



**Nathan Ruybal**  
**CONEJOS COUNTY CLERK & RECORDER**  
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**Minutes of the Board of County Commissioners Regular Meeting held on February 17, 2022, 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 – Chairperson – Present**  
**Carlos Garcia - Vice Chair – Present**  
**Joseph Baroz – Vice Chair – Present**

**Present:** Nathan Ruybal-Clerk and Recorder, Nick Sarmiento-County Attorney, Connie Ricci-HR Director, Tressesa Martinez-County Administrator - **ALL PRESENT**

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

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

**Approval of Agenda:**

- Add discussion about large format printer.
- Add discussion about Redistricting Commission

Motion to approve agenda as amended

Comm. Baroz 1<sup>st</sup> Motion

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

Motion Carries 3-0

**Approval of Minutes:**

Motion made to approve the February 17<sup>th</sup> Minutes as presented

Comm. Garcia 1<sup>st</sup> Motion

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

Motion Carries 3-0

**Public Comment:**

- No Public Comment.

**Administrative Correspondence – Tressesa Martinez:**

- Hospital Staff Meeting with Conejos County.
  - Comm. Baroz, Att. Sarmiento, Tress and Executive Staff from hospital.
  - Still a lot of work to be done.
  - Discussion on location of HQ, design, and cost.
  - Approx. \$10,000 for the design.
  - Attorney Sarmiento to issue a letter of interest to the hospital.
- Tress checked on live streaming BOCC meetings
  - WSB recommends not to live stream.
  - Possibility of creating a YouTube Channel
  - 90 days availability for recorded meetings on the YouTube Channel.
  - No Decisions Were Made.

**County Attorney – Nick Sarmiento:**

- Redistricting Commission
  - Will discuss in Executive Session.

**DSS Report – Nick Barela:**

- Requests Executive Session for Staff Issue.
- Needing approval on Program and Admin. Costs of \$1,113,610.23
  - Comm. Baroz makes motion to approve costs as presented.
  - Comm. Garcia seconds the motion.
    - Motion Carries 3-0
- Needing approval for Accounts Payable of \$20,494.45
  - Comm. Baroz makes motion to approve A/P as presented.
  - Comm. Garcia seconds the motion.
    - Motion Carries 3-0
- Discussion regarding six (6) \$6000 scholarships.
- Discussion regarding agreement with the State and Conejos regarding County Website.
  - WSB will no longer maintain the Conejos County Website.
  - Conejos County will agree to maintain our own website from a state platform.

## Public Health – Denise Jiron:

- Tobacco Grant – Need new up to date promo items for schools.



## Conejos County Public Health Commissioners Report

2/17/2022



### Public Health-Core Public Health Services

#### A. Administration and Governance

*All public health agencies are required to establish and maintain programs, personnel, facilities, information technology and other resources necessary to deliver core public health services in the agency's jurisdiction.*

1. Personnel-current
  - a. 1 public health director
  - b. 1 public health nurse- .25 PT
  - c. 1 prevention coordinator-part time-VACANT
  - d. 1 Public Health Generalist/ Nurse
  - e. 1 office manager-
  - f. 1 commodities manager
  - g. 2 PCP supervisory employees
  - h. COVID Response

#### B. Assessment Planning and Communication

1. Conejos County Specific Goal:

Work with community partners on existing and emerging local projects to influence health behaviors and conditions and advocate for family support systems that strengthen protective factors and reduce risk factors for children and families.

#### C. Communicable Disease Prevention, Investigation and Control

*All public health agencies are required to track the incidence and distribution of disease in the population and prevent and control vaccine-preventable diseases, zoonotic, vector, air-borne, water-borne, and food-borne illnesses, and other diseases that are transmitted person-to-person.*

1. Communicable Diseases
  - a. Coronavirus COVID 19- Pandemic is not over. PH continues to be busy with Pandemic planning and response
    - i. See BOH report
2. Immunization Program
  - a. Continuing with Covid 19, Flu, Hep A and Childhood vaccines.

#### D. Emergency Preparedness and Response

*All public health agencies are required to prepare and respond to emergencies with a public health or environmental health implication in coordination with local, state and federal agencies and public and private sector partners.*

1. PH Director and Office Manager continue EPR training; Joleen is backup

#### E. Environmental Health

All public health agencies are required to participate in the protection and improvement of air, water, land, and food quality by identifying, investigating, and responding to community environmental health concerns, reducing current and emerging environmental health risks, preventing communicable diseases, and sustaining the environment. These activities should be consistent with applicable laws and regulations, and coordinated with local, state, and federal agencies, industry, and the public.

1. Regional environmental health program manager Carol Keith and Gary Bruder

## F. Prevention and Population Health

All public health agencies are required to develop, implement and evaluate strategies (policies and programs) to enhance and promote healthy living, quality of life and wellbeing while reducing the incidence of preventable (chronic and communicable) diseases, injuries, disabilities and other poor health outcomes across the lifespan.

1. Tobacco Grant
  - a. Vaping- statewide push to develop policy
  - b. Grant was renewed for next FY
2. Child fatality
  - a. No new cases for review for Conejos this quarter
3. Baby and Me tobacco Free
4. RCORP / HRSA

## G. Vital Records and Statistics

All agencies are required to record and report vital events (e.g., births and deaths) in compliance with Colorado Statutes, Board of Health Regulations, and Office of the State Registrar of Vital Statistics policies. Public Health Directors shall act as the local registrar of vital statistics or contract out the responsibility of registrar in the area over which the agency has jurisdiction.

1. Most small counties use other entities for this service, with public health to be notified/monitor for any significantly abnormal trends

## H. Personal Care Provider (PCP) Program

1. January 2022

- a. Clients: 62
- b. Hour worked in January 2022: 4,100.0
- c. Employing 26 Providers

## I. Commodity Supplemental Food Program

1. 492 Individuals total participation for January 2022
2. Curbside delivery continues 2 (T/Th) days weekly
3. Home deliveries to the homebound 2 days monthly; 55 people
4. Total served: 332 Households (including TFAP)

## J. CCPH COVID Vaccine Policy

1. 35 employees;
  - a. 31 fully vaccinated
  - b. 4 approved exemptions

**CONEJOS COUNTY  
BOARD OF HEALTH REPORT  
2/17/22**

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**SLV Regional information on COVID-19 as of 2/16/2022:**

**195 Newly Reported cases in the past week:**

- Alamosa County 71
- Conejos County 26
- Costilla County 15
- Mineral County 2
- Rio Grande county 52
- Saguache County 31

**Conejos County as of 2/16/21:**

- 10 active cases
- 1,642 positives confirmed to date
- 127 hospitalized to date
- 13 Outbreaks
- Current positivity rate for Conejos County is 8.85% (from 2/4-2/10/22)  
Down from 22.05% at this time last month (from 1/9-1/15/22) 13.2% decrease

**Deaths**

- 50 Deaths among cases- to date
- 20 deaths Due to COVID – to date
- January 2022 = 4 deaths
- As of today, none reported for February 2022

**Conejos County Outbreaks**

- Sanford Schools
- Antonito Schools
- Rio Grande inn NF

**Testing**

CCPH has aligned with Affinity / Eurofins to provide Free COVID weekly in our County

- Antonito Town Hall – Every Thursday 9:00am – 11:00am- Town hall
- La Jara Town Hall - Every Thursday, 12:00pm – 4:00pm- Town hall
- Affinity has paired with VWHS and provides free Testing Sunday-Saturday (everyday) at Convenient Care in Alamosa, 8:30am-3:30pm

**State Orders:**

12th amended public health order 20-38 extended to 3/1/2022 with removal of requirement to show proof of vaccination for large events in the metro area.

3rd amended public health order 20-21 is extended through 3/31/2022 and updates therapeutic options and requirements.

**Summary of most recent updates to School Guidance**

Updates as of February 11, 2022; Effective February 28, 2022

- Added a new section, Transitioning to a routine disease control model for COVID-19, that outlines strategies for K-12 schools to implement as they move away from individual case-investigation response. The targeted implementation date for this guidance is February 28, 2022.

Elements of a routine disease control model for COVID-19 in K-12 settings

Routine disease control strategies:

- Continue to encourage vaccination of staff and students.
- Follow isolation requirements for students and staff who are ill or have tested positive for COVID-19.
- Continue to recommend transmission prevention strategies, including testing and masking for staff and students following illness and exposures.
- Continue to support regular mask use by staff and students, even when not required by local public health orders (*Conejos DOES NOT have masking orders*)
- CDC continues to recommend universal indoor masking for all teachers, staff, students, and visitors to K-12 schools, regardless of vaccination status and at all transmission levels.
- Respond to clusters of cases (including increases in respiratory illness) and confirmed outbreaks as described below.
- Continue to report identified cases and outbreaks to public health as required by Colorado Statute and Regulation (6 CCR 1009-1).
- In lieu of individual case investigation and contact tracing, implement new cluster or outbreak detection strategies including public health reporting of school absenteeism data and participation in wastewater surveillance. CDPHE is exploring funding mechanisms to support this work.

**Strategies not continued in routine disease control model (unless a cluster or outbreak is detected):**

- *Individual case investigation and contact tracing.*
- *Quarantine of students and staff with school-associated exposures.\* Given the much greater risk of household exposures compared to non-household exposures, schools should continue to follow quarantine guidance for students and staff who report household exposures.*

*Board of Health – Denise Jiron: continued*

*\*In consultation with their LPHA, principals or superintendents may also choose to discontinue quarantine for staff and students with non-household community exposures.*

*\*CCPH has had meetings with open dialogue with both Sarford and North Conejos Superintendents regarding these changes.*

**Vaccination Updates:**

CCPH currently offers vaccines for those 5 years old and up. COVID vaccinations are by appointment only on Tuesdays.

- o 45.5% of Eligible Conejos County Residents as fully vaccinated (excludes under 5 and those who are not eligible for Boosters)
- o Those who are eligible for a 3rd dose of vaccine are strongly encouraged to get one.
- o 25,691 SLV residents were fully vaccinated as of 1/29/2022, not accounting for third doses.
- o More vaccination information at <https://www.slvphp.com/vaccination>
- o FDA's consideration of Emergency Use Authorization for vaccines for children under 5 has been postponed, most likely until sometime in April.

Vaccine Interest form/ sign up form can be found at: Conejos County public Health Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/conejoscountypublichealth>

or

The Conejos County Government website <https://www.conejoscounty.org/>

**Other news:**

- Colorado Crisis Standards of Care: <https://cdphe.colorado.gov/colorado-crisis-standards-care>
  - o Crisis Standards of Care protocols for hospital staffing and for EMS are being deactivated at 8:00 a.m. on 2/17/2022.
- Treatments: Treatment for COVID-19 is not a substitute for vaccination. Treatments may be prioritized for those at highest risk.
- Behavioral Health: San Luis Valley Behavioral Health Group is offering onsite and virtual behavioral health services. For more information: <https://www.slvbhg.org/> or call (719) 589-3671.
- Communications: The SLV DOC PIO provides bilingual updates to the media and other partners. Local data is updated daily at <https://www.slvphp.com/slv-regional-covid-dial/>

**Land Use Report – Linda DeHerrera:**

CONEJOS COUNTY LAND USE  
CASE SUMMARY- REPORT

**CASE NO:** CCLU-2021-0      **REQUEST:** Division of Land

**APPLICANT:** Steven A. Rivera      **ZONING:** Rural

**SURVEY BY:** Reynolds Engineering Company

**BACKGROUND:** An application was filed with the Land Use office on 12/20/21, for a Division of Land (DOL) The owner is Steven A. Rivera. The property is 20 acres legally described as the South Half Southeast Quarter of the Southwest Quarter of Section 13, Township 35 North, Range 8 East, New Mexico Principal Meridian, Conejos County Colorado, Parcel #571913300052.

The proposed survey reflects a division of 20.316 ac± to create the following:

- Tract 1 containing 18.177 acres ± Rural - Steven's home & agricultural land
- Tract 2 containing 1.223 acres ± Rural - New lot for residential development
- County Road W ROW dedication - 0.916 acres ±

**Applicable Land Use Codes:** Article 10 - Subdivision, Division 10.7 Subdivision Exemptions: Section 10.7 (1.) Division of Land

**Purpose of Division:** The applicant is requested a division of land to create one parcel for a new residential building site. His home and agricultural land will remain the same.

**LU Administrator approval:** 02/17/2022    **County Surveyor review/approval:** n/a

**Board of County Commissioners review/approval:** 02/17/2022

Comm. Garcia makes motion to approve Steven Rivera Division of Land as presented.  
Comm. Baroz makes second motion  
Motion carries 3-0  
Res.# C-08-22

**Public Hearing - Gingerich SUP - Wood Shop & Retail Sales:**

**CONEJOS COUNTY LAND USE STAFF REPORT  
SPECIAL USE REVIEW**

**Case No. CCLU 2022-0010**

**APPLICANT: Raymond Gingerich**

**BACKGROUND:** An application for a Special Use Permit was filed with the Land Use Office on 01/10/2022. The property is owned by Raymond & Sarah Gingerich. It is zoned Rural and is legally described as: 3.91± Acres – Tract 2 of the Jack C. & Debra J. Gilleland Division of Land located in the Southeast Quarter of Section 17, Township 34 North, Range 9 East, NMPM, Conejos County Colorado. The common description of the property is 13439 County Road 14, La Jara CO 81140. County Parcel/Schedule #586717400221.

**REQUEST:** The applicant is requesting a Special Use Permit for a Woodwork Finished Materials Shop.

**ADJACENT ZONING:** North, South, East and West are all Rural.

**APPLICABLE ZONING ORDINANCE:** - Article 4 Zoning, Division 4.2 Zone District Regulations AND Article 5 Permits, Division 5.4 Special Use Review.

**PUBLIC NOTICE REQUIREMENTS:** Notice requirements were met by sending notice to the surrounding landowners within 500' on 01/11/22; notices to referral agencies on 01/13/22; notice was published in VALLEY COURIER on 01/19/22 and 02/02/22; and Onsite posting was posted by Inspector, Chris, on the property on 01/12/22.

**PUBLIC HEARINGS:**

**PLANNING COMMISSION –** The public hearing was scheduled for 02/16/22 at 6:15 PM.

**BOARD OF CONEJOS COUNTY COMMISSIONERS –** The application will be presented to the Board of County Commissioners on 02/17/2022 at 10:15 AM.

Applicants had not to say regarding Special Use Permit  
Comm. Jarvies opens hearing to public comment – No Public Comment  
Comm. Jarvies closes hearing to public comment  
No concern from Parks and Wildlife or Division of Water Resources.

Comm. Baroz makes motion to approve Special Use Permit as presented  
Comm. Garcia seconds motion for Special Use Permit.  
Motion carries 3-0  
Res.# C-09-22



**Serpan – Vacation of Public Way – Platoro:**

**CONEJOS COUNTY LAND USE - CASE SUMMARY/STAFF REPORT**

**CASE NO:** CCLU-2021-0248

**APPLICANT:** Jeffrey Serpan & Malinda Hohertz-Serpan

**REQUEST:** Vacation of Public Way/Right-of-Way

**ZONING:** Platoro Community Town Site

**BACKGROUND:** An application was filed with the Land Use Office on August 3, 2021, for a Vacation of Public Way for the ROW in Platoro between Block 23 First Street West and Block 26 and a portion of Third Avenue North between Block 25 and Block 26. See the attached map.

**OWNERSHIP/LEGAL & SITE DESCRIPTION:** The properties are owned by owned by multiple owners and they have all provided consent to the application and process. All lots roads are in the Town Site of Platoro, Conejos County Colorado.

Jeff & Malinda Serpan, (Block 23 Lots 13-16 and 23-32)

George & Patricia Serpan/Fanchon Serpan/Sexson Families (Block 26 Lots 1-8 and Lots 19-28),

Leach Family (Block 23 Lots 1-12)

Oxford Family (Block 25 Lots 1-11)

**PUBLIC NOTICE REQUIREMENTS:** Notices were mailed to the surrounding landowners 500' (8/30/21) from all boundaries. Notice was published in the Valley Courier, (09/01/2021 & 09/14/2021) and a notice was posted on-site by Jeff Serpan on 08/27/2021. Hard copies of verification are in the file and available for inspection.

**APPLICABLE LAND USE CODE:** Land Use Code – Article 3-Application Process, Article 14 – Public Way Vacations.

**HEARINGS:**

**PLANNING COMMISSION:** PC hearing is scheduled for Wednesday, September 15, 2021, at 6:15 PM. The PC made a recommendation for approval provided that the parties consolidate their lots into one parcel. Motion by Armando, second by Tom. Unanimous vote.

**BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS -** Public hearing is scheduled for Thursday, October 7, 2021, at 11:00 AM. The BOCC conducted the public hearing. Public comments were closed. The Board decided that they would like to see the replat of the consolidated lots for the two separate owners/parties prior to approving the Public Way Vacation. The LUA will provide the copies of the proposed replat and the BOCC will finalize the process.

02/17/2022 – The surveys of the replat were completed. The proposed replats will be reviewed to allow for the final decision concerning the Vacation Plat approval. The vacation plat approval must be recorded prior to the final review of the two re-plat/consolidation cases as reference of the recorded vacation plat must be identified on the survey plats.

Comm. Garcia makes motion to accept the Serpan vacation of right of way in Platoro.

Comm. Baroz seconds that motion

Motion carries 3-0

Res.# C-10-22

## **Ambulance Report – Ernest Abeyta:**

### Discussion Topics

- Monthly Financials.
- Activity log – monthly runs
- Ambulance HQ
- New Equipment.
- Recognition of Steve Sorensen and Rodney King.

## **OEM Report – Rodney King:**

### **Emergency Management Report**

**February 17, 2022**

#### **1. 2021 EMPG-LEMS Grant Activities — See Part I – Work Report for 2022**

2021 EMPG Reimbursement received Dec 26<sup>th</sup> for Qtrs. I, II, & III = \$ 21,768.62

4<sup>th</sup> Quarter Reimbursement request \$8,260.11      Total foe 2021 = \$30,028.73 (\$30,000)

#### **2. EMPG Funding – 2022**

One of the items that is required for 2022 funding is a score on the Conejos County Basic EOP of 90+% for complete funding – including updates and revisions of which I have started.

Updates & revisions Schedule to Policy & Procedures

#### **Corrective action plan Sent to DHSEM (Approved by DHSEM)**

The Conejos County Commissioners along with the Administrator and HR will be hiring (contracting) a person to Administer / Coordinate all present and future Grants for Conejos County. The first assignment will be to work on a new set of Policies and Procedures to comply with your recommendations.

#### Time Line as Follows:

1. The Hiring should be completed the 1<sup>st</sup> Qtr. of 2022
2. Guidance Observations #1 through 2 should be completed and become Official during the 2<sup>nd</sup> Qtr. of 2022
3. Guidance Observations #3 through 5 should be completed and become Official during the 3<sup>rd</sup> Qtr. of 2022
4. Leading Practice Observations # 6 and 7 will be presented for adoption during the 4<sup>th</sup> Qtr. of 2022

**Mitigation Plan – The County needs to better prepare –Fuel for Power Outages (generator for Dist. 1 Fuel Tanks)**

I need permission to work with Don Martinez to install Cutoff Switch for the District 1 Fuel tanks to use generator to power them to refuel Emergency Vehicles in the event of a county wide power failure.

3. 2021 Training and Exercise Plan (TEP) including - EOC position training that would be available to all county employees

4. **5-year Hazard Mitigation Assistance Plan for Conejos County (2022)**

Each county will donate up to \$5,000 in funding and/or in-kind match (same as previous plan) as matching funds for the grant. The Dec 9<sup>th</sup> Conejos County Multi Agency Committee (MAC) / Mitigation meeting earned us between \$2,000 and \$2,200 in in-kind match. The Feb 10<sup>th</sup> Conejos County Multi Agency Committee (MAC) / OP (Operating Plan with the State) / Mitigation meeting earned us an additional between \$2,000 and \$2,100 in in-kind match

Total in-kind match is approximately \$4,200 of the needed \$5,000

Advertising for a company or person to assist in this Regional (by County) Mitigation plan has started. I sent an email to invite you to the first Hazard Mitigation Plan Update Selection meeting on March 3 from 9-10 am

5. **SLV R ECC Funding Request – approval and amount, notification, I did receive a response from the Valley Commissioners Association.**

**I have sent invoices to all the Emergency Managers participating and have already received the \$500 payment from Saguache County.**

6. **I will be attending the CEMA / Colorado DHSEM conference in Loveland next week. Feb 22 – 25.**

### **Sheriff's Report – Garth Crowther**

#### Discussion Topics

- Lease for Crusiers
- MOU for Officer Wellness
- MOU for Victim Advocate
- Need for a doctor on payroll to look over inmates.

Comm. Garcia made motion to ratify lease agreement for Sheriff Office Cruisers

Comm. Baroz seconds Motion

Motion carries 3-0

**Clerk and Recorder – Nathan Ruybal:**

Discussion regarding Large Format Printer

- Clerk Ruybal wanted the record to reflect that he went through the procurement process and received bids from three different vendors.
  - Gobin’s Inc.
  - United Reprographics
  - Tascosa Office Machines
- Clerk Ruybal has chosen to go with Gobin’s Inc. and lease the machine for 60 months.

Comm. Baroz makes Motion to enter Executive Session

Comm. Garcia seconds motion


Motion carries 3-0

Discussion County Road Y Litigation

Back from Executive Session

Adjourn at 11:42am

ATTEST:

  
Nathan Ruybal  
Clerk of the Board

  
Mitchell Jarvies  
Chair of BOCC