

FINAL

Torrance County Board of Commissioners

Regular Commission Meeting

August 10, 2022

9:00 AM

Commissioners Present: **RYAN SCHWEBACH – CHAIR**
 LEROY CANDELARIA-VICE CHAIR
 KEVIN McCALL- MEMBER

Others Present: **JANICE BARELA – COUNTY MANAGER**
 JUAN TORRES - DEPUTY COUNTY MANAGER
 MICHAEL GARCIA – COUNTY ATTORNEY
 VALERIE SMITH – ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER

Chairman Schwebach: Called meeting to order at 9:04 A.M.

2. INVOCATION & PLEDGE

PLEDGE:

Chairman Schwebach: Led the Pledge of Allegiance.

INVOCATION:

Commissioner McCall: Led the invocation.

3. CHANGES TO THE AGENDA:

Madam County Manager Barela: Proposed to postpone item 5 B until the next meeting as County Treasurer Tracey Sedillo was not available.

Chairman Schwebach: Approved proposed change to the agenda.

4. PROCLAMATIONS

4. PROCLAMATIONS

None

5. CERTIFICATES AND AWARDS

A. DWI:

Madam County Manager Barela: Presented an award to Tracey Masters for 25 years of service.

B. TREASURER:

Deferred to next meeting.

C. SHERIFF:

Madam County Manager Barela: Presented an award to Lt. Kent Ballard for 15 Years of Service. Lt. Ballard could not be there to accept his award as he had been on a call since 5 A.M.

D. FIRE:

Fire Chief Don Dirks: Presented an award to Deputy Chief Hannah Sanchez for 15 Years of Service.

Hannah Sanchez: Accepted the award and thanked the County and the Fire Department.

E. DISPATCH:

Madam County Manager Barela: Presented an award to Dispatch Director Christine Romero for 20 Years of Service.

Christine Romero: Accepted the award and thanked the County and Dispatch.

6. BOARD AND COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS

None

7. PUBLIC COMMENT and COMMUNICATIONS

Chairman Schwebach: Opened the floor for public comment and communications.

Madam County Manager Barela: Introduced the public commenters in person and on Zoom.

Brady Ness, Torrance County Resident: Spoke about the vaccine and that he believes it is killing children, that he wants the truth to come out, and he spoke about the raid on Trump's home, and that Jeffrey Epstein's lawyer signed off on the raid. He said that there are masked

pedophiles in the government. He said that the Commission does “a good job at business,” and that he wants to reduce inflation and doesn’t believe printing more money and hiring 87,000 IRS agents is the way to go.

Jeanette Hunt, Torrance County Resident, via Zoom: Ms. Hunt went into detail about her anxiety regarding election integrity. She is worried nothing will change. She spoke about Aaron and David Clement’s presentation regarding the election, and that the Commission seemed receptive to ensuring that our elections are run with integrity. She believes that the election was not actually canvassed. She doesn’t want a machine telling them their vote was counted. There were a lot of promises that things are working behind the scenes to change the way the elections were run, but she doesn’t see anything changing.

Madam County Manager Barela: Stated that she is in discussions with New Mexico Legislators. She would like to update “certain strategic people in the Community that have great interest in this topic” and would like to have a type of workshop where she may update the select few people. She doesn’t want them to feel like nothing is being accomplished. There was no answer by the Commissioners on whether that was approved.

8. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A. COMMISSION: Motion to approve the July 27, 2022, Torrance County Special Commission Meeting Minutes.

ACTION TAKEN:

Chairman McCall: Made a motion to approve the July 27, 2022, Torrance County Regular Commission Meeting Minutes.

Commissioner Candelaria: Seconded the motion.

Roll Call Vote:

Commissioner Candelaria: Yes; **Chairman Schwebach:** Abstained due to absence at previous meeting; **Commissioner McCall:** Yes.

Motion Passes.

9. APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA

A. FINANCE: Motion to approve payables.

ACTION TAKEN:

Chairman Schwebach: Made a motion to approve payables.

Commissioner Candelaria: Seconded the motion.

Roll Call Vote:

Commissioner Candelaria: Yes; **Chairman Schwebach:** Yes; **Commissioner McCall:** Yes.

MOTION PASSES

10. ADOPTION OF ORDINANCE/AMENDMENT TO COUNTY CODE

NONE THIS DAY.

11. ADOPTION OF RESOLUTION

A. GRANTS: Motion to approve Resolution 2022-44, project identification and ranking for inclusion in the 2024-2028 Infrastructure Capital Improvement Plan (ICIP)

ACTION TAKEN:

Chairman Schwebach: Opened the item for discussion.

Cheryl Allen, Grants Manager: Included a copy of list from last year's ICIP, and a ranking of the ICIP projects by year. The Commission and Mrs. Allen ranked the projects in the order of execution. They had agreed that the County Fairgrounds improvements would take #1 priority. She explained and broke down all the projects for the years 2024-2028.

Mrs. Allen broke down the Existing Projects Recommended for Removal from ICIP.

Chairman Schwebach: Asked why the presentation is different this year, and who constituted "The Work Group."

Cheryl Allen: Explained to the Commission that the presentation is different because the ICIP submittal deadline is imminent. The Work Group consists of Deputy County Manager Juan Torres, Grants Manager Cheryl Allen, Finance Director Jeremy Oliver, Purchasing Director Noah Sedillo, Maintenance Director James Solomon, and Grants Assistant Senaida Anaya, who takes notes, and Finance Department's Lori Archuleta updates them on purchasing when necessary.

Madam County Manager Barela: Asked Mrs. Allen to present the Existing Projects Recommended for Removal from ICIP.

Cheryl Allen: Complied with Madam County Manager's request and reviewed the list of Existing Projects Recommended for Removal from ICIP.

Chairman Schwebach: The Commissioners and Chairman Schwebach reviewed the list of ICIP projects and ranked them according to their preference.

The rest of the ICIP Corrected Ranking is as follows:

Commissioner McCall: Asked if Vaughn should be part of the 2024 #2 ranked Duran Water System plan.

Madam County Manager Barela: Explained that that is not possible at this time based on prior audits and that this is not the best time fiscally to do so.

Chairman Schwebach: Wanted public input on the 2024 #4 ranked Develop Torrance County Park, even though a public hearing is no longer necessary.

Cheryl Allen: Reminded the Commissioners that there would be a public hearing on the Torrance County Park Development later in the agenda.

Chairman Schwebach: Moved on to the next projects. He questioned 2024-#5, Emergency Management Equipment, and was surprised to see such a high number. He asked why they wanted 2 water buffalo, and if they were trucks or trailers.

Cheryl Allen: Explained that they are trailers.

Juan Torres: Almost all the water buffalo in the state that were rented out to be used in the fires around the state and the Emergency Management Department had trouble even getting one of them. Bernalillo County was finally able to help, but if there is another major emergency in the state, Torrance may be left in the dust.

Chairman Schwebach: Said that he could see these very expensive pieces of equipment sitting in storage not being used. He asked for an explanation of the light towers and generators request.

Juan Torres: The Emergency Manager Samantha O'Dell had requested that they be purchased after the "perfect storm." He made a point that they can be rented out to other agencies when not in use.

Chairman Schwebach: Wanted to cut the request to one water buffalo and one light generator.

Cheryl Allen: Moved one water buffalo and one light tower and Generator, as well as a truck, to 2026.

The Commissioners: Moved on to 2024-#6 Road Department Equipment.

Commissioner McCall: Wants to leave it as it is.

The Commissioners: Moved on to 2024-#7 County Road Improvements.

Commissioner McCall: Concerned about the “Martinez Rd (2) Lexco to Santa Fe line (\$8.5M)” but believes that if it is on there it is because Leonard Lujan knows what he is doing.

Chairman Schwebach: Questioned moving the Road Assessment up from 2025 #4 to before County Road Improvements 24,5,6 #7.

Juan Torres: The road assessment is expensive.

Albert Lovato, Trustee for Town of Estancia: Wanted to talk about the Arthur Park and Lake and Pool Improvements. He believes at #11, it can be considered null and void. He wants the Commission to know that the Park, Pool, and Lake are all very important to the whole community.

The Commissioners: Decided to keep County Road Improvements where they are at. They moved on to Emergency Management Facility and kept it as is. Next was Rail to Trail.

Madam County Manager Barela: MRCOG worked on this project, and there are some preliminary plans in place.

Cheryl Allen: This is the first time it has been presented on the ICIP list.

The Commissioners: Decided to keep the Rail to Trail project as is on the list, as it may fall under the CDGB projects.

Chairman Schwebach: Introduced the next items, first being #10 New County Government Offices, and the Commissioners agreed to keep the project where it is. The next up was Arthur Park and Lake and Pool Improvements. He clarified that it is the Town of Estancia applying for the assistance, and by keeping it on the list the County agrees that it is an important project.

Commissioner McCall: Suggested that the Arthur Park projects move up to #5 on the list next to Develop Torrance County Park.

Cheryl Allen: This must include a Statement of Work, which includes wording regarding integration with Arthur Park.

Madam County Manager Barela: Stated that the Legislators have been very receptive to the County's feelings on the importance of each project and hearing input for them.

Chairman Schwebach: Moving on to 2025. Project #1: New Regional Animal Shelter.

Cheryl Allen: Explained the purview of a "Regional" Animal Shelter. They are envisioning a large shelter that will incorporate all the areas of the County.

Madam County Manager Barela: Estancia also has an animal shelter on their ICIP list and is very willing to work with the County on this project.

Nathan Dial, Mayor of Estancia: The Town of Estancia would like to offer any resources they can to help complete this project.

Deputy County Manager Torres: Torrance County would have control of the building; the Town of Estancia can then employ an Animal Services Officer. There could be a cost sharing MOU or JPA. Torrance County ends up with over ½ of all the calls that come in for dangerous animals as it is, so a regional animal shelter would help immensely.

Chairman Schwebach: Is fine with the placing of the rest of the 2025 Project List. He moved on to 2026.

Deputy County Manager Torres: Explained what the Asset Management Plan is for and makes it very helpful in completing these projects.

Cheryl Allen: Certain grants such as the FEMA grants will ask for an Asset Management Plan and helps move the project forward more quickly.

Commissioner McCall: Thinks that the Abo Water System should be moved to #1 on the 2026 Ranking.

Chairman Schwebach: Agreed with Commissioner McCall.

Cheryl Allen: Requested to go back to the 2024 list. She was informed that Torreon did add the Land Grant to their ICIP list. The ranking is #3 on their list. She also asked if they were going to put the water buffalos and the light tower as a 2026 project.

Commissioner McCall: He wants to have the 2026 list as follows: #1. Abo Water System, #2 Light Tower, #3 Asset Management, #4 Fuel Tank, and #5 Well, tank & water collection system. He suggested leaving the ball fields and things of that nature up to the municipalities. He would be okay with a collaboration if it were some traction.

Chairman Schwebach: He wants to leave the Ball Fields Development where it is on the 2027 list. He then said that he wants to leave the 2028 list as is but asked for the story behind the Radio System and why it is highlighted.



Deputy County Manager Torres: The County is still waiting to hear back about the P25 radio system from the State of New Mexico. The last meeting was them assessing the needs of Torrance County but has not heard back from them yet. The County signed a letter of intent but no MOU yet.

Chairman Schwebach: Regarding the Projects Recommended for Removal List, he is okay with the whole list staying as is.

Commissioner McCall: Wanted to know why the Dam Mitigation cannot just be left on the ICIP, just farther down the list.

Cheryl Allen: Suggested putting it on 2028- #7.

Chairman Schwebach: Countered with putting it as line #7 in 2025. There is a development downstream from the Dam. He wants to look at all avenues to help in the project, including Federal programs.

Cheryl Allen: The original plan had been for the Planning Grant to cover \$50K of the assessment cost, with the County covering the rest at approximately \$65K.

Commissioner McCall: Agreed with Chairman Schwebach that the item should be moved to 2025-#7.

Chairman Schwebach: The rest of the removal list may be stricken.

Cheryl Allen: The Aging and Long-Term Services have already been established with her since May 2022.

ACTION TAKEN:

Commissioner Candelaria: Made a motion to approve Resolution 2022-44, project identification and ranking for inclusion in the 2024-2028 Infrastructure Capital Improvement Plan (ICIP) as revised.

Chairman Schwebach: Seconded the motion.

Roll Call Vote:

Commissioner Candelaria: Yes; **Chairman Schwebach:** Yes; **Commissioner McCall:** Yes.

MOTION PASSES.

A. **MANAGER:** Motion to reclassify one vacant 911 Operator/ Communications Specialist position to an NCIC Coordinator/Trainer position.

ACTION TAKEN:

Chairman Schwebach: Made a motion to reclassify one vacant 911 Operator/ Communications Specialist position to an NCIC Coordinator/Trainer position.

Commissioner Candelaria: Seconded the motion.

Madam County Manager Barela: Introduced the approval. There is one position in the County, which is a necessary requirement in the State. The workload calls for two people, and it would severely lighten the load of the one NCIC Coordinator. Any individual may apply. Mrs. Christine Romero stands for questions.

No Further Discussion

Roll Call Vote:

Commissioner Candelaria: Yes; **Chairman Schwebach:** Yes; **Commissioner McCall:** Yes.

MOTION PASSES.

B. **GRANTS:** Approval of submission of the NM Recreation Centers/Quality of Life Grant application.

ACTION TAKEN:

Chairman Schwebach: Open discussion regarding possible motion to approve submission of the NM Recreation Centers/Quality of Life Grant application.

Cheryl Allen, Grants Manager: Presented the application for the NM Recreation Centers/Quality of Life Grant. The grant seeks to create new or expand existing recreation centers for all residents. Torrance County will request the grant be approved to cover the cost of renovating the Rodeo Arena at the Torrance County Fairgrounds. Currently the cost, based on the Southern Torrance County Economic Development Plan and what is on the ICIP is \$2M. It is due Friday, it is an online application, and she needs an estimate to be able to submit it.

Commissioner McCall: Asked if the Youth Center Project would qualify as an eligible item on this grant.

Madam County Manager Barela: It is, but the amount of work to get it submitted on time would be a large undertaking. It would require an estimate.

ACTION TAKEN:

Commissioner McCall: Made a motion to approve submission of the NM Recreation Centers/Quality of Life Grant application, and if the administration staff can put together a second grant, possible second application submission for a grant for the Torrance County Youth Center in Moriarty.

Chairman Schwebach: Seconded the motion

Roll Call Vote:

Commissioner Candelaria: Yes; Chairman Schwebach: Yes; Commissioner McCall: Yes.

MOTION PASSES.

C. GRANTS: Approval of ratification of the NM Food Security Grant agreement for \$500K award and a \$5K match, and discussion/approval of additional local funds.

ACTION TAKEN:

Chairman Schwebach: Made a motion to approve ratification of the NM Food Security Grant agreement for \$500K award and a \$5K match, and discussion/approval of additional local funds.

Cheryl Allen, Grants Manager: Introduced the item and explained that with the grant they would like to renovate the facilities in place and create a commercial kitchen at the Torrance County Fairgrounds. The quote submitted with this grant was for \$745,828.67, which is \$245,828.67. They had to write an award summary and break down the award into two parts, \$166,667 for equipment fees, and \$333,333 for real property expenses. Mrs. Allen broke down everything else that impacted the summary and what it included. 8,200 meals can be served over the course of a year, which would include a fire event. If a disaster were to happen, the number would be 15,800 meals, with 34,760 pounds of food being processed. Mrs. Allen read the summary for the Commission. She asked the Commission if they would like to pledge more funds that are available to help them reach the \$745,828.67 goal.

Chairman Schwebach: Explained the reason he made a motion to approve the item was because he has high hopes for the renovation and is hoping that the kitchen can become an incubator for farm-to-table entrepreneurship. He is not committing any other funds except for the \$5,000 that has been approved.

Deputy County Manager Torres: They have until June 30, 2023, to finish the project, as June 30, 2023, is reversion day. He wishes to have a point of contact. He wants the Purchase Order cut and the project to begin by the end of the month.

Chairman Schwebach: Agrees to be the point of contact for the project.

Commissioner McCall: Seconded the motion.

Roll Call Vote:

Commissioner Candelaria: Yes; **Chairman Schwebach:** Yes; **Commissioner McCall:** Yes.

MOTION PASSES.

D. FIRE: Discuss and possible approval for use of ARPA funding to drill a new well at the district 3 Main Station located at 757 Salt Missions Trail, McIntosh NM 87035. (Deferred from July 27, 2022.)

Chairman Schwebach: Introduced for discussion and possible approval the use of ARPA funding to drill a new well at the district 3 Main Station located at 757 Salt Missions Trail, McIntosh NM 87032. Correction made to McIntosh zip code.

Don Dirks, Torrance County Fire Chief: The Chief has been searching since March 2022 for a well-drilling company to come and give an estimate as well as to drill. He finally succeeded in getting an estimate. He had tried to get Sandia Well Drilling to give him an estimate but that did not work.

James Collins (From the Audience): Yelled that he would drill the well.

Chairman Schwebach: Spoke to the audience member and said that he would like to speak to Mr. Collins, at a more appropriate time. The Commissioner was incredulous that Chief Dirks was not able to procure more than the individual estimate. He asked if the well was totally dry and not working, which was the case. He asked which one it is.

Chief Dirks: The well next to Dispatch for the Fire Department has gone dry. The well that feeds Dispatch is still working.

Chairman Schwebach: Prefers to defer the item until a well-driller that is familiar with the aquifer is available.

ACTION TAKEN:

For lack of motion, the item dies.

E. FIRE: Discuss and possible approval of wage increases for EMS Lieutenant positions based on review of paramedic salary survey of comparable departments. (Deferred from July 27, 2022.)

Chairman Schwebach: Introduced the item.

Don Dirks, Torrance County Fire Chief: Mr. Dirks presented his research regarding comparable wages in other Counties. Many of the Counties would not respond to the question. Chief Dirks recommended that with his employees working 72-hour shifts, there is more opportunity to take time off and more coverage for someone who needs to take unexpected time off.

Chairman Schwebach: Asked what the fiscal impact is.

Jeremy Oliver, Financial Director: Asked if it was for 48 or 72-hour shifts. The original request had been for the Fire Department employees to work 48-hours at a time, not 72. This changes the fiscal impact with overtime.

Chief Dirks: Is requesting \$1/hr. raise for all positions, which is not the way it is listed.

Madam County Manager Barela: This is not the request on the agenda, so only the Lieutenant position may request the raise at this meeting.

Chairman Schwebach: Asked for clarification on the 72-hour shifts as this was news to him, and he was under the impression that they were only working 48-hour shifts.

Chief Dirks: With the Lieutenant position still vacant, having 72-hour shifts allows for coverage with Intermediate and Advanced positions. With 48-hour shifts there would be a need for extra crews as there would be two days without supervisory coverage.

Commissioner McCall: Asked how the 72-hour shifts affect overtime.

Jeremy Oliver: Overtime was only budgeted at \$40,000, with employees working 48-hour shifts. If everyone is receiving 16 hours of overtime per week then it will be gone in a matter of a couple of months.

Chairman Schwebach: Wants to take a closer look at the whole department and see what the best way to move forward is.

Commissioner Candelaria: Would like to know how much money the department is bringing in now with the County running their own ambulance service.

Chief Dirks: There has not been any income yet, but it is due. They just got approval for the billing and has seen some forecasts of \$7K to \$8K a week. He understands that it is bad timing.

Discussion continued about who runs 72 vs 48-hour shifts and looking at comparable schedules.

Mike Garcia, Torrance County Attorney: Fair Labor Standards Act says under section 7K that overtime kicks in for Fire Departments at 212 hours in a 28-day labor period, which is a 53 hour/week average.

Chief Dirks: Would be glad to go back to the 48-hour schedule if the other 3 positions were filled.

Chairman Schwebach: Said that he is not opposed to the pay raises, but he is questioning the overtime and structure of it.

Madam County Manager Barela: PERA contributions will be affected by the regular 72-hour shifts.

ACTION TAKEN:

No motion was made, item dies.

F. FIRE: Discuss and possible approval of wage increases for EMS Lieutenant positions from Paramedic to Intermediate or above. (Deferred from July 27, 2022.)

Chairman Schwebach: Introduced the item for discussion.

Don Dirks, Torrance County Fire Chief: There has been only one person that applied, got the job, and has since stepped down. There has been only one other applicant, who is an Intermediate and therefore wasn't qualified as it was.

Chairman Schwebach: Asked how the pay scale would be affected by the discrepancy between Intermediate and Paramedic becoming Lieutenant.

Don Dirks: The pay would be the same, there would be a \$1/hour raise. A Paramedic, who normally makes \$16/hour, would be paid \$17/hour to become a Lieutenant. An Intermediate at \$15/hour would make \$16/hour.

Madam County Manager Barela: Asked the Commission to change the salary before it gets advertised. Since Don Dirks is looking to give all employees a \$1/hour raise at the next meeting.

ACTION TAKEN:

Item Deferred to next meeting on August 24, 2022.

13. DISCUSSION

A. **COMMISSION:** Presentation on American Legion Youth Corps (Gerald Chavez, American Legion Post 22 Commander)

Chairman Schwebach: Introduced item.

Gerald Chavez, American Legion Commander: Detailed the work that the American Legion does for the community.

Nathan Dial, American Legion: Detailed what has been happening in the American Legion.

Albert Lovato: Details what has been happening and details of the camp.

Gerald Chavez: Asked the Commission to consider supporting the Legion to keep the summer camp going.

The Commissioners thanked the Legion for their help with Youth.

NO ACTION WAS TAKEN.

B. **ASSESSOR:** Annual Report to Commission (Deferred from July 22, 2022.)

Chairman Schwebach: Introduced the item for discussion.

Jessie Lucero, Torrance County Assessor: Read the PowerPoint presentation that he had prepared for the Commission. (Please see Meeting Packet for a copy of the presentation.)

On a side note, Mr. Lucero told the Commission that the intern program was wonderful, and the interns were motivated and willing to learn. He recommends the intern program continues next year.

Commissioner McCall: Asked if July was the beginning of the new valuation period, or if it was January to January.

Jessie Lucero: Answered that January to January is the cycle period. Currently the appraisal staff is in the protest period.

Chairman Schwebach: Asked why the net new taxable value increased so drastically after 3 years of stagnation.

Jessie Lucero: He believes it is possibly because the Assessor's Office is doing a better job of paying attention to new value.

Torrance County is a non-disclosure state.

The August 4 hearing day for protest hearings have been rescheduled to October 26, 2022.

C. MANAGER: Discussion regarding the Torrance County Park Project for Submission of the Community Block Development Grant (CDBG.)

ACTION TAKEN:

Chairman Schwebach: Introduced the item and made a motion to enter a public hearing.

Commissioner Candelaria: Seconded the motion.

MOTION PASSED.

Public Hearing entered at approximately 12:51 PM.

Deputy County Manager Torres: Presented Torrance County Park project. It is based on the public's input and what the public wants. They are putting in for the planning grant this year, the design and construction next year. They want to make the Torrance County Park more accessible for the disabled and elderly. All public input has been about keeping the park as a day-use only park, putting in trails, more signage, a topo map, possibly bring it up to National Park standards. People currently don't go there because they don't feel safe.

Charlene Guffy, Torrance County Resident: She believes the safety problem is because there is a homeless problem since COVID started, several people have overdosed, there is trash dumping and overall is unsafe. She and her husband see many "questionable" people walking up and down the road. She believes crime has increased. She said a lot of people didn't know there is a Torrance County Park. She believes that weekend use approved by the Commissioners would be fine. She wants to know if it will be more attractive to questionable people. She wants to know if it must have water and who would supply the toilet paper in restrooms that must be available for use.

Deputy County Manager Torres: The answer to those questions needs to be found in the ADA (Americans with Disabilities Act) guidelines.

Charlene Guffy: Wants to know if the park can be gated until a grant is approved so that "questionable people" don't have access to it.

Chairman Schwebach: Assuming that there are questionable people up there is a big assumption. He is opposed to closing the park for the sake of closing the park. He is willing to have more checks and closing it down at night is a good idea. He would like the deed to be re-read so that they may find out if there are restrictions on what can be done with the land. If it is too much of a hassle, then it may be better to liquidate the asset.

Commissioner McCall: Agreed that the deed needs to be reviewed.

Charlene Guffy: The shredded trees and debris are a fire hazard.

Deputy County Manager Torres: Believes the grant could put in a nice fence instead of barbed wire. Every time he has been there it has been cut. He offered for the public to speak.

Rob Wagner, Libertarian Party Chair: The grant money-who are we beholden to and for how long?

Deputy County Manager Torres: It is federal CDGB grant money. They are bound to their plan, if they say they want to put in a picnic area, they must build one. They may not change after the plan is in place, nor can they

Rob Wagner: It may be best to liquidate the property.

Deputy County Manager Torres: If the public doesn't want to move forward, we would be all for scrapping the project and pulling the application.

James Collins, Torrance County Resident: Wanted to know that if there was no park there, if Torrance County would be looking into acquiring a park.

Chairman Schwebach: He is thinking that it is maybe more a liability than an asset.

James Collins: He wants Torrance County and the towns and state to be better. He wants to know where the line is.

Jenette Hunt, Torrance County Resident: Asked about the grant. Wants to know how the money is disbursed.

Deputy County Manager Torres: Explained that it is a reimbursable grant, where the County spends the money and then the Federal Government reimburses the County.

Charlene Guffy: Can the grant be used on the Youth Center or another project instead?

Deputy County Manager Torres: There are many things that this grant can be used for instead.

Charlene Guffy: Would rather focus on the youth.

Destry Hunt, Torrance County Resident, Editor Estancia News: He thinks about medium-term. He is worried about the incoming economic crisis. He thinks public safety is what this should be used for, and giving the money to the Sheriff.

Chellie Wallace, Executive Assistant, Torrance County Resident: Read the history of the Torrance County Park, and the fact that a shooting range was a requirement of the gift of land by the BLM (Bureau of Land Management.) The Mexican Bighorn Gun Club was formed in 1979. It was surveyed in 1981, and is one of the few sites that is approved by the Boy Scouts of America to do their primitive camping and Jamborees.

Commissioner McCall: Thinks that it is maybe best to lock it up.

Chairman Schwebach: Wants to hear from the public more, to see if anyone really wants a park,

Commissioner McCall: Wanted to know if it can be used for private training instead, since it is a stipulation that there be a shooting range on it.

ACTION TAKEN:

Chairman Schwebach: Made a motion to conclude the public hearing,

Commissioner Candelaria: Seconded the motion.

Roll Call Vote:

Commissioner Candelaria: Yes; **Chairman Schwebach:** Yes; **Commissioner McCall:** Yes.

Public Hearing Concluded at approximately 1:21 PM

D. MANAGER'S REPORT

Madam County Manager Barela: Wished Jeremy Oliver well in his new venture and spoke about openings with the County. Please visit www.torrancecountynm.org to apply for employment positions.

She wants to meet with those concerned about election integrity after the meeting about scheduling a meeting. (505) 544-4700 is her number and wants the public to feel free to call.

E. COMMISSIONERS' REPORTS

1) Commissioner McCall, District 1: Thanked Madam County Manager Barela for her help in speaking with the public and the legislators regarding election integrity.

Gave a shoutout to the County Fair and hopes that the public goes this week. Friday at 6 PM is the youth livestock sale.

McCall's Pumpkin Patch was chosen to be an advanced learning retreat. About 80 to 100 people from around the nation came. They were impressed with Torrance County and New Mexico.

2) Chairman Schwebach, District 2: Shout out to the County Fair and the Moriarty FFA. There should be one more Movie in the Park, he believes Crossley Park, this weekend.

Madam County Manager Barela sent a letter to the Secretary of State regarding Election Integrity but so far there has been no response. They are asking for help addressing concerns and acknowledging these concerns.

3) Commissioner Candelaria, District 3

Voting integrity is very important to everyone.

He wants to encourage people to go to the County Fair.

Kudos to Leonard of the Road Department. There are many washed out roads in the Lucy area.

14. EXECUTIVE SESSION

ACTION TAKEN:

Chairman Schwebach: Made a Motion to enter executive session pursuant to NMSA 10-15-1(H)(2).

Commissioner McCall: Seconded the motion.

Roll Call Vote:

Commissioner Candelaria: Yes; **Chairman Schwebach:** Yes; **Commissioner McCall:** Yes.

Executive Session entered at approximately 1:32 PM.

Return from Executive Session at approximately 2:32 PM.

Recording was not completed, no record of motion to return from executive session or to close meeting.

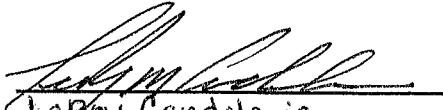
**15. Announcement of the next Board of County Commissioners Meeting:
WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 24, 2022, at 9:00 AM.**

16. SIGNING OF OFFICIAL DOCUMENTS

17. ADJOURN

MEETING ADJOURNED AT APPROXIMATELY 2:32 PM.

Signed By:



LeRoy Candelaria
Ryan Schwebach – Torrance

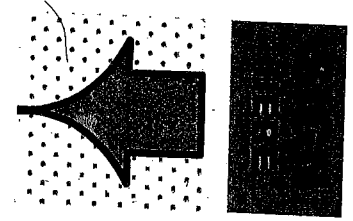
County Board of Commission

Vice Chairman



Valerie Smith – Administrative Assistant III,

Torrance County Clerk's Office



Date: 08/04 / 2022

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.