

**MINUTES OF THE SANTA FE COUNTY
COUNTY OPEN LAND TRAILS AND PARKS ADVISORY COMMITTEE (COLTPAC)
Santa Fe County Administration Complex
100 Catron Street, Santa Fe, NM 87501
Wednesday, August 5, 2020 at 6:00 P.M.
Via Webex**

1. OPENTING BUSINESS

A. CALL TO ORDER

A regular meeting of the Santa FE County Open Land, Trails and Parks Advisory Committee (COLTPAC) was called to order on the above date at approximately 6:10 p.m. by Chair Rubén Cedeño.

B. ROLL CALL

Roll Call indicated the presence of a quorum as follows:

Members Present

Rubén Cedeño, Chair (District 3)
Linda Siegel, Vice-Chair (At-Large)
Jan Cohen (District 5)
Monika Hensley (At-Large)
Sandra Madrid Massengill (District 1)
Sue Murphy (District 2) *arriving later*
Matt Picarello (District 4)
Jean Pike (At-Large) *arriving later*
Apple Snider [At-Large]

Members Absent/Excused

None

Staff Members Present

Maria Lohmann, Open Space/Trails Planner
Paul Olafson, Planning Projects Manager
Daniel Fresquez

C. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Chair Cedeno asked the members if anyone had changes to the agenda.

He announced he had invited Ross and Ann Murray to the meeting to talk about Mt. Chalchihuitl and provide an update at about 6:30 pm and field questions from the Committee.

SFC CLERK RECORDED 07/13/2022

Jean Pike joined the meeting.

By consensus, the agenda was approved.

D. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES - March 4, 2020

By roll call consensus, these minutes were postponed to the next meeting.

2. MATTERS OF PUBLIC CONCERN

Ross and Ann Murray were present to talk about Mr. Chalchihuitl. Ross had sent materials about Mt. Chal ahead of time, the largest open pit turquoise mine in North America, which is unsecured and near the contaminated (Akin) lead mine that is leaking down to the Cerrillos Hills State Park. He talked about how the owner of the mine has refused to allow the County to acquire that part of the property and the BCC has considered possible condemnation proceedings, if necessary, to protect the area and the park.

Mr. Olafson reviewed the history and previous County objectives to protect the area and attempts to acquire the property between Mt. Chal and the State Park over the years. Money was set aside for remediation there, but the BCC might reallocate the funds, since there has been no progress on it. He clarified the bond issue was for property acquisitions throughout the County. The NMED voluntary remediation program could be used but the owner is not agreeing. The NMED could order remediation.

Sue Murphy joined the meeting during this discussion.

Mr. Olafson recommended no action be taken on this matter now.

Ms. Lohmann said the contaminated material could be sequestered in the gravel pit.

3. DISCUSSION ITEMS

A. Project/Property Updates

Ms. Lohmann updated the Committee on what has happened since the last meeting on the Workplan Goals, including surveys at Thornton Ranch to increase the database, visits to the Rail Trail, trail design at Thornton Open Space which is behind schedule for lack of tribal input, negotiations with Eagleton on restoration projects in the spring, and outreach for public input there. She shared pictures of where they were working. She also mentioned internal staff training, webinars, and work with various partners. She concluded the update with construction progress on the Rail Trail at Arroyo Hondo 4, Pojoaque grazing project finish, and Romero Park, Phase II projects, with pickleball and tennis courts, expanded parking lot and lights.

4. MATTERS FROM THE COMMITTEE

Member Picarello observed at Rail Trail from the newer section some roller dips that were too steep and suggested making them gentler in the next sections to prevent accidents. Ms. Lohmann agreed to address that with the contractors.

Member Siegel asked at Thornton Ranch, how trail locations were marked. Ms. Lohmann said in March and April, the contractor located the alignments with GPS to have tribal input and left out archeological site locations from public documentation.

Member Hensley asked about the bird surveys and for a description of the activities at Arroyo Hondo Open Space. Ms. Lohmann was not sure what was going on there right now and would talk with Peggy Darr about the bird surveys and answer her later. Member Hensley asked if the Committee has a role in the surveys at all. Ms. Lohmann explained that the Committee does not have a role in it because it is in the day-to-day operations of County Staff and updates are shared with the Committee periodically.

Ms. Lohmann explained how the pandemic has affected the Staff. All are working remotely from home, making some activities more difficult. All volunteers are also staying at home and helping remotely when possible, otherwise taking a break from work on the county properties.

Mr. Olafson noted four interns from Syracuse University were working with the County during the summer. He added that financially, the County has gotten extremely conservative recently and "disastrously slashed the discretionary budget from March until June to keep the lights on." Budgets for consultants are basically gone and the trajectory is totally unknown. Funding for Arroyo Hondo II and III are secure. Ms. Lohmann added that Staff are looking for additional funding options. Member Picarello agreed to share protocols being used in forestry.

Member Snider asked if there were other ways the Committee members could support Staff during the pandemic. Mr. Olafson thought there were no other ways for support other than review of plans and input.

Ms. Lohmann announced that Colleen Baker is now the Bureau Chief for Projects at New Mexico State Parks. She and Mr. Olafson were sad at her departure but excited for her in her new position because they still get to work with her. Her position has been announced but not filled yet.

5. NEXT MEETING

A. Next Meeting: Wednesday, November 4, 2020

Chair Cedeno asked for minutes and agenda to be sent to everyone.

Ms. Lohmann said they would be posted on the website prior to the meeting and would send an email to all members about it with a link to the next meeting.

6. ADJOURNMENT

Member Siegel moved, seconded by Member Picarello to adjourn the meeting. The motion was approved on a unanimous (9-0) roll call vote at 7:41 pm.

Approved by:

Pr. Rubén S. Cedeño
Rubén Cedeño, Chair

Submitted by:

Carl G. Boaz
Carl Boaz for Carl G. Boaz, Inc.

COUNTY OF SANTA FE)
STATE OF NEW MEXICO) ss
COLTPAC MINUTES
PAGES: 4
I Hereby Certify That This Instrument Was Filed for
Record On The 13TH Day Of July, 2022 at 10:34:00 AM
And Was Duly Recorded as Instrument # 1992827
Of The Records Of Santa Fe County

Witness My Hand And Seal Of Office
Katharine E. Clark
Deputy Destiny Romero County Clerk, Santa Fe, NM

