

**Regular Meeting  
Lea County Board of Commissioners  
April 13, 2023**

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

**Commissioners present were, to wit: Chair Dean Jackson, District 1, Vice Chair Gary G. Eidson, District 3, Commissioner Jonathan Sena, District 4, Commissioner Brad Weber, District 2, Commissioner Pat Sims, District 5.**

**Also present, Lea County Manager Michael P. Gallagher II and Lea County Attorney John W. Caldwell.**

**Vice Chair Eidson led the Pledge of Allegiance followed by the Invocation by Commissioner Sena.**

**ITEM 01: COMMISSION**

- Consideration of Lea County Resolution No. 23-APR-105R Approving the March 30, 2023 Meeting Minutes.

Chair Jackson requested approval. Commissioner Weber moved to approve Resolution No. 23-APR-105R Approving the March 30, 2023 Meeting Minutes. The motion was seconded by Vice Chair Eidson. Chair Jackson asked if there were any public or commissioner comments concerning this agenda item. Secretary polled the Commission. Chair Jackson, yes; Vice Chair Eidson, yes; Commissioner Sena, yes; Commissioner Sims, yes; Commissioner Weber, yes. The motion passed.

- Public Comments: (*Non-Agenda Items*).
  - Nick Maxwell – Expressed his concern about voting validations.
  - Star Mckee – Thanked Lea County for the given support to the Lovington Main Street Organization. She also shared the impact report for the upcoming events for the Lovington community.
  - John Graham – Thanked Lea County for the support given to Hearts Desire Organization.
- Commissioners and Manager Comments:
  - Commissioner Sims – Expressed his concerns over Governor Grisham vetoing House Bill 6.
  - Commissioner Sena – Would like to have a discussion about House Bill 6 and possibly partner up with municipalities to bring them help.

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- Chair Jackson – Joined the Lesser Prairie chicken conference held in Roswell, New Mexico and will attend the next meeting in Portales.
- County Manager Michael Gallagher – Encouraged Kelly Livingston to speak about the training Lea County Probation Department is hosting on April 24<sup>th</sup> – 28<sup>th</sup>, 2023 at the Lea County Event Center.
- Consideration of Lea County Resolution No. 23-APR-106R Opposing the Slaughter of Gila Wilderness Livestock. *(Chair Dean Jackson, County Commissioner, District 1)*

Chair Jackson requested approval. Commissioner Sims moved to approve Resolution No. 23-APR-106R Opposing the Slaughter of Gila Wilderness Livestock. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Weber. Chair Jackson asked if there were any public or commissioner comments concerning this agenda item. Secretary polled the Commission. Chair Jackson, yes; Vice Chair Eidson, yes; Commissioner Sena, yes; Commissioner Sims, yes; Commissioner Weber, yes. The motion passed.

**ITEM 02: ACTION ITEMS**

- Consideration of Lea County Resolution No. 23-APR-107R Approving Application SF-424, Certification Regarding Lobbying, and Grant Agreement No. G23SN0017A Between Lea County and the Office of National Drug Policy for the High-Intensity Drug Trafficking Area (HIDTA) Region VI Drug Task Force Issued for 01/01/2023 to 12/31/2024. *(Wm Robert Sullivan, HIDTA Region VI Drug Task Force Coordinator)*

HIDTA Region IV Drug Task Force Coordinator Wm Robert Sullivan requested approval. Commissioner Weber moved to approve Resolution No. 23-APR-107R Approving Application SF-424, Certification Regarding Lobbying, and Grant Agreement No. G23SN0017A Between Lea County and the Office of National Drug Policy for the High-Intensity Drug Trafficking Area (HIDTA) Region VI Drug Task Force Issued for 01/01/2023 to 12/31/2024. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Sims. Chair Jackson asked if there were any public or commissioner comments concerning this agenda item. Secretary polled the Commission. Chair Jackson, yes; Vice Chair Eidson, yes; Commissioner Sena, yes; Commissioner Sims, yes; Commissioner Weber, yes. The motion passed.

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- Consideration of Lea County Resolution No. 23-APR-108R Approving a Recommendation from the Lea County Fair and Rodeo Board Authorizing an Agreement Between Lea County and HD Veterinary Services, LLC to Provide Veterinarian Services During the 2023 Lea County Fair and PRCA Rodeo. *(Jim Kemp, Lea County Fairgrounds Director)*

Lea County Fairgrounds Director Jim Kemp requested approval. Commissioner Weber moved to approve Resolution No. 23-APR-108R Approving a Recommendation from the Lea County Fair and Rodeo Board Authorizing an Agreement Between Lea County and HD Veterinary Services, LLC to Provide Veterinarian Services During the 2023 Lea County Fair and PRCA Rodeo. The motion was seconded by Commissioners Sims. Chair Jackson asked if there were any public or commissioner comments concerning this agenda item. Secretary polled the Commission. Chair Jackson, yes; Vice Chair Eidson, yes; Commissioner Sena, yes; Commissioner Sims, yes; Commissioner Weber, yes. The motion passed.

- Consideration of Lea County Resolution No. 23-APR-109R Approving the 2023 - 2024 3<sup>rd</sup> Option to Renew Agreement Aggregate for Surface Treatment to Constructors, Inc. and to J&H Services (Region 2 & 3). *(Corey Needham, Assistant County Manager)*

Assistant County Manager Corey Needham requested approval. Vice Chair Eidson moved to approve Resolution No. 23-APR-109R Approving the 2023 - 2024 3<sup>rd</sup> Option to Renew Agreement Aggregate for Surface Treatment to Constructors, Inc. and to J&H Services (Region 2 & 3). The motion was seconded by Commissioner Sena. Chair Jackson asked if there were any public or commissioner comments concerning this agenda item. Secretary polled the Commission. Chair Jackson, yes; Vice Chair Eidson, yes; Commissioner Sena, yes; Commissioner Sims, yes; Commissioner Weber, yes. The motion passed.

- Consideration of Lea County Resolution No. 23-APR-110R Approving a 5% COLA Salary Increase for Employees, Excluding Contract Employees Effective July 1, 2023. *(Michael Gallagher, County Manager)*

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County Manager Michael Gallagher requested approval. Commissioner Sims moved to approve Resolution No. 23-APR-110R Approving a 5% COLA Salary Increase for Employees, Excluding Contract Employees Effective July 1, 2023. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Weber. Chair Jackson asked if there were any public or commissioner comments concerning this agenda item. Secretary polled the Commission. Chair Jackson, yes; Vice Chair Eidson, yes; Commissioner Sena, yes; Commissioner Sims, absent; Commissioner Weber, yes. The motion passed.

- Consideration of Lea County Resolution No. 23-APR-111R Approving a \$5 Increase to the Longevity Pay Plan, Excluding Contract Employees Effective July 1, 2023. *(Michael Gallagher, County Manager)*

County Manager Michael Gallagher requested approval. Commissioner Weber moved to approve Resolution No. 23-APR-111R Approving a \$5 Increase to the Longevity Pay Plan, Excluding Contract Employees Effective July 1, 2023. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Sims. Chair Jackson asked if there were any public or commissioner comments concerning this agenda item. Secretary polled the Commission. Chair Jackson, yes; Vice Chair Eidson, yes; Commissioner Sena, yes; Commissioner Sims, yes; Commissioner Weber, yes. The motion passed.

- Consideration of Lea County Resolution No. 23-APR-112R Approving a Personal Leave Credit Policy for All Employees Effective July 1, 2023. *(Michael Gallagher, County Manager)*

County Manager Michael Gallagher requested approval. Commissioner Weber moved to approve Resolution No. 23-APR-112R Approving a Personal Leave Credit Policy for All Employees Effective July 1, 2023. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Sims. Chair Jackson asked if there were any public or commissioner comments concerning this agenda item. Secretary polled the Commission. Chair Jackson, yes; Vice Chair Eidson, yes; Commissioner Sena, yes; Commissioner Sims, yes; Commissioner Weber, yes. The motion passed.

- Consideration of Lea County Resolution No. 23-APR-113R Approving a Sell Back of Annual and Sick Leave Policy for Employees Effective July 1, 2023. *(Michael Gallagher, County Manager)*

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County Manager Michael Gallagher requested approval. Commissioner Sims moved to approve Resolution No. 23-APR-113R Approving a Sell Back of Annual and Sick Leave Policy for Employees Effective July 1, 2023. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Weber. Chair Jackson asked if there were any public or commissioner comments concerning this agenda item. Secretary polled the Commission. Chair Jackson, yes; Vice Chair Eidson, yes; Commissioner Sena, yes; Commissioner Sims, yes; Commissioner Weber, yes. The motion passed.

- Consideration of Lea County Resolution No. 23-APR-114R Authorizing the Addition of Ten Full Time Positions Effective July 1, 2023. *(Craig Bova, Human Resources Director)*

Human Resources Director Craig Bova requested approval. Commissioner Weber moved to approve Resolution No. 23-APR-114R Authorizing the Addition of Ten Full Time Positions Effective July 1, 2023. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Sims. Chair Jackson asked if there were any public or commissioner comments concerning this agenda item. Secretary polled the Commission. Chair Jackson, yes; Vice Chair Eidson, yes; Commissioner Sena, yes; Commissioner Sims, absent; Commissioner Weber, yes. The motion passed.

- Consideration of Lea County Resolution No. 23-APR-115R Awarding Request for Proposal No. 09 2022 – 2023 for County – Wide Care and Maintenance of Sick and Indigent for Fiscal Year 2023 - 2024. *(Chip Low, Finance Director)*

Finance Director Chip Low requested approval. Commissioner Sims moved to approve Resolution No. 23-APR-115R Awarding Request for Proposal No. 09 2022 – 2023 for County – Wide Care and Maintenance of Sick and Indigent for Fiscal Year 2023 - 2024. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Weber. Chair Jackson asked if there were any public or commissioner comments concerning this agenda item. Secretary polled the Commission. Chair Jackson, yes; Vice Chair Eidson, yes; Commissioner Sena, abstain; Commissioner Sims, yes; Commissioner Weber, yes. The motion passed.

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- Consideration of Lea County Resolution No. 23-APR-116R Awarding Request for Proposal No. 10 2022 – 2023 for County - Wide Economic Development Services for Fiscal Year 2023 - 2024. (*Chip Low, Finance Director*)

Finance Director Chip Low requested approval. Vice Chair Eidson moved to approve Resolution No. 23-APR-116R Awarding Request for Proposal No. 10 2022 – 2023 for County - Wide Economic Development Services for Fiscal Year 2023 - 2024. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Sena. Chair Jackson asked if there were any public or commissioner comments concerning this agenda item. Secretary polled the Commission. Chair Jackson, yes; Vice Chair Eidson, yes; Commissioner Sena, yes; Commissioner Sims, yes; Commissioner Weber, yes. The motion passed.

**ITEM 03: DISCUSSION ITEMS**

- Discussion of Fiscal Year 2024 Capital Outlay. (*Chip Low, Finance Director*)

County Manager Michael Gallagher reviewed the capital and reserved budget for Fiscal Year 2024.

**RECESS 10:15 a.m.  
RESUME 11:07 a.m.**

**ITEM 04: EXECUTIVE SESSION**

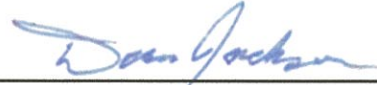
At 11:07 a.m. Vice Chair Eidson moved that the COMMISSION MAY CONVENE IN CLOSED SESSION to Discuss Pending Litigation *State of New Mexico ex rel. Raul Torres v. Board of County Commissioners for Lea County et al.*, as Authorized by NMSA 1978 Section 10-15-1 H (7). The motion was seconded by Commissioner Sena. The meeting reconvenes at 12:09 p.m.

**ITEM 05: NO OTHER BUSINESS**

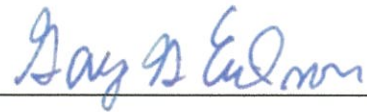
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ADJOURN: 12:09 p.m.

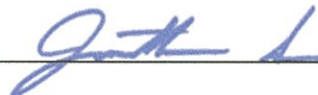
BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
LEA COUNTY, NEW MEXICO



Dean Jackson, Chair



Gary G. Eidson, Vice Chair



Jonathan Sena, Member

Absent

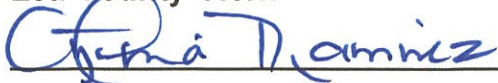
Pat Sims, Member

Absent

Brad Weber, Member

ATTEST: Keith Manes

Lea County Clerk



Cynthia Ramirez, Deputy Clerk

