

**San Juan County Commission  
Regular Meeting  
May 5, 2020**

Chairman Pro-Tem Crowley called the San Juan County Commission meeting to order on May 5, 2020 at 4:00 P.M. in the Commission Chambers located in the County Administration Building, 100 S. Oliver Drive, Aztec, New Mexico. Chairman Pro-Tem Crowley gave the invocation and Mike Stark led the Pledge of Allegiance. Those present were:

CHAIRMAN	Jack L. Fortner
CHAIRMAN PRO-TEM	Jim Crowley
MEMBER	John T. Beckstead- VIA WEBX
MEMBER	GloJean Todacheene- VIA WEBX
MEMBER	Michael Sullivan - VIA PHONE
CLERK	Tanya Shelby
UNDERSHERIFF	Cory Tanner
COUNTY MANAGER	Mike Stark
COUNTY ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER	Fran Fillerup
EMERGENCY MANAGER	Mike Mestas
HEALTH CARE ASSISTANCE PROGRAM COORDINATOR	Liza Lier

The following attended via phone or via WebX:

CHIEF DEPUTY ASSESSOR	John Kuhn
CHIEF DEPUTY TREASURER	Carol Taulbee
COUNTY ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER	Fran Fillerup
ATTORNEY	Doug Echols
DEPUTY ATTORNEY	Joe Sawyer
RISK MANAGER	Cynthia Singleton
CHIEF FINANCIAL AND STRATEGY OFFICER	Jim Cox
DEPUTY FINANCE OFFICER	Kim Martin
PARKS & FACILITIES DEPUTY ADMINISTRATOR	Steven Dansie
PUBLIC WORKS ADMINISTRATOR	Nick Porell
DEPUTY HUMAN RESOURCES OFFICER	Tara Martinez
ADULT DETENTION ADMINISTRATOR	Daniel Webb
ALTERNATIVE SENTENCING ADMINISTRATOR	Jennifer Mitchell
ALTERNATIVE SENTENCING DEPUTY ADMINISTRATOR	Gail Peters
JUVENILE SERVICES ADMINISTRATOR	Traci Neff
FIRE CHIEF	John Mohler
CHIEF IS OFFICER	Keith Lund
HOUSING EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR	Faye Anderson
SAFETY & COMPLIANCE MANAGER	Stewart Logan
PUBLIC RELATIONS MANAGER	Devin Neeley
BEHAVIORAL HEALTH SERVICES DIRECTOR	Su Hodgman

VISITORS:

A motion was made by Commissioner Sullivan, seconded by Commissioner Todacheene to call to order the Indigent Hospital and County Health Care Board Meeting. Upon roll call vote, the motion passed unanimously.

### **Indigent Hospital Claims Board Meeting**

1. Request for Approval of Health Care Claims
2. Approval of Minutes of April 7, 2020.

Upon voice vote this motion passed unanimously.

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

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

### **Regular Meeting**

#### **Approval of Agenda**

Mike Stark, County Manager, stated that there are no changes to the agenda. A motion was made by Chairman Pro-Tem Crowley, seconded by Commissioner Todacheene to approve the agenda as presented. Upon voice vote this motion passed unanimously.

#### **Consent Agenda**

1. Approval of April 7, 2020 Regular Meeting Minutes
2. Approval of April 21, 2020 Regular Meeting Minutes
3. Consideration of Approval for Budget Adjustment #10-Resolution No 19-20-58
4. Consideration of Renewal of Proposal No. 16-17-13, Life Insurance and Accidental Death & Dismemberment to Companion Life Insurance Company of Columbia, SC
5. Consideration of Contracts with Taos County for Housing of Juvenile Detainees
6. Consideration of FEMA Assistance to Firefighters Grant Applications

A motion was made by Commissioner Sullivan to discuss item #5, Consideration of Contracts with Taos County for Housing of Juvenile Detainees. A motion was made by Chairman Pro-Tem Crowley, seconded by Sullivan to approve item #1-4 and #6 of the Consent Agenda. Commissioner Sullivan requested clarification of the contract on item #5 from Mike Stark, County Manager. Mr. Stark explained that the contract is for pre-adjudicated juveniles and that staff is in approval of the contract. A motion was made by Chairman Pro-Tem Crowley, seconded by Chairman Fortner to approve item #5, Contracts with Taos County for Housing of Juvenile Detainees on the Consent Agenda.

## **New Business**

### **1. Consideration for Approval of Amended Resolution No. 19-20-06, Designating the Location of 2020 Primary Election Day Polling Places**

Tanya Shelby, County Clerk, indicated that on July 23, 2019 the Board of County Commissioners approved election day polling places for 2020 and 2021 Statewide elections. This approval consisted of 33 election day Voting Convenience Centers throughout San Juan County. Due to the contagion of the SARS-Co V-2 virus and the very real potential for the poll workers and voters to contract the COVID-19 disease through the in-person voting process, voters are being encouraged to vote absentee for this election. Absentee applications are being sent to all registered voters of the three major political parties. For the voters that choose to vote in person they will be required to maintain the restrictions that are put in place by the Governor's order which currently includes social distancing and no more than 5 individuals in a polling place at one time. Among the challenges of the restrictions, 60% of the poll workers are over the age of 60 and some sites that are used as polling places have been closed. There will not be a reduction in early voting sites; however, Ms. Shelby proposed that San Juan County election day polling places be reduced to 9. Upon approval of the District Judge, the Voting Convenience Centers will be at the following locations:

- Bloomfield Cultural Center
- SJC Fire Operations Center
- Farmington City Hall
- Farmington Museum at Gateway Park
- Farmington Public Library
- Kirtland Youth Association
- La Plata Community Center
- CCSD Business Office
- Newcomb Fire Station

The Commission asked various questions. A motion was made by Chairman Pro-Tem Crowley, seconded by Commissioner Beckstead to approve the Amended Resolution No. 19-20-06, Designating the Location of 2020 Primary Election Day Polling Places. Upon voice vote this motion passed unanimously.

### **2. Consideration of Resolution No. 19-20-60, Approving Submission of a BUILD Transportation Grant Application for Planning and Design of a Railroad Spur from McKinley County to San Juan County**

Mike Stark, County Manager, explained that the Commission has previously expressed interest in determining the feasibility of building a railroad spur from McKinley County north to San Juan County. The County has contracted with attorney Germaine Chappelle to prepare and submit a grant application to the U.S. Department of Transportation for up to \$2 million in BUILD transportation grant funds for planning and design work on the project. Resolution No. 19-20-60 approves the submission of the grant application by May 18, 2020 and authorizes the County Manager to sign the application. A motion was made by Chairman Pro-Tem Crowley, seconded by Commissioner Sullivan to approve Resolution No. 19-20-60, Approving Submission of a BUILD

Transportation Grant Application for Planning and Design of a Railroad Spur from McKinley County to San Juan County. Upon voice vote this motion passed unanimously.

**3. Ratification of Reentry Initiative Grant Application with U.S. Department of Justice**

Susan Hodgman, Behavioral Health Service Director, stated that the United States Department of Justice recently issued a competitive grant opportunity related directly to behavioral health services for the County. The grant, Innovations in Reentry Initiative: Building System Capacity & Testing Strategies to Reduce Recidivism FY 2020 Competitive Grant Solicitation furthers the mission of reducing violent crime, enhancing programs to fight the addiction crisis, supporting efforts in the corrections system that deter, and opportunities to partner with reentry behavioral health practitioners/resources. There are no matching funds are required. A total of four awards of \$1,000,000 each are available nationwide and if awarded, funding will need to be expended within 48 months. San Juan County would utilize the funding to create a re-entry program at the Adult Detention Center (ADC) facility to reduce re-entry of high utilizers and eventually all who depart the ADC with supportive resources to assist in lowering recidivism. The Commission asked various questions. A motion was made by Chairman Pro-Tem Crowley, seconded by Commissioner Sullivan to approve the Ratification of Reentry Initiative Grant Application with U.S. Department of Justice. Upon voice vote this motion passed unanimously.

**4. Consideration for Award of Proposal No. 19-20-21, Employee Benefit Program Administration-Major Medical to Tall Tree Administrators LLC of Draper Utah**

Melissa Wood, Benefits & Compensation Manager, announced that on March 15, 2020, Central Purchasing issued requests for sealed proposals for the purpose of selecting two firms that can provide third-party administration of the Employee Benefits Program- Major Medical. On April 15, 2020, Purchasing received five (5) proposal responses for the third-party administration. The Evaluation Committee for Proposal 19-20-21, Employee Benefits Program Administration- Major Medical consisted of Melissa Wood, Jim Cox, Bill Wade, and Diana Chapman. The evaluation committee recommended that the award be made to Tall Tree Administrators of Draper, UT for their services. Tall Tree Administrators cost for administration will be \$19.50 per member per month (original proposal was \$17.50 per member per month for medical/prescription plus \$5.50 per member per month for a total amount of \$23.00 which was a 24% increase; this was negotiated by rejecting the \$5.50 dental charge and adding \$2.00 to medical/Rx). Tall Tree Administrators would continue to provide the current nationwide network of Cigna and the cost would continue to be \$15.39 per member per month with no increase in fees. A motion was made by Commissioner Sullivan, seconded by Commissioner Todacheene to approve the Award of Proposal No. 19-20-21, Employee Benefit Program Administration-Major Medical to Tall Tree Administrators LLC of Draper Utah. Upon voice vote this motion passed unanimously.

**5. Consideration of Amendment and Reinstatement of San Juan County's Employee Handbook, Ordinance No. 34**

Doug Echols, County Attorney, stated that the San Juan County Employee Handbook has been updated to clarify vacation forfeiture and other provisions. An emergency clause has been added so that the new Handbook will go into effect on July 1, 2020. A redlined version showing the changes in their entirety is available from the Legal Department and is also available on the

County's web page. Upon approval publication of the Notice of Intent to Adopt, the Legal Department will schedule the publication of the notice. This item will be placed on the June 9, 2020 meeting agenda for a public hearing and adoption of the Ordinance. A motion was made by Chairman Pro-Tem Crowley, seconded by Commissioner Todacheene to approve the publication of Amendment and Reinstatement of San Juan County's Employee Handbook, Ordinance No. 34. Upon voice vote this motion passed unanimously.

### **Report from County Manager**

Mike Stark, County Manager, requested Mike Mestas, Emergency Manager, provide a COVID-19 update. Mr. Mestas gave the updated statistics on the virus:

- 25 new positive cases and 3 deaths
- San Juan Regional Medical Center census is 116
- Shiprock testing clinic performed 910 tests in the Shiprock High School parking lot on May 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup>
- Last week McGee Park performed 1000 tests
- Continuing to issue PPE to the local community and the Navajo Nation
- The homeless shelter will soon be open at Rimrock

Mike Stark reported the following:

The Administrative Building is currently open for Early Voting and citizens paying property taxes. Per the recommendation of the Governor, the County has put in place Covid Safe Practices (CSP) by requiring masks to be worn and plexiglass sneeze guards were installed in the public areas at various facilities within the County. Mr. Stark thanked Parks & Facilities for their quick response on getting the sneeze guards fitted and installed. Mr. Stark stated that 5,297 tests have been performed and the infection rate is at 15.2%, which is down from April 25<sup>th</sup> which was 17.5%.

The Commission asked various questions.

### **Reports From Elected Officials And Department Heads**

None

### **Comments / Input From The General Public**

Leland Grass, President of the Dine Medicine Man Association submitted a comment expressing concerns of fracking in Chaco Canyon and the desecration of sacred sites.

### **Adjourn**

Being no further business, a motion was made by Chairman Pro-Tem Crowley, seconded by Commissioner Todacheene to adjourn the meeting. Upon voice vote this motion passed unanimously and the meeting adjourned at 4:48 p.m.

APPROVED THIS 19TH DAY OF MAY 2020

BY THE SAN JUAN COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS:



Chairman Jack L. Fortner



Chairman Pro-Tem Jim Crowley



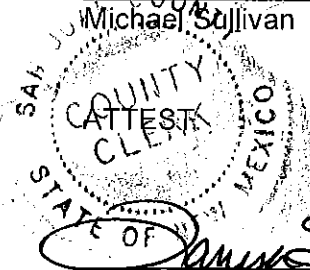
John T. Beckstead



Gizean Todacheene



Michael Sullivan



Tanya Shelby, County Clerk