

FINAL COPY
Torrance County Board of Commissioners
Regular Commission Meeting
October 11, 2023
9:00 AM

Commissioners Present:

RYAN SCHWEBACH – COUNTY CHAIRMAN
KEVIN MCCALL – COUNTY VICE CHAIRMAN
SAMUEL SCHROPP – COUNTY COMMISSIONER

Others Present:

JANICE BARELA – MADAM COUNTY MANAGER
TRACY SEDILLO – DEPUTY COUNTY MANAGER
MICHAEL GARCIA – COUNTY ATTORNEY
LINDA JARAMILLO – COUNTY CLERK
GENELL MORRIS – ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT I
DONALD GOEN – COUNTY P&Z DIRECTOR

1. Call Meeting to order.

Ryan Schwebach – County Chairman: Calls the October 11, 2023, Regular Commission Meeting to order at 9:01 AM.

2. Pledge lead by: Ryan Schwebach – County Chairman

Invocation lead by: Samuel Schropp – County Commissioner

3. Changes to the Agenda:

Janice Barela – Madam County Manager: Defer 5. B, C, D, E. Individuals are unavailable. Also defer 13.A Sheriff will have presentation available at the next commission meeting.

4. PROCLAMATION:

A. DWI: Proclamation naming September as “Suicide Prevention Month” in Torrance County. (deferred from 9/27/2023)

Tracey Master-County DWI Program Coordinator: Read Proclamation:

Torrance County Board of County Commissioners

NAMING SEPTEMBER, as "SUICIDE PREVENTION AWARENESS MONTH"

WHEREAS, in the United States, over forty-eight thousand individuals died by suicide in 2021 and the number of deaths from suicide continues to increase, including in New Mexico, where five hundred and twenty individuals died by suicide,' and

WHEREAS, in New Mexico, suicide is the second leading cause of death for ages thirty-four and younger, the fourth leading cause of death for ages thirty-five to forty-four, the ninth leading cause of death for ages fifty-five to sixty-four, the fourteenth leading cause of death for ages sixty-five and older, and is the ninth leading cause of death in the state overall, with over fiftyeight percent of suicide deaths occurring by firearm,' and

WHEREAS, the tragic loss of someone to suicide has an enduring effect on loved ones, families, friends, and the community, regardless of age, gender, race, ethnicity, religion, or economic status, and the State of New Mexico acknowledges and remembers the precious lives of those lost to suicide and the countless individuals left behind to grieve their loss; and

WHEREAS, in 2022, New Mexico hospitals reported over two thousand emergency department visits related to suicide attempts and over eighteen thousand emergency department visits related to suicidal ideation; and

WHEREAS, suicide attempt survivors, providers, and researchers who study suicide recommend counseling to help find long-term strategies to ease the emotional pain that led to expressions of suicidal ideation and attempts; and

WHEREAS, mental health is part of overall physical health and emotional well-being and community-based behavioral health services that respond to individual and family needs are cost-effective, and beneficial to consumers and the community, and

WHEREAS, public awareness of the warning signs, risk factors, healthy help-seeking behaviors, services, and resources available for people at increased risk for suicide are essential to decreasing the rates of suicide in our communities across the state and is an important focus of the New Mexico Suicide Prevention Coalition,' and

WHEREAS, it is essential to share the message that it is always okay to ask for help and that individuals struggling with thoughts of suicide or self-harm should be encouraged and assisted in reaching out for help; and

WHEREAS, results of the 2021 New Mexico Youth Risk and Resiliency Survey (YRRS) indicated that 32.5% of Torrance County middle school students reported they had experienced frequent mental distress, 31.2% had seriously thought about killing themselves, 24% had made a plan to die by suicide, and 14.7% had attempted to die by suicide; and

WHEREAS, results of the 2021 New Mexico Youth Risk and Resiliency Survey (YRRS) indicated that 29% of Torrance County high school students reported that they had engaged in non-suicidal self-injury, 45% have felt sad or hopeless, 37.6% experienced frequent mental distress, 26.9% seriously thought about killing themselves, 22.3% had made a plan to die by suicide, 16.4% had attempted to die by suicide, and 7.1% - a rate that is more than double the state rate of 3.1% - reported that they had been injured in a suicide attempt,' and

WHEREAS, the following phone numbers are available to help.' The National Suicide Prevention Lifeline at 1-800-273-8255 or 988, the New Mexico Crisis and Access Line at 1-855-662-7474, and the Agora Crisis Line at 505-277-3013 or 855-505-4505; and

WHEREAS, the Partnership for a Healthy Torrance Community, located at the Memorial of Perpetual Tears, is working to address the impact of suicide and other health related issues; and

WHEREAS, strong relationships and cohesion are protective factors during life's challenges,' And

WHEREAS, one small act to show support, offer hope or build trust can make a difference and may save a life; and

WHEREAS, talking openly about stress and psychological health builds trust, reduces barriers to care, and enables early intervention,' and

WHEREAS, it is the duty of every citizen to respond to a call-to-action to change the way we discuss, perceive, and react to suicide and help-seeking,' and

WHEREAS, the collaboration of government agencies, health organizations, and public and private partners should be encouraged and supported.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that we, the members of the Board of County Commissioners of Torrance County, New Mexico, do hereby proclaim September 2023 as SUICIDE PREVENTION AWARENESS MONTH, recognizing that suicide is a serious public health issue.

Action Taken:

Ryan Schwebach – County Chairman: Motion to approve Proclamation naming September as “Suicide Prevention Month” in Torrance County.

Kevin McCall-County Vice Chair: Seconds the motion.

Roll Call Vote: Samuel Schropp – County Commissioner: - Yes: Ryan Schwebach – County Chairman: – Yes: Kevin McCall – County Vice Chairman: - Yes: **MOTION CARRIED**

5. CERTIFICATES AND AWARDS:

A. Recognition of Employee Service Year Pin: Deminica Garcia (2)

Janice Barela-Madam County Manager: Deminica Garcia is our Legal Assistant, Records Custodian, over sees all IPRA requests. She is the first Legal Assistant Torrance County has ever had. She has made this position what it is today. Deminica goes through great lengths for requested documents by the public. It is refreshing to know that I don't have to worry. I like to thank all the other departments for helping her get this accomplished. Thank you for your hard work.

B. Recognition of Employee Service Year Pin: Helen Gutierrez (2) -
Deferred

C. Recognition of Employee Service Year Pin: Matthew Martinez (2) -
Deferred

D. Recognition of Employee Service Year Pin: Alex Schwerdel (5) -
Deferred

E. Recognition of Employee Service Year Pin: Crystal Salas Garcia (10) -
Deferred

F. Recognition of Employee Service Award: Tracy Sedillo (35)

Janice Barela-Madam County Manager: Tracy started off in the Clerk's Office right out of high school. At that time, the Clerk's office was also the Finance Department. When Finance split off from the Clerk's office, Tracy moved with it and became the Controller AKA Finance Director. At one point was the Chief Deputy Treasurer, Deputy County Manger, Acting County Manager, back to the Chief Deputy Treasurer and then Elected County Treasurer, now Deputy County

Manager. I am thankful she submitted her name for her current position and pleased and honored this Commission appointed her as Deputy County Manager. After 35 years of service, I cannot fully explain what Tracy has meant to us here at the County. I have seen her hold her standards high, integrity in every office. She has fought hard, ensuring the County is following procedures properly. Her work ethic is unmatched. I appreciate you Tracy and everything you have done and are doing.

Tracy Sedillo-Deputy County Manager: Thank you, It doesn't feel like 35 years. I enjoy working here, it has been one of the best jobs I have ever had.

6. BOARD AND COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS:

A. PLANNING AND ZONING: Interviews for vacant, at-large Planning & Zoning Board Position. Candidates: Gilbert Sanchez and Justin Morga. (deferred from 9/27/2023)

Gilbert Sanchez - District 3 Resident: Thank you for the opportunity to interview for the at-large open seat of the Torrance County Planning & Zoning Board. I currently reside on a ranch with my wife North of the Village of Tajique. I have lived there for the past 5 ½ years. I am retired from the New Mexico Department of Transportation. My work experience includes a 20-year career in the United States Air Force and 13 years with the Texas Department of Transportation. I am currently a licensed professional engineer in the state of New Mexico. I believe my professional and personal experience working with the Road Department and development of my personal property uniquely qualify me for consideration to the Planning and Zoning Board. During my career as an engineer, I have had experience with land development adjacent to state roadways. I have personally interacted with the Torrance County Planning & Zoning office in the development of my home and the subdivision of my parents' ranch, including surveying for a plat for each property. I have briefly reviewed the Torrance County P & Z policy, understand the language used and have reviewed several of the documents. Please consider my letter of interest and interview for appointment to the P & Z Board. I will fairly and professionally provide my expertise to serve the citizens of Torrance County. Thank you for the opportunity to meet with you today.

Ryan Schwebach – County Chairman: What prompted you to look into this position?

Gilbert Sanchez - District 3 Resident: After I retired my workload went up, caring for my father and this will give me an opportunity for respite from that. It will also give me the opportunity to contribute to the County. I am also interested in land development issues.

Justin Morga – District 1 Resident: Absent

Ryan Schwebach – County Chairman: Currently what districts are represented on the P & Z Board?

Donald Goen-County P & Z Director: Currently four filled positions. Two from District 1, one from District 2 and one from District 3.

Action Taken:

Ryan Schwebach – County Chairman: Motion to appoint Gilbert Sanchez as at-large Planning & Zoning Board Member.

Samuel Schropp-County Commissioner: Seconds the motion.

Roll Call Vote: Samuel Schropp – County Commissioner: - Yes: Ryan Schwebach – County Chairman: – Yes: Kevin McCall – County Vice Chairman: - Yes: **MOTION CARRIED**

7. PUBLIC COMMENT and COMMUNICATIONS

Linda Jaramillo-County Clerk: Early voting began yesterday October 10, 2023, here in the Administrative building. There are signs directing voters to the back of the building for easier access and handicap accessibility. We have certified all the voting machines. Letters to the candidates and county party chairs were sent out as per the law. Rob Wagner from the Libertarian Party watched and filmed the process. We have two machines that need to be certified because they malfunctioned when we were certifying. One has come back and the other one will be back before the election. Everyone is welcome to come watch us certify the machines. This election is for all Municipalities, School Boards and Soil and Water Conservation Districts. Some are unopposed. The Alternate Voting site begins on October 30th, 2023, at the Moriarty Civic Center and ending November 4th, 2023. I encourage everyone to vote.

Ann Schropp – Resident: It has been mentioned that Torrance County has entered a boom cycle of wind, solar and marijuana farms bringing economic gains to the county. We have spoken about the problems that always comes with every type of economic boom. Some of those problems are already showing up. The Village of Encino is dealing with an unauthorized RV park for wind tower workers. Our Planning & Zoning Department is being properly supported and getting ahead of the curve on these problems. We are behind the curve with our emergency services. I went to a New Mexico County Government meeting, a meeting of Elected Officials in Socorro, New Mexico. Torrance County is known, but not in a good way. Sheriff, Fire and EMS have seen increasing calls for help, this will continue to increase. These departments must be supported to deal with what is coming. Getting highly qualified people at the helm of each department is crucial. Highly qualified people do not come cheap. I believe the County has already seen what we get with substandard wages. Let's not make that mistake again.

Samantha O'Dell-County Emergency Manager: We have been doing a big push to get emergency information out to the public as well as information on Code Red our emergency alert system. We had a booth at the Bean Fiesta on September 29th, 2023. We will be participating with tabletop exercises, the Holly Energy coming up in mid-October and participating in a multi-agency training with all of the Fire Departments within the county, later in October. We are also accepting volunteers for our civilian volunteer association program. The volunteers will help with sheltering needs, search and rescue missions, and any other events that Emergency Management is called out to. We are accepting applications.

Hanna Sanchez-Acting Fire Chief: On October 4th, 2023, I went before the FY 24 Fire Protection Grant Committee to defend our grant requests. As of October 5th, 2023, all grants for the County were awarded totaling \$580,073.09. Before you is a quote from TNT Tech LLC, fire sprinkler contractors. District 2 was renovated two years ago with the Fire Protection Grant Funding. I am working with SFMO to see if we can relocate our paid staff for sleeping purposes only to that building as a CID bid did declare it as a residential rating. Currently the SFMO is looking to CID to verify that was an accurate rating. They feel it is used as business/commercial and still needs a sprinkler system. I am waiting for that, but I went ahead and got a quote. This one is in the amount of \$640,888.00, this includes everything. Indian Hills does have a water system, we can tie into, however there are one of two conditions. 1. We can sell the well or 2. Pay \$20,000 to tie into the water system. This will allow a 30-minute fire suppression for Indian Hills Fire Station.

Lawrence and Deborah Romero - Residents: I have been in the county for 12 years. We have 17 acres in Abo', purchased in 2018. In the last 6 years we have been broken into 8 times with a total of \$30,000 loss of equipment including two trailers. These thefts continue to happen for four reasons. 1. My negligence in not taking care of the property as best as I could. Being away from it is a problem. 2. The policy of this administration to not give an address to a property unless you live on it. This keeps me from getting insurance and have to give a general description of where the property is located. 3. The zoning does not allow me to live on my property unless I have a residence there. 4. The lack of Sheriff's presence in the area. Each time I was broken into, I called the Sheriff's office to report these thefts and the only help I got was the case number. They never came to the property. At the last break in, about a week ago, the Sheriff's deputy blamed me for the problem. Asking me why I didn't have cameras, I said, really that's your answer, you blame the victim here. Because I didn't provide cameras then its my fault. I think the Sheriff needs to look into providing service to the Abo' area. I don't think they do. I have been very angry about all this, my first response it to load the shot gun. I try to remember these are just material things. They are just pieces of property that no one cares about except me and my wife. Are our taxes not equivalent to the rest of the County? Abo needs help. There are some serious issues. I'd appreciate it if the next time you evaluate the Sheriff's office, ask them about that. Ask them where they are spending their resources, especially on the far end of the County.

Samuel Schropp-County Commissioner: You are in my district; I'd be happy to come out and speak with you and help you with your concern.

Tamera Rosenburg – Resound Networks: Resound Networks is an internet service provider. We received a Rural Development Opportunity Fund Grant from the FCC for the State of New Mexico in the amount of \$55 million dollars. Torrance County received \$15.7 million dollars. We are obligated to spend that money in your county to develop a broadband speed network. Torrance County got the largest amount in the state. I have been in communication with your County Manager. Eventually, I would like to propose we make a formal presentation to your County Commission explaining what it is we would like to help you with and get your feedback and ensure we are building a network that services you in the best possible way.

Tracey Master-County DWI Program Coordinator: September 21st, 2023, will be our 6th Annual Torrance County Suicide Prevention 5K and Embrace Life Celebration at Lake Arther Park in Estancia from 9:00 am to 3:00 pm. We have 50 vendors, crafters, and exhibitors, free to set up. We are needing volunteers. In the past it was the DWI prevention program and the Domestic Violence program that helped and now it's just me. This is being put on with the Partnership for a Healthier Torrance Community and Memorial of Perpetual Tears. We will have hotdogs, chips and water, signs with statistical information. In the time I have been with the DWI Prevention Program we have not had a Commissioner attend one of our events. I ask you change that trend and come and see some of the things we do in the community. We appreciate your support.

8. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A. COMMISSION: Request approval of minutes of the September 13, 2023, Regular Meeting of the Board of County Commissioners.

Action Taken:

Kevin McCall-County Vice Chair: Motion to approve minutes of the September 13, 2023, Regular Meeting of the Board of County Commissioners.

Samuel Schropp-County Commissioner: Seconds the motion.

Roll Call Vote: Samuel Schropp – County Commissioner: - Yes: Ryan Schwebach – County Chairman: – Yes: Kevin McCall – County Vice Chairman: - Yes: **MOTION CARRIED**

B. COMMISSION: Request approval of minutes of the September 27, 2023, Regular Meeting of the Board of County Commissioners.

Action Taken:

Samuel Schropp-County Commissioner: Motion to approve minutes of the August 23, 2023, Regular Meeting of the Board of County Commissioners.

Kevin McCall-County Vice Chair: Seconds the motion.

Roll Call Vote: Samuel Schropp – County Commissioner: - Yes: Ryan Schwebach – County Chairman: – Abstain was absent: Kevin McCall – County Vice Chairman: -Yes: **MOTION CARRIED**

9. APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA

A. PLANNING & ZONING: Request approval of Zia Ranch, LLC RV Park.

Donald Goen-County P & Z Director: This was unanimously approved by the Board. This was professionally done, well planned out. I did recommend approval of this application. This is north of Corona. This will address the RV needs for the wind farm workers. Pattern is eagerly waiting for this so they can start utilizing the service. They will start with 90 slots; the infrastructure is there. Corona is supplying the water, two different ways to ingress and egress in case of emergency, and solid waste will be provided by Corona. They have letters of agreement and intent to serve.

Action Taken:

Ryan Schwebach – County Chairman: Motion to approve Zia Ranch, LLC RV Park.

Samuel Schropp-County Commissioner: Seconds the motion.

Roll Call Vote: Samuel Schropp – County Commissioner: - Yes: Ryan Schwebach – County Chairman: – Yes: Kevin McCall – County Vice Chairman: -Yes:

MOTION CARRIED

B. FINANCE & PURCHASING: Request approval of payables September 27, 2023.

Action Taken:

Ryan Schwebach – County Chairman: Motion to approve payables September 27, 2023.

Samuel Schropp-County Commissioner: Seconds the motion.

Roll Call Vote: Samuel Schropp – County Commissioner: - Yes: Ryan Schwebach – County Chairman: – Yes: Kevin McCall – County Vice Chairman: -Yes:

MOTION CARRIED

C. FINANCE & PURCHASING: Request approval of payables October 11,2023.

Action Taken:

Ryan Schwebach – County Chairman: Motion to approve payables October 11,2023.

Kevin McCall – County Vice Chairman: Seconds the motion.

Roll Call Vote: Samuel Schropp – County Commissioner: - Yes: Ryan Schwebach – County Chairman: – Yes: Kevin McCall – County Vice Chairman: -Yes:

MOTION CARRIED

D. MANAGER: Request approval of Restrictive Housing Report – Third Quarter 2023

Janice Barela-Madam County Manager: The last time a similar report was presented before this Commission, a question came up whether or not any females were in restrictive housing, because none were reported. On this report you will see no females listed. We reached out to Core Civic; they said this is accurate. This would include females if there were any in restrictive housing.

Action Taken:

Ryan Schwebach – County Chairman: Motion to approve Restrictive Housing Report – Third Quarter 2023

Kevin McCall – County Vice Chairman: Seconds the motion.

Roll Call Vote: Samuel Schropp – County Commissioner: - Yes: Ryan Schwebach – County Chairman: – Yes: Kevin McCall – County Vice Chairman: -Yes:

MOTION CARRIED

**10. ADOPTION OF ORDINANCE/AMENDMENT TO COUNTY CODE:
None**

11. ADOPTION OF RESOLUTION

A. MANAGER: Resolution 2023-32 Budget Adjustments FY 2023.

Tracy Sedillo-Deputy County Manager: We are requesting this budget adjusting due to reporting issues with the Law Enforcement Recruitment and Retention money we received. We became non-compliant because it was not reported correctly in the local government budget management system. That was not completely on us, the appropriate line items were not available in the system. DFA has asked us to correct this and in order to do that we need this resolution.

Action Taken:

Ryan Schwebach – County Chairman: Motion to approve Resolution 2023-32 Budget Adjustments FY 2023.

Samuel Schropp-County Commissioner: Seconds the motion.

Roll Call Vote: Samuel Schropp – County Commissioner: - Yes: Ryan Schwebach – County Chairman: – Yes: Kevin McCall – County Vice Chairman: -Yes:

MOTION CARRIED

- B. PLANNING & ZONING:** Resolution 2023-33 Debris removal on Lot F-55 in Echo Ridge Subdivision, Washington Loop. (deferred from 9/27/2023)

Dan DeCosta-P & Z Code Enforcement: This property was affected by fire and has been abandoned. We cannot find an owner. Everything is destroyed, its mostly metal. This will be a fairly cheap cleanup. We finished the fifth cleanup, and I am keeping an eye on the cost for these cleanups. If we were getting close to our budget we would put a stop to it. Most of the properties we will not get restitution, people are dead, have arrest warrants or don't have the money.

Action Taken:

Ryan Schwebach – County Chairman: Motion to approve Resolution 2023-33 debris removal on Lot F-55 in Echo Ridge Subdivision, Washington Loop.

Kevin McCall – County Vice Chairman: Seconds the motion.

Roll Call Vote: Samuel Schropp – County Commissioner: - Yes: Ryan Schwebach – County Chairman: – Yes: Kevin McCall – County Vice Chairman: -Yes:

MOTION CARRIED

- C. **PLANNING & ZONING:** Resolution 2023-34 Debris removal on Lot 8 of Tranquil Valley Subdivision, 11 Calle Linda Loop. (deferred from 9/27/2023)

Dan DeCosta-P & Z Code Enforcement: This was a meth lab about 15 years ago when it blew up and caught fire. We had a resolution on this in 2014, I didn't get a chance to look at the paperwork. I believe the state was giving us money and then they stopped, so we were unable to clean it up.

Action Taken:

Ryan Schwebach – County Chairman: Motion to approve Resolution 2023-34 debris removal on Lot 8 of Tranquil Valley Subdivision, 11 Calle Linda Loop.

Kevin McCall – County Vice Chairman: Seconds the motion.

Roll Call Vote: Samuel Schropp – County Commissioner: - Yes: Ryan Schwebach – County Chairman: – Yes: Kevin McCall – County Vice Chairman: -Yes:

MOTION CARRIED

- D. **PLANNING & ZONING:** Resolution 2023-35 Debris removal on Lot 71 of El Rancho Grande subdivision, 1024 Salt Missions Trail. (deferred from 9/27/2023)

Dan DeCosta-P & Z Code Enforcement: People have come in and took the metal, it is falling down. This goes back 15 years.

Action Taken:

Ryan Schwebach – County Chairman: Motion to approve Resolution 2023-35 debris removal on Lot 71 of El Rancho Grande subdivision, 1024 Salt Missions Trail.

Samuel Schropp-County Commissioner: Seconds the motion.

Roll Call Vote: Samuel Schropp – County Commissioner: - Yes: Ryan Schwebach – County Chairman: – Yes: Kevin McCall – County Vice Chairman: -Yes:

MOTION CARRIED

E. PLANNING & ZONING: Resolution 2023-36 Debris removal on Lot F-47 in Echo Ridge subdivision, 20 North Dakota. (deferred from 9/27/2023)

Dan DeCosta-P & Z Code Enforcement: The fire in Echo Ridge destroyed it. This will be an easy clean up. A guy was living there and now we can't find him.

Action Taken:

Ryan Schwebach – County Chairman: Motion to approve Resolution 2023-36 debris removal on Lot F-47 in Echo Ridge subdivision, 20 North Dakota.

Samuel Schropp-County Commissioner: Seconds the motion.

Roll Call Vote: Samuel Schropp – County Commissioner: - Yes: Ryan Schwebach – County Chairman: – Yes: Kevin McCall – County Vice Chairman: -Yes:

MOTION CARRIED

F.PLANNING & ZONING: Resolution 2023-37 Debris removal on Lot C, Block H, Tract C, Bella Vista Subdivision Echo Ridge subdivision, 235 Road 102.

Dan DeCosta-P & Z Code Enforcement: The son of the owner was living on the property, there was a lot of law enforcement issues. The place burnt down. There is an arrest warrant for him. If he gets picked up we could probably get some restitution but most likely he is out of the state.

Action Taken:

Ryan Schwebach – County Chairman: Motion to approve Resolution 2023-37 debris removal on Lot C, Block H, Tract C, Bella Vista Subdivision Echo Ridge subdivision, 235 Road 102.

Kevin McCall – County Vice Chairman: Seconds the motion.

Roll Call Vote: Samuel Schropp – County Commissioner: - Yes: Ryan Schwebach – County Chairman: – Yes: Kevin McCall – County Vice Chairman: -Yes:

MOTION CARRIED

G.PLANNING & ZONING: Resolution 2023-38 Debris removal on Lot 43 Antelope Springs Subdivision, 170 Sam Ford Drive.

Dan DeCosta-P & Z Code Enforcement: This is a bad one. I came in contact with this one within the last 10 years, we were never able to find anyone on it. This one had a roof ready to collapse.

Action Taken:

Ryan Schwebach – County Chairman: Motion to approve Resolution 2023-38 debris removal on Lot 43 Antelope Springs Subdivision, 170 Sam Ford Drive.

Kevin McCall – County Vice Chairman: Seconds the motion.

Roll Call Vote: Samuel Schropp – County Commissioner: - Yes: Ryan Schwebach – County Chairman: – Yes: Kevin McCall – County Vice Chairman: -Yes:

MOTION CARRIED

H.PLANNING & ZONING: Resolution 2023-39 Debris removal on Lot 28 El Rancho Grande Subdivision.

Dan DeCosta-P & Z Code Enforcement: The owners of the property live in Arizona; they are not the ones that put this home here. The guy that put it there has been dead for years. He put the mobile home on the wrong lot. The roof blew off of it, and lots of trash.

Action Taken:

Ryan Schwebach – County Chairman: Motion to approve Resolution 2023-39 debris removal on Lot 28 El Rancho Grande Subdivision.

Kevin McCall – County Vice Chairman: Seconds the motion.

Roll Call Vote: Samuel Schropp – County Commissioner: - Yes: Ryan Schwebach – County Chairman: – Yes: Kevin McCall – County Vice Chairman: -Yes:

MOTION CARRIED

I.PLANNING & ZONING: Resolution 2023-40 Debris removal on Lot 20-Meadow Woods Subdivision, 180 Paradise Meadow.

Dan DeCosta-P & Z Code Enforcement: This one has been abandoned for years. I traced them out of state a couple of years ago. Notice of values were sent out and nothing came of it. I believe it was a couple, I found divorce paperwork but nothing else. We have had a lot of complaints; it is in an area where people take reasonable care of their properties.

Action Taken:

Ryan Schwebach – County Chairman: Motion to approve Resolution 2023-40 debris removal on Lot 20 Meadow Woods Subdivision, 180 Paradise Meadow.

Samuel Schropp-County Commissioner: Seconds the motion.

Roll Call Vote: Samuel Schropp – County Commissioner: - Yes: Ryan Schwebach – County Chairman: – Yes: Kevin McCall – County Vice Chairman: -Yes:

MOTION CARRIED

- J. PLANNING & ZONING:** Resolution 2023-41 Debris removal on Lot 17 Antelope Springs Subdivision.

Dan DeCosta-P & Z Code Enforcement: I had made contact with the daughter 10 or 12 years ago; we were never able to get a hold of her parents. They were both in a home at the time, they are probably not alive. This has been sitting there for years.

Action Taken:

Ryan Schwebach – County Chairman: Motion to approve Resolution 2023-41 debris removal on Lot 17 Antelope Springs Subdivision.

Kevin McCall – County Vice Chairman: Seconds the motion.

Roll Call Vote: Samuel Schropp – County Commissioner: - Yes: Ryan Schwebach – County Chairman: – Yes: Kevin McCall – County Vice Chairman: -Yes:

MOTION CARRIED

12. APPROVALS

- A. GRANTS:** Request approval of Amendment No. 6 Professional Services Contract, Estancia Valley Youth & Family Council (EVYFC) Juvenile Justice Continuum Coordinator.

Amanda Lujan - Grants Administrator: I am requesting approval of a contract amendment for Rebecca Armstrong. The request is to increase the total contract from \$44,857 to \$47,605 this is an increase of \$2,748, as well as change the end of term for the contract to December 2023 from June 30th.

Ryan Schwebach – County Chairman: Why is this an amendment and not a contract?

Janice Barela-Madam County Manager: She has a current contract; this is extending it so we can pay her for additional services. This is covered by the grant. There are no matching funds the County has to give. We want to make sure services are taken care of through December. One of the issues that we found, as we are working towards renewing contracts, has been through to the fiscal year. We are trying to get this established in a better way to not have a gap in services.

Amanda Lujan - Grants Administrator: The scope of work will remain the same.

Janice Barela-Madam County Manager: Rebecca Armstrong is providing more services within the schools from what she has previously done. The scope of work remains the same and she is doing more training.

Amanda Lujan - Grants Administrator: Under Rebecca's direction the program has almost quadrupled in the past three years. Her job has increased significantly. We serve almost every school district in the county. We will be adding more facilitators to include Mountainair.

Action Taken:

Ryan Schwebach – County Chairman: Motion to approve Amendment No. 6 Professional Services Contract, Estancia Valley Youth & Family Council (EYVFC) Juvenile Justice Continuum Coordinator.

Samuel Schropp-County Commissioner: Seconds the motion.

Roll Call Vote: Samuel Schropp – County Commissioner: - Yes: Ryan Schwebach – County Chairman: – Yes: Kevin McCall – County Vice Chairman: -Yes:

MOTION CARRIED

B. SHERIFF: Request ratification of FY2024 application for Traffic Safety Grant to fund ENDWI, BKLUP and STEP programs.

Cheryl Allen-County Sheriff Executive Assistant: I submitted the application. It was the first step in the process. The second step is to negotiate with the safety liaison to determine what funding will be available and the planned activities. They have indicated that the funding will be awarded at the level of last year. We are

looking at \$6,048 for ENDWI, \$2,814 for BKLUP And \$2,066 for STEP. This will be part of the negotiations. We will try to increase this funding to have DWI check points. The activities will also be in negotiations, last year most of the programs had over time scheduled.

Action Taken:

Ryan Schwebach – County Chairman: Motion to approve ratification of FY2024 application for Traffic Safety Grant to fund ENDWI, BKLUP and STEP programs.

Kevin McCall – County Vice Chairman: Seconds the motion.

Roll Call Vote: Samuel Schropp – County Commissioner: - Yes: Ryan Schwebach – County Chairman: – Yes: Kevin McCall – County Vice Chairman: -Yes:

MOTION CARRIED

C. SHERIFF: Request acceptance of the FY2024 Law Enforcement Recruitment Fund award of \$393,750.00 to fund salaries and benefits of new hires in the Sheriff's Office and Dispatch over a three-year period.

Cheryl Allen-County Sheriff Executive Assistant: This grant is to provide salaries and benefits for up to five hires in the Sheriff's Office and five hires in Dispatch as long as funding is available. These positions have already been approved and are in the budget. The total funding is for a three-year period. Year 1 \$225,000; Year 2 \$112,500; Year 3 \$56,350. Up in the air is whether we will be able to use this for deputies hired prior to the agreement being fully executed.

Action Taken:

Ryan Schwebach – County Chairman: Motion to approve acceptance of the FY2024 Law Enforcement Recruitment Fund award of \$393,750.00 to fund salaries and benefits of new hires in the Sheriff's Office and Dispatch over a three-year period.

Samuel Schropp-County Commissioner: Seconds the motion.

Roll Call Vote: Samuel Schropp – County Commissioner: - Yes: Ryan Schwebach – County Chairman: – Yes: Kevin McCall – County Vice Chairman: -Yes:

MOTION CARRIED

Cheryl Allen-County Sheriff Executive Assistant: Tracy Sedillo and I created a spreadsheet to clarify each grant. This spreadsheet gives the full name of the grant, internal Torrance County name, funding agency and contact. The first grant is the Law Enforcement Protection Fund (LEPF) this has been around for years and funds training and field equipment purchases for the Sheriff's Office. This one is stable, and we will continue to reference it as LEPF. For the next three we will not accept any initialism for them. Law Enforcement Retention fund will be known as LE – Retention within Torrance County. This grant is determined by a formula, every 5, 10 and 15 years, deputies would receive a bonus if they reached that time. The amount of the bonus will be determined at the 4, 8- and 14-year mark. The third one is called LE- Retention & Recruitment within Torrance County, originally called LEF now the state is calling it LERF. This one comes through DFA, its paid over three years. It is to provide stipends for recruitment and retention to the different deputies as determined by the Sheriff. The last one is the one you just approved. We are calling it LE-Recruitment, it is through DFA. This is to pay salaries and benefits for new hires within the Sheriffs and Dispatch Offices.

D. FINANCE & PURCHASING: Request approval and acceptance of TC-FY24-02 Girls Circle RFP

Toni Lowery-Chief Procurement Officer: We had one submission, evaluated it, and accepted it. There is a contract in your packet. This is one of the facilitators that will be in the schools.

Amanda Lujan - Grants Administrator: CYDF provides funding to the Juvenile Justice Grants to provide programing at locations we determine. The Girls Circle facilitator goes to Estancia Valley Classical Academy, schools in the Moriarty School District, and Estancia Middle School. She facilitates activities with the school kids to help them learn about social skills, social and emotional health, and emotional intelligence. This is a preventive program to deter bullying and fights. This is our fourth year of the grant.

Action Taken:

Ryan Schwebach – County Chairman: Motion to approve and accept of TC-FY24-02 Girls Circle RFP

Samuel Schropp-County Commissioner: Seconds the motion.

Roll Call Vote: Samuel Schropp – County Commissioner: - Yes: Ryan Schwebach – County Chairman: – Yes: Kevin McCall – County Vice Chairman: -Yes:
MOTION CARRIED

E. FINANCE & PURCHASING: Request approval and acceptance of TC-FY-24-03 Boys Council Facilitator RFP

Toni Lowery-Chief Procurement Officer: This is the mirror of what we just spoke about but for the boys. He will go into the schools and address the same concerns.

Action Taken:

Ryan Schwebach – County Chairman: Motion to approve and accept of TC-FY-24-03 Boys Council Facilitator RFP

Samuel Schropp-County Commissioner: Seconds the motion.

Roll Call Vote: Samuel Schropp – County Commissioner: - Yes: Ryan Schwebach – County Chairman: – Yes: Kevin McCall – County Vice Chairman: -Yes:

MOTION CARRIED

F. EMERGENCY MANAGER: Request approval of Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) between Torrance County and City of Moriarty for Winter 2023-2024 Emergency Shelter.

Samantha O’Dell-County Emergency Manager: We had been meeting with the City of Moriarty and have come up with a plan for a winter shelter if needed for this winter 2023-2024. We have identified in the agreement what the County and City’s responsibilities will be. The City will allow us to use the Civic Center as a winter shelter.

Action Taken:

Kevin McCall – County Vice Chairman: Motion to approve Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) between Torrance County and City of Moriarty for Winter 2023-2024 Emergency Shelter.

Samuel Schropp-County Commissioner: Seconds the motion.

Roll Call Vote: Samuel Schropp – County Commissioner: - Yes: Ryan Schwebach – County Chairman: – Yes: Kevin McCall – County Vice Chairman: -Yes:
MOTION CARRIED

13. DISCUSSION

A. SHERIFF: Update on progress made and presentation/discussion of Sheriff Frazee’s Five-Year Plan 2023-2028. - Deferred

B. MANAGER’S REPORT

Janice Barela-Madam County Manager: - None

C. COMMISSIONERS’ REPORTS

1) Kevin McCall – County Vice Chairman, District 1

Kevin McCall-County Vice Chair: - None

2) Commissioner Schwebach, District

Ryan Schwebach-County Chairman: - None

3) Samuel Schropp – County Commissioner, District 3

Samuel Schropp-County Commissioner: Anne and I attended a New Mexico County Board of Directors Meeting in Socorro. I also attended a presentation at New Mexico Tech by the Explosives Mining Research and Technologies College. This college is the premier facility in the country for training First Responders in responding to explosive devices and in researching and investigating explosions. They offer free training to First Responders from all over the country. They bring in agencies and teams from different University’s around the Country. We had dinner with other Elected Officials in the State and learned about different

Counties. I brought back the agenda packet from the board meeting, and it will be in the Manager's Office if anyone wants to see it. There is information concerning the County Clerk and proposed changes to the marriage license law. The board gets together and makes proposed changes to legislation for the upcoming Legislative Session. A presentation by the Pecos Valley Drug Task Force spoke about the problem with fentanyl coming across the border and what they are trying to do to get that stopped. Torrance County is part of a high incident drug traffic area. There was a presentation from the supervisor from this area. There is a lot of training and money available through that program to all of our EMS, not just Sheriff's Department. They had a presentation by two supervisors from Customs and Border Patrol. One from El Paso and one from Alamogordo. There is a facility in El Paso with a capacity of 4000 people which has segregated facilities for families, free access for children to playgrounds, a 24-hour kitchen and separate facilities for men and women or women that may be at risk. Customs and Border Patrol said that 10% of the people coming across the border are criminals. Anyone can ask for asylum. I am learning that Torrance County Detention Facility is getting a lot of that 10% who are criminals. I finished my FEMA 100, 200, 700 and 800 then went to an OSHA 10-hour course.

14. EXECUTIVE SESSION:

- A. COMMISSION:** Discussion regarding the appointment of Fire Chief, closed pursuant to NMSA Section 10-15-14(H)(2).
- B. COMMISSION:** Review candidates' letters of interest/ documentation, interviews, and discussion regarding the appointment of Torrance County Treasurer, closed pursuant to NMSA Section 10-15-14(H)(2).

Action Taken:

Ryan Schwebach – County Chairman: Motion to move into Executive Session

Kevin McCall – County Vice Chairman: Seconds the motion.

Roll Call Vote: Samuel Schropp – County Commissioner: - Yes: Ryan Schwebach – County Chairman: – Yes: Kevin McCall – County Vice Chairman: -Yes:

MOTION CARRIED

11:06 AM

Action Taken:

Ryan Schwebach – County Chairman: Motion to move into Regular Session

Kevin McCall – County Vice Chairman: Seconds the motion.

Roll Call Vote: Samuel Schropp – County Commissioner: - Yes: Ryan Schwebach – County Chairman: – Yes: Kevin McCall – County Vice Chairman: -Yes:

MOTION CARRIED

1:39 PM

Ryan Schwebach – County Chairman: In Executive Session we discussed two items concerned: A. Fire Chief, closed pursuant to NMSA Section 10-15-14(H)(2). B. Discussion regarding the appointing of County Treasurer, closed pursuant to NMSA Section 10-15-14(H)(2).

15. DISCUSSION AND ACTION ON EXECUTIVE SESSION ITEMS ABOVE

A. COMMISSION: Discussion and possible appointment of Fire Chief.

Ryan Schwebach – County Chairman: In Executive Session we presented an offer to Mr. Kenny Snow. We are waiting on his response. Madam County Manager will move forward with further direction.

B. COMMISSION: Discussion and possible appointment of Torrance County Treasurer

Action Taken:

Ryan Schwebach – County Chairman: Motion the appoint Kathryn Hernandez at the Torrance County Treasurer for the remainder of the term.

Samuel Schropp-County Commissioner: Seconds the motion.

Roll Call Vote: Samuel Schropp – County Commissioner: - Yes: Ryan Schwebach – County Chairman: – Yes: Kevin McCall – County Vice Chairman: -Yes:

MOTION CARRIED

16. Announcement of the next Board of County Commissioners Meeting:

Regular Commission Meeting October 25, 2023, 9:00 AM, Torrance County Admin Building.

17. Signing of Official Documents

18. Adjourn.

Action Taken:

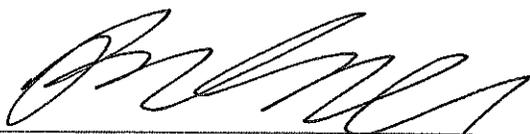
Ryan Schwebach – County Chairman: Motion to adjourn.

Kevin McCall – County Vice Chairman: Seconds the motion.

Roll Call Vote: Samuel Schropp – County Commissioner: - Yes: Ryan Schwebach – County Chairman: – Yes: Kevin McCall – County Vice Chairman: -Yes:

MOTION CARRIED

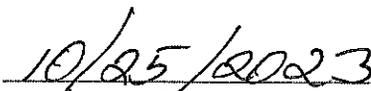
Meeting adjourned at 1:40 PM



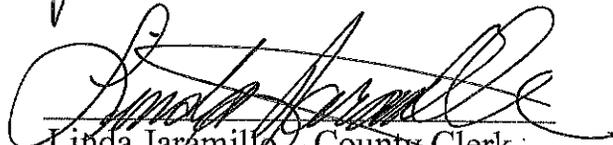
Ryan Schwebach - Chairman



Genell Morris – Admin Assistant



Date



Linda Jaramillo - County Clerk

The Video of this meeting can be viewed in its entirety on the Torrance County NM website. (torrancecountynm.org)