

SANTA FE COUNTY
BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
REGULAR MEETING

July 9, 2024

Hank Hughes, Chair - District 5
Camilla Bustamante, Vice Chair - District 3
Justin Greene - District 1
Anna T. Hamilton - District 4
Anna Hansen - District 2

SFC CLERK RECORDED 08/14/2024

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July 9, 2024

1. A. This regular meeting of the Santa Fe Board of County Commissioners was called to order at approximately 2:00 p.m. by Chair Hank Hughes in the County Commission Chambers, 102 Grant Avenue, Santa Fe, New Mexico.

B. Roll Call

Roll was called by Deputy County Clerk Jennifer Wilson and indicated the presence of a quorum as follows:

Members Present:

Commissioner Hank Hughes, Chair
Commissioner Camilla Bustamante, Vice Chair
Commissioner Justin Greene
Commissioner Anna Hamilton
Commissioner Anna Hansen

Members Excused:

None

C. Pledge of Allegiance

D. State Pledge

E. O'ga P'ogeh Owingeh Land Acknowledgement

F. Moment of Reflection

The Pledge of Allegiance and the State Pledge were led by Chair Hughes, and Chair Hughes acknowledged this building and Santa Fe County as being in the original homeland of the Tewa people, also known as O'ga P'ogeh Owingeh, "White Shell Watering Place." The Moment of Reflection was provided by County Assessor Isaiah Romero.

G. Approval of Agenda

CHAIR HUGHES: Okay. Are there any changes to the agenda, Manager Shaffer?

GREG SHAFFER (County Manager): Mr. Chair, Commissioners, the only change to the agenda as presented is with the withdrawing of item 6. B. This was a request to approve a contract for the construction of Arroyo Hondo Trail, segments 2 and 3. The item is being withdrawn at this time to allow for better coordination relative to getting the DOT required construction manager on contract before we solidify the

contract with the ultimately selected contractor. So again, item 6. B is being withdrawn at this time. Otherwise there are no changes to the agenda as presented, though I would note that the final agenda for today was posted last Friday in excess of 72 hours of this meeting as required by the Open Meetings Act.

CHAIR HUGHES: Okay.

COMMISSIONER HANSEN: Mr. Chair, I move to approve the agenda as presented by the Manager.

COMMISSIONER GREENE: I'll second that.

CHAIR HUGHES: Okay. Motion by Commissioner Hansen, seconded by Commissioner Greene.

The motion passed by unanimous [5-0] voice vote.

2. Approval of Meeting Minutes: June 11, 2024

CHAIR HUGHES: Does anybody have any comments on the minutes?

COMMISSIONER HAMILTON: Mr. Chair, move to approve the minutes.

COMMISSIONER HANSEN: Second.

CHAIR HUGHES: Motion by Commissioner Hamilton, seconded by Commissioner Hansen.

The motion passed by unanimous [5-0] voice vote.

3. Consideration Proclamations, Resolutions, and/or Recognitions

None were brought forward.

4. Consent Agenda

- A. Request Approval of Agreement No. 2024-0365-GM Consent for Right of Entry for the Abandoned Mine Land Program to Implement the Madrid Stormwater and Erosion Control Project (Growth Management Department/Adeline Murthy)**
- B. Resolution No. 2024-085, a Resolution to Authorize Certain Growth Management Department Staff and The Enforcement Officer for The Solid Waste Division to Issue Citations for Violations of County Ordinances; Repealing and Replacing Resolution No. 2024-010 (Growth Management Department/Jordan Yutzy)**
- C. Request (1) Approval of Amendment No. 9 to Agreement No. 2018-0282 CSD/KE with Terri Werner for Event Coordinator Services at the Stanley Cyclone Center, Increasing the Compensation by \$75,000, for a Total Contract Sum of \$524,000, Inclusive of NM GRT, and Extending the Term an Additional Year, and (2) Delegation of Signature Authority to the County Manager to Sign the Purchase Order(s) (Public Works Department/Brian K. Snyder and Purchasing**

- Division/Bill Taylor)**
- D. Request (1) Approval of Amendment No. 1 to Agreement No. 2024-0007-CSD/JL with Santa Fe Recovery Center, Extending the Term of the Agreement an Additional Two-Years, Increasing the Compensation by \$340,000 for a Total Contract Sum of \$510,000, Inclusive of NM GRT, to Provide Navigation Services and Flexible Funds to Low-Income Residents of Santa Fe County and (2) Delegation of Signature Authority to the County Manager to Sign the Purchase Order (Community Services Department/Jennifer N. Romero and Purchasing Division/Bill Taylor)**
 - E. Request (1) Approval of Amendment No. 7 to Agreement No. 2017-0196-ASD/KE Between Santa Fe County and Iron Mountain Information Management, LLC, Extending the Term for an Additional Year and Increasing the Compensation by \$76,500, for a Total Contract Sum of \$514,500, Exclusive of NM GRT, and (2) Delegation of Signature Authority to the County Manager to Sign the Purchase Order (Purchasing Division/Bill Taylor)**
 - F. Request (1) Approval to Amendment No. 4 to Agreement No. 2020-0133-RECC Between Santa Fe County and Superion for Computer Aided Dispatch System for the Regional Emergency Communications Center, Extending the Term an Additional Year and Increasing the Compensation by \$249,429.20 for a Total Contract Sum of \$796,137.12, Exclusive of NM GRT, and (2) Delegation of Signature Authority to the County Manager to sign Purchase Order(s) (Purchasing Division/Bill Taylor and Public Safety Department/Roberto Lujan)**
 - G. Request (1) Approval of Amendment No. 6 to Agreement No. 2020-0180-GM/MAM Between Santa Fe County and Granicus, LLC, Increasing the Compensation by \$124,273.26, for a Total Contract Sum of \$364,029.88, Exclusive of NM GRT, for FY2025 Services, and (2) Delegation of Signature Authority to the County Manager to Sign the Purchase Order(s) (Growth Management Department/Erle Wright; County Assessor's Office/Isaiah Romero, and Purchasing Division/Bill Taylor)**
 - H. Resolution No. 2024-086, a Resolution Authorizing Santa Fe County to Pick-Up Seventy-Five Percent of the PERA Municipal Police Coverage Plan 5 Member Contributions Based on the Rates in Effect on the Date of Adoption of this Resolution (Human Resources and Risk Management Division/Valerie Aghaei Park and County Attorney's Office/Rachel Brown) (Packet Material Updated)**
 - I. Request Approval of Agreement No. 2024-0330-PW/BM, County Utility Line Extension and Delivery Agreement Between Santa Fe County and Rigoberto Ortega (Public Works Department/Paul Choman)**
 - J. Resolution No. 2024-087, a Resolution Repealing and Replacing**

Resolution No. 2023-112 to Reduce by \$1,631,233 to \$52,699,035 the FY2023 Encumbrance Balances to be Carried Forward Into FY2024. (Finance Division/Yvonne S. Herrera) (Packet Material Added)

K. Resolution No. 2024-088, a Resolution Requesting Budget Adjustments to Various Funds for Year-End Clean-Up (Finance Division/Yvonne S. Herrera)

CHAIR HUGHES: Anybody want to remove items from the Consent Agenda? Is there a motion to approve the Consent Agenda?

COMMISSIONER HAMILTON: Move to approve the Consent Agenda.

COMMISSIONER BUSTAMANTE: Second.

CHAIR HUGHES: Motion by Commissioner Hamilton, seconded by Commissioner Bustamante.

The motion passed by unanimous [5-0] voice vote.

[Deputy Clerk Wilson provided the resolution numbers throughout the meeting.]

5. Appointments/Reappointments

A. Request Appointment of District 1 Member to the County Open Lands, Trails and Parks Advisory Committee (COLTPAC)

CHAIR HUGHES: I think Adeline Murthy is going to present that. There she is.

ADELINE MURTHY (Open Space and Trails): Good afternoon, Mr. Chair, Commissioners. Today I am bringing an appointment for District 1 for the County's Open Lands, Trails and Parks Advisory Committee, or COLTPAC. Staff advertised and recruited for the vacant position, interviewed applicants, and would like to recommend the appointment of District 1. The vacancy was published in a County press release and distributed to community organizations and registered organizations. Staff received three qualified applicants, Daniel Alvarado, Howard Gershon, and David Henkel, and staff would like to recommend the appointment of Daniel Alvarado as the District 1 representative.

Mr. Alvarado is a senior planner at the City of Santa Fe who manages long-range planning projects including the rewrite of the City's Land Development Code. He has worked on park and open space planning for the City of Santa Fe and advised on trails and active transportation projects in the City of Austin. He is a member of the Santa Fe Metropolitan Planning Organization's Technical Coordinating Committee, where he advises on transportation projects, including trail projects in the county. Daniel's expertise in trails planning and public administration would fill an important gap in the expertise of the committee.

So staff recommends the appointment of Daniel Alvarado to District 1 and I'd stand for any questions. Thank you.

CHAIR HUGHES: Thank you. Commissioner Greene.

COMMISSIONER GREENE: Thank you, Mr. Chair. Thank you, Adeline.

Thank you for going and shaking the tree. I know that we didn't have any applicants a couple months ago when we first sent this out and it's – I was happy to see three qualified applicants here, but I really appreciate Daniel's expertise. I've gotten to know him in conversations of work that he's doing over at the City of Santa Fe and I think that his interest, passion, and background are key elements that will go and help COLTPAC and so I thank you for choosing him and putting him forward and with that I'll make a motion to accept the nomination for Daniel Alvarado. And if somebody else has comments, please –

COMMISSIONER HANSEN: Second, under discussion.

CHAIR HUGHES: Go ahead.

COMMISSIONER HANSEN: Thank you. So I'm just wondering if there's any conflict with him working for the City and being on COLTPAC.

MS. MURTHY: Thank you, Mr. Chair, Commissioner Hansen. I don't believe there would be a conflict of interest. I know that County staff aren't allowed to be on County committees but are able to be on City advisory committees. All members have to sign a conflict of interest form so if there ever was a voting matter that was involved with something that he was working at the City he would have to recuse himself.

COMMISSIONER HANSEN: I think he's very well qualified. I read his qualifications and I thought he would be a good match. I just wanted to ask that one question. I have the honor of sitting on the Santa Fe River Commission but I was also serving on that before I was elected. So I think that's great. So congratulations. Also congratulations going out and finding people.

CHAIR HUGHES: Any other comments? My only comment is that I know David Henkel very well, but I also saw that Daniel Alvarado had equally good or even better qualifications. I just have to mention that. Motion by Commissioner Greene, second by Commissioner Hansen.

The motion passed by unanimous [5-0] voice vote.

6. Miscellaneous Action Items

- A. Resolution No. 2024-089, a Resolution to Adopt the Santa Fe County Transit Service Plan for FY 2025 and to Direct Staff to Submit that Transit Service Plan to the North Central Regional Transit District**

CHAIR HUGHES: That'll be Ben Lopez.

BEN BACHWIRTZ-LOPEZ (Transportation Planner): Good afternoon, Mr. Chair, Commissioners. I'm pleased to bring before you today a resolution to adopt the Santa Fe County Transit Service Plan for the fiscal year 2025 and to direct staff to submit that transit service plan to NCRTD. Let me read from the memo included with the packet, from the background section.

Santa Fe County submits an annual transit service plan to the North Central Regional District, or NCRTD each year. The Santa Fe County Transit Plan for fiscal year 25, identified in Exhibit B, includes the current NCRTD routes funded and operated by NCRTD, as well as the routes funded by NCRTD and operated by the Santa Fe Trails house in the City of Santa Fe's Public Works Department. The fiscal year 2025 Transit

Service Plan largely reflects a continuation of the same service as that of the fiscal year 2024 plan. Some service adjustments made as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic and bus driver shortages remain in place. Some service adjustments have been implemented since last year per NCRTD's short-range transit service plan update and as a result of the easing of pandemic restrictions and driver shortages.

So at this time I'll pause and I can stand for any questions. The rest of the memo goes into a little more detail about what those changes I just hinted at are, and the exhibits in the packet go into more detail about the specific routes and their current status.

CHAIR HUGHES: Okay. Does anybody have any questions?
Commissioner Greene?

COMMISSIONER GREENE: Thank you very much. Thanks, Ben.
Question about – I've had folks ask me about the Los Alamos route and what can be done to – that's one of the biggest, that was one of the highest used routes in the past and it is an employer, sort of like a heavy employer, big rush hour sort of situation. It's a safety issue on 502. There's a whole bunch of reasons to support that route. Any comments on that and when and how we might be able to get that addressed?

MR. BACHWIRTZ-LOPEZ: Mr. Chair and Commissioner Greene, my understanding is that NCRTD intends to evaluate – they're trying to do this with as many of the routes as possible that they had to scale back from COVID, or they had to completely suspend, like that route. My understanding with that particular route, Los Alamos, they're going to try to evaluate this fall, how and when to bring back that service. That's something we can certainly – I believe it is included, any specific language would be included in the service plan.

So the proposed update for Route 400, which would be the Los Alamos route, is to evaluate resuming service with a revised route schedule for the upcoming year. So NCRTD has their plans coming up this fall to start re-evaluating that and we've included explicitly in what we'll submit to NCRTD to encourage that from the County's side.

COMMISSIONER GREENE: Okay. I guess this is part of maybe an internal thing where we can advocate for our representative but I know that the folks from Los Alamos have said that they're trying to do everything they can, both the lab and the community of Los Alamos County have said that they feel that that is a priority for them and they would really like to support that. So I don't know what we can do to help them, help us, help them, help RTD get this back up and running to support that any way we can. Thank you.

MR. BACHWIRTZ-LOPEZ: Thank you, Commissioner.

CHAIR HUGHES: They just need to hire more drivers. If you want a part-time job driving the bus.

COMMISSIONER GREENE: I drive a lot, so that's my part-time job already.

CHAIR HUGHES: And also the City Commissioner from Los Alamos on the RTD board is a very good advocate too. So I'm sure she's doing everything she can.

COMMISSIONER GREENE: And I wonder, if I may, just for conversational purposes. RTD, this may be a priority route that might, due to sometimes Los Alamos is prioritization and excess funds as they may be, might want to subsidize that route more than the other routes. Of course it might make it a more popular job. But I

don't know what could be done to get that. If they're short on drivers, why is it? Right? It's a complicated thing but I know that that's a priority route with a lot of traffic that could definitely benefit from reduction of miles on the highway. Thank you.

CHAIR HUGHES: Okay. Any other questions? Care to make a motion?

COMMISSIONER GREENE: I'll move to accept a resolution to adopt the Santa Fe County Transit Service Plan for fiscal year 2025 and to direct staff to submit that transit service plan to the North Central Regional Transit District.

COMMISSIONER BUSTAMANTE: Second.

CHAIR HUGHES: Okay. Motion by Commissioner Greene, seconded by Commissioner Bustamante.

The motion passed by unanimous [5-0] voice vote.

6. B. Request (1) Approval of Contract Award for Agreement No. 2024-0147-PW/APS with J.F.Q. Construction, Inc. in the Amount of \$3,585,339, Exclusive of NM GRT for the Construction of Arroyo Hondo Trail Segments 2 and 3 in Santa Fe County, New Mexico, and (2) Delegation of Signature Authority to the County Manager to Sign the Purchase Order(s)
TABLED

6. C. **Request Approval of Agreement No. 2024-0374-PW/BM, County Utility Line Extension and Delivery Agreement Between Santa Fe County and Exit 278, LLC**

CHAIR HUGHES: Paul Choman.

PAUL CHOMAN (Utilities Director): Good afternoon, Mr. Chair and Commissioners. In order to alleviate any further confusion I'd just like to start by saying there are two specific ULEDA before us sequentially this afternoon on the agenda, both dealing with an agreement between Santa Fe County and an entity known as Exit 278, LLC. The first one we will address is a 312-unit fully affordable multi-family home project, 77.76 acre-feet per year in the water allocated budget. The project is 312 affordable multi-family homes, 100 percent affordable, 77.76 acre-feet per year of water, and I stand for any questions.

CHAIR HUGHES: Any questions?

COMMISSIONER HANSEN: Yes, I have a question.

CHAIR HUGHES: Commissioner Hansen.

COMMISSIONER HANSEN: So when I was reading this over, I know this is an affordable development, so I was wondering why we're charging \$19,431 per acre-foot, since we have bought water for –

COMMISSIONER GREENE: We delayed the start date of that.

COMMISSIONER HANSEN: So the start date is way before we changed it? Okay.

MR. CHOMAN: It's essentially to –

COMMISSIONER HANSEN: Okay. I will accept that but I was a little concerned.

MR. CHOMAN: Okay. Yes, ma'am.

CHAIR HUGHES: Commissioner Hamilton.

COMMISSIONER HAMILTON: I move to approve this, if there's no further discussion.

CHAIR HUGHES: Okay.

COMMISSIONER GREENE: And I second it.

CHAIR HUGHES: Further discussion? All right. Commissioner Hamilton moved and Commissioner Greene seconded.

The motion passed by unanimous [5-0] voice vote.

6. D. Request Approval of Agreement No. 2025-0003-PW, County Utility Line Extension and Delivery Agreement Between Santa Fe County and Exit 278, LLC

MR. CHOMAN: Chairman Hughes, Commissioners, this is again related to the affordable residential development you just approved the ULEDA for. This is for the commercial aspect of that project. It's a total of approximated nine acres including the affordable housing and per the developer's submissions for what they're looking to include in this they are requesting 5.064 acre-feet of water for this project.

I just want to mention that commercial developments, especially and in particular, a lot of these numbers are speculative at this point. The developer has to deal with a commercial entity to actually come in and actually build the project so this may be subject to change at some point in the future. If the use does change we will come back before the Board for approval for either an addition or reduction, depending on what the use is for the project.

CHAIR HUGHES: Okay. Any questions about this one?

COMMISSIONER HANSEN: Yes.

CHAIR HUGHES: Commissioner Hansen.

COMMISSIONER HANSEN: Thank you, Mr. Chair. I lost my train of thought for a moment. Go ahead.

CHAIR HUGHES: Okay. Commissioner Greene.

COMMISSIONER GREENE: Thank you. So just to be clear. This one doesn't get free water. This one gets – they pay for their water. And they're still at the \$19,000 because of the date change.

MR. CHOMAN: Yes. Yes.

CHAIR HUGHES: Commissioner Hansen.

COMMISSIONER HANSEN: How much water do we have available to sell people?

MR. CHOMAN: Thank you for your question, Commissioner. If you will – if I could refer you to Exhibit B, attached, and this is – going forward in every ULEDA we're attaching a ULEDA water rights activity accounting summary. And what we started with before today's activities was a total of 2,259.22 acre-feet, less the three ULEDAs that pending – two have been approved pending the last one to be approved today, we will end up with a water rights balance of 2,076.26 acre-feet.

COMMISSIONER HANSEN: Okay. I did see this when I was reading through it. So our agreement to sell water at \$32,000 is now raised to – the start date is September 1st, is that what you're saying?

MR. CHOMAN: August 1st.

COMMISSIONER HANSEN: August 1st. Okay. And so we have any plans to buy any more water rights?

MR. CHOMAN: We are actively seeking water rights. Our water rights attorney happened to be on vacation recently for a part of the summer so that kind of kept us from being more active in the market. We are dealing with brokers and soliciting bids and such to see who might have water for sale.

COMMISSIONER HANSEN: And who is our water rights attorney?

MR. CHOMAN: John Utton.

COMMISSIONER HANSEN: Okay.

MR. CHOMAN: Our water rights counsel. Internally, as you know, Cristella Valdez is our internal legal resource.

COMMISSIONER HANSEN: I know that John Utton was our water resources but I didn't know he was working on water rights also.

MR. CHOMAN: Yes.

COMMISSIONER HANSEN: Okay. Thank you.

MR. CHOMAN: Thank you, Commissioner.

CHAIR HUGHES: Okay. Is there a motion?

COMMISSIONER HAMILTON: Move to approve.

COMMISSIONER BUSTAMANTE: Second.

CHAIR HUGHES: Okay. Commissioner Hamilton made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Bustamante.

The motion passed by unanimous [5-0] voice vote.

- 6. E. Resolution No. 2024-90, a Resolution Granting the County Manager Authority to Negotiate and Execute a Lease of the Bennie J. Chavez Senior Center on Behalf of Santa Fe County with the United States Postal Service (USPS) to Provide a Location for a Post Office for the Residents of Chimayo and Northern Santa Fe County**

CHAIR HUGHES: Leandro.

LEANDRO CORDOVA (Deputy County Manager): Mr. Chair and Commissioners, thank you. So this afternoon I'm here to discuss the subject resolution that would authorize the County Manager to negotiate and execute a lease on behalf of Santa Fe County with the United States Postal Service for the Bennie J. Chavez Senior Center to be used, potentially be used as a post office. Any such lease would be contingent upon additional public outreach as well as the County's successful negotiating a partnership with Rio Arriba County to potentially serve the seniors who currently utilize the Bennie J. Chavez Senior Center and the Rio Arriba County Senior Center located 1.5 miles from the Bennie J. Chavez Senior site.

A little bit of background. In February of 2023 a fire destroyed the Chimayo Post

Office was located at 724 State Road 76. Since that time residents previously served at that location have had to travel to Santa Cruz for their postal needs which has become inconvenient, especially in the winter months. On February 16, 2024 the USPS issued a press release seeking potential buildings or space options to re-establish the presence of a local post office. To be considered the locations had to be within three miles of the previous location and have at least 21 parking sites.

In an effort to provide additional support as well as introduce potential options for the USPS to utilize existing County-owned buildings the County did submit comments along with two County-owned locations – the Bennie J. Chavez Senior Center and the former Head Start building in Chimayo. On May 14th representatives of the USPS along with County staff did site visits of the two County buildings. In late May the USPS requested more information, specifically on the Bennie J. Chavez Senior Center and requested that the parties begin to explore negotiations for a potential lease.

At the same time, our County staff began to explore a potential partnership with Rio Arriba County pursuant to which Rio Arriba County would provide congregate meals and potentially other senior services to the county residents at its La Arboleda Senior Center located 1.5 miles from Bennie J. Chaves.

On June 17, 2024 Commissioner Greene and County staff met with the community residents at the Bennie Chavez Senior Center. While the feedback was not uniform, it is fair to say that most of the senior users of the center did not want to see it closed. We do a really good job providing services so I want to thank our CSD Department and our Senior Services Department. That was the biggest take-away I got is we treat them really well and they were really grateful for the services.

But on that score, as we understanding USPS engages in its own public outreach before selecting a new post office, which should allow the wider community to voice their views. In addition, we believe that some of the most significant concerns voiced by seniors, even on the June 17th meeting could potentially be addressed in the potential partnership with Rio Arriba County.

So accordingly, the subject resolution would impose the following conditions on the authority delegated to the County Manager: a) prior to the effective date of the lease, the County must successfully negotiate a partnership with Rio Arriba County pursuant to which Rio Arriba County will provide congregate meals and potentially other senior services to county residents at its La Arboleda Senior Center. b) prior to concluding such partnership with Rio Arriba the County must undertake a public outreach process to gauge the opinion of the wider community concerning the potential repurposing of the Bennie J. Chavez Community Center to a post office, providing, however, that any community engagement or outreach process by the USPS may satisfy this requirement.

The annual rent shall be the fair market value rent as established by a certified appraiser which has been attached to the packet materials, and the lease agreement must be approved by the State Board of Finance.

So at this time, recommended action, we would recommend approving the subject resolution so that the County can continue to explore whether it can support the establishment of a replacement post office at the Bennie J. Chavez Senior Center. And I stand for any questions at this time.

CHAIR HUGHES: Any questions? Commissioner Greene.

COMMISSIONER GREENE: Thank you, Mr. Chair. Thank you, Leandro, and thank you to the staff of Senior and Community Services. This is a complex problem and a great opportunity for us to step in and provide a resource that we have in our portfolio of an asset being the Bennie Chavez Center that is needed to save the post office in Chimayo. So I've been a part of three meetings where the community has turned out in mass to discuss their displeasure with the potential loss of the post office up there and how they've been dealing with it for the last year and a half now, almost year and a half now, and we also went up and spoke to the seniors a couple weeks ago and I presented to them in a way that – I tried to say we're very sorry that we want to put this to you but you guys are the heroes in this conversation here, and we're not here to leave you high and dry. What we want to do is combine the best of Santa Fe County, which happens to be our services – it's our staff and our services, our food – and combine it with the best of what Rio Arriba County has to offer. And they may not do as well with staff and services and activities, but they definitely have a much nicer facility that has more parking, more accessibility, everything that is a better facility, and so it's the combination and the partnership between Rio Arriba and Santa Fe County that will give us the opportunity to actually serve the seniors better, and at the same time preserve a post office in a rural community when so many are losing their post offices. So if we can step in and do this this is a great opportunity for Santa Fe County to do this, and I thank you all for being a part of this. This has been a great opportunity. Thank you.

CHAIR HUGHES: I was going to ask you if you were all right with this.
So –

COMMISSIONER GREENE: Thank you. I'll make the motion if everybody's ready but if anybody has other comments please go for it.

COMMISSIONER GREENE: I will make the motion more specifically. I will make the motion granting the County Manager authority to negotiate and execute a lease of the Bennie J. Chavez Senior Center on behalf of Santa Fe County with the United States Postal Service to provide a location for a post office for the residents of Chimayo and northern Santa Fe County.

COMMISSIONER HANSEN: Second.

CHAIR HUGHES: Motion by Commissioner Greene seconded by Commissioner Hansen.

The motion passed by unanimous [5-0] voice vote.

6. F. Resolution No. 2024-091, a Resolution Requesting Adoption of the Final Budget for Fiscal Year 2024-2025 (FY 2025)

CHAIR HUGHES: Yvonne Herrera.

YVONNE HERRERA (Finance Director): Mr. Chair, Commissioners, the item before you is requesting the approval of the final budget for fiscal year 25. Back on May 14, 2024, through Resolution No. 2024-68 the Board approved the interim budget which represented the recurring operational expenditures, nonrecurring operational expenditures, fixed assets, and non-capital expenditures, in the amount of \$347,277,395.

Since then we've been working with departments on the capital portion of the 25 budget. While we were working through that there were additional adjustments that needed to be made to the budget to make some corrections and to add some additional items in terms of carryover. So we started off with an interim budget of \$347,277, 395 for 2025. The adjustments that were made, upon submission of the interim budget to DFA, additional items needed to be added to the interim budget to be in compliance with what DFA requires.

The biggest one, the largest adjustment was related to the law enforcement protection fund and it was in regards to the amount of potential unspent funds that the Sheriff's Office would be requesting for carryover; some additional minor adjustments brought us to a revised total for the interim budget at \$347,338, 851.

Since then, additional adjustments were made to the budget which will now equal the final budget for 2025. Contingency funds – during the interim budget we decided to not include those at that time. The \$6,050,000 is equivalent to the amount that we have now in 2025, in addition to adding \$50,000 that was used during fiscal year 24.

Then we have the recession revenue replacement in the amount of \$4,865,000. Originally this item was \$12 million for fiscal year 25 as a result of the projections from our economist, the difference of \$7,135,000 I believe, we sent over to affordable housing.

Then we have the affordable housing, which is that \$7,135,000 is to be used by the various programs within that fund. That, again, came from the unused budget contingency.

There was increase in transfers during the interim budget to balance – to transfer the resources for department operations. In addition to those transfers, an additional \$19,872,127 was added to the final budget.

Capital projects, which do not include encumbrances that will be rolled over equal \$161,292,834, and in maintenance projects, again, excluding any encumbrances that will be rolled from fiscal year 24, at \$17,415,252.

So the final budget for fiscal year 25 is \$583,706,925.

The additional adjustments, the specific details of the additional adjustments that were done were provided in Exhibit A. Most of those adjustments related to additional grants that we wanted to include in the budget so the departments would be able to spend that now in July instead of having to wait until September, which is when DFA will provide the approval of the final budget.

In addition to that, we had some carryover amounts in regards to the contract writing services that we requested funding from the Board during mid-year, as well as legal ordinance writing services, project management services for the implementation of the M365, as well as \$100,000 for the Enterprise Planning Resources for consulting services for help in drafting up the scoping of work for issuing RFP for new BRP.

The additional grants that were budgeted for, we had to make adjustments to the LDWI grant, E-911 grant, YCC – that was a new grant award for Fire, as well as HR which applied for the summer enrichment internship for student interns, community development tourism, the New Mexico Tourism cooperative grant – I believe we get that grant every year in terms of cooperative advertising. It provides a lot more advertising dollars for what we spend, and then we have Housing that received an energy efficiency conservation block grant to provide solar panels for the administrative office of Housing.

And then finally, we had the District Court security upgrades. The County is sharing costs with the state, AOC – Administrative Office of the Courts. The County's portion is \$642,000. That funding is coming from the set-aside for the grant. Let me get the actual titles. So the project implementation grant contingency funding.

Some other corrections, some items that were presented during the interim budget but left off inadvertently were related to the preliminary engineering reports that were spoken about during the capital budget special meeting, the \$350,000 as well as contingency funds for potential increases in the purchase of fixed assets of \$2.3 million.

The additional exhibits provided to the Board –

CHAIR HUGHES: Yes, Commissioner Hansen.

COMMISSIONER HANSEN: The PERs, what were they for? Which ones?

MS. HERRERA: Mr. Chair, Commissioner Hansen, during the special meeting there was discussion about whether or not we had funding set aside for PERs. And originally, that funding was requested within Public Works' operational budget and it was left off, and we decided to fund it as part of the final budget from the capital outlay GRT for any need that Public Works may need during fiscal year 25.

MANAGER SHAFFER: Also, Mr. Chair, Commissioner Hansen, this is not project-specific. This is so that they have an allocation of funds to help with new projects that may be scoped during the course of the fiscal year as part of our capital planning process, or if there's unanticipated need that arises requiring those services. That was the purpose of this allocation, so that our capital improvement process could generally be improved by having better preliminary numbers. And Brian can correct me if I didn't get the gist of it right.

COMMISSIONER HANSEN: Thank you, Manager. Thank you, Yvonne.

CHAIR HUGHES: Okay. What else do you have, Yvonne?

MS. HERRERA: The final exhibit is the detail of the transfers between the funds as previously mentioned. We move resources specifically from – we've got the general fund that receives general revenues that support different department operations as well as dedicated GRT that is accounted for in a separate fund from where it provides support. For instance, the Corrections GRT goes to help fund the Corrections Department and that is Exhibit F. And with that, Mr. Chair, I stand for any questions.

CHAIR HUGHES: Any other questions? Commissioner Greene.

COMMISSIONER GREENE: I'll take the baton. Thanks. Thank you, Yvonne. Thank you to the whole Finance team for putting this together. A specific question. So when I see the general fund, one of the line items is developer fees fund. That is an affordable housing thing. Is that specifically for that one program that we're doing for the affordable housing? Or is that generally a bucket of affordable housing supported funds?

MS. HERRERA: Mr. Chair, Commissioner Greene, that would be – so the fund – the \$7 million is going to the developer fees fund, and within that fund they have the various programs for affordable housing. So it's a bucket that they will allocate accordingly.

COMMISSIONER GREENE: Okay. I just see in Exhibit E that it's very specific that it says it's for the developer fees fund, so I'm wondering if that only could

be used for that or it could be used for any of the three or four buckets that we have identified as uses.

MS. HERRERA: Chair Hughes, Commissioner Greene, it would be – it's just a funding, but the program, so what we have now – the Happy Roofs, the down payment assistance, affordable mortgage – all those programs are held within this particular fund. So that money would be available for any of those programs within that fund itself.

COMMISSIONER GREENE: It just sounds very specific when it's developer fees as opposed to affordable housing support fund or something like that.

MS. HERRERA: Sorry. We could look in the future as those programs develop, possibly changing the name of that fund. But it's a name that's just kind of carried over from long ago.

COMMISSIONER GREENE: Okay. And then is that the total amount that we're committing to affordable housing then for the year? I think I remember a larger number than that so I just want to make sure that we, for the record, know what we're – the whole number for affordable housing support.

MANAGER SHAFFER: Mr. Chair, Commissioner Greene, we did in fact talk about a potentially larger number as we passed the interim budget. The recommendation and action from the Board delay consideration of that till, number one, we knew what the final numbers were for fiscal year 24, in terms of revenue and expenditures, and secondly, until we had completed the risk-based reserve analysis so that the Board could make a complete picture as to what unassigned resources look like. And so that would be a discussion for a future day, but that would require further Board action. There's nothing that we would do automatically.

COMMISSIONER GREENE: Okay. So at this point, \$7.1 million is what we're putting forward towards affordable housing programs in Santa Fe County.

MANAGER SHAFFER: Correct. In addition, for a complete record. That's in addition to the \$4 million that was allocated at mid-year so the total is \$11 million and change.

COMMISSIONER GREENE: Perfect. Great. Thank you for clarifying that. I think that's wonderful. I do want to say that I hope that with our new Land Use Administrator or Director coming on that there is enough support for revisions to the SLDC through consultants, and I don't know if I feel confident about that in this. I don't want to hold it up but I do want to give them enough tools and resources so that they can do that. When they come in this will be great. We will celebrate. We will encourage them to work on the priorities we set forth for them, but we want to make sure that they have the resources to do that, namely the two areas that we had spoken about about housing affordability, as well as sustainability issues and revisions to the Land Use Code. But for now we can always change this, make minor adjustments later. So I'm in support of this at this point. If you'd like I would make – you're not ready. Okay. Go for it.

CHAIR HUGHES: Commissioner Hansen.

COMMISSIONER HANSEN: Yes. I just want to make sure that all the capital improvements that we saw at our last meeting and the maintenance project are in this budget correctly.

MS. HERRERA: Mr. Chair, Commissioner Hansen, yes. With some minor changes because of what was presented, also included encumbrances or potential encumbrances, and so since then we would – if something had turned into a PO we would reduce that amount because we don't want to duplicate the budget in 25. But yes, every project that was presented to the Board was included.

COMMISSIONER HANSEN: With funding?

MS. HERRERA: Yes.

COMMISSIONER HANSEN: Okay. And then it says contract writing service on the CMO Finance. Is that grant contract writing services, or what?

MANAGER SHAFFER: Mr. Chair, Commissioner Hansen, that's an effort to help streamline some of the purchasing activities at the County on a trial basis and the way that that position or contract resource would work is hopefully, the initiating user department or elected office could do that individual not with a draft scope of work per se but with the outline of what they hope to accomplish and allow someone with expertise in that area to actually develop the contract. So the hope is again we would not have program subject matter experts who may or may not be well versed in contract drafting, attempting to draft a contract but rather we'd just have that resource available. If it doesn't work then we won't seek to continue that trial program but if it does work it may be part of our recurring request moving forward. But to sum up it's to help streamline the development of contracts at the County.

COMMISSIONER HANSEN: Thank you. Do you think \$60,000 is enough?

MANAGER SHAFFER: Again, it's a trial basis so we wanted to see if it would work, and similarly, there's a comparable line item to contract with a drafter of sorts, like the Legislative Council Service does in the hopes that that would also streamline the production of ordinances, whether that's the SLDC or otherwise. We'd have somebody who specializes in that discipline, thereby allowing the Legal Department and subject matter experts to focus on their core competencies as opposed to drafting ordinances.

So again, we'll see if it works and it may be in the future that we request additional resources, or if it doesn't work, we'll try something else.

COMMISSIONER HANSEN: Okay. I see we have two buckets. We have \$120,000. Then we have the budget for new grants or adjusting. So is this for grant writing service also? Do we have that in here?

MS. HERRERA: Mr. Chair, Commissioner Hansen, not specifically to grant writing. We did present to the Board during the interim budget a term position for a grant administrator who would be helping the County actively look for grants, help departments with applications, monitoring those tracks for those applications. So we'll be – we're working on the job description and we'll be working with HR to get that posted and get it filled as quickly as possible.

COMMISSIONER HANSEN: It wouldn't be somebody to write the grants?

MS. HERRERA: Yes. That would be part of their job duties is to work with the departments who will have the subject matter experts and be able to write those applications out.

COMMISSIONER HANSEN: So they'll find the grants and they'll write the grants.

MS. HERRERA: Yes.

COMMISSIONER HANSEN: Okay, so with the amount of federal money being available this person will be concentrating on that.

MS. HERRERA: Mr. Chair, Commissioner, yes. That will be their full-time position. Their duties.

COMMISSIONER HANSEN: And when do we expect to hire that person after we pass this budget?

MS. HERRERA: We are – I received some input on the job description from Deputy County Manager Cordova and so sometime this week we'll get the job description to HR, work on the interview questions, and submit the packet. Hopefully get it posted within the next two weeks, and actively start reaching out to people that we know who like/love grants.

COMMISSIONER HANSEN: Thank you. I appreciate that very much. Okay. I'll yield for a moment.

CHAIR HUGHES: Okay. Other questions on the budget?

COMMISSIONER GREENE: Another question. I'd like to buy a vowel. In the grant writing position, just as a follow-up for that. We do have the resource over at North Central. Will this tag-team with them in a way? So that, of course we've been successful with a few grant proposals being expedited through North Central, so combing resources in that way, are we going to forego using North Central or are we going to complement our services that way?

MS. HERRERA: Mr. Chair, Commissioner Greene, I would expect that we would look to benefit from the most so I would expect that we would still work with North Central, not to turn a blind eye to a really great resource. But Finance, this position will be held within Finance and we would work closely with Deputy Manager Cordova on this process. I know that he has the resources from North Central. In short, we want to use as many resources that we have available to us to make sure that the County can find the grants that can help us move initiatives and apply for as many as we can.

COMMISSIONER GREENE: Okay. Along those same lines, is this entire budget item going to be taken up by this one position or is there excess money, that a fee for service for somebody that is a specialist in another area, might be able to come on contract, or be able to apply for something that this other grant specialist might not be so adept at.

MS. HERRERA: Mr. Chair, Commissioner Greene, the funding for this FTE came from the project implementation grant contingency money which was \$10 million during 24. So right now for 25 we still have \$8.8 million available as a resource for those kinds of things.

COMMISSIONER GREENE: And that was that matching fund, but we didn't use it.

MS. HERRERA: As well as matching funds, yes. So that money is for the matching funds, potential contractual resources for where we need additional resources from and this, as your example, this funding would be available for that as well.

COMMISSIONER GREENE: Just to follow on that, that example is like North Central basically ran out of money for their grant writers and they had to find excess money, but they did have those grant writers available to them but they just didn't have the money to pay for it. And they had offered it to us if we had a fee for service that they could facilitate it. So if there was that opportunity, say, well, we can't get somebody on board for this, but North Central has this resource that we could pay directly fee for service for that, so it becomes an added – two heads thinking about the same thing. It's a good resource and having some flexibility there is wonderful. So thank you.

CHAIR HUGHES: Commissioner Hansen, do you have other questions?

COMMISSIONER HANSEN: Maybe I do. I just want to make sure, like what you were saying about North Central, they ran out of money, and so I want to make sure that we could use our resources to hire the same grant writers.

COMMISSIONER GREENE: So I think as an answer, so in North Central's case, this past fiscal year they did run short towards the end of the year and they replenished some funds from some unused funds, so they ran out for a couple days, maybe, until they found some other funding. And then made it available towards the end to people that still needed some grant work. But they also said at the same time, if a county or a jurisdiction under – as a part of North Central, wanted those grant writers, they would make them available as a fee for service under the same contract that they had already had. So I think there's a way to do this and going forward I think for these next two years that there's slightly less in the budget from junior money or whatever the title of that is now, for grant writing at North Central. So it would be nice if we use those resources but fund it –

COMMISSIONER HANSEN: Funded it ourselves.

COMMISSIONER GREENE: A little bit, yes.

COMMISSIONER HANSEN: Especially since it's not just for Santa Fe County, it's for Rio Arriba, Mora, Colfax and etc.

COMMISSIONER GREENE: Yes.

COMMISSIONER HANSEN: Taos. So I think it's important that we can use their resources but also finance it ourselves.

COMMISSIONER GREENE: Mr. Chair, with that, if I may, I will make a motion to pass a resolution requesting adoption of the final budget for fiscal year 2024-25. Fiscal year 2025, actually. That's my motion.

COMMISSIONER HAMILTON: Second.

COMMISSIONER HANSEN: Thank you. Under discussion. So the final budget is \$583,706,925?

MS. HERRERA: Mr. Chair, Commissioner Hansen, yes.

COMMISSIONER HANSEN: Okay. Thank you.

CHAIR HUGHES: Okay, we have a motion by Commissioner Greene, seconded by Commissioner Hamilton.

COMMISSIONER BUSTAMANTE: Discussion.

CHAIR HUGHES: Discussion.

COMMISSIONER BUSTAMANTE: Just to clarify. North Central doesn't have grant writers on staff or waiting. Those are independent contractors and there are a number of them around.

COMMISSIONER GREENE: Correct. Right. But having them on contract is a great resource to know who to go to first.

COMMISSIONER BUSTAMANTE: It's just they're not employed by. You were referencing their contractors. They're not theirs. They're independent contractors.

COMMISSIONER GREENE: Yes.

COMMISSIONER BUSTAMANTE: For clarification.

COMMISSIONER GREENE: Their stable of – yes, their resources. Thank you.

CHAIR HUGHES: Any other questions? Okay. Motion by Commissioner Greene, seconded by Commissioner Hamilton.

The motion passed by unanimous [5-0] voice vote.

COMMISSIONER HANSEN: Mr. Chair.

CHAIR HUGHES: Yes.

COMMISSIONER HANSEN: Thank you, Yvonne, for all of your work on this budget, and your entire staff. I know that it takes a tremendous amount of effort and work and I just want to recognize you and your staff and everybody at the County who has worked on this budget, because it is really hard work and we're grateful to your service. So thank you. To the constituents who are the beneficiaries of these budgets.

MS. HERRERA: Mr. Chair, Commissioner Hansen, thank you. I also want to thank Manager Shaffer. He actually puts quite a bit of time into this as well. As well as the departments, Deputy County Manager, Gabi Trujillo, the new budget administrator, and the staff. Without them we couldn't do a lot of the work that it takes to get this together. Thank you. And your support.

COMMISSIONER HANSEN: Yes, and you are right to recognize Manager Shaffer because I know he puts a lot of effort into this. So thank you.

MS. HERRERA: Thank you.

CHAIR HUGHES: Yes, thank you,

7. Presentations

None were brought forward.

9. Matters from the County Manager

A. Miscellaneous Updates

MANAGER SHAFFER: Thank you, Mr. Chair and Commissioners. Just wanted to note, remind everyone that the National Association of Counties annual conference will be held in Tampa, Florida this week from Friday through Monday. I wish those Commissioners who are planning to attend safe travels and look forward to be hearing about the ideas that you bring back to the County from that significant event.

The Commit to be Fit Challenge started yesterday and will continue through September 9th. It's a great opportunity for team building amongst County employees. I

look forward to really cracking the whip on the County Manager's Office team as we've come in second place now for several years in the running, so looking forward to everybody upping their game so that we're successful. In all seriousness, I'm the dead weight so I'm the one who holds us back.

The Employee Benefits Committee will be hosting the annual employee picnic on Friday, July 26th from 12:00 noon to 4:00 pm at Romero Park. I encourage all Commissioners and all County employees to make an effort to attend and I want to really recognize and thank the Employee Benefits Committee for all the hard work that they put in to organize that event as well as other employee events throughout the year.

And then finally looking ahead towards the end of the month, the County Fair will be held from Wednesday, July 31st through Saturday, August 3rd and I want to encourage folks to attend that event. I've greatly come to appreciate all the hard work that goes into organizing that by County staff as well as by the Fair Board. I greatly appreciate all the work that the youth of the county to put in to their various endeavors related to animal husbandry and other events that are on display at the fair. So those are it in terms of my miscellaneous updates. Thank you.

CHAIR HUGHES: Thank you.

10. Matters from County Commissioners and Other Elected Officials

A. Commissioner Issues and Comments, Including but not Limited to Constituent Concerns, Recognitions and Requests for Updates or Future Presentations

CHAIR HUGHES: I think we'll start with Commissioner Greene.

COMMISSIONER GREENE: I'll go last today. Let me take that, please.

CHAIR HUGHES: You want to go last?

COMMISSIONER GREENE: Yes.

CHAIR HUGHES: All right. Commissioner Hamilton.

COMMISSIONER HAMILTON: Sure. Thanks. First I wanted to say that back a couple of weeks ago, a week and a half ago in June, I think it was like June 24th There was a meeting at the Roundhouse with the State Insurance Office and fire people. They have a whole task force going looking at the issues of fire in the urban-wildland interface and issues constituents are having with insurance. So they presented this information. It was a fabulous meeting, really well presented. They spent the morning presenting sort of updated information on technical information, what's needed for safe homes and safe communities, what insurance companies are potentially looking for with regard to both fire-wising property and fire-hardening your home, presenting all that information.

And then they spent some time questioning insurance companies that were represented there, including the State Insurance Office, what is seen would be needed to be able to address some of these problems. They presented information on what other communities are doing and what they're carrying forward to try to research and potentially set up in New Mexico.

So it was well attended in terms of – it was not intended to be an open public meeting. It was the working task force and interested and involved parties. So it was an

information-sharing and information-gathering meeting. I was very impressed. The County was represented, the state, other counties were represented, and I thought it would be interesting for everybody to know that our Fire Department is participating in this.

They've been participating in the research needed for what our constituents need, and in fact it turns out that our Fire Chief has chosen thesis work, for his advanced degree, on exactly this problem, which I was so impressed with, that he chose one of the biggest contemporary problems that constituents have with respect to fire. It's kind of an open – I find it a moving target. We don't really know what to do about it. We don't know where things can go, and that's what he's choosing to do research on. I think it will be the greatest help to our constituents and to the County to move forward with setting some policy that will actually be helpful.

So I was incredibly encouraged. As gnarly a problem as it is, and technically that's not what it's called. It's a wicked problem; that's what's published, but it's still gnarly. We have some hope of getting some information that will help us move forward.

And then, since there won't be another meeting before then, the next Coffee with the Commish will be next Wednesday night. So the 17th at Hondo Fire Station #2 and this episode is going to talk about what the County's doing with Emergency Management and we'll be honored to have our new Emergency Management Director, Brad Call at the meeting, and some of his staff. So we're really looking forward to that.

CHAIR HUGHES: Thank you. Commissioner Bustamante.

COMMISSIONER BUSTAMANTE: Thank you. Just a couple of things. Brittney and I went to the kick-off for the Edgewood 25-year anniversary and they were grateful for the proclamation that we had passed at our last meeting.

And the WPAC completed the results-based accountability training. I have to thank staff, especially Sara for coordinating the process. The next goal is to identify the actionable items that staff would ultimately carry out and I'm grateful to all the volunteers who showed up to work on the water issues in our area. The water issues that remain as the highest concern in the La Cienega area and that's really all I have. Thank you.

CHAIR HUGHES: Thank you. Commissioner Hansen.

COMMISSIONER HANSEN: Thank you. I know that a number of us are going to NACo. I want to recognize and thank Senator Ben Ray Lujan. I have brought forward a resolution at NACo that will be presented which is a proposed resolution requesting presidential appointment and US Senate confirmation of new members on the Department of Energy's Defense Nuclear Facilities Safety Board.

I consider that the most important board in the country. They oversee all of the federal and nuclear facilities and today, in the Senate, Senator Lujan oversaw the appointment of Patricia Lee, that gives the board for at least three or four more months a quorum, which they have not had for quite some time. The chair, Joyce Connery, will be term-limited in October so they will be back to two members but hopefully in the next couple of months they can once again come out and do some meetings, which I was incredibly happy – I had shared with Senator Lujan the resolution that I'm bringing forward which says presidential appointment and Senate confirmation needed of up to four new members on the Defense Nuclear Facilities Safety Board.

And the proposed policy is NACo urges the president to appoint additional

members to the Defense Nuclear Facilities Safety Board. The US Senate Armed Services Committee to report favorably additional members of the Board and for the US Senate to confirm up to four new members of the board this year.

The background is that the Defense Nuclear Facilities Safety Board was created by Congress to provide oversight and information to the public on safety issues related to Department of Energy's nuclear facilities. In operation since October 1989, the Defense Nuclear Facilities Safety Board reviews and evaluates the content and implementation of health and safety standards, as well as other requirements related to the design, construction, operation, and decommissioning of nuclear facilities.

The board is composed of the five respected experts in the field of nuclear safety with demonstrated competency and knowledge relevant to its independent investigation and oversight functions. The five members are appointed by the president for a term of office based on a list of qualified individuals from the National Academy of Science with no more than three members from the same political party. Appointees are considered by the Senate Armed Services Committee and confirmed by the US Senate. There are currently three vacancies on the board. Thanks to Senator Lujan there is now two vacancies.

The DNFSB has 16 facilities that they see the oversight on and it's good for people to understand that everything that's every reported in the New Mexican or any newspaper about any of the safety problems that happen at LANL or any of the other facilities throughout the United States comes from the Defense Nuclear Facilities Safety Board.

The 16 other facilities are: California Livermore. Rocky Flats, Idaho, Nevada, New Mexico, New York, West Valley Demonstration Project; Ohio, Fernald, is a closure project and Mound; Savannah River; Tennessee, Texas, Pantex; and Washington.

The board and its staff are essential to providing adequate protection of public health and safety at those defense nuclear facilities, including with respect to the health and safety of those at defense nuclear facilities including with respect to the health and safety of employees and contractors at such facilities. Many of the facilities handle very dangerous nuclear material and are aging. Board oversight addresses safety concerns and provides recommendations for safety improvements as well as identifying best practices. The board also reviews design, construction, safety and operational aspects of new nuclear facilities.

Resident inspectors at facilities provide weekly or monthly written reports about safety activities at the sites. These reports often provide the first public information about health and safety issues.

Since October 2023 there have been two board members: Joyce Connery and Thomas Summers. Chair Connery's term expires on October 18, 2025 and Vice Chair Summers expires on October 18, 2025. So we're happy that Dr. Patricia L. Lee, her term will expire on October 18, 2027, and she was just confirmed today by the entire Senate.

In May of 2024 President Biden nominated William Isaac White to a term that expires on October 18, 2028. Mr. White has been the senior advisor for EM at the DOE, and that leads me to my next topic, which is that there is now going to be a townhall. It will be held on Monday, July 22nd from 6:00 to 7:30 at the Hilton Santa Fe Buffalo Thunder. It will also be led by Jill Hruby and the new environmental management senior

advisor, Candice Robertson. It is a follow-up from the townhall that I did with them in April of last year. They chose to not have any elected officials do the townhall because it's an election year. I don't quite buy that but that was what they told me from their legal standpoint.

So those are two of the big events coming up. I hope that this resolution will pass. Many years ago when I first joined NACo I was able to protect the Defense Nuclear Facilities Safety Board from being put out of business under the Trump administration so I think it's really important that NACo weigh in on this issue.

The other resolution I'll be bringing forth at NACo is a platform change to protect enhanced pollinator species and their habitats throughout our nation's counties. Every year I've brought forward a resolution to protect enhanced pollinators as I've done here at the County and so since this is my last year at NACo I wanted to make sure it was in the platform. So I'm hoping that that will pass also.

On July 4th I had the fun time of going to Pancakes on the Plaza, and then on July 1st we had an Agua Fria Village meeting. I also want to once again thank Representative Leger Fernandez for her check of \$500,000 for electrical upgrades.

And then my next Coffee and Tea under the Trees will be July 27th with Manager Shaffer, which is my guest and we'll be talking about the budget and County business and how things operate for the people I the Village of Agua Fria.

Also, I'm incredibly excited also and I hope that Commissioner Bustamante will be able to join the Women of NACo meeting, which we will be going to the Tampa Art Museum on Saturday night. We have a joint reception with the Arts and Culture Committee of NACo, and then we will be having our business meeting on Sunday afternoon and I have been working on their full agenda, which is packed with nationwide giving a presentation on investing. So women investing. So that's my update for today. I figured I had lots of time, so I figured we still have a five o'clock.

CHAIR HUGHES: Plenty of time. Commissioner Greene is going to take up some more time.

COMMISSIONER GREENE: I'll take up some time. Thank you very much. I too will be going to NACo on Thursday and I look forward to learning some best practices and opportunities that other counties are doing around the country and bringing them back for ideas on how we can support our community the best we can with great ideas and money and different opportunities.

I also, to Commissioner Hamilton's point, comment about insurance for the fire insurance area, I know that this is actually going to be on the interim committees, one of the study points in the Rural and Economic Subcommittee or Interim Committee during the interims this year and so I would hope that we take the opportunity to be briefed in this and support different solutions that might help our constituents. I know that all of our districts probably have this but I know the districts 1 and 4 seem to have the most forested areas that are going to be the most at risk for fire but also the most at risk for losing insurance coverage.

Lastly, I would like to thank the Board for supporting the letter to the EPA asking for an extension of time and a formal public hearing, and I can report that in fact we did receive, and the community did receive an additional 90 days for the comment period and the offer of a public hearing here in Santa Fe, some time most likely to be in the month of

September. The comment period has now been extended to September 30th and with a sort of 30-day correction period for the resort to correct some errors that were found in their application and then the comment period will reopen again formally from August 1st to September 30th.

The EPA, we appreciate the EPA's listening to the community and to us here when we asked for this. Our Washington delegation has been responsive of this as have some of our delegation at the state legislature who have been paying attention to this. And so it's sort of been a little all hands on deck opportunity to get the resort to really do the right thing. We understand that they've done a lot of the right things to begin with but it's just this last ten percent is the sticky that is not sticking is the point right now and I think that we can get them there but we'll see where that goes.

And we thank you very much, everybody. I hope you have a wonderful couple weeks and we'll see you on the other side of Tampa.

CHAIR HUGHES: All right. Thank you. I just have a few things. First of all I want to mention that Eldorado, all the grass is green and this is very early in the season and of course it didn't turn green at all last year, so we're all celebrating the green grass.

I have Hour with Hank tomorrow at 5:30 and the main subject of that one will also be the emergency planning. My constituents are very concerned also. They feel like there's many threats in District 5, either proposed or existing, including the transport of lots of nuclear waste to WIPP. And so they want a really good emergency plan and they want to be part of it.

So I'm going to announce, I guess we have a public meeting or kick-off meeting of the committee on August 2nd at 3:00 pm, so we want everybody to go that and find out what the next steps are.

I'm glad to be part of Commission Impossible. What are we? Number 4 or something?

COMMISSIONER HAMILTON: Yes. Commission Impossible Four. [inaudible] protocols.

COMMISSIONER HANSEN: When does this start?

COMMISSIONER HAMILTON: Yesterday. We are right into it already.

CHAIR HUGHES: So you need to go back in time and exercise.

COMMISSIONER HANSEN: Luckily I took a walk around the block.

CHAIR HUGHES: Thank you, Commissioner Bustamante and Manager Shaffer, for going to the Governor's meeting about AOT, I think it's called. Assisted Outpatient Treatment, which is her idea. It's not a great idea but hopefully it can be an opportunity to get some money for better behavioral health services in Santa Fe. I'm not sure how much it helps to have a judge tell someone to go get treatment when there isn't treatment, but if we can make the treatment available, that's the important part I think. Make it available and perhaps even give some of the homeless people housing so that we can find them to give them treatment. But we'll work on that.

Then finally, the ECIA has invited me to their board meeting next week in which they want an update on all our capital projects, so I'll make sure all our capital projects are on our list.

COMMISSIONER HANSEN: Who are you going to present to, the

capital projects.?

CHAIR HUGHES: The ECIA, Eldorado Community Improvement Association. And that's it. So any other –

COMMISSIONER HANSEN: Yes. I made sure to present it to the Agua Fria Village Association at our meeting on July 1st. So I think it's good to get it out in the community.

B. Elected Officials' Issues and Comments, Including but not Limited to Constituent Concerns, Recognitions and Requests for Updates or Future Presentations

CHAIR HUGHES: Next, I think we can have matters from the other elected officials. Are there any other elected officials who want to say anything? No one? Okay. Well, then I think we should take a break until 3:45 and then we'll have a public hearing, Matters of Public Concern.

[The Commission recessed from 3:25 to 3:46.]

8. Matters of Public Concern

CHAIR HUGHES: I'll call the meeting back to order for Matters of Public Concern. Is someone online?

DANIEL FRESQUEZ (Media Specialist): One person pre-registered, Mr. Chris Mechels.

CHAIR HUGHES: Okay. Does anybody in the room want to speak to us? Will go with Chris first I guess. Set the three-minute timer. Go ahead.

CHRIS MECHELS: Okay, I'll proceed. Good day, Chair and members of the Commission. I want to revisit, again, sadly, the problem we're having with IPRA, with the IPRA processing in the County. I've mentioned to you a couple previous times and it's gotten worse. You're records custodian happens to be your County Attorney, because that's what you've appointed him to be, has made a couple of policy changes that actually made things worse. So instead of having one records custodian now it appears that he things we have five.

Unfortunately, the other four don't seem to be agreeing with him, so it really suggests to me that the Board, I mean the Commission, needs to take some action. You can't just keep pretending that this is working. It is not working. It hasn't worked very well in the past and right now it's just a floating disaster.

So I suggest then if you want to see what's going on is go talk to the Attorney General, or invite them over to brief you, because you don't seem to have any understanding, either in the Board or with the County Attorney about what the requirements of IPRA are. And IPRA is one of the most important acts we have in this state because it allows the public access to the records, including your records. So unless you don't want the public to see your records, maybe you should be concerned here, because right now they're having a heck of a hard time getting through IPRA requests.

Again, your County Attorney, who is the current records custodian, by your

rulings, by your resolution, needs to do his job and he appears to either not know what that job is concerning IPRA, which may be the case because he's not from New Mexico originally, or he knows what it is and is unwilling to do it. In either case, it appears to me that it's going to be hard to make any progress as long as the County Attorney remains the records custodian, because he's just not taking care of that problem.

I've offered to speak to his office to try to sort this out. I don't get return they don't want to talk to me. They don't want to answer my emails. I'm being stonewalled. So again, please take some action here. Have a hard talk to your County Attorney because he seems to be the source of this problem, as you are, because you've been ducking out on your responsibility, because your responsibility to IPRA is a law. You're sworn to uphold the law. It's one of the most important laws and the Board seems to have been trying to avoid it. So please stop trying to avoid your responsibilities. You are sworn to do this and so is your Attorney, where he seems intent upon not doing it. So again, I'd be happy to talk to him, to the County Attorney and try to sort this out, or talk to anybody who wants to talk to me. But just stop the stonewalling, okay?

CHAIR HUGHES: Thank you. Is there anybody else online?

MR. FRESQUEZ: Mr. Chair, there are no more members of the public online.

CHAIR HUGHES: And I don't see anybody in the audience. So that will be the end of public hearing. Is Attorney Young on the line?

JEFF YOUNG (County Attorney via Webex): Yes, Mr. Chair, Commissioners, just to add to the previous public comment, we do take IPRA very seriously and respond to many, many IPRA requests and provide thousands of documents each year. And so I do want to emphasize that. This individual's complaint I think relates to the Clerk's Office and they're being responsible for responding to IPRA requests as an elected official's office and we'll continue to look at that but I think that's the primary source there.

But again, we take that very seriously and our office has numerous years of IPRA experience as well, I might add.

CHAIR HUGHES: Do you have a public comment to make to us?

COMMISSIONER HANSEN: We're talking to you, Eric.

CHAIR HUGHES: No? Okay.

11. Matters from the County Attorney

- A. Executive Session. Limited Personnel Matters, as Allowed by Section 10-15-1(H)(2) NMSA 1978; Board Deliberations in Administrative Adjudicatory Proceedings, Including Those on the Agenda Tonight for Public Hearing, as Allowed by Section 10-15-1(H)(3) NMSA 1978; Discussion of Bargaining Strategy Preliminary to Collective Bargaining Negotiations Between the Board of County Commissioners and Collective Bargaining Units, as Allowed by Section 10-15-1(H)(5); Discussion of Contents of Competitive Sealed Proposals Pursuant to the Procurement Code During Contract Negotiations as Allowed by Section 10-15-1(H)(6); Threatened or Pending Litigation in which Santa Fe County is or May Become a**

Participant, as Allowed by Section 10-15-1 (H)(7) NMSA 1978; and, Discussion of the Purchase, Acquisition or Disposal of Real Property or Water Rights, as Allowed by Section 10-15-1(H)(8) NMSA 1978, including:

1. Tort Claim by Estate of Former Adult Detention Facility Inmate

MR. YOUNG: For executive session, Mr. Chair and Commissioners, I'd ask we go into executive session this evening to discuss threatened or pending litigation in which Santa Fe County is or may become a participant, as allowed by Section 10-15-1 (H)(7) NMSA 1978, including a tort claim by the estate of a former Adult Detention Facility inmate.

COMMISSIONER HAMILTON: Mr. Chair, can I make a motion?

CHAIR HUGHES: Yes, please.

COMMISSIONER HAMILTON: I move we go into executive session to discuss the topic just listed by our County Attorney.

CHAIR HUGHES: Second? I'll second it. Can we have a roll call? Motion by Commissioner Hamilton, seconded by me.

The motion to go into executive session passed by unanimous roll call vote as follows:

Commissioner Bustamante	Aye
Commissioner Greene	Aye
Commissioner Hamilton	Aye
Commissioner Hughes	Aye
Commissioner Hansen	Aye

[The Commission met in executive session from 3:53 to 5:02.]

CHAIR HUGHES: Okay. Meeting back into order.

COMMISSIONER HAMILTON: Mr. Chair.

CHAIR HUGHES: Yes.

COMMISSIONER HAMILTON: I'd like to move that we come out of executive session, affirming that the only things we talked about in executive session were those that were listed by the County Attorney when we went into session.

COMMISSIONER GREENE: Second.

CHAIR HUGHES: Motion from Commissioner Hamilton, seconded by Commissioner Greene.

The motion passed by unanimous [5-0] voice vote.

12. Public Hearings – ICIP

- A. Resolution No. 2024-092, a Resolution Adopting Projects for Inclusion in Santa Fe County’s Infrastructure Capital Improvement Plan (ICIP) for Fiscal Years 2026-2030; Authorizing Submittal of Plan to the New Mexico Department of Finance and Administration (DFA); and Replacing Resolution 2024-012 [Exhibit 1: Proposal Presented by Ms. Beutler]**

CHAIR HUGHES: Maxx Hendren will start.

MAXX HENDREN (Capital Planner): Thank you. Good evening, Mr. Chair and County Commissioners. This is a request to conduct the second public hearing for the Santa Fe County fiscal years 2026 to 2030 Capital Improvement Plan, the ICIP, and the 2026-2030 ICIP is due to the Department of Finance and Administration on July 12, 2024.

The ICIP is a planning tool; it’s not a funding source. It outlines the capital projects that are not fully funded and is provided to our New Mexico elected representatives for capital projects to be considered for capital outlay and for other potential funding sources. The ICIP does not contain fully funded projects, and it also does not contain every capital project in the capital budget that was approved by the Board today.

The capital planning process was adopted through Resolution 2019-101 by the Board in August of 2019. The process establishes a planning and assessment procedure for capital projects. Through this method projects can be requested, vetted for the County’s feasibility, planned and prioritized based on the County’s four strategic planning goals, the Sustainable Growth Management Plan and other planning documents. This evaluation process helps to measure a project’s efficacy in achieving the County’s goals and priorities.

A draft of the capital projects was presented to the Board on June 25, 2024. After that June 25th Board meeting the Capital Planning Committee met to address comments from the Board and the community, and vet new capital projects that were requested for feasibility on the ICIP list. The committee vetted the Clerk’s warehouse expansion. The project has neither a score nor a dollar amount since the project has not yet been scoped, but the committee recommends that it be placed on the ICIP.

The committee vetted Spur Ranch Road and recommends it not be included on the ICIP at this time. Staff wishes to approach all such roads, including Spur Ranch Road and other private roads of the same functional classification in unison and transparency. These projects would include a preliminary engineering report to identify the scope of work, and cost estimates needed to address safety standards so that the adoption of such roads could be prioritized by the Board.

Exhibit A is the final list of fiscal year 2026-2030 ICIP projects This list will be adopted and recommended during this meeting, and be attached to the resolution to adopt fiscal year 2026 to 2030 ICIP.

The Capital Planning Committee, in addition to basic need and score, they consider other factors for the top five projects on the ICIP, like whether legislative funding would advance an ongoing project, or whether the project could absorb an

amount of funding provided, or whether the County could self-fund or fund from other resources any remaining funding gap because the legislature does not usually completely fund a project. And whether funding is necessary to make a larger project financially or operationally viable, and whether the project has Countywide benefit, and whether the project has other leveraged funding.

So the Capital Planning Committee recommends the projects on the fiscal year 2026 to 20230 ICIP list along with the following top five projects: Number one, the Glorieta Village collection system; number two, the Aamodt rural water distribution lines; number three, Agua Fria Village utility sewer expansion; number four, Rail Trail segment 7; and number 5, Santa Fe River Trail from Caja del Oro to Cottonwood Drive.

The committee is requesting approval of the subject resolution and the list of projects that are included in Exhibit A, along with subject matter experts, we stand for questions and comments.

CHAIR HUGHES: Okay. Do we have the public hearing first or do we have questions from the Board? Perhaps we should open it to public hearing. Do we have a couple people on line who are commenting?

Fiscal year: Mr. Chair, I don't see anybody online indicating that they'd like to speak. We do, however, have one person pre-registered. I don't see them online.

CHAIR HUGHES: Right. Is there anybody in the room to speak to us? You can go ahead, both of you. And I guess we set a time of three minutes for these people. We'll swear you in first.

[Duly sworn, Miles Conway testified as follows:]

MILES CONWAY: My name is Miles Conway. I reside at 495 New Mexico 592, and I understand I am under oath. Mr. Chair, members of the Commission, thanks for hearing me again today. I've not brought any tales of the importance of beavers in the restoration of the water site tonight, but I am excited to see that the Rio en Medio Trail restoration remains on the ICIP list. I think it causes us, as you explained to me and us the opportunity for us to seek federal and state funding to do important trail restoration work in not only the County open space but also compel the Santa Fe National Forest and other parties to do their part in the upper watershed to protect our Village of Rio en Medio from further impacts of flooding and the degradation of the watershed system that has resulted from the fires and the floods up there.

So since I last saw you we were so pleased to find the original document, an original landowner, a historic landowner, who in the early nineties proposed to sell their land to the Santa Fe County at the time Wildlife, Mountains, Trails and Historic Places program. And in the application when he began the process of selling his land to the County, under the general description and the proposed open land and trail use, Mr. Contreras said, recreation for all of New Mexico and Santa Fe County residents, can be used as an additional parking, which is badly needed by the forest for Trail 163, can be a trailhead for hiking and horseback riding, can be used to preserve the natural beauty of the land and to protect the wildlife that live on the land.

\$1.5 million later, quite a steal, the County did acquire this treasure and right now that treasure in the County Open Space, it's in a serious state of degradation because of the condition following the wildfire and the floods, a lot of properties in our village, including our water association's tank and our well house are kind of in danger and in

peril of further impacts of flooding.

So we're encouraged to see that it's still on the ICIP list. We'd like to help the County and be a good partner in seeking funding at state and federal and County levels to do some of the trail restoration work, that your own Open Space program managers have already mapped out with the help of, with the engineering contractors you've purchased. So our Friends of Rio en Medio group has been formed. We are meeting with the Santa Fe National Forest and other interested parties in open space access, and we look forward to being very good partners to the County, restoring public access to the true treasure of all New Mexico. Thank you.

CHAIR HUGHES: Thank you.

[Duly sworn, Mickey Fong testified as follows:]

MICKEY FONG: Yes. My name is Mickey Fong. My address is 52 Rio en Medio Road, and yes, I agree to the oath. Okay. Hi. Again, my name is Mickey Fong. I am commenting on the Rio en Medio road widening proposal. I've been a resident of Rio en Medio Village for the past 25 years and I live alongside this road that's being considered for pavement widening. Rio en Medio Road is about .7 mile long and it crosses about 20 landowners' properties.

The reasoning that's stated in the proposal for the road widening has outdated information regarding the current usage. This County road is located in a historic Village or Rio en Medio that dates back to the late 1800s. The road also has a historic acequia alongside it. The road is also located in a historic green space, a river bosque, with old growth trees and granite hillsides. A blanket application of a 20-foot wide pavement wouldn't be feasible in several areas.

Currently the road use is mostly local residential traffic. Since the Medio Fire of 2020 and the flash flood that occurred in 2022 the adjacent Santa Fe County open space, the Santa Fe National Forest Trail and their parking area has been closed. Flood mitigation work in our valley is the focus right now. As the road exists under this resident use there is adequate egress with pull-outs and signage for emergency vehicles. Nonetheless, the road could use improvements such as widening of those pull-outs, upgrades for proper pavement runoff, better line of sight at tight corners, are just a few examples.

However, if this proposal is tied to restore public access on those adjacent public lands then this proposal falls short. I work in New Mexico tourism as a hiking and mountain bike guide for over a decade, so I am acutely aware of how tourism and outdoor recreation are very important to New Mexico. Since 2008 visitation to our public lands has increased markedly where parking has become a critical issue. Rio en Medio Village has witnessed this increase and the resulting safety issues for both residents and the public with a grossly insufficient and unmonitored Santa Fe National Forest parking area.

Public land visitation via Rio en Medio Road would require a different road widening proposal, one which involves the residents that live alongside this roadway, and one which includes a properly sized parking lot that is sufficiently monitored to prevent overflow parking on the roadway. Thank you. That's all I have.

CHAIR HUGHES: Thank you very much. Do we have anybody online? Anybody in the audience? Okay. That's the end of the public hearing. And we'll go to

questions from the Board I think.

COMMISSIONER BUSTAMANTE: Mr. Chair.

CHAIR HUGHES: Yes, Commissioner Bustamante.

COMMISSIONER BUSTAMANTE: So I appreciate the presentations, especially the references to flooding. And I understand that the ICIP is a process that is ongoing, that we have staff that's been collecting these recommendations. But when we look and in our conversation more recently, Manager Shaffer, in working on these issues that aren't necessarily on our list of priorities but have come up as issues that should be addressed sooner than later, like roads being wiped out as a result of – and it could be a private road as a result of County culverts that have been put in and now wiping out roads, or similar to what's happening in Rio en Medio and how we make sure that people can get in. These floods are relatively new to – and I say relatively. It's a different experience. We have more people living in these places. They might have existed.

But when we look at this ICIP, these top five priorities, what it really means to go for this and how we can make sure that if there is money that's going to be available that we're addressing these concerns that have been brought to us, that there wouldn't be any hold up, that just because they weren't on the top five staff recommendations, we couldn't proceed to go to our legislative representation and ask for funding to address these problems that have now come up with the tide, literally, the flooding that has occurred.

And it's sort of like, now what do we do to address the 100-year flood? The 100-year, it just got here. So I pose this both as a question and want to know how we would make sure that we're not stopped in our tracks when we might have the opportunity to work with our representation to get money for these issues that have been brought to our attention, without going completely rogue from the ICIP process, but acknowledging that these are things that have been concerns for community members for some time.

This isn't in any way – and I'm talking specifically about roads being flooded out, roads being problematic. I've seen where some have been on the agenda or in the ICIP list long before I got here and now they're going to be addressed, but in these cases, if we have something more immediate with these dirt roads, how could we, if somebody is going to say, all right. Here's \$150,000 to put a culvert and stop that road from being eroded. I throw that out as a question for consideration and concern.

MANAGER SHAFFER: Mr. Chair, Commissioner Bustamante, DFA requires that the ICIP contain the top five projects. The question of what projects to request funding for from the legislature is different and it will be addressed as we get closer to the session. But you're not limited to asking for funding for your top five projects. We can talk about how many projects are optimal to request such funding for, but that's a decision for a different day, though we would anticipate that the projects that are selected by the Board as being the top five projects would certainly be projects that you would request legislative funding for.

So the short answer is that decision about which projects to seek legislative funding for we'll address with the Board. It will be the Board's decision as we get closer in time to the session. I hope I understood and answered your question.

COMMISSIONER BUSTAMANTE: Thank you sincerely.

CHAIR HUGHES: Other questions? Commissioner Greene.

COMMISSIONER GREENE: Thank you, Mr. Chair. Thank you Maxx and Greg on this. Two questions. First one, I think I asked a couple weeks ago and I'm wondering where, how it ended up here still. The Espanola Pathways Shelter. What project is that? I'm fully in support of their request but I did not know that there was a new request by them. I thought the transitional housing project was completely funded, so I'm wondering what project this is. This would be item 2029-02.

MR. CORDOVA: Mr. Chair, Commissioner Greene, when reaching out to Pathways there wasn't a specific request beyond the transitional housing. However, they did not want us to remove them on our ICIP as they are potentially going to request more funding for programs and things that they're doing. So that was the request from them as we reached out to make sure it was okay to remove them. They asked that we don't remove them from the ICIP.

COMMISSIONER GREENE: It can't be program funding; this has to be capital funding.

MR. CORDOVA: Understood. And like I said, there isn't a specific project other than there potentially could be shortfalls in the transitional housing and this would give an opportunity to maybe go out and fund some of those shortfalls as we get closer to the actual project.

COMMISSIONER GREENE: Okay. I'm in support of them but it's just a bigger number than they even went through for it in the first place. They went for a \$1.5 million and now it's \$2 million and they've already gotten their \$1.5 million. Again, love their mission, love what they're going up there and they certainly need it. I just don't know if they are the body that needs to be executing this need in the Espanola market.

MR. CORDOVA: So, Mr. Chair and Commissioner Greene, last year was a good example of at the last minute they were able to manage to get some appropriation from one of the legislators and luckily they were still on the ICIP. So to avoid a last minute as well that was another consideration was to keep it on here as they may continue to lobby for monies, whether we are supporting that lobbying effort or not. They have been successful in the past in getting appropriation.

COMMISSIONER GREENE: I support putting the laundry list together and allowing them to go advocate for this if they want us to be the fiscal conduit. I just wanted to know which project that was.

The other question I have is there are a whole bunch of PERs here and feasibility studies and things that I would say are like the first money into a project. And if these projects are on our list here, and give the one-time money of federal opportunities right now, I'm wondering if there's a way that we can put a priorities list for funding these PERs ourselves, right? Because we had – just a couple hours ago we passed a budget with a little bit of excess money that we put into affordable housing, which is great, but there are other needs in the county, and I'm wondering if there are ten or twelve or fifteen projects that are PERs that are \$250,000 each. There's one that's \$30,000, that we could sort of pull out from this and say, let's not go to the legislature. Let's get ahead of this with the goal of trying to go get money from the feds.

So I give the example of County Road 77 to Diablo Canyon. That has been made clear to me as a great opportunity to go for a FLAP grant. So FLAP grants are supposed to be opening up in 2025 and so to be ready for a FLAP grant we should have the PER

and the scope of work all nailed down by then. Even if the project is ultimately going to get finished by 2029, to get the money for 2029, we need to be ready by 2025 to get the FLAP grant to build it in 26, 27, 28, or whatever – 27, 28 and open it up in 29.

I get looking five years out but I'm just wondering, how can we get a list here that says this is what we can self-fund in preparation for – whether it's a state or federal grant that we know won't be available in 2029 because you don't know what the future brings, but we wait 20 years between infrastructure bills. So I'm wondering if there's a list, a short list, of our things that we can self-fund. We can't build the whole project, but we can self-fund the PER now, so that we're ready for a FLAP grant ultimately.

MR. CORDOVA: So Mr. Chair, Commissioner Greene, I'd say this is our list. You can see that there are a lot of PERs as you mentioned. We are trying to prioritize PERs in relation or relative to the projects that don't typically score the same or as well as a project a lot of times because of our criteria. So we are working and we have talked a lot with our committee about have to have different criteria or a different approach to evaluating PERs versus PERs as opposed to PER versus a project. Otherwise, you do know a lot of the PERs tend to be the lower ranked. And that is how we would consider prioritizing it is by the ranking.

And so we do have – I think we hear you and that is our goal is to do that this year. We've put some of that money aside and we would come back as we better prioritize these PERs to make that request.

COMMISSIONER GREENE: Okay. So I guess the follow-up to that is is it possible to – we pass this today; this is fine. Get this put into DFA and so on. But that we receive a sort of report of here are the PERs, the first baby steps that we need to be – that we could self-fund and we need to be ahead of the – to be shovel-ready. To be ready to go for a successful grant application. And that we create a list that we can then all vote on and just say, here are our ten, twelve, fifteen priority PERs. First steps. Not the big project but just so that we can get ourselves ready that we can all go forward and say, yes, these are our priorities in these baby steps. I'm just wondering if that's a thing that we all want to discuss here. Not today, but in the next sort of space.

CHAIR HUGHES: Commissioner Hamilton.

COMMISSIONER HAMILTON: Thanks. So I understand why to pay attention to the PERs. PERs are one of those things that come up more quickly because when something happens, like what Commissioner Bustamante was talking about. Often the first thing you do is put on to do a PER for that. What's on the ICIP, I've been involved in projects that required – that had other sources of funding, like that you can – there's some projects you can apply – some water projects you can apply to DFA to get PER grants. But they want them on the ICIP.

And so I think the fact that they're listed here, it's not taking away. They're not usually the projects we're asking for capital funding for, but they're on our ICIP because it's like a running list of the projects we need to do. To me the information is there. I'm not sure what other voting you're asking – so for PERs, it's like, if they're urgent and somebody's looking for the funding for them, I'm assuming. Somebody's following along after which things need PERs.

COMMISSIONER GREENE: I understand, Mr. Chair. I understand that it's on the list. I just look at our budget that we just approved right now and to say, given

two converging factors, right? There's an infrastructure bill that's federal infrastructure with cycles that happen every five years, every two years, every whatever years, and that we should be trying to aim for that knowing that just to give the example of the FLAP grant into the Diablo Canyon Road but there's many examples here that say this FLAP cycle is estimated to be at 2025 and it hasn't happened in seven years, are we going to wait another seven years or are we going to be ready because the PER could be done now.

COMMISSIONER HAMILTON: It will. If there's funding, some PERs will get done. I'm not sure –

COMMISSIONER GREENE: I agree. I just hope that we could have a list of those to say, here's a rationale for why we should expedite this project over this one, or we can do all the PERs now so that we're shovel-ready for everything. I understand. I just want us to be prioritizing knowing that we'll be ready.

CHAIR HUGHES: Commissioner Hansen.

COMMISSIONER HANSEN: Thank you. This is not the list that's going to the legislature. Right? This is the list that's going to DFA. Right? I just want to make that clear. Okay. So the last time we got a FLAP grant I used some of that – the last one I know, I'm familiar with, is we used it to build the trail out to Dead Dog Road on El Camino Real. So we built that trail. We might have gotten another since then. I don't know though. I don't remember us getting another one. But I don't think that having the PER on this list is going to hurt us in any way. And I get what you're wanting down the road but having it here is kind of the first step.

COMMISSIONER GREENE: I agree. What I would like to be able to know is that in this year's cycle, like you have a timeline of deliverables and milestones to be ready for certain cycles. This could be a catchall sort of list but there should be a logic behind it to say the reason why we need to do County Road 77 is because we expect a FLAP grant this year. But the next other grant opportunity for other things might be in three years. So we don't have to do that this year.

COMMISSIONER HANSEN: The other thing is if you notice this all these have scores. So they all have scores. And the reason they have a score is the degree they need to be taken care of. Because Maxx and her team have scored all these projects so we know where they're at and we know what needs to be done. Like the Glorieta Village collection system is at 50 and the Agua Fria Village is at 38. So one of the things that we've done in the last seven years if we created – we worked with Planning to get this scoring system so we would know where we were on the needs of these projects.

COMMISSIONER GREENE: Let me ask then the question. Do you score based on availability of funding from non-recurring opportunities that the federal government makes available?

MS. HENDREN: Mr. Chair and Commissioner Greene, no, we do not have that all included in our scoring process.

COMMISSIONER GREENE: That would be my point. If we know, using the FLAP grant or other grants that are available, that there is money for EPA for wastewater treatment plants. Or there's money for bridges.

COMMISSIONER HANSEN: But isn't that also what we approved by this section that we were talking to Yvonne about of having these –

COMMISSIONER GREENE: The grant consultants.

COMMISSIONER HANSEN: Yes. The grant consultants.

COMMISSIONER GREENE: I agree. The grant consultants should be informing this to say this –

COMMISSIONER HANSEN: Not only this.

COMMISSIONER GREENE: Well, of course.

COMMISSIONER HANSEN: Not only, because these are all projects that need to be done. They need funding. And hopefully we could find funding from the feds or from the state, but in general, the state funds projects for \$400,000. I was fortunate and grateful to get \$4 million, because that was not something that we normally would get from the legislature.

COMMISSIONER GREENE: If I may ask one more question about a different project while I'm at it. Is the Tesuque regional wastewater system, has that made it on to this list? I didn't see it here, so I just want to – no, wastewater, not -

COMMISSIONER HANSEN: I think, is San I building it?

COMMISSIONER GREENE: No. Wastewater is Tesuque regional. So we have a PER already budgeted for.

MANAGER SHAFFER: Commissioner Greene, Mr. Chair, I believe the rationale for that is that all that has been identified this far is the PER and that that is 100 percent funded by the County as our best estimate. So that's why it's not on the ICIP. It could certainly be added to be able to help support any additional requests that might come, but that was the rationale as to why it's not on the list.

COMMISSIONER GREENE: Okay. I guess since this is a living document, I'd be happy to support this in its current fashion, but I would love to see that scored and ranked, because given the issues that we're seeing at Bishop's Lodge and knowing that Tesuque Pueblo has \$5 million already, potentially willing to be used towards a regional solution, and the opera has \$3.5 million, we're cooking with gas right now. We've got some money in the hopper for a regional solution, so finding a way to add it to this at least by the time we get to the legislature would be one of my goals, I think. We could do it now too, but anyway.

CHAIR HUGHES: Well, I'd like to propose a change to the list because Avenida Azul Trail, which is now 29-05, but that is the top priority of my district, by my constituents. I don't go on Avenida Azul, but I have driven on it and it is dangerous without a walking path. And that would put it above the Rail Trail, segment 7, which is very nice and important but it's not – people aren't endangered by the fact that it doesn't exist. So I don't know if we could put that above Rail Trail #7 and move everything down one. Or take out Rail Trail segment #7. That trail I think is only in District 4 anyway. Maybe two feet of it are in District 5, but once it crosses 285 it's in District 4. Not that I'm complaining because I think it is everybody in Eldorado who's going to use that eventually, but their priority is Avenida Azul Trail. So I'd like to rather see that prioritized.

COMMISSIONER HAMILTON: Would you say – what is the Avenida Azul project? It's not part of a trail system? It's like having a trail on the side of the road? How much is it? I haven't found it on the list. I'm sorry.

CHAIR HUGHES: It's 28-05 and it's estimated at \$3 million. I think it

will be less. It's a paved trail alongside the road.

COMMISSIONER HAMILTON: I'm just wondering if – part of the rationale – and this is just a question. Part of the rationale for sort of the economic and broader public use implications of finishing the trail system compared to the road, do we typically fund road projects like that through GO bonds and through other means? I have no objection. I'm not arguing against switching. I understand it's an important project.

COMMISSIONER HANSEN: It might be a good project for a GO bond.

COMMISSIONER HAMILTON: I don't know. I'm just asking is what's the logic of putting it forward to 2029 because of the way the funding cycles go for the roads, to fund roads, or –

CHAIR HUGHES: I don't understand why it's 2029 anyway because we've already funded the study to estimate the cost and design it.

COMMISSIONER HAMILTON: Well, that might be why. Maybe it should go on the list – it should be moved off but not till next year if they're just designing it there's no way they're going to start building it in a year. So maybe the argument should be to move it to 2025 instead of 2029 or 2026.

COMMISSIONER HANSEN: Or 2027.

COMMISSIONER HAMILTON: I don't know how long it takes to do the study, but that's exactly what happened with the Glorieta sewage thing that's on. It's been on the list for quite a few – for several years. And it wasn't – the priorities also had to do with where it was in funding. Now, it's had a design, blah blah blah. So maybe we should argue to move yours up but not to the 2024 list because they're just doing the design for it; it's not ready to be built.

CHAIR HUGHES: It will be ready in 26.

COMMISSIONER HAMILTON: Okay, so 2024. So why switch it out now and get funding for construction that isn't going to happen until after the design? Just asking. I mean seriously. It's a valid question from the point of view of being strategic, that's all.

CHAIR HUGHES: Yes. But if it's designed – I don't know where the design is.

MR. CORDOVA: Mr. Chair, if I may, after discussing with Director Snyder, it's not completely designed. We still have further design to work on and in collaboration with the community, there's still some decisions that have to be made that go through the community, like which side of the road they put it on. So it isn't completely designed. That cost is an estimate based on preliminary discussion but we would need to complete the design to get a complete, accurate cost of what it would be at today's dollars.

CHAIR HUGHES: Yes. I understand that but next week I'm going to be asked very directly, when are we going to build Azul Trail. And I want to say it's number three on the list or number four on the list, not number 217 on the list, because that's what they want.

MANAGER SHAFFER: The list belongs to the Board. The only thing that I would add as we're putting the list together is one of the things that went into staff's thinking is that either of these are projects that are priorities such that the County has prioritized them and will complete them using GO bond funding or any other source, or

they're such that the project can absorb whatever is provided because they can be phased. Agua Fria fits within that bill. Within reason if we get a million we could do a street. The Pojoaque Basin Regional Water System is not dissimilar. Whatever money could be given to that project could be absorbed. We don't need the full amount.

With something like Avenida Azul we're never going to get anywhere close to \$3 million for that project from the legislature in my opinion, so just as you prioritize and you make that decision to request it, on the back end, if the legislature provides money for construction, what have you, the only expectation is you're going to fill the gap. As I said, if the Board is prepared to go forward with that sense of prioritization, that's the Board's decision but I just want to make that point. It's rarely that I envision that large of a dollar amount coming from a single legislative cycle and so if it's going to be prioritized here, I would just say let's prioritize it when you think about bond projects as well so that you can actually complete it. That's all I can say for consideration. Thank you.

CHAIR HUGHES: It seems to be the priority in District 5.

COMMISSIONER HAMILTON: Well, okay. But this is also a countywide priority and I think it's really invaluable because there are always projects that every one of us can go with. This is a way bigger priority here. Sewage distribution system in Glorieta, that sewage distribution is a basic need that was completely failing. There was no point in arguing two years ago to make it the priority project when funding came in and still didn't have its design. So I just think it makes a lot of sense to look at the practical realities as well. And I think we have – we had looked at a whole bunch of projects for GO bond, and that road wasn't on them.

My suggestion is – and we're not suggesting putting all the GO bond funds. My suggestion is to find out why it was ranked – and I think part of the answer, why it was put down at 2029, like I said, I think part of the answer was it will take at least another year for design and then there were other projects that had been moving up the list. That's something we can change. Like you can rearrange sequence. It's not first come first served. It's supposed to be other senses of priority. But put it on the list for 2026 when it will be ready for construction and when we might – you guys might be going out for that additional GO bond funding and you could do it all in one swell foop and show the commitment to the project when it's ready to be committed to. That's my suggestion.

CHAIR HUGHES: Well, it's cheaper than segment #7 too, so it's easier to do.

COMMISSIONER HAMILTON: I mean –

COMMISSIONER HANSEN: Mr. Chair, on this list it has the P-25 public safety radio network. That's something that we're working on right now. And just because it says 2027-03 doesn't mean that we're not going to do anything until 2027. I'm using some –

COMMISSIONER HAMILTON: It's a good example, and it also doesn't mean – it's really not an argument of which is the most important project to do, because you could argue that the radio public safety is hugely important. So is sewage treatment. So is water quality. So are the road safety things and the trails. So we have to think about mostly other factors, multiple factors at once.

COMMISSIONER HANSEN: Mr. Chair, the most important thing is it's

on the list.

COMMISSIONER HAMILTON: Right.

COMMISSIONER BUSTAMANTE: So Mr. Chair, then it begs the question then why do we have five priorities when we just acknowledged that there are things that have more important – when I say important, like health and safety, emergency response, issues associated with them. When I look at Rail Trail segment 7, as nice as it is, and it's a priority, but to put it way up there as a list of priorities. When I think of roadways being washed away, literally a neighbor at a meeting on Saturday saying can you please get them to move this up as a concern. I asked her to send me the email for the exact street name because she couldn't get to her home at night and it's a County road. But it's not on this list.

There are other things that are on this list that we know are these issues but they're way down there. There's planning that has to go on. So let's go around this bureaucratic nightmare and let's put something in there in the top five that actually addresses health, safety and emergency response concerns. This is a list we have to submit to them and our top five priorities are something that are aspirational? I'm not really getting the point. I feel like I'm a big five-year-old and I need some better explanation as to why this is happening and what this is all about, if it really doesn't matter what goes to the legislature and our priorities are –

COMMISSIONER HAMILTON: It does matter. Maybe it would be good to get another really detailed explanation. But some of it is whenever there are different sources of funding. We do fund outdoor – we have voted to purchase land when we have people flooded out on roads. Why would we do that? Because in the big picture and the long term we put money into open space and to people's wellbeing from those points of view as well as to infrastructure. This is just one place to ask for money for those things, right? But there's some things you don't bother to ask for money because of the nature of what they'll put money toward at the legislature.

There are many other funding sources that require things be on the list. So these rankings and what not, this is not like – these are not the top five projects from certain points of view, but it's not meaningless that we're submitting this to DFA. Right? So maybe it would be worth having – because it's a strategy as well as direct funding. And like I think Commissioner Hansen started, when we actually – we will give consideration to what we'll actually lobby for when the session comes around, this will be the basic list and then they'll ask, well, how does this jibe with your top five projects? And we'll explain it to them.

CHAIR HUGHES: But that's why I'd rather put it up in number five now.

COMMISSIONER HAMILTON: I know, but your projects not ready to build. I don't understand why –

CHAIR HUGHES: But it's easily going to be ready to build next year. Easily. How long does it take to design a trail? And they're designing it.

COMMISSIONER HAMILTON: Okay.

COMMISSIONER GREENE: This goes to the point of every project should be on the list, right? And then a prioritization of what can be funded and designed in the early stages so that we quantify it. And then we go to the legislature and there may be five projects up there, but I have three legislators, five legislators in my district, and

my number one priority might not be – four of the legislators might not care about those projects, that one projects. And so they say, you know what? I'm going to take something from lower down on your thing and fund that.

So everything should be on there if it passes a certain level of vetting from our planning. And then we go and have a strategy to go get money for it, cobble it together and hopefully we'll get enough money, whether it's from the legislature or it's from – if this list, if it's not on list is it ineligible for federal money? No? Should it be on the list to be more eligible for federal money?

MS. HENDREN: Mr. Chair and Commissioner Greene, if it's on the list, it's definitely a plan and we can add points for our application process for grants. So it's beneficial to have projects on the list.

COMMISSIONER GREENE: So going back to Tesuque regional wastewater, wastewater, wastewater. Not Aamodt. If we have money – not us, well, we do. The opera via Santa Fe County has money for wastewater, and the pueblo has money for wastewater, and we know that there's a regional need for a wastewater system in that area, and we happen to know that the EPA has potential grant money for this, shouldn't that project be on here, even if it's five years down the line, so that we have the incentive to say, hey, it's on our list and there's opportunistic money right now.

If there was no federal money, who cares? Right? We would all care, but we should have it on the list so that we can legitimately go to the EPA and say, look, it's on our list. Please, what do we need to do to get that money?

MR. CORDOVA: Mr. Chair, Commissioners, I hear what you're saying and definitely the PER would create projects that we would put on the list, different projects that would come out of the PER that we would then want to prioritize over time. But to your point, there are already projects on here that have been planned for years. If you look at the top five, none of those are brand new projects. They've been being worked on for many, many years, maybe even a decade on some of these, and they've gotten to this point, where they've kind of clawed up to the top five.

The PER for Tesuque Valley will tell us what projects we should go after but there might be projects on this already that are eligible for federal funding that would be the priority above Tesuque Valley. So I totally understand the idea of looking at our list. We did that last year. We went and cross-checked the list. We gave it to North Central for their grant writers to look at and take a look and see what priorities they could help us pursue and we could definitely do a better job of that this year, but that's the intention, to do that again, take a look at what's on the list and what is eligible for that type of funding and pursue it.

But in terms of a PER that hasn't really identified a project yet, that's probably not the best use of time to pursue federal funding if we don't have a real true project to pursue when we have other projects that might be more suitable.

COMMISSIONER GREENE: I would agree if it is a project without anchor tenants. But in the case of Tesuque Valley wastewater project there are two major funding sources and two major users already there that could build their own individual projects but if Santa Fe County decides to work collaboratively and to bring them all under one project – boom – we're halfway – maybe not halfway, we're a quarter of the way funded. And given the sort of local match –

COMMISSIONER HAMILTON: Again, it's not a described project. It has to be – there's – it should be put on the list as soon as you have – the PER is the path to putting it on the list.

COMMISSIONER GREENE: I agree. We put it in our budget a year ago and we haven't completed the PER. So there's a level of wouldn't it be nice if we actually had the PER completed so I could go to NACo in a week and say, hey, EPA people, is this an eligible project?

COMMISSIONER HAMILTON: You can still ask that.

COMMISSIONER GREENE: I can, but it's not on the list and it isn't defined yet because – I understand. I'm just –

CHAIR HUGHES: Commissioner Hansen, did you have something?

COMMISSIONER HANSEN: Yes. Thank you, Mr. Chair. I have advocated from day one. Day one, for Agua Fria Village sewer, because that's what my constituents want. And where it is, I'm happy. I'll live with it. I'd like it to be number one. I'll live with it at number three. But – and I do sympathize with the fact that that's what your constituents want. They want that trail but it's on the list at least. That's to me an important part. And maybe it gets moved up to 26-13. Or 26 or 27, 26-18, which we don't have. Just add you in.

CHAIR HUGHES: Well, I think it'd be better as 26-05, because when Matthew McQueen asked me what Eldorado wants, I'm not going to say the Rail Trail; I'm going to say Azul. And he's going to give us all the money for Azul. They have to build it anyway.

COMMISSIONER HANSEN: So maybe you move the Rail Trail down to 26-06, or 26-18, or wherever you want it.

CHAIR HUGHES: That's the Rail Trail up there. The Rail Trail's nice too. I'm not against it.

COMMISSIONER GREENE: The prioritization is to get it ready to get to be able to build it, right? It's to get it down. So the first part is yes, it'd be nice if it was in our top five because that's what we tell our lobbyist to go get the money. But you can go talk to Representative McQueen and say, look, it isn't our top five for whatever reason, but the Public Works team has done the design work, so it is ready to go, even if it isn't in our top five. I want all the money for that. You could tell them you don't care about Rail Trail segment #7.

CHAIR HUGHES: But it's to get us all on the same page, to put it in our top five, because we're going to build it next year anyway.

COMMISSIONER HAMILTON: Do you want to bet on that? Do you want to lay money on whether you'll actually be able to break ground by the time you have to put out an RFP and everything. I think 2026 is realistic. I think 2025 is unrealistic. Bless you if it happens. I'm not trying to be nasty, I just think –

CHAIR HUGHES: Nothing's on the 25 here. I'm not suggesting we make it 25.

COMMISSIONER HANSEN: This is – said it was 2026 to 2030. So we're on that year.

COMMISSIONER HAMILTON: Yes, I know that. I thought, Mr. Chair, that you said it could be built next year. Next year is 2025. If you're talking about fiscal

year then that's where we're disconnecting here.

CHAIR HUGHES: The legislative money won't come till the end of 2025.

COMMISSIONER HANSEN: Or 2026.

CHAIR HUGHES: Yes, so, anyway.

COMMISSIONER BUSTAMANTE: Mr. Chair, not to digress from this conversation, but I'm going to anyway. I have constituents who had met with you all and one in particular regarding the Camino Torcido Loop asking for it to be on the ICIP. It obviously would not be a priority but I don't see it on the list. So we have flooding. When I think about all the problems that we have, we have this area and why this raises to a level of concern that should be a priority given the contamination in that particular area, and we have known flooding that we have as a County dealt with nominally in the past. I would say we've gone in and we've put band-aids here and there on this particular area.

A couple of months ago we had a constituent who lives in that area request that the – I would say – I can't even say that the evaluation of this flooding. I think we've done a bit of that work. But that this flooding in this area be addressed. And it is the area where we have the highest PFAS issues. So it's not even something that – the groundwater is already problematic and it was requested that we do something and have it at least put on the ICIP list, which it is not. Unless it's called something I don't see.

I put this just as the problematic example, but why isn't that on this list? And then we have people who are coming in and saying their roads are washed out completely. I get that there are other problems, issues, fun things like trails, that have been on the list, they're going to get worked on, they've become a priority. Let's get it done. Let's call it done. My flags are all over the place. If this is just to submit something because we're required to submit something, then why is it that if somebody even requested it be on the list, and my whole thing with regard to, yes, safety and health needs to be a priority, and I think of Camino Torcido being the number one area in our county that has PFAS, and when they ask to have it addressed in a flooding zone, where we know this contaminant exists but it just didn't even make the list, then I just kind of go, what are we doing?

I'm sorry. I feel like a total – am I missing something? It got suggested two months ago but it's one of those when I hear our Chair say I'm going to be asked. I'm definitely going to be asked about this and the problem with that one is it's of national concern type of issues. Like this isn't something that's just a dream thing they want. This is something that is going to affect contamination in an area that's really problematic. So I'm like, when we all get asked what our priorities are, that's going to be the number one that's going to sort of grab me by the ankles and throw me down and drag me down the road. And that's what we did in the olden days and that's what will happen to me metaphorically.

MR. CORDOVA: So Mr. Chair, Commissioner Bustamante, the constituent did attend our public hearing. He did bring up that project. It was actually the project he mentioned was the project that had already been completed. When we told him – what he wanted to enquire more about was what's in litigation at this time. He didn't propose a new project in terms of flooding or concerns about flooding. That wasn't brought to our attention during that public hearing. It was specifically about the project that had been completed, minus the one piece that's still in litigation. That was his number one concern. When we explained that to him he actually withdrew his request to

have a project on the list. That's why it's not on the list. The constituent himself didn't bring a new project. He was happy at the end – well, I can't say happy – at the end of the day he understood that it's still within litigation and he asked us to continue to pursue a solution.

COMMISSIONER BUSTAMANTE: There are expectations that addressing the flooding at Camino Torcido Loop is going to be addressed. That's been resolved. Because that was my understanding as of this past Saturday.

MR. CORDOVA: Mr. Chair, Commissioner Bustamante, that wasn't the project that was brought to us. If that is a true concern that wasn't brought to us at that time. We'd be more than happy to hear that but that wasn't what came to the committee. What came to the committee was the project that had already been completed, minus that one piece that he was most concerned about, which is still in litigation. But however, if there is a new project that's specific to the flooding we'd be more than happy to hear that and we would run it through the process. We absolutely would. But it wasn't something that we ignored and didn't put on the list. The project as presented was withdrawn at the end as we tried to explain that the project was complete minus that piece.

COMMISSIONER BUSTAMANTE: Mr. Chair and Maxx, and Assistant Manager, in the interest of this particular area, if we can just please make note, there is flooding in that particular area all the way around to where the Santa Fe River goes up into the neighbors on the other side. The water table is very shallow. It's a flooding area. It hasn't stopped, even if something had been addressed, and it was brought to my attention again. So I'm happy to hear that it was heard, and it sounds to me like you were listening. So I will take that in stride and ask that we please look for future ICIPs, lists, that we're putting those flooding issues in that particular area, one a list, and making it a priority in the interest of addressing that type of contamination. That and frankly the E. coli. It's a mess. You don't want to get me started.

But all of that in this area where people literally drive through these puddles with regularity. Because it's happening. It might be one of those days today where you can go through and splash on your way home. But I appreciate it. Thank you.

MR. CORDOVA: Mr. Chair, Commissioner Bustamante, I would highly anticipate, just like the PER or Tesuque Valley wastewater, the planning efforts that we're undertaking in La Cienega and La Cieneguilla will likely yield a few projects that you'll see in the future on the ICIP that would be high priority through those planning efforts. So I definitely wanted to continue to listen to the concerns through those efforts as well and make what comes out of that something that will be a future project.

COMMISSIONER BUSTAMANTE: Thank you.

CHAIR HUGHES: Okay. Commissioner Greene.

COMMISSIONER GREENE: Thank you, Mr. Chair. One more question. I feel this disconnect that maybe is my misunderstanding between the different lists of capital projects. So ICIP is different than a capital list. But there should sort of be a consolidated list that we review and say these are the ICIP sort of things and these are the other capital things. So I'll give you an example. About two weeks ago, whenever it was, relatively recently, there was a project in Commissioner Bustamante's district on General Goodwin. Paving, first mile, something like that. It's not on this list. And so how do these things get on one list, not on one list? Why? There should be some overlap in these things

in a way that we can comprehensively see there's a reason why it's not on this, but it is on this, and a logic in there.

MR. CORDOVA: So Mr. Chair, Commissioner Greene, that's a good example of what is on our ICIP list that is fully funded. That project has been in procurement and is moving along to be put out to bid soon. So that's the difference. The ICIP is mostly projects that have no funding or not enough funding and we're trying to close the gaps. So General Goodwin is on this ICIP list and it is one of those projects that's been developed to the point that it's within our Procurement now and we're moving that forward for RFP.

COMMISSIONER GREENE: Great explanation. Thank you.

MS. HENDREN: And, Chairman Hughes and Commissioner Greene, that project was on a previous ICIP list that was removed prior to maybe 2020.

COMMISSIONER GREENE: Great. Those sort of like cycle, sort of like showing the progress if these things from ICIP to now funded, the reason it moved off of this list is because it's successful, or it's unnecessary, right? To show those things and to sort of put that other list of the projects that are just those PERs. We don't even know the scope of these things yet but we need to get them – anyway, future things, the way that we lay it out for us and the public to understand what our thought process is. Thank you.

COMMISSIONER HANSEN: Mr. Chair.

CHAIR HUGHES: Yes.

COMMISSIONER HANSEN: I would suggest that when we do the ICIP list for the legislature that you request that Avenida Azul be put on as your top priority.

CHAIR HUGHES: Yes. I want it number one, above the Agua Fria. It's just easier if I make number four here.

COMMISSIONER HANSEN: I'm happy wherever you put it. I won't be here.

CHAIR HUGHES: I would think you can put Avenida Azul Trail as number four and move the Rail Trail to number six and the rest down.

MS. HENDREN: Commissioner Hansen and Mr. Chair, this list is your priority list and we can move the project up if that is your priority project.

CHAIR HUGHES: Yes. That's what I want.

COMMISSIONER GREENE: Mr. Chair, I will support that, and Mr. Chair, may I ask a question? Is it against protocol to reopen public comment? Because do have some folks that have shown up a little late that are working people that have shown up to testify in support of some things. Is that something that we can do?

CHAIR HUGHES: Yes. We can reopen the public hearing. Shall we do that now?

COMMISSIONER GREENE: You're the chair.

CHAIR HUGHES: The two people who walked in, do you want to say something to us? Okay. Come forward now and be sworn in.

[Duly sworn, Mikahla Beutler testified as follows:]

MIKAHLA BEUTLER: My name is Mikahla Beutler. My address is 495 New Mexico 592, and I understand I am under oath.

CHAIR HUGHES: We have a three-minute time limit, so put the timer up.

MS. BEUTLER: I'm a little less nervous than last time and I wrote myself

some notes. So I just want to say I'm here today representing a group that we've started called the Friends of the Rio en Medio, and our mission is to pursue the opening, maintenance and conservation of the Rio en Medio Trail and we wanted to come share today so that we could share – just add our voice to the voice of people who would like to see that space restored and we think the two line items on the sheet around open space restoration and road widening would really help our cause and our mission.

We had a really lovely gathering last week sitting out in the garden where we could look across from Los Alamos to Black Mesa to Las Truchas from our little Rio en Medio neighborhood talking about some of the stories of the trails and some of the families telling us about how they used to drive cattle up on that trail and run jeeps and then wedding proposals and pets and loved ones whose ashes are on that trail. And it was just a really beautiful time to hear people sharing about what that trail means to them, which enriched our mission.

We've identified through some of our neighbors and some of the community three four issues that we think these two line items could help with: parking management, of course, the fire and flood mitigation, and the road and traffic safety that people are concerned about in the area, and also, this might be one that hasn't been considered yet, the preservation of the Alto Acequia. That is one of the oldest acequias supposedly in New Mexico that might have been used by the pueblos even before the Hispanic community was here.

So we have come up with a huge list of solutions to that, to these problems, and I actually printed one out and I can give it to you if I have permission to do that. Because I know we don't have time to talk about it. But we think that if the County's on board with this and wants to be part of the solution it will set a path for the Forest Service, which we have a meeting with tomorrow, and the state to jump on board, and we would love to just have a coalition of everyone working to keep the space open to the whole community. So that's it. Thank you so much. And I don't know if I can give you our list of solutions or not.

CHAIR HUGHES: Thank you for that. Yes. Anyone else that wants to speak? Okay, we'll close public hearing. I think we're ready, maybe, to make a motion.

MS. HENDREN: Chairman Hughes, I want to just verify that we are going to amend the Exhibit A to move up the Avenida Azul path project, and then we're going to take the Rail Trail segment 7 and we're going to move it down based off of basic need and score, where it would align, which is around 27-12. So based on that we will have to redo the exhibit for the resolution.

CHAIR HUGHES: Well, do we want to move it all the way down there or do we just want to move it to #6? I guess after that, after the top five you do rank them according to the total score.

COMMISSIONER HANSEN: That's right.

CHAIR HUGHES: They do it by the total score?

COMMISSIONER HANSEN: Yes. It's on the list.

CHAIR HUGHES: I know.

COMMISSIONER HANSEN: I will make a motion to accept Maxx's suggestion to replace 2604 with Avenida Azul, and then move the Rail Trail into its list of numbering, in its ranked position. That's my motion to approve the Exhibit A list for

the ICIP.

COMMISSIONER GREENE: I'll second that.

CHAIR HUGHES: Okay. Motion by Commissioner Hansen, seconded by Commissioner Greene.

The motion passed by [3-0] voice vote with Commissioners Bustamante and Hamilton abstaining.

CHAIR HUGHES: Thank you, Maxx, for that change.

MS. HENDREN: Thank you.

COMMISSIONER GREENE: Mr. Chair, thank you for reopening the –

CHAIR HUGHES: Yes. Thank you for the comments.

13. Public Hearings

A. Esencia Holdings, LLC **TABLED**

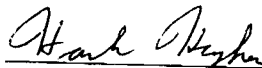
14. Concluding Business

A. **Announcements**

B. **Adjournment**

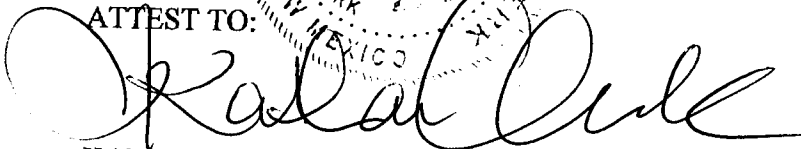
Commissioner Bustamante moved to adjourn and Commissioner Hamilton seconded. With no further business to come before this body, Chair Hughes declared this meeting adjourned at 6:15 p.m.

Approved by:


Hank Hughes, Chair
Board of County Commissioners

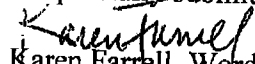


ATTEST TO:



KATHARINE E. CLARK
SANTA FE COUNTY CLERK

Respectfully submitted:



Karen Farrell, Wordswork
453 Cerrillos Road
Santa Fe, NM 87501



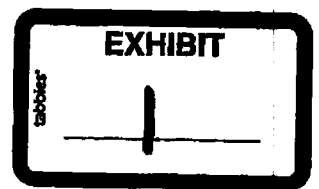
COUNTY OF SANTA FE)
STATE OF NEW MEXICO) ss

BCC MINUTES
PAGES: 47

I Hereby Certify That This Instrument Was Filed for Record On The 14TH Day Of August, 2024 at 11:04:10 AM And Was Duly Recorded as Instrument # 2039608 Of The Records Of Santa Fe County

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

SFC CLERK RECORDED 08/14/2024



Proposal for reopening trail #163 Rio en Medio, brought by Friends of the Rio en Medio

We are actively pursuing the opening and care of Trail #163 at its current forest access point in Rio en Medio. Below is a list of concerns shared by community members and officials. We have created a list of solutions and are willing to work toward them.

1. Visitor Parking Management

Concern: Illegal parking. Emergency vehicle obstruction.

Solutions:

- Develop a Strategic Parking / Trail Usage Plan for Forest Access
- YES, and...! Pursue the Pacheco Canyon access point trail to the Rio en Medio AND re-open the traditional trail #163 "exit point" in Rio en Medio to disperse use.
- "paint" or demark parking spots on current Federal land at the trailhead (it was never done)
- Establish alternative Parking along road in established areas with signage (Church every other Sunday, Turnouts, Community Center, Federal Land)
- Improve/increase signage indicating both parking and no parking areas and towing.
- Utilize/develop Leah Morton's property for parking for forest / county open space access
- Dr. Morton land transfers to County ownership for Open Space Access (early stage conversations ongoing w Leah and County.
- Community monitoring of parking
- Community industry (private pay-per-use parking)
- Establish connection trail along Alto Ditch (community center to trailhead)

2. Trail / Watershed Restoration

Concern: Fire/flood mitigation. Trail safety. Ecosystem conservation and repair.

Solutions:

- Greater Watershed/ecosystem Restoration
 - Work with ecological restoration company for flora and fauna reintroduction
 - Slow water flow through watershed and stabilize damaged areas, (at the fourway trail intersections, area above the waterfall)
 - FoRem can advocate and support a BLM watersmart grant for: watershed restoration (upper and lower), domestic water association system improvements, trail maintenance, etc
- Trail

- Kiosk for trail maintenance donations
- FoReM organize volunteer brigade for trail cleanup/maintenance
- Restroom facilities at parking area and/or trailhead

3. Road /Traffic Safety

Concern: Road width. Current narrowness of road prevents safe passage of two cars from opposite directions, including emergency vehicles. Future road widening may create increased speed of traffic. Road widening may encroach on private land.

Solutions:

- Coordinate county and state road improvements with other community needs (internet, water system improvements, acequia preservation, fire mitigation, bike and walking safety) to increase viability of road widening project
- Compensate land owners
- Increase signage for speed and children/pets at play
- Temporary increase of patrolling

4. Alto Acequia Preservation

Concern: Widening proposals may threaten Alto Ditch (old Acequia in NM, circa 1890)

Solutions:

- Alto Acequia could serve as a trail to SFNF / County Open Space from community center
- Seek Federal / State / County Funding
- Representative Andrea Romero & capital outlay
- Find out more about a current grant for Alto