

BOARD OF UNION COUNTY COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING
August 8, 2017

UNION COUNTY, NM
DOCUMENT #201700837
09/12/17 11:37:52 AM
1 of 7
BY Brenda Green

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

Chairman Justin K. Bennett Commissioner Walter C. Hall Commissioner W. Carr Vincent

OTHERS PRESENT:

Clerk Mary Lou Harkins Treasurer Brandy Thompson Sheriff James Lobb
Mgr. Angie Gonzales Admin. Asst. Cheryl Garcia Superintendent Russell Kear
Emergency Mgr. Dusty Russell

GUESTS:

Sue Richardson, Reporter - Union County Leader
Tammie Stump, CEO - Union County General Hospital
Terri Martinez, CFO - Union County General Hospital
Victoria Baker, Executive Director - Herzstein Memorial Museum
Keith Barrus, Interim President - Union County Community Development Corporation
Marla Cooper
Judy Steen - Union County General Hospital Board of Directors
April Gallegos, Executive Director - Chamber of Commerce
Susie Bush
Robert Beck, Esq. - Beck & Cooper Law Offices
Tim Hagaman, Regional Representative - New Mexico Economic Development Department
Jessica Fischer, Shooting Program Coordinator - New Mexico Game and Fish

At 9:04 a.m., Chairman Bennett called the meeting to order, in the Union County Commissioner's Office, located in the Union County Courthouse. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Commissioner Vincent moved to approve the agenda and the regular meeting minutes of July 11, 2017, and the special meeting minutes of July 24, 2017. Commissioner Hall seconded. Vote: ALL YES. Motion carried. Minutes signed.

HOSPITAL REPORT

Tammie Stump, CEO, distributed copies of the "County Commissioner Monthly Hospital Report, Union County General Hospital, August 8, 2017". Stump reported on the following: **USP Battery Back-up Bid** continues to work with C&J Plumbing for bids on the cat scan USP Battery Back-up; **Lab HVAC C&J** Plumbing will start the project in August or September; **New Side of Hospital HVAC** corrective action is being considered for the HVAC. It was recommended by Judith Cooper, Union County General Hospital Board of Directors President, that a committee is organized, and that hospital board members Jim Mayfield and Jim Brooks be a part of the committee. Stump suggested that one of the county commissioners be on this committee, and advised that an engineer from El Paso would be on the board as well. The committee should consider HVAC options; **Physician Recruitment** continues; **Dr. Van Wormer's Recertification** was submitted to CMS on July 10th and would be processed in 30-90 days; **Rural Health Clinic** is being looked at by The Compliance Team (TCT) for an accreditation. Making minor changes to the Rural Health Clinic (RHC) policies; **Tele-Psych** services are being considered. A video conference was conducted with Arcadian Tele-Psychiatry. An invitation was extended to Union County's mental health providers and allied health professionals to participate in the

conference. A **Tele-Neurology/Neurosurgery** open house will be held in September and a Tele-Neurology service demonstration will be given.

Terri Martinez, CFO, distributed copies of the “Clayton Health Systems, July 26, 2017, Notes to Financial Statements, Period Ending June 30, 2017”, and “Clayton Health Systems, Inc., Union County General Consolidated Executive Financial Summary - 12 Months FY 2017”. Martinez reported on the following: revenues, expenses, cash and CD balances, debts and statistics.

DISCUSSION/POSSIBLE ACTION ITEMS

VIOLATION OF CLAYTON HEALTH SYSTEMS (CHS) BOARD OF DIRECTORS DUTIES

Chairman Bennett asked visitor Judy Steen, a member of the Union County General Hospital’s Board of Directors if she had knowledge on the status of the board of directors alleged. Steen indicated that any action taken against the member would be that of the county commissioners. Mgr. Gonzales stated that as of date, there has not been written notice or directive received from the hospital board. Chairman Bennett asked Steen to relay his request that a written recommendation be submitted from the hospital board.

NEGOTIATIONS OF DISPOSITIONS OF KISER ELEMENTARY

Manager Gonzales asked the board if she could remove this agenda item from being listed as a possible action item through an executive session since negotiations are being publicly made. Request approved.

NM STATE ARMORY BOARD LEASE FOR SHERIFF’S OFFICE

Sheriff Lobb reported on the following: The next State Armory Board meeting will be on September 21st in Albuquerque. Sheriff Lobb will be meeting with a Major of the National Guard who is the lease administrator. Lease agreement changes are being made and will be approved at this meeting. On July 27, 2017, James Chavez (Loss Prevention Specialist) with the New Mexico Association of Counties conducted a walk-through assessment of the armory and did not find any serious deficiencies other than maintenance issues. Chavez recommends that the sally port area is secured to detain arrestees and suggested that a key pad combination locking device be used and would be sufficient for the front doors.

ARMORY RENOVATION FOR SHERIFF’S OFFICE

Pursuant to the board’s request during last month’s regular meeting, Sheriff Lobb supplied copies of monthly/yearly estimates for the armory’s utilities, renovations, WiFi, and phone system installation. Further renovation discussion to follow during the ICIP workshop.

MARLA COOPER – ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM

Marla Cooper introduced herself. Cooper voiced her concerns of Clayton’s current state. Cooper spoke about her vision to revitalize a sustainable community by bringing a manufacturing facility from Oklahoma City into Union County. The company, Lorec Ranch, wishes to expand the manufacturing business of high-end hand-crafted ranch style furniture. Cooper has been visiting with Tim Hagaman, Regional Representative - New Mexico Economic Development Department about her ideas. Lastly, Copper expressed interest in being the next Union County Community Development Corporation (UCCDC) Executive Director.

UCCDC & GLOBAL GRID ADVISORS (GGA)

Keith Barrus, Interim President of UCCDC (former vice president of UCCDC), reported on Richard Arguello's resignation as executive director, as well as J.J. Siebrasse's resignation as the UCCDC president. Barrus spoke about a recent meeting with the Town of Clayton about the Global Grid Advisors (GGA) contract. The TOC agreed to pay their portion of the funds that were already expended. A demand letter was sent to GGA seeking reimbursement and was denied. GGA was willing to discuss and negotiate so that obligations were fulfilled. Barrus reported next UCCDC meeting will be on August 21st. Chairman Bennett suggested that economic development concerns be added to the Joint Communications meeting on September 12th. Chairman Bennett and Mgr. Gonzales will compose and send a letter to key participants as well as county business owners about the future direction of the county's economic development. Barrus suggested that prior to the meeting each organization participating submit in writing what their basic contribution is relative to economic development so that gaps are defined. The board approved the request of Mgr. Gonzales to remove the UCCDC and GGA contract as a possible action item under the Executive Session.

At 10:07 a.m., meeting recessed for a short break. At 10:16 a.m., the meeting resumed.

CITIZEN'S FORUM

Victoria Baker, Director - Herzstein Museum thanked the board for their support of the **Summer Recreation Program**. Baker reported the program was a success. The average number of breakfast meals served to kids was 35-40 and lunch service was 55-58. Baker reported that internet connection is now available at the armory and was used for various recreational activities. **Herzstein Museum** will be having a grand opening of the Zia Gardens, an outdoor event center, on August 25th which will include a dinner and dance. Tickets will be sold for the grand opening.

April Gallegos, Director - Union County Chamber of Commerce reported on the following: Membership has increased to 87 members; the website, ClaytonNM.org, has been re-designed. Stephanie Martinez who is assistant to Gallegos has incorporated her photography skills and used her pictures on the site; community calendar is updated and available on the site; July 4th was a success. 700 meals were served at the barbeque; visitor counts are up by 77% from last year; trying to recruit New Mexico True to promote the area; observatory at the lake is being promoted; planning a 911 ceremony in honor of first responders, fire departments, and law enforcement; and work is underway for local business promotions during Christmas.

RESOLUTION #106-10 DESIGNATING POLLING PLACES FOR 2018 ELECTIONS

A proposed resolution designating the polling places for the 2019 Primary and General Elections was discussed. Clerk Harkins reported that the polling places remain the same as in the past. Statutes require that no later than the first Monday in November of the odd-numbered year the board shall by resolution designate the polling places.

Commissioner Vincent moved to approve resolution #106-10 Designating Polling Places for 2018 Elections. Commissioner Hall seconded. Vote: All YES. Motion carried. Resolution signed.

BID #17/18-03 CATTLEGUARD AWARD

Manager Gonzales reported that on August 3rd at 3:00 p.m. bids were opened. Two (2) bids were received: Bobby Emery Welding (\$1,773.30 plus GRT) and, Taylor Welding (\$2,100 plus GRT). Gonzales recommended going

Emery Welding, the lower bid. A brief discussion followed.

Commissioner Vincent moved to approve the bid for cattle guards from Bobby Emery Welding. Discussion: Term is for one (1) year. Commissioner Hall seconded. Vote: ALL YES. Motion carried.

BID #17/18-05 UNION COUNTY BUILDING BID

Manager Gonzales showed the board pictures of existing building(s) damage(s) taken by James Chavez (Loss Prevention Specialist) with the New Mexico Association of Counties. Dave Little, Alpha Design Architect, submitted repair recommendations to the board, dated August 3, 2017. Repairs were discussed. Gonzales reported that the bids were opened on August 1, 2017, at 1:30 p.m. Two (2) bids were received: Stoven Construction out of Albuquerque (\$160,000) and Colt Builders out of Des Moines (\$154,000). A brief discussion followed.

Commissioner Vincent moved to approve the bid from Colt Builders for repairs and improvements in the amount of \$154,000 plus tax as recommended by Alpha Design Architect Little. Commissioner Hall seconded. Vote: All YES. Motion carried.

BID #17-18-06 WATER STORAGE TANKS

Mgr. Gonzales reported that once again, no bids were received and will be re-advertised for.

CLAIM OF EXCEPTION - SUSIE BUSH

Union County Subdivision Ordinance Claim of Exemption with attached certified survey showing size and location of parcel for Susie M. Bush, and a copy of the preliminary phase 1 draft of the design by New Mexico Game and Fish Department titled "Stephen M. Bush Memorial Shooting Range, Clayton, New Mexico – Plan of Development" was distributed and discussed. The 160-acre parcel donated to the New Mexico Game and Fish by Susie M. Bush and will be designated as a shooting range. Jessica Fischer, Shooting Program Coordinator - New Mexico Game and Fish explained phase 1 of the project. Robert O. Beck, Attorney representing Bush, reported that easement for access is granted and stated in the agreement.

Commissioner Vincent moved to approve the Claim of Exemption. Commissioner Hall seconded. Vote: All YES. Motion carried. The claim of Exemption signed. Mrs. Bush was thanked by the board and other meeting attendees.

Time lines for completion of the project were discussed. Fischer reported that preliminary compliance work has been done. Fischer was hopeful that the project would be completed within this fiscal year.

ROAD CROSSING PERMITS

No permits presented. No action was taken.

INVENTORY ITEMS DISPOSITION

"Equipment – Auction List" for the Sedan Fire Department and DWI Program presented and discussed. The list included a 1985 and 1973 Fords and 2 DWI go-carts. Mgr. Gonzales will also include a 1989 belly-dump to the list.

Commissioner Vincent moved to approve the disposition of items discussed. Commissioner Hall seconded. Vote: All YES. Motion carried. Auction list signed.

HEALTH CARE ASSISTANCE PROGRAM - Approval of Claims

No Health Care Assistance Program claims were submitted for approval.

APPROVAL OF BILLS

The board reviewed and discussed bills in the amount of \$175,877.32.

Commissioner Vincent moved to approve that payment of bills in the amount of \$175,877.32. Commissioner Hall seconded. Vote: All YES. Motion carried.

COUNTY TRAVEL REQUESTS

The following employees reported/requested travel approval: Sheriff Lobb reported that on July 28th through August 1st **Undersheriff Shumate** traveled to Mississippi for recertification with OSHA; **Shumate** traveled to Santa Fe today for training update on the IR8000 (breathalyzer machine) and to repair a recall on his police unit; Two (2) deputy sheriffs will be traveling to California next week to pick up a military surplus van; On August 21st through the 26th **Sheriff Lobb and Undersheriff Shumate** will be traveling to Ruidoso for the Sheriff's Affiliate Conference; **Carr Vincent** (as a sheriff's posse) will be attending an active shooters training in Artesia during the week of August 21st; **Commissioner Hall and Mgr. Gonzales** will be traveling to Springer on August 23rd for the Northeast Regional Transportation and Planning Organization (NERTPO) meeting; **Commissioner Hall and Chairman Bennett** may attend the 20 Year Ports-to-Plains Alliance Conference in Lubbock on September 12th- 14th. If sponsorship is due for this conference, the manager can pay for it and it will be ratified at the next regular meeting. **Commissioner Vincent** may attend the El Llano Estacado Resource Conservation and Development Council in Mosquero. All requests noted and approved.

ICIP 2019-2023 WORKSHOP

Infrastructure Capital Improvement Plan (ICIP) discussed at length. Priorities were determined as follows:

- **2019-001** Union County Administration Building, **2019-002** Law Enforcement Complex, **2019-003** Judicial Complex, **2019-004** Road Department Signage, **2019-005** Upgrade Comprehensive Plan, **2019-006** Hydrological Study, **2019-007** Highway 87 improvements, **2019-008** Highway 56 improvements, **2019-009** Highway 402 improvements, **2019-010** Highway 406 improvements, **2019-011** State line road closure/winter gates
- **2020-001** Road Department Crusher, **2020-002** Road Department Truck, **2020-003** Road Department Trailer, **2020-004** Road Department V Plows, **2020-005** Road Department Purchase, **2020-006** Folsom EMS

Possible county housing options at the National Guard Armory, Courthouse or the Kiser School Building were discussed. The pros and cons were the focus of the conversation.

At 12:05 p.m., meeting recessed for lunch. At 1:25 p.m., the meeting resumed.

Discussion and prioritization continued as follows:

- **2021-001** Road Department Building Renovation, **2021-002** Hospital Helicopter Pad, **2021-003** Dr. Michael Jenkins Road upgrade, **2021-004** Lone Tree/Rawhide Road Improvements (economic development route planning)
- **2022-001** Road Improvements, **2022-002** Communications
- **2023-001** Fire Department ISO upgrade, **2023-002** Rabbit Ear Business Incubator (Union County Industrial Park Planning and Infrastructure/rail spurs), **2023-003** Permanent Filming/Archiving of County Records

RESOLUTION #106-09 ADOPTING THE ICIP

A proposed resolution with an attached Infrastructure Capital Improvement Plan (ICIP) indicating the county’s priorities/steps towards improving rational, long-term capital planning and budgeting for the county’s infrastructure was discussed.

Commissioner Vincent moved to approve Resolution #106-09 adopting the Infrastructure Capital Improvement Plan. Commissioner Hall seconded. Vote: ALL YES. Motion carried. Resolution signed.

EMERGENCY MANAGER JOINT POWERS AGREEMENT WITH TOWN OF CLAYTON

A proposed agreement between Union County and the Town of Clayton governing the position of the Emergency Manager was briefly discussed. The board directed Mgr. Gonzales to work together with Emergency Manager Russell to review and update the Joint Powers Agreement. The draft will be presented/discussed on September 12th at the Joint Communications meeting.

ROAD SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT

Kear reported on county wide road maintenance, cattle guard cleanouts, repair of washouts and crossings; various projects have been affected by the abundant rain fall; Commissioner Hall asked that the cattle guards east of Irvin Shield’s place be cleaned out.

EMERGENCY MANAGER’S REPORT

Emergency Manager Russell provided a written report, updated on August 2, 2017, which included the following: **LEPC** (Local Emergency Planning Committee) meeting is scheduled for October 18th and will discuss the Severe Weather Plan; **SHSGP** (State Homeland Security Grant Program) working on quote for Clayton PD repeater backups; **EMPG** (Emergency Manager Performance Grant) 2016 last quarter reports submitted, 2017 grant has not yet been approved; **Severe Weather Plan** LEPC would like to set up a committee to go through the plan, present it to the LEPC and then presented to the commissioners for approval; **EOC (Emergency Operations Centers)** currently, the EOC is the Clayton Fire Department. Activation Plan is being reviewed, will be presented to the LEPC and then presented to commissioners for approval; and **Hazard Mitigation** Notice of Interest was submitted with hopes of receiving money to put together a plan for the county, town, and villages in Union County; and the Emergency Manager’s conference is at the end of August.

ELECTED OFFICIAL’S REPORTS

Sheriff Lobb reported on the following: transports, citations, civil services, offense incidents/crash/accident reports, and various arrests.

Commissioner Vincent recently met with the Governor’s Chief of staff to discuss inclement road closures and the need to improve communications; racing license; GRT on land owner permits, and economic

development/growth impeded by state regulations.

Chairman Bennett reported on his recent attendance of the New Mexico Association of Counties meeting. 2018 Legislative priorities were voted on and approved by the board of directors: Forfeiture Act Reform, Protecting County Funding of Healthcare, Tax Reform, Local Election Act and Extend 2014 HB16 Liquor Tax Distribution Sunset.

The next regular meeting will be held on Tuesday, September 12, 2017, at 9:00 a.m. The next Joint Communications meeting will be on Tuesday, September 12, 2017, at 9:30 a.m.

ADJOURN: At 2:55 p.m., Commissioner Hall moved to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Vincent seconded. Vote: ALL YES. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned.



Mary Lou Harkins
Mary Lou Harkins - Clerk

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

Justin K. Bennett
Justin K. Bennett - Chairman

Walter C. Hall
Walter C. Hall - Member

W. Carr Vincent
W. Carr Vincent - Member