

**MINUTES**  
**REGULAR MEETING**  
**HIDALGO COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS**

August 8, 2018 at 9:00 A. M.

**BE IT REMEMBERED** that the Hidalgo County Board of County Commissioners met in regular session on August 8, 2018, 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:

Tisha Green, County Manager  
Melissa K. De La Garza, County Clerk  
Priscilla Maxwell, Dispatch Supervisor  
Tracy Chavez, HCSO  
Hector Maese, USBP  
Ryan Thurnton, USBP  
Martin Neave, Chief Assessor  
Mark D. Thomas, Self

Dave Carbine, GIS  
Joseph Guillian, Road Dept.  
Joel Edwards, Self  
Meira Gault, PLAC  
Stephen Gault, Public  
Kim Kvamme, BITS  
Maria Sanchez, HCSO  
Michael Thomas, Self

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

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

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA:** Commissioner Shannon moved to approve the agenda with Miscellaneous Item IV D. & E. removed. Commissioner Stewart seconded the motion, motion passed.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Commissioner Stewart moved to approve the minutes for Special Meeting, June 28, 2018 and Regular Meeting, July 11, 2018. Commissioner Shannon seconded the motion, motion passed.

**GUESTS**

**PLAC-Meira Gault**

- i. **By-laws amendment-discussion/action**  
Meira Gault stated the PLAC added Section 6. This was the only change. Commissioner Mora would like to look over the by-laws and thanked Mrs. Gault for doing this. No action taken.
- ii. **Letter to BLM recommendation-discussion/action**  
Meira Gault stated the PLAC had a meeting on July 25, 2018. The most important thing is that a letter needs to be sent to the BLM regarding the Continental Divide Trail. The Board can see if changes are needed on the draft letter to improve it before the final letter is sent. Commissioner Shannon moved to approve the letter to the BLM that has been written by the Public Lands

Advisory Council from Hidalgo County. Commissioner Stewart seconded the motion, motion passed.

## **RESOLUTIONS AND AGREEMENTS**

### **Memorandum of Understanding between Hidalgo County and the City of Lordsburg-discussion/action**

County Manager Tisha Green stated this is a MOU in reference to the Stonegarden award approved for fiscal year 2017. This is just allocating the funds to each entity.

Commissioner Stewart moved to approve the Memorandum of Understanding between Hidalgo County and the City of Lordsburg in the amount of \$246,666.66 for the Stonegarden grant. Commissioner Shannon seconded the motion, motion passed.

### **Memorandum of Understanding between Hidalgo County and New Mexico State Police-discussion/action**

**County Manager Tisha Green stated this is the same type of MOU agreement.**

Commissioner Shannon moved to approve the Memorandum of Understanding between Hidalgo County and New Mexico State Police in the amount of \$246,666.68. Commissioner Stewart seconded the motion, motion passed.

### **Right to Work Ordinance-discussion/action**

**County Manager Tisha Green stated this is a request by Commissioner Shannon to be on the agenda.** In the packets is a legal opinion from the County's attorney. Commissioner Shannon stated she believes the Right to Work Ordinance is extremely important for Hidalgo County and the State. Upon the pending litigation in Sandoval County, this topic will be approached later. No action taken.

## **MISCELLANEOUS**

### **Assessor's Annual Report-discussion**

Martin Neave Chief Deputy Assessor presented the Board with a summary of the assessor's office. In 2017, twelve building permits were issue for the County. Three of them were government projects. Taxable valuation is down approximately \$2 million as Lordsburg Mining, which is now Pyramid Peak Mining has not rendered their information yet. Once they do, it will adjust. Mr. Neave stated that the City of Lordsburg continues to demolish properties in need of maintenance, some of which have delinquent taxes, which makes it difficult to collect those taxes. Commissioner Shannon asked if the City checked with the treasurer's office prior to those buildings been torn down. County Treasurer Tyler Massey stated the City did not call to see if taxes were owned as well as with other properties. The City needs to let the tax process work itself out. If not the property will be on the tax roll for ten years. The new administration needs to be aware of this process. Evaluation for livestock is down due to sales prices. Home site values outside the city limits have been readjusted and will continue with the six-year plan to be completed in 2021. Mr. Neave stated he has completed two classes toward IAAO certification and will continue with classes this fall.

### **Request to use recycling funds to replace the lighting at the Transfer Station-discussion/action**

County Manager Tisha Green stated two quotes are presented. One is from Lynco Electric the other is from Animas Valley Excavation & Electric. The scope of work is ten lights to be installed. The base price is shown for both bids. Commissioner Shannon moved to approve the bid for Animas Valley and Electric for demolishing and replacing the lights at the Transfer station

for the amount of \$3,610.38 including the tax. Commissioner Stewart seconded the motion, motion passed.

**New Mexico Department of Transportation regarding Interstate 10 between Exit 20 and the Arizona State Line-discussion/action**

Commissioner Shannon brought up that she does not know what the NMDOT has done when the shoulders off the interstate were extended. They are not packed. The ambulance has been stuck. She considers this a matter of life and death. The last time the ambulance went out; they had to use the median of the interstate to get there. The trash and the debris caused flats, which tears up the tires. They cannot drive on the shoulder especially when it is wet. Commissioner Shannon has pictures to show where the NMDOT did a terrible job. It is not stable, packed-its rubble. When trucks pull off they can get stuck. Then the ambulance cannot get to the people that need help. Commissioner Shannon thinks the NMDOT needs to know that the County is very dissatisfied with the work that was done. They put down a bunch of rubble and sprayed it with oil. This is not what was requested. People from other places have no idea what the signage means. County Manager Tisha Green will draft a letter to NMDOT on these concerns. Commissioner Stewart recommends attaching the photos in the letter.

*Round Table*

**Maria Sanchez**-stated she did talk to NMDOT and she asked them if they were aware of being discussed this area of I-10-nobody invited them.

**Commissioner Shannon** stated it was her choice to bring this to the Board. It was her choice not to ask NMDOT to come to the meeting. Commissioner Shannon wanted the Board to hear what she had to say.

**Commissioner Shannon** stated she is not talking about the local NMDOT but Santa Fe. So if they weren't invited and their feelings are hurt too bad.

**Maria Sanchez** stated well you're complaining about something but we don't understand why they did this work. Maybe someone representing NMDOT could have explained it.

**Commissioner Shannon** stated it was her choice to bring it to the board and she never thought about dot they can come at a later time after the Board sends a letter about the matter.

**Commissioner Mora** stated last time they did make an attempt and agrees with Shannon that they just made an attempt to correct without actually do anything that was going to be effective.

**Maria Sanchez** stated she does not know the reason behind the work they did-but it would have been nice to have someone represent them to say.

**Commissioner Mora**-asked Priscilla Maxwell emergency preparedness this is a big thing where does it evolve. Everyone needs to start working together. Then real meetings can be held in an effective way.

**Commissioner Shannon** stated we need the right people here and asked Maria Sanchez if she was representing the NMDOT.

**Maria Sanchez** stated she spoke to them because they were on the agenda because she is the chair for the LEPC.

**Commissioner Shannon** asked Maria why she didn't approach her about this item on the agenda. To see if anyone was going to be present and maybe she would have thought about it.

**Commissioner Mora** stated something needs to be set up, have another agenda item, and give NMDOT an opportunity to present, including the EMS/Fire departments.

**Tyler Massey** stated he is overwhelmed at the moment with the pre-paid program, simply because there has been so much interest. Mr. Kvamme has been very significant in helping with the IT getting the program set up. The taxpayers are coming into pay with this program and would like to thank the Commission as well as Mr. Kvamme again.

**CERTIFICATION OF PAYROLL-** Commissioner Shannon moved to approve the Certification of Payroll. Commissioner Stewart seconded the motion, motion passed.

**CERTIFICATION OF ACCOUNTS PAYABLE**

Commissioner Stewart moved to approve Accounts Payable. Commissioner Shannon seconded the motion, motion passed.

**ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business before the Board, Commissioner Shannon moved to adjourn. Commissioner Stewart seconded the motion, motion passed. The meeting adjourned at 9:52 A.M.

ATTEST:

HIDALGO COUNTY BOARD  
OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

\_\_\_\_\_  
Melissa K. De La Garza, County Clerk

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Anthony J. Mora, Chairman

APPROVED:  
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Darr R. Shannon, Member

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Marianne Stewart, Member