

VALENCIA COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

PUBLIC HEARING - BUSINESS MEETING

APRIL 19, 2023

Valencia County Commission Chambers, 444 Luna Ave., Los Lunas, NM 87031

PRESENT	ABSENT
Gerard Saiz, Chairman	
Jhonathan Aragon, Vice-Chair (via Zoom)	
	Morris Sparkman, Member
Troy Richardson, Member	
Joseph Bizzell, Member	
Orlando Montoya, HR Director	Danny Monette, County Manager
Adren Nance & Dave Pato, County Attorneys	
Mike Milam, County Clerk	
Press and Public	

1) The meeting was called to order by Chairman Saiz at 5:00 PM

2) Gail Goodman led the Pledge of Allegiance.

3) Approval of Agenda

Commissioner Bizzell moved for approval. Seconded by Commissioner Richardson. Roll call vote. Commissioner Richardson voted yes. Commissioner Bizzell voted yes. Commissioner Aragon voted yes. Chairman Saiz voted yes. Motion carried 4-0.

4) Approval of Minutes: April 5, 2023- Business Meeting

Commissioner Richardson moved for approval. Seconded by Commissioner Bizzell. Roll call vote. Commissioner Richardson voted yes. Commissioner Bizzell voted yes. Commissioner Aragon voted yes. Chairman Saiz voted yes. Motion carried 4-0.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

None

DISCUSSION (NON-ACTION) ITEM(S):

5) Commissioners, Committees and Reports.

Ms. Benavidez reported on the NM 104/Jarales bridge closure, BNSF has given a 30-day notice to NMDOT on May 8th both sides of the tracks will be closed with construction anticipated to start summer 2023 and the bridge will not reopen until late 2024 or early 2025.

PRESENTATION:

Quarterly Report – Extension Office. Presenter: Sierra Cain, Sponsor: County Manager, Danny Monette

Ms. Sierra Cain called up officers from the 4-H County Council who were in attendance and they presented the commission with a thank you basket. Ms. Cain gave a brief update on the recent activities of the 4-H program. currently there are 380 youth enrolled in the 4-H program, several 4-H members attended the legislative conference in January, as well as 4H day at the roundhouse. over 40 steers and heifers were tagged in March, a virtual horse bowl was held in January and Ann Parish Elementary is taking part in the Egg to Chick program where 84 eggs are currently being hatched.

Ms. Cain introduced Crystal Anaya, the offices temp agent, and the new agricultural agent Joshua Sherman. Mr. Sherman stated that he has 11 years' experience in extension work, 8 of those years were in Arizona. He has been conducting an informal needs assessment in the county, some of the challenges include problems with weeds and pests, soil health, water and fertilizing. Mr. Sherman stated that he hopes to rejuvenate the master gardener program, explore urban development in ag corridor and get youth interested in agricultural as well as rejuvenating the seed library at the extension office. He also announced that the Los Lunas Agricultural Center field day will be held August 8th.