

**Minutes of Meeting
Lea County Board of Commissioners
November 17, 2022**

Chair Jackson called the meeting to order at 9:21 a.m. in the Lea County Courthouse.

Commissioners present were, to wit: Chair Dean Jackson, District 1, Vice Chair Gary G. Eidson, by phone, District 3, Commissioner Rebecca Long, District 2, Commissioner Jonathan Sena, District 4. Commissioner Pat Sims, District 5 was absent.

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

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

ITEM 01: COMMISSION

- Consideration of Lea County Resolution No. 22-NOV-262R Approving the November 3, 2022 Regular Meeting Minutes.

Chair Jackson requested approval. Commissioner Sena moved to approve Resolution No. 22-NOV-262R Approving the November 3, 2022 Regular Meeting Minutes. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Long. 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 Long, yes. The motion passed.

- Public Comments
 - Nick Maxwell stated he felt the Commissioners should have done something concerning his statement regarding his ballot. He also stated he still feels strongly about employees being able to carry firearms in the courthouse, and that the lower employees need raises, not just the executives.
 - Bob Hamilton stated that he lives on Kansas and has seen a lot of businesses come in. He feels that it needs to be cleaned up. Camping trailers dumping waste in the pasture, loud music, etc. He has contacted the Sheriff's Office and they are doing what they can but the County needs to have an Ordinance that will give meat to this issue.
- Commissioner and Manager Comments:
 - Chair Jackson – Stated that it is sad that Lea County won't get out and vote.
 - Vice Chair Eidson – No Comment.
 - Commissioner Sena – Stated that after this meeting we only had one more meeting with Commissioner Long and that they would miss her. He also stated that he attended the

prayer breakfast this morning and it was great they finally were able to meet again.

- Commissioner Sims – Absent
- Commissioner Long – No Comment.
- Manager Gallagher – No Comment.

ITEM 02: ACTION ITEMS

- Consideration of Lea County Resolution No. 22-NOV-263R Approving the Publication of Notice of Hearing to Adopt an Ordinance Establishing Rules and Procedures Governing Use of County Right-of-Way, Repealing and Superseding Ordinance No.86. *(John W. Caldwell, County Attorney)*

Lea County Attorney Caldwell requested approval. Commissioner Long moved to approve Resolution No. 22-NOV-263R Approving the Publication of Notice of Hearing to Adopt an Ordinance Establishing Rules and Procedures Governing Use of County Right-of-Way, Repealing and Superseding Ordinance No.86. 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, absent; Commissioner Long, yes. The motion passed.

- Consideration of Approval of Lea County Resolution No. 22-NOV-264R Awarding Proposal No. 04 (2022-2023) Professional Engineering Services to Multiple Vendors. *(Corey Needham, Assistant County Manager)*

Assistant County Manager Needham requested approval. Commissioner Long moved to approve Resolution No. 22-NOV-264R Awarding Proposal No. 04 (2022-2023) Professional Engineering Services to Multiple Vendors. 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, absent; Commissioner Long, yes. The motion passed.

- Consideration of Lea County Resolution No. 22-NOV-265R Awarding Proposal No. 05 (2022-2023) Professional Surveying Services to Multiple Vendors. *(Corey Needham, Assistant County Manager)*

Assistant Manager Needham requested approval. Commissioner Long moved to approve Resolution No. 22-NOV-265R Awarding Proposal No. 05 (2022-2023) Professional Surveying Services to Multiple Vendors. 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, abstain; Commissioner Sena, yes; Commissioner Sims, absent; Commissioner Long, yes. The motion passed.

- Consideration of Lea County Resolution No. 22-NOV-266R Approving the Freeholders Committee Recommendation Regarding the Vacation of a Dedicated Alley in Payton Addition, Monument Subdivision, Block 3, Being Between 8th Street and Macarthur Street in Section 29, Township 19 South, Range 37 East N.M.P.M. in Lea County, New Mexico. *(Bruce Reid, County Planner)*

County Planner Reid requested approval. Commissioner Long moved to approve Resolution No. 22-NOV-266R Approving the Freeholders Committee Recommendation Regarding the Vacation of a Dedicated Alley in Payton Addition, Monument Subdivision, Block 3, Being Between 8th Street and Macarthur Street in Section 29, Township 19 South, Range 37 East N.M.P.M. in Lea County, New Mexico. 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, absent; Commissioner Long, yes. The motion passed.

- Consideration of Lea County Resolution No. 22-NOV-267R Approving the Freeholders Committee Recommendation Regarding the Vacation of a Dedicated Alley and Street in Payton Addition, Monument Subdivision, Blocks 12 and 21 With Their Portion of 7th Street, Being Between Eaves Street and Cook Street in Section 29, Township 19 South, Range 37 East N.M.P.M. in Lea County, New Mexico. *(Bruce Reid, County Planner)*

County Planner Reid requested approval. Commissioner Sena moved to approve Resolution No. 22-NOV-267R Approving the Freeholders Committee Recommendation Regarding the Vacation of a Dedicated Alley and Street in Payton Addition, Monument Subdivision, Blocks 12 and 21 With Their Portion of 7th Street, Being Between Eaves Street and Cook Street in Section 29, Township 19 South, Range 37 East N.M.P.M. in Lea County, New Mexico. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Long.

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 Long, yes. The motion passed.

- Consideration of Lea County Resolution No. 22-NOV-268R Approving the Recommendation of a Freeholders Committee Recommendation Regarding Dedicated Alley in Camino Del Norte Subdivision, Block 12 in Section 33, Township 17 South, Range 38 East N.M.P.M. in Lea County, New Mexico. *(Bruce Reid, County Planner)*

County Planner Reid requested approval. Commissioner Long moved to approve Resolution No. 22-NOV-268R Approving the Recommendation of a Freeholders Committee Recommendation Regarding Dedicated Alley in Camino Del Norte Subdivision, Block 12 in Section 33, Township 17 South, Range 38 East N.M.P.M. in Lea County, New Mexico. 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, absent; Commissioner Long, yes. The motion passed.

- Consideration of Lea County Resolution No. 22-NOV-269R Authorizing Out of State Travel December 11-12, 2022 to Dallas/Fort Worth, Texas for Four Firefighter/Emergency Management Personnel to Attend Annual Aircraft Rescue & Fire Fighting Training at Dallas/Fort Worth Airport. *(Lorenzo Velasquez, Emergency Manager)*

Emergency Manager Velasquez requested approval. Commissioner Long moved to approve Resolution No. 22-NOV-269R Authorizing Out of State Travel December 11-12, 2022 to Dallas/Fort Worth, Texas for Four Firefighter/Emergency Management Personnel to Attend Annual Aircraft Rescue & Fire Fighting Training at Dallas/Fort Worth Airport. 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, absent; Commissioner Long, yes. The motion passed.

- Consideration of Lea County Resolution No. 22-NOV-270R Consideration of Lea County Resolution No. 22-NOV-270R Approving Budget Adjustments No. 2 for Fiscal Year 2022-2023. *(Chip Low, Finance Director)*

Finance Director Low requested approval. Commissioner Long moved to approve Resolution No. 22-NOV- 270R Approving Budget Adjustments No. 2 for Fiscal Year 2022-2023. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Sena. Chair Jackson asked if there were any public or commissioner comments concerning this agenda item.

Bob Hamilton stated that he wanted to say thank you for the improvements done on Kansas. He also said that was a two lane road when he moved there around 45 years ago.

Secretary polled the Commission. Chair Jackson, yes; Vice Chair Eidson, yes; Commissioner Sena, yes; Commissioner Sims, absent; Commissioner Long, yes. The motion passed.

ITEM 03: DISCUSSION ITEMS

- Discussion of Lea County Community Engagement's Recent and Upcoming Events/Projects. (*Sandrea Brito, Community Engagement Manager*)
 - Gave a short update on the Tricks and Treats having around 2,500 attending this year. We also participated in Pumpkin People this year.
 - She also stated the Operation Green Light was a success and they had put up the flags for Veterans Day Weekend. She noted Hobbs Veterans participated in the Hobbs Veteran's Day Parade and won 1st Prize for their float.
 - The County provided sandwiches for all the poll workers on election day. They were very appreciative.
 - She thanked all who attended the Healthy Cooking Luncheon. She also thanked everyone for participating in the Halloween Door decorating contest and gave the winning doors as the Assessor's, County Facilities Department and Elisa Millan with Emergency Management.
 - The upcoming events include, Hot Chocolate/Hot Apple cider coupons for employees, Christmas Door decorating contest, LCCA Toy drive, LCSO Santa's Deputies. Lea County Social Media has expanded to Facebook, Instagram, Twitter, Tic Toc and working on a new website. Coming up is the Lighting of the Courthouse and the lights will be turned on November 28th at 6 pm and would include free hot cocoa, a local dance team, Carolers will be back as well.
 - December 8th immediately following the Commission meeting, will be the annual Employee Appreciation Luncheon at the Fairgrounds. December 9th will have a come and go farewell reception for

Commissioner Long at the Event Center, 11-1. Dec 15-17th will be 3rd annual Christmas spirit at the fair ground. It's a drive through event.

- Discussion of the Lea County Event Center Master Plan. (*Edmundo Lara, Facilities Director*)
 - Discussed the open house at the Event Center. Only had 30 people attend but they gave a lot of feedback. Commissioner Sena suggested that they look at doing a feasibility study concerning adding several conference rooms so we could attract conferences here instead of Albuquerque.
- Discussion of the City of Hobbs Municipal Detention Facility Transition to a Transport Facility. (*Ruben Quintana, Warden, Lea County Detention Center*)
 - Discussed changing Hobbs City Jail to a transport facility only.
 - Manager Gallagher gave a more detailed plan that is being considered and put into effect by January 1, 2023, with a resolution being presented December 8, 2022.
 - Sheriff Helton advise he is not statutorily obligated to transport Municipal Inmates.
 - Chief Fons and Hobbs City Attorney Cortez agreed with everything already mentioned.
- Discussion of Lea County Strategic Plan 2022-2027. (*Anthony Dobbs, Budget and Reporting Analyst*)
 - Budget and Reporting Analyst Dobbs gave detail of our strategic plan explaining they had looked at 100 different strategic plans from all over the country, talked with each of the directors and elected officials to be able to pick what they felt was the best for Lea County.

ITEM 05: EXECUTIVE SESSION

At 10:35 a.m. Commissioner Sena moved to meet in closed session to discuss Threatened Litigation Regarding the 2022 General Election; Threatening Litigation Concerning Enforcement of Ordinances, as Authorized by NMSA 1978 § 10-15-1 H (7) and (8). The Motion was Seconded by Commissioner Long.

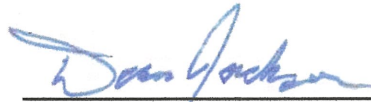
The meeting reconvened at 11:30 a.m.

ITEM 04: OTHER BUSINESS

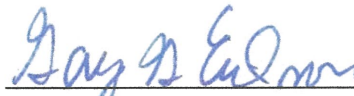
There was no other business.

Meeting adjourned at 11:31 a.m.

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



Dean Jackson, Chair



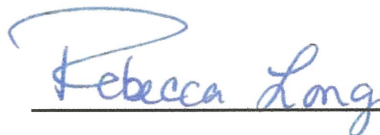
Gary G. Eidson, Vice Chair



Jonathan Sena, Member



Pat Sims, Member



Rebecca Long, Member

**ATTEST: Keith Manes
Lea County Clerk**



Tryon Hassen, Chief Deputy Clerk

