

**BOARD OF UNION COUNTY COMMISSION  
REGULAR MEETING  
September 12, 2023**

**BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:**

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

**OTHERS PRESENT:**

Clerk Brenda Green                                      Manager Brandy Thompson                                      Assessor Hollie Sandoval  
Sheriff Curtis Skaggs                                      Emergency Manager Kris Lawrence

**GUESTS:**

Melissa Prante – CFO, Union County General Hospital  
Amanda Boggs – CNO, Union County General Hospital  
Clint Hardin – TOC/Union County Lobbyist      Kathy Elliott – Civility LLC                                      Senator Pat Woods  
Dean McFadden – Apollo Med Flight                      TOC Trustee Judy Steen

At 9:00 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 Miller moved to approve the agenda and the regular meeting minutes of August 8, 2023. Commissioner Vincent seconded. There was no further discussion. Vote: ALL AYE. The minutes were signed.

**HOSPITAL REPORT**

Tammie Stump, CEO, was unable to attend the meeting. Melissa Prante, CFO, reported on statistics for August. Before the meeting, the "County Commissioner Monthly Hospital Report, Union County General Hospital, Tammie Stump, CEO, September 12, 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/Financial Update; Compliance; Radiology; Plant Services; Therapy Services; Pharmacy; Laboratory; Union County/Des Moines Health Centers; IT; HVAC/Vestibule/Cryogenic Tank 3000 gallon/Grade Survey.**

Melissa Prante, CFO, reported on financials for December. Before the meeting, the "Clayton Health Systems, Inc. Union County General Consolidated Executive Financial Summary, 1st Month FYE 2024", and, the "Clayton Health Systems August 23, 2023 MOR Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements, Period ending July 31, 2023", 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.**

Amanda Boggs, CNO, reported on the following (but not limited to the following): **Nursing; Swing Bed; Social Work Consults.**

**DISCUSSION/POSSIBLE ACTION ITEMS****PRESENTATION FROM APOLLO MED FLIGHT**

Dean McFadden of Apollo Med Flight gave an overview of the company's services, and asked that the commission consider using them as the insurance provider for the county wide air ambulance service for Union County residents. The commission will make a decision at the October meeting.

**SUBDIVISION EXEMPTIONS – RAINBOW RANCH, HIGGINS-MACKEY, MANDALA CENTER**

A proposed subdivision exemption was presented by Mandala Center for review. No subdivision exemption was presented by Higgins-Mackey.

Commissioner Vincent moved to approve the Subdivision Exemption presented by Mandala Center, and table this item until later in the meeting to allow time for Rainbow Ranch to present. Commissioner Miller seconded. There was no further discussion VOTE: ALL AYE. Motion carried.

**RESIGNATION – PROBATE JUDGE ALI SATHOUD**

A letter of resignation was presented by Union County Probate Judge Ali Sathoud, effective September 26, 2023.

Commissioner Vincent moved to accept Judge Sathoud's Resignation Letter, and instructed Mgr. Thompson to advertise for a replacement. Commissioner Miller seconded. There was no further discussion. VOTE: ALL AYE. Motion carried.

**NMFA PROPOSAL FOR UCGH LOANS PPRF-3145, PPRF-3384, PPRF-4931**

Mgr. Thompson presented correspondence with NMFA regarding the UCGH loans, and the proposed plan suggested by NMFA moving forward.

Commissioner Vincent moved to accept the proposed plan presented by NMFA for UCGH Loans PPRF-3145, PPRF-3384, and PPRF-4931. Commissioner Miller seconded. There was no further discussion. VOTE: ALL AYE. Motion carried.

**RESOLUTION 2024-11 CERTIFICATION OF 2023 PROPERTY TAX RATES**

A proposed resolution approving and adopting the certificate of tax rates for tax year 2023.

Commissioner Vincent moved to approve Resolution 2024-11, Certificate of Property Tax Rates. Commissioner Miller seconded. There was no further discussion. VOTE: ALL AYE. Resolution signed.

**RESOLUTION 2024-12 FY 23 PHYSICAL INVENTORY CERTIFICATION**

A proposed resolution certifying Union County's physical inventory, pursuant to NMAC 2.20.1.16.

Commissioner Vincent moved to approve Resolution 2024-12, FY 2023 Union County Physical Inventory Certification. Commissioner Miller seconded. There was no further discussion. VOTE: ALL AYE. Resolution signed.

### **SUBDIVISION EXEMPTION – RAINBOW RANCH**

This item was tabled earlier in the meeting to allow time for Mike Whelan of Rainbow Ranch to arrive and present his subdivision exemption paperwork for consideration by the board.

Commissioner Miller moved to approve the Subdivision Exemption presented by Rainbow Ranch. Commissioner Vincent seconded. There was no further discussion. VOTE: ALL AYE. Motion carried.

### **PARTICIPATION IN NACO PUBLIC LANDS RESOURCE CENTER**

Mgr. Thompson and Chairman Kiesling gave an overview of the proposed National Center for Public Lands Counties, which NMC has voted to participate in. NMC has asked for financial support from all counties.

Commissioner Vincent moved to approve participation by Union County in the NACO Public Lands Resource Center. Commissioner Miller seconded. There was no further discussion. VOTE: ALL AYE. Motion carried.

### **RESOLUTION 2024-13 BAR LATCF NACO PUBLIC LAND RESOURCE CENTER**

This proposed resolution is not required due to action taken in the previous agenda item.

At 9:54 a.m., the meeting recessed to attend the Joint Communications meeting.

At 12:06 p.m., the meeting resumed.

At 12:07 p.m., the meeting recessed for lunch.

At 1:43 p.m., the meeting resumed.

### **RESOLUTION 2024-14 BAR SUMMER FOOD PROGRAM REVERSION**

A proposed resolution authorizing Special Revenue Grand Fund (604) (DFA # 21800) budget increase.

Commissioner Vincent moved to approve Resolution 2024-14, BAR Summer Food Program Reversion. Commissioner Miller seconded. There was no further discussion. VOTE: ALL AYE. Resolution signed.

### **GATE DISCUSSION**

A discussion continued from previous meetings regarding locked gates that prohibit passage on county roads. Assessor Sandoval stated that locked gates have prohibited her and her staff from accessing properties that need to be physically inspected, resulting in inaccurate appraisals and tax assessments. This item will continue to be on future meeting agendas as a possible action item.

### **MET TOWER APPLICATIONS**

There were no applications presented for approval.

## APPROVAL OF BILLS

Bills in the amount of \$307,707.14 were presented for review.

Commissioner Vincent moved to approve bills in the amount of \$307,707.14. Commissioner Miller seconded. There was no further discussion. VOTE: ALL AYE. Motion carried.

## INVENTORY ITEMS DISPOSITION – ROAD DEPARTMENT INTERNATIONAL WATER TRUCK

Proposed items for disposition included the following (but not limited to the following): 2009 Heartstart Defibulator; Oak Desks with Hutches; Digital Projector; 2006 Dodge Ram Pickup.

Commissioner Miller moved to approve the Inventory Items for Disposition list as presented. Commissioner Vincent seconded. There was no further discussion. VOTE: ALL AYE. Motion carried.

## HEALTHCARE ASSISTANCE – APPROVAL OF CLAIMS

There were no claims presented for review.

## COUNTY TRAVEL REQUESTS

Commissioner Kiesling and Clerk Green will attend a NMC Board meeting in Socorro, Mgr. Thompson will attend a NMCIA Board meeting in Santa Fe, Assessor Sandoval and staff will attend a Assessor's Retreat in Ruidoso. All travel approved.

## ARPA HEARING

Prior to the meeting, Mgr. Thompson had asked elected officials and department heads to submit ideas/requests for possible use of ARPA funding received by the county. Several requests were discussed. This will be an agenda item for future commission meetings.

## COUNTY MANAGER REPORT

Mgr. Thompson reported on the following (but not limited to the following): Status of former Magistrate court building; Request from Mora County to act as their fiscal agent.

## FIRE COORDINATOR/EMERGENCY MANAGER REPORT

Emergency Mgr. Lawrence reported on the following (but not limited to the following): Pump testing has been completed; Meeting with fire chiefs to plan training during the off season; Fire Conference Sept 28 thru Oct 1<sup>st</sup>; Hayden fire station project is complete.

## ELECTED OFFICIALS REPORTS

Sheriff Skaggs stated his department will not be enforcing the recent Governor's order regarding firearms.

Assessor Sandoval reported that Brayden Walker is the new GIS tech in her office, and Chief Deputy Assessor Newton passed her final class and is now a New Mexico Certified Appraiser.

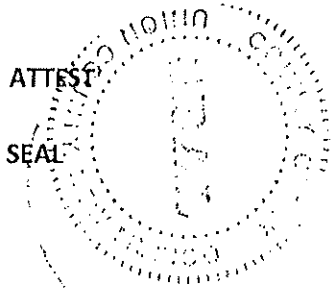
Clerk Green reported that election preparations are underway for the Regular Local Election on November 7<sup>th</sup>.

Commissioner Vincent reported on his recent attendance of the Library Board.

Commissioner Miller complimented Road Superintendent Gary Wright on doing a good job with county roads.

**ADJOURN:** At 2:55 p.m., Commissioner Vincent moved to adjourn. Commissioner Miller seconded. There was no further discussion. Vote: ALL AYE. Motion carried.

**Meeting Announcements:** The next regular meeting will be held on Tuesday, October 10, 2023 at 9:00 a.m. The next Joint Communication meeting will be held on Tuesday, December 12, 2023, at 10:00 a.m.



*Brenda L. Green*  
Brenda L. Green – County Clerk

Board of Union County Commissioners  
Union County, New Mexico

*Clayton E. Kiesling*  
Clayton E. Kiesling - Chairman

*W. Carr Vincent*  
W. Carr Vincent - Vice Chairman

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

