

**San Juan County Commission  
Regular Meeting  
July 5, 2022**

Chairman Fortner called the San Juan County Commission meeting to order on July 5, 2022, at 4:00 p.m. in the Commission Chambers located in the County Administration Building, 100 S. Oliver Drive, Aztec, New Mexico. Chairman Fortner gave the invocation and Commissioner Todacheene led the Pledge of Allegiance. Those present were:

CHAIRMAN	Terri D. Fortner
CHAIRMAN PRO-TEM	Steve Lanier
MEMBER	John T. Beckstead
MEMBER	GloJean Todacheene
MEMBER	Michael Sullivan- VIA PHONE @4:18PM
CLERK	Tanya Shelby
CHIEF DEPUTY TREASURER	Bryan Myers
UNDERSHERIFF	Cory Tanner
COUNTY MANAGER	Mike Stark
DEPUTY COUNTY MANAGER	Jim Cox
ATTORNEY	Joe Sawyer
DEPUTY ATTORNEY	Ellen Wayne
EMERGENCY MANAGER	Mike Mestas
CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER	Kim Martin
PUBLIC WORKS ADMINISTRATOR	Nick Porell
ADULT DETENTION ADMINISTRATOR	Daniel Webb
ALTERNATIVE SENTENCING DEPUTY ADMINISTRATOR	Timi Howell
JUVENILE SERVICES ADMINISTRATOR	Bowen Belt
FIRE CHIEF	John Mohler
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DIRECTOR	Michele Truby-Tillen
SAFETY & COMPLIANCE MANAGER	Stewart Logan
PUBLIC RELATIONS & FILM MANAGER	Devin Neeley
BEHAVIORAL HEALTH SERVICES DIRECTOR	

VISITORS:

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**Presentation**

1. Recognition of Shawn Palmer's Gold Medal at Special Olympics USA Games

Tom Yost, Program Director of First Tee San Juan County, recognized Shawn Palmer, an outside services employee at Riverview Golf Course. Mr. Palmer received a gold medal at the Special Olympics USA Games in Orlando, Florida the week of June 5, 2022. He was selected as part of the Team New Mexico Golf Team, coached by Mr. Yost, to participate in Level 5 golf at the Crooked Cat Golf Course. The heat indexes were over 100 degrees each day and he competed against

participants from New York, Tennessee, and West Virginia. Mr. Palmer thanked the Commission and stated that he will continue to practice his golf skills for future competitions.

## 2. Yard of the Month

Bob Carman, Code Compliance Officer, commended James and Kathy Harris for their attractively groomed property is located at 115 Road 2929 Aztec, NM. Mr. and Mrs. Harris have inspired county residents to strive for a clean and beautiful community where natural resources are protected and the environment is enhanced. Mr. Carman presented a certificate and gift card to Mr. Harris.

Mr. Carman announced that he will be retiring at the end of June and introduced Shana Wells, as his replacement.

## Regular Meeting

### Approval of Agenda

Mike Stark, County Manager, stated that there were no changes to the agenda. A motion was made by Commissioner Todacheene, seconded by Commissioner Beckstead to approve the agenda as presented. Upon voice vote this motion passed unanimously.

### Consent Agenda

1. Approval of Special Meeting Minutes from May 11, 2022
2. Approval of Regular Meeting Minutes from May 24, 2022
3. Approval of Regular Meeting Minutes from June 13, 2022
4. Approval of FY2023 Client Fees for Alternative Sentencing Division Programs
5. Approval of FY2022 Budget Adjustment #13-Resolution 22-23-01
6. Approval of Contract with Socorro County for Non-Guaranteed Bed Space to House Juvenile Detainees

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

### New Business

1. Consideration of Approval for Submission of the Annual 2022 State Homeland Security Grant Program (SHSGP)

Mike Mestas, Emergency Manager, requested approval to apply for the 2022 (SHSGP) State Homeland Security Grant Program which supports the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) services provided in San Juan County. The State has been allocated \$4,847,500 to be funded to local jurisdictions. The projected amount to be requested by the County is \$1,699,287.13; last year the award was \$560,572.00. The Commission asked various questions. A motion was made by Commissioner Beckstead, seconded by Chairman Pro-Tem Lanier to approve the

Submission of the Annual 2022 State Homeland Security Grant Program (SHSGP). Upon voice vote this motion passed unanimously.

**2. Consideration of Amendment to NMDOT Cooperative Agreement for Kirtland Schools Multi-Use Path**

Nick Porell, Public Works Director, indicated that the current cooperative agreement between San Juan County and New Mexico Department of Transportation (NMDOT) for Phase II of the Kirtland Schools Multi-Use Path expires September 31, 2022; the construction contract is set to terminate September 6, 2022. An extension to accommodate any potential weather delays during construction and to allow time for contract close-out was requested from NMDOT to extend the project through December 31, 2022. No changes to the cooperative agreement other than extension are included in the amendment. A motion was made by Commissioner Beckstead, seconded by Commissioner Todacheene to approve the Amendment to NMDOT Cooperative Agreement for Kirtland Schools Multi-Use Path. Upon voice vote this motion passed unanimously.

**3. Consideration of Approval of Cooperative Agreement with NMDOT for Design of Pinon Hills Blvd Extension Phase III**

Nick Porell, Public Works Director, stated that in the 2022 NM State Legislature regular session, House Bill 2 (HB 2) passed which established funding for the joint City of Farmington/San Juan County Pinon Hills Boulevard Extension project. The Statewide Transportation Improvement Plan (STIP) was amended in May 2022 to reflect that funding allocation; \$9,893,010 is committed to the County's portion of the project listed as Pinon Hills Boulevard Phase III in the STIP. The project is currently 60% designed and Staff requested a cooperative agreement from NMDOT for \$400,000 to complete the project design and environmental permitting. Once the agreement is executed, engineering services will be procured to complete the design phase of the project. No local matching funds are required by the terms of the agreement. A motion was made by Commissioner Todacheene, seconded by Chairman Pro-Tem Lanier to approve the Cooperative Agreement with NMDOT for Design of Pinon Hills Blvd Extension Phase III. Upon voice vote this motion passed unanimously.

**4. Consideration of Right of Way Application for Road 7950 to U.S. Bureau of Land Management**

Nick Porell, Public Works Director, reported that Road 7950 is approximately 15.59 miles long and provides access to Chaco Culture National Historic Park (CCNHP), as well as area residents. The road within CCNHP is paved and is maintained by the National Park Service (NPS), San Juan County maintains 11.21 miles of Road 7950 (3 miles chip seal, 8.21 miles gravel) from the intersection with Road 7900, and 4.38 miles of Road 7950 closest to CCNHP is located on Navajo Nation Tribal Fee Land maintained by the Navajo Division of Transportation. The County has had discussions with the Bureau of Land Management Farmington Field (FFO) regarding the process by which San Juan County could chip seal surface the remaining 8.21 miles of Road 7950 which is currently gravel. This is seen as a significant benefit to improve road conditions for residents and visitors by way of improved travel times, reduced wind/water erosion, reduced vehicle maintenance costs, improved emergency response, and improved fuel efficiency. The FFO has indicated the best way to proceed with the project is to submit an initial Standard Form 299 Application for

transportation systems on Federal property. The application will begin federal review of the project, initiate tribal consultation, and will determine the appropriate level of environmental review as the project proceeds. A motion was made by Chairman Pro-Tem Lanier, seconded by Commissioner Beckstead to approve the Right of Way Application for Road 7950 to U.S. Bureau of Land Management. Upon voice vote this motion passed unanimously.

## **5. Consideration of American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Funding Allocations**

Jim Cox, Deputy County Manager summarized that on March 11, 2021, the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) was signed into law by the President. Under the Act, all counties within the United States received direct federal aid totaling \$65.1 billion for COVID 19 response and recovery efforts including county revenue replacement for lost revenues directly related to the pandemic. San Juan County received a total of \$24,077,388; \$12,038,694 in May 2021 and \$12,038,694 in June 2022. As of the May 11th FY23 Commission budget workshop a total of \$21,350,010 has been allocated to public health, infrastructure, public sector capacity/revenue, and premium pay. Mr. Cox requested approval of three allocations of ARPA funds as follows:

- The \$6.85 million initially allocated to the Totah Subdivision water and wastewater project is not sufficient to complete the project; the current estimate to complete the project has increased to \$10 million due to rising costs. An excess of allocated dollars in the hiring to pre-pandemic levels category could be reduced to offset the increase in project cost with no increase in overall allocation to fully fund the project.
- The County's 30-year capital plan identifies the need to replace Bridge 3121 on Road 3000, Bridge 5722 on Road 6675 and Bridge 8111 on Road 3500. In coordination and evaluation of all funding sources from which to complete these projects, the best method is to replace these bridges with arch culverts. Culverts qualify under the Clean Water State Revolving Fund (CWSRF) and, therefore, are an allowable cost using ARPA dollars. Staff estimates \$200,000 per arch culvert. The total cost of \$600,000 would be taken from the remaining unallocated ARPA reserve.
- ARPA funds can be expended to respond to workers performing essential work during the COVID-19 public health emergency by providing premium pay to eligible workers. The Commission passed resolution 21-22-39 in December 2021 recognizing all employees courageous work during the pandemic. A total of 899 workers benefited. Staff recommended that all current County employees, in addition to volunteer firefighters, early voting workers, election day workers, Sheriff's Office reserve deputies, and employees of the Criminal Justice Training Authority, San Juan Water Commission, San Juan County Communications Authority, and First Tee, receive Premium Pay in accordance with the American Rescue Plan Act. Early voting and election day workers who worked between December 22, 2021, and the date of this resolution would be eligible. Elected officials would not qualify to receive premium pay due to their statutory wage caps set by New Mexico. The recommendation presented by resolution 22-23-02 awards premium pay to each worker, except election workers, who were employed at by July 5, 2022, and who have worked a minimum of 100 hours on County premises between January 23, 2022, and August 6, 2022, would receive a one-time gross payment of \$1,300. Those who have not worked, on County premises, a total of 100 hours will be prorated at \$13 per hour worked. Early voting and election day workers are recommended to receive a one-time gross payment of \$700 proportionate to the number of actual hours worked from January 23, 2022, through the date this resolution is passed at a rate of \$7 per hour. Upon review of the Final Rule issued by the US Treasury, volunteers were explicitly excluded from being premium pay eligible. To be consistent with

the first round of premium pay to compensate for the additional risks and burdens of the pandemic, staff recommends payment to all volunteer firefighters and reserve deputies using one-time general fund savings. The total estimated unallocated cost of \$423,904 would be taken from the remaining unallocated ARPA reserve. Total second round of premium pay is estimated to cost \$1,075,000.

After approval of the projects and reallocations, there is \$1.7 million remaining unallocated ARPA contingency/reserve balance. The Commission asked various questions. A motion was made by Commissioner Beckstead, seconded by Chairman Pro-Tem Lanier to approve the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Funding Allocations. Upon voice vote this motion passed unanimously.

## **6. Report on Inspection of Detention Center**

Joe Sawyer, County Attorney, communicated that NMSA 1978, §33-3-4, Inspection of Jails and Detention Centers, provides that the governing body shall conduct an annual site visit to inspect the overall conditions at the detention facility and present an inspection report at a regular meeting of the governing body. The last report was submitted on October 5, 2021. Mr. Sawyer requested the Commissioners to inspect the detention center in preparation of a report to be presented at an upcoming regular County Commission meeting.

### **Report from County Manager**

Mike Stark reported the following:

- There were no major accidents or incidents reported by law enforcement and the fire department during the July 4th weekend.
- The Infrastructure Capital Improvement Plan is due to the State by August 19th. Public input hearings will be held as follows:
  - July 13th- 5:30 p.m.- 6:30 p.m. at the San Juan County Administration Building
  - July 19th- 5:30 p.m. - 6:30 p.m. via Webex
  - July 27th- 12:00 p.m. - 1:00 p.m. at the Lower Valley Senior Center
- Beginning July 16, 2022, 9-8-8 will become the national three-digit dialing code for the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline, replacing the current phone number of 1-800-283-8255
- The Mental Wellness Resource Center was featured on KOB News

### **Reports From Elected Officials And Department Heads**

Nick Porell, Public Works Administrator, updated the Commission regarding recent road closures within the County due to weather conditions. Mike Stark recognized the Public Works Department and Emergency Management for their rapid response in assisting with the recent road closures due to flooding.

Chairman Pro-Tem Lanier recognized the Parks & Facilities Department for their clean-up following July 4th festivities.

**Comments / Input From The General Public**

Lieutenant Christopher Rockwell, Salvation Army Farmington Corp Officer, provided an update on the refurbishing the building on Broadway Avenue and the renovation of the old thrift store.

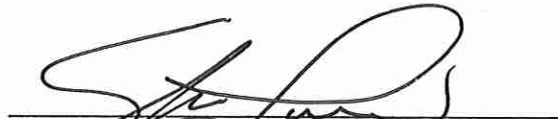
**Adjourn**


Being no further business Chairman Fortner adjourned the meeting at 5:02 p.m.

APPROVED THIS 26TH DAY OF JULY 2022


BY THE SAN JUAN COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS:

  
Chairman Terri D. Fortner

  
Chairman Pro-Tem Steve Lanier

  
John T. Beckstead

  
GloJean Todacheene

  
Michael Sullivan



  
Tahya Shelby, County Clerk