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**Minutes of the Board of Conejos County Commissioners Regular Meeting held on July 6, 2021, at 9:00 am in the Commissioners Board Room, 6693 County Road 13, Conejos, CO 81129**

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

**Mitchell Jarvies – Chairman – Present**  
**Carlos Garcia - Vice Chair – Present**  
**Joseph Baroz – Vice Chair – Present**

**Present:** Tressesa Martinez – County Admin, Nick Sarmiento-County Attorney, Connie Ricci-HR Director, and Nathan Ruybal Clerk and Recorder all present.

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

**Prayer:** Comm. Jarvies gave the opening prayer.

**Approval of Agenda:**

Comm. Jarvies would like to add letter that he received from the citizens of the village of Guadalupe to be added to Executive Session, also would ask to move Mr. Taylor up to the Public Comment section.

Comm. Garcia makes motion to approve agenda with amendments.

Comm. Baroz 2<sup>nd</sup> Motion

Motion Carries 3-0

**Approval of Minutes**

No Minutes this meeting to approve, Minutes from June 18<sup>th</sup> and July 1<sup>st</sup> to be approved on July 15<sup>th</sup>.

**Public Comment**

Mr. Robert Taylor discusses the need for the EMS facility to be upgraded, he is concerned that nothing has been done yet after brining these concerns to the BOCC before.

Taylor provides e-mail that he wrote to the BOCC on June 5<sup>th</sup> regarding what he believes The BOCC needs to do regarding the EMS housing facility.

Comm. Jarvies specifies that the County is working on options in regard to the facility, the BOCC has looked at upgrading the current facility, also have looked at moving them to the South Conejos Fire Districts Fire Station.

Comm. Garcia speaks about how he knows that the County has brought in a Contractor to look at the facility and possible upgrades. Garcia goes on to mention that before the completion of the remodel to the Hospital there were discussions of having the EMS crews being housed there, with access to showers and washer and dryers. But because of the Hospitals liability insurance that option could not happen.

Tressesa comments that she has contacted a few contractors and they need the Plumber's to do their thing before the contractor can start their portion. Tress states that all Plumber's that she has contacted are back up and cannot start anytime soon. She goes on to explain that Ernest and she have discussed options regarding facility.

Comm. Jarvies and Tress make a point that we can possibly use CARES ACT money to upgrade or get another facility all together.

Robert Taylor goes on to handout the mission statement of the Conejos County Sheriffs Dept., Mr. Taylor is impressed of the content and message. Taylor's concern is that in his area there are kids and adults driving fast and wreck less. He is worried that someone will get hurt or killed from an ATV vs. Vehicle accident.

Comm. Jarvies asks Mr. Taylor to provide his address for the record.

Taylor replies, County Road 19 right above the Los Cerritos Cemetery

Taylor is concerned about the safety of those riding ATV's, vehicles, and walking, he has seen ATV's driving fast and reckless. Wanted to address the BOCC so that they can do something about it before someone is hurt or killed.

Sheriff Crowther addresses concern and will make sure to keep an eye out for ATV riders that are driving in that area by sending a patrol unit to monitor periodically.

Comm. Jarvies mentions that the BOCC is looking to legalize ATVs on County Roads which would allow for more regulations and code to better control some of the issues that Taylor is describing now.

NO FURTHER COMMENT

## **Administrators Correspondence**

Tress speaks on an issue that came up from the last meeting with the SLV Association regarding the Opioid committee, they need a commissioner from Conejos to sit on the committee.

Baroz has been in contact with Lori Laske from the BOCC of Alamosa County, Baroz would like to sit on the committee if there is no objection from the Garcia or Jarvies.

Comm. Garcia and Jarvies have no problem with Baroz sitting on the Committee.

Comm. Baroz accepts the assignment to sit on the SLV Association for the Opioid Committee.

SLV All Hazards Committee formed after Homeland Security was established, Executive Board is made up from the Commissioners of the Counties in the San Luis Valley, and per the concern of the Committee, no one from Conejos has been attending.

Comm. Jarvies admits he is on the committee and has not received any emails regarding the meetings, he will check to make sure he is still on the mailing list for the committee, once more because he has not been receiving any emails regarding the times and dates for the meetings.

Tresses asks Comm, Jarvies to get in touch with Tim Lovato from Saguache County BOCC to make sure Jarvies receives communication for the next meeting.

Conejos County will be releasing the Covid Relief Funds to the Town of Antonito regarding utility services for \$15,500.

Attorney Sarmiento and Tress were not satisfied on how the Town of Antonito submitted their paperwork but decided to issue the funds. Tress is worried if the auditors have an issue with the submitted paperwork that the Town will have to pay these funds back if they decide that the paperwork and allocation was not sufficient.

Comm. Jarvies asks Attorney Sarmiento if there needs to be anything in writing to show that if for whatever reason the funds need to be paid back that the County is not held responsible.

No Comment from Sarmiento or Tress and they trust that everything will be fine.

## **Sheriff's Report**

Sheriff Crowther updates the BOCC on the fund raising for the Search and Rescue Snow Cat, Crowther explains that they are almost at half of the \$20,000 need for the purchase.

Comm. Garcia adds that he was attempting to get a donation from the Denver Nuggets and the Colorado Avalanche via web-based portal, the portal needed a mission statement and a Not-for-Profit Status, even though we are not a 5013c, Garcia still attempted to submit application for donation to no success.

Comm. Jarvies asks if they have received donations from local businesses?

Sheriff Crowther answered that there have been several donations from businesses and private individuals.

Sheriff Crowther has received donations for items that can be raffled off and for the Manassa Pioneer Days, they will be running a raffle to help support funds for the Snow Cat.

Sherriff Crowther would like to auction off three vehicles and would ask if they could place that money into the pot with all other fund-raising money that they have raised.

Tress explains that any money raised with the Auction would go directly into the General Fund and that we cannot ear mark that specifically for the Snow Cat purchase.

Sheriff Crowther's worry is that if they get the full amount needed to purchase, then people would be asking where the Snow Cat is. However, they did add that if they do not reach goal that the funds would be going to Search and Rescue equipment.

Crowther also updates the BOC on the Officer Safety Package and the Body-Camera Grants.

Crowther hired a new cook after the cook they had needed some time off, they also have a need to hire a few deputies for the jail.

Comm. Garcia asked the effective date for all Police to have Body cameras?

Crowther January 2023!

Comm. Garcia what is the status of connecting sewer to the Town system.

Crowther explains that Donnie has been working on that and doesn't have an ETA for completion.

Comm. Garcia asks if he is willing to house more inmates for other counties.

Crowther explains that they are willing but would prefer to have sewer connected to the Town of Antonito before they add too many inmates.

Attorney Sarmiento asks who pays for the Search and Rescue Helicopter.

Crowther explains that the Search and Rescue helicopter will offer two hours flight time with no charge and the Flight for Life helicopter usually get charged to the insurance claim for the person rescued.

## **Land Use – Linda DeHererra**

### Planning Commission Appointments

- Linda Johansen
- Mary Ann Gallegos

Comm. Jarvies asks the other commissioners have any comments or concerns for the appointments.

Comm. Baroz made motion to add both appointments for a two-year term.

Comm. Garcia 2<sup>nd</sup> Motion

Motion Carries 3-0

CONEJOS COUNTY LAND USE - CASE SUMMARY- REPORT

CASE NO: CCLU-2021-

REQUEST: Division of Land

APPLICANT: Ronald & Tina & Atencio

ZONING: Rural

SURVEY BY: Tony Martin - Russell Surveyors & Associates

BACKGROUND: An application was filed with the Land Use office on May 28, 2021, for a Division of Land (DOL.) The property is legally described as Tract 1 of the Arthur A. & Betty E. Trujillo Division of Land located in Section 10, Township 32 North, Range 7 East, New Mexico Principal Meridian, Conejos County Colorado. County Parcel #613710100004. Physical Address: 3701 FSR 103.

**The proposed Division of Land containing 20.1 acres will create the following:**

**Tract 1A containing 15.06 acres ±  
Tract 1B containing 5.00 acres ±  
No County Road Dedication**

Applicable Codes Used:

CCLUC - Article 10 - Division 10.7 Subdivision Exemptions, Division of Land.

Purpose of Adjustment: Tina Atencio is the daughter of Arthur & Betty Trujillo. Ronald and Tina will be developing the 5-acre parcel for a new home. The previous DOL was approved in July 1998.

Land Use Administrator review/approval: 07/02/2021

County Surveyor review/approval: 06/15/2021

Board of County Commissioners review/approval: 07/02/2021

No Questions or Comments

Comm. Garcia makes motion to approve Division of Land for Atencio and Trujillo Case # 2021-137

Comm. Baroz 2<sup>nd</sup> Motion

Motion Carries 3-0

CONEJOS COUNTY LAND USE - CASE SUMMARY- REPORT

**CASE NO:** CCLU-2021-057 **APPLICANT:** Bar 19 Ranch Trust/Rhonda Barr-Trustee

**REQUEST:** Boundary Line Adjustment & Division of Land

**SURVEY BY:** Reynolds Engineering Company

**ZONING:** Rural

**BACKGROUND:** An application was filed with the Land Use office on March 24, 2021, for a Boundary Line Adjustment and Division of Land (DOL.) The property is legally described as 153.186 acres of Land located in a Fraction of the Northeast Quarter of Section 20 and a Fraction of the Southeast Quarter of Section 17, Township 34 North, Range 10 East, New Mexico Principal Meridian, Conejos County Colorado. County Parcels 586521100091 and 58671340007. Physical Address: 19999 State Highway 142. East Manassa.

**The proposed Boundary Line Adjustment and Division of Land containing 153.186 acres will create the following:**

**Tract 1 containing 10.968 acres ± Adjusted Lot**  
**Tract 2 containing 25.882 acres ± New Lot Created**  
**Tract 3 containing 108.457 acres + Adjusted Lot**  
**Right-of-Way containing 7.879 acres ± State Hwy 142**

**Applicable Codes Used:**

CCLUC - Article 10 - Division 10.7 Subdivision Exemptions, Division of Land.

**Purpose of Adjustment:** Rhonda as the Trustee of the Bar 19 Trust is adjusting the parcels as her parents requested in the Trust. The home and some of the agricultural land will be a separate parcel. The property to the south side of Hwy 142 was created as a separate parcel of land as the highway divided it. All easements are existing and reflected. There is one old shed on Tract 3 that does not meet the setback requirements. The applicants will either attempt to move it or demolish it.

**Land Use Administrator review/approval:** 07/06/2021

**County Surveyor review/approval:** n/a

**Board of County Commissioners review/approval:** 07/06/2021

Comm. Garcia makes motion to table Barr 19 Division of Land due to inaccurate survey.  
Comm. Baroz 2<sup>nd</sup> Motion  
Motion Carries 3-0

## **Veteran's Boulevard – Orlando Gallardo**

Orlando reports that him and his crew have been working on Weed Control, Mowing and Tree Pruning.

Orlando discusses fast traffic down the Blvd. and asks the BOCC for a speed limit sign from 45-35, also there is a lot of debris and would like to add a no littering sign.

Comm. Jarvies mentions that they would have to do a traffic survey to propose a reduction of speed, however the No Littering sign would be no problem to add to the Blvd.

Comm. Jarvies recommends that at first, we try to place the speed control sign on the Blvd. to hopefully discourage drivers from speeding.

Gallardo mentions that he has mailed a letter to the sponsors of each tree to come out on June 24<sup>th</sup> to come and clean up around their sponsored tree.

Back filling a section of the road with big rocks and dirt to combat the irrigation water flooding the trees will be completed.

Gallardo is worried that the irrigation water that floods the area will kill the trees, has talked to division of water resources about fixing the ditch that keeps flooding the Blvd.

Gallardo talks about adding a memorial wall on both sides that people can sponsor names of those that have served in the military, that can be ever lasting to honor those that have served.

Gallardo is also asking that the County sponsor the Shadow cut out on the North side of the Blvd., BOCC agree that it would be a great idea. Gallardo will order plaque showing the dedication and sponsorship from the County BOCC, Staff and Admin.

Comm. Garcia asks Gallardo about parking, there are people that park on the side of the road to visit their tree, however the drop from the road to the bar pit is severe. Gallardo does not have plans for a parking lot but would like to discourage people from parking on the side of the Blvd. because it is unsafe. His idea is to plan a weekend where the sponsors and families can come and visit with a shuttle in a golf cart to safely allow people to visit their tree.

Tress mentions that the BOCC has agreed to purchase a Heavy-Duty riding mower for the Blvd. and will have Jarrett help once and awhile to keep weeds down.

Comm. Jarvies asks for motion to enter Exec. Session to discuss letter sent to Comm. Jarvies, Opioid voting rights and settlement with ex-employee.


Comm., Baroz 2<sup>nd</sup> Motion

Motion Carries 3-0

11:32 return from Executive Session

Meeting Adjourn

ATTEST:

  
Nathan Ruybal  
Clerk of the Board

  
Mitchell Jarvies  
Chair of BOCC