

**Minutes of Meeting
Lea County Board of Commissioners
January 12, 2023**

Chair Jackson called the meeting to order at 9:02 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 Brad Weber, District 2, Commissioner Jonathan Sena, District 4. Commissioner Pat Sims, District 5.

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

Commissioner Weber led the Pledge of Allegiance followed by the Invocation by Commissioner Sena.

ITEM 01: ELECTION

- Election of Chair for the Lea County Board of County Commissioners.

Lea County Attorney John Caldwell requested nominations. Commissioner Sims nominated Commissioner Jackson as the Lea County Chair. There were no other nominations. Secretary polled the Commission. Chair Jackson, yes; Vice Chair Eidson, yes; Commissioner Sena, yes; Commissioner Sims, yes; Commissioner Weber, yes. The nomination passed.

- Election of Vice Chair for the Lea County Board of County Commissioners.

Chair Jackson requested nominations. Commissioner Sena nominated Commissioner Eidson as the Lea County Vice Chair. There were no other nominations. Secretary polled the Commission. Chair Jackson, yes; Vice Chair Eidson, yes; Commissioner Sena, yes; Commissioner Sims, yes; Commissioner Weber, yes. The nomination passed.

ITEM 02: COMMISSION

- Consideration of Lea County Resolution No. 23-JAN-001R Designating the Chair and Vice Chair for the Lea County Board of County Commissioners for 2023.

County Manager Gallagher requested approval. Commissioner Sims moved to approve Resolution No. 23-JAN-001R Designating the Chair and Vice Chair for the Lea County Board of County Commissioners for 2023. 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-JAN-002R Approving the December 8, 2022 Regular Meeting Minutes.

Chair Jackson requested approval. Vice Chair Eidson moved to approve Resolution No. 23-JAN-002R Approving the December 8, 2022 Regular Meeting. 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-JAN-003R Approving the Open Meetings Act Requirements and Procedures for Lea County. (*John W. Caldwell, County Attorney*)

Attorney Caldwell requested approval. Commissioner Sims moved to approve Resolution No. 23-JAN-003R Approving the Open Meetings Act Requirements and Procedures for Lea County. 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.

- Public Comments:

- There were no public comments.

- Commissioner and Manager Comments:

- Chair Jackson – He welcomed Brad. Stated they served on the Fair Board together. He thanked all for coming. He stated he is looking forward to a good year for Lea County leading the rest of the State like we always do. Thank you.
- Vice Chair Eidson – Welcomed Commissioner Weber.
- Commissioner Sena – Welcomed Commissioner Weber to the commission. Congratulated him on his victory. He look forward to serving with Commissioner Weber. Any conversations we've had so far shows leadership. He also wanted to thank the law enforcement for all that they do. He

wanted to redouble our efforts to give Law Enforcement the tools you need to do your job and support, to make our community safer.

- Commissioner Sims – Congratulated and welcomed Commissioner Weber to the Commissioners Board. He stated, “I am ready to start this year and this will be an interesting meeting.”
 - Commissioner Weber stated he was happy to be part of the Commissioner’s Board and is looking forward on ways to serve.
 - Manager Gallagher – Congratulated Commissioner Jackson and Vice Chair Eidson. He said he is looking forward to working with this Board and Congratulated all the newly elected and re-elected officials. He welcomed Commissioner Brad Weber.
- Consideration of Lea County Resolution No. 23-JAN-004R Accepting and Approving the FY 2021 - 2022 Financial Audit for Lea County. *(Chris Garner, CPA/Partner of Pattillo, Brown & Hill, LLP)*

Chris Garner gave a presentation on the 2011-2022 Financial Audit for Lea County. County Manager Gallagher requested approval. Commissioner Sims moved to approve Resolution No. 23-JAN-004R Accepting and Approving the FY 2021 - 2022 Financial Audit for Lea County. 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.

- Discussion of the Lea County Event Center Master Plan. *(Matt McKim, Principal/Architect with Dekker/Perich/Sabatini)*

Matt McKim talked about the final plans for the Event Center. He spoke about the partnership with NMJC, City of Hobbs, City of Lovington and the public feedback at the meeting with public. Manager Gallagher requested we bring it back as an Action Item in February.

- Consideration of Lea County Resolution No. 23-JAN-005R Supporting the New Mexico Counties 2023 Legislative Priorities.

County Manager Gallagher requested approval. Commissioner Sena moved to approve Resolution No. 23-JAN-005R Supporting the New Mexico Counties 2023 Legislative Priorities. 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-JAN-006R Amending Lea County Resolution No. 22-NOV-253R Approving the Lea County Board of County Commissioners Meeting Dates for Calendar Year 2023. (*County Community Engagement Manager Sandra Brito.*)

County Community Engagement Manager Sandra Brito requested approval. Vice Chair Eidson moved to approve Resolution No. 23-JAN-006R Amending Lea County Resolution No. 22-NOV-253R Approving the Lea County Board of County Commissioners Meeting Dates for Calendar Year 2023. 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-JAN-007R Approving/Confirming Appointment(s) to the Eddy – Lea Energy Alliance. (*County Community Engagement Manager Sandra Brito.*)

County Community Engagement Manager Sandra Brito requested approval. Commissioner Eidson moved to approve Resolution No. 23-JAN-007R Approving/Confirming Appointment(s) to the Eddy – Lea Energy Alliance. 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-JAN-008R Approving/Confirming Appointment(s) to the Lea County Airports Advisory Board. *(County Community Engagement Manager Sandra Brito)*

County Community Engagement Manager Sandra Brito requested approval. Commissioner Sims moved to approve Resolution No. 23-JAN-008R Approving/Confirming Appointment(s) to the Lea County Airports Advisory Board. 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-JAN-009R Approving/Confirming Appointment(s) to the Lea County DWI Advisory Council. *(County Community Engagement Manager Sandra Brito)*

County Community Engagement Manager Sandra Brito requested approval. Commissioner Sena moved to approve Resolution No. 23-JAN-009R Approving/Confirming Appointment(s) to the Lea County DWI Advisory Council. 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-JAN-010R Approving/Confirming Appointment(s) to the Lea County Environmental Services Advisory Committee. *(County Community Engagement Manager Sandra Brito)*

County Community Engagement Manager Sandra Brito requested approval. Commissioner Sims moved to approve Resolution No. 23-JAN-010R Approving/Confirming Appointment(s) to the Lea County Environmental Services Advisory Committee. 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-JAN-011R Approving/Confirming Appointment(s) to the Lea County Fair & Rodeo Board. *(County Community Engagement Manager Sandra Brito)*

County Community Engagement Manager Sandra Brito requested approval. Commissioner Sims moved to approve Resolution No. 23-JAN-011R Approving/Confirming Appointment(s) to the Lea County Fair & Rodeo Board. 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.

- Consideration of Lea County Resolution No. 23-JAN-012R Approving/Confirming Appointment(s) to the Lea County Memorial Committee. Resolution postponed.

- Consideration of Lea County Resolution No. 23-JAN-013R Approving/Confirming Appointment(s) to the Lea County Planning & Zoning Board.
(County Community Engagement Manager Sandra Brito)

County Community Engagement Manager Sandra Brito requested approval. Vice Chair Eidson moved to approve Resolution No. 23-JAN-013R Approving/Confirming Appointment(s) to the Lea County Planning & Zoning Board. 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-JAN-014R Approving/Confirming Appointment(s) to the Lea County Road Advisory Committee. *(County Community Engagement Manager Sandra Brito)*

County Community Engagement Manager Sandra Brito requested approval. Vice Chair Eidson moved to approve Resolution No. 23-JAN-014R Approving/Confirming Appointment(s) to the Lea County Road Advisory Committee. 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-JAN-015R
Approving/Confirming Appointment(s) to the Lea County Solid Waste Authority. *(County Community Engagement Manager Sandra Brito)*

County Community Engagement Manager Sandra Brito requested approval. Vice Chair Eidson moved to approve Resolution No. 23-JAN-015R Approving/Confirming Appointment(s) to the Lea County Solid Waste Authority. 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-JAN-016R
Approving/Confirming Appointment(s) to the Lovington – Lea County Extraterritorial Zoning Authority. *(County Community Engagement Manager Sandra Brito)*

County Community Engagement Manager Sandra Brito requested approval. Vice Chair Eidson moved to approve Resolution No. 23-JAN-016R Approving/Confirming Appointment(s) to the Lovington – Lea County Extraterritorial Zoning Authority. 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-JAN-017R Approving/Confirming Appointment(s) to the Lovington – Lea County Extraterritorial Zoning Commission.
(County Community Engagement Manager Sandra Brito)

County Community Engagement Manager Sandra Brito requested approval. Commissioner Sims moved to approve Resolution No. 23-JAN-017R Approving/Confirming Appointment(s) to the Lovington – Lea County Extraterritorial Zoning Commission. 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-JAN-018R Approving/Confirming Appointment(s) to the Southeastern New Mexico Economic Development District Council of Governments. *(County Community Engagement Manager Sandra Brito)*

County Community Engagement Manager Sandra Brito requested approval. Commissioner Sims moved to approve Resolution No. 23-JAN-018R Approving/Confirming Appointment(s) to the Southeastern New Mexico Economic Development District Council of Governments. 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-JAN-019R Approving/Confirming Appointment(s) to the Southeast Regional Transportation Planning Organization.
(County Community Engagement Manager Sandra Brito)

County Community Engagement Manager Sandra Brito requested approval. Commissioner Sims moved to approve Resolution No. 23-JAN-019R Approving/Confirming Appointment(s) to the Southeast Regional Transportation Planning Organization. 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-JAN-020R Approving/Confirming Appointment(s) to the New Mexico County Insurance Authority Pool. *(County Community Engagement Manager Sandra Brito)*

County Community Engagement Manager Sandra Brito requested approval. Vice Chair Eidson moved to approve Resolution No. 23-JAN-020R Approving/Confirming Appointment(s) to the New Mexico County Insurance Authority Pool. 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.

ITEM 03: ACTION ITEMS

Consideration of Lea County Resolution No. 23-JAN-021R Approving a Recommendation from the Lea County Fair and Rodeo Board to Amend the Lea County Fair and Rodeo Board Policy. *(Larry Wheeler, Chair, Fair & Rodeo Board)*

Fairground Director Kemp requested approval. Commissioner Sims moved to approve Resolution No. 23-JAN-021R Approving a Recommendation from the Lea County Fair and Rodeo Board to Amend the Lea County Fair and Rodeo Board Policy. 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-JAN-022R Approving a Recommendation from the Lea County Fair and Rodeo Board Authorizing an Agreement between Lea County and Zack Cook as a Professional Bullfighter During the 2023 Lea County Fair and PRCA Rodeo. *(Larry Wheeler, Chair, Fair & Rodeo Board)*

Fairground Director Kemp requested approval. Commissioner Sims moved to approve Resolution No. 23-JAN-022R Approving a Recommendation from the Lea County Fair and Rodeo Board Authorizing an Agreement between Lea County and Zack Cook as a Professional Bullfighter During the 2023 Lea County Fair and PRCA Rodeo. 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-JAN-023R Approving Grant No. G22SN0017A Modification No. 2 Between Lea County and the Office of National Drug Control Policy Increasing Funds for the High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area (HIDTA) Region VI Awarded 01/01/2022 to 12/31/2023. *(Wm Robert Sullivan, HIDTA Region VI Drug Task Force Coordinator)*

Finance Director, Low requested approval. Commissioner Sena moved to approve Resolution No. 23-JAN-023R Approving Grant No. G22SN0017A

Modification No. 2 Between Lea County and the Office of National Drug Control Policy Increasing Funds for the High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area (HIDTA) Region VI Awarded 01/01/2022 to 12/31/2023. 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-JAN-024R Approving Appropriation No. 22-ZG1016-15 in the Amount of \$656,250.00 from the State of New Mexico to be Utilized in Accordance with the Provisions of HB68. *(Michael Walker, Undersheriff, Sheriff's Office)*

Sheriff Helton requested approval. Commissioner Sena moved to approve Resolution No. 23-JAN-024R Approving Appropriation No. 22-ZG1016-15 in the Amount of \$656,250.00 from the State of New Mexico to be Utilized in Accordance with the Provisions of HB68. 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-JAN-025R Approving a Proposal for Architectural Master Plan Services Related to the Lea County Law Enforcement Training Center. *(Michael Walker, Undersheriff, Sheriff's Office)*

Sheriff Helton requested approval. Commissioner Weber moved to approve Resolution No. 23-JAN-025R Approving a Proposal for Architectural Master Plan Services Related to the Lea County Law Enforcement Training Center. 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.

- Commissioner Sena – stated we look forward on hearing more about this project as it progresses. It would be an exciting thing. He asked do you think this project will help the Law Enforcement to improve the protection of our community?
 - Sheriff Helton – responded absolutely. This will give Law Enforcement a footprint in the northern area.
 - Commissioner Weber – stated we need to rely on training and not emotion.
 - Chair Jackson – said he is looking forward to pursuing this and I think it's a great thing for the County.
- Consideration of Lea County Resolution No. 23-JAN-026R Approving the Findings and Proposed Disposition of Inventory Regarding the Transfer of a Vehicle to New Mexico State University Lea County Extension Office. *(Michael Gallagher, County Manager)*

Chair Jackson introduced Jimmy Butterfield as Interim County Agent. County Manager Michael Gallagher requested approval. Commissioner Sims moved to approve Resolution No. 23-JAN-026R Approving the Findings and Proposed Disposition of Inventory Regarding the Transfer of a Vehicle to New Mexico State University Lea County Extension Office. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Weber. Chair Jackson asked if there were any public or commissioner comments concerning this agenda item. Chair Jackson stated Jimmy had come to him and said they need a way to transport these kids to contests and leadership training. He said he agree with this. This is a good way to help. 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-JAN-027R Ratifying a Letter to President Biden Expressing Support of the Eddy-Lea Energy Alliance and Holtec

International Consolidated Interim Storage Facility. *(Michael Gallagher, County Manager)*

County Manager Gallagher requested approval. Commissioner Sena moved to approve Resolution No. 23-JAN-027R Ratifying a Letter to President Biden Expressing Support of the Eddy-Lea Energy Alliance and Holtec International Consolidated Interim Storage Facility. 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.

- Consideration of Lea County Resolution No. 23-JAN-028R Authorizing Out of State Travel February 26 – March 1, 2023 to Hurst, Texas for the Assistant County Manager to Attend the 2023 Federal Aviation Administration Southwest Region Airports Conference. *(Corey Needham, Assistant County Manager)*

Assistant County Manager, Needham requested approval. Commissioner Sena moved to approve Resolution No. 23-JAN-028R Authorizing Out of State Travel February 26 – March 1, 2023 to Hurst, Texas for the Assistant County Manager to Attend the 2023 Federal Aviation Administration Southwest Region Airports Conference. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Weber. Chair Jackson asked if there were any public or commissioner comments concerning this agenda item. Commissioner Sims asked if it will bring more FFA Grants? Assistant County Manager, Corey Needham responded with Federal Grants generally you need to know what you are doing six years in advance, so we have started to apply and doing things now. Commissioner Sena said he wants to point out two things. First your team does a phenomenal job at obtaining grants for Lea County, he's impressed. Second, these flights are great. Thank you for what you are doing. 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-JAN-029R Approving a Cooperative Educational Services Task Order with RoofCARE for Roof Renovations on B-17 Hangar at the Lea County Regional Airport. (*Corey Needham, Assistant County Manager*)

Assistant County Manager, Needham requested approval. Commissioner Sims moved to approve Resolution No. 23-JAN-029R Approving a Cooperative Educational Services Task Order with RoofCARE for Roof Renovations on B-17 Hangar at the Lea County Regional Airport. 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-JAN-030R Approving the Award of Bid No. 03 2022 – 2023 22-23) Alabama Street Reconstruction. (*Corey Needham, Assistant County Manager*)

Assistant County Manager Needham requested approval. Commissioner Weber moved to approve Resolution No. 23-JAN-030R Approving the Award of Bid No. 03 2022 – 2023 22-23) Alabama Street Reconstruction. 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.

At 10:47 A.M. Chair Jackson declared a 5-minute break.

The meeting reconvened at 10:59 a.m.

- Consideration of Lea County Resolution No. 23-JAN-031R Authorizing the Submittal of a Request for Proposal to Host the New Mexico Junior High and High School Rodeo Association 2023 State Finals at the Lea County Fairgrounds. (*Jim Kemp, Fairgrounds Director*)

Fairgrounds Director Kemp requested approval. Commissioner Sims moved to approve Resolution No. 23-JAN-031R Authorizing the Submittal of a Request for Proposal to Host the New Mexico Junior High and High School Rodeo Association 2023 State Finals at the Lea County Fairgrounds. 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-JAN-032R Approving the Rankings of Request for Qualifications Proposals No. 07 2022 - 2023 and Authorizing Staff to Execute an Agreement for Architectural Services for Exterior Improvements to the Lea County Detention Center. (*Edmundo Lara, Facilities Director*)

Facilities Director Lara requested approval. Commissioner Sims moved to approve Resolution No. 23-JAN-032R Approving the Rankings of Request for Qualifications Proposals No. 07 2022 - 2023 and Authorizing Staff to Execute an Agreement for Architectural Services for Exterior Improvements to the Lea County Detention Center. 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-JAN-033R Approving the Application and Acceptance of the Local Assistance and Tribal Consistency Fund to be Used for Any Governmental Purpose Other than Lobbying Activity. *(Chip Low, Finance Director)*

Finance Director Low requested approval. Commissioner Sena moved to approve Resolution No. 23-JAN-033R Approving the Application and Acceptance of the Local Assistance and Tribal Consistency Fund to be Used for Any Governmental Purpose Other than Lobbying Activity. 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-JAN-034R Approving Lea County's Fiscal Year 2023 – 2024 Budget Development and Timeline. *(Michael Gallagher, County Manager, and Chip Low, Finance Director)*

County Manager Gallagher and Finance Director, Low requested approval. Commissioner Sims moved to approve Resolution No. 23-JAN-034R Approving Lea County's Fiscal Year 2023 – 2024 Budget Development and Timeline. 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 04: DISCUSSION ITEMS

- Discussion of Recreational/Playground Equipment for the Monument Community Center. *(Edmundo Lara, Facilities Director)*

Facilities Director Lara presented pictures showing the location where the playground is proposed to be installed. He spoke with A K Sales & Consulting Inc. from Roswell, NM where he received a rough estimate of \$172,000.00 to fully install. He said one reason the equipment will be installed on the north side of the canopy is because there is a gas line that feeds the building and runs through from the west side. He also considered getting quotes to enclose the south east corner of the fencing since it's incomplete.

Chair Jackson asked – Could grass be added to the proposal?

Edmundo Lara responded - This would increase the proposal and maintenance but we can reconsider and adjust the proposal.

Commissioner Sena stated - I think this is great for the kids and community.

- Discussion of Lea County's Municipal Services Agreements. *(Michael Gallagher, County Manager)*

Michael Gallagher stated this gives the County more options and more services to the community. Contracting with other identities to provide more services or to expand the existence services to the public. Those type of expenses increases year to year budgets. There's an opportunity for the County to do more without adding more staff to our departments or to our budget. We can do more now that we have the ability and consolidate or to pull back when our funds change. Chip Low stated budget approved \$50,000,000.00 cash transfers for operational purposes. In the month of December, we looked at our budget was and transferred all cash we had budgeted for the year. General fund cash balance is \$198,969,170 of that the State requires a general fund reserve plus other proposed and approved propositions.

- Discussion of the City of Hobbs Municipal Detention Facility Transition to a Transport Facility. *(Ruben Quintana, Warden, Detention Center)*

Warden Quintana stated he brought this as a discussion item in November. Food cost and medical provided needs could possibly increase or decrease by the number of detainees we hold. Chair Jackson stated transportation and especially liability has sky rocketed and will continue to do so. We need some type of agreement with the City of Hobbs to assist and be part of the liability cost for transportation of the prisoners. Commissioner Sena asked what is best for the tax payer in Lea County? Currently Hobbs is transferring all of their prisoners. Commissioners agreed to speak of this matter at the next meeting in February.

- Discussion of Lea County's Financial Report. *(Chip Low, Finance Director)*

Finance Director Low stated over all year to date we are \$91,000.00 ahead from an operational stand point. We have \$86 Million accessible balance this year. We have more than enough to cover our expenses this year. Everything is looking good. Oil and Gas were down November and December; it will probably level out.

- Discussion of Lea County's Accounts Payable. *(Chip Low, Finance Director)*

Finance Director Low stated we are still in the infancy of learning how to manage Caselle. We are having to change the way we do things as we discover how the system operates.

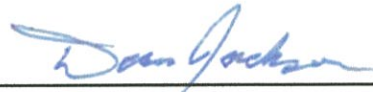
ITEM 05: EXECUTIVE SESSION

At 12:07 p.m. Vice Chair Eidson moved that the Commissioner convene in close session to discuss limited personnel matters regarding the County Manager: and threatened litigation regarding administrative procedures, a traffic accident, alleged civil rights violations, the 2022 General Election: pending litigation *In the Matter of Daniel Caouette, Brandie Anderson v. Lea Regional Hospital et al.*, and the acquisition of real property in central and northern Lea County, as authorized by NMSA 1978 Section 10-15-1 H (2), (7), and (8). The motion was seconded by Commissioner Sims.

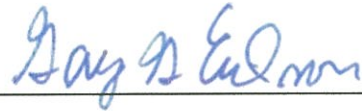
The meeting reconvened at 1:46 p.m.

**ITEM 06: OTHER BUSINESS
ADJOURN 1:46 p.m.**

**BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
LEA COUNTY, NEW MEXICO**



Dean Jackson, Chair



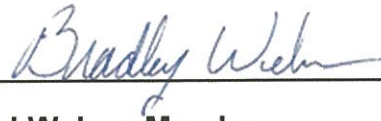
Gary G. Eidson, Vice Chair



Jonathan Sena, Member



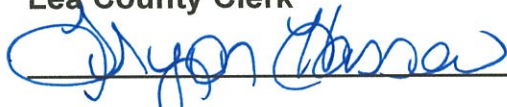
Pat Sims, Member



Brad Weber, Member

ATTEST: Keith Manes

Lea County Clerk



Tryon Hassen, Chief Deputy Clerk

