
Minutes of the Board of County Commissioners Regular Meeting held on
January 09, 2020 at 9:00 AM in the Conejos County 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 - Chrmn.-Present
Steve McCarroll-Vice Chrmn-Present
Carlos Garcia-Vice Chrmn-Present
Tressesa Martinez- County Admn.-Present

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

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

Prayer: Chrmn. Jarvies gave the opening prayer.

Approval of Agenda

Motion to approve the agenda with the addition concerning any
questions pertaining to the emails that Tressesa, County Admn. sent
to them which will be discussed under Administrator's Correspondence:
Comm. Garcia/Second: Comm. McCarroll/all in favor.

3-0 Motion carried.

Approval of Minutes

Motion to approve the minutes of the December 16, 2019 Payroll
Meeting: Comm. McCarroll/Second: Comm. Garcia, all in favor.

3-0 Motion carried.

Motion to approve the December 18, 2019 Special Meeting with the
change on page 2 to reflect Model Traffic Code instead of Traffic
Model Code: Comm. McCarroll/Second: Comm. Garcia, all in favor

3-0 Motion carried.

Motion to approve the December 31, 2019 Special Meeting: Comm. Garcia/Second Comm. McCarroll, all in favor.

2-0 Motion carried.

Public Comment: None

County Administrators Correspondence

Approval of 2020 Salaries

Tressesa, County Admn. stated that they have gone over salaries several times during budget discussions. There were some changes such as minimum wage, etc. would like them approved by the board before the January 15th, 2020 payroll.

Motion to approve the salaries for 2020 as presented: Comm. McCarroll/Second: Comm. Garcia, all in favor

3-0 Motion carried.

Tressesa stated that they discussed those people that are on a Medicare supplement. They will pay for half of that if it is more, than the employee will pay the difference. She is still working with some employees because some are switching over to different supplements. That will save the county 3000 from 6000 that they are paying. That amount will have to be added to their salaries but won't be entitled to any retirement.

Library Board Appointment

Tressesa stated that when they have openings for board members they are posting them everywhere that way they are saving on publication costs. She received a letter from Antonio Brunello who will be replacing Stephanie Goldbranson.

Motion to appoint Antonio Brunello to the Conejos County Library Board: Comm. Garcia/Second: Comm. McCarroll, all in favor.

3-0 Motion carried.

Extension Service-Discussion

Tressesa mentioned that she keeps getting emails and phone calls. She would like to know what they think of the MOU. They are wanting to

meet with her on the 27th at the SLV Commissioner's Meeting; right now this is being handled through the administrators.

Chrmn. Jarvies stated that he has not gotten ahold of Rio Grande. He doesn't have a problem with the MOU as far as looking through it but the financial part of it is what they need to discuss; that's what they are after.

Tressesa felt that the counties shouldn't be held hostage to the \$16,000; wanted to know if the Board was okay with the whole MOU.

Nick Sarmiento stated that no amount is shown on the MOU that part was left blank.

Comm. Garcia felt that they could go over it right now and start scratching out some of those things, for instance on A- to furnish suitable office space and pay the essential costs of utilities, office expense, supplies, and equipment needed in the conduct of the extension program in the county. That binds us huge and it was discussed at the last SLV Meeting.

Tressesa felt that the MOU as a whole is where there are problems because some counties provide and some don't.

Nick Sarmiento County Attorney stated that all they need to do is agree to a maximum. If they agree to the maximum then he can take out the rest of the language. If they are going to give \$5000 then it can go to whatever they want to use it for.

Comm. McCarroll stated that wasn't it brought up that we could choose what programs we could fund.

Chrmn. Jarvies stated that it had been discussed that it was one big pot.

Nick Sarmiento stated that if they want to end the discussion they can change the MOU.

Comm. McCarroll had a concern as to whether they could stop them from participating in the 4H Program.

Comm. Garcia stated that it is so open ended like on part B it has all those blanks. They would have to start designating for example 2000 for professional staff funding. He is with the idea of presenting a

maximum amount; would it be at their discretion of how they want to use it.

Nick asked how "was the structure in the past."

Chrmn. Jarvies stated that was over 20 years old, all their concern was financial. They never brought up the MOU.

Tressesa stated that they want 16,000, we had put 5000.

Comm. Garcia mentioned that it does say that they provide them a vehicle which we don't.

Tressesa, County Admn. stated that they will have another meeting on the 16th and the 27th with the SLV Commissioners, they will have a better idea by then.

Chrmn. Jarvies stated that they will be charging the farmers for soil samples at the potato farms to cover some of their expenses.

Comm. Garcia asked if we want to agree on an amount. Our flyer said we are reducing which we are having to reduce.

Tressesa, County Admn. stated that we have already submitted the 5000.00 but asked that amount would not be sent to the agency just yet.

Tressesa, County Admn. stated that she received an email from Marvin. He mentioned that the counties will provide the following amounts: Alamosa, 40,000, Costilla-3,500, Mineral-1,300, Rio Grande- 25,000, Saguache 19,000 a total of \$88,800.00.

Tressesa, County Admn. will text Marvin telling him that they will be going with \$5,000.

Comm. McCarroll stated that he would like to leave it open with a question mark and see what happens; would like to discuss it at SLV Commissioners Meeting.

Tressesa stated that Carla Schriver will be coming in to request some dollars.

Comm. Garcia had a question under Tressesa's report concerning the types of businesses that might be licensed through the county.

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Chrmn. Jarvies stated that it was mentioned that they will be doing soil samples at the potato farms which is good.

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Comm. Garcia had a question under Tressesa's report concerning the types of businesses that might be licensed through the county.

Chrmn. Jarvies stated that is something to be thinking about.

Comm. Garcia asked if they have ideas should they pass them on to Linda-Land Use. It talked about fly by night roofing contractors that come in. The one that had been discussed before was the overnight lodging which are the VRBO's and the Air B&B; should they start licensing those.

Chrmn. Jarvies stated that when he went to the legislative session they were trying to take a bill to the legislative to give the counties the ability to issue business licenses. Right now they are trying to gain support; we don't have the ability to do it now.

Comm. McCarroll stated that they have had some major questions on overnight lodging because other counties are finding out that we were right.

Chrmn. Jarvies stated that they went to battle on this and nobody would jump on board with us, now they have big developers build 10 homes as residential and then they rent them out.

Chrmn. Jarvies stated that the biggest concern at the state was the fly by night contractors because they have no way of tracking them down or knowing if they are bonded.

Comm. McCarroll stated that a lot will be housed within the township unless they buy farm land.

Comm. Garcia asked about the 2 lease purchase agreements.

Tressesa, County Admn. stated that it is for Road and Bridge such as graders and a zipper. Those were paid off so that saved them about \$1200 on interest. Stated the Road and Bridge Fund is doing good.

Denise Jiron-Public Health Director

OLTC- Denise stated that she is here to get approval for the transition plan. They did decide to divest from the OLTC Program. She has a transition close out plan that they need to implement and it is broken into weeks out which will take about 4 months. They need to look at hiring a transition coordinator and would like to propose retention pay to keep the current OLTC staff because should they start looking for another employment or leave before the completion of that then we will be in violation of not only our transition plan but our contract with HCPF.

Denise gave each board member a copy which shows the communication plan and risk communication. Denise mentioned that they have been understaffed for the last 6 months. This was approved since April 2018 by the State of Colorado HCPF to initiate it they would have to have hired someone in February to begin the transition in March. The longest part out is 14 weeks. She did put in an extra 2 weeks just because they have had difficulty hiring people. The transition coordinator would be part time not all of the duties here are solely upon the transition coordinator some of those would be the director-herself and the program manager but it is in stages, layers upon layers. One of the initial things she would need to do is notify Costilla County of our decision, that will be a little bit of a task in itself. She feels the board will be possibly sought out by their commissioners on that decision and we can meet at that time. She is seeking approval for the transition plan and to move forward with those salaries of the retention pay and the hiring of the transition coordinator. She has discussed preliminary figures of the account Gary Gurule and is working with Connie as well. They don't have anything definitive at this point but they hope to have something by the 16th of next week. It is broken down step by step, this plan is actually a format from Health Care Policy and Financing Division; they have just written on how they are going to meet that.

Chrmn. Jarvies asked how is she planning on letting them know of their decision.

Denise stated that will be a face to face meeting; she will go with Vivian and Bonnie. They have been on several conversations.

Nick Sarmiento-County Attorney stated that she will need to send them a certified notice. He suggested talking to them and following up with a certified letter.

Tressesa, County Admn. stated that they have the ability to do it on their own.

Denise stated that on the last meeting that they had which was either in July or August of 2019 Bonnie was present. At that time they proposed looking into it; but to her knowledge there hasn't been any action. She has not been informed of anything and neither has Samantha.

Chrmn. Jarvies stated that they had met here with them and their commissioners.

Motion to allow our Public Health Director to begin a close out plan for the OLTC Plan: Comm. McCarroll/Second: Comm. Garcia, all in favor.

3-0 Motion carried.

Denise will be back on the 16th with some figures.

Nick Barela-DSS

Nick stated that he met with Fernando from Mental Health in regards to the revised contract that they gave to them. Basically what it was that they have given them an original contract that was missing some protection if a client were to fall and an injury were to happen in regards to them parking the RV on the DSS parking lot and Public Health. The revised contract was sent to them which I don't think they took favor verbally in a phone call that was made to Commissioner Garcia and Mr. Sarmiento. He just wants to open up the dialogue to get feedback from everybody in the room if they are okay with the decision of them just parking it elsewhere. From the DSS respective that would be okay with him if they want to do it elsewhere.

Chrmn. Jarvies asked if they want to discuss this now.

Nick Sarmiento said yes. It turns into like a philosophical issue. He works with opioid families as the Department of Social Services attorney so he gets what they are trying to do but as County Attorney one of the biggest things is protecting the tax payers money, how do we spend the tax payers money correctly. When he looks at their business this contract was presented to him as a lease so whenever they show up we can't kick them off once we sign the contract so how do we protect our taxpayer money. Nick stated if someone were to slip and fall we would be on the hook for it potentially and usually it's not when they are inside the unit so how should that risk be allocated especially when we are already providing a lease and in this situation I just need some general liability from you guys and workers comp. That's all that he is requesting because we should not use taxpayers funds to pay for a liability that they should be taking a risk for as well.

Chrmn. Jarvies asked if they don't feel that they need to.

Comm. Garcia stated that what he remembers from the conversation he talked more about the bill that is coming up before the legislation but on this particular issue was the 500,000 that they couldn't afford

and we were requiring too much and why were we requiring that. He told them our attorney is handling that and he would bring it up to the other two commissioners.

Nick Sarmiento stated that on the conversation he had with Fernando was show me your policy limits and I will change the contract to meet your policy. He did tell him that it is not your regular auto insurance you are actually a place of business, you are a lessor. He asked him to give him a general liability; it is probably like 300,000 instead of 500,000. Fernando said he would make changes and get back to him.

Nick Barela-DSS said he doesn't want to minimize the importance of the service; this is beneficial to the clients.

Nick Sarmiento stated that that it can be waived we are covered. CTSI would pick it up but our premiums will go up.

Comm. Garcia stated that as far as where it is parked they thought it might be easier in the communities; sometimes clients come in to DSS for other services so that made it ideal to park it here but for now parking it on their land in both communities is fine with him that way we are totally out of a MOU or anything if they park it on their land.

Tressesa, County Admn. stated that if it's parked in our land we are liable if someone falls however whatever happens in the unit that is their liability.

Nick Sarmiento stated that is why there are those indemnification clauses. If one of their workers were to fall that's why there is Workman Comp.

Nick Barela stated that a preventative approach from our perspective just makes more sense; he didn't know about waiving it.

Chrmn. Jarvies stated that he would be willing to adjust it.

Nick Sarmiento stated that operating a business has to be treated like a building.

Chrmn. Jarvies stated that they will see if they will come back with that other number.

Comm. McCarroll stated that they should let Mr. Sarmiento follow up and report back to them and go from there.

Naomi Keys-Assessor-Abatements

Naomi presented several abatements for approval, mentioned that they had all forfeited their paperwork that they had to file with the division.

Motion to approve the following abatements: Comm. Garcia/Second: Comm. McCarroll, all in favor.

NAME	SCHEDULE NUMBER	YEAR	AMOUNT
Antonito Senior Citizens	598729136906	2019	2,050.02
Manassa Saddle Club	586519200900	2019	1,629.30
First Presbyterian Church	572114335910	2018	4,484.86
First Presbyterian Church	572114335910	2019	5,223.48

3-0 Motion carried.

Nick Sarmiento-Fines and Surcharges

Nick Sarmiento stated that he talked to Jennifer Martinez who was the Court Clerk here concerning how the fines are being submitted and also talked to Mack Crowther-Treasurer about the fines. He stated that it is the surcharges that present a problem so they have to create funds to pay the state.

Donnie Martinez- Road and Bridge Report

Donnie gave his report as follows:

- Had a supervisor meeting this morning; discussed putting things on a calendar and holdings themselves to dates.
- They have bridges out, culverts that need to be installed, Veterans project that they need to get done, building up different roads and the Antonito paving project.
- They budgeted a good amount for paving.
- Will be sending some guys for some training. They have some new guys that they want to send to grader driving training, they will probably choose the Durango one in March. They will send the supervisor and a couple of guys.
- They are going to be looking a purchasing a new low boy and other equipment. He will shop around, he found some for 34-35,000.00.

- Want to take a look at the possibility of purchasing a sealing machine for asphalt. They put a lot of money in asphalt and as it cracks they could go and seal those that might keep it from breaking up as fast as they do. Would like to get into a relationship with Alamosa to see if they can lease or rent theirs.
- Want to evaluate their roads, do traffic studies and invest on the roads that really need it.
- They have some pickups that are bad.
- They are going to make changes. Would like to combine equipment, tools, and utilizing everything on projects. They are shorted handed in District # 1. With discussion with Connie and Tressesa they have 13 guys and 3 supervisors. They are going to divide guys up. It does create some traveling for some people. They plan to start this on February 1st. It will be hard for some to transition.
- Chrmn. Jarvies asked how long will that last; will they rotate them every so often.
- Donnie said maybe every quarter.
- Tressesa County Admn. stated that they should bring their machines with them.
- Donnie said it was a good way to spread the help; they might have to hire more help.
- They did a road swap in Districts 1 and 3 on County Rd P West end for the South end of County RD 15 up to Romeo. It will be fair for all of them.
- Connie talked about getting them balanced out; they are getting burned out, it is not fair for those departments that are shorthanded. That is why they are going to try and balance them out; by switching them quarterly it's fair for everyone. They tried working it out for those that needed help and that didn't work.
- Donnie stated that if it doesn't work then we can try something else; he has seen a positive change.
- Jail Septic- They are not digging right now, they are using coils; there is more chance of failure so they are going to go with the rolls. Got all the paperwork sent off, they will be billed in tiers. Rossi is still on board with everything they need to do; engineers are the same way. He did get quotes on everything. They will not be putting a concrete tank they can save 400 or 500 dollars on a poly tank.

Executive Session

Motion to go into executive session as per 24-6-402(b) conference with the attorney: Comm. McCarroll/Second: Comm. Garcia, all in favor.

3-0 Motion carried.

The board came out of executive session conference with the attorney at 11:09 AM and no decisions were made.

Nick Sarmiento: It is the opinion of the County Attorney that the discussion had an executive session constituted an attorney/client privilege therefore no record was kept.

Re-organization

Chrmn. Jarvies stated that they will be doing the reorganization for the new year. Tresessa sent out the boards that they are assigned to; asked if they have any questions or want any changes.

Comm. Garcia asked about the UAV UAS.

Chrmn. Jarvies stated that has to do with the drones, but haven't met with them.

The board added Comm. Garcia to the UAV UAS board.

Comm. McCarroll suggested that they keep everything as is with Mitchell Jarvies as Chairman of the Board that way they don't go through any expenses on that change.

Comm. Garcia stated that Comm. Jarvies does an excellent job as chairing the meetings.

Motion to leave things as they are with Chrmn. Jarvies as Chair and the rest of them in the same group except for Comm. Garcia who will also be on the UAV UAS board: Comm. McCarroll/Second: Comm. Garcia.

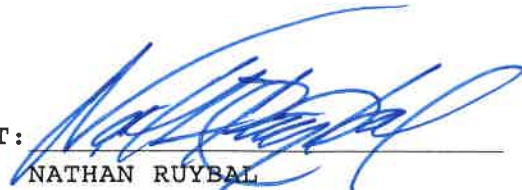
Chrmn. Jarvies stated that Hoyt Anderson contacted him. He wants to be on the SLV Housing Coalition Board. Chrmn. Jarvies stated that he has been attending the meetings; he said it's not a board that is listed. They want someone from Conejos County; it doesn't have to necessarily be a commissioner.


With that adjustment all were in favor of approving the boards.

3-0 Motion carried.

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.