

**Regular Meeting
Lea County Board of Commissioners
April 23, 2026**

Chair Pierce called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. in the Lea County Courthouse.

Commissioners present were, to wit: Chair Tyson Pierce, District 4, Vice Chair Brad Weber, District 2, Commissioner Dee Ann Kimbro, District 1, Commissioner Gary Eidson, District 3, Commissioner Pat Sims, District 5.

Commissioner Eidson led the Pledge of Allegiance, followed by the Invocation by Commissioner Kimbro.

ITEM 01: COMMISSION

- Consideration of Lea County Resolution No. 26-APR-104R Approving the April 9, 2026, Regular Meeting Minutes.

Secretary polled the commission. Chair Pierce, yes; Vice Chair Weber, yes; Commissioner Kimbro, yes; Commissioner Eidson, yes; Commissioner Sims, yes. The motion passed.

- Public Comments: *(Non-Agenda Items)*

- No public comments.

- Commissioners and County Manager Comments:

- Commissioner Sims - Apologized for being unable to attend the commission meeting in person.
 - Commissioner Kimbro - Expressed her appreciation for attending the New Mexico Cattle Growers Association meeting. She noted that organizations such as this work diligently to support and benefit industries throughout the county.
 - County Manager Corey Needham – Welcomed and congratulated Lea County Airport Manager, Allan Mantle.

- Consideration of Lea County Resolution No. 26-APR-105R Authorizing Eddy-Lea Energy Alliance (ELEA) to File a Lawsuit Against the State of New Mexico to Declare that NMSA § 74-4A-11.1 is Preempted by Federal Law.

Secretary polled the commission. Chair Pierce, yes; Vice Chair Weber, yes; Commissioner Kimbro, yes; Commissioner Eidson, yes; Commissioner Sims, yes. The motion passed.

ITEM 2: ACTION ITEMS

- Consideration of Lea County Resolution No. 26-APR-106R Approving Government Agency Funding to Lea County Cooperative Extension Services, NMSU; Lea Soil & Water Conservation District; and United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) Wildlife Services for Fiscal Year 2026-2027.

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Secretary polled the commission. Chair Pierce, yes; Vice Chair Weber, yes; Commissioner Kimbro, yes; Commissioner Eidson, yes; Commissioner Sims, yes. The motion passed.

- Consideration of Lea County Resolution No. 26-APR-107R Awarding Request for Proposal (RFP) No. 7 (25-26) County-Wide Care and Maintenance of Sick and Indigent for Fiscal Year 2026-2027.

Secretary polled the commission. Chair Pierce, yes; Vice Chair Weber, yes; Commissioner Kimbro, yes; Commissioner Eidson, yes; Commissioner Sims, yes. The motion passed.

- Consideration of Lea County Resolution No. 26-APR-108R Awarding Request for Proposal (RFP) No. 8 (25-26) County-Wide Economic Development Services for Fiscal Year 2026-2027.

Secretary polled the commission. Chair Pierce, yes; Vice Chair Weber, yes; Commissioner Kimbro, yes; Commissioner Eidson, yes; Commissioner Sims, yes. The motion passed.

- Consideration of Lea County Resolution No. 26-APR-109R Approving Governmental Agency Funding to the Fifth Judicial District Court.

Secretary polled the commission. Chair Pierce, yes; Vice Chair Weber, yes; Commissioner Kimbro, yes; Commissioner Eidson, yes; Commissioner Sims, yes. The motion passed.

- Consideration of Proclamation Recognizing May 3–9, 2026, as National Correctional Officers Week

Secretary polled the commission. Chair Pierce, yes; Vice Chair Weber, yes; Commissioner Kimbro, yes; Commissioner Eidson, yes; Commissioner Sims, yes. The motion passed.

- Consideration of Lea County Resolution No. 26-APR-110R Authorizing In-State Travel June 15-18, 2026, for the County Commissioners and County Manager to Attend the 89th New Mexico Counties (NMC) Annual Conference in McKinley County, New Mexico.

Secretary polled the commission. Chair Pierce, yes; Vice Chair Weber, yes; Commissioner Kimbro, yes; Commissioner Eidson, yes; Commissioner Sims, yes. The motion passed.

- Consideration of Lea County Resolution No. 26-APR-111R Authorizing Out-of-State Travel July 17-20, 2026, for the County Commissioners and County Manager to Attend the 2026 National Association of Counties (NACo) Annual Conference and Exposition in New Orleans, Louisiana.

Secretary polled the commission. Chair Pierce, yes; Vice Chair Weber, yes; Commissioner Kimbro, yes; Commissioner Eidson, yes; Commissioner Sims, yes. The motion passed.

- Consideration of Lea County Resolution No. 26-APR-112R Approving the Appointment of a Freeholders Committee to Review and Recommend the Vacation of Sun Road, in the Southeast Quarter (SE/4), Section 13, Township 19 South, Range 35 East, N.M.P.M.

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Secretary polled the commission. Chair Pierce, yes; Vice Chair Weber, yes; Commissioner Kimbro, yes; Commissioner Eidson, yes; Commissioner Sims, yes. The motion passed.

- Consideration of Lea County Resolution No. 26-APR-113R Approving a Grant Agreement Between Lea County and the State of New Mexico's Department of Homeland Security and Emergency Management for the Purchase of Emergency Warning Sirens for the City of Lovington.

Secretary polled the commission. Chair Pierce, yes; Vice Chair Weber, yes; Commissioner Kimbro, yes; Commissioner Eidson, yes; Commissioner Sims, yes. The motion passed.

- Consideration of Lea County Resolution No. 26-APR-114R Awarding Bid No. 7 (25-26) for Lea County Fire Pump Station Improvements to J&H Services, Inc. for Knowles Station Two, Maljamar Station Two, and Monument Station One.

Secretary polled the commission. Chair Pierce, yes; Vice Chair Weber, yes; Commissioner Kimbro, yes; Commissioner Eidson, yes; Commissioner Sims, yes. The motion passed.

- Consideration of Lea County Resolution No. 26-APR-115R Approving The Interlocal Purchasing System (TIPS) Agreement Between Lea County and Design Roof Services for the Roof Renovation at the Lea County Road Department.

Secretary polled the commission. Chair Pierce, yes; Vice Chair Weber, yes; Commissioner Kimbro, yes; Commissioner Eidson, yes; Commissioner Sims, yes. The motion passed.

- Consideration of Lea County Resolution No. 26-APR-116R Approving HD Veterinarian Services, LLC for 2026 Lea County Fair & PRCA Rodeo.

Secretary polled the commission. Chair Pierce, yes; Vice Chair Weber, yes; Commissioner Kimbro, yes; Commissioner Eidson, yes; Commissioner Sims, yes. The motion passed.

- Consideration of Lea County Resolution No. 26-APR-117R Awarding RFP No. 10 (25-26) Security Services - Lea County Fair & Rodeo to Superior Security Services LLC.

Secretary polled the commission. Chair Pierce, yes; Vice Chair Weber, yes; Commissioner Kimbro, yes; Commissioner Eidson, yes; Commissioner Sims, yes. The motion passed.

- Consideration of Lea County Resolution No. 26-APR-118R Approving Entertainment Artists and Fees for the 2026 Lea County Fair & Rodeo Concert Series and Hispanic Heritage Celebration.

Secretary polled the commission. Chair Pierce, yes; Vice Chair Weber, yes; Commissioner Kimbro, yes; Commissioner Eidson, yes; Commissioner Sims, yes. The motion passed.

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- Consideration of Lea County Resolution No. 26-APR-119R Approving Budget Adjustment No. 3 for Fiscal Year 2025-2026.

Secretary polled the commission. Chair Pierce, yes; Vice Chair Weber, yes; Commissioner Kimbro, yes; Commissioner Eidson, yes; Commissioner Sims, yes. The motion passed.

ITEM 3: DISCUSSION ITEMS

- Discussion of the Fiscal Year 2026-2027 Capital Projects Budget.

Corey Needham, Lea County Manager, presented a comprehensive breakdown of the capital budget by department. He reviewed each department individually, outlining their capital needs, priorities, and requests. The presentation included discussion of planned projects, equipment needs, infrastructure improvements, and any adjustments made based on current funding levels and long-term planning considerations.

- Discussion of Indigent Educational Programming Services.

Corey Needham, Lea County Manager, proposed exploring the possibility of establishing a second indigent program with an educational component. He also stated that, at this time, it remains unclear whether there is an appropriate mechanism for the County to fund and implement such a program without violating anti-donation provisions.

- Discussion of the Lea County Risk Management/Safety Program Development & Implementation.

Chip Low, Lea County Assistant Manager, addressed the need for Lea County to implement a comprehensive risk management and safety program. Mr. Low proposed to partner with JBW Solutions through a Cooperative Education Services (CES) agreement to develop and implement the program.

- Discussion of the March 2026 Finance Report.

Anthony Dobbs, Interim Finance Director, presented the March 2026 Finance Report to the Commission. He provided an overview of revenues and expenditures, outlining financial activity by function and fund type, and reviewed current budget performance, including comparisons between projected and actual figures. He also discussed overall fiscal trends for the reporting period.

- Discussion of the March 2026 Accounts Payable.

Anthony Dobbs, Interim Finance Director, presented the March 2026 Accounts Payable Report, stating that the total amount of \$15,169,352.73 reflected combined check disbursements and purchase card expenditures for the reporting period.

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ITEM 4: EXECUTIVE SESSION

At 10:40 a.m. Vice Chair Weber moved that the Commission convene in closed session to discuss pending litigation, namely Brown v. Lea County Sheriff's Department and others, and in the matter of proposed amendments to 20.6.8 NMAC-Ground and Surface Water Protection pending before the New Mexico Water Quality Control Commission, and to discuss the disposal of real property in central and southern Lea County, as authorized by NMSA 1978 Sections 10-15-1 H (7) and (8).

The motion was second by Commissioner Eidson.

COMMISSION MAY CONVENE IN OPEN SESSION to Take Action, if any, on the Closed Session Item(s).

Secretary polled the commission. Chair Pierce, yes; Vice Chair Weber, yes; Commissioner Kimbro, yes; Commissioner Eidson, yes; Commissioner Sims, yes. The motion passed.

The meeting reconvened at 11:23 a.m.

The Chair stated, let the record reflect that the matters discussed in the closed meeting were limited only to those specified in the motion for closure.

ITEM 5: OTHER BUSINESS

- No other business discussed.

ADJOURN: 11:23 a.m.

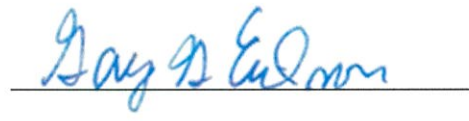
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BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
LEA COUNTY, NEW MEXICO


Tyson Pierce, Chair


Brad Weber, Vice Chair

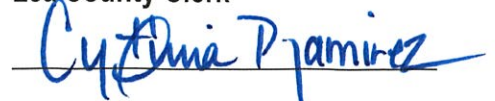

Dee Ann Kimbro, Member


Gary Eidson, Member


Pat Sims, Member

ATTEST: Carrie Sandoval

Lea County Clerk


Cynthia Ramirez, Recording Secretary

