San Juan County Commission
Regular Meeting
September 17, 2013

Chairman Eckstein called the San Juan County Commission meeting to order September 17, 2013 at 4:00 P. M. in the Commission Chambers located in the County Administration Building, 100 S. Oliver Drive in Aztec, New Mexico, Commissioner Margaret McDaniel gave the invocation and Commissioner GloJean Todacheene led the Pledge of Allegiance. Those present were:

CHAIRMAN	Scott Eckstein
CHAIRMAN PRO-TEM	Jack L. Fortner
MEMBER	GloJean Todacheene
MEMBER	Margaret McDaniel
ASSESSOR	Clyde Ward
CHIEF DEPUTY ASSESSOR	Jimmy Voita
CLERK	Debbie Holmes
CHIEF DEPUTY CLERK	Tanya Shelby
COUNTY EXECUTIVE OFFICER	Kim Carpenter
ASSISTANT CEO	Linda Thompson
COUNTY OPERATIONS OFFICER	Mike Stark
ATTORNEY	Jim Durrett
DEPUTY ATTORNEY	Joe Sawyer
DEPUTY ATTORNEY	Doug Echols
EMERGENCY MANAGER	Don Cooper
CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER	Marcella Brashear
PARKS & FACILITIES ADMINSTRATOR	Mike Davidson
PUBLIC WORKS ADMINISTRATOR	Dave Keck
ADULT DETENTION CENTER DEPUTY ADMINISTATOR	Daniel Webb
ALTERNATIVE SENTENCING ADMINISTRATOR	Rob Mitchell
JUVENILE SERVICES ADMINISTRATOR	Traci Neff
FIRE CHIEF	Doug Hatfield
DEPUTY FIRE CHIEF	Craig Daugherty
INDIGENT HOSPITAL CLAIMS COORDINATOR	Liza Gomez
GENERAL SERVICES ADMINISTRATOR	Larry Hathaway
COMMUNICATIONS DIRECTOR	David Ripley
HOUSING EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR	Faye Anderson
SAFETY & COMPLIANCE MANAGER	Stewart Logan
PRESS: Farmington Daily Times	Ryan Boetel
Tri City Tribune	Lauren Duff

VISITORS: 6

Canvass Board Meeting

County Clerk Debbie Holmes explained that at the Commission Meeting on July 2, 2013 the Commission approved Ordinance No. 83 and the Special Election Proclamation to hold an election to re-enact a one-fourth percent gross receipts tax within the Valley Water and Sanitation District. The Valley Water and Sanitation District Special Election was held on

September 16, 2013. The Commission is required to canvass and certify the results of this election. Mrs. Holmes indicated this was an all-mail ballot election and 110 ballots were mailed out; 15 ballots were received, of those 14 were for the gross receipts tax and 1 was against the tax. Chairman Pro-Tem Fortner confirmed that the tax generated approximately $35,000.00 last year. A motion was made by Chairman Pro-Tem Fortner, seconded by Commissioner McDaniel to certify the results the official Valley Water and Sanitation District Special Election results as presented. Upon voice vote this motion passed unanimously.

A motion was made by Chairman Pro-Tem Fortner, seconded by Commissioner Todacheene to call to order the Indigent Hospital. Upon voice vote this motion passed unanimously.

Indigent Hospital Claims Board Meeting

1. Review of Claims
2. Approval of Minutes of September 3, 2013

A motion was made by Chairman Pro-Tem Fortner, seconded by Commissioner McDaniel to adjourn the Indigent Hospital Board Meeting and call to order the Regular Meeting. Upon voice vote, the motion passed unanimously.

The Indigent Hospital Board Meeting Minutes are taken separately and are made a part of the permanent minute's folder.

Regular Meeting

Approval of Agenda

Kim Carpenter, CEO stated that there are no changes to the agenda. A motion was made by Commissioner Todacheene, seconded by Chairman Pro-Tem Fortner to approve the agenda as presented. Upon voice vote this motion passed unanimously.

Consent Agenda

1. Approval of Alternative Sentencing Division Policies
2. Approval of Resolution 13-14-21, Disposition of Surplus and/or Obsolete Property
3. Approval of August 20, 2013 Special Meeting Minutes
4. Approval of August 2013 Check Register

A motion was made by Commissioner McDaniel, seconded by Chairman Pro-Tem Fortner to approve the Consent Agenda. Upon voice vote this motion passed unanimously.

New Business

1. **Presentation from City of Farmington on Proposed Electric Rate Increase**

Rob Mayes, City Manager and Mike Sims, Electric Utility Manager from the City of Farmington presented the Commission with the proposed rate increase for the Farmington Electric Utility

System. The Farmington Utility System supplies power to 44,000 metered customers in a 1700 square mile radius, which includes homes and business. Mr. Mayes and Mr. Sims stated that it has been 31 years since there has been an increase in utility rates. The monthly increase to residences will not be substantial, less than a dollar a month for a small home, approximately a two dollar per month increase for a larger home. The increase will be phased in over a three year period. Based on current utility costs Farmington Utility is 55 percent cheaper than La Plata Colorado Utility, 51 percent cheaper than the City of Aztec Utility and 29 percent cheaper than Public Service Company of New Mexico (PNM). After the total increase has been implemented, the cost of electricity would remain comparatively low; rates will be 41 percent cheaper than La Plata Colorado Utility, 38 percent cheaper than the City of Aztec Utility and 15 percent cheaper than PNM. This increase will allow for necessary upgrades to the system. Chairman Pro-Tem Fortner confirmed that PNM and Arizona Public Service (APS) do not supply power locally. Chairman Eckstein requested clarification on what the increase would cover. Mr. Simms stated it would help with the tremendous growth in customers they have experienced, modernize the system and update equipment. Mr. Mayes said it would be a reinvestment in the next 30 years of service. Chairman Pro-Tem Fortner confirmed that Farmington Utility plans to complete the addition of 65 megawatt generating capacity in 2018. Commissioner McDaniel confirmed that this rate increase will generate an additional $8 million to fund capital projects. Kim Carpenter, CEO indicated that this increase is going to affect San Juan County facilities approximately $13,000 to $18,000 per year. Commissioner Todacheene recommended the Farmington Utility department break down this rate increase by different size homes and specific cooling systems. This was an informational item only.

2. **Approval of Transfer of Ownership of Halvorson House to the City of Farmington**

Kim Carpenter, County Executive Officer explained to the Commission that San Juan County constructed the Halvorson House with Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds in 2002 on a 3 acre parcel. The land was purchased by San Juan County through a State Legislative appropriation. The building when originally constructed was utilized as a Residential Treatment Facility until operational funding dried up in late 2009. Following the closure of Halvorson House, the facility remained vacant until August 2012, when it was leased to the City of Farmington for use as a community center and after school program. Because of the success over this past year with this operation, the City of Farmington has expressed an interest in taking over the ownership of the facility. San Juan County believes the best effective use would be to continue with this model and transfer ownership of the Halvorson House to the City of Farmington provided the agreement states the uses of the facility comply with CDBG objectives. Chairman Pro-Tem Fortner confirmed that State funding for the Residential Treatment Facility ceased in 2009. Linda Thompson, Assistant CEO indicated that the majority of the funding was Medicaid and State, and there was some private funding. Due to transitions in Medicaid the facility was unable to qualify for funding. A motion was made by Chairman Pro-Tem Fortner, seconded by Commissioner McDaniel to approve the transfer of ownership of Halvorson House to the City of Farmington. Upon voice vote this motion passed unanimously.

3. **Consideration of Valley Acres Wastewater System (Lagoon) Improvements Grant Agreement**

Mike Stark, County Operations Officer requested approval of Grant Agreement #13-1488-STB with the New Mexico Environment Department (NMED) for $2,000,000 to design and construct wastewater system improvements to the Valley Acres wastewater system in Kirtland, NM. This

amount will allow for completion of Phase 1 of the project which includes: decommissioning of the lagoon, installation of a lift station, and connection of a main line from lift station to the Valley Water & Sanitation District Lift Station #3. Mr. Stark stated that the initial preliminary engineering report estimated Phase 1 to cost $2 million, the current estimate is $1.3 million. The remaining funding could be used for the collection system. This will benefit the residences and bring a complete solution to the area. Mr. Stark also requested adoption of Resolution #13-14-22, which accepts the terms of and conditions outlined in the NMED grant agreements. A motion was made by Commissioner Todacheene, seconded by Commissioner McDaniel to approve Valley Acres Wastewater System (Lagoon) Improvements Grant Agreement with the New Mexico Environmental Department and Resolution #13-14-22. Upon voice vote this motion passed unanimously.

Reports From Elected Officials And Department Heads

Chairman Eckstein welcomed members from the current Leadership San Juan College class, Mr. John Bentz of San Juan College, Paul Berry with WSI Enterprises, Mike Maestas with Emergency Management and Doug Hatfield, Fire Chief and Leadership San Juan Alumni.

Commissioner McDaniel praised the work that had been done by County staff and Volunteers to get the facilities ready for the Mission of Mercy.

Commissioner Todacheene also praised the volunteers, dentists, the dentists' staff and the many officials that helped with the Mission of Mercy for the generosity and the efficiency of the event. She stated that the Mission of Mercy is going to be sending language for the county to issue a proclamation to thank the volunteers that helped with the Mission of Mercy.

Debbie Holmes, County Clerk reported that last week she had received petitions from Chris Taylor with Fish Heads, for the Local Option District Election. Her staff is reviewing the petitions to see how many qualified voters there are and she will report on this at the next commission meeting.

Kim Carpenter, CEO asked Don Cooper, Emergency Manager to update the Commission on the recent flooding in the area and talk about the Disaster Declaration. The Declaration is document to let the State know San Juan County had a disaster. If the President approves the State's request the County would get funding for county owned infrastructures, roads, bridges, buildings and damage done at McGee Park. If this is approved the Federal Government would fund 75 percent, the State 12.5 percent and the County would be responsible for 12.5 percent. Mr. Cooper stated that Dave Keck, Public Works Administrator estimates the damage for the county to be over $500,000. This funding only allows the damage to be repaired back to how it was, no improvements. To qualify for funding the State has to have $3.9 million in damages, currently the statewide damage is estimated between $12 to $15 million. The State feels confident the President will sign the Declaration. Kim Carpenter, CEO stated the funding will be for San Juan County properties or equipment only. Commissioner McDaniel confirmed that the damage the Navajo Nation received during the storms would be handled directly with FEMA.

Doug Hatfield, Fire Chief reported that Craig Daughtery, Deputy Fire Chief attended the Department of Finance meeting in Santa Fe, NM and they approved the lease of the property in Navajo Dam for a cell tower. This will greatly improve the cell reception in that area. He reported that 13 of 14 volunteer fire districts responded to the flooding, they also responded to a person who went into full cardiac arrest which they were able to assist and transport to the hospital. Mr. Hatfield stated that David Ripley, Communications Authority Director indicated the county received 280 incoming calls and 90 outgoing calls. During that time, Dispatch, Sheriff's Office, Emergency

Management Service (EMS), Fire Department, Public Works and Mike Maestas with Emergency Management set up a Tactical Operations Center to help with major incidents. Chairman Eckstein and Commissioner McDaniel thanked the emergency response staff and volunteers for their phenomenal work during this incident. CEO Kim Carpenter praised everyone involved and who assisted with the challenges the county experienced during the flooding and everyone that assisted with the Tactical Operations Center.

Comments / Input From The General Public

None

Closed Executive Session

A motion was made by Chairman Pro-Tem Fortner, seconded by Commissioner McDaniel to go into closed executive session to discuss threatened or pending litigation and the acquisition or disposal of real property. Upon voice vote this motion passed unanimously. Upon return a motion was made by Chairman Pro-Tem Fortner, seconded by Commissioner Todacheene to go back into open meeting. Upon voice vote this motion passed unanimously. Chairman Eckstein stated that nothing other than what was stated in the motion to go into closed executive session was discussed.

Adjourn

Being no further business a motion was made by Chairman Pro-Tem Fortner, seconded by Commissioner McDaniel to adjourn the meeting. Upon voice vote this motion passed unanimously and the meeting adjourned at 5:34 p.m.

APPROVED THIS 15th DAY OF OCTOBER, 2013

BY THE SAN JUAN COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS:

Chairman Scott Eckstein

Chairman Pro-Tem Jack L. Fortner

Margaret McDaniel

GloJean Todacheene

Keith Johns

ATTEST:

Debbie Holmes, County Clerk