

BOARD OF UNION COUNTY COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING
February 21, 2023

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

Chairman Clayton F. Kiesling Commissioner W. Carr Vincent Commissioner Lloyd 'Red' Miller

OTHERS PRESENT:

Clerk Brenda Green Manager Brandy Thompson Treasurer Shea Arnett
Assessor Hollie Sandoval Sheriff Curtis Skaggs
Road Superintendent Russell Kear Emergency Manager Kris Lawrence

GUESTS:

Bobby Longwill – Rabbit Ear Fire Chief
Jonathan Valdez – Mayor, Village of Des Moines

At 9:08 a.m., Chairman Kiesling called the meeting to order in the Commission Chambers located in the Union County Administration Building. The pledge of allegiance was recited.

Commissioner Vincent moved to approve the agenda and the regular meeting minutes of January 10, 2023. Commissioner Miller seconded. There was no further discussion. Vote: ALL AYE. The minutes were signed.

HOSPITAL REPORT

Tammie Stump, CEO, was unable to attend the meeting. Before the meeting, the "County Commissioner Monthly Hospital Report, Union County General Hospital, Tammie Stump, CEO, February 21, 2023", was distributed to the board. Items covered included the following (but not limited to the following): **Provider Recruitment Update; Financial Assistance/Compliance Update; Business Office/Revenue Cycle Update; Compliance; Radiology; Plant Services; Therapy Services; Pharmacy; Laboratory; Nursing; Social Work Consults; Home Health; Swing Bed; Union County/Des Moines Health Centers; IT; HVAC/Vestibule/Cryogenic Tank 3000 gallon/Grade Survey; Legislative Update.**

Melissa Prante, CFO, was unable to attend the meeting. Before the meeting, the "Clayton Health Systems, Inc. Union County General Consolidated Executive Financial Summary, 6th month FYE 2023", and, the "Clayton Health Systems January 25, 2023 MOR Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements, Period ending December 31, 2022", was distributed to the board. Items covered included the following (but not limited to the following): **Key Statistics; Statement of Revenue and Expenses – YTD; Balance Sheet.**

At 9:09 a.m., Commissioner Vincent moved to go into Executive Session Pursuant to NMSA 1978, Section 10-15-1(H)7-Pertaining to threatened or pending litigation in which the County is or may become a participant. Commissioner Miller seconded. There was no further discussion. VOTE: Commissioner Vincent – YES, Commissioner Kiesling – YES, Commissioner Miller – YES. Motion carried.

At 9:49 a.m., Commissioner Vincent moved to come out of Executive Session, and affirmed that matters discussed in the closed session were limited only to those specified in the motion for closure. No action was taken during the closed session. Commissioner Miller seconded. There was no further discussion. VOTE: Commissioner Vincent – YES, Commissioner Kiesling – YES, Commissioner Miller – YES. Motion carried.

DISCUSSION/POSSIBLE ACTION ITEMS

RABBIT EAR FIRE DEPARTMENT REQUEST FOR COUNTY LINE OF CREDIT

Bobby Longwill, Rabbit Ear Fire Chief, spoke about the need for a line of credit for the fire department, which will enable the department to proceed with the acquisition of a new fire truck.

Commissioner Vincent moved to approve the establishment of a line of credit in the amount of \$175,000.00 for the Rabbit Ear Fire Department. Commissioner Miller seconded. There was no further discussion. VOTE: ALL AYE. Motion carried.

CITIZEN'S FORUM

Jonathan Valdez, Village of Des Moines Mayor, gave an overview of ongoing projects in the Village, and provided copies of a survey titled "2023 Des Moines and Neighborhood Needs and Wants Survey" that has been distributed to community members for completion. While the survey is directed to Des Moines community members, he welcomes input from residents throughout the county.

RESOLUTION 2023-33 2023 ROAD AUDIT

A proposed resolution of the 2023 road audit.

Commissioner Miller moved to approve Resolution 2023-33, 2023 Road Audit. Commissioner Vincent seconded. There was no further discussion. VOTE- ALL AYE. Resolution signed.

RESOLUTION 2023-34 SUPPORT OF SB7 RURAL HOSPITAL FUND

A proposed resolution reflecting Union County's support of Senate Bill 7 of the 56th Legislature – First Session 2023, relating to rural healthcare providers.

Commissioner Vincent moved to approve Resolution 2023-34, Supporting Senate Bill 7 of the 56th Legislature – First Session 2023. Commissioner Vincent seconded. There was no further discussion. VOTE: ALL AYE. Resolution signed.

AUTHORIZATION OF COUNTY MANAGER TO EXECUTE PARTICIPATION AND SETTLEMENT AGREEMENTS ON BEHALF OF UNION COUNTY IN OPIOID SETTLEMENTS

This item was discussed during the executive session earlier in the meeting.

Commissioner Vincent made a motion to authorize the County Manager to Execute Participation and Settlement Agreements on Behalf of Union County in Opioid Settlements. Commissioner Miller seconded. There was no further discussion. VOTE: ALL AYE. Motion carried.

AWARD RFB 2023-01 HAYDEN SUBSTATION

Bids for construction of the Hayden Fire Substation were opened on February 7, 2023. Two bids were submitted for review, by Fluhman Brothers, and Colt Builders.

Commissioner Vincent made a motion to award the bid for construction of the Hayden Fire Substation to Colt Builders for the amount of \$295,552.00, plus NMGR. Commissioner Miller seconded. There was no further discussion. VOTE: ALL AYE. Motion carried.

JPA's LEFP VILLAGES OF DES MOINES, FOLSOM, GRENVILLE

Proposed Joint Powers agreements for Law Enforcement Services with the Villages of Des Moines, Folsom, and Grenville.

Commissioner Vincent moved to enter into JPAs with the Villages of Des Moines, Folsom, and Grenville, signing both a two year and four year agreement for the Village of Des Moines, pending a decision from the Village as to length of commitment. Commissioner Miller seconded. There was no further discussion. VOTE: ALL AYE. Motion carried.

ALTERNATE FOR EASTERN AREA WORKFORCE BOARD

During the January Commission meeting at which various board positions were chosen, an alternate for the Eastern Area Workforce Board was overlooked. After some discussion, Commissioner Miller will serve as the alternate for this board.

VISION AND MISSION STATEMENT DISCUSSION

In advance of the Union County Strategic Planning Retreat to be held on March 26 -27, Mgr. Thompson asked attendees to be thinking of possible suggestions for the county's vision and mission statements.

STRATEGIC PLANNING RETREAT

Mgr. Thompson gave an overview of the upcoming Strategic Planning Retreat to be held on March 26 – 27.

OLD RABBIT EAR FIRE STATION DISCUSSION

Requests by the Sheriff's Office, Clerk's Office, and Emergency Manager for space use was discussed, as well as needed repairs and upgrades to the building, and possible expansion in the future.

PTO DISCUSSION

Mgr. Thompson gave an overview of our current time off policy, which uses both vacation and sick time accrual, and a proposed time off policy using paid time off, and major medical accrual. Differences between

the two methods was discussed. Mgr. Thompson asked that department heads provide input on the feasibility of switching to the PTO policy.

APPROVAL OF BILLS

Monthly bills were presented for review and approval.

Commissioner Vincent moved to approve bills as presented. Commissioner Miller seconded. There was no further discussion. VOTE: ALL AYE. Motion carried.

INVENTORY ITEMS DISPOSITION – ROAD DEPARTMENT INTERNATIONAL WATER TRUCK

No items were presented for disposition.

HEALTHCARE ASSISTANCE – APPROVAL OF CLAIMS

No healthcare assistance claims were presented.

COUNTY TRAVEL REQUESTS

Emergency Manager Kris Lawrence will be attending EMPG training next week. No other travel requests were presented. Travel approved.

BUDGET HEARING

Mgr. Thompson asked that the Board and elected officials begin thinking of budget needs and requests to be addressed during the FY24 budget process.

ROAD SUPERINTENDENTS REPORT

Road Superintendent Kear reported on the following (but not limited to the following): Snow removal was successful from last week's storm; Blading continues around the county; No grading for the remainder of the week due to predicted high winds; Ridge Road project is ongoing; Update on water truck repairs.

EMERGENCY MANAGER REPORT

Emergency Manager Kris Lawrence reported on the following (but not limited to the following): ISC 300 course has been rescheduled for the end of March; Next LEPC meeting is March 15th at 10:00 am, in the Community Training Room.

COUNTY MANAGER REPORT

Manager Thompson reported on the following (but not limited to the following): Concerns brought to her by county citizens regarding the condition of several state roads within the county; Recent signing of the Wildland Coordinator grant; Recent signing of the EForce contract; Update on the Tyler contract for the Assessor's office; Update on various county job postings.

ELECTED OFFICIALS REPORTS

Sheriff Skaggs reported that disposition of military equipment is ongoing.

Assessor Sandoval reported that Chief Deputy Newton and Mapper Callis recently completed their third IWAO class, and will complete the remaining class this summer. Upon completion, they will become New Mexico certified appraisers. Assessor Sandoval also gave an update on the continuing problems with the Triadic software and its impact on appraisals and property values.

Commissioner Vincent asked that if there is a piece of legislation that is of concern, please call the legislators responsible to make them aware. Our voices need to be heard.

Commissioner Kiesling reported that EPCOG recently received a grant to hire a grant writer, which would be available to the county for use, and also gave an overview of his recent attendance of the NACO conference.

Clerk Green gave an update on Clerk related legislation, and also shared NMC's position on various legislative priorities and bills.

ADJOURN: At 12:31 p.m., Commissioner Vincent moved to adjourn after lunch. Commissioner Miller seconded. There was no further discussion. Vote: ALL AYE. Motion carried.

Meeting Announcements: The next regular meeting will be held on Tuesday, March 14, 2023 at 9:00 a.m. The next Joint Communication meeting will be held on Tuesday, March 14, 2023 at 10:00 a.m.



Brenda L. Green
Brenda L. Green – County Clerk

**Board of Union County Commissioners
Union County, New Mexico**

Clayton F. Kiesling
Clayton F. Kiesling - Chairman

W. Carr Vincent
W. Carr Vincent - Vice Chairman

Lloyd 'Red' Miller
Lloyd 'Red' Miller - Member

