

**San Juan County Commission
Special Meeting
September 11, 2013**

Chairman Eckstein called the San Juan County Commission Special meeting to order on September 11, 2013 at 4:34 P. M. in the Administrative Conference Room located in the San Juan County Administration Building, 100 S. Oliver Drive, Aztec, New Mexico. Those present were:

CHAIRMAN	Scott Eckstein	
CHAIRMAN PRO-TEM	Jack L. Fortner	
MEMBER	GloJean Todacheene	
MEMBER	Margaret McDaniel	
MEMBER	Keith Johns	
ASSESSOR	Clyde Ward	
CHIEF DEPUTY ASSESSOR	Jimmy Voita	
CLERK	Debbie Holmes	
CHIEF DEPUTY CLERK	Tanya Shelby	
CHIEF DEPUTY TREASURER	Carol Taulbee	
COUNTY EXECUTIVE OFFICER	Kim Carpenter	
ASSISTANT CEO	Linda Thompson	
COUNTY OPERATIONS OFFICER	Mike Stark	
ATTORNEY	Jim Durrett	
DEPUTY ATTORNEY	Joe Sawyer	
CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER	Marcella Brashear	
CHIEF IT OFFICER	Vince Johns	
PRESS:	Tri-City Tribune	Lauren Duff
VISITORS:	None	

New Business

1. Issue Written Order to Impose 2013 Property Tax Rates

Marcella Brashear, Chief Financial Officer explained that the Board of County Commissioners is required to issue a written order imposing the property tax at the rates set on the taxable value of property allocated in the appropriate governmental units. The order must be issued within five days of receipt of the Department of Finance & Administration's Property Tax Rate-Setting Order. Today is the fifth day and the Commission's written order must be delivered to the County Assessor immediately. The finance officers of the municipalities, school districts, and San Juan College have been notified and have confirmed in writing the new tax rates for their governmental units. There are significant increases of 1.931 mils for Aztec Schools and 2.396 mils for Bloomfield Schools this is due to existing debt service requirements and the declining tax base from decreasing values in natural gas production. Also San Juan County's residential rate decreased slightly from 6.326 mils to 6.310 mils. Mrs. Brashear indicated that the net taxable value is \$3.7 billion. This is an increase from

2012 by 3.87% for residential, however there was a 10% decrease overall; non-residential by 2.08%, oil and gas production by 36.55% and oil and gas equipment by 35.99%. Mrs. Brashear and County Assessor Clyde Ward explained to the Commission why there was a large increase for Aztec and Bloomfield Schools. Mr. Ward indicated that values on State assessed properties in these areas have decreased, Aztec was negative \$3 million. Chairman Pro-Tem Fortner asked Mr. Ward to clarify State assessed properties. Mr. Ward explained the Assessor's Office is not in control of State assessed properties. The State assesses anything that crosses county lines this includes compressor stations associated with pipelines, electrical generation, refineries and also oil field production equipment left in San Juan County. Mr. Ward indicated that the Harding County Assessor contracted with TASC, from Arkansas. This company assessed all of the pipelines in Harding County and verified permits with pipelines which increased the values of their pipeline inventory substantially. CEO Kim Carpenter mentioned Aztec Schools have Bonds that have not been issued, if they were to be issues, this would create additional increases. Mrs. Brashear indicated that the mill rate for San Juan County decreased by .016. The estimated FY14 Property Tax revenues are \$27.5 million which is down 2% from last year, due to the 36.12% decrease in Oil and Gas equipment. Mr. Ward explained that this is basically an equipment tax based on a percentage of oil and gas production, so when production is down so is the equipment. For the tax year 2012, out of 33 counties 20 had imposed the maximum allowed mills. Eddy County was the lowest in the State with 7.5 mills imposed, San Juan County was second lowest imposing 8.5 mills. Chairman Pro-Tem Fortner asked what the value of a mill is. Mrs. Brashear stated that if the County implemented 1 mill it would be approximately \$3.5 million. The Commissioners discussed the joint powers agreement (JPA) that San Juan County has with the City of Aztec, City of Bloomfield, City of Farmington and Rural Water Commission. County Attorney, Jim Durrett clarified that the County is the fiscal agent under the JPA and the Commissioners approve the Water Commission's budget. A motion was made by Chairman Pro-Tem Fortner, seconded by Commissioner Johns to issue written order to impose 2013 property tax rates. Upon voice vote this motion passed unanimously.

Closed Executive Session

None

Adjourn

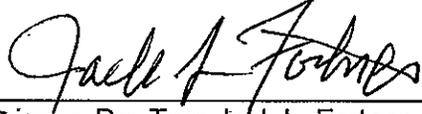
Being no further business a motion was made by Chairman Pro-Tem Fortner, seconded by Commissioner Johns to adjourn the meeting. Upon voice vote this motion passed unanimously and the meeting adjourned at 4:55 p.m.

APPROVED THIS 1ST DAY OF OCTOBER, 2013

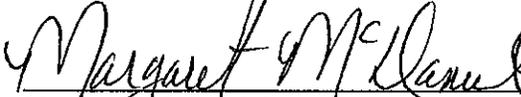
BY THE SAN JUAN COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS:



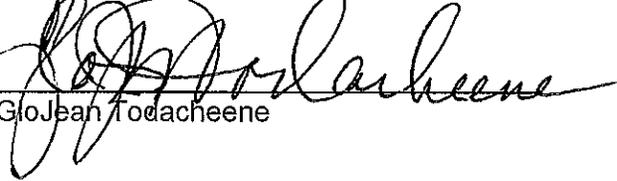
Chairman Scott Eckstein



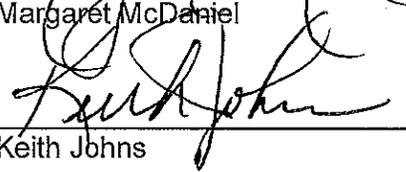
Chairman Pro-Tem Jack L. Fortner



Margaret McDaniel

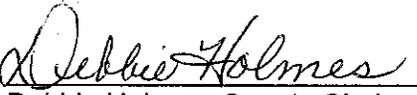


GloJean Todacheene



Keith Johns

IN WITNESS:



Debbie Holmes, County Clerk