

**Regular Meeting
Lea County Board of Commissioners
May 11, 2023**

Chair Jackson called the meeting to order at 9:01 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.

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

ITEM 01: COMMISSION

Consideration of Lea County Resolution No. 23-MAY-124R Approving the April 27, 2023 Meeting Minutes.

Chair Jackson requested approval. Commissioner Sena moved to approve Resolution No. 23-MAY-124R Approving the April 27, 2023 Meeting Minutes. The motion was seconded by Commissioners 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: (*Non-Agenda Items*).
 - County Sheriff Corey Helton – Gave statistics about Illegal immigrants entering the United States due to Chapter 42 expiring.
 - License Master Social Worker Constance Williams – Explained the Constituent Programs available to assist the Community with grant search, letters of support, Academy Nominations, Policy/Legislative Correspondence and help with a Federal Agency.
- Commissioners and Manager Comments:
 - Commissioner Sims – Thanked License Master Social Worker Constance Williams for attending the commissioners meeting. He also expressed his concerns about Illegal Immigration.

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- Commissioner Sena – Thanked Licensed Master Social Worker Constance Williams and surrounding City Mayors for joining the commissioners meeting.
- Chair Jackson – Thanked everyone for coming. He also gave an update about the committee hearing held for the endangered prairie chicken.
- County Manager Michael Gallagher – Recognized Finance Director Chip Low for receiving the GFOA Budget Presentation Award.

- Consideration of Lea County Proclamation Recognizing the Jal Panthers Varsity Football Team.

Commissioner Sims move to Postpone Recognizing the Jal Panthers Varsity Football Team. 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.

ITEM02: ACTION ITEMS

- Consideration of Lea County Resolution No. 23-MAY-125R Approving the Equipment Recording Fee in the Lea County Clerk's Office. *(Tryon Hassen, Chief Deputy Clerk)*

Chief Deputy Clerk Tryon Hassen requested approval. Commissioner Sena moved to approve Resolution No. 23-MAY-125R Approving the Equipment Recording Fee in the Lea County Clerk's Office. 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-MAY-126R Approving the Nonprohibitive License Tax for Lea County. *(Tryon Hassen, Chief Deputy Clerk)*

Chief Deputy Clerk Tryon Hassen requested approval. Commissioner Sena moved to approve Resolution No. 23-MAY-126R Approving the Nonprohibitive License Tax for Lea County. 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-MAY-127R Awarding Request for Proposal No. 11 2022-2023 Electronic Payment Processing Services for Cash Bail/Cash Bond for the Lea County Detention Center to Century Bank. (*Ruben Quintana, Detention Center Warden*)

Detention Center Warden Ruben Quintana requested approval. Commissioner Sims moved to approve Resolution No. 23-MAY-127R Awarding Request for Proposal No. 11 2022-2023 Electric Payment Processing Services for Cash Bail/Cash Bond for the Lea County Detention Center to Century Bank. 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-MAY-128R Approving the Request for Proposals Qualifications No. 12 2022 – 2023 for the Architectural Services for Renovations to the Lea County Event Center. (*Edmundo Lara, Facilities Director*)

Facilities Director Edmundo Lara requested approval. Vice Chair Eidson moved to approve Resolution No. 23-MAY-128R Approving the Request for Proposals Qualifications No. 12 2022 – 2023 for the Architectural Services for Renovations to the Lea County Event 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.

- Consideration of Lea County Resolution No. 23-MAY-129R Approving Fiscal Year 2023-2024 Preliminary Budget. (*Michael Gallagher, County Manager*)

County Manager Michael Gallagher requested approval. Commissioner Sena moved to approve Resolution No. 23-MAY-129R Approving Fiscal Year 2023-2024 Preliminary Budget. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Weber. Chair Jackson

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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-MAY-130R Approving Budget Adjustment No. 5 for Fiscal Year 2022-2023. *(Chip Low, Finance Director)*

Finance Director Low requested approval. Commissioner Sena moved to approve Resolution No. 23-MAY-130R Approving Budget Adjustment No. 5 for Fiscal Year 2022-2023. 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.

BREAK: 9:53 a.m.

RESUME 10:03 a.m.

ITEM 03: DISCUSSION ITEMS

- Discussion of Expanding Services with Municipalities in Lea County. *(Michael Gallagher, County Manager)*

County Manager Gallagher discussed budget plan to allocate appropriate funding to each municipality.

- Discussion of Lea County Assessors Annual Report. *(Ava Benge, Lea County Assessor)*

Lea County Assessor Ava Benge presented the Annual Report and the currency contributed for the county and its business.

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- Discussion of Update Human Resources Policy and Procedures Manual. (*Craig Bova, Resources Director*)

Resources Director Craig Bova presented and reviewed the new modified Policy and Procedures Manual.

- Discussion of Lea County Internship/Apprenticeship Program. (*Sandrea Brito, Community Engagement Manager*)

Community Engagement Manager Sandra Brito discussed about engaging the public with Lea County. Getting youth involved in local government to give real on the job work experience, train potential county employees and fill vacancies/positions in Lea County.

ITEM 04: EXECUTIVE SESSION

At 10:59 a.m. Vice Chair Eidson moved that the COMMISSION MAY CONVENE IN CLOSED SESSION to Discuss Threatened Litigation Regarding Employment Practices and Pending Litigation in State of New Mexico *ex rel. Raul Torres v. Board of County Commissioners for Lea County et al.*, as Authorized by NMSA 1978 Sections 10-15-1 H (7). The motion was seconded by Commissioner Sims.

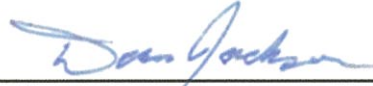
The meeting reconvenes at 12:08 p.m.

ITEM 05: NO OTHER BUSINESS

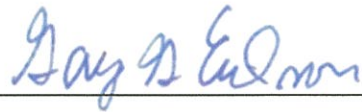
ADJOURN: 12:08 p.m.

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BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
LEA COUNTY, NEW MEXICO



Dean Jackson, Chair



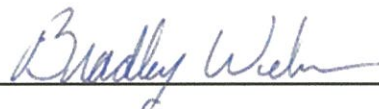
Gary G. Eidson, Vice Chair



Jonathan Sena, Member



Pat Sims, Member



Brad Weber, Member

ATTEST: Keith Manes

Lea County Clerk



Cynthia Ramirez, Deputy Clerk

