



**Nathan Ruybal**  
**CONEJOS COUNTY CLERK & RECORDER**  
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**Minutes of the Board of County Commissioners Regular Meeting held on May 19, 2022, at 9:00 am in the Commissioners Board Room, 6693 County Road 13, Conejos, CO 81129**

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**Comm. Jarvies called the meeting to order at 9:00 am**

**Mitchell Jarvies – Chairperson – Present**  
**Carlos Garcia - Vice Chair – Present**  
**Joseph Baroz – Vice Chair – Present**

**Present:** Nathan Ruybal-Clerk and Recorder, Nick Sarmiento-County Attorney, Connie Ricci-HR Director, Tressesa Martinez-County Administrator - **ALL PRESENT**

**Pledge of Allegiance:** Comm. Jarvies led everyone on the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Prayer:** Comm. Jarvies gave the opening prayer.

**Approval of Agenda:**

- Remove May 5<sup>th</sup> Minutes from Agenda.
- Add April 21<sup>st</sup> Minutes to be approved to Minutes.

Motion to approve agenda as amended

Comm. Baroz First Motion

Comm. Garcia Second Motion

Motion Carries 3-0

**Approval of Minutes:**

- April 21<sup>st</sup>, 2020, Minutes

Motion to approve agenda as presented

Comm. Garcia First Motion

Comm. Baroz Second Motion

Motion Carries 3-0

**Public Comment:**

- Erin Minks from the Alamosa Office of Senator Bennett
  - Senate Bill 1942 Program Package for Heritage Areas
    - Sangre Cristo National Heritage Area along with the South Park and Cache La Poudre River National Heritage Area were voted unanimously to keep their National Heritage Designation.
    - Vote authorizes the Heritage areas to keep National Funding.
  - Congressional Spending Requests in Conejos County
    - La Jara Water Projects – Larry Zaragoza
    - Antonito Reservoir Project – Nathan Coombs
  - Federal Funding for Rio Grande National Forest for Landscape restoration.

Attorney Sarmiento as Erin about the boundary between Conejos and Costilla is rising up again, there will be winners and losers in this situation. Depending on the surveys some landowners will be gaining land and some landowners will be losing land. Issue with the surveys will be where does the boundary line exist. Does it start in the middle of the Rio Grande, does it start on the West or on the East side. The surveys will be done by the National Government who owns all the BLM land around the river.

Erin responds that unfortunately depending on the survey some landowners may receive, and some may have land be taken away.

Erin is open to having a work session regarding this issue, everyone is in favor off establishing a work session.

- Wanda Sandoval – Regarding Yoder Sawmill and Land Use Zoning.
  - I am here to try to learn what process is used to grant a special use permit.
  - My understanding is that a special use permit grants exceptions to the current zoning as long as the permit is compatible to the current use, activity and zoning.
  - If a special use permit may be issued after a careful analysis of several factors does that include?
    - The type of land use in question.
    - The type of conduct or business operations that will be going on at that location.
    - The impact of the activities on the local community and neighborhood.
    - Whether or not the activities would disrupt the overall theme and purpose of that zone.
    - Whether the land use or business operations were in existence before the zoning ordinance was passed.
  - Specifically, I would like to know how the Commissioners determines the balance of these factors. What is the process for determining those different uses, their impacts and compatibility?

## **Administrative Correspondence – Tressesa Martinez:**

- Senate Bill – Collective Bargaining Discussion
  - Conejos County is exempt because of population of under 7500 citizens.
  - Many smaller Counties are opposing Senate Bill.
- Morgan Drainage District Board Member Appointment.
  - Advertised in the Valley Courier.
  - Three interviews scheduled.
    - Jace Booth
    - Bill Rickey
    - Stanley Price

Comm. Baroz makes motion to appoint Stanley Price to Morgan Drainage District.

Comm. Garcia seconds motion

Motion Carries 3-0

## **DSS Report – Nick Barela:**

### **New Business**

- Signatures on Budget Report/Expenditure Report\* (Attachment A)
- Caseload Report (Attachment B)
- Work Number Amendment (Attachment C)
- HCPF OM-22-025 (Attachment D)
- Family Foundations Contract Renewal (Attachment E,F,G)
- Rocky Mountain Counseling (Attachment H)
- Southwest Conservation Corps (Attachment G)
- DRUPAL Work Order (Attachment I)
- Conejos County DSS Scholarship (Attachment J)
- Security Camera Update (Attachment K)

*Attachment A-Requesting Approval on Program, Administration Costs, and Accounts Payable*

*Attachment B-Caseload Count*

*Attachment C- Work Number amendment total amount of contract \$656,677. This allows our eligibility workers the ability to verify client income for participating employers ex. Wal-Mart*

*Attachment D – The Department of Health Care Policy and Financing will be awarding retention grant to pay bonus to eligibility staff for their work during the pandemic. I have selected Option 1 per this memo of a \$250 Visa Card. I have elected to pay all remaining DSS staff this retention bonus utilizing our Medicaid incentive funds.*

*Attachment E,F,G- Contract Renewal of Family Foundations contract. All contracts paid via CORE funding. Intensive in home \$5,000, School to Work \$5,500, Mentoring \$6,000*

*Attachment H- Rocky Mountain Counseling Contract Renewal paid via CORE & TANF Total \$33,420 ( \$28,240- CORE, \$5,000 TANF)*

*Attachment I – DRUPAL work order to continue work on migration of Conejos County website to SIPA Drupal platform*

*Attachment J-CCOSS Scholarship recipient awarded to Dailin Estrada. \$1,000 paid via TANF*

*Attachment K-Security Camera Update- received inquiries of interest per Request for Bid submitted in Valley Courier. Will have presentations from other vendors and will provide bid quotes at an upcoming Board Meeting.*

### Action Items

Program and Administrative Cost of \$510,351.33

Comm. Garcia makes motion to approve Program and Admin. Costs as presented.

Comm. Baroz seconds motion

Motion Carries 3-0

Accounts Payable of \$26,494.43

Comm. Garcia makes motion to approve A/P as presented.

Comm. Baroz makes second motion.

Motion Carries 3-0

Case Load Report

CONEJOS COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES

ONGOING WORKLOAD SUMMARY REPORT

	Jan-22	Feb-22	Mar-22	Apr-22	May-22	Jun-22	Jul-22	Aug-22	Sep-22	Oct-22	Nov-22	Dec-22
APS	6	2	4	5	3							
Child Care	36		38	38	39							
Child Support	402		408	412	411							
Child Welfare	9	10	11	12	12							
Adult Financial	102	100	102	96	99							
Colorado Works	40	41	45	41	37							
Food Stamps/Food Assistance	791	738	795	793	805							
Medical Assistance	1834	1859	1861	1868	1876							

	Jan-21	Feb-21	Mar-21	Apr-21	May-21	Jun-21	Jul-21	Aug-21	Sep-21	Oct-21	Nov-21	Dec-21
APS	4	4	4	5	5	4		8	2	2	3	6
Child Care	30	31	34	34	34	35	35	32	32	32	35	35
Child Support	398	402	409	410	408	405	403	404	404	402	401	406
Child Welfare	13	12	12	13	15	15		17	17	17	16	10
Adult Financial	125	122	122	120	123	117	119	115	114	109	98	102
Colorado Works	42	46	44	37	34	36	32	33	30	29	32	36
Food Stamps/Food Assistance	720	751	751	737	767	740	739	753	729	730	734	756
Medical Assistance	1738	1750	1751	1778	1790	1802	1803	1807	1816	1824	1825	1837

	Jan-20	Feb-20	Mar-20	Apr-20	May-20	Jun-20	Jul-20	Aug-20	Sep-20	Oct-20	Nov-20	Dec-20
Child Support	399	397	400	398	393	395	394	394	396	401	401	
Child Welfare	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	14	14	13	12	12
Adult Financial	128	128	122	124	123	123	124	123	123	123	131	128
Colorado Works	51	52	50	51	49	51	56	53	51	49	47	44
Food Stamps/Food Assistance	721	757	735	734	812	836	835	825	775	750	756	728
Medical Assistance	1577	1561	1540	1557	1644	1653	1661	1674	1698	1716	1731	1726

	Jan-19	Feb-19	Mar-19	Apr-19	May-19	Jun-19	Jul-19	Aug-19	Sep-19	Oct-19	Nov-19	Dec-19
Child Support	403	403	404	407	404	404	406	405	401	394	394	396
Child Welfare		18	17	14	15	12	13		10	13	13	11
Adult Financial	142	140	142	141	141	141	142	144	133	138	136	130
Colorado Works	59	60	54	57	52	55	54	53	53	53	50	49
Food Stamps/Food Assistance	777	797	793	787	770	778	751	732	728	719	708	722
Medical Assistance	1604	1615	1618	1634	1641	1631	1628	1638	1630	1618	1623	1601

	Jan-18	Feb-18	Mar-18	Apr-18	May-18	Jun-18	Jul-18	Aug-18	Sep-18	Oct-18	Nov-18	Dec-18
Adult Financial	131	134	140	142	143	141	139	139	139	140	140	142
Colorado Works	42	46	43	41	41	46	47	47	49	53	52	58
Food Stamps/Food Assistance	747	750	752	751	742	726	719	723	759	761	769	798
Medical Assistance	1637	1636	1711	1711	1708	1713	1716	1717	1705	1686	1636	1630

	Jan-17	Feb-17	Mar-17	Apr-17	May-17	Jun-17	Jul-17	Aug-17	Sep-17	Oct-17	Nov-17	Dec-17
Adult Financial	145	145	147	144	142	145	139	142	142	139	139	138
Colorado Works	43	44	45	40	40	36	45	41	36	36	36	39
Food Stamps/Food Assistance	782	782	804	775	756	769	737	737	744	724	724	731
Medical Assistance	1791	1815	1808	1811	1787	1800	1796	1770	1745	1729	1738	1704

	Jan-16	Feb-16	Mar-16	Apr-16	May-16	Jun-16	Jul-16	Aug-16	Sep-16	Oct-16	Nov-16	Dec-16
Adult Financial	154	161	156	150	150	148	143	148	144	145	150	146
Colorado Works	51	48	42	43	43	46	45	40	37	40	47	49
Food Stamps/Food Assistance	813	813	798	782	756	776	778	793	797	789	767	792
Medical Assistance	1829	1845	1830	1818	1793	1826	1815	1799	1793	1805	1805	1794

	Jan-15	Feb-15	Mar-15	Apr-15	May-15	Jun-15	Jul-15	Aug-15	Sep-15	Oct-15	Nov-15	Dec-15
Adult Financial	157	154	155	151	152	147	144	151	149	152	152	151
Colorado Works	50	48	47	45	48	47	45	49	48	51	51	52
Food Stamps/Food Assistance	844	830	825	835	803	802	804	757	755	760	768	792
Medical Assistance	1697	1721	1728	1729	1758	1824	1789	1798	1737	1762	1828	1811

## Action Items

### Family Foundation Contract Renewal

- Comm. Jarvies recuses himself from discussion and approval of contract since he is related to Director of the Foundation.
- \$6000 Mentor Program
- \$5000 Intensive in Home Program
- \$5500 School to Work Program

Comm. Baroz makes motion to approve contracts as presented.

Comm. Garcia seconds motion

Motion Carries 2-0

### Rocky Mountain Counseling Contract \$33,420.00

Comm. Garcia makes motion to approve contract as presented.

Comm. Baroz seconds motion

Motion Carries 3-0

### **Wagon Wheel Liquor License Renewal – Nathan Ruybal**

- Wagon Wheel is in good standing
- Proper Public Notice was Met.

Comm. Baroz makes motion to approve Renewal as presented.

Comm. Garcia seconds motion

Motion Carries 3-0

### **Contract between Town of Antonito and Conejos County Sheriff's Office**

#### Discussion Points

- Who is responsible for paying Dispatch Fees?
- One Cruiser to be used by the County.
- Contract Details need to be ironed out.

### **Land Use – Lester Yoder – Final Decision**

#### **Special Use Permit Sawmill**

- Comm. Garcia on regards of throwing out recommendation from the planning commission on the Special Use Permit for the Sawmill.
  - Planning Commission is only advisory in nature and nothing more.
- Comm. Garcia along with Jeff and Don from Road and Bridge went to Ortiz for a site visit.
  - Road width is 16-16.5 wide at the entrance to the property in question for sawmill.
  - Jeff believes that a Semi Truck could not make it through the entrance of the property.
  - There is water on both sides of the County Road.
- Attorney Sarmiento discusses Special Use Decision Process, Zoning and Master Plan.

Comm. Baroz makes motion to deny the Yoder Sawmill Special Use Permit due to compatibility.

Comm. Garcia 2<sup>nd</sup> Motion

Motion Carries 3-0

Resolution C-25-22

## Manassa Town Discussion – Paul Garel

- Paul is asking for help moving material in the town of Manassa.
- Hoping to have a few belly dumps of road base, since the town does not have a belly dump trailer of their own.
- Comm. Jarvies instructs Garel to sit down with Donnie to discuss options to help Manassa.

## Public Health – Denise Jiron

- Staffing change
  - Jolene Trujillo last day will be May 31<sup>st</sup>, 2022
  - Jerice Montoya was hired.



## Conejos County Public Health Commissioners Report

5/19/2022



### Public Health-Core Public Health Services

#### A. Administration and Governance

*All public health agencies are required to establish and maintain programs, personnel, facilities, information technology and other resources necessary to deliver core public health services in the agency's jurisdiction.*

1. Personnel-current
  - a. 1 public health director
  - b. 1 public health nurse- .25 PT
  - c. 1 prevention coordinator-part time-VACANT
  - d. 1 Public Health Generalist/ Nurse
  - e. 1 office manager-
  - f. 1 commodities manager
  - g. 2 PCP supervisory employees
  - h. COVID Response / EPR– Joleen Trujillo Resignation
  - i. Grant Fiscal Manager- Jerice Montoya

#### B. Assessment Planning and Communication

1. Conejos County Specific Goal:

Work with community partners on existing and emerging local projects to influence health behaviors and conditions and advocate for family support systems that strengthen protective factors and reduce risk factors for children and families.

#### C. Communicable Disease Prevention, Investigation and Control

*All public health agencies are required to track the incidence and distribution of disease in the population and prevent and control vaccine-preventable diseases, zoonotic, vector, air-borne, water-borne, and food-borne illnesses, and other diseases that are transmitted person-to-person.*

1. Communicable Diseases
  - a. Coronavirus COVID 19- Pandemic is not over.
2. Immunization Program
  - a. Continuing with Covid 19, Flu, Hep A and Childhood vaccines.

#### D. Emergency Preparedness and Response

*All public health agencies are required to prepare and respond to emergencies with a public health or environmental health implication in coordination with local, state and federal agencies and public and private sector partners.*

1. PH Director and Office Manager continue EPR training

## **E. Environmental Health**

*All public health agencies are required to participate in the protection and improvement of air, water, land, and food quality by identifying, investigating, and responding to community environmental health concerns, reducing current and emerging environmental health risks, preventing communicable diseases, and sustaining the environment. These activities should be consistent with applicable laws and regulations, and coordinated with local, state, and federal agencies, industry, and the public.*

1. Regional Health Inspector – open position

## **F. Prevention and Population Health**

*All public health agencies are required to develop, implement and evaluate strategies (policies and programs) to enhance and promote healthy living, quality of life and wellbeing while reducing the incidence of preventable (chronic and communicable) diseases, injuries, disabilities and other poor health outcomes across the lifespan.*

1. Tobacco Grant
  - a. Vaping- statewide push to develop policy
  - b. Grant was renewed for next FY
2. Child fatality- 2 cases for review in June 2021
3. Baby and Me tobacco Free

## **G. Vital Records and Statistics**

*All agencies are required to record and report vital events (e.g., births and deaths) in compliance with Colorado Statutes, Board of Health Regulations, and Office of the State Registrar of Vital Statistics policies. Public Health Directors shall act as the local registrar of vital statistics or contract out the responsibility of registrar in the area over which the agency has jurisdiction.*

1. Most small counties use other entities for this service, with public health to be notified/monitor for any significantly abnormal trends

## **H. Personal Care Provider (PCP) Program**

1. April 2022

- a. Clients: 45
- b. Hour worked in April 2022: 3,034.0
- c. Employing 22 Providers
- d. Currently hiring- have demand but unable to hire PCPs due to fuel cost vs. hourly wage

## **I. Commodity Supplemental Food Program**

1. 459 Individuals total participation for April 2022
2. Home deliveries to the homebound 2 days monthly; 48 people
3. 316 Households (including TFAP)
4. Curbside delivery continues 2 (T/Th) days weekly

## **J. CCPH COVID Vaccine Policy**

1. 34 employees;
  - a. 29 fully vaccinated
  - b. 5 approved exemptions

# Board of Health – Denise Jiron and BOCC

## CONEJOS COUNTY BOARD OF HEALTH REPORT 5/19/22

### New reported cases in the past week: 19 total for the SLV

- = Alamosa County - 8
- = Conejos County - 2
- = Costilla County - 3
- = Mineral County - 3
- = Rio Grande County - 2
- = Saguache County - 1

### Conejos County information on COVID-19 as of 5/18/2022:

- 2 active cases
- 1,763 positives confirmed to date
- 138 hospitalized to date
- 13 Outbreaks
- Current positivity rate for Conejos County is 1.90% (from 5/6-5/12//22)

### Deaths

- 54 Deaths among cases- to date
- 21 deaths Due to COVID – to date
- April 2022 = 0 deaths

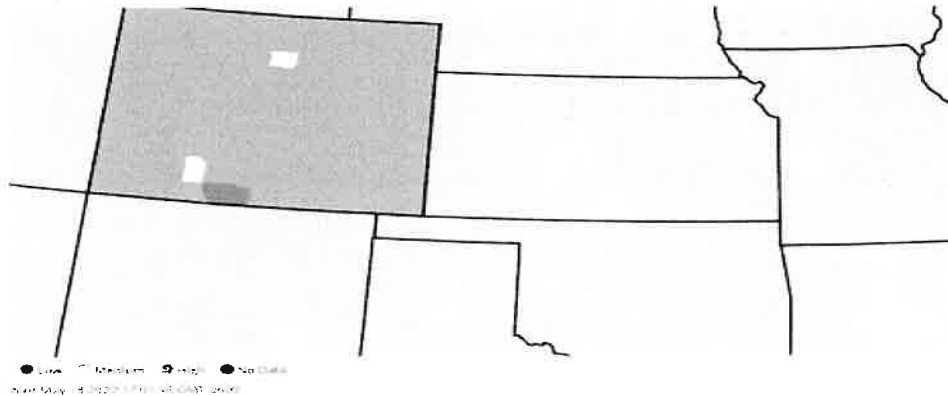
### SLV Data as reported by CDPHE for the SLV as of 5/18/22

- 29,793 People tested
- 11,343 positives confirmed to date
- 668 hospitalized to date
- 158 Outbreaks
- 194 deaths among cases
- 114 Deaths due to COVID-19

### SLV COVID-19 Community Levels as of 5/18/22

- o Medium: Mineral County
- o Low: all other SLV Counties

COVID-19 Community Levels in Conejos County, Colorado



[https://covid.cdc.gov/covid-data-tracker/#county-view?list\\_select\\_state=all\\_states&list\\_select\\_county=all\\_counties&data-type=CommunityLevels&nul=CommunityLevels](https://covid.cdc.gov/covid-data-tracker/#county-view?list_select_state=all_states&list_select_county=all_counties&data-type=CommunityLevels&nul=CommunityLevels)

### Testing

#### Affinity Free testing will go through June 30, 2022 in Conejos County.

- Antonito Town Hall – Every Thursday 9:00am – 11:00am- Town hall
- La Jara Town Hall - Every Thursday, 12:00pm – 4:00pm- Town hall

#### Limited Free testing Alamosa

- Affinity provides free testing on Thursday and Sunday only, located at Convenient care (CC) in Alamosa; CC will conduct testing the rest of the week.

#### Testing at the ASU site will end May 24th.

### 3<sup>rd</sup> round of Free At-home Tests:

Every home in the U.S. is eligible to order a 3rd round of free at-home tests at

<https://www.covid.gov/tests>

### Treatments for COVID-19

The COVID-19 Test-to-Treat map can be viewed at

<https://aspr.hhs.gov/TestToTreat/Pages/default.aspx>



**Ambulance Report – Ernest and Debra**


April Call Numbers

- 80 Calls
- 413 Calls Year to Date
- 380 Primary Calls
- 32 Secondary Calls
- Issues with Third Party Billing A&B Mars
- Would like to set up a work session to discuss A&B Mars issues.
- Asking for an additional for the on-call paramedic to respond to an emergency.

**Veterans Boulevard Update – Orlando Gallardo**

- Veterans Blvd would like to acknowledge the BOCC and Administration for the support with the Blvd.
- Boulevard is now open
- Water is on and trees are growing and getting strong.
- 173 total trees on the Boulevard.

ATTEST:

  
Nathan Ruybal  
Clerk of the Board

  
Mitchell Jarvies  
Chair of BOCC

Comm. Garcia: I'd like to start. I asked for an executive session because I did make the comment that a couple of things I didn't see coming. We were asked to please throw out the planning commission's decision, so I thought that was a legal question that I needed to talk to so I feel very qualified about answering that right now. Just to let you know and I think we need to get back to you on that because you did ask us as citizens. So we need to let you know that the planning commission's vote on any special use permit or decision is advisory in nature. Ok we do not have to accept it, you know we can go against their recommendation or we can of course I don't know if I want to say bless it. Because we hear the case ourselves you know so we have to base our decision on what we hear right here at this time and that time so but I wanted you to know from my point of view I take those decisions very seriously you know because I sat in on many a planning commission meetings and I was a part of the planning commission before I was appointed commissioner and some of those people have been on that planning commission for many, many years and they're very thorough on the questions they do ask.

Comm. Garcia: The other thing is there was one particular planning commission member and his comments that you felt were out of line huh we talked in this regard it is really hard to judge whether his comments had any effect on the other planning commission members. Because again they're hearing it with an unbiased mode at that time so even if we were and we were asked to please if we could throw out his comments and that kind of stuff well we even looked at this a vote of 4 to 1 and even if you throw out his vote for example it was still 3 to 1. So that's just a little bit of a summary on that and I hope you guys can understand our situation.