

General Statement of Grounds for Recall

Montrose County Commissioner Scott Mijares has violated transparency, fiscal responsibility, and public trust and should be recalled on the following grounds:

1. Mijares violated Colorado Open Meetings Law, CRS §26-6-402. He conspired with another commissioner to force the resignation of the county manager and county attorney. Key decisions regarding county government were made and continue to be made outside of public meetings.

***Response :** There was no violation of CRS 26-6-402, no secret meetings. Rodriguez and Whitmore made it clear to the two new commissioners that they had no respect for the voters to choose who they wanted to lead our county forward. Their “WE’LL SHOW THEM WHO RUNS THIS COUNTY” attitude lead to their voluntary resignation when they realized the game was over.*

2. Over half a million taxpayer dollars have been wasted on severance packages, backfilling positions, and unnecessary outside legal fees.

***Response :** County Manager and County Attorney were awarded a severance payment equal to 6 months of their trailing salary. The total severance paid was \$177,395.00. The BOCC approved up to \$10,000.00 for outside council if needed. Not \$500,000.00 as claimed by recall committee.*

3. Mijares attempted to halt previously approved North Campus construction project, exposing the county to a breach of contract penalty and wasting staff hours, before retreating under public pressure.

***Response :** On December 18th, 2024 the outgoing board committed the County to a \$24,000,000.00 North Campus building. This decision was of grave concern to our Finance Department. As a result Mijares made a motion to pause the construction to review the implications of the project on the County Budget. This was a hasty decision made just 27 days prior the*

old board leaving office. His motion was not seconded - there was no impact on the project.

4. Mijares demoted the Public Health Director, then changed his decision weeks later, eroding confidence in the county's ability to provide essential health services.

***Response :** Colorado Revised Statue 25-1-508 states, "The Public Health Director SHALL be selected by the County Board of Health". This did not occur. The BOCC voted to follow Colorado law and a new Public Health Director was appointed by the Board of Health. There was no loss of essential services to citizens.*

5. Mijares's unpredictable actions have created instability, resulting in a toxic and fearful work environment for county employees.

***Response :** Commissioner Mijares has increased integrity and accountability to the BOCC by following the law and increasing transparency. This comes despite the efforts of certain individuals who wish to undermine his efforts and sow chaos.*