

MINUTES
REGULAR MEETING
HIDALGO COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

August 9, 2017 at 9:00 A. M.

BE IT REMEMBERED that the Hidalgo County Board of County Commissioners met in regular session on August 9, 2017, at the hour of 9:00 A.M. at the Hidalgo County Chambers at 305 Pyramid Street, Lordsburg, New Mexico, for the purpose of conducting any and all business to come properly before the Board.

The following elected officials, staff, and public were present:

Bob Hill, County Manager	Pricilla Lucero, SWNMCOG
Melissa K. De La Garza, County Clerk	Anthony Kessel, NM National Guard
Rosie Lasher, Animas EMS	Carmen Acosta, Probate Judge
Dave Carbine, GIS	Hector Maese, USBP
Priscilla Maxwell, Dispatch	Alice Webb, Library
Jennifer Medina, Animas Foundation/Diamond A Ranch	Michael Thomas, Self
Tracy Chavez, HCSO	Patricia Saucedo, DWI
Dan Otero, HMS	

CALL TO ORDER: Chairman Stewart called the meeting to order at 9:00 A.M. and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Roll Call: Chairman Marianne Stewart, Present
Commissioner Anthony J. Mora, Present
Commissioner Darr R. Shannon, Present

APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

Commissioner Mora motioned to approve the agenda. Commissioner Stewart seconded the motion, motion passed.

APPROVAL OF MINTUES:

Commissioner Shannon moved to approve the following minutes:

Regular Meeting, July 7, 2017
Special Meeting, July 12, 2017
Special Meeting, July 18, 2017
Special Meeting, July 24, 2017

Commissioner Mora seconded the motion, motion passed.

Guests

U.S. Border Patrol-update and introduction of New Agents-Agent Hector Maese commented on how the NM Army National Guard Proposal would be beneficial to the U.S. Border Patrol.

NM Army National Guard-Proposal for Road Improvements in Hidalgo County

Captain Anthony Kessel with the New Mexico National Guard presented the Board with a Southwest Training Mission. This is an opportunity for construction projects in support of federal and state agencies in order to train for tasks and make an enduring contribution to the safety and security of the southwest border region. Currently, the NMARNG has identified project opportunities in Hidalgo County. The first priority would be the Big Hatchet, also known as Commodore Road. This project would improve drainage on the road, scarify, fill, compact

and grade the road surface, remove large rocks and add gravel to the road surface. The second priority would be Hidalgo County Road 001 and the third priority would be the South Loop on Big Hatchet. If this project were approved, the first priority would begin by the end of FY17.

INFRASTRUCTURE CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PLAN 2019-2023

Priscilla Lucero presented the Board with the Infrastructure Capital Improvement Plan for projects around the county that need funding. The top five on the priority list for Hidalgo County are:

1. Purchase Grader
2. New Ambulance Shelter
3. Road Dept. Maintenance Building
4. Rodeo Community Center Expansion
5. Animas community Center Improvements

The Board discussed the air conditioning unit at the senior center, since the one previously purchased seems to be inadequate in size.

RESOLUTIONS & AGREEMENTS

Resolution 2017-18-ICIP 2019-2023 Ena Mitchell Senior Center

Commissioner Shannon moved to approve Resolution 2017-18-ICIP 2019-2023, adopting an Infrastructure Capital Improvement Plan for the Ena Mitchell Senior Center. Commissioner Mora seconded the motion, motion passed.

Resolution 2017-19-ICIP 2019-23 Hidalgo County

Commissioner Mora moved to approve Resolution 2017-19-ICIP-2019-23 for Hidalgo County as presented. Commissioner Shannon seconded the motion, motion passed.

Annual Agreement-SWNMCOG and Hidalgo County

This agreement is between the Southwest New Mexico Council of Governments also known as COG and Hidalgo County for membership dues. COG agrees to furnish services to Hidalgo County as a member. Hidalgo County will designate County Manager to be the member. Commissioner Stewart will be the alternate. Commissioner Shannon moved to approve the Annual Agreement with SWNMCOG and Hidalgo County for the amount of \$2,063 for 2017-18 dues, the County Manager will be the designee and Commissioner Stewart will be the alternate. Commissioner Mora seconded the motion, motion passed.

Resolution 2017-20-Ratification of Agreement with SWNMCOG

Commissioner Mora moved to approve Resolution 2017-20-Ratification of Agreement with SWNMCOG. Commissioner Shannon seconded the motion, motion passed.

DFA LDG Grant 16-A4043-Grant Agreement Amendment No. 1

County Manager Bob Hill stated that this amendment for the fairground renovation that is occurring-art in public places this was not included in the original grant agreement. Commission Shannon's concern is the art that is purchased, the fairgrounds is not ideal and would rather be placed at the courthouse. Commissioner Shannon moved to approve regarding the \$400,000 used at the fairgrounds allocating \$4,000 for Art in Public Places. Commissioner Mora seconded the motion, motion passed.

MISCELLANEOUS

Hidalgo Medical Services (HMS) request for a proclamation regarding National Health Center Week-discussion/action

Dan Otero requested to proclaim August 13-19 as National Health Center Week to celebrate the legacy of America's Community Health Centers and their vital role in shaping the future of America's health care system. Commissioner Mora moved to approve the proclamation for National Health Center Week concerning Hidalgo Medical Services. Commissioner Shannon seconded the motion, motion passed.

Letter to U.S. Fish and Wildlife regarding Mexican Gray Wolf commenting period-discussion/action

Commissioner Shannon stated there is extreme concern regarding a new endeavor from the Fish and Wildlife Service. Several hundred more wolves want to be turned out. Commissioner Mora moved to accept this comments letter for Hidalgo County. Commissioner Shannon seconded the motion, motion passed.

PLAC minutes and update-discussion/action

County Manager Bob Hill presented the minutes for approval. Commissioner Shannon made a few comments about these minutes. The PLAC discussed Commodore road extensively, the National Guard endeavor was not known, and the continental divide trail was more of a concern. The Border Patrol was a concern but not to an extreme. The Coronado National Forest is going to have a travel management plan, which are extremely worried about. However, they were not concerned about the Gila National Forest. The Mexican Gray wolf was not even mentioned. Another important topic on the list was the Geronimo Trail in better condition. Commissioner Mora moved to accept the minutes as presented by the Public Lands Advisory Council. Commissioner Shannon seconded the motion, motion passed.

Easement issues for county road maintenance-discussion/action

County Manager stated that this is the opportunity for discussion to expand regarding the easements. The easements for BLM property are accounted for through the state. However, private property has limited easements and right-of-ways. Over time it was just a verbal or hand shake type of agreement. Commissioner Shannon stated the County will no longer blade a road without an easement. The County needs to pursue the other roads with no easements. Commissioner Stewart stated that if the County decides to not blade a road without an easement, the property owner is given notification to let them know that as of this date the County will no longer be maintained. Commissioner mora stated a public meeting/input should be scheduled. Commissioner Stewart stated that the reason this is on the agenda is due to the newspaper article and phone calls after that. The discussion needs to be publicly. To clarify-No decision was ever made. Clarence stated that this is a great way for property owners to come forward and get the easements needed.

I-10 Issues related to accidents and road closures-discussion/action

County Manager stated this was a topic of discussion previously. Commissioner Mora stated he has drafted up a letter and the Board needs to revise or approve this letter. Commissioner Shannon moved to approve the letter regarding the dust storms on Interstate 10. Commissioner Stewart seconded the motion, motion passed.

Policy & Procedure review and approval

Hidalgo County Personnel Policy Section 6. Conditions of Employment 6.1-6.4 -discussion/action

The Board discussed that 6.1 Evaluation Process needs to say that a reviewer signature is mandated upon review and final rating of an evaluation. Section 6.1 Evaluation Process paragraphs A and E need to be reviewed. Section 6.2 needs to be omitted from the policy completely. Section 6.5 Transfers, Promotions-paragraph A needs to be reviewed. The Board

tabled any action on these to look over these changes. Commissioner Mora will start drafting those paragraphs along with the County Manager.

ROUNDTABLE DISCUSSION

Commissioner Mora presented a letter to the Board for consideration to send to the state legislatures on the local Department of Motor Vehicle closure. Also stated in this letter is the concern of the road conditions in the Southwest area. Highway 90 to Silver City is terrible and continuously by passed for upgrades, as well as Interstate 10 to Deming is a challenge causing accelerated tire wear due to the road condition.

EXECUTIVE SESSION-Commissioner Shannon moved to go into executive session and stated

- i. **Limited Personnel Matters as authorized pursuant to NMSA 1978 SECTION 10-15-1 (H) (2)-Treasurer's Office, Road Department, Detention Center, Detention Center Administrator, County Manager's Evaluation and Contract**

Commissioner Mora seconded the motion.

Roll Call Vote: **Chairperson Stewart: Aye**
Commissioner Shannon: Aye
Commissioner Mora: Aye

MOVED SECONDED AND CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY TO GO INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION AT 10:44 A.M.

REVCONVENE Commissioner Shannon moved to Reconvene. Commissioner Mora seconded the motion.

Roll Call Vote: Chairperson Stewart: Aye
Commissioner Shannon: Aye
Commissioner Mora: Aye

Action taken/not taken in Executive Session

Chairperson Stewart stated the no action taken on the Treasurer's Office, Road Department, and Detention Center.

The Detention Center Administrator action-is to review resumes and set up the interview process.

The County Manager's action-is the county will advertise for the County Manager's position.

CERTIFCATION OF PAYROLL- Commissioner Mora moved to approve the Certification of Payroll. Commissioner Shannon seconded the motion, motion passed.

CERTIFICATION OF ACCOUNTS PAYABLE

Commissioner Shannon made the motion to approve Accounts Payable. Commissioner Mora seconded the motion, motion passed.

ADJOURNMENT:

There being no further business before the Board, Commissioner Shannon moved to adjourn. Commissioner Mora seconded the motion, motion passed. The meeting adjourned at 11:39 A.M.

ATTEST:

HIDALGO COUNTY BOARD
OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

Melissa K. De La Garza, County Clerk

Marianne Stewart, Chairman

APPROVED:

Anthony J. Mora, Member

Darr R. Shannon, Member