
Minutes of the County Commissioners Regular Meeting held on February 06, 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 Chair-Present
Carlos Garcia-Vice Chair- Present
Tressesa Martinez-County Admn.- Present

Also present were Connie Ricci-HR Director and AnnaBelle Gomez, Deputy Clerk.

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 of Pauli Duran under public comment and discussion/appointment of the Rio Grande Conservancy Board and discussion of HB20-1133- Letter of Support and Fire Protection Discussion/Funding: Comm. Garcia, Second: Comm. McCarroll, all in favor.

3-0 Motion carried.

Approval of Minutes

Motion to approve the minutes of the January 16, 2020 Payroll Meeting: Comm. McCarroll, Second: Comm. Garcia, all in favor.

3-0 Motion carried.

Motion to approve the minutes of the January 23, 2020 Special Meeting: Comm. McCarroll, Second: Comm. Garcia, all in favor.

3-0 Motion carried.

Motion to approve the minutes of the January 30, 2020 Special Meeting:
Comm. Garcia, Second: Comm. McCarroll, all in favor.

3-0 Motion carried.

Public Comment: Pauli Duran-Antonito Fire Chief

Pauli Duran- Antonito, CO. stated that he is here on behalf of the South Conejos Fire District. He has called Chrmn. Jarvies concerning the problem with the repeater which is a public safety issue. It has gone down twice. Fire Department budgets are not big; they are seeking help from the Commissioners, 911 Board and all the fire districts to help them pay for a new repeater which is old and it keeps failing on them. If it fails it might be when they have something huge. If they can get help to split the bill 6 ways, it is about \$8515.00. He understands that Sanford's budget is not that big. They have spent quite a bit on maintenance lately which has hurt their budget.

Chrmn. Jarvies stated that they have talked to their attorney because it involves multiple agencies. They have discussed it and the counties can get 6000 from the 911 Board. Linda and he can go the 911 Board and ask for that money but because it involves multiple agencies they have agreed to allow our county attorney to meet with all the fire districts and come up with a Memorandum of Agreement of ownership of the repeater and the maintenance; if they can all agree then the county would be involved as well. They will definitely help with that \$6000.

Pauli mentioned that North Conejos will divide their money four ways, some have called and said that they don't want to put any money into it because they feel they don't need the repeater. He asked them how are they going to get calls and they said they have the E911. The chiefs are in agreement but they have to go to their boards.

Pauli stated that they do have some outstanding bills with Dale Myers which is almost \$2000. He stated that Dale is trying to let them get in their building which is in New Mexico. The state technician can go in there but he cannot work on their repeater because it is not state property. Dale can go up there but has no authorization to get into the Colorado building. The state has control of that and that comes out of Denver. There are politics involved.

Connie Ricci spoke on behalf of South Conejos Fire Protection, she is a board member. She stated that the FCC Licensing for the repeater is

owned and taken out by South Conejos Fire Protection so they have always basically been the ones to fund and make the repairs; they had it go down in November or December on a weekend. They were without service for 11 days. They had to pay a gentleman to go out there but because there are politics involved like Pauli mentioned they won't let Dale Myers in there. She said that they have one particular fire district that said they don't want to participate. They do have MOU's for service in the system; with Nick's help they can get to that piece of the cost sharing. South Conejos will always have to own the license.

Chrmn. Jarvies stated that's what they discussed to avoid this in the future if all the fire departments know that they are part of that and agree to it they can be building up money in their accounts for repairs for the repeater.

Pauli mentioned that Dale has access to the building 24-7, so if they go down Dale will be there immediately.

Comm. Garcia asked if it matters if the pass thru \$6000 go into a New Mexico building versus a Colorado building or does it matter.

Chrmn. Jarvies stated that we own the repeater so our property would be the repeater itself.

Pauli said we are just asking for permission to get in there. He stated that they have a box that they can connect which is way cheaper and connect it at the state patrol office dispatch center but since it is not state owned they don't want anything plugged into their system.

Connie mentioned that they have incurred about 2800 in costs in the two times it went down; now it costs around 8500, the 6000 will help them greatly.

Chrmn. Jarvies stated since the county will be involved they need that MOU before they pass that money.

Pauli talked about the PL tone, they will leave the old one up at the mountain just in case something would go wrong with the new one they would just go and swap it out.

Connie is working on getting all the fire districts together.

Administrators Correspondence

Karla Shriver/Lottery Dollars

Tressesa, County Admn. stated that she wants to bring up if the board wants to donate lottery dollars to the Sky High Park.

Comm. Garcia stated that he recommends that they send \$1000.

Motion to send the Sky High Park funding request \$1000: Comm. Garcia, Second: Comm. McCarroll. All in favor.

3-0 Motion carried.

Executive Session-Personnel-Road and Bridge

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

3-0 Motion carried.

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

Donnie- Road and Bridge Report

Donnie presented his report as follows:

- Donnie stated they had their supervisor's meeting this morning. No one showed up from District 1 there was a mix up as to who was going to show.
- Culvert Order- They have not ordered any yet; the districts do need a few.
- Have been hauling material to Jack Gilleland's reservoir, 2 supervisor's share that duty on the doser.
- They are looking at the possibility of hiring a couple of people.
- Moved the location and the date of the road grader training.
- Looking at purchasing a low boy for the county.
- They have talked about the projects they have and have discussed how they will meet those deadlines. They are short in 2 districts now.
- They are consistently getting trash on the roads. The guys do some investigating and get names and addresses; they also have the police forms. Hopefully they can contact those people to come pick up their trash. They are finding a lot of drug

paraphernalia, they have asked the supervisors to have the guys wear gloves and have trainings on how to pick up that stuff; they will probably schedule a safety training for that purpose.

- Chrmn. Jarvies asked Donnie to get ahold of Brent Gilleland-Hazmat he can give the guys information.
- Donnie mentioned the Ritchie Bros auction will be on the 3rd and 4th; they need a low boy for sure, would also like to buy a tractor with a mower with a wing they can get the twice the mowing done.
- Trying to fix the AC to keep the dust off.
- Had a discussion on the changes that they did, has been positive.
- Received an email from CTSI which he sent to the board and the supervisors. Things will get better with the changes and will be more efficient.
- Comm. Garcia asked about the track hoe behind the sheriff's office.
- Donnie stated that is very seldom used, had the pump fail at the jail.
- Donnie talked about the project at the jail, they should start up in the spring. Talked about the pipe, they need a trailer to unroll it but because of the temperature that has been a delay they are not going to dig up the bridge.

Chrmn. Jarvies stated that they have been talking about making the changes with the guys from Road and Bridge; it will be a little rough on the guys. They feel like they need to be compensated. They feel that they need to be competitive. They are down a few guys. They have looked at salaries. They have decided that they need to bring them up; this is just for operators only.

Connie-HR stated that she has presented salaries to the Commissioners so that they may make that decision and Tressesa has presented the current salaries so they may make their decision based upon those recommendations.

Tressesa, County Admn. stated that they briefly worked on some increases that would increase the budget by 90,000. It was 70,000 plus benefits. She has put enough cushion to cover if nobody leaves. If they lose people and they start hiring at a lower rate that would decrease.

Comm. Garcia stated that those adjustments/increases need to be competitive. This will help in the recruitment process down the road, they are thinking about retention and being able to keep their employees long term.

Motion to start their hiring base salary at \$16.25 an hour and bring everybody up to \$16.25 and adjust everyone else by \$2.00 an hour:
Comm. McCarrol/Second: Comm. Garcia.

Comm. Garcia stated that the motion should include effective date on or about February 16, 2020, all in favor.

Tressesa, County Admn. stated that she will be putting all those figures together. They need to re-look at the supervisors. If there is a change she would like to bring that up at the next payroll meeting.

3-0 Motion carried.

Chrmn. Jarvies stated that they did discuss mechanics. They feel that maybe they should be separated out and be their own category. They will look at salaries and make adjustments and see how they will utilize them; they will have Connie explore salary caps and maybe other departments also.

Road 250

Chrmn. Jarvies stated that he was at an assessed planning meeting with CDOT and State Federal Lands. They have monies available for different projects. They went around the room to Fish and Game to Wild Life Refuge's asking what projects they would like to see. He and Andrea Jones brought up RD 250 and everyone in the room said do something with that road. They are looking at different avenues. This is the Transportation Region 5 so it covers a pretty big area. There is a possibility of getting more money for that road.

Sheriff Crowther-Sheriff's Report

Sheriff Crowther stated that January 29th he started his 42 year in law enforcement and it's been a pleasure working with everybody.

He mentioned that he sent them his report. He would like to point out that Blake has been on top of it but the cost of meals is creeping up on them which he has tried to identify some of the problems. One of the things might be buying pre-made instead of making from scratch. One company said they would sell them generic stuff and it turns out they are selling them top of the line. They will set up a meeting with them on Monday.

Calls are going up a little and will see that as it gets warmer.

They receive 3 school threats in the last couple of weeks, one of them was unfounded the other 2 were founded. One is within a municipality. He talked to Nick about it and might have to step in and there are

some things that have been brought out; kids have been doing a lot of studying about prior shootings. They try to get to the schools as much as they can.

Garth stated that he appreciates what they do for the employees. His patrol division is now full; the wages had a lot to do with that. The jail is down 2. Blake has identified a problem at the jail. He is working on some avenues to present to the board. They have some liability as far as meds. He got some training but will be non-compliant as far as packaging. They have been getting by without a nurse stopping by; maybe they could get a part time nurse stop once a week and package the medicine. The training he gave was how to dispense but they cannot package it. They approached Ernest but he stated that they are not qualified to do that.

Comm. McCarroll asked if has thought of using Melissa Caldon or Lorena Peterson.

Sheriff Crowther stated that there is also Karen Richardson but he doesn't know if she is a registered nurse. It wouldn't be that many hours.

Connie-HR stated that Melissa works with us and does immunizations for the schools but they can ask her.

Sheriff Crowther also mentioned that the nurse could check the inmates and she could probably tell them if they should go to the doctor.

Sheriff Crowther stated that he is working on a drug drop but wants to make sure that it will not cost us any money. The feds can put an outside dispenser where people can drop their prescriptions. When it fills up they seal and mark it so it can't be tampered and send it to the feds and they get rid of it.

Sheriff Crowther mentioned that he was helping one of his guys Friday afternoon with security with an attempted suicide so he didn't want him alone. He also mentioned that they have one person that comes to court in a wheel chair so he wanted to know if there was a possibility of getting a key to that door because they have to go over the cement pad with the wheel chair.

Tressesa, County Admn. stated that if they know they are coming they can just come and open the door for them that way Scott doesn't have to leave his station to come open the door.

Last thing Sheriff Crowther wanted to talk about was the fire ban; depending on the weather it could dry up fast.

Chrmn. Jarvies stated that he is the one over that so just let the board know; it is a public safety issue.

Comm. Garcia stated that concerning the sheriff's report he is okay with the recommendation on the ticket deferment on the points.

Sheriff Crowther stated that they are trying to save the points that will help for insurance purposes.

Denise- Public Health Director

Denise gave the following update:

- Public Health- Staffing, they only have one vacancy which is the prevention coordinator, her and Marietta Clark are covering that position. Samantha has been kind enough to contribute to that. They did hire Cheyanne Atencio as full time case manager. They hired Jessica Juarez as a personal care assistant.
- Facility and Technology- the lines at the parking lot have to be painted.
- OLTC- 329 in the district and 183 cases in Conejos County.
- Deferred Revenue- Gary sent the initial payment of \$250,000 the balance to be sent quarterly.
- On January 28th she made the unofficial notification to the state HCPF spoke to Jasmine Gardner and made her aware of their decision to divest of OLTC. The official letter that Nick Sarmiento drew up is being sent out today. Also met with Costilla County Health Director Vivian Gallegos on January 23rd and made her aware, that letter is also going out today. They are aware of their intentions, doesn't know if they will be approaching us on possibly to take over she hasn't made the decision of them divesting of their PCP. She did ask her if we would consider expanding our PCP program to encompass theirs. She told them that had not been a discussion but she did not see that happening. If they have a further discussion she will let her know.
- They had a financial audit last fall which was under Samantha. Gary and her worked on the corrective action plan. They submitted that on February 7th and received notification last Thursday that it had been rejected except for one item. Her and Gary and possibly Tressesa will have a phone conference this coming Tuesday where HCPF can clarify what documentation they are requesting. They call the program HCBS, they are concerned because they don't show SEP(Single Entry Point), it is the same program. She is hoping that will be rectified at that point and move forward. Single Entry Point is the program that the

clients apply with to get long term care services through Options for Long Term Care; it's just an umbrella term.

- Comm. Garcia asked about the coronavirus; asked if they have any face masks or respirators and where are we at with that.
- Denise stated that they have face masks. As of a week ago we have not had any cases in the SLV, have not had anyone that has traveled that has come in. They had a coordinators coalition meeting last Monday which at that point they didn't have any concern. Since then there was possibly one person in the Denver area who had arrived that there was a concern about but doesn't think that turned into anything. They are getting emails how to proceed if that were to happen. They have discussed what they would need to do such as that person would have to be quarantined for 14 days, monitored, etc.
- Comm. Garcia asked if they have advertised for the prevention coordinator on Indeed and asked if that is free.
- Denise stated no.
- Connie-HR Director stated that is not free. She mentioned that they did an advertisement for the Sheriff and they charged around \$250.00. It is a very intense tier structure, they charge different amounts for different peak times.
- Denise stated that she doesn't think they have advertised for that position recently. They can re-examine that but doesn't believe that is pressing at this moment but it could get there.
- Connie-HR stated that concerning the coronavirus it would go to a higher level if it would get to that.
- Denise stated that their duty as this point on the coronavirus if there is a suspected case they make a telephone call, run down the list of questions and report back to the epidemiologist and they take over from that point.
- Denise talked about the retention pay for the existing and remaining OLTC staff. They worked out some final numbers and she would like to present those and hopefully get a finalization today so they can move forward for her own transition so she can turn over the reins and start focusing more on the other side.
- Denis stated that from the last meeting the budget is \$95,420. She finalized those numbers with Gary, at this point they haven't decided on the amount that they would allocate to Costilla County for their retention pay but have determined those are the numbers that would be necessary for the Conejos staff. For the transition coordinator which is a new position for the duration of the remainder of the contract, that would be \$5000, for herself as leading some of the transition and

keeping some of the OLTC deliverables in terms of the contract there is a \$9000 retention, Joleen would receive a promotion and a retention because she is the only person qualified to become the program manager as she transitions out, Melissa would become the training coordinator and monitoring the training and adherence which promotion and retention are also listed. Kristi is their office aid, hers would be \$1800 and the new case manager Cheyenne would be 5000 to retain them through the end of the contract that would include close out and transferring of cases and monitoring of adherence to our statutes and deliverables. They will still be receiving, accessing, and enrolling new clients even though they are divesting so whoever takes over our contract it is a smoother roll out. We cannot leave these individuals without services. That is her justification why it is necessary to retain their staff, if they lose them they cannot carry that high of a case load with two people or less. June 30th is the end of the contract. The state is waiting for the official letter so they can publicize that the RFI is open or offer it to a neighboring county, we are removed from that process.

- Connie - HR Director stated that \$38,000 is undecided.
- Denise stated that after meeting with Gary and Vivian there was a concern that amount might be too inflated for them to handle; around 20-22,000 would go to Costilla which would still leave a balance.

Motion to approve the retention funding for the OLTC Program to help them get through the end of the contract to continue to serve the clients/citizens of the county: Comm. McCarroll.

Comm. Garcia would like to add to the motion to show the amount of \$57,420 dollars retroactive to February 01, 2020.

Denise stated that she had presented it last month; they had preliminarily approved it.

Tressesa, County Admn. stated that under discussion she would like to add that the 57,420 is just salaries, on top of that 6,689.43 would be added for benefits that was not included in the 57,420.

Comm. Garcia seconded the motion to include \$6,689.43 for benefits

3-0 Motion carried.

Rio Grande Conservancy

Comm. Garcia asked what they are going to do, are they going to advertise or are they going to appoint Dwight Martin.

Chrmn. Jarvies stated that what they have done in the past is advertise and get applications; if Dwight wishes to continue they take that into account.

Tressesa, County Admn. stated that Dwight is sending them a letter.

Tressesa stated that lately they have just been posting to save on costs.

Chrmn. Jarvies stated that he is okay with that; basically they are just getting the word out that there is an opening. Everyone knows that this is coming up so they will look for it.

Comm. Garcia asked if it will be on the website only.

Tressesa stated that they have never put it on the website but they can. They usually post it at Jack's Market, all the Post Offices, drug store in La Jara, grocery store, and public places.

Comm. Garcia asked when they advertised for the Veteran's Officer position was that a 3 or 6 day advertisement in the Valley Courier.

Tressesa stated that was a six day advertisement.

Connie-HR stated that it can be a 3 day advertisement but they charge you for 6.

Comm. Garcia stated he would like to see it on the website.

Tressesa stated that from now on they could post all of the openings for all the boards from now on under Commissioners. Today they will be putting the budget for 2020 on the website.

Tressesa stated that Cleve has informed them that there is an opening so they will put that out and he will be here at their meeting of March 20th. Dwight will be sending a letter of intent, and they can do their appointment at their March meeting because they need someone by April. They will give a deadline of when people can submit their letters of interest.

The board decided to advertise for 2 weeks and make the appointment on the 20th of March.

Letter of Support HB20-1133

Comm. Garcia stated that this bill talks about when they de-annex from a municipality and it becomes county owned land. Jefferson County wants a letter of support on that. He felt they should send them one.

Motion that Conejos County send a letter of support for House Bill 20-1133: Comm. Garcia/Second: Comm. McCarroll. All in favor.

3-0 Motion carried.

Naomi-Assessor-Abatements

Naomi presented several abatement for approval; gave an explanation of the reason for requesting said abatements.

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

Schedule No.	Name	Year	Amount
586721412003	James Robbins	2018	314.12
586721412003	James Robbins	2019	336.88
586724101008	Francis Ortiz	2018	215.42
586714101008	Francis Ortiz	2019	245.78
557122126011	Martin Platoro LLC	2019	247.64
557122422009	John Brown (1/5 Int) ETAL	2019	242.92
557122113001	Lee Taylor	2018	734.00
572320122046	Lisa Pena	2018	175.16
572320122046	Lisa Pena	2019	195.02
571916207016	Alex and Brenda Quintana	2018	752.20
571916207016	Alex and Brenda Quintana	2019	1040.50
57231930022	Jesse & Betty Rogers	2019	956.60
57231930021	Jesse & Betty Rogers	2019	523.44
53312	Josie and Sandra Silva	2018	21.35
53312	Josie and Sandra Silva	2019	24.72
572114304001	Frances Arauja ETAL	2019	254.28
	Total:		6280.03

3-0 Motion carried.

Forest Wolf-Introduction

Comm. McCarroll stated that he would like to bring up the Forest Wolf Introduction. He received a letter from the coalition to stop the wolves. They would like to have a letter sent to their representatives stating that they are against it. He is totally against it; especially since there are already wolves here. There is no sense in paying that amount of money to re-introduce them.

Comm. Garcia stated that he would be against it. As a rancher it would devastating to the cattle business and the sheep business.

Comm. McCarroll stated that he agrees with what Comm. Garcia is saying it would be devastating to the people that are using the mountains for camping, livestock and our wildlife.

Motion to send a letter that we are against re-introduction of wolves: Comm. McCarroll/ Second:Comm. Garcia, all in favor.

Comm. Garcia stated that the letter should also include public safety.

3-0 Motion carried.


Connie-HR-Director


Connie gave an update on the training that the employees had taken. She mentioned that the new employees took the Civil Rights Class and also those employees that had the training back in 2016. They updated the MSHA training for Road and Bridge crew.

Tressesa stated that they will be calling the Road and Bridge crew in tomorrow morning to tell them about their raise if the commissioners would like to be there also.

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

ATTEST:


NATHAN RUYBAL
CLERK OF THE BOARD


MITCHELL JARVIES
CHRMN. BD OF COUNTY COMM.

Minutes of the Board of County Commissioners Special Meeting held on February 12, 2020 at 9:00 AM in the Commissioners 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 Chair-	Present
Carlos Garcia-Vice Chair-	Present
Tressesa Martinez-County Admn. -	Present

Also present were Nick Sarmiento, County Attorney and AnnaBelle Gomez, Deputy Clerk.

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

Prayer: Sheriff Crowther gave the opening prayer.

Approval of Agenda

Motion to approve the agenda as amended with the addition of an MOU for the ambulance service for the SLV which just requires a signature: Comm. McCarroll/Second: Comm. Garcia, all in favor.

3-0 Motion carried.

Administrators Correspondence

Tressesa, stated that the MOU for the ambulance service was brought up at the SLV Commissioners Meeting. This would give the ambulance the authority to cross county lines. It was approved at the SLV Commissioners Meeting but was never signed.

Chrmn. Jarvies proceeded to sign the MOU.

Sheriff Crowther-Approval of the 2020 Annual Operating Plan

Chrmn. Jarvies stated that they were presented with the Annual Operating Plan.

Sheriff Crowther stated that there is also a MOU.

Sheriff Crowther stated that the Annual Operating Plan is just the way that they would operate on fires-wildfires that fall on him by statute. Rodney King will come in and help him. They have to do certain things. If they would have something like this it would lay out the plan and how it operates and if they had something big they would do like they did at the G18 Fire. They would have the board making decisions. If it would get to a certain point then they would turn it over to the state emergency; the commissioners would have to declare it an emergency.

Comm. Garcia asked whose job is it to let them know that Samantha's name is still on there and they can have it changed to Denise.

Tressesa, County Admn. stated that when they send it back they can make that change.

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

3-0 Motion carried.

Fire Ban

Comm. McCarroll asked Sheriff Crowther how he was going to work on declaring a fire ban.

Sheriff Crowther stated that they will look at how dry things are and if the wind starts blowing and will watch the Forest Service.

Sheriff Crowther asked Nick Sarmiento County Attorney for the copy of the ordinance.

Nick Sarmiento stated that they did the first reading. They have to send it out to public notice and then do a second reading.

Tressesa, County Admn. stated that she has the ordinance.

Sheriff Crowther stated that the next thing he wants to talk about is the agreement for about \$1700 that they pay into the pool in case they

get into a situation they can take money out, all the counties pay into it.

Tressesa asked who holds those dollars.

Sheriff Crowther stated that it is probably Colorado State Fire.

Tressesa stated that they pay it every year.

MOU-BETWEEN VALLEY AGENCIES

Motion to approve the MOU between valley counties for the financial support of an emergency within the valley: Comm. Garcia/Second: Comm. McCarroll, all in favor.

3-0 Motion carried.

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 unanimously.


Nick Sarmiento, County Attorney stated they will be discussing a situation concerning a possible red flag.

The board came out of executive session at 9:52 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.

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.