I said well send the quote. He said I will but he couldn't find it. I said well, Geraldine said she hasn't gotten it. That's the issue on that one. Further discussion took place.

Manager Garcia stated for the record Mr. Chair just for the record I asked John asked Mr. Romero to include me am on everything that yes, we're going to purchase anything we need, I need to know about it prior and then the last week we had a situation where needed for great greater ties, right? Yes. And we had a quote from one fellow up the road and there was quite a bit so then I called someone else and we saved \$1,500. So, you know, I know we want to keep it local, but but this one did stay local, but sometimes we may not be able to keep it local because we can save 50%.

Further discussion took place.

15. Discussion/Action: Status of Road Equipment Leases and/or Purchases and Recommendation from Staff on how to Proceed

Manager Garcia stated, Mr. Chairman, commissioners. That's something that Miss Cruz and I are working on we're going to meet with the folks over four rivers. And handle this. We've already been in preliminary talks, and I think we can come up with a solution. That's beneficial to all. We were, you know, it's a big bill right now. I think it's 1.2 million or something. There are different versions of how we got there. And we know which version got us there. So, Miss Cruz and I were, we're going to meet with these folks. And we'll get that straightened out.

Commissioner G. Trujillo asked if this needs to be an action item.

Attorney Cruz stated, it's just discussion for purposes of today. I have been in communication with them. And Rod Tyra has been sending me emails reflecting a lot of the communications that have happened to date. So we'll be scheduling the meeting early in the new year to visit Rod Tyra and also with the branch manager, his name is Colin James. Both have been very cooperative and very supportive of the county, indicating that they do want to, of course, work closely with the county to come up with a solution so we'll be back coming up with a plan very soon for your consideration.

16. Discussion/Action: Resolution Authorizing Pay for Private Contractors who Hauled Material for the Road Department

Manager Garcia stated, Mr. Chairman I had Geraldine from the Road Department working on this, I need approval to be able to pay these truckers. They've been waiting too long. There was some procurement issues. That didn't happen. I think the total bill is \$25,050 for all the truckers.

Attorney Cruz stated, Mr. Chairman, you do have a resolution before you. One of the things that we've talked about at every commission meeting is that transparency is key.

And the county is obviously not going to bury anything, it's not going to hide anything. If there's an issue that comes up, we're going to address it publicly. And the resolution does make note of the fact that in the fall of 2023, the road Department hired private contractors to haul material, that the county does follow the New Mexico Procurement Code. And unfortunately, the road department failed to adhere to procurement guidelines regarding the hiring and pavements of the private contractors. There's been a lot of conversation that happened on this internally. Before Mr. Garcia came on board, this predates that was had with the road department to ensure that this does not occur again. So the resolution does reflect that, of course, these contractors have already provided the services for the benefit of the county. And as a consequence, the county does now need to pay these contractors for the work that they performed. The resolution also reflects that the county has implemented processes to ensure parts permit violations do not occur going forward. But again, because the Procurement Code was not followed, because of the failures that took place within the road department, the way that you're going to authorize payment is by way of this resolution, acknowledging that there was a violation of the Procurement Code, but also recognizing that the county does need to, as a matter of fairness, pay these contractors, if you're not paying them now, you're gonna have a whole host of lawsuits. Because these individuals are entitled to the payment. So the resolution does reflect that you will be authorizing the county manager to coordinate with the finance department and the road department to ensure the contractors who were retained to haul material are compensated for their services. The resolution goes on to indicate that the Commission provides this direction to the county manager the county manager says shall implement any and all additional internal procedures necessary to ensure there are no further procurement violations in the road department. The county manager is further directed by the Commission to provide training to all department heads and elected officials regarding the county's procurement process. This is an example that, you know, there's a hiccup in one department, let's make sure that it's not going to happen with the other departments as well. So that's the direction that you'll be providing to the county manager by way of this resolution. In terms of what you've identified on that list Chairman, I would recommend that the manager coordinate with finance and the road department and I can help to look at those invoices to make sure that everybody's being paid what they were supposed to get paid and that nobody's getting compensated more than they're entitled to.

Further discussion took place.

Manager Garcia stated, I recommend to approve the resolution.

Commissioner J Trujillo made a motion to approve.

Commissioner V. Serna seconded the motion.

All in favor. Motion carried.

17. Discussion: Project Status

a. EMS Facility and Communications Repeaters- Alex Tafoya

Alex Tafoya stated, he would like to welcome Mr. Garcia to his new position. As an observer, and I've only been observing this morning. It sounds like he's an on hands type of guy. And it sounds like he's been pretty busy the last couple of weeks. My update will be very brief. Nothing really has changed in the last couple of weeks. Regarding the CDBG projects, EMS facility, the environmental review process is still underway, with the second request letters, having been sent to the required agencies for comment over the initial 30 consultation letters that we sent to the required agencies, as of yesterday, we have received 10 agency responses. The 10 agency responses have indicated no significant impact. The third request will have to send out a third request. That's what we're required to do. The third request for agency consultation letters will be prepared. I prepare those. I send them to Stephanie so she can put them on letterhead, county letterhead, and then the county commission Chair Mr. Trujillo is the certifying environmental official for the environmental review. He signs them and then I pick up the letters from Stephanie and I mail them out to the respective agencies. She gets those letters printed on letterhead the same day. And she gets Mr. Trujillo to sign them right away. So we've been getting them out very quickly. And that's really nice. In regard to the design, the design still underway. Once the design has been completed, it will need to be sent to local government division for the review and approval. The soils testing of the site has been completed. Wayne Lloyd is the architect and he's the one that has handled all that. I received the soils report this morning. 46 pages I haven't looked at it yet, but I'll be sending that to DFA because they'll need to take a look at it and they need to have a copy for their file of course, and I'll forward it also to Mr. Garcia, the county manager so he can have a copy as well. In regard to the communications repeaters, the equipment's on order, with some of the pieces have been received by advance communications. Apparently the pieces of equipment are coming in slowly. The installation of equipment is still set for early spring, April, probably March depending on the weather. Further discussion took place.

b. Special Projects Committee- Paul Cassidy

Paul Cassidy stated, good morning Mr. Chair, members of the Commission. I just have a few comments and will be happy to stand for questions. I also want to thank Stephanie. The Chair had created a subcommittee of the Special Projects Committee to meet and work on the recreation grant. Focus on that, as well as the veterans project. And we had a terrific meeting ahead of Mr. Garcia, and visit with him. Pleasure to have you on board. Mr. Garcia. And the takeaway from the meeting is I think there's a good quality plan that could that we can move forward with all the projects that we that you've assigned to the county, Special Projects Committee, all are going to be budget impact. And so combining in and looking at all the projects, to see what we can make work from a budget standpoint, is going to be a healthy process. So we have begun that process. Recreation Center Project has a number of components. And so does the AOC project, as well as the veterans comm complex.

And let's see if we can gain some economies of scale by looking at looking at that with a focus but achieving the goals for which we have received the grant money. If you look at the list of projects, so there are a total of 11 projects that we've been focusing on is a housing study. And if you add up the projects, they're going to pull the current cost estimates from the architects, really a fresh look at it is about \$19 million worth of projects, of which we have identified a current resources of that 8.9 million. And so we'll be focusing on legislative cataloging process for the balance, about 8.5 million. Those numbers are going to change because of the construction markets these days and how unsettled they are. We expect that a number of projects, we'll be ready to really move forward on, we have really two or three projects that are close to being ready, of course, including the little projects, personal resound, to move existing staff from portables into that area that can go out to bid immediately. Of course it has, without success. We are working on what option though that's, that may bear some fruit. But I think the goal is going to be as we work through the legislative session and get possibly funding from the from EDA, as well, hopefully, there'll be announcements on whether those funds are available soon. Further discussion took place.

Commissioner J. Trujillo made a motion to take a 10-minute break at 11:35 a.m.
Commissioner V. Serna seconded the motion.
All in favor. Motion carried.

Commissioner J. Trujillo made a motion to come back into session at 11:44 a.m.
Commissioner V. Serna seconded the motion.
All in favor. Motion carried

18. Discussion/Action: Rescind prior approved contract with Tara Hedricks to serve as Mora County's lobbyist during the 2024 Legislative Session

Manager Garcia stated, Mr. Chairman, I'll recommend the commission to rescind that. I will defer to Attorney Cruz.

Attorney Cruz stated, I can't really explain it. No, because it relates to a finance issue that I've been provided a directive from the auditor that it can be disclosed. But what I will say is this. It's important to know that the individual Tara Hendricks is somebody who the county has worked with in the past and opportunities will be provided to her in the future as with any other lobbyist to come back to the table to work with the council. And with that being said, there there is an underlying issue that cannot be disclosed at this point related to the need to rescind, and it would be appropriate to vote in favor at this time.

Commissioner J. Trujillo made a motion to rescind.

Commissioner V. Serna stated, I did not participate the last time so I will leave that up to you guys.

Commissioner G. Trujillo seconded the motion. He stated, I've learned some lessons from all this. Even the county supposed to write a letter to the Secretary of State saying when we hire lobbyists. They got to be informed by us that were the employer.

Attorney Cruz stated, And I did make note of that to Mrs. Casados and to the manager during the recent visit. And it relates to identifying that you're the employer, so you need to identify who you've retained as your lobbyists. I've been informed that the Secretary of State's office did receive that information in 2022. So somebody was doing that within the county, but it just didn't happen in 2023. So we'll make sure that it does take place now for 2024 term.

Two in favor.

Commissioner Serna stated, for the record, I'm abstaining from this one.

Motion carried

19. Discussion/Action: Approval of contract with Frank Sanchez to serve as Mora County's lobbyist during the 2024 Legislative Session

Manager Garcia stated, I recommend you approve.

Commissioner G. Trujillo stated, you've heard the recommendation. Is there a motion?

Commissioner J. Trujillo made a motion to approve.

Commissioner G. Trujillo seconded the motion.

All in favor. Motion Carried.

Manager Garcia stated, Mr. Frank Sanchez will be here on January 3, Wednesday at 11 o'clock. So, he's going to help guide us, this is our first rodeo, Stephanie and I, guide us on the ICIP, how to fill out the forms etc. We have to get an ICIP number, our sheriff has been gracious enough to try and help us as well. So, I would like it if miss Cruz can be here with us, if possible, and any of you commissioners to meet with them. And you know, it's an effort between all of us. I don't want anybody to be left out.

20. Discussion/Action: Legislative Priorities for 2024 Legislative Session and Submission of Capital Outlay Request

Manager Garcia stated, I believe that we pretty much have it lined up the courthouse right, main one. He asked Commissioner Serna Do you have any priorities that you want?

Commissioner Serna stated, they have been listed, the Complex building, equipment for road department and Veterans Memorial and the same stuff, and then EMS is going to lobby for themselves, I believe.

Manager Garcia stated, I have to speak with them. Because one thing we don't want to do is to be they fall under the managers. We don't want to be causing, don't give it to them give it to us. I've seen that happen many times before. And I want to avoid that. That's not the right way to approach it.

Further discussion took place.

21. Discussion/Action: Agreement with Frances Muniz regarding Compensation

Attorney Cruz stated, beginning at page 29 of your packet, you have a document that is titled release. This is in agreement with Francis Moniz. She's a past employee with Mora County, she served in a temp capacity from May of 2023 until November of 2023. She

worked out of the manager's office for a period of time and then the tail end of her employment was within the DWI office. She had been provided direction from her then supervisor, the manager to work overtime, accumulating 60.5 hours of overtime. The counties policy does not allow for overtime to be paid to temporary employees. I presume that the manager at the time did not recognize that. And as a consequence, we have a former employee who does have an amount that's now owed to her at the time and a half dollar value is \$21.63. Therefore the county does need to pay her \$1,308.62 Because this is something that is not authorized per se by way of the personnel handbook. The Commission does need to approve this payment by way of this release so that she can be compensated in a timely fashion. So that's the agreed that you have before you. This is something that had been communicated by Miss Muniz to then interim county manager, Brad Sena when he was serving. And it's something that we have since of course researched and I've had dialogue with the manager. He too agrees that as a matter of fairness, Miss Muniz needs to be compensated. So I'm happy to answer any questions. **Manager Garcia stated**, I recommend approval, Mr. Chairman.

Commissioner V. Serna made a motion to approve.

Commissioner J. Trujillo seconded the motion.

All in favor. Motion carried.

22. Discussion/Action: Resolution Authorizing Application for Financial Assistance to Fund the Development of an Affordable Housing Plan

Attorney Cruz stated, Items number 22 and 23 are on your agenda chairman.

Communicating with the manager. We didn't feel that it was right at this point in time to have it on the agenda. So I think it's something that you could certainly entertain at a upcoming meeting, but I would recommend that you table both items 22 and 23.

Commissioner V. Serna made a motion to table.

Commissioner J. Trujillo seconded the motion.

All in favor. Motion carried.

23. Discussion/Action: Resolution Authorizing Application for Financial Assistance to Fund Emergency Backup Generators at Critical Community Facilities

Commissioner J. Trujillo made a motion to table.

Commissioner V. Serna seconded the motion.

All in favor. Motion carried.

24. Discussion: Update regarding Emergency Recovery following Snow Storm and Reimbursement Process Through the State

Manager Garcia stated, Mr. Chair I have the invoices from the contractors and we're going over him with a fine tooth comb. And any of you, if you want to look at the bills, I have them in my office. I did find a few discrepancies. And I just taken the liberty to deduct some of the billing because I just wasn't, it wasn't right. So I'm still working on some I contacted two of the contractors to come in so that we can go over the billing

together. Some of these bills just don't make sense. So I'm, I'm looking over those bills to make sure we don't get taken advantage of for lack of better words.
Further discussion took place.

25. Discussion: Update regarding inquiry by Robert and Betty Martinez Quitclaim Deed and request for transfer of Property from Mora County

Attorney Cruz stated, Chairman. So this is an item that's been on the agenda for a while the paperwork that's been provided has not been terribly helpful in terms of ascertaining what the title on that property looks like. So I'm going to be coming to the county next week, I'm going to spend a chunk of time in the clerk's office so that I can review the documents and I'll be able to provide you a update as to what the next steps are going to be. Ultimately, what I'm suspecting at this point is, it's going to have to be a transfer of property that's going to result in a more formalized kind of process than what's been proposed by the attorneys that I've been in communication with. But we'll get this wrapped up as quickly as we can.

26. Discussion: Update regarding Road Viewer's Committee involving County Road C-027

Attorney Cruz This is the road viewers committee involving County Road CO27. This is something that I did want to visit with the manager about and Mr. Sena so that we can get that road viewers committee put together so that you can vote on that at the upcoming meeting. Again, the plan when the manager first came on was we're going to have a whole set of particular items that were going to be presented to him but then his first week turned into a focus on emergency recovery. So things have been pushed back a bit, but we're going to get that item on the agenda before you very soon so that you can move forward with that.

Commissioner G. Trujillo stated, Tina, I been approached by some people from the community of Wagon Mound. And if the road viewers committee decides to close the road. It belongs to the people that are asking for it to be closed. That's why they're asking if we can sell that piece of property to them. Because there's like questions to that effect. I don't know if you can check if it's legal to do that or not.

Further discussion took place.

27. Executive Session: Limited Personnel Matters to include employee complaints/investigations AND Threatened and Pending Litigation pertaining to (1) Isaac Martinez, (2) John Paul Vigil, (3) Possible Temporary Restraining Orders, (4) HPCC Claim on behalf of Mora County and (5) Pending Notices of Tort Claim

Commissioner V. Serna made motion to convene into executive session at 12:02 p.m.

Commissioner J. Trujillo seconds the motion.

All in favor, motion carried.

Deputy Clerk Trujillo polled the board:

Commissioner George Trujillo - Yes

Commissioner John Trujillo - Yes
Commissioner Veronica Serna - Yes

Commissioner V. Serna made motion to reconvene from executive session at 2:57 p.m.
Commissioner J. Trujillo seconds the motion.

All in favor, motion carried.

Deputy Clerk Duran polled the board:

Commissioner George Trujillo - Yes

Commissioner John Trujillo - Yes

Commissioner Veronica Serna – Yes

Commissioner G. Trujillo stated, After a long executive session, no action was taken or decisions made.

28. Next Regular Meeting: January 18, 2024

29. Discussion: Other Informational Items

30. Signing of approved documents

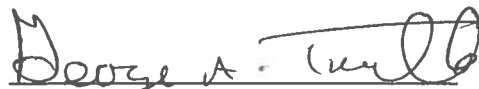
31. Adjournment

Commissioner V. Serna made a motion to reconvene at 2:59 p.m.

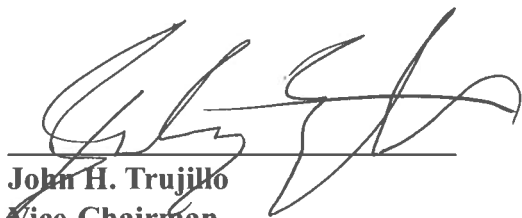
Commissioner J. Trujillo seconds the motion.

All in favor. Motion carried.

MORA COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSION

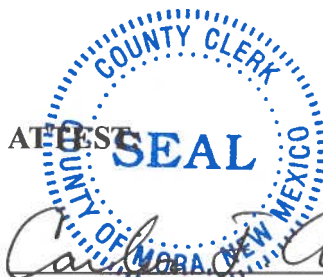


George A. Trujillo
Chairman



John H. Trujillo
Vice-Chairman

Veronica M. Serna
Member



Carlos J. Arellano
County Clerk

