

I, Mary Lou Harkins, Union County Clerk, do hereby certify that the Work Session Notice, was posted in the County Clerk's Office, Union County Courthouse, Office of the Municipal Clerk, US Post Office, and the A.W. Thompson Memorial Library.

BOARD OF UNION COUNTY COMMISSION

WORK SESSIONS

Union County Courthouse/Annex

March 18, 2020

UNION COUNTY, NM
DOCUMENT #202000363
05/12/20 10:08:00 AM
1 of 4
BY Brenda Green

PRESENT:

Justin K. Bennett - Union County Commission Chairman
Clayton F. Kiesling - Union County Commissioner
Coby Beckner - Town of Clayton Trustee
Judy Steen - Town of Clayton Trustee

ABSENT:

W. Carr Vincent - Union County Commissioner
Leroy Montoya - Town of Clayton Trustee
Deano Arellano - Town of Clayton Trustee

OTHERS PRESENT:

Brandy Thompson - Union County Manager
Mary Lou Harkins - Union County Clerk
Shea Arnett - Union County Treasurer
Stephen Ross - Union County Attorney
Robert Wingo - Union County Emergency Manager
Ernest Sanchez - Town of Clayton Mayor
Ferron Lucero - Town of Clayton Manager
Tammie Stump - Union County General Hospital CEO
Stephanie Arellano - Town of Clayton Clerk/Treasurer
Scott Julian - Town of Clayton Chief of Police
Justin Drumm - Town of Clayton Fire Department
Stacy Diller - Clayton Municipal Schools Superintendent
Robert O. Beck - Town of Clayton Attorney
April Gallegos - Union County/Clayton Chamber of Commerce Executive Director
Talisha Valdez - Union County Ag and 4-H Agent

Copies of the following items were made available for viewing: "NM EOC Situation Report regarding COVID-19 dated March 16, 2020"; the Town of Clayton's (TOC) proposed jail budget for the operations of a full-time jail, the TOC's Bed Day Comparison: TOC - Union County (UC); and UC's proposed budget for a full-time jail.

Mayor Sanchez called the meeting to order at 10:05 a.m., in the Union County Courthouse Annex meeting room. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA & DOCUMENT APPROVAL: Mayor Sanchez called for the approval of the agenda.

Commissioner Kiesling moved to approve the agenda and suggested moving the discussion of agenda item #2. COVID-19, as the first item to be discussed. Trustee Beckner seconded. There was no further discussion. Vote: All YES. Motion carried. Agenda approved.

Document Approval: There were no documents presented for approval. No action was taken.

NEW BUSINESS:

Discussion of COVID-19 (Informational Only)

CEO Tammie Stump, Union County General Hospital - CEO Stump gave a lengthy report and update on COVID-19 (Coronavirus) which included the following (but not limited to the following): hospital lock down; protection of healthcare workers, first responders, and providers; UCGH has 3 ventilators and 3 negative pressure rooms; PPE (personal provider equipment) is well stocked; will provide thermometers to the public as needed; assessments will be made before hospital entry; teleconference/video medical care to people in their homes; routinely publishing healthcare education in the local newspaper; **MUST PRACTICE SOCIAL DISTANCING and SELF-ISOLATION** if you think you have been exposed or have been in an area with known confirmed cases; CDC criteria - a temperature of 100 degrees and above, respiratory type symptoms, and/or have been exposed to a positive case or been in a critical area with an influx of the virus; Rotary Club Snack Pack Program; trial vaccine and antivirals are in the works; protect the elderly; information can be found by accessing sites for the Centers for Disease Control or the World Health Organization; providers and persons in a higher level of duty to their community will not be asked to self-quarantine; local nursing home is locked down; updates will be sent to the County Mgr. which may be dispersed.

Superintendent Stacy Diller, Clayton Municipal Schools - Superintendent Diller reported on the following (but not limited to the following): the school district is closed for 3 weeks and possibly longer; all staff is on duty. Teachers are working remotely from their homes; pursuing on-line instruction; educational assistants are cleaning the classrooms. The custodial staff is cleaning and disinfecting from top to bottom; cafeteria staff is providing free of charge breakfast and lunch to students. Meals are delivered curbside by teachers; the school board meeting room will be closed to the public. Meeting(s) will be live-streamed; working on student internet access for all in a 2500 square mile district – all students will have Chrome books for distance learning; school bus drivers will be made available to help with the delivery of Sr. Citizen meals if needed; Superintendent Diller suggested using Zoom (video/web conferencing) for weekly COVID-19 updates and offered her IT staff for assistance if needed.

Emergency Manager Robert Wingo, Union County - Emergency Manager Wingo reported on the State's Emergency Operation Center (EOC) which is currently at a level 1; operations are now 24/7; test and result statistics in New Mexico; according to the Pandemic Emergency Plan, the local National Guard Armory building, will open up as the triage center if needed. Those afflicted will be cared for by qualified EMS (Emergency Medical Services); the New Mexico Department of Health has designated Clayton as a regional distribution point for PPE and will be housed within the armory if needed.

Fire Chief Justin Drumm, Clayton Fire & Rescue - Fire Chief Drumm reported that his department is well stocked with PPE; everyone must do their part to "flatten the curve of the virus"; because of heightened alert, various protocols are being implemented for EMS; dispatch has been made aware of

virus criteria; encouraged attendees to view the nmhealth.org website for up to date state-wide information.

Chief of Police Scott Julian, Town of Clayton - Chief Julian reported that all officers are equipped with PPE; department protocols have been implemented; will enforce all State directives which includes siting unlawful assembly.

Chairman Bennett, Union County - Chairman Bennett reported that employees that have been out of town and in "hotspots" will strongly be advised to self-quarantine; encouraged all attendees to document all expenditures that go beyond day-to-day operations for funding assistance.

Executive Director April Gallegos, Clayton/Union County Chamber of Commerce - Director Gallegos reported that all state tourism departments are shut down to the public. Gallegos will continue passing along the information to the public regarding protocols, closures, updates, and directives.

Mayor Ernest Sanchez, Town of Clayton - Mayor Sanchez reported that the Clayton Sr. Citizen's Center will be closed beginning tomorrow. Mgr. Ferron Lucero reported that meals may be delivered to their homes.

Mgr. Ferron Lucero, Town of Clayton - Mgr. Lucero reported that the city office is working with essential staff and the doors may be closed to the public; non-essential departments such as the library will be closed and staff employees will assist in other departments.

Extension Agent Talisha Valdez, Union County - Agent Valdez reported that statewide 4-H activities have been suspended; will continue to advise all participants of protocols and directives;

Going forth, every Thursday at 9:00 a.m., there will be a virtual meeting via Zoom so that all parties are on the same page.

Discussion on Jail:

The following was discussed (but not limited to the following):

- inmate housing was reviewed; housing layout provided enough bed space for 12 detainees; space for the proposed housing area is 10.7 K square feet
- TOC's projected budget for a full-time jail and concern of understaffing
- The TOC's current and temporary holding cells allow for no more than 16-hours detention and may only hold TOC or UC detainees; OneBeacon Insurance is the current private carrier. This insurance expires at the end of June
- should consideration be given to housing other department/entities prisoners such as the State Police or Game & Fish?
- The TOC met with the State to finalize the jail portion of the facility. State's approval is pending; The contract will be presented to the TOC's Council for approval; 1-year contract with up to 4 (1) year extensions; maintenance and cost share of utilities included; laundry and meals would be a separate contract; master control may be provided for by the State; medical would be a separate contract

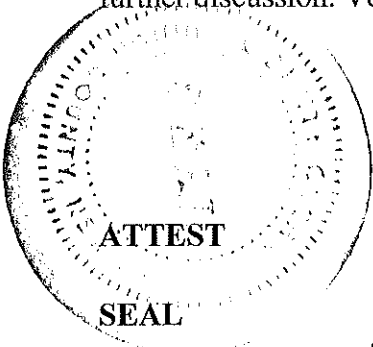
- TOC is seeking legislative authorization for a lease/purchase option for the duration of the life of the jail bonds
- Sheriff's Department transportation expense
- jail personnel would have to be hired immediately; detention officer training and insurance requirements would need to be in effect by July 1
- Colfax County Detention Facility - \$75 per day
- split actual jail costs every month; per diem rate; cost-sharing is the most equitable way to go
- the TOC's annual Local Government Protection fund is \$45K
- TOC would be committed to a minimum of one year
- Options: County operated full-time jail providing bed space for both the TOC and UC detainees; or, using the facility as a temporary holding facility for 16-hours
- UC will work with New Mexico Counties between now and their regular April meeting.
- Professional feasibility study

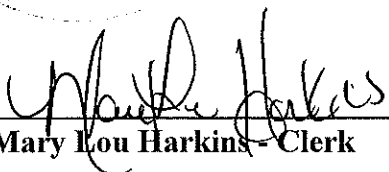
A follow-up work session may take place after the County's regular meeting in April. The County will call for this follow-up work-session.

The COVID weekly meetings will take place via Zoom (web and video conferencing) for all interested parties (County, Town, School, Hospital), every Thursday at 9:00 a.m. These meetings will be advertised as informational meetings only and will be recorded and made available to the public.

This work session was for information only. No decisions or actions were made. This agenda item will be considered during the County's next regular meeting agenda in April.


At 12:45 p.m., Trustee Beckner moved to adjourn. Commissioner Kiesling seconded. There was no further discussion. Vote: All YES. Meeting adjourned.





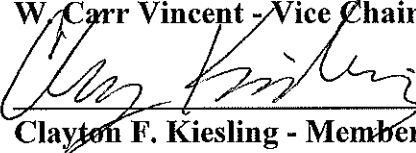
 Mary Lou Harkins - Clerk

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



 Justin K. Bennett - Chairman

NOT PRESENT

W. Carr Vincent - Vice Chairman


 Clayton F. Kiesling - Member