

Regular Meeting

August 8, 2023

The Colfax County Board of Commissioners met on this date in Regular Session in the Commission Chambers with the following members present:

Si Trujillo, Chairman
Mary Lou Kern, Vice-Chairman
Bret Wier, Member
Rayetta M. Trujillo, County Clerk
Monte Gore, County Manager

1. Call to Order

Chairman Trujillo called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

2. Pledge of Allegiance

Commissioner Kern led the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. Salute to the New Mexico Flag

Commissioner Wier led the Salute to the New Mexico Flag.

4. Approve Agenda

Chairman Trujillo asked if the Commission had any changes. Commissioner Kern made a motion to approve the agenda as presented. Commissioner Wier seconded the motion. Chairman Trujillo asked for a roll call vote, the Clerk polled the Commissioners. Commissioner Kern – aye, Commissioner Wier – aye, and Chairman Trujillo – aye. The motion carried unanimously.

5. Approve Regular Meeting Minutes for July 25, 2023

Chairman Trujillo asked if the Commissioners had any comments or corrections on the Regular Meeting Minutes for July 25, 2023. Commissioner Kern made a motion to approve the Regular Meeting Minutes for July 25, 2023, as presented. Commissioner Wier seconded the motion. Chairman Trujillo asked for a roll call vote, the Clerk polled the Commissioners. Commissioner Kern – aye, Commissioner Wier – aye, and Chairman Trujillo – aye. The motion carried unanimously.

6. Recognize Visitors

Chairman Trujillo thanked everyone for attending the meeting. Others present: Sara Torres, Leonard Baca, Timothy Martinez, Tina Colangelo, Joana Apodaca, Amadeo Soto, Virginia Strohm, Roger Smith, Jun Roh, Jayna Saiz, Bo Beames, Roy Fernandez, Fred Martinez, Julie Main, Tiana Romero, Todd Tatum and John Pate and Mike Provine via electronic device.

7. Public Comment

Chairman Trujillo asked if there were any requests or responses from the audience on anything that was not on the agenda. There was no public comment.

8. Presentation – Miners Colfax Medical Center Update, Beau Beams

Bo Beames, Chief Executive Officer, presented the updates that have been made to MCMC. Mr. Beames went over the External Environment Challenging Healthcare, which are Inflation, Reduction of Reimbursement from Medicaid, High Technology Costs, Regulatory Costs, Labor and Agency Costs including SNM Wage increase and declining population in rural communities. Mr. Beames stated the financial health (post-Covid) emerged as the biggest challenge for rural hospitals. Mr. Beames stated that the changes require MCMC Financial Goal be to break even – costs don't exceed revenue. Decreases to average daily costs by \$10,000 or \$3.65 mil per year – Decrease Agency and Position attrition. Mr. Beames stated Daily Net Patient Revenue needs to increase by \$15,000.00 (Medicaid Rate increase, VPB Supplemental Payments, OB Medicaid IGT and General Fund). Mr. Beames advised the Commission of the Mission of Miners' Colfax Medical. Mr. Beames went over the MCMC Vision – Partnering with other healthcare providers who share Medical Center's Values, and to be a leader in providing the region's healthcare services. The Medical Center has a responsibility to serve the miner beneficiaries and the public. The Medical Center also has a responsibility to itself to accept the challenges of its unique work situation. Mr. Beames went over the values that are desired behaviors needed to support the mission and vision of

Miners' Medical Center – Continuous improvement, Accountability, Respect and Respond, Engagement, and Safety. Mr. Beames went over the strategic initiatives – Quality and Patient Safety, Workforce Development, Financial Health, Medical Staff Development, Long Term Care, Black Lung & Miner Community and Governance. Mr. Beames stated the Executive Process 2022-2023 is to Establish Strategic Initiatives for MCMC, define what they are trying to accomplish, Develop Measures of Success and Performance, Align MCMC Employee Efforts in Achieving MCMC Strategic Initiatives, communicate results and achievement of key milestones on periodic bases and recognize and celebrate victories and successes along the way. Mr. Beames stated they must work on the what and then on the how. The quality and patient safety, workforce development, financial health, medical staff, long term care, Black Lung Outreach Program, and Governance. Mr. Beames went over the Board Oversight – the Approach – Adult Learning – professional inquiry and discovery questions, inquire as to how leaders will accomplish initiatives, recognize successes, assess risks/concerns, Ensure adequate resources, Hold Leadership Accountable. Mr. Beames named the Board Members – Shawn Jeffrey, Chair, Loretta Conder, MD, Vic-Chair, Gene Sisneros, Secretary, Roy Fernandez, Member and Jo Greene, Member. Mr. Beames stated they intend to revise and update the MCMC Strategic Plan for 2024 – Review Progress and Accomplishments, Revise and Update Strategic Initiatives, Execute-Monitor ongoing progress at Leadership and Board Meeting and Celebrate Achievement of Milestones and Outcomes. Mr. Beames stated the key to future success is great strategy, excellence in Execution, Leadership Execution – Getting the right people together to have the right conversation, in the right manner to get the right result. Mr. Beames asked if the Commissioners had any questions. Commissioner Kern thanked Mr. Beames for attending the meeting and the very important information. Commissioner Kern questioned if the primary funding for MCMC came from the State Land Trust Fund and was told no. Commissioner Wier asked if an Urgent Care in the Moreno Valley would be positive for the Hospital. Mr. Beames stated it would not be a threat to the hospital and they may be successful in obtaining doctors due to the location. Mr. Beames stated the Hospital received about \$9 million a year from the State Land Trust. Chairman Trujillo thanked Mr. Beames and stated they do have his full support. Mr. Beames stated they do operate on their reserves and will be going to the Legislature to seek more funding. Commissioner Trujillo stated he is in support of Community Development and the ICU needs to remain suspended at this time and not closed.

9. Discuss/Action – Indigent Care Claims

Tiana Romero, Indigent Care Claims Clerk, stated there were two new cases #2023-14 & 2023-15 for cremations to Riverside Funeral Home in the amount of \$1,200.00. Both are within the income guidelines. Commissioner Kern made a motion to approve the Indigent Care Claims as presented. Commissioner Wier seconded the motion. Chairman Trujillo asked for a roll call vote, the Clerk polled the Commissioners. Commissioner Kern – aye, Commissioner Wier – aye, and Chairman Trujillo – aye. The motion carried unanimously.

10. Discuss/Action – Aviation Grant Agreement, Project No AXX-24-01, Between NM Department of Transportation, Aviation Department and Colfax County

Joana Apodaca, Financial Specialist, stated this grant is from the NMDOT in the amount of \$1,215,000.00 for Airport Hangar repairs. Joana stated there is not a match from the County for this grant. Commissioner Kern made a motion to approve the Aviation Grant Agreement, Project No AXX-24-01, Between NM Department of Transportation, Aviation Department and Colfax County. Commissioner Wier seconded the motion. Chairman Trujillo asked for a roll call vote, the Clerk polled the Commissioners. Commissioner Kern – aye, Commissioner Wier – aye, and Chairman Trujillo – aye. The motion carried unanimously.

11. Discuss/Action – Resolution 2023-27, A Resolution to Adopt Amendments to The Enchanted Circle Council of Governments (ECCoG) Joint Powers Agreement

Chairman Trujillo stated he brought this forward since he sits on this board, due to the JPA Agreement needing to be amended. Commissioner Wier asked if the document could be amended to not name the representative from Commission District 3, in-case the Commissioner from District 2 might want to serve on the Council. Chairman Trujillo stated if the document was amended it would have to go before all the entities involved in the ECCoG, as they were bringing on Taos Pueblo also. Commissioner Wier made a motion to approve Resolution 2023-27, A Resolution to Adopt Amendments to The Enchanted Circle Council of Governments (ECCoG) Joint Powers Agreement. Chairman Trujillo seconded the motion. Chairman Trujillo asked for a roll call vote, the Clerk polled the Commissioners. Commissioner Kern – aye, Commissioner Wier – aye, and Chairman Trujillo – aye. The motion carried unanimously.

12. Discuss/Action – Approval of Professional Architectural/Engineering Services of Colfax County Event Center Restroom Upgrades

Manager Gore stated he was directed to work on getting the restrooms repaired/rebuilt at the event center and stated he met with Mike Provine, and they visited the site. Manager Gore stated the estimate was in the packets. Mike stated the current restrooms were either tough sheds or Morgan Buildings that were added to the current building. Mike stated once you start working on the restrooms, the building will need

to be brought up to code for the Sprinkler System, Fire Alarms, Electrical and any Safety and Energy Systems. Mike stated this will not be a cheap undertaking. Chairman Trujillo stated the renovation costs will be \$450,000.00, which a lot of this is just to bring the building up to code. It was mentioned the County currently has \$232,000.00 in the Lodger's Tax Fund to go towards the building of restrooms and the County has received a small grant in the amount of \$45,000.00 for a total of \$277,000.00. Commissioner Kern stated maybe they should consider just building a new building. Commissioner Wier stated he agreed that would serve the same function and the bathrooms could be added and a kitchen also. After further discussion, Chairman Trujillo asked if there was a way to just build the bathrooms and add a hallway to the current building. It was mentioned it may be a liability due to the safety issues. Commissioner Kern stated the safety issues in the main building need to be addressed. After further discussion, Commissioner Kern made a motion to postpone the Approval of Professional Architectural/Engineering Services of Colfax County Event Center Restroom Upgrades to a future date. Commissioner Wier seconded the motion. Chairman Trujillo asked for a roll call vote, the Clerk polled the Commissioners. Commissioner Kern – aye, Commissioner Wier – aye, and Chairman Trujillo – aye. The motion carried unanimously.

13. Commissioners' Docket

Commissioner Kern asked if the grant writer position has been filled yet. Manager Gore stated that it has not been filled yet and they are still advertising for the position. Commissioner Kern stated that she has had some calls about the trash in Raton and Ute Park. Manager Gore stated that they are continuing to work with Tri-State on the trash issues and Tri-State is working on replacing dumpsters with bear proof lids. Manager Gore suggested that they call the Manager's office so that they can respond to the situation in a timely manner.

Commissioner Wier asked for an update on the commercial airline grant application and what steps are being taken to develop a marketing plan. Commissioner Wier stated that the Angel Fire Resort verbally agreed to pay half of the match for the airport, and he would like to see a contract agreement between the County and Angel Fire Resort. Commissioner Wier asked for an update on the fire station at the airport. Chairman Trujillo asked Manager Gore to also follow up with an e-mail to the Commissioners. Manager Gore stated that Virginia has made a sample contract and has submitted it to Advanced Air for their review and it has also been sent to the attorney for his review. Manager Gore stated if there are any changes they will be made and then it will be brought to the Commission. Manager Gore stated that the grant application can be filled out and submitted to the NMDOT, but they will not approve or deny it until we have a signed contract. Commissioner Wier stated that he is concerned because the primary use is going to be during the ski season, and he would like to see this done by mid-December when the season starts. County Attorney Jun Roh stated that the target date for the contract is December 2023. Manager Gore stated that the latest on the fire station is that himself, Fire Marshal Nick Cardenas, and Mike Provine continue to work on this, and the basic issue is that the FAA has never approved it and they are continuing to work with the FAA for approval. Commissioner Wier suggested that Manager Gore contact Jeff Gilmer to see if he can help move things along with the FAA. Commissioner Kern stated that at one point when she was Manager Mike Provine had found a work around without the approval of the FAA. Manager Gore stated that he was not aware of any work around. Commissioner Wier stated that he is still getting calls about the trash in Black Lake and suggested more frequent pickups during peak season such as three times a week, fencing, cameras, signs and suggested getting a roll off back. Commissioner Wier asked if there was any progress on the Eagle Nest site with swapping land with the Village of Eagle Nest. Manager Gore stated that Tri-State has been picking up trash three times a week and we do have solid waste staff going up there to check the facility. Manager Gore stated that Maintenance Supervisor Fred Martinez is working with a contractor for the fencing, and we had some cameras donated to us and the solid waste coordinator is working with IT to get cameras set up there. Manager Gore stated that as for the Eagle Nest site, he has not had a chance to go up there. Commissioner Wier stated that he has also had calls about some roads in Moreno Valley that need some maintenance and speed limit signs. Manager Gore stated that constituents should continue to call the Manager's Office and Road Superintendent Glen Stevens with their issues, but the priority has been repairing roads and bridges that were washed out during the recent rainstorms, but he will follow up with Glen on those issues. Commissioner Wier stated that last week he attended the NMC Board of Directors meeting, and he discussed the NMC priorities for the next Legislative Session.

Chairman Trujillo stated that the New Mexico State Regents is going to be meeting in the Commission Chambers tomorrow night at 6:00 p.m. and stated that they are in search of a new president and invited the public to attend. Chairman Trujillo stated that in the last two weeks he has had meetings with Senator Lujan and Senator Heinrich's offices to follow up on Congressional Direct Spending and to keep in contact with them. Chairman Trujillo stated that the City of Raton just completed a new hangar project at their airport, and he is requested that a representative from the City of Raton, himself, Manager Gore, and Jeff Gilmer go out and tour their new hanger before the county starts the Angel Fire airport hangar project. Chairman Trujillo stated that he gave a tour to a film scout, and they toured some of the county properties and the county building. Chairman Trujillo stated that he went out to the solar farm, and they are up and running and it is producing DC power.

14. Managers' Docket

Manager Gore stated that originally the E-911 system had 2,000 errors and about fifty percent of those have been corrected but, in the process, they have since found new ones that need to be fixed. Manager Gore stated that he contacted Tyler Fossett who is New Mexico's E-911 GIS Coordinator to ask for assistance. Manager Gore stated that Tyler is going to assign a GIS specialist who will work on fixing our E-911 database and he is going to facilitate and fund this project. Commissioner Wier thank Manager Gore for his efforts on the E-911 issues. Manager Gore presented Maintenance Supervisor Fred Martinez with a letter of appreciation. Fred recognized his staff for their hard work.

15. Adjourn

Commissioner Kern made a motion to adjourn. Commissioner Wier seconded the motion. Chairman Trujillo asked for a roll call vote, the Clerk polled the Commissioners. Commissioner Kern – aye, Commissioner Wier – aye, and Chairman Trujillo – aye. The motion carried unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 11:15 a.m.

COLFAX COUNTY BOARD COMMISSIONERS

Si Trujillo

Chairman

Mary Ann Kern

Vice-Chairman

[Signature]

Member

ATTEST:



[Signature]
Clerk of the Board