

## COUNTY OF LINCOLN

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### New Mexico Special Meeting Board of County Commissioners

Thomas F. Stewart, Chair  
Lynn Willard, Vice Chair

Elaine Allen, Member  
Jon Crunk, Member  
Todd Proctor, Member

#### Minutes Tuesday August 10, 2021

Minutes of the Special Meeting of the Lincoln County Commission held at 8:30 AM on August 10, 2021, in the County Commission Chambers, Lincoln County Courthouse, in Carrizozo, New Mexico.

In accordance with the New Mexico Public Health Emergency Order, this meeting was conducted on a platform for video and audio.

#### 1. Call to Order

Chair Stewart called the Regular Meeting of the Board of County Commissioners to order at 8:30 AM.

#### 2. Roll Call

##### Roll Call.

**Present:** Chair Stewart (Via Zoom), Commissioner Allen, Commissioner Willard, Commissioner Crunk, Commissioner Proctor (Via Zoom).

Others present included Ira Pearson, County Manager; Alan Morel, County Attorney; and Whitney Whittaker, County Clerk.

#### 3. Invocation

Invocation was presented by Chair Stewart.

#### 4. Pledge of Allegiance

- a. Pledge – U.S.A. Flag
- b. Salute – N.M. Flag

#### 5. Approval of Agenda

**Motion:** Acceptance of the Agenda and authorized the Chair to move items as necessary,

**Action:** Approve, **Moved by** Commissioner Proctor, **Seconded by** Commissioner Willard.

**Vote:** Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote (**summary:** Yes = 5).

**Yes:** Chair Stewart, Commissioner Allen, Commissioner Willard, Commissioner Crunk, Commissioner Proctor.

#### 6. Ranchos de Caballos LLC Development Agreement – Request for Approval to Move Forward – Ed Tinsley

Alan Morel, Attorney provided a history of the Ranchos de Caballos subdivision. Attorney Morel stated in May of 2008 the final plat was approved by the commission with a development agreement. Attorney Morel stated the agreement was for the construction of all infrastructure and other capital improvements were the responsibility of the developer. Attorney Morel stated if the developer was unable to complete the construction of the roads or other improvements the County of Lincoln could not be held responsible for completion of improvements or assume maintenance on any road until the road was constructed to County standards.

Attorney Morel stated that Mr. Tinsley put up a \$20,000 bond; if the improvements were not done to the standards of the County, then this money could be used for the improvements needed for the development.

There was a lengthy discussion regarding the restrictive covenants for the subdivision as well as the utilities currently provided.

Beverly Calaway Treasurer, asked for commission approval prior to any release of funds from the \$20,000 bond that was receipted with the County Treasurer's office.

**Motion:** Approve to move forward with development; County Commission must approve any release of Treasurer funds, **Action:** Approve, **Moved by** Commissioner Willard, **Seconded by** Commissioner Allen.

**Vote:** Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote (**summary:** Yes = 5).

**Yes:** Chair Stewart, Commissioner Allen, Commissioner Willard, Commissioner Crunk, Commissioner Proctor.

#### 7. American Rescue Plan Act

- a. Presentation of U.S. Treasury Guidelines
- b. Discussion of Possible Fund Usage
- c. Direction to County Manager and Staff on Researching Potential Projects

Ira Pearson, Manager stated the US Treasury had issued the final guidelines for the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA). Manager Pearson stated Lincoln County had received \$1.9 million of the total \$3.8 million allotted by the US Treasury. Manager Pearson informed staying within the guidelines provided, identify, and discuss areas, and/or projects, to utilize the funds.

Manager Pearson stated among the \$1.9 trillion worth of federal COVID-19 relief in the newly signed American Rescue Plan Act was \$350 billion for "Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds." At roughly one-fifth of the bill's total cost, these funds would be deployed to state and local governments in two tranches (the first within 60 days and the second a year after that initial allotment) to mitigate the fiscal impact of the COVID-19 pandemic.

There was a round table discussion among commissioners for areas where the money could be spent.

There was an agreement to bring it back to the next meeting.

#### 8. Discussion and Direction Regarding COVID-19

- a. Implementation of Safety Practices and Procedures
- b. Leave Available to Employees (Personal Leave, Donated Leave, Admin Leave)

Manager Pearson stated with the increase of positive COVID-19 cases in Lincoln County, Elected Officials and Directors have asked for direction when employees start to show symptoms. Manager Pearson stated the County offices have already taken precautions in limiting contact with the public but remain open.

Manager Pearson stated on July 23, 2021, a memo from the County Manager's office was sent to all employees reminding people to continue following safe COVID-19 practices. Manager Pearson stated currently eight employees tested positive for COVID-19.

Manager Pearson stated as of December 31, 2020, Counties would no longer be reimbursed for COVID-19 leave.

Commissioner Crunk requested by next meeting to have a copy of the NM Counties resolution regarding vaccinations in order to provide some direction.

There was a lengthy discussion regarding the implementation of procedures regarding vaccinations and COVID-19.

There was direction to the manager to stop the use of administrative leave for COVID and have the employee utilize their vacation or sick leave.

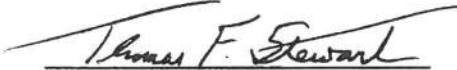
#### 9. Next meeting:

- a. August 17, 2021- Regular Commission Meeting

#### 10. Adjourn

There being no further business to come before the Board of County Commissioners, Chair Stewart adjourned the meeting at 10:44 AM.

County of Lincoln  
Board of Commissioners

  
Thomas F. Stewart, Chair

  
F Lynn Willard, Vice Chair

  
Elaine Allen, Member

  
Jon Crunk, Member

  
Todd Proctor, Member

ATTEST:

  
Whitney Whittaker, County Clerk

September 21, 2021  
Date Approved

