
Minutes of the Board of County Commissioners Regular Meeting held on March 18, 2021 at 9:00 Am in the Commissioners Board Room, 6683 County Rd 13, Conejos, CO. 81129

Comm. Garcia called the meeting to order at 9:07 AM.

Mitchell Jarvies- Chairman- Absent
Carlos Garcia- Vice Chair- Present
Joseph Baroz- Vice Chair- Present
Tressesa Martinez- County Admn. Present

Also present were: Nick Sarmiento-County Attorney, Connie Ricci-HR Director, and AnnaBelle Gomez, Deputy Clerk and Recorder.

Pledge of Allegiance: Comm. Garcia led everyone in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Prayer: Comm. Garcia gave the opening prayer.

Approval of Agenda

Motion to approve the agenda as amended: Comm. Baroz/Second: Comm. Garcia, all in favor.

2-0 Motion carried.

Approval of Minutes:

Motion to approve the minutes as amended: Comm. Baroz/Second: Comm. Garcia, all in favor.

2-0 Motion carried.

Public Comment: None

Administrator's Correspondence

Tressesa-County Admn. stated that first of all she would like acknowledge AnnaBelle for the 45 years of service to the county; she has been an amazing employee and friend and will be missed.

Connie-HR stated that she would like to echo was Tressesa said; would like to wish her the best in her new chapter of her life.

Comm. Baroz stated that he would echo what was said. He thanked her for everything and stated that he appreciates her.

Comm. Garcia stated that he received the email from Connie. He said that they are losing the friendly face of the County Clerk's Office. She will be missed here at the meetings. He wished her the best of luck.

COVID19 Funds

Tressesa that these are COVID dollars that are being used to help the small businesses with revenues lost. She presented COVID dollars in the amount of \$13,494.00 for Kim's Fitness and \$11,966.00 for Hair and Nails-Valerie Lopez for lost revenues.

Motion to approve the COVID Care Funds as presented: Comm. Baroz/Second: Comm. Garcia, all in favor.

2-0 Motion carried.

County Taxing Issue

Tressesa stated that they need to decide on a County Tax issue or Ambulance District issue which will have to be discussed so they may be able to move forward.

Comm. Garcia asked what her recommendation is as administrator to the board.

Tressesa stated that is a tough one for her but her recommendation would be a county taxing issue because of the General Fund being in the condition that it is. That would help the General Fund in general. That is just her opinion.

Comm. Baroz stated that he agrees on the County Taxing Issue; that would be a faster process and down the road they can still see a Special District moving because it is a longer process.

Tressesa stated that they can get people on board to help them. They will advertise so they can get people that want to come in and help.

Nick Sarmiento mentioned the deadline is in July but would like to get the ballot language in June. Nick mentioned that the big decisions are the amount of tax and is it going to be restricted or is it a general

tax. The formalities are in June and July. They can set up a citizen's committee now. They can put it on the ballot and pass a resolution.

Comm. Garcia supports Tressesa's recommendation of the taxing issue over the Ambulance District for now and the Ambulance District next year. He would like Tressesa to get ahold of Chrmn. Jarvies to let him know that the other two commissioners are leaning towards the tax issue and then discuss it further at their next meeting.

Comm. Garcia stated that when Kevin gets on he will read the email; sales in the county are increasing.

Executive Session

Motion to go into executive session conference with the attorney to discuss the county commissioner's authority to restrict and control the budget of other elected officials: Comm. Baroz/Second: Comm. Garcia, all in favor.

3-0 Motion carried.

The board came out of executive session at 9:57 AM conference with the attorney and no decisions were made.

Nick Sarmiento: It is the opinion of the County Attorney that the discussion had an executive session that constituted an attorney/client privilege therefore no record was kept.

Nick Barela- DSS Report-via zoom

Nick started out by congratulating AnnaBelle from the County Clerk's Office. He thanked her for all her help throughout the years and her time here; he appreciated everything that she has done.

Nick stated that he has one quick adjustment for his agenda. He is posting his last item on his agenda concerning the approval of the personnel manual which needs to be done through a resolution.

Nick presented EBT expenditures in the amount of \$419,012.13 and Accounts Payables in the amount of \$19,716.08.

Motion to approve EBT expenditures and Accounts Payables as presented: Comm. Baroz/Second: Comm. Garcia, all in favor.

2-0 Motion carried.

Nick presented the case load report as follows:

| | |
|----------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Adult Protection- 3 Cases | Child Care- 34 Cases |
| Child Support-409 Cases | Child Welfare-12 Cases |
| Adult Financial- 122 Cases | Colorado Works- 44 Cases |
| Food Assistance- 761 Cases | Medical Assistance-1,761 Cases |

Contract with Casa Milagro- Nick requested approval for a contract with Casa Milagro which will be paid via TANF funds in the amount of \$6,060. This is for eligible TANF students. They are working with mentoring programs Family Foundations which is open to TANF eligible youth. The two purposes are for finding and keeping a job in regards to preventing out-of-wed pregnancies.

Comm. Garcia stated that in his report he stated that the county is the certificate of holder for the one million life liability insurance. He also mentioned that they are going to shoot videos as they go through the training. Those will not be put on You Tube or out on the internet; which is a great program.

Motion to approve the contract with Casa Milagro for TANF eligible students in the amount of \$6,060 as presented: Comm. Baroz/Second: Comm. Garcia, all in favor.

2-0 Motion carried.

Sub-Recipient Performance Award- This is information that goes to the Audit Division/Department of Human Services which is asking for general information in regards to keep personnel changes. This asks if they have for information on internal policies and accounting processes for accounts payables that way they can see that they have an internal control process; that was submitted.

Comm. Baroz asked if he had gotten any responses on seniors applying for the scholarships. He has reached out to North Conejos and will reach out to Sanford as well.

Nick stated that at this time he has not received any responses.

Connie-HR Director stated that the Sheriff's Office has received 6 applications for those scholarships.

Kevin Wilkins- Council of Governments

Mr. Wilkins stated that he is happy to be here and open to answer any questions related to Council of Governments. Traditionally Conejos County is elected to not be a member of the Council of Governments. Mr. Wilkins gave a little history of when he came to SLV Development Resource Group/COG a lot of programmatic activities organization is not defined. He has attempted to put an organizational chart together as to how they function. The COG was formed in 2011 at the agreement of 6 counties. They have a funding formula depending on population. The Development Resources is a 501(3)(c). The COG which is an entity of governmental entity over the course of managing the DRG-COG he has combined into one entity. All of the programs that are defined by Colorado or Federal Region are under DRG. A lot of new programs were initiated under DOLA. Most recently and most successful new program was incubated by COG was SLV Great Outdoors which was supported by COG dues in getting off the ground.

Mr. Wilkins stated that the COG initiated a broadband plan in 2018. He talked about the broadband technical steering committee under the COG. They had a pace with their internet service providers. With the pandemic there is a lot higher awareness to the need of broadband efficiencies. The COG is going to move forward with new programs; they are going to move forward with a broadband coordinator; the cost is about 120,000 a year. He was going to try to put 2 years' worth of funding for that particular initiative. The local philanthropy is seeing 3 years.

Mr. Wilkins mentioned that as a COG Member that gives you a seat at the table. He stated that they had some questions on some possible incentives that the county can offer; he can offer some assistance.

Comm. Garcia stated that he is the assigned board member for Council of Government. He wants to see if they can eventually get Conejos County back as COG paying member which they will work with time. He stated that at the zoom meeting he mentioned that Conejos County is facing budget issues so it is probably not going to happen as a paying member in 2021; they mentioned a sales tax ballot question again. He stated that Kevin had looked at reducing our membership dues from \$9,000 to \$7,000. Mike Roque said he would fund them \$2500.00. He understands how they assess the dues; they definitely want to have a seat at the table. He stated COG was instrumental with the broad band which is Jade Communications installed broadband for all our county residents in Conejos County.

Mr. Wilkins stated that they partnership with Jade; on the dues that would be the board's decision to go across the board. He stated that

most of their programs are self-supporting. Part of the COG income is to rebuild the organization and also to back up programs that are not self-sustaining; but mostly for new initiatives. They usually get \$65,000 in COG dues but can go down to \$50,000.

Comm. Garcia forwarded the email that Kevin sent him that talked about 2020 being a good year for sales tax receipts with Conejos County being up over 30%. In poverty status Conejos County ranks less than family poverty in either Costilla or Alamosa. It is also notable that Conejos County average weekly wage is higher than both Costilla and Mineral Counties. On the downside despite the median age it is the second lowest in the valley, Conejos has the highest percentage of population on Social Security. Looking at the other statistics we monitor internally is the reported assets valuation of Conejos County which has been static at about half of what Costilla County but about on par of Saguache County.

Comm. Garcia stated that we will be losing most of our work force in the SLV because of the age level. Most of our workers are mostly between the ages of 55-65 and will be retiring soon. Most graduates after getting their education go to the metro area because of better paying jobs.

Comm. Baroz mentioned that he would like to get himself more informed on COG which he will do that on down the line.

Linda- Land Use

Linda presented the following:

CASE NO. CCLU-2021-0010 **REQUEST:** Division of Land
APPLICANT: Adam Skadberg & Anke Spiegelhaurer **ZONING:** Rural
SURVEY BY: Reynolds Engineering

BACKGROUND: An application was filed with the Land Use Office on January 22, 2021 for a Division of Land. The property is legally described as Tract 1A Tim Bagwell Division of Land located in the NE1/4 of Section 31, Twp. 34 North, Range 9 East NMPM, Conejos County Colorado, County Parcel #586731100165. Physical Address is 10521 County Rd 13.

The proposed Division of Land containing 154.438 acres will create the following:

Tract #1A-1 containing 151.914 acres +

Tract #1A-2 containing 2.524 acres +
No County Road Dedication - previously completed.

Applicable Codes Used: CCLUC-Article 10-Division 10.7 Subdivision Exemptions

Purpose of Adjustment: Dividing the home property from the agricultural land. The Tim Bagwell Division of Land was approved on October 15, 2009. Ten years have passed it is eligible for another Subdivision Exemption process.

Motion to approve Resolution C-05-21 Skadberg Division of Land as presented: Comm. Baroz/Second: Comm. Garcia, all in favor.

2-0 Motion carried.

Orlando Gallardo-Veteran's Boulevard

Mr. Gallardo introduced Wally Romero-Secretary/Treasurer and Robert Gurule who is also on their board and acknowledged their efforts.

Mr. Gallardo informed the board that on the Veteran's Boulevard the estimated day of opening and maintaining is sometime before mid-May. They will be doing some cleaning and updating the irrigation system. They will have to replace 7 trees. He stated that they will be numbering the poles.

Mr. Gallardo stated that he had a meeting with Conejos Water Conservancy District (Nathan Coombs). They talked about the ditch that runs by the Garcia property concerning the flooding. Mr. Gallardo stated that the Water Conservancy has money to abate the ditch; he stated that hopefully they can install a head gate at Comm. Garcia's property, there is water coming out behind the Rainbow and underneath Veteran's Boulevard. The Board proceeded not to go with the wall until it is all abated. Mr. Gallardo stated that Nathan said it was okay to do a culvert underneath the Boulevard. He would like to ask the commissioners if they can have a culvert going through there and if the county can install the culvert.

Comm. Baroz stated that he is in favor of putting a culvert but they would have to bring Donnie in on that; asked if that would eliminate those rails that are falling apart.

Donnie-R&B stated that they have bounced those culvert discussions around. He stated that the culvert that exists under the boulevard now

has probably been in place 40-50 years. It is completely a different standard from what they can get today. The culverts that they can get today are going to be either larger or smaller. His concern is throwing 2 culverts which can be placed North and South but 5 or 10 years from now they will have to be replaced. They would have to cut the new asphalt. His concern is the water; they are maintaining roads constantly the ditch cannot support the water. They are allocated for so many acre feet but when that river roars every ditch lands up with more water than allocated for. He will follow the commissioner's guidance in whatever they want to do there. They will look at all the perimeters to see if it will benefit to have that. He recommends not putting the culverts; they could build a bed or a bank. He would not want to rip the pavement; he would like to find another way to please Veteran's Boulevard.

Comm. Garcia stated that in 2019 all of the water came over the river and to from the Caballo Ranch; that is what flooded U.S. 285 and that land. They also had a meeting with J.C. Gilleland and he believes that the ditch behind the Rainbow has to be cleaned.

Comm. Garcia talked about the feet of water that goes through that ditch; there are enlargements on those ditches; also talked about the Heads Mill Ditch. He would not want to go with 2 additional culverts until that ditch is cleaned out. He recommends if they can round the banks on the ditch by the culvert. The weeds need to be sprayed. They have talked about steel painted rails to make it look good. They want to promote Veteran's Boulevard all that they can. Nathan Coombs mentioned that anytime there is a structure it backs up water; if they add culverts they will be backing up water.

Mr. Gallardo stated that when he spoke to Nathan Coombs he said that the state allocated money to renovate the whole ditch; he was hoping they would replace the head gate and that whoever uses the water downstream is responsible for cleaning the ditch. He would like to see if the Water Conservancy will do anything. He will keep in contact with Nathan.

Donnie stated that nobody cleans ditches anymore; they do have a lot of farmers that don't clean the ditches anymore.

Mr. Gallardo will talk to Delfino about moving the ditch inward and bring it South. He also stated that whoever cleans the ditch they should be responsible for removing the debris.

Robert Gurule stated that they would like to get a plaque to thank the Commissioners and Conejos County for their support.

Mr. Gallardo stated that when they do the wall they will have sponsors; they will do a big plaque to acknowledge all the sponsors.

Mr. Gallardo stated that they would like to ask the commissioners if they would want to sponsor the shadow that is close to the Abstract; that is \$150.00 to do a pedestal and a plaque. That will say sponsored by the County Commissioners and Administration.

Denise Jiron- Public Health/Board of Health

Denise stated that she sent the report which is as follows:

Public Health Report

1. Continue to have the same staff- No vacancies right now.
2. PCP Program- In Feb they served 65 clients, 4587.75 hours, they are seeing increased referrals and are trying to hire PCP's
3. Commodities Program- Served 340 individuals in Feb., continue to do curbside delivery Tues and Thursdays, closed on Mondays and Wednesdays to prepare boxes. They do homebound deliveries 2 days a month to 52 people who cannot pickup their boxes.
4. OLTC- Is closed. They have not received any updates. She sent out the final documentation that she needed for the close out audit. She is hoping that in April they will have some kind of resolution. Gary has also submitted a document to them stating where we are at and he hasn't received anything either.

Commissioners moved to the **Board of Health Report.**

Denise's report is as follows:

- March 15th they have 36 active cases in the SLV, Alamosa had 14, Conejos had 4, Costilla 1, Mineral 11, Rio Grande 4, and Saguache County 2. Mineral had an outbreak at their school which in turn Antonito High School had an outbreak in the basketball team. As of today Conejos County has 2 positive cases, 460 confirmed cases, 31 hospitalized, 9 deaths and 3 outbreaks. We have not been this low since last May.
- We are in level blue-They are able to have larger groups in seated events. There is not much change to restaurants.
- Vaccinations- They continue to do vaccinations by appointment on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays- 100 doses weekly which

includes 1st and 2nd doses. They hired Austin Chavez who has been handling that very well. Once SLV and Valley Wide opened up their clinics to additionally serve the community they did see interest drop but people were being able to be served faster.

- Facebook Page- There is an interest form where anyone can sign up. That goes to their waiting list; they can pull that up and schedule them. They can also call them at Public Health. To date they have had 1,080 of the first dose and 685 of the second dose; tomorrow they will be distributing 417 of the second dose. As far as schools and educators Sanford, Conejos and Centauri and the Justice Academy have all had their staffing personnel and educators vaccinated with both doses. They are currently vaccinating people in phase 1A, 1B1, 1B2, and B3, 1B4 will open up tomorrow. That means it is open to people age 50 and older, and people ages 16 to 49 with two or more high risk conditions. The Governor said that possibly the general phase could be open in April that will make it available to any individual of those other categories. On Feb 19th they had mass vaccination at the Antonito School Grounds, that second dose will mirror in tomorrow in Antonito at 2 PM; they will need to present their vaccination card. They have not had a chance to order the Johnson and Johnson vaccine which has been made available to Public Health. They will continue to do full vaccinations before the end of the year to students prior to registrations.

Comm. Baroz stated that he wants to say kudos to Denise and team on getting everything switched over to Blue; they had a lot of people inquiring that day.

Connie-HR Director stated that she was speaking to one of their first responders yesterday and they are changing their mind about getting the vaccine; should they go on line and do the form or should they call.

Denise stated that first responders should call because they would have first priority.

- Denise talked about the graph that she sent the board. They have broken it down by regions. The SLV is considered one region- total population 46,472. We have vaccinated 21.3% of our population.
- There are 4 regions in the state that are in the level with us.
- Denise mentioned that they have had great partnerships with these clinics they are Road and Bridge, the Ambulance Crew and other volunteers. Tomorrow they will have support from the state.

Comm. Garcia adjourned the Board of Health and continued with the regular Commissioner's Meeting.

Ernest Abeyta- Ambulance

Ernest reported on the following:

Ernest stated that Brandon is also with him today.

- Monthly report-Year to date collection is \$48,603.39 which is for the month of January and February.
- They have a total of \$167,712 that was sent over to collections.
- For the year they have had 238 calls. 218 being primary and 20 are secondary. Compared to the last two years primary was 203 and 20 secondary for a total of 223. 2019 was a little bit higher. They are averaging 243 calls through the first 75 days of the year; which them at almost 3 calls a day with utilization of their secondary quite often.
- They had a life threatening call last night. It is more of the transfer for the secondary; it is a huge impact on the community. Those continue to be very serious for them. For the month of April his current schedule has 35 open primary shifts; this equates for only 7 of the full time employees that are scheduled right now. They put PRN on; of the 7 full time employees working 36-40 hours a week they continue to have 35 open primary shifts which doesn't include secondary. As far as the secondary shifts go for the month of April he has 70 open shifts.

Chrmn. Garcia stated that is alarming data; asked about open primary shifts, does that mean that there is no coverage.

Ernest stated that a few days there is no coverage. He has 2 primary shifts that are open which is Sunday and multiple shifts open throughout the week. They are playing with the schedule to see what best fits them and how to get the most coverage throughout the week; he will go and put PRN's as well. For January, February and some in March they have had to utilize overtime for full time employees; PRN's were not able to cover.

Connie-HR asked Ernest what percentage of PRN staff are working in another full time job.

Ernest said 100% of them have a primary job.

Comm. Garcia asked if he says a shift is he talking 8 hours.

Ernest said they are on 12 hour shifts; 6:00AM to 6:00 PM.

Connie HR stated that they contemplated doing 8 hr. shifts but then they have more shifts to fill so that doesn't work very well.

Ernest stated that not only we are losing response to our community we are losing revenue. Yesterday they had to decline a doctor's appointment transfer which is generally a guarantee pay for them because they had no secondary that dropped them \$2000.00.

Ernest stated on the black out stuff they are able to respond so they will have to sit and work this out due to the fact that Dr. Nelson is uncomfortable as well.

Tressesa will check everyone's time and get that done soon.

Ernest wants to know if they are going for a Special District or a sales tax.

Comm. Garcia stated that they discussed that earlier today and the consensus of the board for this year they are moving with a taxing issue and go forward with a Special District the following year.

Connie-HR asked that they advocate for that tax as they have done before. They have worked hard and they commend them for that; they know what kind of stake they have in it.

Comm. Garcia mentioned that he echos what Connie said. They really pushed it the last time. The greater of the two is the sales tax issue; but they are just as important.

Comm. Baroz stated that lack of coverage really scares him. He thanked them for the quick response for his family member. They will try to do all they can to make it work as far as the tax issue goes. They are really appreciated.

Brandon stated that Ernest covered everything really well; he didn't have anything to add to the report.

Gregory Ochis-via zoom and Dieter Erdman- (State Land Board)

Greg stated that they had sent a letter to make them aware that the State Land Board at its April 9th meeting staff will ask the commissioners to consider engaging in Dieter's Organization Western River's Conservancy to see where the State Land Board would sell La Jara land in the county specifically to organizations that are better oriented with permanent protection and public access. They have realized that given the amount of public access that has been in place historically in this case with Colorado Parks and Recreation it is not the ideal situation. The staff is thinking if they can find an

organization that has a mission would be a better fit. They have a meeting scheduled for April 9th that they could participate if they would like to. The staff's recommendation is Western Rivers but they need the board to endorse that before they move forward.

Comm. Garcia thanked them for the invite and stated that they would like to be active in this whole process if the State Land Board does decide to sell the land.

Dieter stated they are probably more familiar with the State Land Board and less familiar with Western River Conservancy and what we do. He mentioned that they are a 5013C Organization. They are based out of Portland Oregon and have an office here in Colorado. Western River Conservancy is to preserve the great rivers of the west; they do that typically purchasing land and work to convey that land to land management agencies. They have a long track record of working with Federal Land Management Agencies like US Forest Service, Bureau of Land Management, US Fish and Wildlife Service as well as State Fish and Game and Tribal Entities.

Dieter shared a fax sheet and they are in the beginning of the conversation. They have a pretty good track record here in the SLV of successfully implementing these type of projects at Los Pinos. They have helped create a Public Park in Alamosa; they have helped Parks and Wildlife in Costilla County and also worked in Mineral County with the Forest Service to create new access to the Rio Grande. Those projects were all done in cooperation with the private land owners and Public Management agencies. The scale of this project is pretty significant; they recognize that the La Jara has value not just from a public and conservation stand point but also as a key piece of a puzzle agricultural producer in the valley who lease summer pasture; they are very sensitive of that. Their intention is to maintain that use along with the other uses to the extent possible; that may change a little bit there might be different perimeters but they will commit to maintain and access the property for grazing and agricultural production as well and forms of recreation, hunting, and fishing.

Dieter mentioned that the framework that they are entering with the State Land Board is that they are agreeing because they don't know what the outcome of the project is going to be of how the property is going to be owned. They have created principals and side boards which they can agree to and which are outlined on their informational sheet. They want to guarantee public access, grazing and cultural sites up there; they want it to be outlined with the outdoor principles which are the Colorado Outdoor Partnership that agrees on the value of public lands, private lands and private interest in public land,

appropriate land management acknowledging the fact that recreation can have impact on both agricultural and private interest. They want the conveyance to be publicly supported so it has to meet everybody's needs. They would like the support at the local, state and federal levels. It will be a market based transaction; most likely a purchase and sale. They anticipate that the property will be permanently protected so the rest of the property will not be subdivided and developed in the future potentially resulting in the loss of access for agricultural use. The State's Land Board mission is to generate revenue for public schools. We need this transaction to do that.

Dieter included maps of the property and background on the Conservations values of the property and community use and where they are.

Comm. Garcia stated that Dieter/Western Rivers explained it very well; they try to maintain all of the agricultural and recreation historical uses.

Dieter stated that they recognize that these properties have values for a lot of years; also mentioned that the State Land Board decides to engage Western Rivers to explore. They have a lot of details in terms of due diligence and everything else to figure out and ensure the outcome that they have identified which is the first step at which point they will initiate that process of whether they sell if possible.

Comm. Garcia stated that they did send a letter to Greg confirming that they do want to be an active part in the process.

Rodney King-OEM Report

Rodney gave an update on the following:

1. 2021 EMPG-LEMS Grant is due by April 15th.
2. Talked about tax day is different this year.
3. Got an email from Dave Osborne stated that they require to go through their Emergency Operational Plan; they will be doing only one part of it.
4. Colorado Emergency Preparedness Assessment-They want to postpone until after July.
5. 2021 Training and Exercise Plan- Everything listed has been completed; the Snow Melt Runoff & After Wildfire Tools and Trainings which is scheduled for March 14TH at 9:00.
6. COVID-19 Mass Vaccination Clinic on March 19th they will be doing 417 doses. He did prepare a plan B if the weather turns bad.

7. 5 year Hazard Mitigation Assistance Plan for Conejos County-He will work on it as a Regional Plan to hire a consultant; Alamosa will be the fiscal agent.
8. SLV Regional Emergency Coordination Center-He has sent those invoices out. They have renewed their Salamander Plan which is \$500.00 each.

Al Abeyta- Church Project Discussion

Al Abeyta and Father Sergio Robles came before the board to discuss the church project.

Al Abeyta stated that they are constructing the Labyrinth next door to the church; they will be starting the walls. They were going to contract it out but the price was so high. They have some good soil around here so they will do the adobes themselves. Tourists come to visit the oldest church which brings revenue to the Town of Antonito. He took a survey of how many people visit the church and also how many took the train from Antonito to Chama. They need to haul about 10 loads of dirt. They will not be mining the dirt because they have a big pile by the gravel pit in La Florida. They will be making the adobes South of the Labyrinth. They will need about 30,000 adobes.

Mr. Abeyta stated that the Labyrinth will be dedicated to El Santuario De Los Pobladores. He stated that the county has been using property from the church. He spoke to Mr. Martinez and he said the county can haul the dirt.

Comm. Garcia asked Mr. Abeyta if he had the dirt on his land because the county can't haul it out of their pit.

Mr. Abeyta said yes it is his dirt. That was their first option because it is right next to where they can haul it. He is having them test the soil and the next option would be his private land in Canon. They will not be digging to where it's a pit.

Mr. Abeyta mentioned that he had talked to Donnie and Donnie said they could haul the dirt if the Board approved it.

Comm. Garcia told Mr. Abeyta that Donnie had said he could haul the dirt.

Comm. Baroz stated that he is in favor of that.

Comm. Garcia stated that he is on board with Comm. Baroz.

Mr. Abeyta stated that when the state gets a right of way for the road they maintain the fences. He mentioned that they have sagebrush that

is really high; he would like to see if the commissioners would look at that and clean that on both sides of the fence. He also wanted to know if the guys could take the grader and take of all the old grass south of the Labyrinth.

Comm. Garcia said they will let Donnie know.

Connie stated that she had some chats that she would like to share. One is from Nick Barela-DSS and Rodney King congratulating AnnaBelle Gomez for her years of service to the county.

Nick Sarmiento/Luann Pyatt-Dept of Revenue

Nick Sarmiento stated that Luann worked closely with them in the 2018-2019 when they attempted presenting the voters with the tax question. One of the things they need to discuss is Sales Tax, Use Tax, and Exemptions that way they know what they are exempting out. They will have a work session concerning that.

Fraudulent Claims

Connie-HR Director stated that there are fraudulent claims being done with the State of Colorado Unemployment. We have 16 claims that have been submitted to us that are all fraudulent; some are current employees and some are x-employees. In the last two weeks she has had 8. They have a protocol that she came up with. There are phone numbers to call the National Credit Agencies. She is following up on that.

Donnie-Road and Bridge

Comm. Garcia told Donnie that they agreed to haul the 10 loads of dirt that Mr. Abeyta had asked them to.

Donnie said he visited with him the other day and he told Mr. Abeyta that he would have to visit with the commissioners. He doesn't know when they will find the time because right now they are strapped until the water comes.

Donnie stated that this month alone they converted 2 bridges to culverts. They crack sealed the road and are working on the north side of that road.

Donnie mentioned that he has a concern because that creates a mining issue. He stated that he mentioned that to Mr. Abeyta.

Nick Sarmiento stated that they went through a whole process of getting mining exemptions for removing the old reservoirs. Ten loads of dirt is a lot so they are mining; they can apply for a permit.

Nick Sarmiento stated that they need to re-consider that approval even though they had agreed to haul that dirt.

Comm. Baroz asked if they got a mining permit could they haul the dirt.

Donnie said yes they could haul it for them.

The board decided to reconsider and have Mr. Abeyta and Father Sergio come back. Tressesa will get ahold of them and get them on their next agenda on April 1st.

There was a short discussion on the order of the agenda. Tressesa explained how she works with it but sometimes it doesn't work.

Nick Sarmiento talked about the church discussion. He mentioned that they do use the church (Parish Hall) when they have big murder trials. It is the courts that use it but the county is statutorily obligated to house the courts. The courts do pay the bill for cleaning, etc. He would like to propose a little give and take.

Tressesa stated that the issue has been on that piece of property that belongs to the church that the county uses to place their equipment.

Donnie stated that it was supposed to be for snow removal only; but they need to be careful because they need to be able to keep up with their work.

Comm. Garcia stated that it was possible when they had a crew of 23 men and now they are down to 13. He doesn't recommend the moving of appliances, etc. anymore. They also take a lot of work from private contractors. We need our men on roads and bridges because we fall behind on our work.

Donnie stated that they are working on a snow and ice policy; they do their best not to be on private property. He will get it to Nick and hopefully present it at the next meeting. Donnie also talked about the counter doesn't know how many people check the Road and Bridge website; with the calendar they can know how many people looked at it.

Donnie talked about the complaint about them not doing business to a certain company. He has looked at saving. The 1st quarter they spend \$1,341 on tires and repairs. The person that complained had gotten 700 of that. He explained the process of bidding out tires. They were also paying employees to handle tires. They want to look at the best price every time; they buy bulk tires.

Tressesa, County Admn. stated that they have changed their process. They are buying as they need they don't want to have tires left over.


Donnie said they want to utilize what they have. They are trying to take control of their spending. They are utilizing their set of tires so they last the 5 years.

There being no further business to come before the board, Comm. Garcia declared the meeting adjourned.

ATTEST:



NATHAN RUYBAL
CLERK OF THE BOARD



CARLOS GARCIA
VICE-CHRMN. BD OF COUNTY COMM.