

Final COPY
Torrance County Board of Commissioners
Regular Commission Meeting
October 22, 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
GENELL MORRIS - ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT III
DONALD GOEN - PLANNING & ZONING DIRECTOR

1. Call the Meeting to order.

Kevin McCall, County Vice Chair: Calls the October 22, 2025, Regular Commission Meeting to order at 9:01 AM.

2. Pledge led by: Kevin McCall – County Commissioner

Invocation led by: Kevin McCall – County Commissioner

3. Changes to the Agenda:

Jordan Barela, County Manager: Defer items 15F & 16D.

Action Taken:

Kevin McCall, County Vice Chair: Motion to approve changes to the agenda.
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

4. PROCLAMATION: None

5. AWARDS and RECOGNITIONS: None

6. BOARD AND COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS: None

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

Marvin Pounds – Resident: This is regarding the County Roads where we live. We lived in the house currently labeled as 1105 Pinos Wells Road in Torrance County for 39 years. When we moved there, the person who maintained our County Road was Joe Eddie. He kept the road in great shape because he understood the drainage patterns, maintained the roads regularly, kept the ditches clean, and kept the roadbed higher in the middle for better drainage. Over the years, since his retirement, we've had other people maintaining our road, but no one has paid attention to the draining patterns of the landscape to know how to root the ditches, keep budding water to a minimum. In recent years, we've noticed that time and attention to maintenance have been sporadic at best, and the road conditions have steadily deteriorated. We would like attention paid to this, a little accountability for those, and I don't know the reasons for it; perhaps it's a lack of apprenticeship or passing on knowledge to the next people who are grading our roads. It wouldn't surprise me a bit, because we don't have a lot of apprenticeships in our current culture. I know those of us who live there, Louis, myself, and my brother, would love to see those roads return to the conditions that they were decades ago. Thank you for your time.

Kevin McCall, County Vice Chair: How many miles of County Road?

Marvin Pounds – Resident: It's nine miles between Cedarville and my house, 12 miles between my house and Duran, and 20 miles between my house and Encino. It is 40 miles of County Road.

Joseph Sanchez – Resident: We have a family ranch in Pinos Wells. I am a volunteer firefighter for Corona. We need to take care of the roads for First Responders. The road between Negro to Pinos Wells was a very hard road to get to. It's very hard to access during all these runoffs. That does cause a concern as a First Responder, because you can't get out there for brush fires, structural fires, or if somebody's vehicle turns over. We can't wait until six weeks after we discuss it to repair the roads. We also noticed that the road elevation in that area is about four feet higher than the bar ditch. On the side, it's very easy if you have an evasive turn, you can accidentally get off of that road and roll your vehicle. I think the next step would be to look at some safety issues in that area. Look at some reflectors, guard rails. There is no way for the water on each side of that road to get diverted. It's running straight out. There could be some culverts, because that road runs on a slant, and that road is going to continue to erode. We need to start looking at some safety issues with that road, and that's mainly what I'd like to address. Thank you very much.

Linda Jaramillo, County Commissioner: I took office on January 1 of this year and started getting calls on roads from all over the County. I've listened to people and traveled the roads. I've seen that most of the problem is drainage. I have worked with several Road Departments in the past. In 1997, when I took office, I had a good relationship with the Road Department. They've always helped me with elections. I know they are overwhelmed, especially with all the weather that we're having. I would like to suggest that we work on having a superintendent for the northern end and a superintendent for the southern end. This was back when Marty Lovato and maybe my dad had two different superintendents. I don't know where the boundary was, but we could use the same boundary that we used for maybe the fire district. I think that would help the Road Department and equalize the workload. It might cost more money, but we need a basic structure on our roads, because that's the most important thing in rural communities. I know Leonard and the Road Department are doing all that they can to keep up with the overload, but I think it's too much. We have three Commission districts and two Fire Districts. This County is so big that we need to help the Road Department. I know it's hard to

get men to come and work, but we can start the process. Economic development depends a lot on good roads and good transportation, and all of us have to travel on roads to get to and from where we're headed. I'd like to start working on something.

*Comments by Zoom

PJ Podesta, Innovation Law Lab: My colleague Ian Philabaum quoted at the last meeting a report by someone detained at the Torrance County Detention Facility, noting a septic system collapse and ill health among people detained. This is related to detention unit 1B, leading up to September 26. Since the last meeting, several more reports of sewage flooding have emerged, as well as reports of leaks from the roof of TCDF during rain. These have led to at least two harmful slip and fall accidents involving a 66-year-old man who's detained. Around October 4, detention unit 2B saw widespread sewage flooding. Men were evacuated to Unit 5 B. The next day, sewage flooding took place across the ground-floor toilets, causing the slip and fall. To emphasize, I'm citing reports from different individuals covering separate cell blocks at TCDF in unit 8A. Another man reported earlier this month that toilet water overflows in the unit and that water leaks from the roof. Another report from Unit 8C on October 9, sewage overflowed from all ground-floor toilets. Two others reported on Monday that in unit 7C, everyone had to be evacuated because all the ground-floor toilets overflowed. The men locked in their cells called for help for nearly an hour before being moved. All of this is from the past month in units across the facility. There are at least 17 other reports of wastewater flooding in TCDF that we have publicly documented from April 2023 to April of this year. Not to mention similar reports based on the direct observations of the Inspector General overseeing ICE detention, US Senate staff, and my colleagues, the record of independently corroborated reports is overwhelming. We call on Torrance County to cease relying on the accounts of Core Civic bosses whose job is to deflect blame and keep millions of dollars flowing each month to the multibillion-dollar companies' executives, no matter how much harm is done in the process. My colleagues are inside the facility today, providing legal services, and are unable to join this meeting, but we joined a multitude of people harmed by TCDF in saying that the facility should be shut down. The time to end the County's contracts is now. Thank you.

8. Department updates and Communication: None

9. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A. COMMISSION: Request approval of minutes of the September 24, 2025, Regular meeting of the Board of County Commissioners.

Action Taken:

Kevin McCall, County Vice Chair: Motion to approve September 24, 2025,

minutes.

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. COMMISSION: Request approval of minutes of the October 8, 2025, Regular meeting of the Board of County Commissioners.

Action Taken:

Kevin McCall, County Vice Chair: Motion to approve October 8, 2025, minutes.

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

10. APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA

A. FINANCE: Request approval of payables with a date range of October 2, 2025, through October 15, 2025.

Action Taken:

Linda Jaramillo, County Commissioner: Motion to approve the consent agenda.

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

11. ADOPTION OF ORDINANCE / AMENDMENT TO COUNTY CODE:

A. TREASURER: Treasurer's Board of Finance report and Fiduciary Fund Update.

Kathryn Hernandez, County Treasurer: I want to give a brief update on the Treasurer's Office and reconciliation. All accounts are fully reconciled. We are currently completing August for the Tax and the Main accounts. After which, we'll move forward with September, and then that'll bring us up to date with October. The journal entries that we completed last week for Justin with JAG. He found that there were a few entries that were entered in reverse. I stayed late last night to correct these. We have reached out to him by email and phone this morning. They reviewed and confirmed that all the entries are now accurate. Before the final approval, I'll have Misty approve those by the end of the day. The tax bills were all mailed out yesterday. We should anticipate an increase in activity, in the property owners running in and receiving their tax bills.

Linda Jaramillo, County Commissioner: In this reconciliation, were you able to find that, \$400,000?

Misty Witt, Deputy County Manager: That's part of the correcting journal entries that the Treasurer's Office has been working on, and I'll certify it this afternoon.

B. FINANCE: Finance Department Board of Finance Report

Misty Witt, Deputy County Manager: I provided an updated GRT trend analysis for you to review. That should get a little more in-depth as we go through the year, and get more months added. The GRTs over the last three months have been steady. I wanted to track those to see if we had certain times a year where they spike, and those things same within the GRT trend analysis. I also provide an updated list of the industry that might put those GRTs and who our highest contributors to GRTs are, for the Commission's tracking. If you go through the packet, you'll also see I included a budget trend analysis. This is a percentage of the budget used by month. I figured things we finished in Q1 might interest the Commission to get an average of how much percentage of the budget we're spending per month. It looks like we're trending close, between probably the three and 5% mark per month of budget expenditure. Lastly, as part of the finance packet, I included what you are already used to seeing is the overall where we're at

Jordan Barela, County Manager: The Fairgrounds project is done in two phases. One would be item 12A, which is a presentation of where the project is right now, where it stands, as far as design, construction time, designs those types of things. Followed by that would be 12B, which is a contract amendment related to the design with Studio Southwest.

A. MANAGER/STUDIOS SOUTHWEST: Torrance County Fairgrounds
Project Update.

12. TORRANCE COUNTY FAIRGROUND PROJECT:

Misty Witt, Deputy County Manager: As part of the Finance update, I want to update the Commission on the Status of the Final Budget. That was submitted to the DFA. We are still waiting on the DFA Chief's approval level. Our analyst has approved it, and it's up at the top right now, waiting for approval. We did get some preliminary feedback from our analyst. He said it looks good. He's not getting a lot of feedback from the Chief, he doesn't believe there are any problems. As part of that, we can't file the Q1 report until we get their approval.

Kevin McCall, County Vice Chair: As a seasonal business owner, I think it's important that we see a month snapshot from 24 to 25, 25 to 26, as opposed to running percentages. If you could add that, I think that would be helpful to see GRTs, track them, and the industries that are producing.

Misty Witt, Deputy County Manager: Sure, I can do that.

Kevin McCall, County Vice Chair: Could I request, on this spreadsheet, where the increase in GRT from month to month is? Could you also give us a forecast of what that month in the prior year looks like?

as of September 30, with budget expenditure, the total dollar amount, the total percentage, in comparison to the year. I would like to note that we're right on track with payroll expenses. We're about 23% of the budget, using 25% through percent through the year. As far as Operating Expenses and other expenses, we're trending low. We're only at about 18% for Operating Expenses, and we're 25% through the year. If we keep up that trend, we may still have some money left at the end of the year, which is always a good thing going into budget season.

Theodore Edaakie, Studio Southwest Architect: We appreciate the opportunity

to update the progress that we've made. The project is near Highland and Eighth Street, at the Fairgrounds site that's currently in Estancia. The existing site has several barns and other auxiliary buildings on the site. We have a current existing enclosed building that is to the west of the proposed site. The new scope is to have a multi-purpose building, one story, about 13,000 square feet. It's for flexible event space, restroom, storage, and also for the use of an arena for the Torrance County Fair. We've looked at all these different uses, and we're working on this multi-purpose building to fill the need for the community. The design progress

milestones that we've had to date, we've been working on several different things at the same time. It's been a little bit different from the design schedule, to compress that in certain ways, to help construction later on, but we've been technically in design development for a little while, that's recently, we're trying to wrap up the completion of that design phase. That incorporated a few different things, including scope confirmation, utility coordination, contractor selection, Value Engineering, pre-engineered metal building, and pre-construction services. We've been working on all those different things simultaneously to try to work on something that's going to be ready for construction. Part of that was to help with the selection of a Construction Manager who has been selected. They provide constructability input and preliminary pricing for us to be able to work with our design team and make sure that we're within budget and we stay on track with the schedule. Another thing that was incorporated with that coordination of the

Contractor was to work on an Early Release Package, which is something that is not always done with a with other types of construction delivery methods, but in this project, it became something that was that would provide a great benefit to compressing that schedule of the bidding phase, but also having preconstruction services, and also get the contractor be able to be on site doing work sooner rather than later. To get them an early set of construction documents to work on things for a phased construction approach, which includes site utilities, the foundation, and other items that can be completed while we're waiting on the framing of the pre-engineered metal building. We are also working on the construction documents at the same time. That is in progress to complete the rest of the drawings and project manual for the full build-out of the building, while the pre-engineered metal building and the site package are completed. It will commence after we have the early work package, including the demolition site, utilities, and foundation. Then we'll go on with 100% construction documents.

The Early Release Package is about four weeks to complete, and from there, we'll be going on for the rest of the construction documents for about another 10 weeks. We go back and forth with the pre-engineered building and also with the

Contractor, and they will also be in progress with construction administration, hopefully, before the end of the year.

The site plan shows the existing fairground site. We have several existing facilities across the site. On the west end, you have the main access coming in from Eighth Street with some parking, and an enclosed building that's used for as a multi purposes and used for fairs and other events. There's a covered canopy area East of that. For the new proposed site, we're taking off a portion of that covered canopy to make way for the building footprint. We have our main entry on the west side of the building, coming in from the parking, and also adjacent to the existing building on the west. Then, some other existing facilities surround the site to the south and to the east, and we're also coordinating the site design. With the floor plan, we tried to make it very flexible and work with the types of events that are going to be happening here on the site, for it can be the fair or could be Community events that happen throughout the entire year, rentable uses, and anticipate all those different things. We try to keep an open layout for the multipurpose arena. It has a concrete floor that can be easily cleaned, and it is durable. We have several overhead doors for ease of use, for bringing in equipment. We have a vestibule on the west side of the building, pointing towards the existing building and also the parking, and we have several other doorways next to those overhead doors. They also correspond with how it could function with certain uses of the other adjacent barns that we have to the east, we have another steer barn out to the south, and we have wash days on a concrete area that surrounds that Southwest corner of the building. All those different things have been taken into account in how this can provide very efficient use for a large number of uses that you have throughout the year. Going out into the east of the floor plan. We have a hallway going out to some restrooms that are sized for large events, based on the square footage of the building. Other storage rooms that could be used for a variety of uses that you have for fairs or other events, but also one of them is serving as our electrical room and mechanical room, which we have for other uses to support the building systems.

Our roof plan shows an adjacent building to the existing building that we have to the south, which is an existing covered open-air barn. Then we have a portion of our building wrapping around that. We have the larger arena-type portion of our building, which is a little bit higher than the other restroom and storage area. The higher portion of the building is set at about 18 feet at the top of the roof on the eave, and then to the middle of the ridge. It goes several feet higher. For the eave height of the smaller portion of the building, that's at around 13 feet towards the bottom of the eave. With our exterior elevations we're trying to do is look at how we can keep everything efficient in terms of durability of use and colors, and also

keeping in line with what's currently there on the site. At the same time, you want to make it feel open and bring in lots of natural light on that arena space to make it feel very open and welcoming, with the use of windows we have on the south and on the west side, but especially since those are pointing towards areas where you have the public approaching the building. We have a different color-accented panel for that vestibule to draw attention to the main entryway. Keeping with a very efficient building design for constructability and for cost efficiency as well.

Colin Schumacher, Project Manager and Coordinator: We took sections through two different instances of the building, one at the overhead door and one at the windows. Both of these are showing the constructability of both the roof and the wall system for the building. We are having continuous insulation and the walls and the roof with a U factor of about 35, which meets the minimum requirements for the climate zone that Estancia is in, as well as the snow that is required for the roof. We have gutters going around the perimeter of the building to control any water runoff from the building, coordinated with our Civil Engineer on the site to make sure that there are no contributions to the problems of some of the site flooding that has occurred on the site before. We're having about an inch and a quarter profile for the metal panels going around the perimeter of the building as well. (PowerPoint) These slides are a couple of renderings of what the building currently looks like. A view from the southwest approach in the building, which would be the main parking lot area of the fairgrounds. To the west, you can see the overhang that's coming from the existing Multi-Purpose building. To give you a relation of where that stands on the site. Behind it, to the east, you can see the existing goat barn, and then the steer barn to the south. At the southwest corner, we have that concrete pad, which is going to be designated for most of the animals, while there's another separate, smaller wash rack on the west side of the South corner of the building. That's going to be a separate designated area for the hogs to keep them separated from the rest of the animals. Then we have the overhead door going into the south main area of the arena, and then that vestibule in the middle of the west facade that's going to serve as the main entrance for the building. The main doors line up with the existing overhang towards the north of the west facade. This is a view from underneath of the existing overhang from the Multi-Purpose building. Right behind would be the entrance going outside from that Multi-Purpose building, and then lining up with the building, going into that secondary entrance with the windows. You can see the main vestibule entrance in the middle. South approaching elevation, you can see the wash racks wrapping around the southwest corner of the adjacent barn to the east, and then the building kind of wraps around that corner of the barn. That wraps up our presentation.

Kevin McCall, County Vice Chair: Thank you for the update.

B. MANAGER/STUDIOS SOUTHWEST: Request approval of a proposal for Studios Southwest for additional services for \$73,686.47 for the addition of restrooms and an Early Release Package for the Torrance County Fairgrounds Project.

Theodore Edaakie, Studio Southwest Architect: We touched on this in the project update with the Early Release Package. It becomes a great benefit to the project performance, with the Contractor being able to be there earlier on site while we're completing the rest of the design. It can give them enough information to complete the site, package, utilities, and foundation. Instead of having to wait longer, it helps with coordination, but also it could help with costs, with ordering a building quicker for the pre-engineered metal building, there's better coordination, and being able to meet the schedule by next year as well. As far as additional services for the restrooms became necessary for the change in the scope where we were, we did not have public restrooms incorporated into the program at the beginning of the project, but there is additional coordination and design documentation, especially for HVAC systems, plumbing systems, and other coordination. We need to do them as a team for those additional services.

Kevin McCall, County Vice Chair: I appreciate the breakdown on the additional costs. I need some clarity. This project has always had a \$4.9 million budget from the get-go. This Commission has never changed that. My real hang-up is, why did we go down the road as far as we did, designing another 6000 square feet, County Extension offices, when you knew what our budget was? To be frank, somebody missed the budget quite severely. The problem I have is we're getting 6000 fewer square feet at the County level, and we're getting an increase in design of \$73,006.86. Why was the design not pulled back earlier in the project, and the monies that were pulled back were the design, the effort that was given to those designs, not pulled back earlier, so that we wouldn't see this over, and I need an explanation.

Theodore Edaakie, Studio Southwest Architect: About a year ago, in August of 2024, we hired a cost estimator to do a cost estimate based on the original project scope, and that was included the extra 6000 square feet and the office, but with no restrooms. At that point, we did a schematic design for the building. We didn't have anything close to the drawings that we have now. On the cost estimates part

at that time, a lot of guessing was being done. Since there were not a lot of concrete variables of specific materials that we would be using, we didn't have any contractors that we could get pricing from at all at that point, because we didn't have the Contractor on board. Then, when we started our second contract with the County to start on design development in the spring. It took us two or three months to procure the Construction Manager at risk for the project. At which point, we started coordinating with them immediately to get an initial cost estimate. At that point, we had much further documented drawings for them to go off of. They had sub consultants that they were able to reach out to get some concrete pricing on. That took a month and a half or two months to get that initial cost estimate. We saw that with the given scope of the project, we were quite a bit over budget. That was the beginning of July, and we noted that and immediately scaled back the project and value engineering.

Kevin McCall, County Vice Chair: Is it safe to say that you went too far down the road on a design? I think it's safe to say that you went too far. You knew our budget and kept designing. You had me excited. Then all of a sudden, we pulled back 6000 square feet, and now I'm seeing a \$73,000 increase in design. I've got some heartburn with that.

Theodore Edaakie, Studio Southwest Architect: I think we did take a conservative approach to the design. We did take our time getting the Contractor on board, and that is going to be a benefit to the project, and making sure that we have somebody qualified and could provide the type of services for this project, to be a Construction Manager at risk, and being able to nail down that program and the scope. Taking our time with that is definitely a benefit to the project, and we knew that once we did have a Contractor on board, they'd be able to provide a lot of that pricing information. We definitely did not go too far. We were trying to keep the Consultants from going too far on design before we set this as a scope, and we're going to go forward with this.

Kevin McCall, County Vice Chair: As an architect, isn't it your duty to know current costs and construction costs? Is that correct to say?

Theodore Edaakie, Studio Southwest Architect: That's what Colin was noting is that there were too many variables at that time and not enough information to price at that time.

Kevin McCall, County Vice Chair: It's not sitting well, and I wish Commissioner Schwabach were here to bounce this off as well.

Linda Jaramillo, County Commissioner: During the entire process, I think they were following the lead of what the Commission wanted for that building. But yes, we should be aware of all the costs of construction. Is this going to affect our admin building same way?

Kevin McCall, County Vice Chair: It has the potential to. I'll leave it at that. We need to remember we're not done with this construction, and we're already seeing these kinds of overages. Question Manager, in this \$419,000 that we're in the red on, does it include the \$73,000?

Jordan Barela, County Manager: It does, yes.

Linda Jaramillo, County Commissioner: Then we could have a potential add-on to any of this?

Kevin McCall, County Vice Chair: Yes and no, they have a contingency of 5% in there, and it equates to \$215,000. We hope that within that \$215,000, there are a lot of those unknowns that will be caught. Today, \$419,000 in the red is concerning when we're getting 6000 fewer square feet. That's where I have problems. We can argue about \$73,000 all day long. I'm still concerned, who's going to pay for this? I don't know if the Commission is going to have to find it. We gave you a hard amount of \$4.9 million. This is where we're at. This is what the state is allocated. I get it. Construction projects do this, but we're not done. We haven't even demoed the old buildings yet, and we are where we are today. On this action item, does it need to be done today? Or can we defer it until further discussions with Commissioner Schwabach?

Jordan Barela, County Manager: In that regard, I would defer to Studio Southwest in terms of the timeliness of this. We haven't necessarily talked about the timeline and need for approval. Theoretically, we could get this back on the agenda for November 12. We have a period of time to have that discussion with Chairman Schwabach, but I don't know if Theo called him. From a timing perspective, is this something that's urgent and needs to be approved?

Theodore Edaakie, Studio Southwest Architect: I would say that yes, because we've already completed the Early Release Package. We've been trying to get the Contractor what they need to be able to move forward as fast as possible. They are trying to be out there by December. They definitely need the information to move forward with construction as soon as possible.

Kevin McCall, County Vice Chair: I've voiced my dismay and my unhappiness. The project is this far. I'm not willing to kibosh it for \$73,000. I'm not a happy camper right now, and I know you know that, but I feel like a lot of this is on you. I said it, and yet you're coming after us for some more money.

Action Taken:

Kevin McCall, County Vice Chair: Motion to approve. I want to see the project through.

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

13. ADAPTION OF ORDINANCE/AMENDMENT TO COUNTY CODE: NONE

14. ADOPTION OF RESOLUTION:

A. MANAGER: Request approval of Resolution No. 2025-44, A Resolution supporting New Mexico Counties' Legislative Agendas for the 2026 Legislative Session.

Jordan Barela-County Manager: This item is approving a resolution, showing support from the County Commission of New Mexico Counties Legislative agenda for this upcoming Legislative session in 2026. The specifics of their requests are relatively small, but we have had those discussions in previous meetings in terms of what that looks like. There are several programs that New Mexico Counties are requesting to be funded through House Bill 2, as well as changes to current IPRA statutes and changes in the timelines related to the Veterans Exemption Bill that was passed, as it relates to property taxes. New Mexico Counties do reach out to all 33 Counties to see if County Commissions are willing to pass a resolution providing support. Their lobbyist teams go to the legislature to use those resolutions to show that there is some consolidation amongst the 33 counties across the state. This resolution, if approved, would show this County's Commission's support of New Mexico County's Legislative Agenda.

Action Taken:
Linda Jaramillo, County Commissioner: Motion to approve Resolution 2025-44.

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

15. APPROVALS/ACTION ITEM

A. DWI: Request approval of the DWI Council By-Laws.

Jordan Barela, County Manager: The DWI Council has to approve its bylaws of how that council functions, which is governed by state statute and regulation. In October, the DWI Council approved a new set of bylaws for 2025. I checked with Ms. Luna, and nothing has changed between the current bylaws and what they have approved recently.

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

B. DISPATCH: Request approval of an Unauthorized Purchase for \$29.96 to Hart's Hardware for a Security Cage at the Torrance County Dispatch Center.

Tanis Chroninger, Administrative Assistant, Dispatch: I was not employed at the time of this purchase, but I did some research to figure out what happened on our night shift. The night shift Supervisor explained that he had to purchase some parts for the assembly and installation of the security cage, and Torrance County Dispatch, which included cut-off wheels, grinding discs, and paint required to remove mounting tabs as the room was installed. The room it was installed in has radiant floor heat, which complicated the process. Unfortunately, due to his working night shift, the receipt was not turned in to be invoiced, and it never got

invoiced. It was overlooked. We apologize for that mistake. We're just looking to be able to pay what we owe to Parts Hardware for \$29.96.

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. SHERIFF: Request approval of an unauthorized purchase to Albuquerque Ambulatory Eye Center for \$3,081.00 for inmate medical care.

Reecie Eckard, Sheriff's Executive Assistant: This is a bill that happened before I came on. It was between us paying part of the medical services for this inmate while he was incarcerated, and this part of it was not paid. I think this was for a separate service, follow-up, or follow-up procedure. We paid the \$5000 that was for the main procedure that was done on his eye, and then this was a follow-up and it was just from after looking at the medical records and talking to the hospital. This wasn't paid and got overlooked, dated April 24.

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

D. MANAGER: Request approval of a prior year invoice to the New Mexico Local Government Law for \$11,386.73 for legal services.

Jordan Barela, County Manager: This is for a contract service for Mike's legal services, for FY 25 was for April of 2025. We had a PO and a contract, but this was not paid before the school year ended.

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

F. CLERK: Request approval of the maintenance and support agreement between Torrance County and Terralogic for ScanPro.

Sylvia Chavez, County Clerk: This is an annual contract that we've had with Terralogic for close to 10 years. This is for the microfiche machine that we have in our office. This one is a little bit high-tech. You can get a better scan of some of those older microfiche. This is just the annual contract. Nothing's changed, and this is within my budget.

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

F. MANAGER: Request approval of an Option and Lease Agreement between Torrance County and The Tower's, LLC to lease Parcel Number 1-005-052-250-000-000 for the erection of a cellphone tower and delegation of signatory authority to the County Manager to execute the lease agreement. - **Deferred**

G. EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT: Request approval to utilize \$219,971.72 in Title III Funding to purchase new radios for First Responders (Request 45-day public comment period ended 10/14/2025).

Jordan Barela, County Manager: Torrance County has received just under \$220,000 in Title III funding that can be used for several purposes specific to Emergency Management and Response. One of those purposes is to upgrade communication capabilities. We've been talking about our Public Safety Departments and upgrading them to the state 700 megahertz radio system. We

have received several allocations of funding from the state, but we still have a financial gap in terms of getting radios for all of the Fire, Sheriff, Dispatch, and Animal Services. That being said, using that money, that \$220,000, to appropriate towards this project, is an allowable expenditure. We went through the public comment period. What we had to do was identify as the Commission what the County intended to use the money for. We did post that the intent was to use this money to upgrade the radio systems for our Public Safety Departments. Then we had to wait a 45-day response period. Included in the packet material was the one response we did receive from a constituent. Essentially, that constituent asked that some of this money be used for drone purposes. There was a missing person situation in the wilderness area, and we did consider that. That being said, the Sheriff's Department currently has drone capabilities. That's something that is a matter of deploying those capabilities, but that's something that we are already considering. We would need a formal action item of the Commission to say, yes, the County approves using this \$219,000 for the purpose of purchasing 700 radios for our First Responders.

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

H. MANAGER: Request approval of an Inmate Confinement Agreement between Torrance County and Core Civic, Inc. to house County inmates.

Jordan Barela, County Manager: Our current contract with Core Civic to house County Detainees is set to expire on October 27 of this year. Core Civic has provided us with a contract amendment. That amendment would extend this contract for an additional three years. The rest of the terms of conditions of the current agreement would remain the same. If approved, this contract would be good through October 26, 2028. The rate we would be paying per inmate per day would stay the same as it is right now, at \$66.48 per detainee when you go back to the original contract; there is an inflationary factor that was built into that of about 2.5% a year, or the CPI, whichever is less. We do see an incremental increase in our per-day costs over time, but they are reasonable in terms of what we're paying

in relation to other facilities that we house detainees at. Originally, it was \$61.18 a month.

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

I. MANAGER: Discussion and potential approval to allocate financial resources to Bohannon Huston for a Technical Memorandum for the Melody Ranch Water System.

Jordan Barela, County Manager: To provide some background, EMWT is looking at taking over the Melody Ranch Water System and getting that system back up and functioning to a place where it needs to be. What we have been notified of in the interim is that the Malady Ranch Water Company has provided EMWT with a letter of intent, essentially stating that they intend to give the system over to EMWT for long-term operation. So EMWT is comfortable about getting that process done; they do need some preliminary engineering, and a technical memo was done on the system. At this point, EMWT has put in some pre-

applications for funding that would get the system up to par. The one area that they don't have the liquidity today to fund is preliminary engineering. We've received a proposal from Bohannon Huston with a number not to exceed \$25,000 to do the engineering that would be necessary to take back to the EMWT board and get this

transition of the system moving. EMWT has come to us to request whether the County can aid in this process, either through direct funding or some type of loan. Misty and I have evaluated the budget. We believe that \$25,000 exists today that can be distributed to EMWT. I think the primary question for the Commission today is, do you want to authorize the use of that \$25,000 for the purposes of dealing with this situation? Two, how does the Commission want to go about the dissemination of that funding? Is it something that the Commission wants to

cover? Is it something where we want to do a loan where just the principal balance gets paid back? There are different ways we can go about that, but essentially, this determination would give us direction in terms of how to structure that in our discussions with EMWT, and to start moving down the path of getting that

preliminary engineering completed.

Linda Jaramillo, County Commissioner: I'm leaning towards loan, and there's not going to be any cost at all to take over the system from the original owners?

Jordan Barela, County Manager: There is going to be a cost, and I think that's why EMWT put the pre-application.

Linda Jaramillo, County Commissioner: Is the owner going to charge us?

Jordan Barela, County Manager: Not pursuant to the letter of intent. They're not putting a price tag on the system. I think this is a critical part of the transaction, because EMWT is an organization that would be taking the system over. They want to ensure that there's due diligence. If they do inherit the system and there are significant deficiencies or problems that they're unaware of, this now becomes something that they have to deal with as the owner. I think they do want to walk into this situation eyes wide open, which is why this preliminary engineering report is so critical. I would say it's also critical for the residents of Melody Ranch. I think there are a lot of people who are looking forward to EMWT overtaking the system. That being said, if it's going to take two or three months to get the system back up and functioning, because there are a lot of repairs that need to occur, they want to be forthcoming about that; so there are not unrealistic expectations of them coming in and turning this around on day one. I think this engineering report lends to those facts and helps them establish a clear path forward.

Linda Jaramillo, County Commissioner: Is there no timeline right now for how long it'll take?

Jordan Barela, County Manager: In terms of talking to Bohannon Huston, they're thinking that the preliminary engineering report can get done in three to four weeks. That will give EMWT the baseline information to move forward with the transfer. It also gives them information that they know how to determine. We have a pre-application, and with the state to fund this, but how much money do we need to ask for so they're not undershooting that? That may be infrastructure upgrades, that may be a new well, that may be a supplemental well to support this, but all of that information, should we take over the system? How much money do we need to fix the problem? It all comes from this preliminary engineering report.

Kevin McCall, County Vice Chair: The more we can do to speed it up, the better citizens who need water. My heart goes out to them.

Action Taken:
Kevin McCall, County Vice Chair: Motion to loan EMWT water, \$25,000 as a loan, no interest, out of the County infrastructure funding mechanism to pay Bohannon Houston for the technical report needed for the water system.
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

16. DISCUSSION/PRESENTATION

A. ROADS: Update on County road conditions and road maintenance plan.

Linda Jaramillo, County Commissioner: I was able to find a copy of the Torrance County-maintained road policy, which was adopted in 2015. Is that what we're following now?

Leonard Lujan, County Road Superintendent: It's basically the same. There might be a couple of different little things in there, because the Commission, 15 years ago, had changed it from us maintaining roads once a year. It didn't go through policy, but it's supposed to be blade roads once a year, as long as we hit them once a year, it was considered maintained. Then we tried going to quarterly maintenance. Then when the other Commission came back in, they said, just go back to the regular, once would be perfectly fine if we get to a more that's better, which we do get to them more often than even quarterly. Some we don't. Some we do. As of right now, we follow everything in there. We're at about 20 inches of rain this year, which is an excessive amount of rain. It's been non-stop, hasn't given us much of a break to catch up on a lot of stuff. Some areas, I bet you have had more rain than that, because I know of three years now we have had four-inch rains within 30 minutes, that I didn't have rain gages out in that area. It's probably higher than that. Those are the rains that do damage. They don't help us. It destroys everything. Right now, I have all nine blades out. I have one guy hauling material to all of the complaints that we've called on and fixing holes that have popped up in the roads. Projects we had in the mountains, we got those done right between the rains. It pushed the issue a little bit farther than we wanted to, because we kept canceling. I'm working on two projects in the El Rancho Grande area. I have two miles of school bus project, SP project that I have to get done before November. All the people who called in had a complaint about the road. Those are the ones I'm

concentrating on right now. The blades will be running from here on out to every road that needs to get bladed. I've got to get rid of the weeds before the snow flies. I have guys working on weekends trying to get caught up, and we're really busy.

Linda Jaramillo, County Commissioner: What are your thoughts on having a southern and northern district?

Leonard Lujan, County Road Superintendent: The way I look at it is, I don't work for District Three, District Four, or District Two. I work for Torrance County. That's who I work for. I'm here as the Road Superintendent for the County, not per district. It used to be like that years ago, when it was not as busy as it is right now. What it ends up doing is like any department. If you put two Supervisors in the department, it divides the department. It turned into, nope, I don't work for the North. I work for the South. It pushes the people apart in your facility. They don't want to work together. We converted it to one Superintendent, and then I have my working Foreman who works out in the field. I have a Truck Foreman and a Safety Officer. This is the first time in 26 years that I've been here that I have been fully staffed. Even with the 17 guys, when we do a chip seal project, I have to pull everybody off. I need every employee. If we're going to try and put people to do every single thing out there, that's what we need to get done. We need to hire four guys to do cattle guards, four guys to do culverts, and four guys to do intersections. We have to have 500 guys working out there. We don't work like the state. The state has 100 miles. They have five guys on 100 miles. We have one guy on 100 miles, totally different. We have a lot of gravel roads. We're trying to work and fix them as fast as we can. In the southern part, we do a lot of graveling year-round. We usually never stop. When we move state projects. I'm having to send people from here to drive all the way over there to operate machines. But whenever we're doing a project here and they get a lot of rain over there, I can't send them immediately to go do that, because we're in the middle of a project. Right now, out there, in that area, it's not the regular three ranchers that were out there. Now we have wind farm drivers who are non-stop. There are a lot of operations going on in that area. Either we need to look at saying, we don't want the wind farm here, chase them away so they stop driving on these roads, so we can keep up with maintenance, or we need to change the way we're doing our acceptance. We do a road agreement with them while construction is on-site. Once construction is gone, they don't come back in a year, when they start replacing all of the towers again. All the construction is right back on the road again, but they're already off their contract with us. Now, we have twice the people driving them roads out there, and these wind towers have saved us. They have brought a lot of

money to the County, but it has hurt the roads that they're driving on every single day. They have 50-60 more cars driving on them.

Linda Jaramillo, County Commissioner: Since there is so much traffic because of the wind farms and construction, could we concentrate on getting that main road lifted by the standards that are all here whenever they do the drainage and culvert, and everything?

Leonard Lujan, County Road Superintendent: The problem we have is with putting in drainage and coverage for that. We have some people who will say, "Send the water on my property." We have a lot of them saying, "We don't want your water, but on your road". How do we contain the water on the road and wash the road away? Then we can't send the water off the road, because I don't want it on their property. That's where we get back and forth with where do we send water?

Linda Jaramillo, County Commissioner: My feeling is that we could sit with the different people in this area and avoid all that confrontation. Maybe we can discuss this with everybody involved and come to an understanding that we're all working on this together for the sake of people being able to use these roads. How long did it take to do the Tajique chip seal?

Leonard Lujan, County Road Superintendent: It took us three weeks of prep, and then it took us two weeks to get the chips on five miles.

Linda Jaramillo, County Commissioner: What's the length of the road in Pinos Wells?

Leonard Lujan, County Road Superintendent: 40 miles.

Linda Jaramillo, County Commissioner: Can we deal with the worst parts of that road?

Leonard Lujan, County Road Superintendent: We have. There are two big draws on that road, which are the back slopes, and they are twice as high as the road. By the time we pull the backslope down, the fence is going to fall. We are stuck. Do we haul material into where we build the road, all the way back up to where it used to be?

Linda Jaramillo, County Commissioner: What would it take to build this road up to what it used to be 40 years ago for the 40 miles?

Leonard Lujan, County Road Superintendent: For 40 miles, what we're talking \$70,000 a mile in base course, \$100,000 a mile, about \$500,000 to \$600,000, that's just material, that's not including rent and trucks. The problem we have out there is, if we buy any base course, it's either going to come from Mainline, that's Encino, or it's going to come from Moriarty. Our trip haul is going to be one load a day. It takes 30 loads per truck to do a mile. It's going to take us probably one year to do probably two, three, or four miles of road. If we concentrate on just doing that road, that means we maintain no other roads in the County. The worst part about that one road is good until the two draws. The two draws are bad, and the bottom corner, but the bottom corner, we hauled material to it. When you get a four-inch rain off that mountain, I don't care what we put on it; it's not going to be there when that water finishes running. It's the big rains that cause the problem.

Linda Jaramillo, County Commissioner: The training of your operators. Are they trained on the spot, or at your yard?

Leonard Lujan, County Road Superintendent: In the yard, then they take it out, and we train them on the road, and then once they think they're good enough, we leave them on their own. I have a trainer, that's his job.

Linda Jaramillo, County Commissioner: I'd like to work with the Road Department on anything that we can do to help.

Leonard Lujan, County Road Superintendent: We respond to all the calls. I do the best I can to either contact them back or I'll drive and meet them on the road. I've done everything I can to make sure, because that's my job. It all depends on what the weather is like as to how many calls we get.

Linda Jaramillo, County Commissioner: What I'd like to do is do more so that you're not so spread thinly, and maybe we can come up with a plan to help you out, for the sake of our constituents who travel these roads.

Leonard Lujan, County Road Superintendent: I want to put this out there again, and I really think it needs to get pushed through. I think you guys need to invest in doing the road evaluation. I can tell you about roads that are going to be worked on, but then, as soon as something happens, they blame me. That's the road that I see as needing the most work. With a road evaluation, they tell us, here's A through

B or one through five. This is the way it works. It's an outside office. We looked at this 15 years ago, we looked at it three years ago, and it just hasn't happened. I think it's a good investment, because then it can't be thrown back at you. It can't be thrown back at us. It's literally done by an outside source that says that these roads here's priority one. They do the whole County. They don't do it per district. We don't work for the districts. We work for the County. That's the hardest thing, to make some people understand that it's not just districts we work for. It would cost around \$30,000 or \$40,000, the last time I looked.

Linda Jaramillo, County Commissioner: It sounds like a good plan, because it trees you up.

Leonard Lujan, County Road Superintendent: You want somebody else. You don't want anybody from here. There are people out there that this is what they do. They come and evaluate, they will tell you, and they put it all on a list, but then that's where people are going to have to understand, too, is when it goes on a list. Well, that's the list we're going to follow. If this list says we're going to concentrate on everything to the north, and everything to the south is going to wait for 10-15 years. Then the list is what we're following. That this is always a downfall, because that's what it's going to turn into. They look at: how many people drive the roads, what the traffic counts are, and where the public is. That's going to be your evaluations. But an evaluation will tell you where your roads are, where they're at, where you should be concentrating on, where your money should be spent, everything within the County.

Kevin McCall, County Vice Chair: We can have that discussion. I see some pitfalls with it. There is nobody better than the guy who gets the phone calls and eyes are on it daily, as opposed to somebody who comes in, gives you a report, and He takes a lot of abuse, and I appreciate what you do, and thank you for taking the abuse, but he is working hard with his crew

Linda Jaramillo, County Commissioner: This would help you, Leonard, if we do this evaluation?

Leonard Lujan, County Road Superintendent: I don't know if it will help me, but it would make it another tool to be able to use whenever somebody calls.

Kevin McCall, County Vice Chair: I have no problem. If our superintendent's asking for it, I want to give him what he needs, but I want to discuss it a little

further. Something else you brought to my attention is the repowering of wind turbines. We don't have a road agreement during a road repower. This needs to be something we put on the radar. In the contract with the wind turbine, with the wind developers. They come in during construction and maintain. But when they're gone, they're gone. From time to time, they'll take the heads off, repower. At that point, we don't have a contract where, during repowering, they need to maintain the roads.

Leonard Lujan, County Road Superintendent: It's almost like another construction all over again. Currently at one site, I bet you, 100 cars a day are going in there.

Kevin McCall, County Vice Chair: We need to have that discussion. Wasn't aware of that. Thank you for that. Something needs to be added in the contract for the repowering.

B. MANAGER: Discussion on Torrance County's Legislative Priorities for the 2026 Legislative Sessions.

Jordan Barela, County Manager: I wanted to open a discussion with the Commission to determine if the Commission wanted to adopt any Legislative priorities. I know when you're talking about legislative priorities, that may be the adoption of a new statute, that may be the amendment of a current statute. I think even in terms of broad ideas that you may consider, we want to figure out what those are, and then see from a potential legislative priority perspective, how we might be able to frame those into something concrete and actionable. I also reached out to the Department Heads to try to get some ideas of maybe some other things that are going on at the department or affiliate level, or other statutory changes that people are looking at addressing. I got two back; this was a starting point for discussion for the Commission in terms of some ideas that are already occurring. One specifically from the Dispatch Community is looking at a statutory change that would amend the definition of First Responders to include people who work in Dispatch. Right now, there are a number of statutes across the state that put together some definition of First Responder, and a lot of the time, that's Law Enforcement Officer, Firefighter, or an Emergency Medical Technician. That's really what it boils down to. There is a push across the state, and there are some jurisdictions that are approving resolutions saying, Yes, we would like to recognize Dispatchers as First Responders, because it would make some changes. Certainly,

the big ones, the retirement age. Dispatch works long hours, though they aren't in the field. They are exposed to a significant amount of trauma through discussions and the things that they experience. Right now, somebody coming in after 2013 has a 30-year retirement, just like any administrative employee in the County. Changing this definition would likely bring them into a 25-year retirement in alignment with Law Enforcement and the Fire Department. There are other potential benefits. We don't know if those would be effectuated or not, but under the Retiree Health Care Act, there are reduced retiree health care premiums and fees for First Responders, people who meet that definition. From the County's perspective, we have had a difficult time keeping and retaining Dispatch staff. I'll let the Commission know. Right now, we're at about 50% staffing with Dispatchers, a total of 10 positions. Right now, Selena and the supervisors are working the floor shift, which is why she couldn't be here today. We have six people today, but somebody is leaving for another position. By the end of this month, early November, we'll be down to five positions. We're doing a big marketing push to try to advertise those, but that being said, turning this into a career with a shorter retirement window. I think does also speak to our ability to keep and retain people in these positions. That is one idea I know that's being talked about across the state, and a lot of Dispatch Centers and County Commissions are looking at showing support for that particular change.

The other one that was provided to me was in relation to the Treasurer's Office, and that was specific to how a Treasurer's Office addresses delinquent mobile home taxes. If we have a mobile home that is delinquent on its taxes, the Treasurer's Office notifies MVD, and they place a lien on the property. Notification goes out to the homeowner. That being said, as long as that home is not being sold, that lien is in place, and people can become more and more delinquent on their taxes, and there's really no recouping mechanisms or repercussions for that. The Treasurer's Affiliate and Kathryn may be able to speak to this a little more. They are looking at making a couple of changes, one to the Tax Refund Intercept Program Act. This Act allows the Tax and Revenue to seize all or part of an individual's tax return to help pay outstanding debts owed on their taxes. Currently, that statute does not cite delinquent mobile homes as a component of that, so they would request that change to add delinquent mobile homes. In addition to that, they would look at amending 738-52 under the statutes, which is the Administration and Enforcement of the Property Tax Act. This act talks about the process of notifying MVD when we have a delinquent mobile home, and what that looks like. They're requesting to add some language into that agreement that would essentially allow MVD to say, if we have a mobile home holder who's delinquent on their tax account, now MVD can pause any other MVD related

functions, changing a title, registering your vehicle, renewing a driver's license, all of those things until one, the balance is paid, or two, the taxpayer comes into the Treasurer's Office to establish a repayment agreement. In that regard, it gives it a little bit more teeth from an enforcement perspective. If somebody is delinquent on their mobile home taxes, they can go on indefinitely, but if they do that, they're going to be driving on a vehicle with expired registrations and an expired driver's license. It forces their hand to come in and engage in that process. They don't have to pay their balance outright, but they do have to come to some type of repayment agreement.

Kathryn Hernandez, County Treasurer: There's just talk about it. We have an Affiliate Committee that we created, and they discussed it. Tax and Revenue has jumped on board with it; they're willing to add to it. That's why it's in red, because the Tax and Revenue plan is to add to it and discuss it. We place the liens in our office with MVD. We log into Tapestry, and when they're doing but over the year, we put a lien on it, then we verify the account, and when they come in and they pay it in full, we take the red flag off, and the lien is removed.

Linda Jaramillo, County Commissioner: Is that working well for you?

Kathryn Hernandez, County Treasurer: It works, but we have about 5,276 manufactured home accounts. Out of those, about 730 to 830 are delinquent. I had a customer who came in on Monday. I helped her, and she commented to me, stating, "Well, it's not like they do anything if we don't pay our mobile home taxes." They all have that in the back of their mind because nothing has been done. Valencia County is probably one of the only Counties that does an auction, maybe like two, three times out of the year. We did one in April 2024, and we had about eight homes. We sold four of them, and we collected about \$17,265 in back taxes, and revenue for the County. Juan is getting out there in the field and red tagging, trying to be in communication with every delinquent customer. He has brought in about \$81,798 and collected unpaid mobile home taxes. We put a notice that mobile homes are up for auction, and you haven't paid. Some roll over and drop off every 10 years. There are a lot of abandoned homes. They are the ones to whom we applied the auction.

Jordan Barela, County Manager: I talked to Juan about it, in anticipation of this, to see what the real world is like in the field, for him doing this work. The tax number that the Treasurer gave you regarding how many tax accounts are delinquent, you always have issues where somebody runs into a difficult financial

time. However, Juan did advise me that a majority of those accounts have been delinquent for five years or more. They are in that area of a systemic issue.

Kevin McCall, County Vice Chair: What does it take to get a home to an auction?

Kathryn Hernandez, County Treasurer: Juan will communicate with them and let them know. He will find every resource to help. If no one is there, he ties a bright sign on it. Then we also have a new notification. He gives them the amounts on their door and puts their account number. They know that they're red tagged. To take it to auction, there are steps that we take. We even had a Police Officer go out there, and we have to tag their entire home and let them know it's going up for auction. We post it in the paper for over a month, and then we can execute the action. We follow all the statutes, and we have a lot of training with Valencia County. We know every step we have to take. When we take it to auction, we only auction the mobile home.

Kevin McCall, County Vice Chair: I'm in favor of joining the fight with the rest of the state, if other Counties are interested.

Kathryn Hernandez, County Treasurer: I also wanted to mention the circulation of the penny. I don't know if you know, there are several Counties that have been without a penny with their bank, and how they're going to give change back to customers. It's going to affect businesses. I've been in contact with our bank. The penny is still in circulation with our bank right now. They stopped making the penny; it's still in circulation. If the bank needs to give one or two cents. We don't give the customer any change back if it's three to four cents; they get a nickel. In Arizona, a lot of banks are without the penny. Luna County is without the penny.

Jordan Barela, County Manager: I think from the federal perspective, it got more expensive to create a penny than what the penny was actually worth, which is why they stopped making them.

Kevin McCall, County Vice Chair: The other discussion I wanted to have, the Commissioner was making it a priority for Torrance County to do something on a medical facility in our County, so that our ambulances aren't having to travel all the way to Albuquerque. I'm asking that maybe we put that on as a priority for as Board of County Commissioners.

Linda Jaramillo, County Commissioner: That's an excellent suggestion.

Jordan Barela, County Manager: I've had some discussions with Chief Smith about this process. I think minimally, there has to be urgent care with a certain level of treatment to meet the needs. There's always going to be significant levels of trauma that require transport, but I think a lot of what we're currently driving people in Albuquerque for can be dealt with from a basic urgent care perspective.

Leonard Lujan, County Road Superintendent: I support that because I had four incidents this year, and we have to drive them. We take them to all of these places, and we walk in the door with them, and they will literally tell us we can't touch them. We are just a primary doctor. You have taken someone else, and it's literally a cut leg bleeding out, almost to the leg off with a chainsaw. By the time we get into Albuquerque, what's going to happen to the guy? This is getting excessive. Nobody will see him. Nowhere in the County, we see anybody who has a major injury. I think we need to start pushing on something for this, because this is going to eventually end with something bad, and it's really going to happen.

Kevin McCall, County Vice Chair: It already has, and it will continue. I'm sure instances have happened that we don't even know about. I brought this topic up at the DOT meeting. The fact that we have a federal interstate running through this County and on into other Counties where there's still not a medical facility. It's County after County with no medical facility. There needs to be one somewhere centrally on that I-40 corridor east of here. I'm close friends with Dr Schmidt, who was our former State Senator. I had this conversation with him a few months ago. I asked him, from a doctor's standpoint, as a former legislator, what avenues should I go down? He didn't have any suggestions. I think step one is putting it on our legislative priority, seeing if we can garner some support, and even some advice on what direction to go. It's not going to be overnight.

Jordan Barela, County Manager: That's one difficult thing with medical facilities, is, they're not government-run. It's a private organization. You can provide the building, provide the infrastructure, but short of substantially subsidizing an urgent care facility, that can't necessarily bring in enough visits to support their costs. It is this balance between public need and private business, and how you sort of blend those things. There are some ways to look at it, but it is, given the fact that our government just can't open and run an urgent care facility, it does take quite a bit of forethought in terms of what we can bring to the table to foster this.

Kevin McCall, County Vice Chair: We need to at least go have a conversation with the players of Lovelless, Pres, and UNM. We need to ask, because they may be on the cusp of saying we've been thinking the same thing too, or we've got this funding mechanism, or we have this partner. I think we need to facilitate a discussion with the powers that be. Anything else you want to put on our legislative priority list?

Linda Jaramillo, County Commissioner: My legislative priority is the Willard Fire Station. I want to get up and running for now that we're in two separate districts.

Kevin McCall, County Vice Chair: I think that's fair.

Jordan Barela, County Manager: I think from a staff's perspective, we were going to look at this twofold. One is, is there anything new that the County wants to see statutory changes and approval resolution in that regard? Then also take a resolution to look at that ICIP and have the Commission make the determination, what are the priorities from here, and pass that resolution. Willard can certainly be on that one. I think our intent going into the legislative session is to have two resolutions, one for potential statutory changes and another one, so that the Commission can identify what projects we want to see funded next year. There'll be an opportunity through both of those avenues to pick some items.

Last year, we did the resolution for the Capital Outlay stuff. I was new in the process; at that time, we didn't discuss the statutory legislative priorities. It's not an uncommon practice across the state to identify those, to have the Commission identify those priorities in both realms, pass that resolution, and then when we go down to talk to legislators in Santa Fe, we know here's what we have for our capital projects. If there are any bills related to making these changes, we can show our support for those as well.

Kevin McCall, County Vice Chair: Back to the whole animal control being a regional center. I think this medical facility needs to be a regional push, as well. Not only Torrance County, but also getting Guadalupe on board.

Leonard Lujan, County Road Superintendent: Valencia County got their hospital through a bond.

C. MANAGER: Discussion on Leadership Training for Torrance County Management.

Misty Witt, Deputy County Manager: We have talked to and had some preliminary discussions with the Commission and with Department Heads regarding some Leadership Resources and Training that we can provide as the County. We reached out to a provider who does provide these services. She would be an outside contractor who could come in and provide leadership training and resources. Right now, she is doing a lot of work for Sandia Labs, as an example. She is familiar with organizations pertaining to government. We had some discussions with her about some of the needs that we see for the County, some of the feedback we've got from our Department Heads. We asked her to come up with some ideas on what leadership she could provide for the County in that aspect. In the packet are some of the objectives that we had talked about and kind of came up with, Sarah, unique to Torrance County. We expressed to her that virtual for our County and for our environment doesn't really work. We prefer in person. We want hands-on, person-to-person, contact conversations. That was one of the objectives that we put on her: that this training would be in person, personalized in Torrance County, specifically. There are costs associated with it. We want to try to come up with a plan where this one coach can leverage her time as good as possible, but meet with as many Department Heads within the County as she can while keeping costs low. She's brainstorming different ideas to make that possible. Part of that is to train up our Department Heads to be mentor to their peers. That can give us the tools that we need to help mentor our staff, mentor our office Managers, lower-level supervisors, things like that. That would be one of the resources she would look at being provided to our Department Heads. Part of this is to do some team-building exercises and camaraderie with all of the departments. We heard the comment earlier that we don't serve districts, we work as a County. We would like to build that continuity and that relationship between all departments. Of course, build leadership skills and invest in our employees.

On the slide. What we came up with is this: a three-step workshop program to start with, to roll out this program, and you can see what workshop one would entail. In the morning, we would do some team development. We would do some strength finder type surveys to identify different skills within our Department Heads and how to leverage those skills that other department heads have to complement our weaknesses. That would be the first step of workshop one. In the afternoon, there will be some high-level training on communication, conflict resolution, and maybe getting some direct feedback from our Department Heads on how they feel we can improve leadership within the County. It's going to be an open conversation. Then

part of that would be a 360 survey. The 360 survey is going to be a survey sent out to all employees, to gauge what's working, what's not, and what they would like to see. Then we can review all of those surveys together with the Department Heads and come up with a strategy together on how to address some of these things.

Once we collect those surveys, we will look at them in workshop number two. That would be a combination where we would review those surveys together as a team, but then we would break into small subgroups so that we can do specific communication. Sarah can meet with maybe 10-15 people and get really direct communication. That would be more strategizing, which would be using her expertise to give us specific training and guidance, and mentorship. We also talked about creating some accountability buddy. At the end of the workshop, she would give the Department Heads a specific assignment, based on what your department needs, such as a weekly team meeting with your staff, or something like that. You would have an accountability buddy who would kind of check in with you throughout the time. How did your staff meeting go this week? Just things like that to keep us on the track, to make sure we're meeting those goals and trying some of those tools that she's recommending.

Then workshop number three, this would be another day-long workshop. We would look at doing the subgroups to check in. We would meet as a group towards the end of the meeting, and we could share, did this work? Did this leadership training work? Was it beneficial to our Department Heads? What did you get out of it? Do you need more support, specifically for your department? It would be a check-in. The last option that we had talked about with Sarah is, we do feel like there may be some departments out there that would really benefit from one-on-one coaching for their leadership and for their department-specific needs. Outside of a large group setting, maybe we want to provide leadership to. She is open to doing that as well. Maybe towards the end of workshop three, we could start identifying and prioritizing, maybe some of those departments that do want that one-on-one training. Again, that would be on-site support as much as possible. If there was a time when the leader wanted to meet via Zoom, she would be open to that. She's pretty flexible, to be able to come to us or to meet virtually. I feel like the in-person meetings are probably a little more beneficial to the majority of us.

The cost to the County, workshop number one, would be a bigger workshop where she's doing a lot of the groundwork and having conversations. That one would cost a little bit more, at about \$5,400, and then workshops two and three would be about \$4,800 each. The Manager's Office has identified some funding mechanisms for this. The Manager's Office has a training budget. We'd be willing to put up

some of our training budget to facilitate this training. We also have some training funds and professional service funds, and County infrastructure that we could tap into. We looked at maybe splitting it in half between the Manager's Office and County infrastructure to fund these first three workshops. If a department identified that they wanted to get on coaching with her or get coaching for maybe their lower-level department, we could pull up from their training budgets. Each department has a training budget, and so they could determine, yes, we want to allocate maybe \$1,000 out of our training budget to have these one-on-one conversations and mentorship. The good thing about the one-on-one coaching is that, generally, she'll do a three-month term with the departments if they reach out to her. That would cost \$1,650 to meet with that person for a mentorship training session. She would check in with them monthly. She usually does a before-and-after report, those sorts of things, with the Managers. It's really not too cost-prohibitive. I don't feel, I mean, that might be the cost of not going to one of the legislative conferences or something like that for the year. We wanted to have this preliminary discussion with the Commission. One to see if the Commission would be open to allowing us to enter an agreement with Sarah Douglas for this type of service, but to get your feedback on a program like this for the County and for our Department Heads and our staff. I haven't gotten negative feedback, but I haven't gotten overwhelmingly positive feedback either. I think it's been pretty neutral. I have talked to a few. They're like, yes, this would be great. I've had some who haven't given any feedback at all. I think that the three-day workshop type model would be good to try to make mandatory as much as possible for all Elected Department Heads. I think everybody could benefit from some. I know I never stopped learning and growing. I feel like that, hopefully somebody would get some benefit out of it, regardless, and then maybe more of a one-on-one, optional, based on the department's need.

Kevin McCall, County Vice Chair: This excites me. This is what the private sector lives and grows on is leadership and furthering your employees to go the extra mile. As we're hearing about turnover of employees, is it the lack of leadership? Does the employee at the lower level not know what direction we are headed as a team? I would tend to say maybe, possibly. I think it would help morale. I think it would help the fact that knowing that when you work for Torrance County, you're learning a life skill that will possibly take you further than just this County. If we can do that as a County, we're doing our job. We're serving our constituents, and we're making employees better and allowing them to go further in life, if that's what they choose.

Linda Jaramillo, County Commissioner: May I ask Sylvia what she feels?

Sylvia Chavez, County Clerk: As an employee who's been here for 20 years, I think that this is probably a great direction to go in, obviously, myself being a newly Elected Official. Yes, I have the skills to help customers perform the job and the everyday workday in the Clerk's Office, I do, but maybe coming in on a management skill, and maybe getting those leaders to be able to key into the individuals that work in my office, the personalities are definitely not going to be something I would shy away from. I have been in management before, when I was the Mayor. I know what it takes to be a Manager, am I administering the skills that are best suited for my employees, maybe, maybe not. This would be something that everybody could learn from. At this point, being one of the veteran employees in this building, the morale has changed. It's been up and down in the building. Moving forward, I could definitely see that this could be a benefit for not just Elected Officials, Department Heads, and Senior Staff. I think that this could be something that every single employee could benefit from. That way, the lower-level employees can see what the Department Heads and the Senior Management have to deal with as a Manager. We come in, and we all have our duties to do, but do the lower-level entry people understand the dynamic of what a Department Head has to do? They administer finances. They administer what each office has to do. I think overall, I think yes, it would be a benefit, and it doesn't hurt to try. That's my aspect of coming in as a newly Elected Official, also being a 20-year veteran in the County.

Jordan Barela, County Manager: I could add one comment to that, to what's already been stated. I think there's always an issue in managing an organization, and it's not unique to Torrance County, but it is unique to government. From a training perspective, when you're looking at the organization, 99% of that focus goes into your newly hired employees. Do we bring them in? Do they have the certifications that they need to get out in the field? Do they deploy that? What's missing in that equation is your leadership structure. Are we teaching Department Heads and Supervisors to be better leaders, to be better Managers? I think there's sometimes an assumption that because you've stepped into that role, you have all of the skill sets necessary and the tools in your toolbox to do that job appropriately. I think that's a misconception. This is one of those areas that we really did want to focus on, to say there is room when you're a leader in Torrance County for growth and improvement, but for us to do that, we do need to bring a toolbox to the table and help teach people those skills. I saw this as an opportunity to really go down that road. We invest in employees in the jobs that they're doing on a day-in, day-out basis, not so much when their job is actually making sure that everything is functioning appropriately. I think there's a lot of room for growth in that area, and this may be a step in the right direction in terms of going down that road.

Misty Witt, Deputy County Manager: When I provided the number of 35, it was a rough number based on Elected Department Heads and then their office Managers, because some have an Office Manager or a Tech Specialist, but not necessarily Department Heads. That 35 encompasses the top to the lower level Managers, depending on the number, the price may go down. I think that we need to provide that service to the floor-level Managers as well.

Kevin McCall, County Vice Chair: I don't think it does. I think we need to see how effective a teacher she is. I would dial it back. Let's try that first day. She broke it out into that \$5,400, and let's see how it's received, what the 35 Managers get out of it, if it excites them. I'm ready to go, even go to the next layer, down, and get into the next 70. If we can provide something for the 70 down in the lower section to maybe someday step up into that top, I think we owe that to them. It takes me to the part where we still have to be productive in our jobs every day, and the hours it takes to learn leadership are tough to take out of your four days a week. I would like to try it and maybe not do the whole deal at this point. Let's try day one with those 35 Managers and see how it's accepted.

Sylvia Chavez, County Clerk: With that, Commissioner, today it's on the agenda, and I looked at these costs that we're incurring, the \$73,000, as an employee who has been here as long as I have. I would urge the Commission and Management to understand and realize that your biggest investment is your employees. If you don't take care of your employees, your employees are not going to take care of you. I can say that from being here for 20 years and going years without raises and being a single parent and raising my three boys off of my minimal salary, I was making. I stuck it out, and ultimately, I wanted to be where I am today. That was my thought process. These people who are currently newer employees may not see that. I urge you, as a Commission and I as an Elected Official, to let our employees know that they are valued and also incur the cost of that, not just the cost of living increases. I'm talking wage. If you compare us to the Counties that we serve, we're surrounded by, not necessarily, the Class A, B, or C Counties. I'm just talking about, like, it's only a 45-minute drive to Albuquerque, and if they're doing and getting certifications here with Torrance County, but they can get paid in Bernalillo County, \$4, \$5 more, even, maybe even \$10 more, they're going to take that drive into Albuquerque. If you invest in your employees, it's just going to be that your County is just going to be around that much better. Giving them the tools like this is one of those added benefits that you help your employees want to have that career, like you mentioned. Yes, target your 35, but what about your low-level entry people? Your 70 people encourage them to make this a career and not just a job.

Linda Jaramillo, County Commissioner: I agree with Sylvia.

Kevin McCall, County Vice Chair: I couldn't agree more. I just hope you hear my concern. It's a lot of it. I have a brother who's a consultant who teaches leadership when he has his PhD in communication, and this is what he does. It's all in how it's delivered, how it's done. I'm not saying she's not worthy of it. I would like to take baby steps, and as we take those baby steps, and she's the right one to lead this County to something bigger than it's ever been, then that's it. That's the person. I'm a little skeptical of. In today's world, you take baby steps, and it's public money. I think that this County is exceptional in its employees, and the fact that they do what they do at the level of pay that they do, yes, they're exceptional, and I mean it. If we can give them the tools to go further in life. Why should we not be trying to teach and give our employees that? You don't want to inhibit their ability to grow and make more, and pay GRT and pay more, and probably back. I'm all on board. It's just a discussion item today. I appreciate that you, as leaders, are thinking outside of the box. I never thought about this from the County side. Thank you for bringing it to my attention.

D. COMMISSION: Discussion on Mutual Aid Agreements for Fire and EMS in the southern portion of Torrance County. – **Deferred**

E. CLERK'S REPORT:

Sylvia Chavez, County Clerk: In August, I came back from the New Mexico County Board of Directors meeting. I mentioned that they wanted to do the green lights in the month of November to honor Veterans. I have the green lights that we can put in the front entryway. I want to encourage the County to do that and honor all of our Veterans in November.

We are in the process of early voting. My alternate voting location opened on Saturday. There are still 12 days till the election. We issued 464 Absentee Ballots. We have gotten 118 back; we still have 346 out. I encourage those who still have their ballots out to definitely take their time and vote their ballot. I understand that. I'm going to urge you to get those in as soon as possible. You do have until Election Day to get your ballots back. You can take them to any polling location, or you can use either two of the permanent Absentee drop boxes that we have, which are at the City of Moriarty Hall, and also at Mountainair City Hall. We check them every three days. Any ballots that are dropped there are picked up

F. MANAGER'S REPORT:

quickly. You can also bring them here to the Admin Building. You can take them to the alternate site, and they will get picked up. November 1 is the last day to early vote. You can vote at the Moriarty Civic Center from 10 AM to 6 PM, or you can also come to the County Admin building from 10 AM to 6 PM on November 1. We will also be open here at the County building on October 31, that Friday, from 7:30 AM to 5:30 PM. I want to remind the people in the Village of Willard that your polling location has changed. It is at the Village Office. It's the office space right next to the Post Office. My voting techs will be out next week delivering all of our election equipment. November 4 is Election Day. Get out and exercise your right. I will be bringing the canvas to you at the November 12 meeting for approval of the election results.

Jordan Barela, County Manager: At the last meeting, we discussed potentially getting the New Mexico Grants Administration in here to help build the policies and procedures, training, resources, all those types of things. I wanted to update the board that MRCOG is paying for that in its entirety, and they've already issued us a PO for \$16,600 to pay for those services. We will be meeting with the New Mexico Grants Administration on Monday to talk about a kickoff and a rollout of that process. We've touched on this individually, but we will have a need to hold a special meeting next Wednesday at 9 am. The primary purpose of that meeting is that we are in the RFP process right now to pick a healthcare provider for Torrance County. We had Presbyterian, but we had extended that contract up to the maximum point. There needs to be a full procurement. We received two responses. The Evaluation Committee will be meeting tomorrow to finalize that selection. The action item for the 29th would be to formally award a health insurance provider for Torrance County.

Misty Witt, Deputy County Manager: I wanted to provide an update on the status of our audit. We are right now in our audit week. I apologize for emailing during the meeting, but I'm answering auditor questions. This is the County audit week. The auditors will be on site tomorrow to pull some of their sampling and work with different departments on the audit. We are underway with that. Please bear with the Finance Department, and Manager's Office, and the Treasurer's Office through this audit time; that's obviously a lot of work for us. The audit deadline is December 1 for submission. We are aiming to hit that. Our auditors and staff are working hard to make sure they have everything they need timely manner.

G. COMMISSIONERS' REPORT:

1. Kevin McCall – County Vice Chairman, District 1

Kevin McCall- County Vice Chair: Any updates on the DOT, on the approaches from the Governor's Office, Road Department?

Leonard Lujan, County Road Superintendent: I contacted Rhonda. She has not gotten back to me. They have not sent us anything back. I haven't sent them how many millions I need for the big sections of Salt Missions to Hwy 41, but I was literally going to come next meeting. We need to either find funding. We need to do something because if they're not going to touch these approaches, we're going to have to step up to the plate. I have some roads that people are calling me nonstop, saying that these holes are getting bigger and bigger. I'm going to have to buy a full mix to be able to fix them right, because they're already paid entrances, and I feel bad for them. I know they're not ours to take care of, and I'll say that a billion times, they should not be our responsibility. If the state's not going to do it, it's our County, we're going to have to figure something out.

Kevin McCall- County Vice Chair: We had a discussion with DOT and their council, and they assured us that they would get us an answer, and that's been six months. That's why I bring it up. Why can they ghost us when we ask for a response? Maybe coming up on the next Commission meeting, we need to go ahead and put it on there so that we have our attorney reach out again. Would it not hold true that the minute he touches that road, we've accepted responsibility?

Michael I. Garcia, County Attorney: It'd be a factor in the argument.

I also wanted to put on the Commission's radar that I think some of the Commissioners heard about this project independently, but we were approached by a company called GO Station for electric vehicle charging stations. There is some state grant funding available for bringing those stations to rural areas. We have referred that company to the City of Moriarty because they're off the I-40 corridor. It makes a little more sense to put a charging station up there near Moriarty. The City has some land holdings that might work. I want to mention it in case, City of Moriarty or the GO Station needs any letters of support for that grant process, to bring that and get that DOT funding for the charging stations.

Kevin McCall-County Vice Chair: That's my concern, is the minute he touches it, they will say you guys have done it, and you must have funding because you did it. We didn't do it. We put a Band-Aid on it.

Michael I. Garcia, County Attorney: It'd just be another piece of the argument. I don't know if it would turn it one way or the other.

Leonard Lujan, County Road Superintendent: They're trying to push everything out to us. The last conversation I had with one of the guys, they told me that now they're looking at it, if you're driving down the road, if you see their sign, that's their responsibility. You can't visually see the road sign. It's not their responsibility to take care of it.

Kevin McCall-County Vice Chair: It's an unfunded mandate.

Michael I. Garcia, County Attorney: It's their property; the state owns that land.
Kevin McCall-County Vice Chair: They keep stating a state statute, the Administrative Code.

Michael I. Garcia, County Attorney: There's an Administrative Code that talks about permittees on state right-of-way. The argument is what that provision in the Administrative Code means as to who's responsible. Part of what they're saying is that we're permittees. One of the things I asked was, Where's our permit? I have never seen a permit.

Leonard Lujan, County Road Superintendent: Another way I look at it is I could see we built a new road and came onto the highway. Now it's our road. We just built it, so I agree. Now that's ours. These are roads that have been there for ages, and now all of a sudden you're going to say it's not ours. No more. You need to take care of it. It's just wrong the way they're trying to do it.

Jordan Barela, County Manager: I think that is the basis of the argument. Some of these intersections, where County roads meet state highways, preceded the Administrative Code. We weren't a permittee under the Administrative Code that was adopted after the fact. Now that the regulation that was approved after the fact is being applied retroactively to intersections that don't necessarily meet the legal definition of the Administrative Code, in terms of yes, that we are a permittee in this situation, and this is a new road that we built. I don't think the arguments that if we built the road today, that wouldn't apply to us. We all agree that it does, but it's

like we had all of these pre-existing intersections that now you're taking that role and you're applying it to all of them at a single time.

Kevin McCall, County Vice Chair: I dare to say that some roads in this County had been County roads that the state highway went through us. Intersected that road, and yet, here we are back to this argument. Maybe they needed a permit to go through our road. I think it's time for an answer.

2. Ryan Schwebach- County Chairman, District 2

Ryan Schwebach-County Chairman: Absent

3. Linda Jaramillo – County Commissioner, District 3

Linda Jaramillo, County Commissioner: I answer a lot of emails, phone calls, go to different events, and talk to my constituents. By doing that, you get a sense of where everybody's at in your District. It comes up with a common theme of maybe roads or fire and rescue. I like to be out there with the people that I serve and mingle. I attended a Mantanza in Manzano for the Land Grants. I am an heir of the Manzano Land Grant. I want to go to more meetings and gatherings, but I take care of my mom. My granddaughter is going to be moving in with me, and she's going to help me with my mom.

17. EXECUTIVE SESSION: NONE

18. Announcement of the next Board of County Commissioners Meeting: November 12, 2025, at 9:00 AM.

19. Signing of Official Documents.

20. Adjourn.

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 Schwabach – County Chairman: – Absent: Kevin McCall – County Vice Chairman: - Yes: **MOTION CARRIED**

The meeting adjourned at 11:49 AM.

Ryan Schwabach – Chairman

Date 11/12/2005

Genell Morris – Admin Assistant

Sylvia Chavez – County Clerk

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