

**SANTA FE COUNTY
BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS**

RESOLUTION NO. 2024 - 090

**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**

WHEREAS, Santa Fe County owns the Bennie J. Chavez Senior Center at 354-A Juan Media Road, in Chimayo; and

WHEREAS, in February, 2023, the Chimayo Post Office was destroyed by a fire; and

WHEREAS, on February 16, 2024, the USPS issued a press release seeking potential building or space options within three miles of the destroyed post office to reestablish the presence of a local post office, to which the County responded with potential options; and

WHEREAS, the USPS has expressed interest in negotiating a potential lease whereby the County would lease the Bennie J. Chavez Senior Center to the USPS for the purpose of the USPS establishing and operating a post office that would be convenient and beneficial to the residents of Chimayo and the surrounding areas.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Santa Fe County Board of County Commissioners as follows:

1. The Board delegates to the County Manager the authority to negotiate and execute a lease between the County and the USPS, for the purpose of the USPS's establishment and operation of a post office at the Bennie J. Chavez Senior Center.
2. The Board delegates to the County Manager the authority to execute the lease on behalf of Santa Fe County based on successful negotiations, including all related documents and agreements necessary to effectuate the lease with the USPS and the establishment of a post office for the community.

SFC CLERK RECORDED 7/11/2024

3. The authority granted herein is subject to the following conditions:
- 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 located 1.5 miles from the Bennie J. Chavez Senior Center;
 - b. Prior to concluding such partnership with Rio Arriba County, 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 Senior Center to a post office; provided, however, that any community engagement or outreach process by the USPS may satisfy this requirement;
 - c. The annual rent shall be the fair market rental value as established by a certified appraiser; and
 - d. The lease must be approved by the State Board of Finance.

PASSED, APPROVED, AND ADOPTED ON THIS 9th DAY OF JULY, 2024

SANTA FE COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

Hank Hughes
 Hank Hughes, Chair
 Santa Fe County Board of County Commissioners



ATTEST:
Katharine E. Clark
 Katharine E. Clark
 Santa Fe County Clerk

07/09/2024
 Date

Approved as to form:
Jeff Young
 Jeff Young
 Santa Fe County Attorney

July 5, 2024
 Date

SFC CLERK RECORDED 7/11/2024

COUNTY OF SANTA FE)
 STATE OF NEW MEXICO) ss

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I Hereby Certify That This Instrument Was Filed for Record On The 11TH Day Of July, 2024 at 10:55:08 AM And Was Duly Recorded as Instrument # 2037370 Of The Records Of Santa Fe County

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

