
Minutes of the Board of County Commissioners Payroll Meeting held on June 14, 2019 at 9:00 AM in the Commissioners Board Room, 6683 County Rd 13, Conejos, CO. 81129

Call the meeting to order:

Chrmn. Jarvies called the meeting to order at 9:00 AM.

Roll Call: Mitchell Jarvies-Chair: Present
Steve McCarroll-Vice Chair: Present
Carlos Garcia-Vice-Chair:Present
Tressesa Martinez-County Admn: Present

Also present were: Nick Sarmiento-County Attorney, Connie Ricci-HR, and AnnaBelle Gomez-Deputy Clerk & Recorder.

Pledge of Allegiance: Chrmn. Jarvies led everyone in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Prayer: Comm. McCarroll gave the opening prayer.

Approval of Agenda

Motion to approve the agenda as presented: Comm. Garcia/Second: Comm. McCarroll, all in favor.

3-0 Motion carried.

Approval of Minutes

Motion to approve the minutes of the June 06, 2019 Regular Meeting with the change on page 5 to show John Manesiotis instead of Jon Verbeck-WSB: Comm. Garcia/Second: Comm. McCarroll, all in favor.

3-0 Motion carried.

Approval of Payroll and Accounts Payables

Motion to approve payroll and accounts payables: Comm. McCarroll Second: Comm. Garcia, all in favor.

3-0 Motion carried.

Public Comment: None

Administrator's Correspondence

Tressesa, County Admn. presented a resolution for transfer of money to the schools.

Comm. Garcia asked if this is based on enrollment.

Tressesa said yes, she mentioned that they kept 5% and gave the schools the rest.

Comm. Garcia asked if that money can be released or do they have to hold it due to the audit not done in South Conejos.

Tressesa said they don't have to hold it the money is PILT; it is not like tax dollars.

Secure Rural Schools

Motion to approve Resolution C-2019-17, a Resolution for the Transfer of Secure Rural Schools Money to Various School Districts: Comm. Garcia/Second: Comm. McCarroll, all in favor.

3-0 Motion carried.

Arbitrators-Tax Protesting

Tressesa, County Admn. presented a resolution concerning arbitrators for tax protesting, the persons named are Raymond Valdez and Timothy L Walters.

Motion to approve Resolution C-2019-18, A Resolution Establishing a List of Qualified Arbitrators for Tax Protests Within Conejos County, and Rescinding Previous Resolutions Dealing With This Issue: Comm. McCarroll/Second: Comm. Garcia, all in favor.

3-0 Motion carried.

Engagement Letter-Wall, Smith, and Batement

Tressesa stated that they need an engagement letter with Wall, Smith, and Bateman Inc.; amount will not be over \$40,000.

Tressesa stated that the single audits are going up to \$2600, in the future they will have to charge.

Motion to sign the engagement letter with Wall, Smith, and Bateman Inc. to do the audit, amount will not be over \$40,000: Comm. Garcia/Second: Comm. McCarroll, all in favor.

3-0 Motion carried.

Tressesa mentioned the audit should be done by around July 15th, 2019.

Library Discussion

Tressesa stated that she talked to Maria and they are interested in buying the library, the taxable value at the Assessor's Office is \$114,000.

Chrmn. Jarvies stated that they have had the discussion before and they don't want to cripple them in any way.

Nick Sarmiento, County Attorney mentioned that they had a gravel discussion a long time ago, he brought up a statute where in certain counties in the State of Colorado where there were no gravel pits they were passing a resolution to at least give out one load of gravel to their residents which was in the Eastern parts of the county, that was for the public benefit because there were no gravel pits around, there is a statute that allows them to expend citizens funds as long as it's for the public's benefit; we are not spending citizen's funds in this situation but we are losing out on citizen's profits on this situation, you are doing it for the public as long as that building remains a library and it is being used by the citizens of Conejos County, there is a benefit for not asking for fair market value and asking for something that is a little bit less.

Chrmn. Jarvies asked if it is one piece of property.

Tressesa thought it was just the building.

Chrmn. Jarvies stated that a survey will have to be done, didn't know if \$50,000 was too high or too low.

Comm. Garcia asked if they could get any balances as to what funds they have.

Tressesa said it is public record so they probably could; mentioned that they are going for a DOLA grant to renovate it.

Chrmn. Jarvies asked if they can do an in-kind donation; that would help them as well.

Motion to allow Nick Sarmiento to work with Tressesa on negotiating with them, starting at \$50,000, they pay all costs including surveys with an agreement that we could give them a gift of equity showing a match that they could use towards grants in the future: Comm.

McCarroll/Second: Comm. Garcia, all in favor.

3-0 Motion carried.

Nick stated that we would still be subject to terms and conditions after they start negotiations.

Nick Sarmiento-RFP Discussion

Chrmn. Jarvies called Christina Gallegos, stated that they are in session in the Commissioner's Meeting; mentioned who was present; and turned the time over to County Attorney Nick Sarmiento.

Nick stated that they received the RFP and opened them up on June 6, 2019; today they have a decision on it but the selection committee has not met so right now they would like to set up a time for the selection committee to meet and decide on the RFP, there are only two applicants, from there they will publish on line they will have to amend the RFP for that; right now they just need to agree on a time to meet.

The time and date agreed is on Tuesday June 18, 2019 at 9:00 AM at the Conejos County courthouse.

Nick Sarmiento will send an e-mail to Tom Franklin and Felix Gallegos.

Nick Barela-DSS Report

Nick Barela presented his report as follows:

Nick requested approval on EBT program expenditures in the amount of \$290,715.41 and accounts payables in the amount of \$30,944.51.

Nick stated that the EBT amount is larger than usual because he purchased a bunch of lap tops through their TANF Funds that will be given away when they do school supplies.

Motion to approve EBT expenditures and Accounts Payables as presented:
Comm. McCarroll/Second: Comm. Garcia; all in favor.

3-0 Motion carried.

Nick presented the following:

Case load: Child Support/ 404 cases	Colo Works/55 cases
Adult Financial/ 141 cases	Food Assistance/778 Cases
Medical Assistance/1631 cases	

TANF preference letter: Nick stated that they do this at the end of the month; all it says is that if they are over expended in Child Welfare or Child Care they would utilize their TANF dollars instead of county only dollars to pay for those over expenditures, this fiscal year they are not projected to be over on any of their programs but he is still required to turn in the form, the preference for Conejos County is obviously to pay it with TANF dollars.

Conejos County Eligibility: Will be participating in a business process re-engineering project through Department of Health Care Policy and financing which is some regional training with the eligibility staff and supervisors; they try to help you streamline stuff to be more efficient which will be held in Alamosa County, he did elect to be a pilot for the program for a more intense thing but they weren't selected.

TANF-Letter: Last month he let the board know that he was going to sell some TANF monies to Prowers and Jefferson County, they did approve those transfers for a total of \$45,000 each.

Foster Care IGA- Are getting ready to enter their 3rd year of participating with Wendy's Wonderful Kids which is an agency for Foster Care in the amount of \$4500, this does not require a signature.

Intergovernmental Agreement: This is between Conejos County Dept. of Social Services and La Plata Social Services, last month he notified them that himself and two workers are going to be helping them out to process some cases that they have fallen behind on some of their work due to staff turnover, they are going to pay them for processing those cases, the last page shows how much they are going to pay them per

worker, it does have a cap on it- cost of services shall not exceed \$20,000.

Motion to approve the Intergovernmental Agreement between La Plata County and Conejos County regarding Social Services with a cap of \$20,000: Comm. Garcia/Second: Comm. McCarroll, all in favor.

3-0 Motion carried.

CORE allocation letter: He will be working on their CORE budget which he will submit at the next Board of County Commissioner's meeting; the total amount that Conejos County is projected to get \$200,427.

Summer Team Building Retreat- Every year with their incentive dollars that they receive from Medicaid he likes to do an incentive building retreat anytime between June and September, it does require that they close the office for one day, he is seeking approval to go ahead and move forward on that.

Motion to have Nick pick a date and have a summer retreat: Comm. McCarroll/Second: Comm. Garcia, all in favor.

3-0 Motion carried.

Contract-Family Foundations: Nick stated that he is requesting approval for several different contracts with Family Foundations.

Chrmn. Jarvies recused himself due to conflict of interest.

1st Contract is with Family Foundations Intensive Mentoring Fiscal Year 19/20 (CORE) in the amount of \$80,000,

2nd Contract: Family Foundations Permissive Use of CCDSS School Bus for Fiscal Year 19/20- no money exchanged, will do the maintenance and upkeep throughout the summer.

3rd- Family Foundations Amendment Fiscal Year 18/19 Increase of population served from 15-20 students.

4th:- Family Foundations School-to-Work Program Fiscal Year 19/20 (total amount of \$80,000 which is split in two funding sources TANF is paying for \$33,500 for stipends to children, and CORE contract costs in the amount of \$46,5000.

5th: Family Foundations Intensive in-home family services for the Fiscal Year 19/20 which is paid out of CORE total amount budgeted is \$12,000.

Comm. Garcia stated that he did spend some time with Nick yesterday and he does go through the annual process of advertising for other

agencies and nobody has come to the plate only Andrew Jarvies, also asked how many employees does Andrew/Family Foundations have besides him and he has one. They are taking care of the case loads in all the three school districts, TANF, etc.

Nick Barela thanked Comm. Garcia for pointing that out; there is a procurement check list in addition to the advertisements that were placed in the Valley Courier that they did make those requests to the public.

Motion to approve the 5 contracts as presented by Nick-DSS for Family Foundations: Comm. Garcia/Second: Comm. McCarroll

2-0 Motion carried.

Nick requested to go into executive session to discuss conflict of interest.

Motion to go into executive session as per 24-6-402 3 B III: Comm. Garcia/Second: Comm. McCarroll, all in favor.

3-0 Motion carried.

The board came out of executive session at 9:40 AM where they discussed conflict of interest and protecting the confidentiality of the client and no decisions were made.

Nick Barela stated that he is requesting approval from the board for a conflict of interest of a student who is receiving services from Family Foundations Youth to Work Program. His proposal is that particular student's invoice is approved by County Administrator Tressesa Martinez.

Motion to allow County Admn. Tressesa Martinez to approve said invoice: Comm. McCarroll/Second: Comm. Garcia, all in favor.

3-0 Motion carried.

There was a short discussion on Glory Days and who was signed up for certain days.

Nick stated that there were about 4 people signed up, Chrmn. Jarvies asked to be signed up from 2-3 and Comm. McCarroll signed up for breakfast and will try to get Austin Valdez to help them. Ernest

Abeyta from the ambulance service will be there also. Nick Barela will set up the table and have the flyers ready.

Father Sergio-Special Events Liquor Permit- Guadalupe Parish Fiesta

Father Sergio Robles and Martha Abeyta from Our Lady of Guadalupe Parish were present.

AnnaBelle Gomez-Deputy Clerk & Recorder presented the Special Events Liquor Permit for Our Lady of Guadalupe Parish which will be held on July 12th from 2:00PM-12:00 AM, July 13th from 9:00AM-12:00AM, and July 14, 2019 from 9:00 AM-7:00 PM, application was submitted to the Clerk & Recorder's Office on May 22, 2019 and posted on site on May 24, 2019.

Motion to approve Resolution C-2019-19 A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF SPECIAL EVENTS LIQUOR PERMITS PURSUANT TO ARTICLE 48 OF TITLE 12 OF THE COLORADO REVISED STATUTES AND ELECTION TO NOT NOTIFY THE STATE LICENCING AUTHORITY for Our Lady of Guadalupe Parish as presented: Comm. McCarroll/Second: Comm. Garcia, all in favor.

3-0 Motion carried.

Connie Ricci who is on the fiesta committee requested that the Board waive the \$100 county fee.

Motion to waive the county fee for the Special Events Permit for Our Lady of Guadalupe: Comm. McCarroll/Second: Comm. Garcia, all in favor.

3-0 Motion carried.

Ernest Abeyta-Ambulance Report

Ernest gave his report as follows:

- Have picked up more trauma cases- a lot more motorcycle crashes.
- Contract with HSS- He has been in contact with Nick and the contracting services, the wording will be changed. He has also looked into another company in regards to the monitors they want 6200.00 for the monitor coverage. HSS would be doing the monitors and the gurneys- they are willing to contract with them.
- Will be set up at Glory Days tomorrow, also at the hospital for their barbeque at their grand re-opening, will have cotton candy, games and will try to sell more t-shirts.
- Tressesa County Admn. stated that they might try to set up a booth also.

- They are shorthanded on staff, are looking at hiring 1 or two more employees, losing 1 PRN, will be down 4 positions; have had a couple of applicants.
- Have come up with some maintenance issues- have had to send their ambulances to Roger's Automotive they are the only ones that work on the exhaust and suspension throughout San Luis Valley.

Ernest stated that he would like to do a request as a public comment. He is requesting a donation of any sort for the Little League which will be used for equipment purposes.

Nick Sarmiento stated that Nick Barela-DSS has funds for coaches and it's not a big application, doesn't know how much they pay.

Ernest Abeyta will go ahead and check with Nick Barela.

Rodney King- EMS Report

Rodney presented the following:

- Rodney talked about the high water situation- appreciates Comm. Garcia going with him to Hamilton Ranch they took the Army Corp of Engineer to Lobatos and they were going to go to Mogote, according to their calculations anything over 2200 cubic feet a second would be a flood in that area and this morning it was at 2260. They said they would be doing a sand bagging class and bring 5000 sand bags and leave them with us, he will get the guys from Road and Bridge, they want us to furnish the sand, one person from each district would be good to have; also would like to have some community involvement also.
- Asked if Susan Hamilton picked up any sandbags.
- Comm. Garcia stated that she picked up 100, Donnie knows about that and they know they have to pay.
- Rodney had pictures of the Conejos River mentioned it is running over the bank now; this fall they need to talk about doing some mitigation.
- Comm. McCarroll asked if they have to be here to supervise.
- Rodney stated that they can talk to NRC and get somebody to tell them what to do, they would like to see something done, they fixed the other side where it was beginning to flood in Guadalupe, yesterday it had a little bit more erosion but when they fix a problem like that then it causes another problem above or below it.

- Chrmn. Jarvies stated that sometimes they do the J hooks and river control but wouldn't it have to be the Conservancy Board to do that.
- Rodney will try to find out more about that.
- Comm. Garcia stated that Nathan Coombs and those people are on it; also mentioned that Waldo and the crew went and put rocks where they were at yesterday.
- Rodney talked about the Conejos County Emergency Management Facebook page; he has posted some things on there. He tries not to include people's name on it.
- Said he got a call from Randy Smith from Bear Creek, the river is about 30 feet from his house.
- Has not been to Cross Arrow Ranch.
- Chrmn. Jarvies asked if Conejos Ranch got sandbags.
- Rodney said yes they did.
- Rodney stated that he is concerned about HORCA; they should anchor their propane tanks, they can float away and cause problems.
- There is a Conejos River Stream plan in Alamosa, he will attend that also on June 27th at Red Bear they will hold a Conejos County event; they will have 3 booths. Adam Moore sent some suggestions on guides, there will be a questionnaire that they will have people look at, it will have things such as what will you do to be ready, etc.
- Rodney talked about the 911 Everbridge call, they can get a report as to who got the message and who responded.
- Rodney talked about the site visit he and Connie had concerning the EMPG Program, there are three policies that they have to bring up and make some changes, one was a record retention, they are requirements.
- Rodney stated that they got the emergency operation plan signed which will have to be in a form of a resolution.

Donnie- Road and Bridge Update

Donnie gave his report as follows:

- Will visit with Comm. Garcia to visit County Rd 13 to see if they need to close it.
- Post Office has been calling quite a bit on several roads.
- Road Easement- Pat Abeyta wants them to do work on a private road. He claims he has a contract.
- Comm. Garcia will ask him for the contract whenever he sees him.

- Comm. Garcia talked about the situation with Ernest Sanchez he claims it's his private driveway- South Conejos wants to declare a bus stop but he feels it doesn't have anything to do with the county.
- Donnie stated that Fred Dominguez approached him for letters and he told him it doesn't have anything to do with us, it would be up to the school district to designate their route where they choose.
- Shooting Range-They invested over 6000 in labor, they did get a grant for 4900 they have over 11,000 invested, 5,000 a year is not enough for targets they are almost completely gone, have talked in the past about maybe getting a committee to help with the upkeep. This coming year they will have about 15,000 into the shooting range, contacted game and fish for an application for another grant but that won't happen until November, would like to do some turkey shoots that might help fund some of those things, have concealed carry classes that they can try to collect some money on that.
- Tressesa County Admn. stated that they get conservation monies for that but it is also used for the arena.
- Comm. McCarroll stated that some of those targets are not existing.
- Donnie stated that they are using the wrong caliber maybe they can get better targets.
- Jail Septic- got the last bill from the engineer.
- Blake Crowther asked if they could come up with some top soil so the inmates could plant flowers.
- Sheriff's Cars- Have a 2012 vehicle that hit a deer they got 4700 from the insurance, damage at the body shop is 5500. They could order the parts, prep and spray, could cut the cost to about 1200, he would be willing to do that.
- Sand bags- Saw a post where a guy is selling 4700 for 12 cents each.
- Rodney-EMS stated that they should get some by next Wednesday or Thursday.
- Got the bathroom doors in operation.
- Got the new furnace installed- saved half of the cost.
- Mentioned that Jarrett did really well at the willow pit, he has come a long ways.

CDOT

Julie based out of Durango had everyone introduce themselves; stated that they are getting ready to update their long range plan, mentioned that they will show some slides on safety and assets in your county.

Matt Muraro stated that they will be talking about project and project solutions in the county and outside the county, what are the challenges that the county faces, they have a 4 year plan and would like to talk about some suggestions that the county might have.

Matt stated that he will go over some assets such as culverts, bridges, and what type of projects the county might be interested in, they look at 25 years. They need to have the exact costs broken down every year. They have created 10 year development program if they get additional funding, talked about proposition 109 and 110 which came out of the SLV Transportation; the data base wants to combine plans and find a common solution.

Matt talked about demographics, stated that the population is increasing over the age of 65 in Conejos County those will be having problems driving in the future. There are households without vehicles, talked about the percentage that are disabled, working population, poverty rate, regional corridors, Hwy 285 is the main route, housing locations, medical facility, public safety facilities, schools, which are located along the highways.

Matt asked what the biggest challenges are.

Comm. Garcia stated it could be maintenance.

Chrmn. Jarvies talked about the traffic from Antonito to Alamosa and with aging populations there will be backed up traffic; that could be a big issue, those would be during work hours.

Comm. Garcia stated that during the rush hours they need passing lanes at Romeo, North and South, La Jara also and maybe Bountiful.

Chrmn. Jarvies stated that from Rd 142-Manassa to San Luis, the chip seal made the road rougher.

Matt pointed out clusters, and wildlife. They are doing a study on the west slope to try and identify where the animals are migrating, are looking at a project from Trinchera to Ft. Garland, they trying to identify the corridors, possibly some underpass, if someone hits an animal it's not always reported to State Patrol so it doesn't get recorded, crash patterns are in red which most of those are in Cumbres and La Manga on HWY 17, there are shoulders less than 2 feet; do we need more shoulders on certain areas

Tressesa, County Admn. stated that there have been major accidents at the bridge going towards New Mexico.

Connie-HR talked about Rd 142 from Manassa to the Rio Grande; stated that there needs to be more shoulders.

Comm. Garcia commented on Hwy 17 leaving Antonito to Mogote the highway is elevated doesn't think that there is a lot of shoulder, there are a lot of tourists hauling campers, and fifth wheelers, etc.

Rodney King asked about hazmat routes.

Matt stated that those are designated by Colorado State Patrol.

Chrmn. Jarvies stated that they are working on signage to show routes and location of events.

Matt talked about mobility and transit issues, mentioned that rural transit is hard, economic data, health care, and tourism, truck parking, mentioned Antonito has great sidewalks; and shoulders are a priority.

Chrmn. Jarvies agreed that shoulders are a top priority.

Comm. McCarroll mentioned that intersections are a concern.

Matt thanked the board for their time.

Erin mentioned that she had called she just wanted to know if they kept tract of the damage of high water in the valley.

Chrmn. Jarvies stated that on bridges, culverts and roads they are being kept under a separate code so they can have an amount of what flooding has caused, if they get to a certain threshold they can get disaster money.

Donnie stated that amount is it over \$30,000.

Naomi Keys- County Assessor

Naomi mentioned that they have had 134 protests mostly in the Sanford, Platoro, and Manassa; those are the areas where taxes went up.

Mack Crowther and Nick Sarmiento/Railroad Discussion

Mack stated that the current amount owed is \$358,993.58, amount owed to the county is a little over 128,000; they did make some payments in 2015.

Mack mentioned that Mr. Ellis was going to start making payments and quit again.

Nick County Attorney stated that the railroad is a big entity, there is a level of communication he has been in contact with Ed's attorney. They have entered into negotiation over a contract but doesn't know if the contract is worth anything, next step is to start looking at litigation; the evaluation has been done at the state level, once the evaluation is done as ad valorem taxes then they certify it to Naomi, if we do go into litigation chances are they might try to move it to federal court because they are under adversity jurisdiction then they will try to bring in the State of Colorado and say that ad valorem taxes are improper and might say it is discrimination to railroads and there is a federal law against that. We will be asking our citizens to pay 2.75% and there is a big entity that is not paying their fair share, he will come back with a proposal at the next board meeting with pros and cons.

Comm. Garcia asked if there has been any discussion of the 6 counties to go into litigation jointly.

Nick stated that maybe at the next valley commissioner's meeting there should be a discussion.

Mack stated that he has talked to Donald Valdez about it so he is aware of it; there is no teeth to collect state assessed property.

Nick Sarmiento-Update of Juvenile Transportation

Nick stated that from his understanding there are going to be funds for housing the juveniles it is a re-imbusement type fund and depending how the IGA will be worked out every county is still responsible for housing their own juveniles, if it's temporary it can't be a secure facility so the juveniles will be able to leave, we will have a deputy at all times. Those funds will be coming from judicial, temporary holding can be anywhere, they can rent a hotel but it can't be a jail, if it's permanent then they will send them to Pueblo. They will have to cover their own for about 30 days until they get their IGA done, transportation-PYC has offered \$100,000 for all 6 counties, doesn't know if it is going to be on going, there might be more if they expend the \$100,00, Alamosa seems to want it as first come first served. Last year 4 juveniles were let out with just a summons, if they have 3 juveniles in detention that means being back and forth so that means bi-weekly reviews perhaps. They can use technology which this courthouse doesn't have they would have to go to Alamosa and the child might have to be present in the courtroom or they might have a video conference.

Executive Session

Motion to go into executive session as per 24-6-402 (c)(f) to discuss personnel: Comm. McCarroll/Second: Comm. Garcia, all in favor.

3-0 Motion carried.

The board came out of executive session where they discussed personnel and no decisions were made.

Chrmn. Jarvies stated that they have been looking at ways to be more efficient to the county, one thing that they have looked at is Donnie Martinez who handles a lot of our Road and Bridge issues right now as well as water systems in the county and pretty much anything they ask him to do, he feels it would be a good idea to put him in charge of Road and Bridge as Road and Bridge Director plus give him a raise, compensatory to what he would be doing with the new duties he would have. He is doing a good job and doing a lot above and beyond.

Comm. Garcia mentioned that Donnie is working on the situation with the Sheriff's Office with the water and sewer and dealing with the town, he is coordinating other services other than Road and Bridge.

Comm. McCarroll stated that he has seen it where he has worked on the well at the arena, with the new direction he will be able to take care of and take a lot of things off their back.

Motion to make Donnie their Road and Bridge Director and be over their supervisors: Comm. McCarroll/Second: Comm. Garcia, all in favor.

3-0 Motion carried.

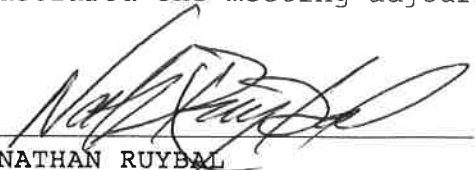
Chrmn. Jarvies stated that because of the different duties maybe that raise can be split up from different funds in the county.

Tressesa, County Admn. stated that they will look into Road and Bridge and the General Fund because he does so much outside of Road and Bridge.

Chrmn. Jarvies stated that Donnie's raise will take effect immediately.

There being no further business to come before the board Chrmn. Jarvies declared the meeting adjourned.

ATTEST:


NATHAN RUYBAL
CLERK OF THE BOARD


MITCHELL JARVIES
CHRMN. BD OF COUNTY COMM.