

**Minutes of Meeting
Lea County Board of Commissioners
December 09, 2021**

Chair Long called the meeting to order at 9:01 a.m. in the Lea County Courthouse

Commissioners present were, to wit: Vice Chair Dean Jackson, District 1, Chair Rebecca Long District 2, Commissioner Gary G. Eidson, District 3, and 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 Jackson led the Pledge of Allegiance followed by the Invocation by Commissioner Sena.

ITEM 01: COMMISSION

- Consideration of Lea County Resolution No. 21-DEC-274R, Approving the November 18, 2021 Regular Meeting Minutes.

Chair Long requested approval and asked if there were any public or Commissioner comments concerning this agenda item. Vice Chair Jackson moved to approve Lea County Resolution. No. 21-DEC-274R, Approving the November 18, 2021 Regular Meeting Minutes. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Sena. Secretary polled the Commission. Chair Long, yes; Vice Chair Jackson, yes; Commissioner Eidson, yes; Commissioner Sena, yes; Commissioner Sims, yes. The motion passed.

- Public Comments (Non-Agenda Items)
 - Danny Fletcher – Holtec International
 - Mr. Fletcher made a brief introduction of himself and the company he represents (Holtec International – a nuclear waste storage facility). He provided an informational booklet for the Commission to read and stated he would contact each one of them individually to discuss his company's project in detail.
 - Lluvia Garcia – Lea County Resident
 - Ms. Garcia presented a photo and request for assistance with repairs of Oak Ave. She stated that her family and clients use this road as the main access to their home and farming business. She also stated for the past 10 years they have been using their own money and resources for maintenance of the road which is now almost undrivable. She requested assistance from the County with repairs as she believes this road is County property.
 - Chair Long asked for assistance with this matter from Lea County Assistant Manager Corey Needham.

- Assistant County Manager Needham agreed to assist. He clarified that at this time the road is classified as a private road, but he would contact Ms. Garcia after the meeting to discuss options with her and help her find a solution.
- Commissioner and Manager Comments
 - Commissioner Sims spoke positively of a meeting he had with Centennial Resources in Midland. He felt optimistic about their roll in our Oil and Gas Industry.
 - Commissioner Eidson spoke of Pearl Harbor Day which was Tuesday, December 7th. He encouraged everyone to remember those who served and those who died that day, and to thank all of our service members every chance you get.
 - Commissioner Sena commented that we have to continue to diversify our energy resources by exploring Hydrogen and Nuclear power. He feels that this is important so when things get tough in the Oil and Gas industry here in Lea County, we have other avenues to explore for employment. He believes this diversification gives us some common ground with our State Government which is also important.
 - Chair Long shared that she was contacted by the Albuquerque Journal for her thoughts about the State's plan for redistricting. She explained what redistricting would mean for Hobbs (South of Marland would be considered Las Cruces and Albuquerque and North of Marland would be Santa Fe and some Albuquerque). She stated her opinion is that it is absurd to split a community and all communities of interest should stay together. She went on to urge everyone to contact their representatives and let their voices be heard concerning this matter.
- Consideration of Lea County Resolution No. 21-DEC-275R, Approving Appointment(s) to the Lea County Airports Advisory Board.

Chair Long requested approval and asked if there were any public or Commissioner comments concerning this Agenda Item. Commissioner Sims moved to approve Resolution. No. 21-DEC-275R, Approving Appointment(s) to the Lea County Airports Advisory Board. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Eidson. Secretary polled the Commission. Chair Long, yes; Vice Chair Jackson, yes; Commissioner Eidson, yes; Commissioner Sena, yes; Commissioner Sims, yes. The motion passed.

- Consideration of Lea County Resolution No. 21-DEC-276R, Approving Appointments to the Lea County Planning and Zoning Board.

Chair Long requested approval and asked if there were any public or Commissioner comments concerning this agenda item. Vice Chair Jackson moved to approve Resolution No. 21-DEC-276R, Approving Appointments to the Lea County Planning and Zoning Board. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Sims. Secretary polled the Commission. Chair Long, yes; Vice Chair Jackson, yes; Commissioner Eidson, yes; Commissioner Sena, yes; Commissioner Sims, yes. The motion passed.

- Consideration of Lea County Resolution No. 21-DEC-277R, Approving Appointments to Lea County Roads Advisory Committee.

Vice Chair Jackson confirmed his appointment of Paul Herrera to replace Randy Pettigrew in District 1.

Commissioner Sena stated his intention to appoint Migel Corral to replace Mark Bateman in District 4.

Chair Long requested approval and asked if there were any public or Commissioner comments concerning this agenda item. Commissioner Eidson moved to approve Resolution No. 21-DEC-277R Approving Appointments to the Lea County Roads Advisory Committee. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Sena. Secretary polled the Commission. Chair Long, yes; Vice Chair Jackson, yes; Commissioner Eidson, yes; Commissioner Sena, yes; Commissioner Sims, yes. The motion passed.

- Consideration of Lea County Resolution No. 21-DEC-278R Approving Appointments to the Lovington-Lea County Extraterritorial Zoning Commission.

Vice Chair Jackson voiced his intention to appoint Mae Jackson (no relation) to replace Sally Olivas in District 1

Chair Long announced her intention to reappoint Zach Wieser and Kenyon Burns

Chair Long requested approval and asked if there were any public or Commissioner comments concerning this agenda item. Vice Chair Jackson moved to approve Resolution No. 21-DEC-278R Approving Appointments to the Lovington - Lea County Extraterritorial Zoning Commission. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Sena. Secretary polled the Commission. Chair Long, yes; Vice Chair Jackson, yes; Commissioner Eidson, yes; Commissioner Sena, yes; Commissioner Sims, yes. The motion passed.

- Consideration of Lea County Resolution No. 21-DEC-279R Authorizing In - State Travel January 17-20, 2022 to Santa Fe, New Mexico to Attend the 2022 New Mexico Counties (NMC) Legislative Conference and Meetings.

Chair Long requested approval and asked if there were any public or Commissioner comments concerning this agenda item. Commissioner Sims moved to approve Resolution No. 21-DEC-279R Authorizing In-State Travel January 17-20, 2022 to Santa Fe, New Mexico to Attend the 2022 New Mexico Counties (NMC) Legislative Conference and Meetings. The Motion was seconded by Commissioner Sena. Secretary polled the Commission. Chair Long, yes; Vice Chair Jackson, yes; Commissioner Eidson, yes; Commissioner Sena, yes; Commissioner Sims, yes. The motion passed.

- Consideration of Lea County Resolution No. 21-DEC-280R Authorizing Out of State Travel February 11-17, 2022 to Washington D.C. to Attend the 2022 National Association of Counties (NAC) Legislative Conference and Meetings.

Chair Long requested approval and asked if there were any public or Commissioner comments concerning this agenda item. Commissioner Eidson moved to approve Resolution No. 21-DEC-280R Authorizing Out of State Travel February 11-17 2022 to Washington D.C. to Attend the 2022 National Association of Counties (NAC) Legislative Conference and Meetings. The Motion was Seconded by Commissioner Sena. Secretary polled the Commission. Chair Long, yes; Vice Chair Jackson, yes; Commissioner Eidson, yes; Commissioner Sena, yes; Commissioner Sims, yes. The motion passed.

ITEM 02: PRESENTATION

- Presentation by United Way of Lea County. *(Marcus Sparenberg, Director of United Way of Lea County)*

Mr. Sparenberg gave a presentation explaining the purpose and scope of the United Way and the various community nonprofit organizations it supports in Lea County through community donations. A donation form was handed out to meeting attendees explaining several donation options and designation choices. He thanked all Lea County employees for their past generosity and encouraged continued participation.

ITEM 03: ACTION ITEMS

- Consideration of Lea County Resolution No. 21-DEC-281R, Approving Grant No. G21SN0017A Modification No. 3 Between Lea County and the Office of National Drug Control Policy Decreasing Funds for The High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area (HIDTA) Region VI Awarded 01/01/2021 to 12/31/2022. *(Chip Low, Finance Director on Behalf of WM Robert Sullivan, HIDTA Region VI Drug Task Force Coordinator)*

Finance Director Low requested approval and Chair Long asked if there were any public or Commissioner comments concerning this agenda item. Commissioner Eidson moved to approve Resolution No. 21-DEC-281R, Approving Grant No. G21SN0017A Modification No.3 Between Lea County and the Office of National Drug Control Policy Decreasing Funds for The High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area (HIDTA) Region VI Awarded 01/01/2021 to 12/31/2022. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Sims. Secretary polled the Commission. Chair Long, yes; Vice Chair Jackson, yes; Commissioner Eidson, yes; Commissioner Sena, yes; Commissioner Sims, yes. The motion passed.

- Consideration of Lea County Resolution No. 21-DEC-282R, Approving a Work Permit to Dawson Geophysical Company to Conduct Geophysical Operations on Section 31, township 14 South, Range 36 East N.M.P.M. Lea County, New Mexico. *(Corey Needham, Assistant County Manager)*

Assistant County Manager Needham requested approval and Chair Long asked if there were any public or Commissioner comments concerning this agenda item. Vice Chair Jackson moved to approve, 21-DEC-282R, Approving a Work Permit to Dawson Geophysical Company to Conduct Geophysical Operations on Section 31, township 14 South, Range 36 East N.M.P.M. Lea County, New Mexico, contingent upon receiving a current insurance certificate. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Eidson. Secretary polled the Commission. Chair Long, yes; Vice Chair Jackson, yes; Commissioner Eidson, yes; Commissioner Sena, yes; Commissioner Sims, yes. The motion passed with contingency.

- Consideration of Lea County Resolution No. 21-DEC-283R, Ratifying a Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) Grant Application HOB-C Associated with ARGP Funding for Airports. *(Corey Needham, Assistant County Manager)*

Assistant County Manager Needham requested Approval. Chair Long asked if there were any other public or Commissioner comments concerning this agenda item. Commissioner Sena moved to approve

Resolution No. 21-DEC-283R, Ratifying a Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) Grant Application HOB-C Associated with ARGP Funding for Airports. The motion was seconded by Vice Chair Jacson. Secretary polled the Commission. Chair Long, yes; Vice Chair Jackson, yes; Commissioner Eidson, yes; Commissioner Sena, yes; Commissioner Sims, yes. The motion passed.

- Consideration of Lea County Resolution No. 21-DEC-284R, Ratifying a Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) Grant Application HOB Associated with ARGP Funding for Airports (*Corey Needham, Assistant County Manager*)

Assistant County Manager Needham requested approval. Chair Long asked if there were any public or Commissioner comments concerning this agenda item. Commissioner Sims moved to approve Resolution No. 21-DEC-284R, Ratifying a Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) Grant Application HOB Associated with ARGP Funding for Airports. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Jackson. Secretary polled the Commission. Chair Long, yes; Vice Chair Jackson, yes; Commissioner Eidson, yes; Commissioner Sena, yes; Commissioner Sims, yes. The motion passed.

- Consideration of Lea County Resolution No. 21-DEC-285R, Ratifying a Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) Grant Application E06 Zip Franklin Memorial Airport Associated with ARGP Funding for Airports. (*Corey Needham, Assistant County Manager*)

Assistant County Manager requested approval and Chair Long asked if there were any public or Commissioner comments concerning this agenda item. Commissioner Eidson moved to approve Resolution 21-DEC-285R, Ratifying a Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) Grant Application E06 Zip Franklin Memorial Airport Associated with ARGP Funding for Airports. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Sims. Secretary polled the Commission. Chair Long, yes; Vice Chair Jackson, yes; Commissioner Eidson, yes; Commissioner Sena, yes; Commissioner Sims, yes. The motion passed.

- Consideration of Lea County Resolution No. 21-DEC-286R, Ratifying a Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) Grant Application E26 Lea County Jal Airport Associated ARGP Funding for Airports. (*Corey Needham, Assistant County Manager*)

Assistant County Manager Needham requested approval. Chair Long asked if there were any public comments concerning this agenda item.

Commissioner Sims moved to approve Lea County Resolution. No. DEC-286R, Ratifying a Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) Grant Application E26 Lea County Jal Airport Associated ARGP Funding for Airports. The motion was seconded by Vice Chair Jackson. Secretary polled the Commission. Chair Long, yes; Vice Chair Jackson, yes; Commissioner Eidson, yes; Commissioner Sena, yes; Commissioner Sims, yes. The motion passed.

- Consideration of Lea County Resolution No. 21-DEC-287R Approving Request for a Federal Aviation (FAA) Grant Amendment for E06 Zip Franklin Memorial Airport PAPI installation. *(Corey Needham, Assistant County Manager)*

Assistant County Manager Needham requested approval. Chair Long asked if there were any public or Commissioner comments concerning this agenda item. Vice Chair Jackson moved to approve Lea County Resolution No. 21-DEC-287R Approving Request for a Federal Aviation (FAA) Grant Amendment for E06 Zip Franklin Memorial Airport PAPI installation. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Sims. Secretary polled the Commission. Chair Long, yes; Vice Chair Jackson, yes; Commissioner Eidson, yes; Commissioner Sena, yes; Commissioner Sims, yes. The motion passed.

- Consideration of Lea County Resolution No. 21-DEC-288R, Approving a Request for a Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) Grant Amendment for E26 Lea County Jal Airport PAPI Installation. *(Corey Needham, Assistant County Manager)*

Assistant County Manager Needham requested approval. Chair Long asked if there were any public or Commissioner comments concerning this agenda item. Commissioner Sena moved to approve Lea County Resolution No. 21-DEC-288R, Approving a Request for a Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) Grant Amendment for E26 Lea County Jal Airport PAPI Installation. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Eidson. Secretary polled the Commission. Chair Long, yes; Vice Chair Jackson, yes; Commissioner Sena, yes; Commissioner Eidson, yes; Commissioner Sims, yes. The motion passed.

- Consideration of Lea County Resolution No. 21-DEC-289R Approving a Reimbursable Agreement with the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) for Flight Check of E06 Zip Franklin Memorial Airport PAPI System. *(Corey Needham, Assistant County Manager)*

Assistant County Manager Needham requested approval. Chair Long asked if there were any public or Commissioner comments concerning this agenda item. Vice Chair Jackson moved to approve Lea County Resolution No. 21-DEC-289RR, Approving a Reimbursable Agreement with the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) for Flight Check of E06 Zip Franklin Memorial Airport PAPI System. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Sena. Secretary polled the Commission. Chair Long, yes; Vice Chair Jackson, yes; Commissioner Sena, yes; Commissioner Eidson, yes; Commissioner Sims, yes. The motion passed.

- Consideration of Lea County Resolution No. 21-DEC-290R, Approving a Reimbursable Agreement with the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) for Flight Check of E26 Lea County Jal Airport. *(Corey Needham, Assistant County Manager)*

Assistant County Manager Needham requested approval. Chair Long asked if there were any public comments concerning this agenda item. Commissioner Sims moved to approve Lea County Resolution No. 21-DEC-290R, Approving a Reimbursable Agreement with the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) for Flight Check of E26 Lea County Jal Airport. The motion was seconded by Vice Chair Jackson. Secretary polled the Commission. Chair Long, yes; Vice Chair Jackson, yes; Commissioner Eidson, yes; Commissioner Sena, yes; Commissioner Sims, yes. The motion passed.

- Consideration of Lea County Resolution No. 21-DEC-291R, Approving the Findings and Proposed Disposition of Inventory. *(Chip Low, Finance Director)*

Finance Director Low requested approval. Chair Long asked if there were any public comments concerning this agenda item. Commissioner Sims moved to approve Lea County Resolution No. 21-DEC-291R, Approving the Findings and Proposed Disposition of Inventory. The motion was seconded by Vice Chair Jackson. Secretary polled the Commission. Chair Long, yes; Vice Chair Jackson, yes; Commissioner Eidson, yes; Commissioner Sena, yes; Commissioner Sims, yes. The motion passed.

- Consideration of Lea County Resolution No. 21-DEC-292R, Approving Budget Adjustment No. 03 Fiscal Year 2021-2022. *(Chip Low, Finance Director)*

Finance Director Low requested approval. Chair Long asked if there were any public comments concerning this agenda item. Commissioner Eidson moved to approve Lea County Resolution No. 21-DEC-292R, Approving Budget Adjustment No. 03 Fiscal Year 2021-2022. The motion was seconded by Vice Chair Jackson. Secretary polled the Commission. Chair Long, yes; Vice Chair Jackson, yes; Commissioner Eidson, yes; Commissioner Sena, yes; Commissioner Sims, yes. The motion passed.

- Consideration of Lea County Resolution No. 21-DEC-293R, Approving Lea County's Fiscal Year 2021-2022 2nd Quarter Payment and Certification for the Safety Net Care Pool Fund. *(Chip Low, Finance Director)*

Finance Director Low requested approval.

Chair Long commented that no matter the discussion, we must pay it.

Commissioner Sena expressed his frustration with the challenges faced by The Commission in Santa Fe when trying to propose change concerning this item but agreed with Chair Long that we must pay it.

Chair Long asked if there were any public comments concerning this agenda item. Commissioner Sena moved to approve Lea County Resolution No. 21-DEC-293R, Approving Lea County's Fiscal Year 2021-2022 2nd Quarter Payment and Certification for the Safety Net Care Pool Fund. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Eidson. Secretary polled the Commission. Chair Long, yes; Vice Chair Jackson, no; Commissioner Eidson, yes; Commissioner Sena, yes; Commissioner Sims, no. The motion passed.

ITEM 04 DISCUSSION ITEMS

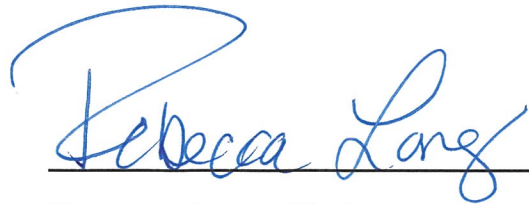
- Discussion of Lea County Communication Authority and Lea County Municipalities. *(Michael Gallagher, County Manager)*
- Discussion of Lea County's Financial Report for October 2021. *(Chip Low, Finance Director)*
- Discussion of Lea County's Accounts Payable for November 2021. *(Chip Low, County Manager)*

ITEM 05: OTHER BUSINESS

There was no other business.

The meeting adjourned at 9:49 a.m.

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
LEA COUNTY, NEW MEXICO



Rebecca Long, Chair



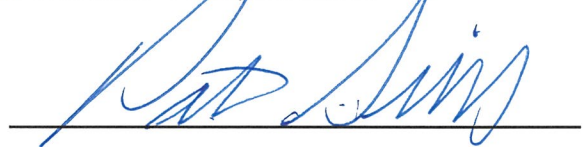
Dean Jackson, Vice Chair



Gary G. Eidson, Member



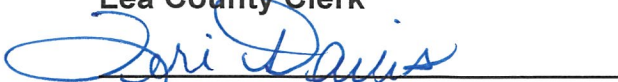
Jonathan Sena, Member



Pat Sims, Member

ATTEST: Keith Manes

Lea County Clerk



Teri Davis, Deputy Clerk

