

**Regular Meeting
Lea County Board of Commissioners
August 22, 2024**

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

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

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

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

ITEM 01: COMMISSION

- Consideration of Lea County Resolution No. 24-AUG-195R Approving the July 25, 2024 Regular Meeting Minutes.

Chair Eidson requested approval. Commissioner Jackson moved to approve Resolution No. 24-AUG-195R Approving the July 25, 2024 Regular Meeting Minutes. The motion was seconded by Vice Chair Weber. Chair Eidson asked if there were any public or commissioner comments concerning this agenda item. Secretary polled the commission. Chair Eidson, yes; Vice Chair Weber, yes; Commissioner Jackson, yes; Commissioner Sena, yes; Commissioner Sims, yes. The motion passed.

- Public Comments (*Non-Agenda Items*).

- Commissioners and Manager Comments:

Commissioner Sims - Explained his recent absence to the board and public.

Commissioner Sena – Thanked Lea County staff for making him part of the team and helping him find ways to serve in District 4.

Commissioner Jackson – Applauded every Lea County staff member who helped and assisted during the Fair & Rodeo.

Vice Chair Weber – Said that this was an incredible way to celebrate the prosperity of this county by giving something back to the community with the Fair & Rodeo.

County Manager Gallagher – Complimented the Maddox Foundation and EDC for hosting a meeting to discuss the challenges and opportunities for housing in Lea County.

Chair Eidson recognized past Chair Commissioner Jackson for his service to the board.

Commissioner Sena – Said it has been a great honor to serve with Commissioner Jackson and appreciates his hard work.

Regular Meeting
Lea County Board of Commissioners
August 22, 2024

- Consideration of Lea County Resolution No. 24-AUG-196R Opposing the State of New Mexico's Proposed Building Code Requirements for Mandatory Electrical Vehicle Charging Stations. (*Gary Eidson, District 3, Chair*)

Chair Eidson requested approval. Commissioner Jackson moved to approve Resolution No. 24-AUG-196R Opposing the State of New Mexico's Proposed Building Code Requirements for Mandatory Electrical Vehicle Charging Stations. The motion was seconded by Vice Chair Weber. Commissioner Sena stated we are attempting to outrun the extra cost Santa Fe is trying to impose. Commissioner Jackson disagrees with Santa Fe Mandatory Charging Stations. Chair Eidson asked if there were any public or commissioner comments concerning this agenda item. Secretary polled the commission. Chair Eidson, yes; Vice Chair Weber, yes; Commissioner Jackson, yes; Commissioner Sena, yes; Commissioner Sims, yes. The motion passed.

- Consideration of Lea County Resolution No. 24-AUG-197R Opposing the Proposed Land Protection Plan and Environmental Assessment for the Muleshoe National Wildlife Refuge. (*Dean Jackson, District 1, Commissioner*)

Commissioner Jackson requested approval. Commissioner Sena moved to approve Resolution No. 24-AUG-197R Opposing the Proposed Land Protection Plan and Environmental Assessment for the Muleshoe National Wildlife Refuge. The motion was seconded by Vice Chair Weber. Chair Eidson asked if there were any public or commissioner comments concerning this agenda item. Secretary polled the commission. Chair Eidson, yes; Vice Chair Weber, yes; Commissioner Jackson, yes; Commissioner Sena, yes; Commissioner Sims, yes. The motion passed.

ITEM 02: ACTION ITEMS

- Consideration of Lea County Resolution No. 24-AUG-198R Approving a Construction Contract with Entrench Inc. for Sanitary Sewer at the Lea County Regional Airport. (*Corey Needham, Assistant County Manager for Operations*)

Assistant County Manager for Operations Corey Needham requested approval. Vice Chair Weber moved to approve Resolution No. 24-AUG-198R Approving a Construction Contract with Entrench Inc. for Sanitary Sewer at the Lea County Regional Airport. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Jackson. Chair Eidson asked if there were any public or commissioner comments concerning this agenda item. Secretary polled the commission. Chair Eidson, yes; Vice Chair Weber, yes; Commissioner Jackson, yes; Commissioner Sena, yes; Commissioner Sims, yes. The motion passed.

- Consideration of Lea County Resolution No. 24-AUG-199R Approving Task Order 2024 – 6 Between Lea County and Molzen Corbin for the Construction and Observation Services for Sanitary Sewer at the Lea County Regional Airport. (*Corey Needham, Assistant County Manager for Operations*)

Regular Meeting
Lea County Board of Commissioners
August 22, 2024

Assistant County Manager for Operations Corey Needham requested approval. Vice Chair Weber moved to approve Resolution No. 24-AUG-199R Approving Task Order 2024 – 6 Between Lea County and Molzen Corbin for the Construction and Observation Services for Sanitary Sewer at the Lea County Regional Airport. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Jackson. Chair Eidson asked if there were any public or commissioner comments concerning this agenda item. Secretary polled the commission. Chair Eidson, yes; Vice Chair Weber, yes; Commissioner Jackson, yes; Commissioner Sena, yes; Commissioner Sims, yes. The motion passed.

- Consideration of Lea County Resolution No. 24-AUG-200R Approving a Grant Agreement Between Lea County and the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) for the Construction of the Sanitary Sewer at the Lea County Regional Airport. *(Corey Needham, Assistant County Manager for Operations)*

Assistant County Manager for Operations Corey Needham requested approval. Vice Chair Weber moved to approve Resolution No. 24-AUG-200R Approving a Grant Agreement Between Lea County and the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) for the Construction of the Sanitary Sewer at the Lea County Regional Airport. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Jackson. Chair Eidson asked if there were any public or commissioner comments concerning this agenda item. Secretary polled the commission. Chair Eidson, yes; Vice Chair Weber, yes; Commissioner Jackson, yes; Commissioner Sena, yes; Commissioner Sims, yes. The motion passed.

- Consideration of Lea County Resolution No. 24-AUG-201R Approving the Transfer of Emergency Management Equipment to the City of Lovington. *(Lorenzo Velasquez, Emergency Management Director)*

Emergency Management Director Lorenzo Velasquez requested approval. Commissioner Jackson moved to approve Resolution No. 24-AUG-201R Approving the Transfer of Emergency Management Equipment to the City of Lovington. The motion was seconded by Vice Chair Weber. Chair Eidson asked if there were any public or commissioner comments concerning this agenda item. Vice Chair Weber is pleased to hear the emergency management equipment is being repurposed within Lea County. Secretary polled the commission. Chair Eidson, yes; Vice Chair Weber, yes; Commissioner Jackson, yes; Commissioner Sena, yes; Commissioner Sims, yes. The motion passed.

- Consideration of Lea County Resolution No. 24-AUG-202R Approving a Capital Adequacy Contribution to the New Mexico County Insurance Authority Pool. *(Chip Low, Assistant County Manager for Administrative Services)*

Assistant County Manager for Administrative Services Chip Low requested approval. Vice Chair Weber moved to approve Resolution No. 24-AUG-202R Approving a Capital Adequacy Contribution to the New Mexico County Insurance Authority Pool. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Jackson. Chair Eidson asked if there were any public or commissioner comments concerning this agenda item. Commissioner Jackson stated this is an investment well spent. Secretary polled the commission. Chair Eidson, yes; Vice Chair Weber, yes; Commissioner Jackson, yes; Commissioner Sena, yes; Commissioner Sims, yes. The motion passed.

Regular Meeting
Lea County Board of Commissioners
August 22, 2024

- Consideration of Lea County Resolution No. 24-AUG-203R Approving Agreements Between Lea County and County Municipalities for Services. (*Michael Gallagher, County Manager*)

County Manager Michael Gallagher requested approval. Commissioner Sena moved to approve Resolution No. 24-AUG-203R Approving Agreements Between Lea County and County Municipalities for Services. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Jackson. Chair Eidson asked if there were any public or commissioner comments concerning this agenda item. Secretary polled the commission. Chair Eidson, yes; Vice Chair Weber, yes; Commissioner Jackson, yes; Commissioner Sena, yes; Commissioner Sims, yes. The motion passed.

- Consideration of Lea County Resolution No. 24-AUG-204R Approving the Lea County Board of County Commissioners Meeting Dates for Calendar Year 2025. (*Sarah Chanesman, Executive Administrative Coordinator*)

Executive Administrative Coordinator Sarah Chanesman requested approval. Vice Chair Weber moved to approve Resolution No. 24-AUG-204R Approving the Lea County Board of County Commissioners Meeting Dates for Calendar Year 2025. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Jackson. Chair Eidson asked if there were any public or commissioner comments concerning this agenda item. Secretary polled the commission. Chair Eidson, yes; Vice Chair Weber, yes; Commissioner Jackson, yes; Commissioner Sena, yes; Commissioner Sims, yes. The motion passed.

- Consideration of Lea County Resolution No. 24-AUG-205R Authorizing Out-of-State Travel October 14 – 16 to Salt Lake City, Utah for the Budget and Reporting Analyst to Attend the 2024 Caselle Annual Conference. (*Anthony Dobbs, Budget & Reporting Analyst*)

Budget & Reporting Analyst Anthony Dobbs requested approval. Commissioner Sena moved to approve Resolution No. 24-AUG-205R Authorizing Out-of-State Travel October 14 – 16 to Salt Lake City, Utah for the Budget and Reporting Analyst to Attend the 2024 Caselle Annual Conference. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Jackson. Chair Eidson asked if there were any public or commissioner comments concerning this agenda item. Secretary polled the commission. Chair Eidson, yes; Vice Chair Weber, yes; Commissioner Jackson, yes; Commissioner Sena, yes; Commissioner Sims, yes. The motion passed.

- Consideration of Lea County Resolution No. 24-AUG-206R Approving Budget Adjustment No. 1 for Fiscal Year 2024 – 2025. (*Anthony Dobbs, Budget & Reporting Analyst*)

Budget & Reporting Analyst Anthony Dobbs requested approval. Vice Chair Weber moved to approve Resolution No. 24-AUG-206R Approving Budget Adjustment No. 1 for Fiscal Year 2024 – 2025. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Sena. Chair Eidson asked if there were any public or commissioner comments concerning this agenda item. Secretary polled the commission. Chair Eidson, yes; Vice Chair Weber, yes; Commissioner Jackson, yes; Commissioner Sena, yes; Commissioner Sims, yes. The motion passed.

**Regular Meeting
Lea County Board of Commissioners
August 22, 2024**

ITEM 03: DISCUSSION ITEMS

- Discussion of the 2024 Lea County Fair and PRCA Rodeo. *(Wyatt Duncan, Fairgrounds Director)*

Fairgrounds Director Wyatt Duncan discussed the 2024 Lea County Fair and PRCA Rodeo highlights. He also thanked all Lea County Staff for their support.

Lea County Fair Board Member Dee Ann Kimbro recognized and thanked all the volunteers who help during this event.

Commissioner Jackson is proud to have the opportunity to organize these events for the community.

Commissioner Sena is pleased this event gives back to the community.

- Discussion of July 2024 Finance Report. *(Erin Smith, Senior Accountant)*

Senior Accountant Erin Smith reviewed the Revenue versus Expenditures by fund type year-to-date July 31, 2024 totaling the amount to \$395,347,797.

- Discussion of Lea County's Accounts Payable. *(Erin Smith, Senior Accountant)*

Senior Accountant Erin Smith gave a total amount for Lea County's Accounts Payable/Purchase card register with a grand total of \$11,808,655.55 for the month of July.

ITEM 04: EXECUTIVE SESSION

At 10:13 a.m. Vice Chair Weber moved that the Commission convene in close session to discuss limited personnel matters involving the Directors in the Information Technology Department, Lea County Detention Center and the acquisition of real Property in northern Lea County, as authorized by NMSA 1978 Sections 10-15-1 H (2) and (8).

COMMISSION MAY CONVENE IN OPEN SESSION to take Action, if any, on the Closed Session Item(s).

The meeting was reconvened at 12:07 p.m.

ITEM 05: OTHER BUSINESS

- Consideration of Lea County Resolution No. 24-AUG-207R Ratifying the Appointment of Ruben Quintana to a Temporary Position as Advisor to Justice and Community Wellness. *(Michael Gallagher, County Manager)*

**Regular Meeting
Lea County Board of Commissioners
August 22, 2024**

County Manager Michael Gallagher requested approval. Vice Chair Weber moved to approve Resolution No. 24-AUG-207R Ratifying the Appointment of Ruben Quintana to a Temporary Position as Advisor to Justice and Community Wellness. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Sena. Chair Eidson asked if there were any public or commissioner comments concerning this agenda item. Secretary polled the commission. Chair Eidson, yes; Vice Chair Weber, yes; Commissioner Jackson, yes; Commissioner Sena, yes; Commissioner Sims, yes. The motion passed.

- Consideration of Lea County Resolution No. 24-AUG-208R Ratifying the Appointment of Johel Maldonado as Interim Detention Center Director. *(Michael Gallagher, County Manager)*

County Manager Michael Gallagher requested approval. Commissioner Sena moved to approve Resolution No. 24-AUG-208R Ratifying the Appointment of Johel Maldonado as Interim Detention Center Director. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Jackson. Chair Eidson asked if there were any public or commissioner comments concerning this agenda item. Secretary polled the commission. Chair Eidson, yes; Vice Chair Weber, yes; Commissioner Jackson, yes; Commissioner Sena, yes; Commissioner Sims, yes. The motion passed.

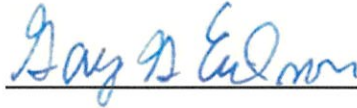
- Consideration of Lea County Resolution No. 24-AUG-209R Approving the Acquisition of Real Properties Located in the City of Lovington Addressed at 719 East Ave D within Section 3, Township 16, Range 36, Block 7, Lots 1, 2, and 3 of the County Fair Addition Subdivision in Lea County, New Mexico. *(Michael Gallagher, County Manager)*

County Manager Michael Gallagher requested approval. Commissioner Jackson moved to approve Resolution No. 24-AUG-209R Approving the Acquisition of Real Properties Located in the City of Lovington Addressed at 719 East Ave D within Section 3, Township 16, Range 36, Block 7, Lots 1, 2, and 3 of the County Fair Addition Subdivision in Lea County, New Mexico. The motion was seconded by Vice Chair Weber. Chair Eidson asked if there were any public or commissioner comments concerning this agenda item. Secretary polled the commission. Chair Eidson, yes; Vice Chair Weber, yes; Commissioner Jackson, yes; Commissioner Sena, yes; Commissioner Sims, yes. The motion passed.

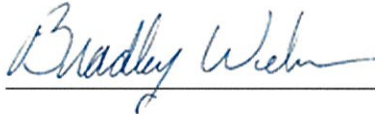
ADJOURN: 12:14 p.m.

Regular Meeting
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August 22, 2024

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
LEA COUNTY, NEW MEXICO



Gary G. Eidson, Chair



Brad Weber, Vice Chair



Dean Jackson, Member



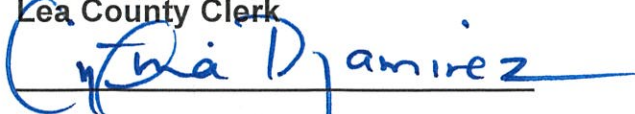
Jonathan Sena, Member



Pat Sims, Member

ATTEST: Keith Manes

Lea County Clerk



Cynthia Ramirez, Deputy Clerk

