
Minutes of the Board of County Commissioners Payroll Meeting held on November 15, 2019 in the Commissioners Board Room, 6683 County Rd 13, Conejos, CO. 81129

Call the meeting to order.

Chrmn. Jarvies called the meeting to order at 9:00 AM.

Roll Call:

Mitchell Jarvies-	Chrmn-Present
Steve McCarroll-	Vice Chair-Present
Carlos Garcia-	Vice Chair-Present
Tressesa Martinez-	County Admn.- Absent

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

Pledge of Allegiance: Chrmn. Jarvies led everyone in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Prayer: Comm. McCarroll gave the opening prayer.

Approval of Agenda

Motion to approve the agenda with the addition of a discussion of hauling dirt/MOU with Nick Gilleland: Comm. McCarroll/Second: Comm. Garcia, all in favor.

3-0 Motion carried.

Approval of Payroll

Motion to approve payroll as presented: Comm. McCarroll/Second: Comm. Garcia, all in favor.

3-0 Motion carried.

Approval of Minutes

Motion to approve the minutes of the November 07, 2019 Regular Meeting: Comm. McCarroll/Second: Comm. Garcia, all in favor.

3-0 Motion carried.

Public Comment: None

Administrator's Correspondence

Chrmn. Jarvies stated that Tressessa County Admn. e-mailed them a copy of Resolution C-39-19, the resolution reads as follows:

RESOLUTION NO. C-39-19

A RESOLUTION PROVIDING FOR THE TRANSFER OF MONEY TO VARIOUS COUNTY FUNDS

WHEREAS, the Conejos County Finance Officer has asserted to the Members of the Board of Commissioners that certain transfers of money should be made. Specifically, the Conejos County Finance Officer has requested that the following transfers be made:

WHEREAS, a budgeted transfer in the amount of One Hundred Thousand Dollars and 00/00 (\$100,000) from the Road and Bridge cash fund to the PILT cash fund for a partial payment for graders and scraper purchased in 2015; and

WHEREAS; a budgeted transfer in the amount of One Hundred Thousand Dollars and 00/100 (100,000) from the PILT Fund to the Public Works Fund; and

WHEREAS, a transfer in the amount of Six Hundred Thousand Dollars and 00/100 (600,000) PILT Cash Fund to the General Operating Fund. Such transfer has been in a budgeted amount; and

NOW THEREFORE, in consideration of the foregoing recitations, BE IT RESOLVED that Mack Crowther, duly elected Conejos County Treasurer, and he is hereby directed and authorized to forthwith transfer the amounts as requested in this resolution.

Motion to approve **RESOLUTION C-39-19 TRANSFER OF MONEY** as presented: Comm. Garcia/Second: Comm. McCarroll, all in favor.

3-0 Motion carried.

Nick Gilleland/Discussion

Chrmn. Jarvies stated that Jeff Peterson mentioned that Nick Gilleland contacted him concerning the 2 reservoirs that they have West of 285 that they basically want hauled off. Nick talked to Jeff to see if the

county would be interested in using that material such as potato rock. Road 18 G South to our pit is pretty narrow especially when they are hauling two trucks have a hard time, the road from 285 West is a pretty rough road as well, it could use some material. Jeff's idea was to haul material from those reservoirs and build that road up so they can have trucks hauling both ways, they could make two good roads. They have usually had a MOA when they trade two loads of dirt for one. He will talk to Donnie and he can meet with Nick and get something in writing. Whatever is left we can stock pile, it is a good road base.

Comm. McCarroll stated that Paul Faucette is crushing some rock and he has to do something with it. They might be able to put that on Road 6, he talked to Donnie so they can work it out. He thinks that he will do the crushing and we take the rock and he wants to offer them the crusher after he is done.

Motion to allow Nick-County Attorney to negotiate with Nick Gilleland on the removal of two reservoirs West of 285 close to Romeo: Comm. Garcia/Second: Comm. McCarroll, all in favor.

3-0 Motion carried.

Letter of Support/Town of Manassa

Chrmn. Jarvies stated that Denny Fringer from Manassa called him, they are working with the Town of Manassa. They are trying to get a tap grant which is for Main Street to do their sidewalks and they asked if we would be willing to write a letter of support; they were not asking for anything else such as money or in kind. The board was okay to go ahead and sign the letter of support.

Attorney-Opiate Litigation

Nick, County Attorney stated that they have been in the opiate litigation for over a year and half. The plaintiffs and the Sackler Family filed for bankruptcy to try to protect some of their fortune so we are in the bankruptcy now through our attorneys. We joined the opioid litigation earlier before the State of Colorado did. We joined after Huerfano at the same time that Alamosa County joined this litigation. Our attorneys are working in the bankruptcy case and that is the only update he has; most of the states have joined in the litigation.

Railroad Discussion

Nick stated that he has sent the correspondence to Mr. Wilson. He responded the date will be December 10th wants to know if the board would want to meet with him, so whoever wants to go he will be there to explain as much as he knows about the case. The receivership judge in Chicago ruled that the receivership will go forward and he expects the bankruptcy court to let go of jurisdiction so it is going to stay in Chicago.

Comm. Garcia asked if the bankruptcy is being halted and are they going to sell the assets.

Nick stated that they are going to appeal it. The receivership started out in Chicago. It was initiated by Big Shoulders, they gave 7 million to Ed Ellis and part of the agreement was that they would have a 3rd party receivership to come in and run the ship right. They are looking to sell assets; there are more liabilities than assets. There is an estimate of 17 million owed to the federal government in payroll taxes; those are probably superior liens to ours. There are retirement taxes and income taxes owed as well. The receivership is there to continue the business as an ongoing concern. Rio Grande and two creditors got together and they decided to file a bankruptcy case on one of the entities which is the entity that runs the railroad here the San Luis and Rio Grande so they are trying to force that entity to go into bankruptcy. The receivership will probably stay in Chicago.

Comm. Garcia asked if that would mean that the assets here would be sold such as the locomotives.

Nick stated that it would be the whole thing; apparently there is a list of buyers. The biggest concern is that the railroad continues to operate, don't know if we have much say in that. We are just waiting to see if the judge would say let's go forward which would be a local case; then we wouldn't have to engage the attorney out of Chicago.

Nick talked about the engagement letter which was dated November 14th. The hourly rate for Jeffrey Paulson is \$375 an hour and for Elizabeth Peterson it is \$350 per hour; they will be working mostly with Elizabeth. He got the information from the receivership's attorney, a local attorney is always better because they have worked with these people and the judge. Nick stated that in paragraph 2 it stated that the firm will contact him by email once it bills the client \$6000 for work on the engagement in order to seek authorization to continue working; this is like a cap. This will help us get some money from the school districts. He wants her to inform them at \$6000 but will

continue up to the \$8000 or \$10,000 mark so everyone is aware of the attorney's fees.

Motion to execute the engagement letter with the Law Office of William J Factor and Conejos County and release the retainer fee of \$2000:
Comm. McCarroll/Second: Comm. Garcia, all in favor.

3-0 Motion carried.

Comm. Garcia stated that he would like to discuss the road out in Capulin; shouldn't they get ahold of Brian Bechaver from the Dept. of Wildlife and Mr. Quintana to let them know whether they want to parcel off 10 acres if they ever do a shooting range. It would be a courtesy to see where they are at if we sell the 80 acres.

Nick Sarmiento stated that he is fine with that; would like to see how they want to market this do they post it on the website or go with a realtor and ask them for bids. There are multiple options of how we sell this; do we auction it off. It just has to be a fair process.

Comm. Garcia stated that the Manassa land is valued at 91,000 he could tell on the acreage.

There was a short discussion of whether to get an appraisal. There are two parcels in Manassa and one in Capulin.

Nick Sarmiento will get a legal description; when he spoke to Linda-Land Use the property adjoins Silver Mountain Disposal.

Chrmn. Jarvies stated that there was an agreement with Mr. Cordova at Silver Mountain Disposal; he put a gate up and built a berm and was using it for dumping and burning.

Comm. McCarroll stated that they should check to see what Mr. Bechaver and Mr. Quintana want to do.

The board will discuss the best way to market the property but they will wait until they hear from Mr. Bechaver and Quintana; they will invite them to their next meeting.

Nick Barela-Dss Report

Nick stated that they would like to add the discussion of the DSS and County Attorney to his agenda. Nick stated that Tressesa, Connie, Nick Sarmiento and himself had a discussion about combining the duties of

Nick's current duties of the county to start doing work with Conejos County DSS which would be effective December 02nd which is Ben's last day with the department. There will be some logistical things that he wants to figure out as far as the time reporting. They are working on that on their side to do time reporting; that is just so they can get the appropriate reimbursement for the programs he is going to be working with. Those are on Child Welfare, also some administrative either through Public Assistance or through his stuff and also Child Support. They will revisit this in six months just to see what it looks like. They will be splitting the salary 50/50 between DSS and the County.

Nick Sarmiento stated that the time keeping will be good because in the future they know exactly how much the county attorney works on a project. In the past there were issues of him keeping time, there were instances when the sheriff would say why were they billing his department; the reality is that he is being used by them. He doesn't know how they want to reflect it in the budget; it was a sore topic in the past. It should capture how much work is being done in the other entities. That is something that they should keep in mind moving forward.

Nick Barela-DSS felt it is good protection planning and how the attorney is allocating his time.

Connie-HR stated that they will be saving quite a bit of money by combining.

Nick stated that he will work it out and turn it over to Nick-DSS and Tressesa, County Admn.

Motion to accept the DSS/County Attorney sharing program that was discussed on restructuring as well as the tracking system: Comm. McCarroll/Second: Comm. Garcia, all in favor.

3-0 Motion carried.

Connie HR mentioned that she had posted the position. They had 1 applicant; she contacted that applicant and explained that with the Sales Tax not passing they would be restructuring and they would no longer have that opening.

Nick Sarmiento stated that since the sales tax did not pass things are going to look different in 2021 and 2022; DSS will always need an attorney.

Nick-DSS requested approval on EBT expenditures in the amount of \$246,666.55 and admin expenditures for last month in the amount of \$27,315.19.

Motion to approve EBT expenditures and payroll as presented by Nick: Comm. Garcia/Second: Comm. McCarroll, all in favor.

3-0 Motion carried.

Case load report was as follows: Child Support-396 Clients, Child Welfare-13 Clients, Adult Financial 136 Clients, Colorado Works-50, Food Assistance-708, and Medical Assistance 1,623 clients.

Thanksgiving Dinner and Parenting Class- Nick stated that they will be partnering with the Knights of Columbus and Padres Adelante Family Services which is one of their contractors to sponsor a Thanksgiving Dinner even and a free parenting class to Conejos County residents which will be held on Friday November 22nd at 5:30 PM. They are inviting anyone who wants to come; they will be giving out turkeys and gas cards for those clients that able to participate. Right now they have about 90 RSVP's.

Letter of Support- Nick stated that he got a request from Gerard Sandoval who is with the Forest Service. He is asking for a letter of support for a state off highway vehicle grant that they are writing. He gave a bit of a description what that grant is for. He is bringing it to the board because this is not a thing that he does at Social Services. The county might have other county business that interacts with this request that he is making. He would like to get feedback from the board.

Comm. Garcia stated that he didn't know that they had trails in our district he knows about motorcycles and bikes; for example he didn't think they could drive a motorcycle on the Continental Divide Trail by the Cumbres Pass.

Chrmn. Jarvies stated that the letter might have been directed to DSS because they work with the youth program.

Nick stated that he was willing to write the letter of support on their collaboration with the Youth Program and how they have partnered with them.

Chrmn. Jarvies mentioned that he visited with Jeremiah Martinez about ATV's and different trails and he said this district is designated as a single track trail district; he can forward it to the board.

Nick-DSS will let Gerard know that he has made his request to the board in today's meeting and that the Board will write a letter of support and they will get that to him.

Comm. Garcia will let Tressesa-County Admn. know about their decision so she may write the letter of support since it is due by December 02nd.

Medicaid Expenditure Report- Nick stated that he had provided the board with some information in regards to the amount of dollars that that are flowing into Conejos County for various services through the Medicaid Program. It was broken up into medical claims and other stuff that he wasn't totally familiar with. Comm. Garcia had some questions about the specifics on those and he sent out a reach out to their representative to see if they can provide that information; some of the school stuff is related to IEP. Alamosa was on there they probably have a kid that is given medical stuff, some of that is just outside of the billing. As soon as he gets that he will share that either by email or at the next Commissioner's Meeting.

Comm. Garcia asked if they were all funding sources.

Nick said yes, some were lumped together one of them was Medicaid claims which includes out patient, long term, pharmacy claims, skill nursing supplement, etc.

Transfer of CCDSS Vehicle- Nick stated that Conejos County DSS transferred ownership of the 2007 Chev Equinox to the Conejos County General Fund. The transfer is in accordance to Title 45. The vehicle was valued at 1,750 so they went ahead and did the transfer. He was hoping to get Tressesa's signature.

Nick stated that he would like to discuss what they can do with the bus in La Jara, he sees no future use for it at Social Services. They need to dispose of it.

LEAP-Outreach Coordinator Contract- Nick stated that the contract is with Ana Elena Rabago for the LEAP OUTREACH Pilot that they will be doing this year here in the county. Total amount of the contract is \$26,000 to be paid via-outreach to LEAP Funds.

Motion to enter into contract with Ana Elena Rabago for LEAP Outreach in the amount of \$26,000: Comm. McCarroll/Second: Comm. Garcia, all in favor.

3-0 motion carried.

Nick stated that she will be housed at DSS 3 days a week for a total of 15 hours and the remaining will be split doing community outreach at Community Centers to help clients fill out their applications. She will be doing a total of 24 hours a week.

La Plata Extension-IGA- Nick stated that La Plata is asking that they extend their IGA until May 2020; they are still catching up on back log.

Motion to approve the Intergovernmental Agreement with La Plata and Conejos County DSS until May 2020: Comm. Garcia/Second: Comm. McCarroll, all in favor.

3-0 Motion carried.

HCCC- Nick stated that this is a renewal of a contract with Prowers County for the hotline center; they take those Child Welfare calls that come into their department and they gather all the information and then they send them to Conejos County for us to figure out how we are going to move forward. The total amount is \$3,796.00. Because it is under the procurement amount he went and signed off on it; mentioned that it is a huge cost saving which is totally worth it.

Annual CCSDD Personal and Merit System- Nick stated that the county is still under the merit system; this is due and is for the year 2020. Every year they have to turn in the certification. It talks about the recruitment selection and advancement of employees is on a basis of abilities and skills, employees shall be trained as needed, employees will be retained on the basis of their adequacy, assure fair treatment of employees in all aspects of personnel administration without political affiliation, etc. there is no change in the verbiage.

Motion to approve the Certification of Compliance-County Personnel and Merit System for the year 2020 as presented: Comm. McCarroll, Second: Comm. Garcia, all in favor.

3-0 Motion carried.

DSS-Policy Updates- Nick stated that he is asking for some changes or remove of language on the Personnel Handbook Effective December 01, 2019. He is asking to remove the following:

- Pg. 11 (Sick Leave, Accrual) request to align w/Conejos County Accrual or Sick Leave.
- Pg. 24,25 (Notice of Conference, Conduct of Conference, Disciplinary Decision)
- Pg. 26,27 (Section VII Grievances)
- Pg. 28 (Dismissal of Trial Service Employer

Change

- Pg. 28 (Dismissal) An appointing authority may separate with prejudice any employee for negligence, poor performance, acts of moral turpitude or other good and sufficient cause as specified in Section VII.
- To: An appointing authority may separate with prejudice any employee for negligence, poor performance, acts of moral turpitude or other good and sufficient cause.
- Nick made reference to Resolution C-01-08.

Nick Sarmiento stated that this will have to be done in a resolution because the policy was passed through a resolution; they will have to amend the resolution at the next meeting.

Connie-HR stated that he should notify his staff of that change and give them adequate notice at least 15 days that it's going to be effective.

Nick-DSS stated that once it is approved his staff will be notified that it has been changed.

Nick Sarmiento will work on the resolution, they will give his employees a 30 comment period and if there is nothing said or if something is said then they approve or disapprove.

Comm. Garcia asked if in a disciplinary action Nick's employees will be treated the same as county employees.

Nick Sarmiento said yes.

Nick-DSS stated that there are still some vacancies that they are working on filling. They are moving some of their current personnel to different positions. They moved their Child Care worker to the new Child Support worker, they have a Case Aid opening and still trying to

find their Child Welfare Case Worker. He did a publication with the Taos newspaper.

There was a short discussion on a computer for the Veterans Officer, Connie HR stated that Tressesa-County Admn. mentioned that they might just go ahead and buy one.

Nick -DSS stated that he will be at the CCI conference the first week of December.

Linda-Land Use Report

Linda gave her report as follows: October fees and permits:

3 Permits, 11 constructions, 1 contractor septic license, accepted 2 applications-either divisions of land, boundary line adjustment, lot consolidation, collected \$22.32 in miscellaneous-those are collected in case they have to mail something such as a plat, 4 address assignments, 4 address signs, 1 utility and Right-of-Way permit for Road and Bridge and one access permit. They brought in \$3,857.32. She will email the year to date information.

Linda stated that she has sent them the proposed fee schedule, she didn't find it in any of the other counties where they have their wireless communication facilities broken down to have the different fee for that; wanted to know if that is something that they want to consider or do they want to leave it as is. Right now it is \$350.00.

Linda asked if they want to do something different in short term overnight lodging permits or leave those as well.

Comm. Carlos asked if she had brought it up before the Planning Commission and also if involves a whole lot of extra time.

Linda said no that was just something that they came across after the fact; wireless communication would not be less; no it doesn't consist of a whole lot of extra time.

Linda stated that the other new fee would be the large lot division; if she has 160 acres and she needs to create a large lot division and they want to create into 35 acre parcels they have a set fee of \$250.00 and proposed increase to \$500.00 but do we want to create a per lot fee.

Comm. Garcia asked how the other counties doing it.

Linda said she couldn't find one; Alamosa doesn't specify those, they say to be determined.

Linda said it is less than a major and the minor went up to 750.00; minor require public hearings and more work.

It was decided to just leave the large lot as it is now.

Linda talked about the construction fees, she feels that they need to adopt them she doesn't know how long it is going to take to get a building code; the fees are still very reasonable. People will question what they are getting for those fees. Chris is out there spending a lot of time with people on everything even though we are not inspecting full inspection and occupancy that goes with it.

Comm. Garcia asked if HORCA is an increment for something wanted to know why it shows RV accessory structure.

Linda stated that she doesn't know what HORCA stands for; and those structures are supposed to be 100 foot structures. They had problems a few years back because they were putting whatever they wanted in them and they did increase the size of them. The reason that they are higher than the others is because they have to go in and verify that they don't have plumbing or any type of water facilities in any of those accessory structures; RV structures only.

Chrmn. Jarvies asked if they need just specify HORCA or do we need to say accessory structures.

Linda said this was specific to HORCA; this would require them going into their property; with the building code they will be going in anyway. She will put a note and they can go over that a little bit more.

Linda asked if they determined a date for a work session.

The board will figure that out, they will check with Tressesa- Admn. and let her know when they meet, they will be meeting to talk about the budget and talk about the 3 properties that they want to sell.

Linda mentioned that she sent them a message on learning about the time analysis Colorado Counties incorporated. She sent them a request for a report that they have to complete in regards to on sight waste water system. That report would really let them know how much it is costing to implement the septic program; she stated that they have never monitored that.

Chrmn. Jarvies asked Linda to talk to Donnie to see if he could create a category in PUB Works.

Connie-HR stated that since that report is due now in December it will have to be their best guess, they will have to track Michelle's time also to see if any of her time is doing permits or if any.

Rodney King-Emergency Preparedness Report

Rodney stated that the governor has a Homeland Security Advisory Committee and there is a sub-committee which is the EMPG Funding sub-committee. Those are the funds they get to help pay for half of his expenses and program. There is a committee that will set up to review how funds are allocated. He was asked to be on the committee to represent rural Emergency Manager's so they started in May. They have met about every month in Denver. They have decided how it should be done and by statute; now they have a backup on how they are going to fund the money. It's been a lot of work but has enjoyed it; they will present it to the big committee in February to see what their recommendations are. For Conejos County it may or not mean more money. To get the money you have to match 50%, there was a lot of discussion on that.

Nick-County Attorney stated that the MOU they are lending it out. They hand out title to the other counties on material such as the lap tops.

Rodney stated that they did a special projects' grant. They used some of their mitigation funds that were left over from 2016 which were set up for regional use anyway each county would kick in \$500. They have 2 I Pads for each county, they will have the track apps on them that way they can track everybody where they are at. He talked to the ladies that are over this program and their suggestion was it's all less than 5000 so FEMA is not really concerned. On the Lap tops they are going to out- right transfer ownership to them with the agreement that they will be used for this service, they will up keep them. The big plotter printer and other equipment which they only have one of each so they can't split it 6 ways; we will retain ownership but they will have exclusive use of it and basically have control of wherever it is needed. That stuff is stored in their IC trailer at the DFEC lot; it is locked and chained in. There was some discussion with Alamosa about the Salamander, they did a project in 2016 in which 5 counties put into it.

Nick Sarmiento stated that he sent them some agreements and one of them is for the Salamander MOU for the bigger stuff. They are going to lend it out to the Emergency Managers they have to up keep it, there is maintenance and they have to return it, we will be the owners of it but the grant purpose was for them to use it but the County Emergency Managers don't have an association so they can't hold title to the

property so we have to hold title to it, at first it was thought that we would be the fiscal agent but since they are not an association we also have to hold title to it and pursuant to the grants there are reporting requirements. They talked to Tressesa-Admn. because the lap tops are not valued so high we don't even depreciate the lap tops; she was okay transferring the lap tops to each individual Emergency Manager but they wanted some assurances from those Emergency Managers that they would give us an accounting every year to see if that equipment was used up at least for 4 or 5 years; that is what he wanted to discuss with the board because it is your property and you are accountable as a fiscal agent for the use of this property and it is a federal grant if it was the State of Colorado he would say they are okay but since it is the feds what kind of safety accountability requirements do you want on this MOU. There are two MOU's one is the Salamander- they'll lend it out and then bring it back, Rodney is going to be in charge of it, we are fine with that. The other stuff we can transfer over but we want some reports so we are both accountable for it, this would be very basic inventory and assurances that it is being used for Emergency Management purposes.

Nick stated that Rodney is suggesting that we hand over ownership. He feels that Rodney should follow up on that; they will have to figure out what they will retain ownership of and which ones will be subject to another MOU where we will divest ourselves of ownership. We will have to figure out which we will retain ownership of and which ones will be subject to another MOU and transfer it over to the appropriate county.

Nick stated if the board is good with that they will finalize both MOU's.

Rodney stated that they do retreats every year, it is \$100.00 for three nights, mentioned that he will let the sheriff talk about the G18 Conejos County Fire, and talked about the drills the schools are doing; would like to do an evacuation drill, some parents hold their kids from school on that day when they have fire drills.

Garth- Sheriff's Report

Sheriff Crowther stated that they had a hostage situation, got a broken windshield on the way down, mentioned that they have people assigned to work on the damage due to the fire. Some people have talked to Thomas because he was to go out there assess things too, they will get the county maps and try to get ahold of everybody that it affected. The investigation is getting close, they had some amazing people come in and look at it.

Sheriff Crowther asked Nick about the model traffic code; wanted to know if they are close.

Nick said that it won't be that much longer.

Sheriff Crowther stated that he and Tressesa have been working on budgets. The numbers at the jail are so low, they are concerned about the bottom end such as the jail staff, cooks and civil clerk they would put it into effect today until the remainder of the year; they have not been fully staffed so the money is there, they are trying to get fully staffed because otherwise they have to pay overtime.

Connie-HR stated that it would not be increasing the budget. They are still within the 2019 budget.

Nick Sarmiento stated that they had a discussion when they were meeting on the budget as to whether the sheriff needs to come in and request approval of the change. They discussed the separation of government and county government. The Board of County Commissioners has control over the budget but once the board releases that budget then it is up to you how to allocate it within reasons if you say you are having 5FTE for deputies you definitely need to come to get a bigger expenditure. If you are going over budget then you need to come to the Board of County Commissioners. It's a good idea to work together especially now that the sales tax didn't pass because it is going to affect the budget in 2020.

Connie-HR stated that they were going to go with the payroll on the 30th because of added burden to the payroll if they have to go back on the date. It would be on the payroll from the 16th to the 30th.

Lois Miller- Sanford Discussion on Museum

Lois stated that she is here on behalf of the museum committee in Sanford. They are just requesting that the county designate our town hall with a historical designation; the reason they are asking for that is because there is some damage to the building something has to be done right away. The building is adobe and it might fall down. The first objective is to get an engineer to assess and apparently there is a grant for that to happen. If they can get that designation then it helps to facilitate that grant and that would speed them up. It is critical that they have that designation; there is so much competition for the grants.

Lois mentioned that the people that have come to see the museum have been really impressed; they have an incredible amount of inventory. The town hall has been used by the church, they have had medical

clinics; the fire department has been there so there is a lot of historical use. That is the only building in the town of historical significance so we would like to preserve it and it fits in well with the museum. The town owns the building and they are very much in support of getting those improvements made, specifically the foundation and the roof; mentioned that their budget is very minimal.

Chrmn. Jarvies stated that they as a county cannot designate it, they can do a resolution recognizing it as a historical building and do all those bullet points to get it on a national register.

Chrmn. Jarvies asked Lois to get ahold of Julie Chacon from the Heritage Area; that would be a project that they would be interested in.

Motion to draft a resolution recognizing the Sanford Museum as a historical building in Sanford, Colorado: Comm. Garcia/Second: Chrmn. Jarvies, all in favor.

2-0 Motion carried.

Chrmn. Jarvies stated that Comm. McCarroll had to leave early but he is also in support.

Comm. Garcia update-Road and Bridge and Jail Project

Comm. Garcia stated that he had sent something to Donnie and his response is as follows: Andrea Jones can meet with us to tour us regarding the Platoro road on Tuesday afternoon on November 19th and will talk to Waldo today. He wanted Donnie to be there but he is unable to attend at this time.

Jail Project-They might have to hire a contractor to put in the septic tank, they will follow up with Donnie when he is feeling better.

Chrmn. Jarvies thought maybe they had to put someone in charge.

Connie-HR- Open Enrollment/Insurance

Connie stated that open enrollment for insurance is Tuesday and Wednesday; she is making it mandatory. They are changing carriers for the life insurance so everyone will have to fill out the new insurance forms.

Rodney King-Hot Wash Meeting Discussion


Rodney stated that they will have a hot wash meeting on Monday at 1:00 PM.

Chrmn. Jarvies stated that when they send officers out to do damage assessments they should send someone from Road and Bridge, someone that is familiar with the area. Mr. Woods isn't familiar with the area, he doesn't know if there was a house, if the structure that was there burned, was it a house that was lived in or not so maybe tag team with the Road and Bridge just to get those counts of the structure damage. That was his only concern that day; they were sending a lot of officers that had no idea what they were looking for.

Comm. Garcia had a question on the dates that Tressesa had re-scheduled to meet on discussion of budgets; he will e-mail the dates and times that he will be available.

There being no further business to come before the board, Chrmn. Jarvies declared the meeting adjourned.

ATTEST:


NATHAN RUYBAL
CLERK AND RECORDER


MITCHELL JARVIES
CHRMN. BD OF COUNTY COMM.

Minutes of the Board of County Commissioners Special Meeting (Budget Hearing) held on December 03, 2019 in the Commissioners Board Room, 6683 County Rd 13, Conejos, CO. 81129

Call the meeting to order.

Chrmn. Jarvies called the meeting to order at 6:30 PM.

Roll Call: Mitchell Jarvies- Chrmn.- Present
Steve McCarroll- Vice Chair- Present
Carlos Garcia- Vice Chair- Present
Tressesa Martinez- County Admn. - Present

Also present were: AnnaBelle Gomez-Deputy Clerk, Myron Price, Loren Mortensen, Kathy Brookes, and Steve Sorensen.

Pledge of Allegiance: Chrmn. Jarvies led everyone in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Prayer: Chrmn. Jarvies gave the opening prayer.

Approval of Agenda

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

3-0 Motion carried.

BUDGET FOR 2020

Chrmn. Jarvies opened up the public hearing to discuss the 2020 Conejos County Budget, turned the time over to Tressesa-County Administrator.

Tressesa-County Admn. went ahead and presented the legal which was sent to the newspaper, it is as follows:

NOTICE is hereby given that the proposed budget has been submitted to the Board of County Commissioners for the year 2020 fiscal year. That a copy of such proposed budget has been filed in the Office of the County Budget Officer in the Conejos County Courthouse where same is open for public inspection. Due to many factors the proposed budget may change between final inspection of the same.

Any elector within Conejos County may inspect the proposed budget and file or register any objections thereto any time and prior to the final adoption of the budget.

NOTICE is also given that the Conejos County Board of Commissioners will hold a public hearing to discuss the adoption of the final Conejos County Budget for the fiscal year 2020. Meeting will be held in the Conejos County Commissioners Board Room on Tuesday December 03, 2019 at 6:30 PM.

This publication was published in the Valley Courier Nov 1st through Nov. 5th, 2019. She added that she had no one come in or request or ask for a copy of the budget, she has had no comments.

Chrmn. Jarvies asked if there was adequate notice public notice for people to attend and be here, also mentioned that they hold those in the evenings so that it is a good time for people to want to be here.

Tressesa mentioned that she did some personal invitations as well; she did send emails out to all elected officials and other people that she invited.

Chrmn. Jarvies mentioned that he did the same with a few people that talked to him about different things.

Chrmn. Jarvies stated that he appreciates those people that attended the budget hearing.

Chrmn. Jarvies stated that they did have public notice; at this time he asked Tressesa to present the budget; mentioned that the General Fund is the one that affects most of the citizens.

Tressesa presented the different funds in Conejos County and the purposes of those funds because they have different functions; stated that the General Fund supplies most of the services, there are about 18 budgets within the General Fund. Tressesa explained how they get their revenues; revenues have not increased in years and expenditures do.

The first part of the budget were all the revenues that they receive for services such as Veterans Services, different grants, all the elected officials bring in revenues such as the Sheriff, Clerk and Treasurer, the biggest one is property tax. They receive PILT from BLM and Forest Service.

Tressesa talked about transfers from other funds and explained why that is necessary.

Chrmn. Jarvies stated that those transfers are from PILT into the General Fund in order to make that work.

As County Admn. Tressesa went through each department she explained that the budgets include salaries, health benefits, supplies, etc.; talked about the different departments that need new computer systems. Mentioned that they have been trying to cut where they can; also talked about how minimum wage has affected all the departments, so they have had to do some increases.

Chrmn. Jarvies mentioned that the Clerk and Recorder has some state mandates that they have to deal with for example it is required for elections.

Tressesa stated that includes voting equipment which has to be changed about every 3-4 years.

Tressesa talked about the DA's Office, how they have been losing attorneys because they can't prosecute because lack of funding; they had to increase their funding which is mandated by statute.

Ambulance Service- There was a short discussion concerning the ambulance runs. Kathy Brookes had a concern about out of valley transports; she felt it is something that should be looked at.

The board stated that that Medicaid or Medicare don't pay the full bill, private pay does.

Chrmn. Jarvies stated that we are the second busiest ambulance in the valley right now with the regular calls and the only one without a taxing district but they haven't stopped looking at it.

Comm. Garcia mentioned that they had department budget discussions and they did address that with Ernest.

Tressesa stated that John Montano had mentioned that they are losing money everywhere, Alamosa works under the hospital.

Chrmn. Jarvies mentioned that with the full time ambulance crew they have cut response time. Sheriff Crowther has mentioned that there have been lives that have been saved because they are there, sometimes 5 minutes makes a difference; they have looked at both sides of it.

People are thinking for the good of the county and we do want it to work.

Chrmn. McCarroll stated that when the ambulance wasn't on the run they could help at the hospital at the ER but because of liability they would not be covered by the hospital.

Chrmn. Jarvies mentioned that the hospital loves our people there; but because of the liability they couldn't be there and our insurance would not cover them at the hospital.

Comm. Garcia mentioned that we lost the sales tax, how do the people that were in attendance feel about a taxing district.

Myron Price stated that if people want the service they will have to pay.

Kathy Brookes stated that the sales tax has to be explained in small words so that people understand; they need it in black and white.

Comm. McCarroll mentioned that all the sales tax questions on the ballot failed even at the state level that was the CC and DD; those didn't pass either.

Tressesa, continued with Emergency Management, stated that Rodney is very well respected at the state, explained the General Fund and PILT fund balances, Contingency Fund, Conservation Trust, Road and Bridge- receives money from Highway Users Tax Money-which is tax on fuel, Secure Rural Schools- most of this is transferred to the schools.

There was discussion on bridges. A lot of bridges need repairs. They have looked at bridge grants but they need matching funds.

Tressesa stated that they apply for grants but a lot of those grants are not for operating, a lot of those grants are for certain purposes only.

Tressesa stated that Public Works is used for building.

Samatha from Public Health talked about the following:

Samantha stated that those grants will only allow you to spend on certain things; you cannot use those monies to pay utility bills, etc.

Nursing Fund- they have 3 main funds; that was changed to Public Health Act.

PCP Program is Medicaid based only, they have 100 clients, and 60 providers, also talked about minimum wage, and electronic visits which are changes in that department.

OLTC-Single Entry Point which is for people that are on Medicaid, they have case managers that help them qualify for the program.

Samantha mentioned that the audit is getting harder for the federal funds.

Nursing Public Health Fund- The state gives them 30,000 a year; explained tobacco free, talked about immunizations in the county.

Commodities- 360 clients, those are clients that are over 65 years old.

Samantha stated that they are trying to cut expenditures like the other departments.

There was a short discussion on the money that has to be sent back to the state from OLTC, that amount is \$650,000.00.

Tressesa stated that the Lodging Tax is used to market recreation throughout the county.

Tressesa explained the General Contingency Fund and Tabor.

The total budget for 2020 is as follows:

Department of Social Services	6,939,681
General Fund	4,521,715
PILT	1,900,000
Contingency Fund	475.00
Conservation	67,341
Road and Bridge	2,786,406
Capital Expenditures	30,475
PCP- Personal Care Provider	641,455
OLTC	539,736
Nursing	243,684
CSFP-Commodities Supplement Foods	44,510
Lodging Tax	58,800
General Contingency Fund	90,000

Total:

17,864,278

Myron Peterson asked what their consensus was if they stopped helping people outside of the weed district because they got a lot of people that participated. They received a grant from the Dept. of Agriculture for 20,000. He stated that he can run the program but can't afford to pay himself.

Chrmn. Jarvies stated that they appreciate what Mr. Price is doing.

Loren Mortensen stated that they appreciate what Myron has done; has a concern that without funding can they fund outside of the district, most noxious weeds are outside of the district.

Myron Price stated that they are going to keep applying for grants; thanked the board.


Chrmn. Jarvies asked if there were any other comments, any other comments, any other comments, there being none he closed the public comment portion of the hearing and asked for a motion to approve the budget as presented.

Motion to approve the budget for 2020 as presented: Comm.
McCarroll/Second: Comm. Garcia, all in favor.

3-0 motion carried.

There being no further business to come before the board, Chrmn. Jarvies adjourned the meeting.

ATTEST:


NATHAN RUYBAL
CLERK OF THE BOARD


MITCHELL JARVIES
CHRMN. BD OF COUNTY COMM.