

**San Juan County Commission
Regular Meeting
January 5, 2021**

Mike Stark, County Manager, called the San Juan County Commission meeting to order on January 5, 2021 at 4:00 P.M. in the Commission Chambers located in the County Administration Building, 100 S. Oliver Drive, Aztec, New Mexico. Commissioner Todacheene gave the invocation and Chairman Pro-Tem Fortner led the Pledge of Allegiance. Those present were:

CHAIRMAN	John T. Beckstead
CHAIRMAN PRO-TEM	Terri D. Fortner
MEMBER	Steve Lanier
MEMBER	GloJean Todacheene
MEMBER	Michael Sullivan- VIA PHONE
ASSESSOR	Jimmy Voita
CHIEF DEPUTY ASSESSOR	John Kuhn
CLERK	Tanya Shelby
COUNTY MANAGER	Mike Stark
DEPUTY COUNTY MANAGER	Jim Cox
ATTORNEY	Doug Echols
EMERGENCY MANAGER	Mike Mestas
CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER	Kim Martin
DEPUTY FINANCE OFFICER	Travis Sisco
SAFETY & COMPLIANCE MANAGER	Stewart Logan
PUBLIC RELATIONS MANAGER	Devin Neeley
BEHAVIORAL HEALTH SERVICES DIRECTOR	Su Hodgman

The following attended via phone or via WebEx:

TREASURER	Carol Taulbee
DEPUTY ATTORNEY	Joe Sawyer
PARKS & FACILITIES ADMINISTRATOR	Daniel Hill
PARKS & FACILITIES DEPUTY ADMINISTRATOR	Steven Dansie
CHIEF HUMAN RESOURCES OFFICER	Roberta Padilla
ADULT DETENTION ADMINISTRATOR	Daniel Webb
JUVENILE SERVICES ADMINISTRATOR	Bowen Belt
FIRE CHIEF	John Mohler
HEALTH CARE ASSISTANCE PROGRAM COORDINATOR	Liza Gomez
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DIRECTOR	Michele Truby-Tillen
SUBDIVISION REVIEW OFFICER	David Barnett
CHIEF IS OFFICER	Keith Lund
HOUSING EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR	Faye Anderson

PRESS: Farmington Daily Times

Hannah Grover

VISITORS:

13

Election of Chairman and Chairman Pro-Tem

Mike Stark, County Manager, conducted the election for Chairman of the San Juan County Board of Commissioners for the 2021 Calendar Year. Commissioner Fortner nominated Commissioner Beckstead for the position of Chairman. Commissioner Beckstead accepted the nomination. There were no other nominations. Mr. Stark ceased all nominations. A roll-call vote was conducted; Commissioner Todacheene, Commissioner Fortner, Commissioner Beckstead, Commissioner Lanier, and Commissioner Sullivan voted in favor. Commissioner Beckstead was chosen as the Chairman for the 2021 Calendar year. Mr. Stark presented the gavel to Chairman Beckstead. Chairman Beckstead requested nominations for the position of Chairman Pro-Tem. Commissioner Sullivan nominated Commissioner Fortner and Commissioner Todacheene nominated herself. Commissioner Todacheene motioned that all nominations cease, seconded by Commissioner Fortner. A roll-call vote was conducted for Commissioner Fortner as Chairman Pro-Tem; Chairman Beckstead, Commissioner Sullivan, Commissioner Fortner, and Commissioner Lanier voted in favor of Commissioner Fortner. Commissioner Todacheene voted against. A roll-call vote was conducted in for Commissioner Todacheene as Chairman Pro-Tem; Chairman Beckstead, Commissioner Sullivan, Commissioner Fortner, and Commissioner Lanier voted against. Commissioner Todacheene voted in favor. Upon roll-call vote four to one, Commissioner Fortner was chosen as the Chairman Pro-Tem for the 2021 Calendar year.

A motion was made by Commissioner Lanier, seconded by Commissioner Sullivan to call to order the Board of Finance Meeting. Upon voice vote, the motion passed unanimously.

Board of Finance Meeting

1. Consideration of Resolution 20-21-34, Authorizing Investment of Monies in the Local Short-Term Investment Fund

Carol Taulbee, San Juan County Treasurer, explained that at the beginning of each year, the San Juan County Commission must authorize the County Treasurer and the Chief Deputy Treasurer to invest County monies in the local short-term investment fund, pursuant to Section 6-10-10.1, N.M.S.A., 1978. The fund is managed by the New Mexico State Treasurer. Resolution 20-21-34 authorizes Carol Taulbee, County Treasurer and Bryan Myers, Chief Deputy County Treasurer to deposit or withdraw monies in the local short-term investment fund. Ms. Taulbee requested approval of Resolution 20-21-34, authorizing investment of monies in Local Short-Term Investment Fund. A motion was made by Chairman Pro-Tem Fortner, seconded by Commissioner Todacheene to approve Resolution 20-21-34, Authorizing Investment of Monies in the Local Short-Term Investment Fund. Upon voice vote this motion passed unanimously.

A motion was made by Commissioner Todacheene, seconded by Chairman Pro-Tem Fortner to adjourn the Board of Finance Meeting and to call to order the Regular Meeting. Upon voice vote, the motion passed unanimously.

Regular Meeting

Approval of Agenda

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

Consent Agenda

1. Approval of December 15, 2020 Regular Meeting Minutes

A motion was made by Commissioner Todacheene, seconded by Commissioner Lanier to approve the Consent Agenda. Upon voice vote this motion passed unanimously.

New Business

1. **Consideration of Commission Approval of the FY20 Comprehensive Annual Financial Report (CAFR)-audit completed by Pattillo, Brown and Hill, LLP**

Kim Martin, Chief Financial Officer, explained that Section 2.2.2.10M(4) NMAC (2020 New Mexico State Audit Rule) requires that the FY20 CAFR be presented by the IPA (Pattillo, Brown and Hill, LLP) to a quorum of the County Commission at a meeting held in accordance with the Open Meetings Act. Furthermore, the New Mexico Department of Finance and Administration requires the Commission sign a resolution accepting the audit. Ms. Martin introduced Chris Garner, Partner with Pattillo, Brown and Hill, LLP. Mr. Garner reported a successful compliance audit with an unmodified-clean opinion. There were no difficulties encountered during the audit and no corrected misstatements. The County has received the Government Finance Officers Association (GFOA) Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting for 13 consecutive years. Staff requested the approval of the FY20 audit through Resolution 20-21-37. Mr. Stark commended the Finance Department. The Commission made various comments. A motion was made by Chairman Pro-Tem Fortner, seconded by Commissioner Sullivan to approve the FY20 Comprehensive Annual Financial Report (CAFR)-audit completed by Pattillo, Brown and Hill, LLP. Upon voice vote this motion passed unanimously.

2. **Update on Enchant Energy Project**

Cindy Crane, Enchant Energy Chief Executive Officer and Hank Adair, Farmington Electric Utility Director updated the Commission on the San Juan Generating Station Carbon Capture project. The following was presented:

- City of Farmington, through Farmington Electric Utility System, has partnered with Enchant Energy on a project for the continued operation of the San Juan Generating Station (SJGS) beyond 2022 by adding carbon capture technology to the plant
- It is the intention of the public-private partnership to run the legacy coal plant until 2035 by adding the carbon capture technology allowing the plant to comply with emission standards of the New Mexico Energy Act
- Farmington committed to transferring 95% of the SJGS assets to Enchant Energy and retain its original 5% ownership

- SJGS will be the largest carbon capture project in the world
- Project preserves and potentially increases tax and other revenues for schools
- Reduces New Mexico emissions by 5.8 million metric tonnes of CO2 per year
- Job creation and economic development opportunities for carbon capture construction- 1,500 direct and indirect jobs
- In 2020 several milestones have been met- raised development capital, initiated various negotiations, and secured grants
- Goals for 2021 through 2024 including finalizing plant operator contracts, complete plant deferred maintenance construction, energize first of 4 units (trains), begin commercial operation of Carbon Capture Island

The Commission asked various questions.

3. **Consideration of Resolution No. 20-21-35, Extending Families First Coronavirus Response Act Emergency Paid Leave to County Employees**

Mike Stark, County Manager, explained that many provisions of the Families First Coronavirus Response Act have been extended beyond the December 31, 2020 expiration by new legislation which was signed by President Trump which extended the tax credit that is associated with the provision to all employers which is now also available to states and local governments. The County has received CARES Act and a grant to assist with the costs associated. Mr. Stark stated that the new provisions do not mandate that the County extend the leave to employees but Staff recommended that these provisions by the County to its employees will help contain the spread of Coronavirus through the County's workforce and is in the best interest of San Juan County. Resolution No. 20-21-35 would extend this benefit through March 31, 2021. It would not apply to employees who are quarantining after returning from out-of-state travel. The Commission asked various questions. A motion was made by Commissioner Chairman Pro-Tem Fortner, seconded by Commissioner Todacheene to approve Resolution No. 20-21-35, Extending Families First Coronavirus Response Act Emergency Paid Leave to County Employees. Upon voice vote this motion passed unanimously.

4. **Consideration of Adoption of the San Juan County Multi-Jurisdictional Natural Hazards Mitigation Plan**

Michele Truby-Tillen, Community Development Director, stated that San Juan County, Aztec, Bloomfield, Farmington, and the Town of Kirtland are revising the existing Natural Hazards Mitigation Plan in 2019. The plan is required by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and provides access for compliant communities to grant funding. Grant funding was obtained to pay contractor, Bold Planning, to assist in the process of revision and submission to the NM Department of Homeland Security and Emergency Management and Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) for approval. The revised plan was returned from FEMA the week before December 25, 2020 and is approved pending adoption by the participating jurisdictions. Once adoption documentation has been submitted to the State of New Mexico and FEMA an official letter of approval and a plan expiration date will be assigned. The Commission asked various questions. A motion was made by Chairman Pro-Tem Fortner,

seconded by Commissioner Todacheene to approve the Adoption of the San Juan County Multi-Jurisdictional Natural Hazards Mitigation Plan. Upon voice vote this motion passed unanimously.

5. Consideration of Open Meetings Resolution No. 20-21-33

Doug Echols, County Attorney, indicated that the Open Meetings Act requires that a public body determine annually what notice for a public meeting is reasonable when applied to that body. Commission Meetings will be held the 1st and 3rd Tuesday at 4:00 p.m. unless otherwise rescheduled or a Special Meeting is in order. A motion was made by Commissioner Todacheene, seconded by Chairman Pro-Tem Fortner to approve the Open Meetings Resolution No. 20-21-33. Upon voice vote this motion passed unanimously.

Report from County Manager

Mike Stark announced Michele Truby-Tillen as the Community Development Director. Mr. Stark requested that Mike Mestas, Emergency Manager provide an update to the Commission regarding COVID statistics and vaccine distribution. Mr. Mestas reported that as of January 5, there are 10,620 positive COVID cases, 4,689 have recovered, and 301 deaths in San Juan County. Vaccine distribution is currently in Phase 1A (healthcare workers, residents in nursing homes, etc.) of distribution. The following pharmacies are assisting in the administering of the vaccine: Walmart, New Mexico Department of Health at McGee Park, San Juan Regional Medical Center, and Presbyterian Medical Services (PMS). The Commission asked various questions and made various comments.

Reports From Elected Officials And Department Heads

Kim Martin, Chief Financial Officer, announced that the 2020 Fiscal Year Popular Annual Financial Report booklet is now available to the citizens of San Juan County.

Su Hodgman, Behavioral Health Services Director, announced that the Mental Wellness Resource Center continues to be successful in assisting the community and the staff continues to seek resources to assist citizens with many services available.

Doug Echols, County Attorney, announced that the bonds for County Elected Officials have been received and are recorded in the Clerk's Office.

Tanya Shelby, County Clerk, stated that New Mexico Counties Board of Directors Election was conducted today. Commissioner Terri Fortner expressed interest and has been elected to serve on the Board of Directors.

Chairman Beckstead commended the County Staff for their commitment and welcomed Chairman Pro-Tem Fortner and Commissioner Lanier.

Comments / Input From The General Public

None

Adjourn

Being no further business, Chairman Beckstead adjourned the meeting at 5:59 p.m.

APPROVED THIS 19TH DAY OF JANUARY 2021

BY THE SAN JUAN COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS:


Chairman John T. Beckstead


Chairman Pro-Tem Terri D. Fortner


Steve Lanier


Glojean Todacheene


Michael Sullivan

ATTEST:


Tanya Shelby, County Clerk

