

**San Juan County Commission
Regular Meeting
September 15, 2020**

Chairman Fortner called the San Juan County Commission meeting to order on September 15, 2020 at 4:04 P.M. in the Commission Chambers located in the County Administration Building, 100 S. Oliver Drive, Aztec, New Mexico. Chairman Pro-Tem Crowley gave the invocation and Chairman Fortner led the Pledge of Allegiance. Those present were:

CHAIRMAN	Jack L. Fortner
CHAIRMAN PRO-TEM	Jim Crowley
MEMBER	John T. Beckstead
MEMBER	GloJean Todacheene
MEMBER	Michael Sullivan- VIA PHONE
CLERK	Tanya Shelby
SHERIFF	Shane Ferrari
COUNTY MANAGER	Mike Stark
DEPUTY COUNTY MANAGER	Jim Cox
ATTORNEY	Doug Echols
DEPUTY ATTORNEY	Joe Sawyer
EMERGENCY MANAGER	Mike Mestas
PARKS & FACILITIES ADMINISTRATOR	Daniel Hill
PUBLIC WORKS ADMINISTRATOR	Nick Porell
HEALTH CARE ASSISTANCE PROGRAM COORDINATOR	Liza Lier
SUBDIVISION REVIEW OFFICER	David Barnett
PUBLIC RELATIONS MANAGER	Devin Neeley
BEHAVIORAL HEALTH SERVICES DIRECTOR	Su Hodgman

The following attended via phone or via WebX:

CHIEF DEPUTY CLERK	Alyssa Kuhn
CHIEF DEPUTY TREASURER	Carol Taulbee
RISK MANAGER	Cynthia Singleton
CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER	Kim Martin
CHIEF HUMAN RESOURCES OFFICER	Roberta Padilla
DEPUTY HUMAN RESOURCES OFFICER	Tara Martinez
JUVENILE SERVICES ADMINISTRATOR	Traci Neff
JUVENILE SERVICES DEPUTY ADMINISTRATOR	Bowen Belt
FIRE CHIEF	John Mohler
CHIEF IS OFFICER	Keith Lund
HOUSING EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR	Faye Anderson

PRESS: Farmington Daily Times

Hannah Grover

VISITORS:

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Presentation

1. Recognition of SJC Fire District No 5-Blanco and Bloomfield Fire Department

John Mohler, Fire Chief, explained that since March, San Juan County, and the world, has been faced with unprecedented hardship during the ongoing coronavirus pandemic. To ease hardship in the community, members of San Juan County Fire District 5, in collaboration the Bloomfield Fire Department have gone above and beyond the call of duty to distribute food boxes to Bloomfield, Blanco, and San Juan County communities. To date, they have provided more than 770 boxes of food at two different events for hundreds of San Juan County Residents. The effort was spearheaded by Carrie Trujillo of District 5 and Chief Angel Norton of the Bloomfield Fire Department with the help of many others from both fire organizations.

Regular Meeting

Approval of Agenda

Mike Stark, County Manager, stated that there is no change to the agenda. A motion was made by Commissioner Todacheene, seconded by Chairman Pro-Tem Crowley to approve the agenda as presented. Upon voice vote this motion passed unanimously.

Consent Agenda

1. Approval for Regular Meeting Minutes for September 1, 2020
2. Approval for Finance Check Registers for August 2020
3. Approval for Treasurer's Check Registers for August 2020
4. Approval for State Grant Funding, All Fire Districts
5. Consideration of Radio Infrastructure Improvements and Film Studio Grants with New Mexico Department of Finance and Administration

A motion was made by Chairman Pro-Tem Crowley, seconded by Commissioner Todacheene to approve the Consent Agenda. Upon voice vote this motion passed unanimously.

New Business

1. Consideration of Proclamation Declaring the Week of September 17-23 to be Constitution Week 2020

Mike Stark, County Manager, explained that the Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR) requested that San Juan County issue a proclamation declaring the week of September 17th - 23rd to be Constitution Week, 2020. Staff requested approval of the proclamation. Mike Stark read the proclamation:

**SAN JUAN COUNTY, NEW MEXICO
PROCLAIMING SEPTEMBER 17-23 AS
CONSTITUTION WEEK 2020**

WHEREAS, September 17, 2020 marks the two hundred and thirty-third anniversary of the drafting of the Constitution of the United States of America by the Constitutional Convention; and

WHEREAS, it is fitting and proper to accord official recognition to this magnificent document and its memorable anniversary and to the patriotic celebrations which will commemorate the occasion; and

WHEREAS, Public Law 915 guarantees the issuing of a Proclamation each year by the President of the United States of America designating September 17 through September 23 as Constitution Week.

NOW, THEREFORE, the Board of County Commissioners of San Juan County, New Mexico, does hereby proclaim the week of September 17 through 23, 2020 to be

CONSTITUTION WEEK

in San Juan County and urges all citizens to study the Constitution and reflect on the privilege of being an American with all the rights and responsibilities which that privilege involves.

Margaret Dubick, Chairman of Constitution Week Daughters of the American Revolution Desert Gold Chapter San Juan County, announced that on Thursday, September 17, 2020 at 1:30 p.m. the Bells Across America event will be held at the Bloomfield City Hall. A motion was made by Chairman Pro-Tem Crowley, seconded by Commissioner Beckstead to approve the Proclamation Declaring the Week of September 17-23 to be Constitution Week 2020. Upon voice vote this motion passed unanimously.

2. San Juan County Historical Society Update

Patricia Tharp, SJC Historical Society President, presented the following update to the Commission on the activities of the Historical Society:

- There are 174 members, 80% are 60 and older, with 12 members in their 90s
- Monthly board meetings are currently held by email and a newsletter was published in May and August for historical society members
- Office is located at 201 N Main in Aztec in the old fire station and the archival space is 829 square feet and the goal is to obtain a larger climate-controlled space at least 2,500 square feet to expand collections and services to the community

Ms. Tharp concluded by thanking the Commission for their support. The Commission made various comments.

3. Consideration of Approval for Proposal Scope of Work for Behavioral Health Services

Liza Lier, HCAP Manager, explained that on July 28, 2020, the Commission approved issuing a Request for Proposal (RFP) for behavioral health services, dedicating \$75,000, for the purpose of addressing Behavioral Health gaps identified in the 2019 Behavioral Health Gaps Analysis

Report. Ms. Lier presented the goals and objectives:

- Increase access to outpatient behavioral health services within San Juan County
- Improve the mental wellness and behavioral health and functioning of target population
- Support creative approaches to the behavioral health needs of target population
- Support increased behavioral health needs created by COVID-19
- Treatments must be evidence-based and have measurable outcomes
- Preference given to collaborative partnerships between existing agencies and resources

The target population includes uninsured citizens who do not qualify for Medicaid. The awards may vary depending on the number and quality of applications, not to exceed \$75,000 over a 12-month period. Upon approval staff will work with Central Purchasing to develop the scoring matrix, confirm the timeline, and add standard RFP terms/conditions. Su Hodgman, Behavioral Health Services Director, stated that the focus will be on behavioral health during the Covid pandemic. The Commission made various comments and asked questions. A motion was made by Commissioner Sullivan, seconded by Commissioner Todacheene to approve the Proposal Scope of Work for Behavioral Health Services. Upon voice vote this motion passed unanimously.

4. Consideration of Final Plat for Cal-Stock Subdivision-Phase 1, Revised Road Schedule and Phasing Plan

David Barnett, Subdivision Review Officer, indicated that on July 7, 2020, the Commission approved the Preliminary Plat for Cal-Stock Subdivision to be developed in phases. Phase 1 consists of 10 lots ranging in size from 0.75 acres to 0.95 acres with the access for this subdivision off US Highway 64, in Waterflow, approximately 15 miles West of Farmington. A paving variance for the roads was granted by the Commission on July 7, 2020. The developer has entered into a Subdivision Improvement Agreement with the County to assure that the main electrical power line, gravel roads, water main, and service lines will be completed at the developer's expense. Per Sections 5.4.1 and 5.5.2 of the Subdivision Regulations, the developer furnished a sample copy of the sales sign for advertising as well as the purchase agreement which will be used to convey an interest in the subdivided land. The final plat is in substantial conformity with the approved preliminary plat and complies with the Subdivision Regulations. The road schedule and phasing plan were changed from the preliminary plat so that all roads will be constructed with phase 1. Staff has no objection to the revised plans and requested final approval. The Commission asked various questions. A motion was made by Chairman Pro-Tem Crowley, seconded by Commissioner Beckstead to approve the Final Plat for Cal-Stock Subdivision-Phase 1, Revised Road Schedule and Phasing Plan. Upon voice vote this motion passed unanimously.

5. Consideration of Approval for Submission of the Annual 2020 State Homeland Security Grant Program (SHSGP). Funding opportunity, Application and Work Plan

Mike Mestas, Emergency Manager, requested approval to apply for the 2020 State Homeland Security Grant Program (SHSGP). From FEMA, the State has been allocated \$3,430,000 to be funded to local jurisdictions. This grant is a competitive application, and allocation amounts are different every year. Last year we were awarded \$351,250.70. With the application just recently

being released, a final dollar amount for each program is unknown due to projects still being formulated. Programs that are allocated funding out of that grant included the following:

<u>Teams:</u>	<u>Projects Awards from Last Year:</u>
SJC Helicopter	\$ 0
Farmington Fire HAZMAT	\$ 32,357.71
Law Enforcement Agencies	\$198,744.87
SJC EOC	\$ 40,000.00
OEM Training and Exercise	\$ 65,315.00
San Juan County CERT	\$ 14,833.44
Total	\$351,250.70

A motion was made by Chairman Pro-Tem Crowley, seconded by Commissioner Todacheene to approve the Submission of the Annual 2020 State Homeland Security Grant Program (SHSGP). Funding opportunity, Application and Work Plan. Upon voice vote this motion passed unanimously.

6. Consideration of Adoption of San Juan County Ordinance No. 113, Adopting a County Ordinance No. 113, Adopting a County 1/8 of 1 % Gross Receipts Tax

Doug Echols, County Attorney, stated that Ordinance No. 113 would enact a County one-eighth of one percent (.125%) gross receipts tax on anyone engaging in business in San Juan County. The County's Finance Department estimates this tax would provide additional revenue between \$233,000 to \$276,000 per month or \$2.8 million to \$3.3 million annually. The Commission approved a Notice of Intent to Adopt at its August 18 meeting. The required Notice was published in the Daily Times on Sunday, August 23. All documentation will have to be delivered to the Taxation & Revenue Department by September 30 in order to go into effect on January 1, 2021. If adopted, the County would start receiving payments in March 2021 which would help relieve budget shortfalls. A public hearing is required at this time as part of the consideration of adoption.

Chairman Fortner opened a hearing for public comment. Public comment was received by text or fax:

Robin Jakino supports the tax increase.
Darcy Moss is against the tax increase.
Paul Rozzell supports the tax increase.

Mr. Echols requested that the Commission approve Ordinance No. 113 with the amendment at the end of Section 5 that states no election shall be required.

There being no other public comment, Chairman Fortner closed the public hearing and opened the floor for Commission discussion.

Chairman Pro-Tem Crowley explained that he has received community response regarding the tax increase and shared their concerns. Mr. Crowley stated that other options may need to be discussed to offset the budget shortfall in the County.

Mike Stark, County Manager, explained that there will be legislative challenges, including economic legislation mandates. Mr. Stark explained that since 2010, 78 County positions (28 of those positions have been since March) have been eliminated through attrition. Non-mandated services may need to be reduced or eliminated. Another option discussed was a payroll reduction.

Shane Ferrari, San Juan County Sheriff, stated that there are mandated positions that would need to remain and that services provided are proactive in public safety. Elimination of services would be detrimental to the quality of the services provided and the safety to the citizens in the community. Sheriff Ferrari explained that a cut in pay would cause mass vacancies in the force and hiring less qualified deputies.

The Commission held discussion regarding various options and asked various questions. A motion was made by Commissioner Sullivan, seconded by Commissioner Todacheene to approve the Adoption of San Juan County Ordinance No. 113, Adopting a County Ordinance No. 113, Adopting a County 1/8 of 1 % Gross Receipts Tax with the amendment at the end of Section 5 that states no election shall be required. By roll call vote Chairman Fortner voted for, Commissioner Beckstead voted for, Commissioner Sullivan voted for, Commissioner Todacheene voted for, and Chairman Pro-Tem Crowley voted against. Upon roll call vote the motion passed.

Report from County Manager

Mike Stark stated that the Build Grant to fund the study of freight rail in San Juan County was awarded to the County.

Reports From Elected Officials And Department Heads

Nick Porell, Public Works Administrator, gave an update on Road 5500 and Largo Bridge per Commissioner Sullivan's request.

Mr. Porell announced that the County was awarded funding from the Recycling and Illegal Dump Grant.

Tanya Shelby, County Clerk, announced there are 50 days before General Election and all 33 voting convenience centers will be open on election day. Early voting begins in the Clerk's office on Oct 6, 2020. There have been a few modifications to the early voting alternate locations including changing Shiprock Fire Station to Central Consolidated School District Business Office and adding Farmington Library; this is in addition to the existing early voting locations including Farmington Museum at Gateway Park, Bloomfield Cultural Center, and Newcomb Fire Station. Early voting at the alternate sites begins October 17, 2020. Ms. Shelby noted that her office has already received 5,000 absentee requests as of today.

Devin Neeley, Public Relations Manager, stated that the 2020 Census ends September 30, 2020 and only 48.8% of San Juan County has been counted. Mr. Neeley requested that citizens be encouraged to complete the Census online or by phone.

Devin Neeley stated that the Four Corners Film Festival 2020 will be held virtually on-line beginning September 16, 2020 to September 18, 2020.

Comments / Input From The General Public

None

Closed Executive Session

A motion was made by Chairman Pro-Tem Crowley, seconded by Commissioner Beckstead to go into closed executive session to discuss the Consideration of Request to Purchase land on Road 3490 Right-of-Way. Upon voice vote this motion passed unanimously. Upon return a motion was made by Commissioner Todacheene, seconded by Commissioner Beckstead to go back into open meeting. Upon voice vote this motion passed unanimously. Chairman Fortner stated that nothing other than what was stated in the motion to go into closed executive session was discussed.

Adjourn

Being no further business, a motion was made by Commissioner Beckstead, seconded by Commissioner Todacheene to adjourn the meeting. Upon voice vote this motion passed unanimously and the meeting adjourned at 5:51 p.m.

APPROVED THIS 6TH DAY OF OCTOBER 2020

BY THE SAN JUAN COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS:



Chairman Jack L. Fortner



Chairman Pro-Tem Jim Crowley



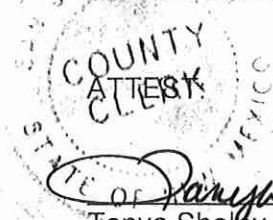
John T. Beckstead



Glojean Todacheene



Michael Sullivan





Tanya Shelby, County Clerk