

**JOINT COMMUNICATIONS MEETING
TOWN – COUNTY – CLAYTON MUNICIPAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
TUESDAY JUNE 14, 2022**

UNION COUNTY COMMISSION BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

Chairman Justin K. Bennett Commissioner Clayton F. Kiesling Commissioner Walter C. Hall

TOWN OF CLAYTON COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT:

Trustee Leroy Montoya Trustee Coby Beckner Trustee Judy Steen

OTHERS PRESENT:

Clerk Brenda Green	County Mgr. Brandy Thompson	TOC Mgr. Ferron Lucero
TOC Clerk Stephanie Arellano	Mayor Ernest Sanchez	Treasurer Shea Arnett
Sheriff James Lobb	TOC Fire Chief Justin Drumm	TOCPD Interim Chief – Chris Dale
TOC Treasurer Katherine Barnes	Road Superintendent Russell Kear	Kathy Elliot-Clint Harden and Asso.
Senator Pat Woods	Representative Jack Chatfield	

Mayor Sanchez called the meeting to order at 10:02 a.m. in the Community Training Room, located in the Union County Administration Building. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Mayor Sanchez called for the approval of the agenda. No additions or amendments were made.

Commissioner Hall moved to approve the agenda. Commissioner Kiesling seconded. There was no further discussion. VOTE: ALL YES. Agenda approved.

DOCUMENT APPROVALS

Mayor Sanchez called for the approval of the meeting minutes of March 15, 2022.

Commissioner Hall moved to approve the minutes. Commissioner Kiesling seconded. There was no further discussion. VOTE: ALL YES. The minutes were signed.

VISITORS

Senator Pat Woods reported on following (but not limited to the following): Involvement in interim Senate Finance committee budget talks; State agencies are understaffed, pay scales need to be increased to attract employees; New Mexico has one of the highest unemployment rates in the country, yet jobs go unfilled.

Representative Jack Chatfield reported on the following (but not limited to the following): Recent tour of the Calf Canyon/Hermits Peak fire zone, the area has lost 74% of its infrastructure; Efforts are underway to address watershed issues such as water contamination from fire debris; Overview of recent visit with Secretary Katrina Hotrum-Lopez with the Department of Aging and Long-term Services, regarding needed services in Union County; Stressed the importance of referring to our area as “remote”, rather than “rural”, so that our unique needs are realized.

Kathy Elliot with Clint Harden and Associates, Union County and TOC lobbyist, gave an overview of a recent webcast of the initial meeting of the newly formed Rural Economic Opportunity Task Force, which will focus on specific and dire needs of rural and remote New Mexico. Ms. Elliot plans to attend the next meeting, scheduled for late July.

A lengthy discussion with Senator Woods and Representative Chatfield was had on the following topics (but not limited to the following topics): Ports-To-Plains I-27 Interstate Designation; Federal funding that is available to rural counties and communities, how can these funds be accessed; What are ways to replace the lost road tax revenue from electric vehicle use.

NEW BUSINESS

CAD DISCUSSION

After a lengthy discussion, it was agreed that all involved entities want to move forward with acquiring a CAD system. Mgr. Thompson suggested forming a committee with representation from all involved entities to review possible systems, and make recommendations at the next joint communications meeting in September. Mgr. Thompson will coordinate formation of the committee.

NATIONAL GUARD ARMORY

Chairman Bennett confirmed that notice has been received from the National Guard that the Armory will be turned over to the Town of Clayton at the end of 2022. Union County requested that the Sheriff's Office be allowed to remain located at the Armory possibly up to two years, while renovations are done at the courthouse. Mgr. Lucero will have this item placed on the agenda for the next TOC board meeting.

REPORTS

Mayor Sanchez reported on his recent attendance of the Rural New Mexico Summit held in Santa Fe, and encouraged attendance of local leadership at the next summit meeting, date pending.

Mgr. Thompson reported that the Emergency Manager position has been offered to Kristopher Lawrence, he will start in August. Mgr. Thompson also reported on a meeting attended by all entities who were affected by the recent power/water outage, to discuss what worked and what didn't, and develop an action plan for future emergency situations.

Commissioner Kiesling reported that the Clayton Union County Economic Development Partnership has hired Lynette Keeth as Executive Director. She will begin in July.

Trustee Beckner reported that Ports-To-Plains will be having their annual conference in Big Spring, Texas on September 14 -16.

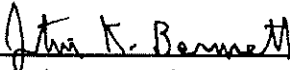
MEETING ANNOUNCEMENT

The next regular Joint Communications meeting will be Tuesday, September 6, 2022 at 10:00 a.m., in the Community Training Room at the Union County Administration Building.

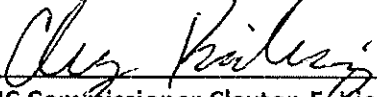
ADJOURNMENT

At 11:34 a.m., Chairman Bennett moved to adjourn. Commissioner Kiesling seconded. There was no further discussion. VOTE: ALL YES. Motion carried.

UNION COUNTY



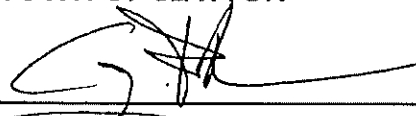
UC Chairman Justin K. Bennett



UC Commissioner Clayton E. Kiesling

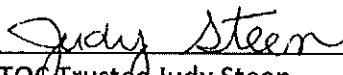
UC Commissioner Walter C. Hall

TOWN OF CLAYTON



TOC Trustee Coby Beckner

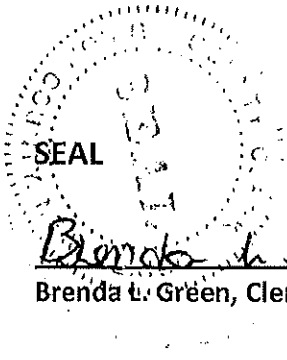
TOC Trustee Leroy Montoya

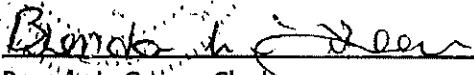


TOC Trustee Judy Steen

ABSENT

TOC Trustee Deano Arellano
CMS Superintendent Ray Maestas





Brenda L. Green, Clerk

