

MINUTES OF THE
SANTA FE COUNTY
ETHICS BOARD

December 5, 2024

Santa Fe, New Mexico

1. This special meeting of the Santa Fe County Ethics Board was called to order by Vice Chair Clifford Rees at approximately 4:33 p.m. on the above-cited date at the County Administration Complex, Grant Conference Room, 240 Grant Avenue, Santa Fe.
2. The following members were present and affirmed the meeting was properly called:

Members Present:

Clifford Rees, Vice Chair
Frances Carlson
Tom Quaid
Jesse Guillen [via Webex]

Member(s) Excused:

Jonelle Maison, Chair

County Staff Present:

Gabe Bustos, Staff Liaison
Peter Valencia, Assistant County Attorney

Others Present:

Chris Mechels

3. **Approval of Agenda**

Mr. Quaid moved to approve the agenda as published and Mr. Rees seconded. The motion carried without opposition [4-0].

4. **Approval of the Minutes: September 18, 2024**

The meeting was paused to allow the board members to read the minutes. Mrs. Carlson moved approval and Mr. Quaid seconded. The motion carried by unanimous [4-0] voice vote.

5. **Upcoming Fall BCC Presentation**

Mr. Bustos indicated he was waiting until after this meeting before scheduling an appearance on the BCC agenda, probably the second meeting in January 2025. A preference was expressed by those involved in the legislative session for the first meeting in January. Chair Rees suggested holding a meeting of the Ethics Board prior to making the presentation. A list of potential topics was distributed at the prior meeting. It was agreed to meet on January 8, 2025 at 4:30 p.m.

6. **Matters from the Public**

Chris Mechels expressed his displeasure at his input being limited to three minutes in light of the fact that no one else was offering comment. There appears to be an effort to discourage the public. He suggested that the presentation should be used to acquaint citizens with the role of this committee and engage constituents. He reiterated that there seemed to be an effort to shut out the public, who currently is unaware of the existence of the Ethics Board. He stated it was a hostile atmosphere for the public. "You people are awful."


In response to Mr. Mechels' questions Chair Rees said public comment was not a dialogue.

7. **Date of Next Board Meeting: January 8, 2025 - 4:30**

8. **Adjournment**

Upon motion by Mrs. Carlson and second by Mr. Quaid, and with no further matters to come before this body, the meeting was declared adjourned at approximately 4:51 p.m.

Approved by:



Clifford Rees, Vice Chair
Ethics Board

Respectfully submitted by:

Debbie Doyle, Wordswork