



Nathan Ruybal
CONEJOS COUNTY CLERK & RECORDER
6683 COUNTY ROAD 13 PO BOX 127
CONEJOS, COLORADO 81129
TELEPHONE: 719 376 5422 FAX 719 376 5997
nruybal@co.conejos.co.us

Minutes of the Board of County Commissioners Regular Meeting held on July 20th, 2023, at 9:00 am in the Commissioners Board Room, 6693 County Road 13, Conejos, CO 81129

Comm. Jarvies called the meeting to order at 9:00 am

Mitchell Jarvies – Chairperson – Present
Carlos Garcia - Vice Chair – Present
Joseph Baroz – Vice Chair – Present

Present: Nick Sarmiento – County Attorney, Tressesa Martinez-County Administrator --- Nathan Ruybal-Clerk and Recorder –

Not Present: Connie Ricci – HR Manager

Pledge of Allegiance: Comm. Jarvies led everyone on the Pledge of Allegiance.

Opening Prayer: Comm. Jarvies gave the opening prayer.

Approval of Agenda:

- Add OHV and DOR discussion under Administrator Correspondence
- Add SVID discussion with Clerk Ruybal
 - Comm. Baroz First Motion
 - Comm. Garcia Second Motion
 - Motion Carries 3-0

Approval of Minutes:

- Regular Meeting Minutes June 1st Approval
 - Comm. Garcia makes motion to approve as presented.
 - Comm. Baroz seconded that motion.
 - Motion Carries 3-0
- Regular Meeting Minutes June 15th Approval
 - Comm. Baroz makes motion to approve as presented.
 - Comm. Garcia seconded that motion.
 - Motion Carries 3-0
- Special Meeting Minutes June 15th Approval
 - Comm. Garcia makes motion to approve as presented.
 - Comm. Baroz seconded that motion.
 - Motion Carries 3-0
- Special Meeting Minutes June 27th Approval
 - Comm. Baroz makes motion to approve as presented.
 - Comm. Garcia seconded that motion.
 - Motion Carries 3-0

Public Comment:

No Public Comment.

Administrative Correspondence – Tressesa Martinez:

- Circle G roof repair bid has come in at \$161,935.00 for both DSS and Courthouse.
- 1/3 payment is due upfront and balance at completion.
 - Comm. Garcia makes motion to enter contract with Circle G Roofing for repair of both DSS and Courthouse roof buildings.
 - Comm. Baroz seconded that motion.
 - Motion Carries 3-0
- County Road 17 discussion
 - Comm. Baroz has received calls regarding issues with County Road 17.1 aka Richfield.
 - Comm. Baroz would like to possibly designate the road as officially a County Road.
 - Attorney Sarmiento recommends that the BOCC review plats and BOCC meeting minutes regarding the road to decide proper path moving forward.
 - Special meeting planned to present 2023 audit by WSB.
- Assessment protest discussion.
 - Board of Equalization meetings will be held in the next few weeks.
- Work session to be scheduled with Larry Brown.
- County Surveyor Martin Reynolds has passed away which leaves Conejos needing to appoint a new Surveyor.
 - Attorney Sarmiento discusses the State Statute regarding the BOCC's role to appoint a new Surveyor.
 - Comm. Jarvies asks Tressesa to post an ad in the paper seeking applicants to be the new County Surveyor.
- OHV discussion.
 - Attorney Sarmiento suggest to the BOCC that we schedule a public hearing.
 - Public hearing to be determined.

Birth Certificate SVID Discussion – Nathan Ruybal:

- Clerk Ruybal discusses with BOCC and Attorney Sarmiento regarding DOR removing the Birth Certificate as a Secure and Verifiable Identification (SVID) for individuals needing to transfer ownership of a motor vehicle title.
 - Clerk Ruybal adds that removing the Birth Certificate directly effects the Amish community in Conejos County, many of which buy trailers and need to transfer ownership into their name.
 - Amish do not obtain a picture ID's due to being against their religion, many only have their Birth Certificate as any type of identification.
 - Clerk Ruybal mentions that he has talked to individuals from the DOR and all they are willing to do at this point is to ask opinion of Attorney General Phil Wiser.
 - Clerk Ruybal asks Attorney Sarmiento if there is anything that can be done to have DOR reverse this decision.
 - Attorney Sarmiento suggest that he send a letter to Attorney General Wiser to ask to reverse this decision and allow for individuals to use their birth certificate as a SVID.

County Attorney – Nick Sarmiento:

- Ratifying 2023 Commissioner Districts
 - Clerk Ruybal and Attorney Sarmiento present map of the new comm. districts.
 - Resolution Number 27
 - Comm. Garcia make motion to approve as presented.
 - Comm. Baroz seconded that motion.
 - Motion Carries 3-0

DSS Report – Nick Barela:

- Program Expenses Approval of \$357,924.76
 - Comm. Baroz makes motion to approve expenses as presented.
 - Comm. Garcia seconded that motion.
 - Motion Carries 3-0
- Accounts Payable Approval of \$37,728.26
 - Comm. Garcia makes motion to approve Accounts Payable as presented.
 - Comm. Baroz seconded the motion.
 - Motion Carries 3-0
- Case Load Report

**CONEJOS COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES
ONGOING WORKLOAD SUMMARY REPORT**

	Jan-23	Feb-23	Mar-23	Apr-23	May-23	Jun-23	Jul-23	Aug-23	Sep-23	Oct-23	Nov-23	Dec-23
APS		9		9			9					
Child Care	40	40	40	41	41	44	42					
Child Support	412	413	414	408	402	393	389					
Child Welfare		7		6			6					
Adult Financial	103	106	108	110	104	104	101					
Colorado Works	34	37	39	39	36	37	39					
Food Stamps/Food Assistance	847	853	873	878	873	854	881					
Medical Assistance	1983	1985	1991	2004	1990	1949	1901					

- Wendy’s Wonderful Kids Contract
 - Total amount of contract \$4,500 paid via Child Welfare. WWK assists Conejos County in finding Foster Care for children in Child Welfare. Connect children who wait for permanent homes with families who wish to adopt by implementing and coordinating effective recruitment, matching and support services for a caseload of 12-15 children. The Intensive Recruiter will follow the Dave Thomas Foundation’s Wendy’s Wonderful Kids child-focused, evidence-based recruitment model.
- Submit Core Budget \$211,879.00
 - Request for approval. FY 23/24 CORE Budget. Total amount awarded to CCDSS- \$211,879. Allocation budgeted towards county designed services for Conejos County (Mentoring, Nurturing, Parenting, Family Engagement)
 - Comm. Garcia motion to approve CORE Budget as presented.
 - Comm. Baroz seconded the motion.
 - Motion Carries 3-0
- Fiscal Budget \$57,436.00
 - FY 23 Budget submitted to CDHS along w/ attestation that Conejos County has funding for Co. Works MOE of \$57,436.

- Devin Romero contract \$5400.00 from Rio Grande.
 - Contract w/ Devin Romero to assist w/ APS and Child Welfare work. Total contract \$5,400 paid via APS/Child Welfare
- Physical Security walk thorough CCDSS applied for funds to assist w/ recommendations made during Physical Security walkthrough, total amount requested \$1,886.
- HCPF incentive program.
 - Incentive amounts for upcoming FY's
 - State Fiscal Year 2022 \$16,979.57
 - State Fiscal Year 2023 \$22,446.18
 - State Fiscal Year 2024 \$22,446.18
- Medicaid fraud report

**Annual Activities Report for Member Fraud Investigations
Medicaid Fraud Program**

Due to Health Care Policy & Financing each July 31st
hcpf_report.clientfraud@state.co.us

County: _____ Conejos _____

State Fiscal Year: _____ 2022/2023 _____

Section 1

County Human/Social Services Medicaid Fraud Activity							
Investigation of Client Fraud	Termination of Client Medicaid Benefits from Investigations	Recoveries			Fines and Penalties (\$)	Restitution Ordered (\$)	Restitution Paid (\$)
		Fraud Recoveries by County (\$)	Non-fraud Recoveries by County (\$)				
0	0	0	0	0	0	0	

Section 2

District Attorney Investigations				
Number of Criminal Complaints	Number of Cases Dismissed	Number of Cases Acquitted	Number of Convictions	Number of Confessions of Judgment
0	0	0	0	0

- Annual child grievance report placement of child

**Colorado Department of Human Services
Client Services and Controlled Correspondence
Child Welfare Grievance and Citizen Review Panel Annual Report
Annual Report: July 1, 2022 to June 30, 2023
[Conejos] County Department of Human/Social Services**

Ambulance Report – Ernest Abeyta:

- Ernest provides update on call volume for the last month.
- Approved Ambulance grant of \$202,532.36
- Discussion on Shower at the Ambulance HQ.
 - Two bids have been received for shower installation.
 - Comm. Baroz makes motion to approve bid for shower as presented for \$6500.
 - Comm. Garcia seconded that motion.
 - Motion Carries 3-0

OEM Report – Rodney King:

- 2022 – 23 EMPG-LEMS Grant Activities.
 - Special Projects Grant is unknown right now.
 - SLV R ECC applied for a Special Projects Grant no word yet.
 - Total \$ 10,255.83
 - Balance \$ 7,194.70
- Conejos County May 12th Fire and Ice seminar was a success.
- Wildfire Meeting was held on June 16, 2023.
- Bear Creek HOA Tabletop PRE-Evacuation Exercise July 14th.
- Cyber Attacks – We are having a Cyber TTX this Monday during our bi-monthly SLV ESF 5 meeting at the DHSEM office.
- Rodney hosted the SLV Emergency Managers (3 new EMs) Conejos EOC Visit and Familiarization March 1st, Costilla was next (SLV EMs will each host the same in their county EOC.)
- Completed the two EOC meetings and have had further training since.
- Salamander Training held and reviewed the apps. Rodney has available Salamander Cards, Conejos EMS, Central Conejos Fire Protection District, Rapid Tag and Rapid Evac. Next
- SLV Wildfire Council Meeting June 15th from 1300 – 1500 at the Conejos EOC – Rodney hosted it successfully and it was productive.

Public Health Report – Denise Jiron:

- 1 prevention coordinator-part time-VACANT
- 1 Public Health Generalist/ Nurse -VACANT
- Personal Care Provider (PCP) Program
 - Clients: 63
 - Hour worked: 7,203.12.
 - Employing 33 Providers
 - We have not had any client incidents for this reporting period.
- Immunization funding report for 2023 is as follows.

Fiscal Updates- Snapshot

Grants for FY23/24 have starting renewing and will be implemented 7/1/23.

Grant Name	Program	Amount	Timeline
Local Planning & Support	LOCAL PLANNING	\$70,090.00	7/1/23-6/30/2024
Maternal Child Health	MATERNAL CHILD	\$9,758.00	7/1/23-6/30/2024
Immunization Core	IMMUNIZATION	\$23,104.00	7/1/23-6/30/24
EPR-Phep	EPR-PHEP	\$39,334.00	7/1/23-6/30/24
Tobacco STEPP	TOBACCO	\$50,000.00	07/01/23 - 06/30/24
*Workforce	OPHP-LPHA Workforce	\$94,315.00	04/25/22 - 06/30/24
Workforce Infrastructure	WORKFORCE INFRASTRUCTURE	\$322,363.00	7/1/23 - 11/30/27
ELC 2.1	ELC DETECTION EXPANSION	\$112,734.70	8/01/23-4/30/24

**Workforce Infrastructure is a federal grant, through the CDC, spanning 5 years. We have budgeted in 64,472.00 annually, through 11/2027, into PH budget. However, we will cautiously monitor it as the CDC can pull back funds at will.

Immunization Expanded Funding

Grant Name	Program	Current Balance remaining:	Initial Award Amount:	Timeline:
Immunization Covid 119	IZC Covid 119 - #3	\$58,763.27	\$119,120.00	03/27/21-06/30/24
Immunization Covid 62	IZC Covid 62 - #4	\$48,861.70	\$62,657.00	8/23/21-6/30/24

CONEJOS COUNTY
BOARD OF HEALTH REPORT
7/20/2023

West Nile Virus update

- West Nile virus (WNV) has been detected in mosquitoes in Colorado for the first time this season in Boulder, Delta, Larimer, and Weld counties.
- Positive mosquito testing indicates the virus is present and circulating in Colorado and that there is a risk of human infection. The risk will be present until the first hard freeze occurs (typically in October for non-mountainous areas of Colorado).

Public health tests mosquitoes for West Nile virus throughout the state during the summer months to assess risk of human infection. West Nile virus is most commonly spread to people by the bite of an infected Culex mosquito. In Colorado, the majority of human cases of West Nile virus occur in August and September. In 2022, Colorado had 206 reported human cases of West Nile virus, including 20 deaths, which was the highest case count of any state in the country. When outdoors, wear long sleeve shirts, use insect repellent.



Extreme heat is a health risk.

The number of heat waves and extreme heat events is increasing. People in non-air-conditioned buildings or in buildings during power outages are at greater risk.

Cooling Measures for Existing Buildings and Outdoor Spaces

- **Monitor indoor heat:** Follow your regional requirements (thermometers).
- **Block direct sun:** Use window awnings, shutters, thermal curtains/blinds, and outdoor umbrellas.
- **Increase air flow:** Encourage cross breeze (electric fans, open windows).
- **Dehumidifiers:** Effective in areas with high humidity, but give off heat.
- **Electric Fans:** Effective in dry heat, but efficiency decreases with high humidity.
- **Air conditioner:** Effective during extreme heat.

Hot Temperatures equal risk of heat related illness. Things to be aware of as we navigate summer heat and our summer festivals:

Motion to enter Executive Session 24-6-402 Sub Section B Conference with an Attorney to Discuss Legal Counsel regarding adoption of public utilities matters of State interest of water affairs.
Comm. Garcia first motion
Comm. Baroz second motion
Motion Carries 3-0

Comm. Jarvies - Let the record reflect that we are coming out of Executive Session conference with an Attorney, no decisions were made, and it is 10:46 am.
Attorney Sarmiento – It is the opinion of the County Attorney that the discussion had an Executive Session constitute Attorney and Client privilege and therefore no record was kept.

Public Hearing 1041 Regulations - Attorney Sarmiento:

- Attorney Sarmiento presents regulations to BOCC,
- Regulations were published June 17th and July 7th in the Valley Courier.
- Public Utilities presentation.
- Comm. Jarvies opens the hearing to public comment.
- Sarah Stober chair of the Council of Governments (COG) speaks in support of BOCC adopting the 1041 regulations.
- Sarah adds that the regulations are a layer of protection for the County, COG will also post a meeting regarding the 1041 regulations.
- Comm. Jarvies closes the public comment portion of the hearing.
- Comm. Baroz makes motion to adopt 1041 regulations public utilities as presented.
- Comm. Garcia seconded the motion.
- Motion Carries 3-0
- Resolution C-28-23 is adopted.

Public Hearing 1041 Regulations - Attorney Sarmiento:

- Area of interest – Water Regulations of current land use code does not meet adequate protection to the County. 1041 Regulations are for incorporated Conejos County.
- Comm. Jarvies opens public comment portion.
- Sarah Stober speaks in favor of Conejos County adopting 1041 regulations.
- Comm. Jarvies closes the public comment portion of the hearing.
- Comm. Garcia makes motion to adopt Resolution C-29-23 as presented.
- Comm. Baroz seconded that motion.
- Resolution C-29-23 passes 3-0

IGA to protect water resources - Attorney Sarmiento:

- Motion to approve IGA as presented to protect Conejos County water resources.
- Comm. Garcia first motion.
- Comm. Baroz second motion.
- Motion Carries 3-0

Fees to be reviewed by County Attorney and Linda DeHerrera under new building code – no action has been taken.

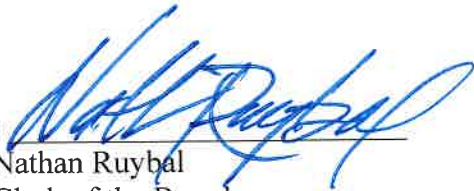
Motion to enter Executive Session 24-6-402 Sub Section B Conference with an Attorney to Discuss
Legal Counsel regarding land use code and legal access.
Comm. Garcia first motion
Comm. Baroz second motion
Motion Carries 3-0

Comm. Jarvies - Let the record reflect that we are coming out of Executive Session conference with an
Attorney, no decisions were made, and it is 12:38pm.
Attorney Sarmiento – It is the opinion of the County Attorney that the discussion had an Executive
Session constitute Attorney and Client privilege and therefore no record was kept.

Comm. Jarvies asks that Attorney Sarmiento draft a letter to citizen that they seek legal access through
the courts for her parcel in Conejos County.

Meeting Adjourned at 12:05 pm

ATTEST:


Nathan Ruybal
Clerk of the Board


Mitchell Jarvies
Chair of BOCC