

November 14, 2023
Regular Meeting

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

1. Call to Order

Chairman Trujillo called the meeting to order at 9:15 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 there were any corrections or changes to the agenda. Commissioner Wier made a motion to approve the agenda as presented. Commissioner Kern 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 October 24, 2023

Chairman Trujillo asked if the Commissioners had any comments or corrections on the Regular Meeting Minutes for October 24, 2023. Commissioner Kern made a motion to approve the Regular Meeting Minutes for October 24, 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: Regina Slade, Sara Torres, Chris Schear, Julie Martinez, Joana Apodaca, Virginia Strohm, Roger Smith, Todd Tatum, Carol Bridge, Tarin Giacomo, Tammy Brandfas, Kayvan Khaalatbari, Hugh Floyd, and via electronic device – Jun Roh, Mike Provine and Lisa Spangler.

7. Public Comment

Chairman Trujillo asked if there were any requests or responses from the audience on anything that was not on the agenda. Virginia Strohm updated the Commission on the progress of the E911 addressing corrections. Virginia advised the Commission the State requested the County reach out to communities that do GIS and she said Raton is interested in attending the training as well as Joe and Chris from the Assessor's Office and possibly the Village of Angel Fire.

8. Readdressing Proclamation in Support of The New Mexico Practitioner Council Celebrating National Nurse Practitioner Week, November 12- 18, 2023, and the Valuable Contributions Nurse Practitioners Make Every Day Serving the Citizens of New Mexico

Commissioner Wier stated he wanted to take the opportunity to speak on how lucky Colfax County is to have Nurse Practitioners who take care of patients. Commissioner Wier stated Nurse Practitioners are the predominant caregivers and they are a value to the communities.

9. Discuss/Action – Approve Expenditures

General Fund	\$890,904.15
General Hold Harmless GRT	\$0.00
Hold Harmless GRT	\$0.00
Corrections Fund	\$80,453.48

County Property Valuation	\$20,306.25
Vermejo Debt Service	\$0.00
County Road Department	\$101,194.55
French Tract Fire Fund	\$15,784.48
Miami Fire Fund	\$646.47
Farley Fire Fund	\$85,923.42
Ute Park Fire Fund	\$464.20
Philmont Fire Fund	\$3,773.71
Moreno Valley Fire Fund	\$5,465.71
County Fire Marshal Fire Fund	\$3,885.19
Rapid Response Fire Fund	\$699.60
Vermejo Park Fire Fund	\$223.21
Moreno Valley Wildfire	\$0.00
Farley Wildfire Suppression	\$0.00
French Tract Wildfire Suppression	\$0.00
Miami Wildfire Suppression	\$0.00
Philmont Wildfire Suppression	\$0.00
Ute Park Wildfire Suppression	\$0.00
Vermejo Wildfire Suppression	\$3,351.39
CC Rapid Response Wildfire Suppression	\$0.00
Fire Marshal Wildfire Suppression	\$0.00
Law Enforcement Protection	\$16,257.44
Law Enforcement Recruitment	\$8,853.40
Lodgers Tax	\$1,732.71
YES Program	\$17,499.47
YES, BHSD Prevention	\$57,671.08
Maternal/Child Healthcare	\$0.00
NM Transportation Grants	\$0.00
WIPP	\$0.00
Legislative Appropriations	\$0.00
Indigent Care Gross Receipts	\$677.00
Fire Protection – Fire Excise Tax	\$0.00
Community DWI – TSB	\$0.00
DWI Distribution	\$11,283.01
LDWI Grant	\$900.00
State Farm	\$0.00
DWI-ALC	\$0.00
Recording/Filing Fund	\$8,369.64
American Rescue Plan Act	\$17,845.89
Sheriff Forfeiture Fund	\$0.00
MCMC Hospital Fund	\$0.00
Capital Improvement	\$33,990.91
CAP IMP HHGRT/2015	\$0.00
Angel Fire Airport Improvements	\$143,260.91
Angel Fire Airport FFA	\$0.00
Tiger Grant IX	\$0.00
Revenue Bonds Debt Service	\$0.00
Bond Series Jud Ctr	\$0.00
French Tract Debt Service	\$0.00
Miami Fire Debt Service	\$0.00
Philmont Debt Service	\$0.00
Moreno Fire Debt Service	\$0.00
VMDC/NMFA Loan	\$0.00
Dist. 8 Debt Service	\$0.00

Vermejo Debt Service	\$0.00
Solid Waste Fees	\$74,484.66
Colfax County Airport Operations	\$12,554.24
Total	\$1,535,365.26

Chairman Trujillo asked if the Commissioners had any questions or comments regarding the expenditures. Commissioner Kern asked about the invoice to Markus Printing in the amount of \$320.00 for business cards. Commissioner Kern stated she was asking about the foil printed cards because she received two calls from constituents regarding the cards. Commissioner Kern questioned the legal fees, stating the amount budgeted was \$100,000.00 and \$85,000.00 plus has already been expended so it only leaves \$14,000.00 for the rest of the year. Chairman Trujillo stated the County Attorney needs to be used less and use our local resources more. Commissioner Wier questioned the \$42,000.00 for IT Services along with the \$83,514.00 for vehicles out of the Sheriff's Department line item and questioned the line item for printing and publishing. Joana Apodaca explained the overage in the IT Services Line item was due to the Contract for the IT Director and additional sound systems and sound equipment purchased. Joana stated the Sheriff's line item was for the purchase of two vehicles and equipping them and the printing and publishing was for notices for meetings, agendas, and all publications from the Manager's Office. Commissioner Wier questioned the line item for Workers Comp and was told it was for the insurance premium, which had increase by \$40,000.00. After further discussion, Commissioner Wier made a motion to approve the October Expenditures as presented. Commissioner Kern 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 - Approve Expenditures Pursuant to Resolution #2022-49

Commissioner Wier made a motion to Approve Expenditures for October Pursuant to Resolution #2022-49. Chairman Trujillo seconded the motion. Chairman Trujillo asked for a roll call vote, the Clerk polled the Commissioners. Commissioner Kern – abstain, Commissioner Wier – aye, and Chairman Trujillo – aye. The motion carried.

11. Discuss/Action – Indigent Care Claims

Tiana Romero stated there were two claims, Cases Number 2023-23 and 2023-24 submitted from the VMDC in the amount of \$666.00 to Advanced MD and one in the amount of \$906.00 to MCMC for a total of \$1,572.00 both claims meet all the requirements of the Indigent Care. 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.

12. Discuss/Action – Letter of Support, Ramel Family Farms, Kayvan S.T. Khalatbari

Kayvan Khalatbari stated he is requesting the Commission write a letter of support for the Ramel Family Farms to be able to pursue funding via the Healthy Food Financing Fund grant cycle. Mr. Khalatbari stated they serve residents of Northern New Mexico specifically Colfax County with fresh healthy food. Mr. Khalatbari stated if this grant is received, they will be able to provide food to the schools. Mr. Khalatbari stated they currently have four residents from Colfax County that are employed by Ramel Family Farms. After further discussion, Commissioner Kern made a motion to approve the Letter of Support for the Ramel Family Farms, Kayvan S.T. Khalatbari. 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. Discuss/Action – Claim of Exemption # 5, Edward and Georgia Bell, Billy Ray and Karen Floyd, Wesley and Debbie Floyd, Edmund Otis and Dixie Floyd, Doris and Ronnie Gustin, Hugh and Shawna Floyd

Julie Martinez presented the Claim of Exemption #5 submitted by Edward and Georgia Bell, Billy Ray and Karen Floyd, Wesley and Debbie Floyd, Edmund Otis and Dixie Floyd, Doris and Ronnie Gustin, Hugh and Shawna Floyd. Julie stated the Exemption has been reviewed and approved by the County Attorney. Commissioner Kern stated she was appointed by the Court to help with the division of the property. County Clerk Trujillo requested from this point forward all the Exemption applications submitted to the County should be completed with the description of where the property was located rather than just stating see attached. Clerk Trujillo stated she felt it should not be up to her staff to try and figure out what needs to be indexed and did not want to be responsible for clouding someone's title. After further discussion, Chairman Trujillo made a motion to approve the Claim of Exemption # 5 for Edward and Georgia Bell, Billy Ray and Karen Floyd, Wesley and Debbie Floyd, Edmund Otis and Dixie Floyd, Doris and Ronnie Gustin, Hugh and Shawna Floyd. Commissioner Kern 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.

14. Discuss/Action- Resolution 2023-39, First Amendment to Local Government Road Fund Cooperative Agreement, Contract D19403, Control # L400578

Tammy Brandfas stated that this is an extension for the gravel project from December 31, 2023, until December 31, 2024. Commissioner Kern made a motion to approve Resolution 2023-39, First Amendment to Local Government Road Fund Cooperative Agreement, Contract D19403, Control # L400578. 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.

15. Discuss/Action-Acceptance, First Amendment to Local Government Road Fund Cooperative Agreement, Contract D19403, Control # L400578

Commissioner Kern made a motion to approve the Acceptance, First Amendment to Local Government Road Fund Cooperative Agreement, Contract D19403, Control # L400578. 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.

16. Discuss/Action-Resolution 2023-40, First Amendment to Local Government Road Fund, Contract D19404, Control # L400592

Commissioner Kern made a motion to approve Resolution 2023-40, First Amendment to Local Government Road Fund, Contract D19404, Control # L400592. 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.

17. Discuss/Action-Acceptance, First Amendment to Local Government Road Fund, Contract D19404, Control # L400592

Commissioner Kern made a motion to approve the Acceptance, First Amendment to Local Government Road Fund, Contract D19404, Control # L400592. 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.

18. Discuss/Action – Task Order # 4, Molzen-Corbin Engineering Services, Blosser Gap Bridge Replacement

Virginia Strohm stated she is bringing the task order to the Commission for two reasons, one because the task order needs to be signed and second because Mike Provine made some changes to the task order. Virginia stated that the old task order was for \$ 114,345.34 and the new task order is for \$121,215.90 which includes tax. Mike Provine stated that this also includes the low water crossing. Commissioner Kern made a motion to approve Task Order # 4, Molzen-Corbin Engineering Services, Blosser Gap Bridge Replacement. 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.

19. Discuss/Action – Amendment to Vigil Maldonado Detention Center Detainee Handbook, Addendum 1

Warden Regina Slade stated that this is a policy update which is needed for accreditation. Commissioner Wier stated that there are some punctuation issues and asked that they be corrected. Warden Slade stated that she thinks the issue is with when she sends the updates to the attorney to review, and things change because one is using Word format, and one is using PDF format, but she will get it fixed. Commissioner Kern made a motion to postpone the Amendment to Vigil Maldonado Detention Center Detainee Handbook, Addendum 1 until the corrections are made. 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.

20. Discuss/Action – Lodgers Tax Promotional Funding, Phillips Broadcasting, Radio Advertising

Virginia Strohm stated that this is an annual request for promotional advertising. Commissioner Wier made a motion to approve the Lodgers Tax Promotional Funding, Phillips Broadcasting, Radio Advertising. Commissioner Kern 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.

21. Discuss/Action – Letter of Interest for the Department of Transportation FY 2023 Thriving Communities Program as a Partner Organization to the City of Raton

Tarin Giacomo stated that in the Commission packets there was information on the Thriving Communities Program, and she is asking for a letter of interest from the Commission. Tarin explained how the program worked. Commissioner Kern made a motion to approve the Letter of Interest for the Department of Transportation FY 2023 Thriving Communities Program as a Partner Organization to the City of Raton. 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.

22. Managers' Docket

Chairman Trujillo stated that Manager Gore is out of the office today and asked Financial Specialist Joana Apodaca if she had anything to report. Joana Apodaca stated that she was asked to talk to the Commission about scheduling a meeting for a claim of exemption for Stan Samuels. Joana stated after reviewing the application and what was discussed previously regarding the property legal being on the exemption form, the application was returned to Mr. Samuels for clarification on the legal description of the property as he had written see attached as the description. Joana stated that after they receive the correction on the application, they will work with the Commission to schedule a Special Meeting or add it to the agenda for the December 12, 2023, meeting. Commissioner Wier was concerned with the change in the application process. Chairman Trujillo stated that it is a simple adjustment on the form and informed the Commission that Mr. Samuels had a buyer for the other property covered by this exemption. Chairman Trujillo asked the Commissioners if November 21, 2023, would be a good date to schedule a special meeting for the exemption the Commissioners all agreed on that date. Joana clarified and addressed the questions that were asked about the expenditures from prior in the meeting.

23. Commissioners' Docket

Commissioner Kern asked Mike Provine if he had a timeline as to how long it will take to get the permits for the Blosser Gap Bridge project. Mike stated that he did not have a timeline right now. Commissioner Kern asked if they could do an emergency procurement for the dirt work instead of going out to bid since the county declared it an emergency. Virginia stated that even if they do an emergency procurement it is still the same process and time frame. Virginia stated the state determined it was not an emergency. Commissioner Wier stated that the State did decline the emergency declaration. Commissioner Kern asked that the RFB be added to the agenda for the Special Meeting to take place on November 21, 2023.

Commissioner Wier stated that there is a lot of roadwork that needs to be done throughout the county and the road department needs some help to get this done. Commissioner Wier suggested that the county start to contract out some of the road projects. Commissioner Wier asked for an update on the new building for the road department. Joana stated that there have been several meetings between herself, Manager Gore, and Road Superintendent Glen Stevens about contracting out work for the road department. Chairman Trujillo stated that he supports the road department contracting out but only until they get caught up with their projects.

Chairman Trujillo stated that he would like to get the early registration done for the Legislative Conference and asked Joana to register the Commission and send confirmation to them. Chairman Trujillo stated that he attended the Las Animas County Commission meeting, and they requested that the Emergency Manager's from both counties meet, they had some concerns about protecting the watersheds. Chairman Trujillo stated that he has been talking with the DOT Cabinet Secretary and Pedro Rael who is the Aviation Director, and he is going to have a meeting with them next week and asked Commissioner Wier if he would like to attend the meeting. Chairman Trujillo stated that the county was closed last Thursday in observance of Veterans Day, and he got some calls from constituents about not being able to conduct business on Thursday and there were not any signs to state the county was closed. Chairman Trujillo stated that he is meeting with Baca Valley Telecommunications, and they are working on applying for a grant with the New Mexico broadband program. Chairman Trujillo stated that he worked with NMDOT on EV chargers and approached the City of Raton on this. Chairman Trujillo stated he also forwarded the information on to Mayor Boe Lopez in Springer to see if he is interested because they must be along the I-25 corridor. Chairman Trujillo stated that he wanted to address a road issue on A-22 and stated he would like to have the pavement removed on that road so that it will be easier to maintain. Chairman Trujillo requested an update on the funds for the Tiger Grant and requested it be sent to the Commission by e-mail. Chairman Trujillo stated that he thought the cost for the business cards was excessive. Chairman Trujillo stated that he has had a conversation with Manager Gore about the lawyer fees and feels that more stuff can be done inhouse.

Commissioner Kern stated that she received a call from a constituent in the Valley with a complaint that possibly in the Santa Fe area they are capturing prairie dogs and bringing them to the Valley and releasing them on the road at night and she wanted the Commission to be aware of the complaint. Chairman Trujillo recessed the meeting at 10:50 a.m.

24. Vigil Maldonado Detention Center Annual Inspection

Chairman Trujillo called the meeting back to order at 11:25 a.m. Commissioners Wier, Kern and Chairman Trujillo were all present as well as Rayetta Trujillo, Joana Apodaca, Virginia Strohm, Nate Sandoval, Regina Slade, Diane Garcia, and Rubin Garcia. The group toured the facility inside and also outside. After the tour, the group was served lunch and discussed issues concerning the facility and how the funds earned for housing prisoners can be used.

25. 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 1:33 p.m.

COLFAX COUNTY BOARD COMMISSIONERS



ATTEST:

Si Trujillo
Chairman

Mary Ann Kern
Vice-Chairman

[Signature]
Member

Rayella Trujillo
Clerk of the Board