

FINAL COPY
Torrance County Board of Commissioners
Regular Commission Meeting
September 24, 2025
9:00 AM

Commissioners Present:

RYAN SCHWEBACH-COUNTY CHAIRMAN~ ABSENT
KEVIN MCCALL –COUNTY VICE-CHAIR
LINDA JARAMILLO – COUNTY COMMISSIONER

Others Present:

J. JORDAN BARELA – COUNTY MANAGER
MISTY WITT – DEPUTY COUNTY MANAGER
MICHAEL GARCIA – COUNTY ATTORNEY
SYLVIA CHAVEZ – COUNTY CLERK
MACKENZIE CARLSON – ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT I
PLANNING & ZONING CODE ENFORCEMENT OFFICER

1. Call to order.

Kevin McCall- County Vice-Chair: Calls the September 24, 2025 Regular Commission Meeting to order at 9:02AM.

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE AND INVOCATION

Pledge led by: Kevin McCall- County Vice-Chair:

Invocation lead by: Linda Jaramillo – County Commissioner

3. Changes to the Agenda:

J. Jordan Barela- County Manager: Mr. Chair. So, due to the time sensitivity of this meeting, there are some discussion items that aren't necessarily pertinent to go over today. So, we would make a recommendation to defer items 15-C, 15-D and 16-A.

Kevin McCall- County Vice-Chair: Do you want to keep your Manager's report?

J. Jordan Barela- County Manager: We can keep it on. Mr. Chair, I'll keep it brief.

Action Taken:

Kevin McCall- County Vice-Chair: Motion to approve changes.

Linda Jaramillo – County Commissioner: Seconds the motion.

Roll Call Vote: Linda Jaramillo – County Commissioner: - Yes: Ryan Schwebach – County Chairman: – Absent: Kevin McCall – County Vice Chairman: - Abstained: **MOTION CARRIED**

4. **PROCLAMATION: None**

5. **CERTIFICATES AND AWARDS: None**

6. **BOARD AND COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS: None**

7. **PUBLIC COMMENT and COMMUNICATIONS:**
(Comments limited to two minutes.)

No public comment in person

Zoom

Ian Philabaum- Innovation Law lab: Morning, Commissioners, Community members. My name is Ian Philabaum on with Innovation Law Lab. This is a recording of someone detained at the Torrance County Detention Facility. After I play the recording, my colleague will translate it.

Audio Played

PJ Podesta- Innovation Law Lab: Good morning, Commissioners and Community members. I'm PJ Podesta with Innovation Law Lab. This is a translation of the recording just played from someone detained by ICE at CoreCivic and TCDF. The day I was arrested was June 11. I tried to take out my

phone to tell my wife that ICE had detained me. The ICE agent snatched it from me and tried to hit me, slapping me, and sat me down, saying that even if I told my family he was going to deport me here in CoreCivic. In the facility where we are in unit 1B the showers are not disinfected, and the bathrooms are not disinfected. Sometimes they don't bring water, or it comes awful with a bad smell, the delay bringing us water. The food is not of good quality. There are companions here who have sometimes gotten razors and garbage in their food. When clothes are sent to be washed, they come back all damp, all with mold. 70% of the guards are racist. They turn off our microwaves. The cells don't work properly. The electric doors don't open automatically. Sometimes we spend up to an hour or two inside the cells during count. The medication at the pharmacy is just pure ibuprofen and Tylenol. They don't have any other medication. That's all they give when it comes to scheduling an appointment, they take a long time to respond. It's like that with ICE. They never answer, they never show up at our cells. They only show up when they want you to sign your voluntary departure or self-deportation forms. You can say other than that, they don't appear. The counselors don't help us. Sometimes we ask them to make copies for our legal process to remain in this Country, and all they say is, I don't have time. Thank you.

8. DEPARTMENT UPDATES AND COMMUNICATIONS: None

9. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A. COMMISSION: Request Approval of September 10, 2025, Regular Meeting Minutes of the Board of County Commissioners.

Action Taken:

Linda Jaramillo – County Commissioner: Motion to approve minutes.

Kevin McCall- County Vice-Chair: Seconds the motion.

Roll Call Vote: Linda Jaramillo – County Commissioner: - Yes: Ryan Schwebach – County Chairman: – Absent: Kevin McCall – County Vice Chairman: - Abstained: **MOTION CARRIED**

10. CONSENT AGENDA

A. FINANCE: Request Approval of Payables with a date range of September 4, 2025, through September 17, 2025.

Action Taken:

Kevin McCall- County Vice-Chair: Motion to approve payables.

Linda Jaramillo – County Commissioner: Seconds the motion.

Roll Call Vote: Linda Jaramillo – County Commissioner: - Yes: Ryan Schwebach
– County Chairman: – Absent: Kevin McCall – County Vice Chairman: - Yes:

MOTION CARRIED

11. TORRANCE COUNTY BOARD OF FINANCE

A. TREASURER: Treasurer's Board of Finance Report and FY25 Bank Reconciliation Update.

Kathryn Hernandez-County Treasurer: Kathryn Hernandez County Treasure, So, both the main and the tax count. They're both now officially closed for our last fiscal year. All accounts are up to date, except for the main account we're working on those. We are trying to get maintained and fully caught up. Since then, my goal is to have it all fully finalized by Friday, July's at least. I requested some additional information from Finance and hopefully I can get those by tomorrow from you guys. I can work on them over the weekend. On Monday, we're working with the Assessor's Office to review the tax role, so the tax was scheduled to be sent to the printer by October 15 or sooner, and then once July is complete. I will move on to August on the main account. Franchesca's focusing on the tax account right now, and she's back at work as well. We also have the State auction tomorrow here too. Just give you guys a heads up on that. But that concludes my update. You guys have any questions for me?

Kevin McCall- County Vice-Chair: When you say you're working to move on to August? That's August of this current year?

Kathryn Hernandez-County Treasurer: Yes.

Kevin McCall- County Vice-Chair: Okay, sounds like you're making good head. I don't have any other questions.

Linda Jaramillo – County Commissioner: I don't either.

B. FINANCE: Finance Department Board of Finance Report.

Misty Witt-Deputy County Manager: Mr. Chair, Commissioner Jaramillo. I'll keep this brief due to sake of time, but I did provide you guys with a few new analyses this month, above and beyond what we reviewed last month for July. I included a GRT analysis. I want to start doing this as the fiscal year progresses. That way we can kind of track the increases in our GRT, whether they're going up, whether they're going down. So, you'll see a GRT trend by month in your packet. So, we'll start kind of tracking that right now. We only have two months on that chart, but it will start to grow. The other new item in your packet is the GRT trends by industry. So, I thought that the Commission may be interested to see which industries are paying the most year GRT in our area. So, that we can really hone in on those for Economic Development purposes. So that's also included in your packet for review. Lastly, I have provided this is the same as we did last month with the expense summary for the Torrance County Operating Account and the budget as a whole. We are pretty well on par with our budget. We are 17% through the year, and most of our budgets right now are trending between 9% and 17% use. So, we are on track with our expenditures thus far this year. I don't see any over-expenditure yet. So, we seem to be tracking well, and that's across both the operating, personnel and payroll expenses, and they're both on par right now.

Kevin McCall- County Vice-Chair: I think that'll be a huge help with commitments. See those activities and those ups and downs.

12. ADOPTION OF ORDINANCE/AMENDMENT TO COUNTY CODE:

None

13. ADOPTION OF RESOLUTION

- A. ROADS:** Request Approval of Resolution No. 2025-38, A Resolution Approving an Extension of Time from the New Mexico Department of Transportation for Project Control Number HW2L500600, Contract Number D20412.

Leonard Lujan-County Road Superintendent: Morning Commissioner, we're asking for an extension for our school bus project. It's a chip-seal project. It's supposed to be up Balinder Ranch, but weather is catching up quickly. I don't want to get caught up there in the cold, it won't hold. So, I'm going to push it off till

spring. But we just have to submit a letter to the State that we want an extension on that project.

Kevin McCall- County Vice-Chair: Will they grant that?

Leonard Lujan-County Road Superintendent: Yes.

Linda Jaramillo – County Commissioner: So, this has been done in the past?

Leonard Lujan-County Road Superintendent: Oh yeah, we tried to get them done. This year, it's just been busy. The rain caught has caught us pretty good. So, we're trying to catch up, and I'm trying to get our CAP project done. Next week, we're going to be working in Tajique area for a couple of miles, and chip seal there. I got like two miles of gravel I got to do, so I won't have time to get to it this year.

Linda Jaramillo – County Commissioner: Were in Tajique?

Leonard Lujan-County Road Superintendent: Mile 1.1 on Fourth of July, Camino la Ray, and Camino La pada.

Linda Jaramillo – County Commissioner: You're going to chip-seal it?

Leonard Lujan-County Road Superintendent: Yeah, we'll be chipping next week.

Kevin McCall- County Vice-Chair: You're about to lose your opportunity?

Leonard Lujan-County Road Superintendent: Yeah. It was 32 degree's this morning. We have to wait till about 50 degrees' before we can shoot oil.

Action Taken:

Kevin McCall- County Vice-Chair: Motion to approve.

Linda Jaramillo- County Commissioner: Seconds the motion.

Roll Call Vote: Linda Jaramillo – County Commissioner: - Yes: Ryan Schwebach – County Chairman: – Absent: Kevin McCall – County Vice Chairman: - Yes:

MOTION CARRIED

B. FINANCE: Request Approval of Resolution No. 2025-39, A Resolution Approving a Final Budget Adjustment for Fiscal Year 2025.

Misty Witt-Deputy County Manager: Mr. Chair, Commissioner, I think that the packet items are a little bit off in your guy's packet. It looks like we may have mixed up some of the attachments within your packet, but the budget adjustment will be the final budget adjustment. We have one adjustment to make within the Capital Appropriation line item. We were able to expend some last-minute Capital Appropriation money on the fairgrounds. We just hadn't received reimbursement back yet from the State, so we needed to make a temporary transfer within the General Fund into that Capital Corporation line item until we get reimbursement from the State. Just to bring it out of the negative. So that was the one adjustment that you will see for that final budget adjustment.

Action Taken:

Kevin McCall- County Vice-Chair: Motion to approve.

Linda Jaramillo- County Commissioner: Seconds the motion.

Roll Call Vote: Linda Jaramillo – County Commissioner: - Yes: Ryan Schwebach – County Chairman: – Absent: Kevin McCall – County Vice Chairman: - Yes:

MOTION CARRIED

C. FINANCE: Request Approval of Resolution No. 2025-40, A Resolution Approving the Fourth Quarter Report for Fiscal Year 2025.

Misty Witt-Deputy County Manager: Thank you again. This is required by DFA to get approval for our FY-25 final quarter before we can submit our FY-26 final budget. I do want to know on this final quarterly report that we did have to, in lieu of getting the bank accounts reconciled, the tax account specifically for FY-25, there was an adjustment that had to be made to cover some negative Fiduciary Funds. So that is reflected in quarter four reporting that total amount that we're doing alone from the General Fund to the Fiduciary Funds is \$440,972.72. So, I just wanted to bring that to your attention for approval, DFA will need Commission approval for that to bring some from General Funds to those Fiduciaries.

Kevin McCall- County Vice-Chair: Talk me through, how does it then go back?

Misty Witt-Deputy County Manager: So, once the Treasurer's Office and the external CPA complete their analysis as to which funds are missing money or have overpayments. Once they identify those, they will clean all of that and Tyler and

give all the appropriate amounts. If there is any amounts that are due back to us because of overpayment, the Treasures Office have to work on collecting those. But once they start completing that cleanup, and whether it be journal entries or collections for overpayments, we can reimburse the General Fund. So, we'll transfer it back from the Fiduciary to the General Fund once that cleanup is complete.

Linda Jaramillo- County Commissioner: Is there any chance that we might not be able to account for all of this?

Misty Witt-Deputy County Manager: There may be. It is kind of hard to tell until we identify what the issue was. So, I know that I was working with the external CPA to try to identify it, but there's just some discrepancies all throughout the year and different months and different days. So, it's really hard to pinpoint what exactly happened, whether it was an overpayment or whether it was just some journal entry issues somewhere along the line.

Linda Jaramillo- County Commissioner: What's the timetable for fixing this?

Misty Witt-Deputy County Manager: The County Manager and I have set a deadline to the CPA of the last week of October. So, that we can hopefully get this squared away before we do our FY-26 quarter one reporting.

Linda Jaramillo- County Commissioner: When was the deadline?

Misty Witt-Deputy County Manager: The last week of October.

Linda Jaramillo- County Commissioner: Will this affect the first quarter report if it's not reconciled?

Misty Witt-Deputy County Manager: Yes.

Kevin McCall- County Vice-Chair: Will it affect it if you do get it squared away before?

Misty Witt-Deputy County Manager: Either way, we'll have to make an adjustment to either capture the money that we have located, or we'll have to just continue to report that those funds are still in the negative. That temporary loan will continue to be there from the General Fund.

Linda Jaramillo- County Commissioner: How complicated is this?

Misty Witt-Deputy County Manager: It tends to be a little bit tedious, because I'll have to make manual adjustments for each quarter that this goes on. So, the sooner the better, just because I think there was 13 different Fiduciary Funds that this effected. So, I have to make manual adjustments in each one of those funds until we figure out the problem.

Linda Jaramillo- County Commissioner: You'll get help from the Treasurer's Office?

Misty Witt-Deputy County Manager: Yes, ma'am.

Kevin McCall- County Vice-Chair: This is the report that was due back end of July?

Misty Witt-Deputy County Manager: Yes.

J. Jordan Barela- County Manager: Mr. Chair, Commissioners. Just to put this in context regarding the temporary transfer, we really had two options on the table. One is to figure out what the underlying issue is with those Fiduciary balances today, before submitting the final budget or doing the temporary transfer and submitting the final budget. I think the reason the decision is being proposed to make the transfer is there are some pretty pertinent operational items this year. Some with the EMWT, some with the Fire Department and the funding that they got for a new ambulance that will require a budget adjustment from the County. Until we get our final budget in, we cannot make those budget adjustments to appropriate the grant funding for a new ambulance, or potentially to identify and appropriate the water Trust Board funding for EMWT. So, by going this route, there is some absolute cleanup that needs to happen after this with the Fiduciaries. But this step will allow us to get the budget in, and then we can begin to make the necessary budget adjustments for operations this fiscal year. So, that was the driving force in terms of our proposing to make that transfer. But yes, within the next month, about month and a half, there's a lot of cleanup work that needs to be done on the Fiduciary, so we can get those balances rectified.

Linda Jaramillo- County Commissioner: Commissioner Schwebach was aware of all of this?

J. Jordan Barela- County Manager: Yes, ma'am, he was.

Misty Witt-Deputy County Manager: We also wanted to mention, before you guys go for approval, we do want to kind of point out the pros and cons that come with those transfers. We do just want to be transparent. DFA is okay with this

temporary General Fund loan and transfer. However, it will be an audit finding, because we'll have to restate all of those beginning cash balances for the Fiduciary Funds. Once we get what those balances should be, that will be an audit finding in both FY-25 and FY-26. So, I just want to make the Commission aware that it will result in an audit finding.

J. Jordan Barela- County Manager: One other item to bring up as it relates to this conversation is we did have a discussion with DFA yesterday. There is a process by which DFA, we can make a request for DFA to come into the County and help us address some of these issues. So, I've had some preliminary discussions with the Treasurer's Office about that. That request would have to come from myself as well as the Treasurer. As we have the CPA firm working on this, and as those costs go up. We're getting to a point whereas we use our assistance to work through this issue. We may run into some procurement issues, but a secondary option to continue that process is to have DFA come in make that request and have them help us identify some of these issues explicitly, because they're aware of these issues. They are our State Finance Oversight Agency that is an avenue we are looking at exploring and making that request.

Linda Jaramillo- County Commissioner: When would they come in, before the end of October?

J. Jordan Barela- County Manager: Mr. Chair, Commissioner, they didn't give us a definitive date. I will say that in our discussions yesterday, the City of Moriarty made a very similar request just this week. So, in terms of talking to DFA, having Torrance and Moriarty both making that request, the likelihood of them coming into the area and working with both entities is pretty good. I don't have a definitive timeline, but I'm imagining it wouldn't be so long. I think there's only two other entities in the State that they're actually providing that assistance to right now.

Linda Jaramillo- County Commissioner: So, it's common for them to ask for assistance from DFA, some Counties.

J. Jordan Barela- County Manager: Depending on the circumstances.

Misty Witt-Deputy County Manager: There is also a cost associated with DFA. They don't charge us by the hour for their professional services, but we do have to pay for their mileage and for per diem to here.

J. Jordan Barela- County Manager: There may be an option if they're in the area, doing some type of cost share agreement with the City of Moriarty for those services.

Kevin McCall- County Vice-Chair: Can you tell me, does it look like revenues off more or expenditures?

Misty Witt-Deputy County Manager: What I can tell, it looks like the disbursement. So, the outgoing payments to the different Municipalities, Soil and Water Conservation Districts, and School Districts, looks like that's where the issue lies. So, it's outgoing, but that's just kind of a base top line response.

J. Jordan Barela- County Manager: Mr. Chair, Commissioner, so we looked at these Fiduciaries too. There was that Fiduciary balance was higher than what we're presented today for the transfer. I think it was over \$700,000 at one point in time. What was identified was a journal entry that was posted in 2024 that should have been in 2025 that cleaned up a lot of it. But we did take a look. We did a sampling of some of the Fiduciary accounts to see whether there was a specific month or a specific time when these balances shifted that could have been an entry error or something along those lines. When we did that sampling, there really wasn't anything we could pinpoint. This month, this time, all the Fiduciaries had an issue that could have been related to one transaction, which is kind of why we have a determination. This is going to take probably a little more digging, and we're going to have to look at each Fiduciary account independently to identify what may have occurred and caused that balance to go negative.

Kevin McCall- County Vice-Chair: I know we won't know until the State Auditor does our audit. What do you think is going to be the audit finding, and how bad is it going to hurt the County in our abilities to take Federal and State funding.

Misty Witt-Deputy County Manager: What we do know right now is that the OSA is looking at the Fiduciary Funds specifically because there was an audit finding in FY-24. If you recall, the Fiduciary Funds pertaining to specifically the Soil and Water Conservation Districts. So, we do know we're on their radar for that already for FY-25. The Treasurer's Office owed them some additional information by the close of FY-25 to clean up that audit finding. Of course, those balances for including Soil and Water Conservation Districts, are still in the negative. They don't have that information for FY-25 to provide the OSA yet. So that will be one finding that's going to carry over from 24 to 25. The other finding that we're expecting is ending with restated cash balances and beginning cash balances. So,

restated balances are minor findings, but we don't want to have those from year to year, because that's when the OSA and DFA start looking at those things. You have the same findings year after year.

Kevin McCall- County Vice-Chair: It's hard to move forward without this adjustment and turning in our budget.

J. Jordan Barela- County Manager: Yes, Mr. Chair, so unless we figure out this issue right now, because we can't report our fourth quarter reporting with negative balances. If we don't make the transfer, then we will have to identify all the issues with all the Fiduciary Funds before we get it submitted. Given the nature of the issue right now, we don't know how long that's going to take, and that's going to have operational repercussions for us.

Linda Jaramillo- County Commissioner: So, you wouldn't meet the September 30 deadline.

Misty Witt-Deputy County Manager: We would not if we tried to.

J. Jordan Barela- County Manager: If we tried to identify these, we would not get that in.

Action Taken:

Linda Jaramillo- County Commissioner: Motion to approve.

Kevin McCall- County Vice-Chair: Seconds the motion.

Roll Call Vote: Linda Jaramillo – County Commissioner: - Yes: Ryan Schwebach – County Chairman: – Absent: Kevin McCall – County Vice Chairman: - Yes:

MOTION CARRIED

D. FINANCE: Request Approval of Resolution No. 2025-41, A Resolution Approving the Final Budget for Torrance County for Fiscal Year 2026 and Requesting State of New Mexico, Department of Finance and Administration, Local Government Division, Budget and Finance Bureau Approval.

Misty Witt-Deputy County Manager: Thank you again, this is the formal resolution for the Commission to approve and adopt our proposed FY-26 budget. I did provide the Commission with a list of changes that were made in between interim and final. A lot of these changes were small payroll adjustments. Maybe

that was, pay increases or staffing changes between then and now. A lot of these were adjustments to match actual grant awards that we received between interim and final budget. There were two items in County infrastructure that I wanted to bring to the Commission's attention, one being the book repair for the Clerk's Office the \$40,000 I believe you guys should recall that discussion by adding that back into County infrastructure for the Clerk's Office. So that was added. In addition to that in County infrastructure, we had a roads project that was approved in FY-25 from County infrastructure. The work was completed in FY-25, but the invoice was received in FY-26. So, we needed to add those funds back to County infrastructure to pay for that road budget that was completed in FY-25. Other than that, we did adjust the beginning cash balances to match actuals. Then, of course, the temporary transfer to the Fiduciary Funds.

Kevin McCall- County Vice-Chair: This is for fiscal year 2026?

Misty Witt-Deputy County Manager: Yes, Sir.

Action Taken:

Kevin McCall- County Vice-Chair: Motion to approve.

Linda Jaramillo- County Commissioner: Seconds the motion.

Roll Call Vote: Linda Jaramillo – County Commissioner: - Yes: Ryan Schwebach – County Chairman: – Absent: Kevin McCall – County Vice Chairman: - Yes:

MOTION CARRIED

14. APPROVALS/ACTION ITEM

A. MANAGER: Request Approval of Amendment No. 1 to the Professional Services Agreement Between Torrance County and Presbyterian Medical Services for Primary Care Services at the Mountainair Health Clinic, Extending the Term Through June 30, 2027, and Increasing Total Compensation by \$202,248.00.

J. Jordan Barela- County Manager: Thank you, Mr. Chair. So, if the Commission remembers last meeting, the Board did approve a grant agreement between Torrance County and the Department of Health for that sum total of \$202,000 specifically for Rivka primary healthcare services that are used at the Mountainair Clinic. So, that grant agreement's been approved. It exists between the County and the State. However, the County does not provide those services

directly. PMS is contracted with us to provide those services, so we do have an active contract in place with PMS. Essentially, with this amendment, what it would do is account for the new grant agreement. So, it will extend our current services agreement with PMS for two years, because our new grant agreement is for two years. It will make that \$202,000 available through that grant agreement. So, this is the second component of the contractual relationship related to this funding. It would allow PMS to continue to provide those services at the Mountainair Health Clinic and then access department of health funding through the County.

Kevin McCall- County Vice-Chair: So how would it affect any new money coming? Would it just be an amendment number two and amendment number three to the contract?

J. Jordan Barela- County Manager: It would be until we got the point where we hit some procurement concerns. So, we did procure the contract with PMS. Our original contract was good through two years. This will be for four years. At a certain point we will have to go through the RFP process again, because we can only extend so many times. They are the primary service providers here, so I think the last time they were the only organization that put in that RFP. We likely can extend this into the future, depending on how long those graph terms are.

Kevin McCall- County Vice-Chair: I'm sure, Mike, you've had time to review this, and you're good with it?

Michael I. Garcia-County Attorney: I reviewed the original one. Jordan and I talked about the amendment, so I don't have any problems at all with it.

Action Taken:

Kevin McCall- County Vice-Chair: Motion to approve.

Linda Jaramillo- County Commissioner: Seconds the motion.

Roll Call Vote: Linda Jaramillo – County Commissioner: - Yes: Ryan Schwebach – County Chairman: – Absent: Kevin McCall – County Vice Chairman: - Yes:

MOTION CARRIED

B. FINANCE: Request Approval of Payment of a Prior Year Invoice to Tyler Incode in the Amount of \$155,129.66

Kristin Saavedra-Chief Procurement Officer: Good morning, Commissioners County. So, I became aware of this invoice on June 17, 2025. They were billing us for Time and Attendance, which we had canceled that contract in March of 2024. I

went back and forth with them, to have them remove it. I finally received the final invoice on September 11, and I'm asking for approval to pay them.

Kevin McCall- County Vice-Chair: Were services provided?

Kristin Saavedra-Chief Procurement Officer: They were. This is an annual contract that we pay, and it is through CES.

Action Taken:

Kevin McCall- County Vice-Chair: Motion to approve.

Linda Jaramillo- County Commissioner: Seconds the motion.

Roll Call Vote: Linda Jaramillo – County Commissioner: - Yes: Ryan Schwebach – County Chairman: – Absent: Kevin McCall – County Vice Chairman: - Yes:

MOTION CARRIED

15. DISCUSSION/PRESENTATION

A. FIRE: Discussion on the Consolidation of the Torrance County Fire Districts.

Gary Smith- County Fire Chief: Morning Commission. The resolution and the mapping has been sent to the State Fire Marshal's Office and approved. So, I just wanted to open dialog to you guys if you had any questions on what the consolidation is going to look like, anything that we need to do to move forward with that. Basically, how it's going to be broken down is the North and the South region. The North region is going to be District Five, District Three and District Two, Indian Hills, McIntosh and Moriarty. Then the Southern end will be District Four, District Six and District One, so Duran, Willard, Tajique and Torreon.

Linda Jaramillo- County Commissioner: So, does it follow the lines of the Commission Districts like district three?

Gary Smith- County Fire Chief: It does not.

Kevin McCall- County Vice-Chair: It respectively follows the current lines of the districts?

Gary Smith- County Fire Chief: Yes, so it will separate between North and South. It'll come up over Ice Plant Road, and then it will incorporate the rest of the north.

Kevin McCall- County Vice-Chair: Essentially, it just follows those district lines that are currently in. The State Fire Marshal approved what you've proposed.

Gary Smith- County Fire Chief: The resolution on the mapping correct. Quite honestly, the Fire Marshal gave me advice on breaking into two regions. He thinks that's the cleanest, quickest way to clean it up, to make some separation delineation. So, we can really focus on getting some more people down the southern area.

Linda Jaramillo- County Commissioner: How's Willard doing with our fire station?

Gary Smith- County Fire Chief: We're still waiting on hiring a couple more people and getting through training. Then we can open up with two people down there.

Linda Jaramillo- County Commissioner: You are getting the funding you requested?

Gary Smith- County Fire Chief: For new personnel?

Linda Jaramillo- County Commissioner: For the building.

Gary Smith- County Fire Chief: We're still working on that. The building's habitable now. We can move in. It's ready for us.

Linda Jaramillo- County Commissioner: You can stay there already? You haven't fixed the upstairs. You're just living downstairs?

Gary Smith- County Fire Chief: We're just going to put some bunks down at this time until the capital outlay stuff comes through. We do have some money down there, we can do some creature comforts and stuff like that.

Linda Jaramillo- County Commissioner: Kind of like they had before, because they had bunks in there before, right? Are your restrooms and everything working properly?

Gary Smith- County Fire Chief: Yes, we are all good.

Kevin McCall- County Vice-Chair: Is it the building we own, or is that the one in Duran?

Linda Jaramillo- County Commissioner: We own it now, right?

Gary Smith- County Fire Chief: We do not. I believe Willard still owns it.

Kevin McCall- County Vice-Chair: Did we do the work, or did the City of Willard do the work?

Gary Smith- County Fire Chief: We didn't do anything. I went in there and there was a valve that went to the swamp cooler off the water heater, and it just got turned off, and then the leak stopped. So that was the only thing we had to deal with.

Linda Jaramillo- County Commissioner: The sleeping quarters upstairs, are you still going to pursue that?

Gary Smith- County Fire Chief: Yeah, we just got to get more definitive on what type of numbers we're going to have to do that work.

Linda Jaramillo- County Commissioner: Since it belongs to Willard, will the funding go to Willard itself, or through the County?

Gary Smith- County Fire Chief: For the fire funds?

Linda Jaramillo- County Commissioner: For upstairs, when you're going to fix all of that. All the money that's going to go to that.

Gary Smith- County Fire Chief: That'll have to be negotiated on how we're going to work that out. But there are some money from the State Fire fund that we can utilize for some remodeling as well.

Kevin McCall- County Vice-Chair: Could we use those funds for a building we don't own?

Gary Smith- County Fire Chief: That would be a good question for the State Fire Marshal. I believe you can, but we would probably need some type of contract, and we're not there yet. We're close. We have got to hire another five to bring us up to 20, and then that'll make a difference.

Kevin McCall- County Vice-Chair: In doing that, we have to do the fire watch, since we don't have sprinklers in that one.

Gary Smith- County Fire Chief: The State Fire Marshall approved that as well.

Linda Jaramillo- County Commissioner: In Willard?

Gary Smith- County Fire Chief: Correct. Now the other houses, we're going to have to deal with that, as we expand and grow. We'll have to cross that bridge when we get there.

Kevin McCall- County Vice-Chair: Why would he not require? I'm pixelated that he's not going to do it. But why would he not require that one? But yet, the one up North is just because of the amount of people?

Gary Smith- County Fire Chief: I don't know. But I asked them if we could temporarily move into there, and they gave me the approval.

Linda Jaramillo- County Commissioner: People have been staying there anyway right before.

Gary Smith- County Fire Chief: They were just pulling 12-hour shifts. I think further back in time, when they did have a strong volunteer system, back in the day, I think they stayed there a little bit more, but that hasn't been for about 10 years.

Kevin McCall- County Vice-Chair: The agreement is still that the ISO would not change for the first 12 months.

Gary Smith- County Fire Chief: Then we get another evaluation every year.

Kevin McCall- County Vice-Chair: Subject to getting better or worse at that point. We got a map in front of us. Go through the districts again.

Gary Smith- County Fire Chief: North will be five the Moriarty District, three Macintosh District, and two Indian Hills.

Kevin McCall- County Vice-Chair: You're calling that just the North?

Gary Smith- County Fire Chief: Just be the North.

Linda Jaramillo- County Commissioner: Then the Southern it's going to be?

Gary Smith- County Fire Chief: The Southern will be Torreon and Tajique four, Willard six, and then Duran down the southern end District one.

Linda Jaramillo- County Commissioner: looks like the Southern District has a lot of territory to cover.

Gary Smith- County Fire Chief: It does. It's a little bit bigger. That's just geographically by the number of people we have down. We got to spread it out a little bit more. So, we're going to have to get the info on how we do our deployment.

Linda Jaramillo- County Commissioner: So, do we have the fire station in Torrance up and going? Everything's going up in mountain areas that fire one fire station in Torrance?

Gary Smith- County Fire Chief: Yeah, but there's no we had a fire over there three weeks ago. I think one volunteer, or two volunteers.

Linda Jaramillo- County Commissioner: You're lacking volunteers in all of this District?

Gary Smith- County Fire Chief: County Manager Barela sent out an email. We're still investigating and looking at how that's going to work with County employees being volunteers, and putting them through a little academy, which we should have some better numbers on how that's going to look next month.

Linda Jaramillo- County Commissioner: In Mountainair, they have a lot of volunteers, don't they?

Gary Smith- County Fire Chief: They do. They definitely have a lot more active volunteer. I think they told me, 24 and I don't know the exact number, but I believe it's around that. I don't know how many are actually active.

Linda Jaramillo- County Commissioner: So, can Mountainair, go outside City limits and help with the Torrance?

Gary Smith- County Fire Chief: They can, and I've spoken to him about that. They're willing somewhat, but I think that would come down to an MOU as well. When you get a little bit more specific on how we're going to help each other out. They'd be allowed to do that. I don't know how their administrative team feels about that, but that would all be through negotiations. I've spoken with Mayor Nieto about it.

Linda Jaramillo- County Commissioner: In the past, they've helped in the mountain areas. So, they've been outside their City limits before and then we have Willard and Duran's way out here in the middle. How's that going with Duran?

Gary Smith- County Fire Chief: Good, we've made some changes down there, and they've got some new volunteers.

Linda Jaramillo- County Commissioner: They've come on board. But they can, they can answer calls? Estancia has a fire department. Here, do they go outside the City limits?

Gary Smith- County Fire Chief: We just need to clean it up with some MOU language on how we do automatic or mutual aid with each other there's nothing really written that I've found, so that'd be good for us to dive into that.

Linda Jaramillo- County Commissioner: How soon can we do that?

Gary Smith- County Fire Chief: We can do it next week. I mean, we can start making those, communication.

Linda Jaramillo- County Commissioner: I feel more comfortable for the Southern District if we do that and have an understanding.

Kevin McCall- County Vice-Chair: Seeing how we're in the discussion. Give me an update on your rescue, where are currently fit.

Gary Smith- County Fire Chief: We got both of them down there, both recalled transmissions on the first two units. So, we have a scramble. We got them into the Valencia unit, finally got the registration and the license plate. So that's been out for the last week and a half. But both those transmissions are recalled rescue 13, they denied the claim, just because it has so many miles and we're still waiting on rescue 14. We did secure a grant. Deputy Chief Sanchez got an EMS grant for another rescue, which was \$209,000 so we cured and locked in another Osage, the same rescue that we just got that should be ready by December. Osage has been gracious enough. They are putting a loaner rescue on flatbed next week, and we'll have a loaner here probably by Wednesday or Thursday. So, we'll utilize that and then give our mechanic a little bit of breathing room to kind of put these things back together so we have some good spares, but we should be solid by December.

Linda Jaramillo- County Commissioner: How many units do we have operating right now?

Gary Smith- County Fire Chief: We've got two rescues up and running. We put rescue 13 back into service since it's void, and we're not going to be able to use the recall to get that transmission fixed. So, it's running on bailing wire and duct tape, but we're just trying to get it till next week so we can put that loaner rescue in service.

Linda Jaramillo- County Commissioner: So how many are we supposed to have?

Gary Smith- County Fire Chief: We need two, per the CBA, we need to have two rescues up and running.

Linda Jaramillo- County Commissioner: We have that right now.

Gary Smith- County Fire Chief: We do, we had to put them into a brush truck and just do a first response for three or four days. But their backup and their transport capable.

Linda Jaramillo- County Commissioner: Have you been getting a lot of calls?

Gary Smith- County Fire Chief: They have been, I mean, it's intermittent. It's just that transport that kills us. We really need to look into some type of small emergency right out here that would help a lot of surrounding areas too, because between Santa Rosa and Albuquerque, there's nothing.

Linda Jaramillo- County Commissioner: Have you been getting a lot of calls in District Three?

Gary Smith- County Fire Chief: Not a whole lot.

Linda Jaramillo- County Commissioner: So, they're concentrated on the Northern end.

Gary Smith- County Fire Chief: We get a lot of calls for the North, just the population and just more people.

Linda Jaramillo- County Commissioner: In the total rural areas like the Duran, do you get much?

Gary Smith- County Fire Chief: We've had a couple of smoke checks and stuff like that down there.

Kevin McCall- County Vice-Chair: Valencia, one is up and running?

Gary Smith- County Fire Chief: It's with a mechanic right now. He should have it on the road today. Yeah, there's a couple things to include.

Kevin McCall- County Vice-Chair: When they're putting on the flat bed as a loaner. Does that become ours? You think is that? Is that the one we're buying?

Gary Smith- County Fire Chief: No, that's just, a rescue they loaned to us. So, they've been good to us.

Linda Jaramillo- County Commissioner: This is Valencia?

Gary Smith- County Fire Chief: No, this is Osage, the ambulance manufacturer in Missouri.

B. MANAGER: Discussion on a Potential Declaration of Emergency for the Melody Ranch Water Situation.

J. Jordan Barela- County Manager: Mr. Chair. I did put this on at the request of chairman Schwebach. He's not here today, but I did give him an update also. What I put together for the packet material was a technical memo on a declaration of emergency. What are the statutory requirements? What's the intent of it? What does that mean? So, I'll go through that briefly and then give an update in terms of where we are generally. new information that's been provided to me. So really, there's two primary statutes in the state that relate to declarations of emergencies, one of which is the Public Health Emergency Response act. in reviewing that act, it's my, understanding that the ability to declare a public health emergency is solely with the state. The Secretary of Health at the state level has to be in concurrence that this is a public health emergency. But nowhere in that statutory language is there room for a local government to do that independent of working with the State Department of Health to identify a public health emergency.

The other statute that's relative to this is the all-hazard Emergency Management Act, and that does give local governments the ability to issue a declaration of emergency for all different kinds of issues, whether that be a natural disaster, a man-made disaster. The real intent, legally, of declaring an emergency is kind of twofold. One, it gives the Commission some latitude to adjust regulatory requirements and procedures to address an emergency. A good example of that was through the covid situation and what happened there with policy changes that sort of happened on the fly. So, it allows regulatory relief to quickly address something, and then the other side of the coin is providing assets, people and financial

resources, primarily to address an emergency. A lot of these things we discussed during the last meeting, one of the primary hiccups for both us and the state, as it relates to Melody Ranch, is the anti-donation clause of the state constitution. In terms of, the intent of the statute and waiving regulatory requirements.

The County doesn't regulate public utilities, and so there's not really much that we can waive, as far as regulations are concerned to address this. Then on the financial side of the situation, because this is a privately owned company, financial investments directly into that system to dig a supplemental well, do repairs that would still be prohibited even if a declaration of emergency was stated. So, I will state if the will of the Commission is to declare an emergency that can be done. As far as repercussions, there's nothing punitive I can think of. We're not in violation of state statutes. There's not going to be monetary penalties associated with it. The only thing I could think of is that it would be a bit of a concern is the reputational risk to the County. Doing that, knowing that likely it's not going to change the issues on the ground. The big push here, from the County's perspective, is to see this system change ownership from private to public, or quasi-public, relatively quickly. If that happens, then the anti-donation issue no longer becomes a problem and resources can be deployed.

So, in relation to that, there was an EMWT board meeting last night. I did speak with some individuals that attended the meeting. My understanding is that the EMWT board has okayed moving forward with the takeover of the system, and then the ownership group of Melody Ranch is still on board with that. In addition, they authorized Bohannon and Houston to come in and provide a technical memo, essentially come in and do due diligence on the system to identify water rights ownership and infrastructure. Where's the best place to dig a new well? How can this be addressed? Even looking at some alternatives. Is it better to dig a new well or are there pipelines in the surrounding area that may be extended to ensure that there's not another well issue at the facility. Then there is a pre-application that was authorized for a pre-application for water Trust Board funding that could potentially be used for this project. That's going to be due on November 1st. So, in order to get that done by November 1st and submit that application. Really, what EMWT needs to identify is, what's the current status of the system, what really needs to be done?

How much is it going to cost, and what's the best approach, and that comes to Bohannon and Houston and the engineering evaluation of the system itself. So EMWT will be coming to the County to have a discussion about how that potentially can be financed. So, I talked to Bohannon and Houston this morning. They're estimating they believe they can get this done in a period of six to eight

weeks, costs not to exceed \$30,000. So, in the coming days, we will be having discussions with EMWT to look at options in terms of what the County might be able to do to address the funding of that due diligence assessment. So, this process can continue to move forward, and there are some options on the table. We do have grown funding that the County's had for some time related to EMWT. Now we have to have that discussion with the COG about reverting it for this purpose, but I think that's doable. There were also some discussions about potential loans that may be available for the County, for EMWT and then, following the water Trust Board funding, some of those costs may be reimbursable. So, we will definitely explore those options. As it relates to other declarations of emergency.

We were also made aware that the State Emergency Manager did have a meeting with the Governor's Office on Wednesday, and one of the topics of discussion was Melody Ranch and what the State may be able to do in the situation. Our Emergency Manager, Samantha, reached out. The feedback we got was that they still need to do some coordination with some state agencies, so they did not have a definitive response for us at least this morning. We're hoping by the end of this week we'll have some additional guidance from the State in terms of what they may be able to do. So, I know there's been some community groups that have made requests to the State, things like deploying water buffalos with the National Guard, coordinating with the Army Corps of Engineers. Again, those are State functions, and those directives would have to come from the Governor's Office. I don't know what is going to come of that meeting, but we will keep the board apprised. We will continue to have discussions with EMWT and see what role we could play in terms of the financing of this technical memo to ensure that this does not stall up the process of transferring the water system to EMWT.

Linda Jaramillo- County Commissioner: I attended that meeting last night with some people from melody ranch and the others, and they approved the task order for him and Houston to do the tech memo. So that's the first step, and then acquiring the land, making sure that everything's in order and proceeding. I think the owners are willing to work with EMWT, right, it's crucial.

J. Jordan Barela- County Manager: That's my understanding that the ownership group is on board with this, and it would be a direct transfer, no cost associated with it, the infrastructure and the water rights would go to EMWT.

Linda Jaramillo- County Commissioner: We're just taking over, or they're taking over.

Kevin McCall- County Vice-Chair: So, seeing how you were at the meeting, did you feel the urgency of the board of EMWT, getting on board and moving quickly?

Linda Jaramillo- County Commissioner: Yes, I did. But they have to follow all these steps and Bohannon and Houston will be a play, a big part in all of this.

Kevin McCall- County Vice-Chair: I just was hoping that there was a sense of urgency with the EMWT.

Linda Jaramillo- County Commissioner: There is and with us also, the Commission.

Kevin McCall- County Vice-Chair: Yes, these folks need help and need it fast, and in government moves fast, and I'm sorry.

J. Jordan Barela- County Manager: Mr. Chair, I did talk to Chairman Schwebach this morning, also about that. I mean, there was a willingness, if we can identify this, if we need to make some type of financial determination at the Commission level, to even hold a special meeting to try to get that done. As soon as those options are available, so that funding is available to EMWT and Bohannon and Houston to move forward with this process.

Linda Jaramillo- County Commissioner: they said within what six weeks tops?

Kevin McCall- County Vice-Chair: So, let's Push them to see if we can turn it into three to four weeks. When it comes to the work that Bohannon and Houston's doing, is that through our engineers on call through the County, or does the EMWT have the same sort of standing contract with Bohannon and Houston?

J. Jordan Barela- County Manager: Mr. Chair, we have a contract with Bohannon and Houston specific to EMWT, but that is specific to phase one and phase two. EMWT also has an independent contract with Bohannon and Houston for some of these services. So, I think any work done in relation to the Melody Ranch project would be independent of our current contracts with BHI.

Linda Jaramillo- County Commissioner: They used it for the Sunset Acres because the other Water Associations purchased it or took over.

J. Jordan Barela- County Manager: They're essentially doing the same thing for Melody Ranch that they did for Homestead Estates and Sunset Acres.

Kevin McCall- County Vice-Chair: I don't have a problem with either one. I just wanted to make sure the County fronting the contract with Bohannon and Houston, or was it EMWT? either way, I just don't want it to get held up.

J. Jordan Barela- County Manager: In this situation because, right now, EMWT as a new organization, a lot of the stuff that they've done has been grant funded. They don't have liquidity to put out the \$30,000 to pay for the technical assessment of Melody Ranch. so likely we would have to get involved in that directly with Bohannon and Houston. how we work that out, whether it was grant funding we already have for EMWT to pay for that, if it was County General Fund that came through alone. We would likely have to be the agent to execute that contract and get it rolling with the understanding there may be reimbursables on the back end, depending on how that plays out. I think right now, they don't have the capacity to enter a new agreement With Bohannon and Houston to undertake this study specifically.

Kevin McCall- County Vice-Chair: I think it's safe to say this Commission would front the money if it came to that. So, I think that's as bad as it doesn't sound like movement, but I do think there is some movement there. I really would like to push Bohannon and Huston, and I'll do my best. I'll get on the phone and see if I can't call Donzel and see if we can't push that to three or four weeks to give EMWT a green light. Good system with move forward water rights. Look good. System is just needing a new well.

Linda Jaramillo- County Commissioner: EMWT will be aware of what we discussed today, right?

J. Jordan Barela- County Manager: They will, and I did try to call Bobby this morning. I wasn't able to get a hold of him, but I will touch base with him this afternoon, because we want to have those discussions about what the next steps are. By this week, we'll get the ball rolling.

Kevin McCall- County Vice-Chair: Amy is on the EMWT board. Go ahead and come on up to the podium and state your name. I'll give you the floor, since you're an EMWT board member.

Amy May- EMWT Secretary: Amy may EMWT, we discussed it at length last night, and yes, there is an urgency. We are ready to move forward, and we are looking forward to doing our due diligence. I would really like to help you push for Bohannon and Houston to those three or four weeks. So, we're ready with all of

that. They did approve as it was said, the pre-application and the task order and the techno. So, we're just waiting.

Kevin McCall- County Vice-Chair: There's a positive vibe in the room. Was anybody against it on the board?

Amy May- EMWT Secretary: No, we're looking at two-fold, short term solutions while we fix the long term that's what it's coming down to. How do we do both at the same time?

Linda Jaramillo- County Commissioner: I think the people who were there for Melody Ranch were satisfied or encouraged by all of this.

Kevin McCall- County Vice-Chair: I want you to rush into it, but I don't, because it is something that we will inherit, more or less. I want to make sure that it makes sense for EMWT that it's not the one hiccup that puts a black eye onto that agency, because they do have two other systems now under their belt. This would be the third and then going into this building out of Macintosh water system. So, I'm encouraged by EMWT. It's been sitting there for a long time, but it sounds like maybe we're getting the third wheel put on the car, so keep it rolling.

J. Jordan Barela- County Manager: Mr. Chair. I don't want to speak for EMWT in this regard, but I mean, as we talk about short- and long-term solutions, I think if they can take ownership, a lot more of those short-term solutions open up to us. So, for example, as soon as that system changes ownership, you have to identify a new well, which is going to take some time. Nothing prohibits new funding being used to supplement the existing water tank in that system with water because it is publicly owned. So, it does open up a lot of those avenues, I know the long-term solution is probably going to take a little bit of time, but the short-term solutions, they do, open up to a wide array of different options as soon as that's public.

Kevin McCall- County Vice-Chair: I would encourage EMWT to possibly be looking into drilling of a new well and getting a driller on board through all either procurement issues, everything else that has to happen. So, when that day comes, we can drop a bit in the ground and go.

Amy May- EMWT Secretary: We're working with David Massey as well on one of our other systems. So, he's willing to come on with the Melody Ranch work with Donzel should we need any Wells drilled.

Kevin McCall- County Vice-Chair: Nothing stops or prohibit us from at least just getting things in order, letting drillers know, hey, there's a potential that we

need you right here on this date, possibly. So, I would ask that we start doing those kinds of things in knowing that if this goes through the sell, or this ownership change goes through, we're ready another lack of time stall. Thanks for that update. Sounds like we're hopefully moving, and I'll do my best to push along through.

C. MANAGER: Discussion on Domestic Violence Services in Torrance County.

Deferred

D. COMMISSION: Discussion on the Operational Costs for the Torrance County Treasurer's Office.

Deferred

E. CLERK'S REPORT:

Sylvia Chavez-County Clerk: Good Morning Commission. I just wanted to give you an update on the upcoming election. We have 371 people on our permanent absentee lists. So, we will be sending those out on October 7. I also want to let everyone know that on the ballot there will be bond questions and capital improvement questions for all School Districts within the County. So, everybody please be aware and make yourself knowledgeable about the questions that will be on the ballot. So, we don't run into any situations of something being passed that we're not really aware of what it's going to affect. So, every School District will have a bond question and a capital improvement question. So, starting October 7 is when Early Voting starts. So that was when I will have EB sample ballots. So, if anybody is interested, you can call our office, and we can get you a sample ballot. We will be open here at the Torrance County Admin Building, Monday through Thursday, from 7:30AM to 5:30PM. The alternate site at the Moriarty Civic Center will open October 18, and their operation days are Tuesday through Saturday, from 10:00AM to 6:00PM. So that's the only thing I have.

Kevin McCall- County Vice-Chair: I think it's important to talk about all the writing candidates you have and let voters do their due diligence before they get to voting booths.

Sylvia Chavez-County Clerk: Yes. So that would be the importance of requesting an absentee ballot and getting the information before the election day. So, I did have someone call me yesterday, and she was very adamant that she wanted a sample ballot, because she wanted to know who she was voting for. I guess, in light of what happened at the City of Moriarty meeting the other night. So, if you want to sample ballot, contact my office and we can get you one or if you want an absentee ballot, you can call our office and request an application. We can get this to you as well.

Kevin McCall- County Vice-Chair: How would the voters know about the write ins? I mean, they just have to know the write ins name and literally write it in.

Sylvia Chavez-County Clerk: So yes. So, the place where there is a write in candidate, you have your little ovals with an actual candidate's name. Then below that there's the oval, and if there's a line that says, write in candidate. So, at that point, that's when the voter would need to write in that individual's name, as well as color in the actual oval.

Linda Jaramillo- County Commissioner: If they don't circle in the oval, it does not count.

Sylvia Chavez-County Clerk: It doesn't count.

Linda Jaramillo- County Commissioner: So, everybody remember that.

Sylvia Chavez-County Clerk: Yes, I mean, of course, if they were to ask us who the writing candidates are, we could give them the names. But truly, that is the importance of the actual candidate to do their campaign. Any other questions?

Linda Jaramillo- County Commissioner: So, can you give the list of write ins?

Sylvia Chavez-County Clerk: Not the day of election. If you were to call in and say, who were the writing in candidates. I know that County Manager Barela gave you information from the New Mexico Counties Board of Directors on the priorities for the Legislative session. So, if you guys could please take a look over at that. Then, I guess at some point we will eventually, in the future meetings, I'm not sure when, but present a resolution for approval for you guys to support the New Mexico County's Priorities for the Legislative session in 2026.

Kevin McCall- County Vice-Chair: Thank you for everything you do.

F. MANAGER'S REPORT:

J. Jordan Barela- County Manager: Mr. Chair. I'll be brief here. One of the items was the fact that New Mexico counties came out with their legislative agenda, so Madam Clerk sort of stole that thunder there. But there are only three items on there, one related to appropriations for House Bill. Two, another one related to changes to IPRA statutes, and then the third for the veterans exemption for taxation. So, we'll do a full-blown presentation at the next meeting regarding those to see if there's some consensus from the Commission to pass a formal resolution in support of those. I know we took off the domestic violence discussion item today, but I did want to make the Commission aware, because our current MOU with BSS ends October 31 and the public as well, we will be putting out solicitation for interested parties to act in a as a contractor of the County to provide direct services in Torrance County for the rest of this fiscal year. Our intent is to get that out within the next week. The scope of work's already been put together, and we would have a contract potentially up to \$30,000 for the rest of this year. With the money that's currently in this year's budget, we would also identify some temporary housing options.

Then that service coordinator would work with some organizations that provide more clinical services, legal advocacy, and that kind of stuff in the Albuquerque area. So that process is moving forward, because we do want to ensure that as of November. First, there is somebody in place for victims of domestic violence, both the victims directly, as well as the sheriff's office, to make sure that they have that resource available. then the last item I wanted to touch base on is, is in relation to the discussions we had regarding the regionalization of the dispatch centers. So, we have had some preliminary discussions with Sandoval County, Santa Fe County and Bernalillo County. From the Sandoval County perspective, we got a proposal from a consultant that helped them put their dispatch center together to look at the feasibility of consolidating. That proposal came in the tune of about \$48,000 so that's likely going to be cost prohibitive, because there's not really a guarantee that even with that study, there would be, there wouldn't be cost prohibitions beyond that, or that it's even a viable in terms of Santa Fe County, they are actually already doing a feasibility study of regionalization with Torrance County, and so we're part of those discussions.

Selena and I attended a kickoff meeting this week. So Federal Engineering is a contractor putting that together, and they should have a final report done at the end of January of next year, so that process is happening. Then Chief Smith and I also went to Bernalillo County, met with their Dispatch Director and Deputy County Manager. They are new to the concept of regionalization there's a number of other smaller Municipalities and organizations under their umbrella. So, I think it's at least from that meeting, it sounded like there was some willingness to look at options of complete takeovers, partial takeovers, hosting for us. So, we're continuing those discussions, and we've just provided some information to Bernalillo County. They should get us back, essentially a cost proposal and what that would look like. But there are a number of options on the table, and those discussions are still moving forward.

Linda Jaramillo-County Commissioner: What does it mean partial?

J. Jordan Barela- County Manager: So, for partial, and they've done this with other organizations Commissioner, so a partial would be, we're going to take over your fire services, but not your Sheriff's Office, or Fire and Sheriff, but not Animal Services, or we're going to host, meaning we'll take the calls, we'll send them to your dispatchers. Everything will be built off archived or a complete takeover, which is essentially, staff would come under the fold of Bernalillo County. They would be the primary dispatch for fire, sheriffs, Animal Services, all of those types of things. Essentially, we would be an organization under the umbrella of Bernalillo County, and they would house all the tech and staff and operational components of dispatch.

G. COMMISSIONERS' REPORTS:

1) Commissioner McCall, District 1

Kevin McCall-County Vice Chair: Sounds good. Glad you guys are making some headway on the dispatch director Celine was involved as well. As soon as you know kind of the revenue sources strains that we would lose point and or pass through to whoever takes over the regional reason, regionalization of it, I would like to see and hear that that's my that's my big concern as what revenue sources change, and how do they change so and I knew getting the just The discussion alone with other Counties, we would start figuring that out. When you do give me, a heads up on that. I love seeing the legislative priorities. But there's one I just now that I'm hearing more and more about the rescues and the miles of putting on is foundation of, not a hospital, but a but a triage or some sort of facility out in this

area that would even service east of here, whether it be all the way to client to Santa Rosa, for that matter, but that's something we ought to try to attack during legislative session issues, urgent care I guess that's what you would need for an ambulance or rescue to go to that area, emergency room. That is what we need but that is on the list to talk to our legislators about. But other than that, be careful out there. It is harvesting time. There's a lot of trucks on the road hauling silage and hay and other goods. So be careful and give way to the farmers.

2) Commissioner Schwebach, District 2

Ryan Schwebach-County Chairman:

Absent

3) Commissioner Jaramillo, District 3

Linda Jaramillo-County Commissioner: I attended Mountainair's Town meeting last week, I attended to give support to Chad Hamilton and Mr. Haynes on their asking for money for the wall, the fallen soldier wall, or the memorial wall. Their City Council agreed to give them \$2,500, Moriarty giving \$4,000, CCA giving \$1,500, Estancia \$4,000 and the County matched Moriarty. So, that'll be the \$20,000 but we need to send our \$8,000 as soon as possible. It wasn't in the payables.

Misty Witt-Deputy County Manager: I don't know if they hit the payables or if it was directly after, but we did send that out.

Linda Jaramillo-County Commissioner: Yeah, okay. I didn't see it in the payable and then Estancia needs to send their money and CCA already sent their money, so they're good to go. Then I attended the Economic Development at McCall's. I was so impressed by your place Mr. McCall, I can't imagine how you handle all of that. We talked about economic growth in Torrance and just gave a lot of ideas and entrepreneurship in our County. I attended the EMWT meeting last night. Tomorrow, I'll be attending the Qlaunch Pinto annual meeting at the Manzano Apple Retreat. That's about it for me, answering lots of emails and phone calls.

16. EXECUTIVE SESSION:

- A. Discussion of Threatened of Pending Litigation Pursuant to 10-15-1.H(7):
The Estate of Travis Boawn v. the Board of County Commissioners for the
County of Torrance.

Deferred

17. Announcement of the next Board of County Commissioner's Meeting:

October 8, 2025 at 9:00AM

18. SIGNING OF OFFICIAL DOCUMENTS

19. ADJOURNED.

Action Taken:

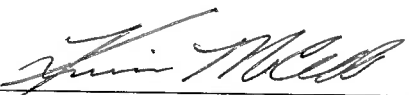
Kevin McCall-County Vice Chair: Motion to adjourn.

Linda Jaramillo-County Commissioner: Seconds the motion.

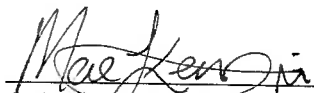
Roll Call Vote: Linda Jaramillo – County Commissioner: - Yes: Ryan Schwebach
– County Chairman: – Absent: Kevin McCall – County Vice Chairman: - Yes:

MOTION CARRIED

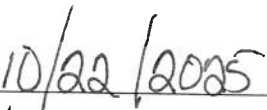
The meeting adjourned at 10:14AM



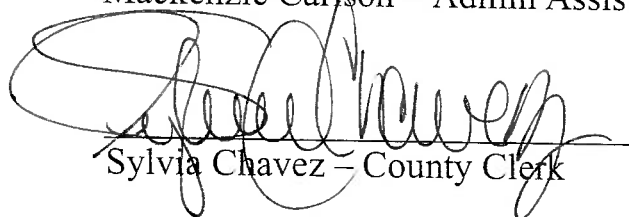
Kevin McCall – Vice-Chairman



Mackenzie Carlson – Admin Assistant



Date



Sylvia Chavez – County Clerk

The video and audio of this meeting are available upon request.