

VALENCIA COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

HOSPITAL WORKSHOP

SEPTEMBER 9, 2019

PRESENT	ABSENT
Jhonathan Aragon, Chairman	
David Carlberg, Vice-Chair	
David A. Hyder, Member	
Charles D. Eaton, Member	
Gerard Saiz, Member	
Danny Monette, County Manager	
Adren Nance & Dave Pato, County Attorneys	
Peggy Carabajal, County Clerk	
Press and Public	

1) The meeting was called to order by Chairman Aragon at 10:03 A.M.

2) Ms. Ann Jones led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Chairman Aragon welcomed Senator Sanchez, Representative Armstrong, Senator Baca, Mayor Cordova from Belen, Mayor Olguin from Peralta, Mayor Gwinn from Rio Communities, and Mayor Griego from Los Lunas who were present at the meeting and Representative Fajardo and Senator Stefanics who were joining via conference call.

3) Approval of Agenda

Commissioner Saiz moved for approval. Seconded by Commissioner Carlberg. Roll call vote. Commissioner Eaton voted yes. Commissioner Hyder voted yes. Commissioner Saiz voted yes. Commissioner Carlberg voted yes. Chairman Aragon voted yes. Motion carried 5-0.

PUBLIC COMMENT

M. Kennedy commented that she had been a nurse for many years, many of the patients that go to Socorro get transferred to Presbyterian or UNMH.

Richard Patterson commented that he is against a hospital in the area, there are not enough patients in the area to cover the cost.

Ann Jones commented that the commission should allow the public to have the ability to ask questions later in the meeting.

Tom Mraz commented that the hospital matter is going on and on, no one is interested in applying so it's time to give the money back. The mill levy funds should be earning a higher interest rate, the county is not being good stewards of the public's money.

Michelle Tafoya commented that she is tired of waiting for the hospital to actually happen. UNM should have been courted as they are the most innovative hospital in the state. The community health profile needs to be updated.

Leisa Haynes commented that she heard that the last RFP required that prisoners be serviced before the public. She stated that she is a good recruiter so she can help recruit a hospital.

Abel Romero commented that a hospital is not the solution to medical healthcare needs in the county. Rural hospitals all over the country are struggling. The county needs to invest in transportation services for the primary/specialty care of county residents.

DISCUSSION (NON-ACTION) ITEM(S):

4) Hospital in Valencia County

Mr. Pato briefly discussed the history of the hospital to the point where it is today. The county had recently put out an RFP for a second time but did not get any responses. He stated that the Department of Health's definition of what constitutes a hospital may be an issue. Mr. Porter stated that two major providers had some reservations so they did not submit a response to the second RFP. Everyone agreed that the healthcare system and

the needs have evolved since the mill levy was first approved. Topics discussed included the need for a hospital, type of facility needed, refunding the mill levy, approaching DOH and asking for a definition change, possibility of repurposing the mill levy funds. Senator Sanchez, Senator Baca, Representative Armstrong and Representative Fajardo all offered their assistance and expressed their willingness to help the county, the county needs to decide what route they want to take and have a specific task for the legislature to get behind and lobby for. Chairman Aragon opened the floor for the public to comment. The individuals that spoke and expressed their opinion on the matter included:

- Tom Mraz
- Ann Jones
- Frank Ortega
- Michelle Tafoya
- Leisa Haynes
- Abel Romero

The commission thanked everyone for coming out to the meeting today and stated that the board is dedicated to finding a solution and getting the hospital done. (See Exhibit A)

NEXT COMMISSION MEETING:

September 18, 2019- Public Hearing/Business Meeting @ 5:00 P.M.
Valencia County Commission Chambers, 444 Luna Ave., Los Lunas, NM 87031

October 2, 2019- Business Meeting @ 5:00 P.M.
Valencia County Commission Chambers, 444 Luna Ave., Los Lunas, NM 87031


October 16, 2019- Public Hearing/Business Meeting @ 5:00 P.M.
Valencia County Commission Chambers, 444 Luna Ave., Los Lunas, NM 87031

5) Adjournment


Commissioner Hyder moved for adjournment. Seconded by Commissioner Eaton. Roll call vote. Commissioner Eaton voted yes. Commissioner Hyder voted yes. Commissioner Saiz voted yes. Commissioner Carlberg voted yes. Chairman Aragon voted yes. Motion carried 5-0. **TIME: 11:44 A.M.**

NOTE: All proposals, documents, items, etc., pertaining to items on the agenda of the September 9, 2019 Hospital Workshop (presented to the Board of County Commissioners) are attached in consecutive order as stated in these minutes.

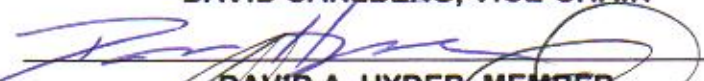
VALENCIA COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS




JHONATHAN ARAGON, CHAIRMAN



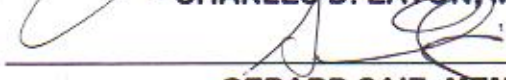
DAVID CARLBERG, VICE-CHAIR



DAVID A. HYDER, MEMBER



CHARLES D. EATON, MEMBER



GERARD SAIZ, MEMBER



ATTEST:



PEGGY CARABAJAL, COUNTY CLERK

10-2-2019
DATE