

**JOINT COMMUNICATIONS MEETING  
TOWN – COUNTY – CLAYTON MUNICIPAL SCHOOL DISTRICT  
TUESDAY SEPTEMBER 13, 2022**

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BY Devian Fields

**UNION COUNTY COMMISSION BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Chairman Justin K. Bennett                      Commissioner Clayton F. Kiesling

**TOWN OF CLAYTON COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT:**

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	Assessor Hollie Sandoval
Sheriff James Lobb	TOCPD Interim Chief Chris Dale	TOC Fire Chief Justin Drumm
Fire Coordinator Jim O'Bryant	Emergency Mgr. Kris Lawrence	Road Superintendent Russell Kear
Senator Pat Woods	Representative Jack Chatfield	Kathy Elliot-Clint Harden and Asso.
TOC Treasurer Katherine Barnes	TOCPD Dispatch Sandy Palmer	John Cloud-TOC EMS
Judith Cooper	Frankie Aragon	Joe Reeser
Rebecca Baca- Director, Office of Indian Elder Affairs		George Dodge-NMDOT
UC/TOC Economic Development Director Lynette Keeth		

Mayor Sanchez called the meeting to order at 10:04 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 Kiesling moved to approve the agenda. Commissioner Bennett seconded. There was no further discussion. VOTE: ALL YES. Agenda approved.

**DOCUMENT APPROVALS**

Mayor Sanchez called for the approval of the meeting minutes of June 14, 2022.

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

**VISITORS**

Rebecca Baca, Director of the Office of Indian Elder Affairs, gave an update on a rural project to provide services for the over 60 population in Union and Harding Counties. She thanked Union County for providing office space to be utilized by various organizations providing a variety of services, such as the VA, CYFD, and Medicaid. A grand opening of the office was discussed, and a date will be forthcoming. A senior summit is planned in the near future, to identify specific needs of the senior population.

George Dodge, of the New Mexico Department of Transportation, gave an overview of transportation project funding, how the process works, and asked for continued support from local officials in the upcoming legislative session. An update on the Beech Street and Wilson Street projects was given, and other roads in Union County in need of repair were discussed.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

Senator Pat Woods shared with the group that there is a tremendous amount of funds available from the state, the challenge is how to gain access to these funds. Senator Woods is always available to help in any he can with funding requests, or directing to the proper department/individual to get questions answered.

Representative Jack Chatfield, spoke of the great need for services for the elderly in Union and Harding Counties, and thanked Rebecca Baca for her efforts to bring services to both counties.

Both gentlemen stated that budget meetings are going on now, if there are specific needs, please send them an email with details.

Mgr. Thompson and Fire Chief Drumm gave an update on the CAD project. A demo of the E-Force system is scheduled for the Clayton PD dispatch on October 5<sup>th</sup>.

Mgr. Lucero stated that the Town Council had not discussed the National Guard Armory Disposition to the Town of Clayton, or the County's request to continue to house the Sheriff's Office there while renovations are completed at the Courthouse.

### **REPORTS**

Mayor Sanchez reported on his recent attendance of a Municipalities gathering in Santa Fe.

Trustee Beckner and Commissioner Kiesling will be attending the Ports-to-Plains conference in Big Spring, Texas.

Commissioner Kiesling gave an update on Union County/Town of Clayton Economic Development Partnership.

Emergency Mgr. Kris Lawrence introduced himself to the group and asked county leadership for input on items needed in relation to the county hazard mitigation plan.

### **MEETING ANNOUNCEMENT**

The next regular Joint Communications meeting will be Tuesday, December 13, 2022 at 10:00 a.m., in the Community Training Room at the Union County Administration Building.

**ADJOURNMENT**

At 12:07p.m., Mayor Sanchez adjourned the meeting.

**UNION COUNTY**

**TOWN OF CLAYTON**

Justin K. Bennett  
UC Chairman Justin K. Bennett

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TOC Trustee Coby Beckner

Clayton F. Kiesling  
UC Commissioner Clayton F. Kiesling

Judy Steen  
TOC Trustee Judy Steen

SEAL  
Brenda L. Green  
Brenda L. Green - Clerk

**ABSENT**

TOC Trustee Leroy Montoya  
TOC Trustee Deano Arellano  
CMS Superintendent Ray Maestas

