# Final Copy Torrance County Board of Commissioners Commission Meeting June 8, 2016

**Commissioners Present:** 

LeRoy Candelaria- Chair

James Frost-Member, Vice-Chair

Julia DuCharme-Member

Others Present:

Joy Ansley-County Manager

**Annette Ortiz- Deputy County Manager** 

**Dennis Wallin-County Attorney** 

Michelle Jones -Clerical

# Call Meeting to Order:

Chairman Candelaria calls the June 8, 2016 meeting to order at 9:00 am. He welcomes all those present to the meeting and leads us in the pledge. Commissioner Frost gives the invocation.

# Approval of the Meeting Minutes:

Chairman Candelaria asks for a motion to approve the May 25, 2016 Regular Meeting Minutes. **ACTION TAKEN:** Madam Commissioner DuCharme makes a motion to approve the minutes for the May 25, 2016 Regular Commission Meeting. Commissioner Frost seconds the motion. The Commissioners vote; all in favor, none opposed. **MOTION CARRIED.** 

# Approval of the Meeting Agenda:

Chairman Candelaria asks for a motion to approve today's agenda. **ACTION TAKEN:** Commissioner Frost makes a motion to approve today's Commission Meeting Agenda. Chairman Candelaria seconds the motion. Madam Commissioner DuCharme asks about agenda item #10. County Road Issues Discussion and Action- Martin Gutierrez, Resident. She asks Mr. Wallin, County Attorney, which road Mr. Gutierrez will be talking about today and if it will be in conflict

with an ongoing investigation. Mr. Wallin replies that he does not know; he doesn't know what Mr. Gutierrez is going to say. Madam Commissioner DuCharme asks if we can clarify this before approving the agenda. Mr. Wallin replies that he assumes it is the road that has been a recent point of controversy, but reiterates that he does not know what Mr. Gutierrez is planning to say. The Commissioners vote; all in favor, none opposed. **MOTION CARRIED.** 

# Approval of the Consent Agenda:

**ACTION TAKEN:** Commissioner Frost makes a motion to approve today's Consent Agenda. Chairman Candelaria seconds the motion. Madam Commissioner DuCharme asks about the following invoices, which are payable to Nextiva Inc.:

753116 - \$1897.95 for 'VOIP PHONES'

853116 - \$1897.95 for 'VOIP PHONES'

953116 - \$1901.20 for 'VOIP PHONES'

1053116 - \$80.64 for 'PHONE FOR CIVIL DEFENSE RECURRING CHARGE FOR LINE SHIPPING'.

Madam Commissioner DuCharme asks Ms. Ansley for information about the vendor Nextiva Inc. and what a VOIP PHONE is. Ms. Ansley replies that the County has VOIP phones; (Voice-Over IP) phones which are internet phones. In December, the County switched from Lobo Net to Nextiva as the vendor for these phones. We pay them every month.

Madam Commissioner DuCharme asks about invoice #46616 payable to DFL and Associates for Reimbursement for Contract deliverables: '#3 – TRAINING AND EDUCATION PLAN and #4 IMPLEMENTATION OF ONE STRATEGY IN HIGHEST IDENTIFIED PRIORITY AREA'. Ms. Ansley comments that this was a grant for the Torrance County Health Council, and the deliverables for the contract were plans #3 and #4. DFL will most likely present these plans to the Commission in the near future.

Madam Commissioner DuCharme asks about invoice #4453116 in the amount of \$4400.00 payable to the East Torrance Soil & Water Conservation District for 'RECORDER AGENT FEE FOR JULY 15-MAY 16'. Ms. Ansley replies that we are the fiscal agent for the Estancia Basin Water Planning Committee. They use the recorder from the Soil and Water Conservation District to record the minutes for their meetings. They are paying for the use of the recorder. Madam Commissioner DuCharme asks if the minutes are available for the public. Ms. Ansley replies that

yes they are; they are available on the Estancia Basin Water Planning Committee's website home page. No further discussion. The Commissioners vote; all in favor, none opposed. **MOTION CARRIED.** 

There are no indigent claims today.

# \*Action Items\*

## Items to Be Considered and Acted Upon

### Department Requests/Reports:

### 1. Updates

Steve Guetschow, P&Z Director, speaks. He informs the Commission that they did not have a quorum at their last P&Z Board meeting and had to cancel it. They have scheduled a Special Meeting for Thursday, June 9<sup>th</sup> at 9:00 am to handle the items on that agenda. Mr. Guetschow apologizes for not being able to attend today's meeting to discuss agenda item #13. Discussion of Planning &Zoning Board Members.

Linda Jaramillo, County Clerk, speaks. Our Primary Election was held yesterday. She presents the Commission with the Torrance County unofficial election results. The unofficial results are also available for viewing on the Torrance County Clerk's web page. She comments that she really admires people who are willing to step up to the plate and run for office; it's a very difficult thing to do. She has run many times for different offices throughout the County and she knows how it feels to lose a race; what's important is the fact that you stepped up and tried.

In regards to the upcoming Special Election, Mr. Alsup, bond counsel from the Modrall Sperling Law Firm, stated that he was authorized to do the publications for the election. He has been sending Ms. Jaramillo emails about it and he is processing everything correctly and on time.

Michelle Castillo, Project Office Executive Director, speaks. As the Commission knows, her office did not receive their Domestic Violence funding. They received \$20,000.00 from the State, but that is it. She states that her office has discussed many times how they can manage to continue to provide services. Ms. Castillo talks about how important it is for the County to be able to provide much needed Domestic Violence services. She states that her office is the only agency in the County that provides direct services. They are court advocates. They will respond and go with victims to court proceedings, help victims apply for restraining orders, get victims to safe housing, and provide victims with clothing and food until they are in a safe house. They also conduct a batterer's intervention program. From May 1st to May 31st, they have provided services for 75 people in our community. In the State of New Mexico, 1 in 3 people will be involved in a domestic violence incident; Torrance County is ranked 4th in the State for domestic violence incidences. Today, Ms. Castillo requests that the Commission consider allocating \$30,000.00 to the Domestic Violence fund for the upcoming fiscal year. If the Domestic Violence fund has to run with only \$20,000.00, they will have to cut 4 of the 5 positions in their department. One person would stay on at 19 hours a week, take a pay cut, and try to run the department themselves. If the County can contribute \$30,000.00, all but one of the positions can be maintained. Ms. Castillo states that she would resign her position and the Domestic Violence Coordinator would step up and do all the reporting for the County and the State with Advocacy and Administration remaining as they are now. Ms. Castillo provides the Commission with written proposals for the \$20,000.00 budget scenario and the \$50,000.00 scenario. She also has contracts for the Home Visiting Program that need signatures from the Commission; she thinks the contracts need to be approved by either the end of the week or the end of the month.

Erica Luna, Forest Service, speaks. She works for the Regional Office of the Forest Service and is the New Mexico Liaison. She states that under the 2012 Planning Rule, the United States Forest Service has been updating the Forest Plans which are the guiding documents that help them to decide how the forests are going to operate. These are community planning documents. Torrance County has been involved with the Cibola National Forest plan. They are working on plans for the Cibola first, then the Carson, Santa Fe, Gila, and Lincoln National Forests. The plans have been going incredibly well. Torrance County is a signatory, a cooperating agency, under the Cibola National Forest planning process.

Ms. Luna states that they have a new Forest Ranger in the Mountainair District and a new District Ranger in the Sandia District.

Commissioner Frost thanks the Road Department for some recent work they completed in the Northern part of the County.

Madam Commissioner DuCharme reminds all that the next Commission meeting will be held on June 29<sup>th</sup>, not June 22<sup>nd</sup>. She thanks Ms. Ortiz for including a reminder about this date change on today's agenda.

She also states that at the last Commission meeting, she complained about the condition of Appaloosa Road, stating that it had several potholes that posed a safety issue. She states that some work has been done on about half of the road. She states that she understands that the Road Department is waiting on funding and plans to continue to work on this road in about two months, but she believes that the pot holes on this road need to be fixed now for safety reasons. She further states that she has recently been receiving complaints about roads almost every day. When she tells people that the County has a road policy that states that County maintained roads get worked on every three months, they are surprised. They tell her that they haven't seen the Road Department on their roads in six months or longer. She thinks we need to revisit this and see how this policy is being implemented. She has received complaints about Jenny Lane in Sweetwater Hills, Sorrel Road, and Galloway Road. She has also heard complaints from some people stating that they do not want to see our Road Department on their roads; they say the condition of their road was fine and the Road Department made it worse, pushing the gravel that was on the road into the ditches. People have asked her why County resources were put where they were not needed.

Chairman Candelaria has not update today.

# 2. REDW Audit Services Contract Renewal- Leslie Olivas, Purchasing Director Ms. Olivas speaks. She has presented the Commission with the approved contract with REDW for this year's audit. The total amount of the contract is \$34,496.00 for the following services:

(1) Financial statement audit	\$28,119.00
(2) Federal single audit	\$00.00
(3) Financial statement preparation	\$4,120.00
(4) Other nonaudit services	\$00.00
(5) Other	\$00.00
Gross Receipts tax	\$2,257.00
Total Compensation	\$34,496.00

These totals have been approved by the State Auditor. Ms. Olivas now asks for the Commission to approve this contract. **ACTION TAKEN:** Commissioner Frost makes a motion to approve the REDW audit services contract renewal. Madam Commissioner DuCharme seconds the motion. Mr. Wallin has reviewed the contract. Ms. Ansley comments that the State Auditor drew up this contract. No further discussion. The Commissioners vote: all in favor, none opposed. **MOTION CARRIED** 

- 3. Request Permission to Proceed with Gathering Election Materials and results for Canvassing at Special meeting on June 13th, 2016 at 9:00 A.M. Linda Jaramillo, Clerk Ms. Jaramillo speaks. As the Commission is the Canvassing Board for all State elections, their permission is needed for the County Clerk's office to proceed with gathering the election materials and results needed for the canvas of the recent Primary Election. She is also requesting a Special meeting on June 13, 2016 to review the canvas results. Ms. Jaramillo informs the Commission that the Primary election included a write-in candidate for Education District 8. Some of the poll workers failed to present a tally sheet for the write-in; they assumed that if none of the write-in votes counted, a tally sheet was not necessary, which was incorrect. Ms. Jaramillo has contacted the poll workers involved and they will be coming to her office to correctly fill out the tally sheets. She invites the Commission to witness this process if they would like. Madam Commissioner DuCharme will participate. All documentation hereto attached. ACTION TAKEN: Madam Commissioner DuCharme makes a motion to approve the request to proceed with the gathering of election materials and results for canvassing at a Special Meeting on June 13, 2016 at 9:00 A.M. Commissioner Frost seconds the motion. No further discussion. The Commissioners vote; all in favor, none opposed. MOTION CARRIED
- 4. Resolution 2016-21 Cash Transfers/Fund Transfers Amendment- Amanda Tenorio, Finance Director Ms. Tenorio speaks. She requests Commission approval of Resolution 2016-21. This is a cash transfers/fund transfers amendment. Ms. Tenorio explains that she did a self-audit on the budget resolutions and she found some line item transfers that were done that should have been cash transfers as well. These cash transfers need to be sent to DFA for approval. All documentation hereto attached. ACTION TAKEN: Commissioner Frost makes a motion to approve Resolution 2016-21 Cash Transfers/Fund Transfers Amendment. Madam Commissioner DuCharme seconds the motion. No further

discussion. The Commissioners vote; all in favor, none opposed. MOTION CARRIED

- 5. Resolution 2016-22 Line Item Transfers- Amanda Tenorio, Finance Director Ms. Tenorio speaks. She is requesting Commission approval for Resolution 2016-22 Line Item transfers. All documentation hereto attached. ACTION TAKEN: Madam Commissioner DuCharme makes a motion to approve Resolution 2016-22 Line Item Transfers. Commissioner Frost seconds the motion. No further discussion. The Commissioners vote; all in favor, none opposed. MOTION CARRIED
- 6. Resolution 2016-23 Budget Increase- Amanda Tenorio, Finance Director She is requesting Commission approval for Resolution 2016-23 Budget Increase. This increase is for funds from the RE-LEAF grant project and the County Fair. All documentation hereto attached. ACTION TAKEN: Commissioner Frost makes a motion to approve Resolution 2016-23 Budget Increase. Chairman Candelaria seconds the motion. Madam Commissioner DuCharme states that we are at the end of the fiscal year and asks Ms. Tenorio to explain where we would see these funds on the budget and if they will carry over into the budget for the new fiscal year. Ms. Tenorio explains that the RE-LEAF project is for this fiscal year only; the Fair Fund increase will carry over into the next year. All documentation hereto attached. The Commissioners vote; all in favor, none opposed. MOTION CARRIED
- 7. DWI Grant Agreement Project #17-D-J-G-31- Tracey Master, DWI Prevention Coordinator Ms. Master speaks. This is DWI Grant Agreement Project #17-D-J-G-31 between the State of New Mexico Department of Finance and Administration-Local Government Division- DWI Grant Program and Torrance County for FY2017 in the amount of \$70,000.00. Reporting requirements are quarterly and have been met every year. The required in-kind match is 10%, we have 15 %. She states that we will meet all State and Federal requirements. All documentation hereto attached. ACTION TAKEN: Madam Commissioner DuCharme makes a motion to approve DWI Grant Agreement Project #17-D-J-G-31. Commissioner Frost seconds the motion. No further discussion. The Commissioners vote; all in favor, none opposed. MOTION CARRIED

8. Appointment of County Representative to the Estancia Basin Water Planning Committee Ms. Ansley speaks. As the Commission knows, the Estancia Basin Water Planning Committee has a vacancy on their board. They sent a recommendation to the Commission requesting the appointment of former State Representative Ms. Rhonda King. The Commission decided to publish notice asking for candidates. Notice was published twice in each of our local papers. We received letters of interest from the following persons:

Mr. Andy Miller Mr. Johnny Romero Ms. Rhonda King

Mr. Miller is not able to attend today's meeting.

The two candidates that are present are asked to come to the podium, state their name for the record and give a brief statement about themselves and their qualifications. The candidates will then answer any questions the Commission might have.

Both Ms. Rhonda King and Mr. Johnny Romero go through the brief interview process as listed above. Ms. Ansley reads the letter of interest from Mr. Andy Miller. Each candidate is uniquely qualified for this very important position and each is thanked for their time, their interest, and their willingness to serve.

All documentation hereto attached. **ACTION TAKEN:** Commissioner Frost makes a motion to appoint Ms. Rhonda King to the Estancia Basin Water Planning Committee. Chairman Candelaria seconds the motion. No further discussion. The Commissioners vote; two in favor, Madam Commissioner DuCharme is opposed. **MOTION CARRIED** 

9. Appointment of County Representative to the Estancia Valley Solid Waste Authority Board Ms. Ansley speaks. The Commission published notice asking for candidates for this position also. Notice was published twice in each of our local papers. The Commission received letters of interest for this position from the following persons:

Mr. Bill Williams Mr. Joseph Ellis Ms. Ansley reads the letters of interest from Mr. Bill Williams and Mr. Joseph Ellis. Mr. Williams is not able to be at today's meeting.

Mr. Ellis is present and is asked to come to the podium, state his name for the record and give a brief statement about himself and his qualifications. He will then answer any questions the Commission might have.

Mr. Ellis comes to the podium, states his name and gives a brief statement about himself and his qualifications. He then endorses Mr. Williams for this position and respectfully withdraws his name from consideration.

Both Mr. Williams and Mr. Ellis are uniquely qualified for this position and both are thanked for their interest in serving. All documentation hereto attached. ACTION TAKEN: Commissioner Frost makes a motion to appoint Mr. Bill Williams as the County Representative to the Estancia Valley Solid Waste Authority Board. Chairman Candelaria seconds the motion. Madam Commissioner DuCharme comments that she was glad about how these positions were advertised, however she has concerns about the fact that these positions were both listed together in one advertisement. She doesn't know why we did not receive more letters of interest. She states that after the deadline she received comments from three people who are interested in serving. She states that the process of choosing one person for a position like this is very unpleasant because each candidate is accomplished. She states that some of her comments can get personal without her wanting them to. She states that she thinks it is ridiculous really; Mr. Williams is still on the board as the Chairman. How can we consider him to be a representative of Torrance County? He has to resign his position first to be considered for another position. Also, he has been in that position for over 20 years; let's give other people the opportunity to serve. She states that she is asking the Commission to reconsider this and advertise this position one more time. Chairman Candelaria asks Commissioner Frost if he is willing to withdraw his motion. Commissioner Frost states that his motion stands. No further discussion. The Commissioners vote; two in favor, Madam Commissioner DuCharme is opposed. MOTION CARRIED

10. County Road Issues Discussion and Action- Martin Gutierrez, Resident Mr. Gutierrez speaks. He states that he is here to discuss a couple of roads, including A007. He thanks Commissioner Frost for voting to not have that road investigated. He states that the investigation does not bother him; everything is legal on that road. He states that his question to Madam Commissioner DuCharme is why that road is being investigated. Mr. Wallin reminds Madam Commissioner

DuCharme that she is not here to be interrogated and she does not have to answer any questions that she does not want to answer. Madam Commissioner DuCharme asks Mr. Gutierrez why he placed this item on the agenda. Mr. Gutierrez replies that he put this item on the agenda because he was visited by the Torrance County Sheriff's Department. He states that he put a gate across his road, at the cattle guard, close to the end of it because there has been a lot of theft in the mountain area. He states that the Sheriff's Department advised him that he could not put a gate on his road and this is a safety issue for him and his family. He states that there are plenty of other roads in this County that have gates on them and if his road can't have one, then neither can any of those. He states that he is here mainly for the gate issue. Madam Commissioner DuCharme asks Mr. Gutierrez where his road starts. He states that it starts at Hwy 55; he put his gate 2/10s of a mile east of the end of the road. He states that there are two cattle guards on this road; the first one is State highway and the second one is the County. He put a cable across the County cattle guard. He states that his property starts at the second cattle guard. Madam Commissioner DuCharme asks if this is his personal road. He replies no, it's a public road. Madam Commissioner DuCharme asks him how a public road can be closed. He states, "That's what I'm here to ask you and I have pictures of plenty of other public roads that have gates on them." Mr. Gutierrez states again that this road is a public road and that it ends at his residence. He states that he has people driving in there thinking that it is an access road to the forestry. Madam Commissioner DuCharme states that if this road is a public road, it should be able to be used by the public; she asks Mr. Gutierrez if he agrees. He states that he agrees, but they still have no business in there. Madam Commissioner DuCharme states, "So the public pays to maintain that road, but (the) public can't use it?" Mr. Gutierrez replies, "Well they can; while I'm there, there's no problem."

Madam Commissioner DuCharme asks Mr. Gutierrez if he thinks this was a good use of public and state funds. Mr. Gutierrez replies that the road had not been worked on in 25 years and that it was selected for maintenance legally. Madam Commissioner DuCharme asks why the Road Department worked on this road on a Saturday. Mr. Gutierrez was a Torrance County Road Department Foreman. He states that he was trying to get all the State projects done before he retired, but because of the issues with his road, he states that he took an early retirement.

Mr. Gutierrez reiterates that he is here to discuss his gate on his road. He asks if he can put a gate or does he have to take the .29 from the cattle guard to the end of the road at this residence off of County maintenance. Madam Commissioner DuCharme states that she does not understand his logic; the State spent money, public money, beyond that cattle guard where he has a sign that states private

property. He states that he does not have a sign that states private property; his sign states entering private property.

At this time, Mr. Gutierrez presents the Commission with pictures of six other roads that he states are County maintained roads with gates. He states that one of the roads belongs to a County employee.

Lastly, Madam Commissioner DuCharme reiterates that she thinks that if public money was spent on that road it should be available for people to use. Mr. Wallin states that there is a legal methodology for Mr. Gutierrez to ask for the portion of the road be vacated. He further states that, generally speaking, public highways are not to be obstructed, but every road is fact specific. Mr. Wallin states that he thinks that the process ought to be for Mr. Gutierrez to ask the County to abandon that portion of the road.

Mr. Gutierrez now states that he wants the Commission to tell the Sheriff's office to go tell the residents of the roads he brought pictures of the same thing they told him; leave the gate open or abandon the road from County maintenance. Mr. Wallin reiterates that every road issue is a unique circumstance. Mr. Gutierrez has the right as a citizen to request the Sheriff's department to investigate the roads. If the Commission wants to do further investigation that is up to them to consider.

Chairman Candelaria states that he understands the situation that Mr. Gutierrez is in; it is scary to leave your property open. Mr. Gutierrez states that he is willing to start the process of vacating the 2/10s portion of the road, but he wants all the other roads investigated. Madam Commissioner DuCharme states that she will follow up on this. Mr. Wallin suggests that the Commission direct either the Manager's office or his office to get background information on each road before proceeding any further.

Commissioner Frost states that he has no problem with Mr. Gutierrez having a gate on his property after this portion of the road is vacated from County maintenance, but he does have a problem with that fact that money was spent on this 2/10s of a mile when Mr. Gutierrez knew he had a problem with people driving in there. He states that he feels that the money should not have been spent on that road 6 months ago and now we are thinking of taking it off of County maintenance. All documentation hereto attached. **ACTION TAKEN:** Madam Commissioner DuCharme makes a motion to ask the Sheriff's Department to investigate the roads on the list provided by Mr. Gutierrez. There is no second. **MOTION DIES** 

Commissioner Frost states that he is not against an investigation; he is against one of our own departments investigating another one of our departments. Ms. Ansley reads a portion of the approved County Road Policy stating, in summary, that a County maintained road cannot be obstructed or damaged. New Mexico law prohibits any person from placing on any County maintained road a gate, fence, stone, etc. After further discussion, the Commission directs the County Manager's office and Mr. Wallin to look into each of the roads that Mr. Gutierrez presented and report back to the Commission. All documentation hereto attached. **NO ACTION, DISCUSSION ONLY** 

- 11. Contract between Torrance County and EForce for CAD, RMS and AVL Ms. Leslie Olivas, Purchasing Director, speaks. Before the Commission is a contract from EForce. This is the company that the Commission awarded the RFP to for the CAD system at the last Commission meeting. Ms. Ansley states that Mr. Wallin has requested some minor wording corrections to the contract. The total budget for this project is \$254,265.70 for the CAD, the RMS, and the AVL. The interface will cost \$15,000.00 if it is needed. There are two legislative appropriations that will be used for this project; one in the amount of \$200,000.00 and one for \$70,000.00. Ms. Ansley states that there will also be an annual maintenance agreement that will cost of \$37,697.20 that will most likely be split up by the licenses using the products; Dispatch, BSO, and the Municipal PDs. All documentation hereto attached. ACTION TAKEN: Commissioner Frost makes a motion to approve the contract between Torrance County and EForce for CAD, RMS and AVL with the corrections that Mr. Wallin has requested. Madam Commissioner DuCharme seconds the motion. The Commissioners vote; all in favor, none opposed. MOTION CARRIED
- 12. Conveyance of Property to NM Baptist Foundation Mr. Wallin speaks. The County received a letter from Attorney Stephen Long regarding land conveyed to Torrance County by the Presbyterian Medical Services Foundation. Mr. Long represents the NM Baptist Foundation. They have a reverter interest in certain property that was deeded to Torrance County by Presbyterian Medical Services Foundation on October 31, 2001. The property was deeded to the County under the condition that it be used as a medical facility and, if it was not used as a medical facility for more than 6 months, it would be reverted to the Baptist Foundation. The property has never been used as a medical facility. The County can either force the Baptist Foundation to file a quiet title action which would cost them money and they would most likely prevail, or the County could deed the property

over to them because we haven't met the conditions of the deed. Mr. Wallin recommends deeding the property over to the Baptist Foundation. All documentation hereto attached. **ACTION TAKEN:** Commissioner Frost makes a motion to approve the conveyance of property to NM Baptist Foundation. Chairman Candelaria seconds the motion. Madam Commissioner DuCharme asks how the taxes were paid for this property. Mr. Wallin clarifies that there are no taxes paid on County property. If the Commission deeds the property to the NM Baptist Foundation, they will be responsible for the taxes going forward. Mr. Wallin explains the reverter language on the deed as listed below:

"THIS GRANT SHALL TERMINATE AT SUCH TIME AS THE ABOVE-DESCRIBED PROPERTY CEASES TO BE USED AS A MEDICAL FACILITY FOR SIX (6) CONSECUTIVE CALENDAR MONTHS, THEN THE REMAINDER TO THE NEW MEXICO BAPTIST FOUNDATION, A NEW MEXICO NON-PROFIT CORPORATION, ITS SUCCESSOR AND ASSIGNS IN FEE SIMPLE ABSOLUTE,"

The Commissioners vote; all in favor, none opposed. MOTION CARRIED

### \*Commission Matters:

13. Discussion of Planning & Zoning Board Members Commissioner Frost speaks. He states that he put this item on the agenda. Last week the P&Z Board had a scheduled meeting with several very important agenda items. Many people traveled long distances to be here for the meeting and the meeting had to be canceled because they did not have a quorum. There are five members on the board, along with one alternate. Several of the members had previously stated that they could not attend, but the fact is that the meeting could not be held. It was very embarrassing for the P&Z Department and for the County that the members could not perform one day in the month and get everything done that needed to be done. Commissioner Frost states that he doesn't know what can be done about this, but perhaps the few members that cannot attend due to other obligations could be asked to voluntarily step down and the Commission could appoint some new members. Mr. Wallin suggests that the Commission possibly amend the policy and appoint a few more alternates; this would be easier than asking for resignations. For the P&Z Board, three members in attendance constitutes a quorum; adding more alternates will not change this. Commissioner Frost agrees with Mr. Wallin's suggestion. If this change is made, the Planning & Zoning Department would be responsible for informing the alternates if their attendance is needed at a meeting. The Commission directs the County Manager to publish for two new alternate members to the Planning & Zoning Board. NO ACTION, DISCUSSION ONLY

### 14. Update

- 1. The Manager's Office has hired a new Executive Assistant- Ms. Laurie Archuleta. Welcome Ms. Archuleta!
- 2. Last week, we had some new water lines and hydrants installed in the planters in the front of the building so we could water the new trees and plants that are going to be planted very soon.
- 3. While running the lines, the plumber trenched the parking lot. The rain caused a big mess so Ms. Ansley asked the Road Department to haul some material out there in order to minimize the trip hazard and the entire damage hazard. The crew came in yesterday and worked for a few hours and fixed the area. Ms. Ansley thanks the Road Department for their quick action.
- 4. Mr. John Jones, the Chairman of the Estancia Basin Water Planning Committee sent a copy of the latest well monitoring report for the Commission to review.

## **Public Requests:**

At the Discretion of the Commission Chair. For Information only (No Action Can be Taken). Comments are limited to three (3) minutes per person on any subject.

Michelle Jones, resident, (myself), speaks. Ms. Jones congratulates Ms. Linda Jaramillo, County Clerk and Ms. Linda Kayser, Deputy County Clerk, and everyone in the Clerk's Office, Ms. Sylvia Chavez and Ms. Yvonne Otero for doing an outstanding job running the Primary Election. It's a long, detailed process. We in the Clerk's Office are very careful every single day to insure that everyone in our County that wants to vote gets the opportunity to vote. It's a wonderful process. Congratulations to our team on a great election very well run!

Anthony Martos, resident, speaks. He states that all the roads that Mr. Gutierrez presented to the Commission for investigation need to be investigated. He states that we also need to investigate the Road Department on the job that they do. The Road Department for Torrance County is supposed to work for the citizens of Torrance County, not for Mr. Candelaria or anybody else. Talk to the people of Torrance County, the people are very unhappy. Mr. Martos also states that the workers in the Road Department need to be talked to. He states that he has talked to them and some of them are scared to say anything about what is going on because they are afraid of being harassed or fired. He also states that Torrance County people should be the ones who appoint people to boards within the County.

He references Ms. Rhonda King and states that we know the Kings and we know their agenda. He asks what we want for the County; to destroy it. To tear it apart? We do a lot of passing motions, but are we doing it with the intentions of all the people or just certain people?

**Michael Godey, resident,** speaks. He speaks about the road issue concerning Mr. Gutierrez. He reiterates that a County maintained road should not be obstructed, no matter what the time of day or who is home. If a gate is closed any one of 24 hours, that is an obstruction. If there is a gate on a public road, that gate should be open or that road should not be County maintained.

Mr. Godey states that he will be talking to the Land grant tonight about possibly have a candidate's forum for all the candidates that made it through the Primary. He commends the parties and Ms. Edwina George Hewett for having a candidate's forum that was open to both political parties. He states that it is the person, and not the party, that needs your vote.

Johnny Romero, resident, speaks. He comments about the P&Z Board. He states that alternates would be a good thing, but he believes that good board members that have experience and really want to be there should be allowed to stay on the board and not be termed out. He has seen that new Commissioners will come in and appoint new people who sometimes don't even want to be there.

Mr. Romero speaks about the road issue involving Mr. Gutierrez. He suggests that about every three months or so, the Commissioners need to spend time with the Road crew and review the roads. They need to spend the time to really look at all the roads their district has; this will really help with their decision making. The County should get rid of all those roads that should not be getting maintained. He states that he can guarantee that when it snows, those gates are open. He agrees with Commissioner Frost that the County should not be spending money to maintain those roads at the expense of a road that really needs attention.

Hank Van Es, resident, speaks. He is here to talk about the roads. He states that the reason he first got involved with this was because of the appearance of impropriety, based on the fact that we have a Road Crew Foreman who worked on his own property. And then there was the questionable nature as to whether or not that road on his property is a County road. He states that he looked up the County maintenance request form for County roads and one of the questions on the form is the number of families using the road. The impression he got from Mr. Gutierrez is

that there are four families using his road, but those four families are all on his private property. Another question asks how long the road is and finally, it is a through road. Mr. Gutierrez admitted that it is a dead end road, ending at his house. What public purpose could a public road have to go just to his house? He suggest that the County should set up an ethics committee. He states that he would be more than happy to serve on that committee. Ethics should play a major role in some of these decisions. He states that Mr. Gutierrez failed to bring up any legal documentation showing that it was a County road with a prescribed easement. Lastly, he asks if there was any kind of an internal non-criminal investigation done by the County and has there been anything put forward to make sure something like this does not happen again.

# \*Adjourn

**ACTION TAKEN:** Commissioner Frost makes a motion to adjourn the June 8, 2016 Commission Meeting. Madam Commissioner DuCharme seconds the motion. No further discussion. The Commissioners vote; all in favor, none opposed. **MOTION CARRIED.** Meeting adjourned at 11:52 am.

Chairman Candelaria

Michelle Jones, Clerical

Date

The video of this meeting can be viewed in its entirety on the Torrance County NM Website. Audio discs of this meeting can be purchased in the Torrance County Clerk's Office and the audio of this meeting will be aired on our local radio station KXNM.