

**San Juan County Commission  
Regular Meeting  
September 21, 2021**

Chairman Beckstead called the San Juan County Commission meeting to order on September 21, 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 Commissioner Lanier 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
CHIEF DEPUTY ASSESSOR	John Kuhn
CLERK	Tanya Shelby
TREASURER	Carol Taulbee
COUNTY MANAGER	Mike Stark
DEPUTY COUNTY MANAGER	Jim Cox
ATTORNEY	Joe Sawyer
DEPUTY ATTORNEY	Ellen Wayne
CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER	Kim Martin
ADULT DETENTION ADMINISTRATOR	Daniel Webb
DEPUTY FIRE CHIEF	David Vega
SAFETY & COMPLIANCE MANAGER	Stewart Logan
PUBLIC RELATIONS & FILM MANAGER	Devin Neeley
BEHAVIORAL HEALTH SERVICES DIRECTOR	Su Hodgman
VISITORS:	4

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

**Board of Finance**

**1. Report on County Investments and Interest Earned**

Carol Taulbee, County Treasurer, stated County investments earned \$688,891.33 in interest for Fiscal Year 2021 as of June 30, 2021. This is a 26.81 % decrease in interest earned for FY2019 and a 32.34% decrease from the same period in FY2020. The annual return on average dollars invested decreased from 2.23% in FY2020 to 1.88% in FY2021. The total average invested balance is consistently lower than in FY2020. Covid-19's impact on interest rates and with the reduction in GRT and Oil & Gas receipts, we continue to conservatively reinvest. This strategy should assure adequate cash flows through the end of FY2022. Total cash and investments as of June 30, 2021 were \$65,207,224.04. This amount includes June property tax collections of

municipal, school district and other special district or political boundary lines shall serve as precinct boundaries whenever possible; and

2. Upon the completion of the precinct boundary adjustments as required in this section indicate on the standard base maps the boundaries for both urban and nonurban precincts and, together with a written description of the precincts, shall send an electronic copy to the Secretary of State for approval.

The Clerk's Office had three different maps of proposed precinct boundary adjustments all of which were developed by research and polling. Map A attempted to conform voting precinct to Chapter boundaries using Census Blocks. Map B attempted to conform precincts to Chapter boundaries using Census blocks and visible terrain features. Map C which was recommended by the County Clerk attempted to conform to Chapter boundaries whenever possible with a preference for visible terrain features where Chapter boundaries do not correspond and was best designed to prevent confusion and error in determining where voters live based on descriptions provided on voter registrations. Various comments and questions were made by the Commission. A motion was made by Commissioner Todacheene, seconded by Commissioner Sullivan to approve Resolution No 21-22-21 Adjusting Precinct Boundaries. Upon voice vote this motion passed unanimously.

2. **Consideration of a BUILD Grant Agreement with the US Department of Transportation**

Mike Stark, County Manger, stated in September of 2020 that the BUILD grant application to study the feasibility of a freight rail line from the I-40 corridor to San Juan County was successful. Since that time, staff has been working Federal Railroad Administration officials to develop a scope of work, timeline, and deliverables. The \$2,000,000.00 grant agreement with the United States Department of Transportation (USDOT) does not require a match and carries and expiration of October 31, 2024. The scope of work summarized is as follows: The Study will produce an Economic Feasibility Analysis that will examine the freight traffic demand and other factors relevant to the feasibility of a new rail line, and an Alternatives Analysis to identify routing, infrastructure investment, and design options to support the movement of freight from the Four Corners region to the national freight network via a connection to the BNSF network in Gallup, NM. Commissioner Todacheene asked Arvin Trujillo, CEO of Four Corners Economic Development (4CED) to speak. Mr. Trujillo validated the impact a railway would have in economic growth in the Four Corners Region. Various comments and questions were made by the Commission. A motion was made by Commissioner Todacheene, seconded by Chairman Pro-Tem Fortner to approve BUILD Grant Agreement with the US Department of Transportation. Upon voice vote this motion passed unanimously.

3. **Consideration of Economic Development Administration Adjustment Assistance Grant Submission**

Mike Stark, County Manager, communicated The American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) provided the U.S. Department of Commerce Economic Development Administration (EDA) with almost \$3 billion for economic development projects across 6 distinct buckets of funding. In addition, \$300 million is set aside for funds to assist impacted coal communities of which San Juan County would qualify for. All EDA ARPA requests require a 20% match and would require an application

from an organization who has ownership of the asset and is capable of handling direct federal funding. San Juan County meets both of those requirements. San Juan County Industrial Park was determined to be the best fit within the various funding streams. Improvements to the San Juan County Industrial Park would range from extension of natural gas line by New Mexico Gas Company to the site, extension of broadband, required ADA upgrades, improvements to the lighting systems, electrical systems, office upgrades, security upgrades, water systems/fire protection upgrades and mechanical systems on the building to include new HVAC rooftop units above the office area. Completion of these upgrades would allow San Juan County to have premier industrial space available to companies locally or those looking to relocate operations here. The EDA ARPA Grant requests \$2,800,000 in funding from the EDA to go along with a \$700,000 match. A motion was made by Commissioner Todacheene, seconded by Chairman Pro-Tem Fortner to approve Economic Administration Adjustment Grant Submission. Upon voice vote this motion passed unanimously.

**4. Consideration of the 13th Amendment to the Intergovernmental Agreement for Detention Center Services.**

Daniel Webb, Adult Detention Administrator, stated The Intergovernmental Agreement for the Detention Center Services provides that the County will notify the Cities of the per diem rate for the Adult Detention Center on or before October 15th of each year. The rate would be effective July 1 of the succeeding calendar year. The Per Diem rate is formula driven and calculated by taking the previous full fiscal year's actual operating cost of the facility to include supporting department cost, debt service, and any anticipated cost increases for next fiscal year. Based on the total number of bed days for the same period the per diem rate for FY23 would be \$112.77, or an increase of \$5.05 per night, 4.69% increase, from the previous year's rate of \$107.72. The total cost for the operation of the Adult Detention Center in FY21 decreased by \$943,877 as compared to FY20. This is primarily the result of vacancy savings experienced during the year with our detention officers. The largest and sole contributing factor to the significant increase in per diem rate was due to a reduction of 16,328 bed days as compared to FY20. This is largely due to less detainee's held because of the COVID-19 pandemic. It was requested that the Commission establish the per diem rate for the Detention Center for FY23 at \$112.77. A motion was made by Chairman Pro-Tem Fortner, seconded by Commissioner Lanier to approve the 13th Amendment to the Intergovernmental Agreement for Detention Center Services. Upon voice vote this motion passed unanimously.

**Report from County Manager**

None

**Reports From Elected Officials And Department Heads**

Su Hodgman, Behavioral Health Services Director, updated the Commission about the continued efforts of the Mental Wellness Resource Center (MWRC).

**Comments / Input From The General Public**

Lauren Bernally of the Navajo Nation Human Rights Commission (NNHRC) communicated the NNHRC's interest in the precinct boundaries following Navajo Chapter boundaries in the redistricting process.

**Closed Executive Session**

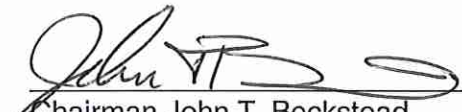
A motion was made by Commissioner Lanier, seconded by Commissioner Todacheene to go into closed executive session to discuss Opioid litigation, PNM Application to abandon Four Corners Power Plant and possible purchase of Cal Stock Water Rights. Upon voice vote this motion passed unanimously. Upon return a motion was made by Commissioner Lanier seconded by Chairman Pro-Tem Fortner, to go back into open meeting. Upon voice vote this motion passed unanimously. Chairman Beckstead stated that nothing other than what was stated in the motion to go into closed executive session was discussed.

**Adjourn**

Being of no further business, Chairman Beckstead declared the meeting adjourned at 6:09 p.m.

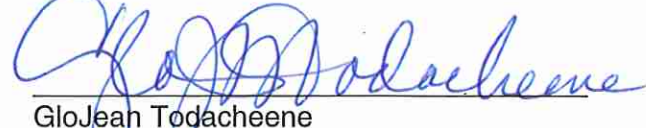
**APPROVED THIS 5<sup>th</sup> DAY OF OCTOBER 2021**

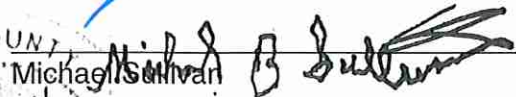
**BY THE SAN JUAN COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS:**

  
Chairman John T. Beckstead

  
Chairman Pro-Tem Terri Fortner

  
Steve Lanier

  
GloJean Todacheene

  
Michael Sullivan



  
Tanya Shelby, County Clerk