

**Minutes of Meeting  
Lea County Board of Commissioners  
February 27, 2020**

**Chair Long called the meeting to order at 9:01 a.m. in the Lea County Courthouse**

**Commissioners present were, to wit: Vice Chair Dean Jackson, District 1, Chair Rebecca Long, District 2, Commissioner Gary G. Eidson, District 3, Jonathan Sena, District 4, and Commissioner Richard Don Jones, District 5.**

**Also present were Lea County Manager Michael P. Gallagher II, and Lea County Attorney John W. Caldwell.**

**Commissioner Eidson led the Pledge of Allegiance followed by the Invocation by Commissioner Sena.**

**ITEM 01: COMMISSION**

- Consideration of Lea County Resolution No. 20-FEB-053R Approving the February 6, 2020 Regular Meeting Minutes.

Chair Long asked if there were any public comments concerning this agenda item. Vice Chair Jackson moved to approve Lea County Resolution. No. 20-FEB-053R Approving the February 6, 2020 Regular Meeting Minutes. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Sena. Secretary polled the Commission. Chair Long, yes; Vice Chair Jackson, yes; Commissioner Eidson, yes; Commissioner Sena, yes; Commissioner Jones, yes. The motion passed.

- Public Comments

There were no public comments

- Commissioner and Manager Comments

Commissioner Sena welcomed Kelly Berkley and Ricardo Murillo.

Vice Chair Jackson thanked everyone for the calls and flowers.

Manager Gallagher mentioned that Lea County was recognized and received an award because of the improvements made at the fairgrounds.

- Recognition of County Employee – Service Awards

Director Angela Martinez recognized Martha Coronel for one year of service.

Warden Ruben Quintana recognized Judith Crochet and Gerardo Saldana for one year of service.

Assistant County Manager Corey Needham recognized Tamra Edward for one year of service.

Supervisor Cassie Corley recognized Stephanie Moreno for one year of service.

Chief Deputy Fernando Jimenez recognized Victor Hernandez for ten years of service, Ava Burnett for one year of service, and Ricardo Murillo for five years of service.

County Manager Michael Gallagher recognized Erich Francke for five years of service.

- Consideration of Lea County Resolution No. 20-FEB-054R Approving Appointment(s) and/or Confirming Appointment(s) to the Eddy – Lea Energy Alliance.

Chair Long requested postponement. Chair Long asked if there were any public comments regarding this agenda item. Chair Long moved to postpone Lea County Resolution No. 20-FEB-054R Approving Appointment(s) and/or Confirming Appointment(s) to the Eddy – Lea Energy Alliance. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Eidson. Secretary polled the Commission. Chair Long, yes; Vice Chair Jackson, yes; Commissioner Eidson, yes; Commissioner Sena, yes; Commissioner Jones, yes. The motion passed.

- Consideration of Lea County Resolution No. 20-FEB-055R Approving Appointment(s) and/or Confirming Appointment(s) to the Lea County DWI Advisory Council.

Chair Long requested approval. Chair Long asked if there were any public comments regarding this agenda item. Commissioner Sena moved to approve Lea County Resolution No. 20-FEB-055R Approving Appointment(s) and/or Confirming Appointment(s) to the Lea County DWI Advisory Council. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Jones. Secretary polled the Commission. Chair Long, yes; Vice Chair Jackson, yes; Commissioner Eidson, yes; Commissioner Sena, yes; Commissioner Jones, yes. The motion passed.

- Consideration of Lea County Resolution No. 20-FEB-056R Approving Appointment(s) and/or Confirming Appointment(s) to the Lea County Road Advisory Committee.



Chair Long requested approval. Chair Long asked if there were any public comments regarding this agenda item. Vice Chair Jackson moved to approve Lea County Resolution No. 20-FEB-056R Approving Appointment(s) and/or Confirming Appointment(s) to the Lea County Road Advisory Committee. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Eidson. Secretary polled the Commission. Chair Long, yes; Vice Chair Jackson, yes; Commissioner Eidson, yes; Commissioner Sena, yes; Commissioner Jones, yes. The motion passed.

**ITEM 02: ACTION ITEMS**

- Consideration of Lea County Resolution No. 20-FEB-057R Authorizing Out of State Travel March 8 – 9, 2020 to Dallas/Fort Worth, Texas to Attend Annual Aircraft Rescue & Fire Fighting (ARFF) Training for the Lea County Regional Airport ARFF Fire Department. (*Sandrea Brito, Executive Coordinator*)

Coordinator Brito requested approval. Chair Long asked if there were any public comments regarding this agenda item. Commissioner Eidson moved to approve Lea County Resolution No. 20-FEB-057R Authorizing Out of State Travel March 8 – 9, 2020 to Dallas/Fort Worth, Texas to Attend Annual Aircraft Rescue & Fire Fighting (ARFF) Training for the Lea County Regional Airport ARFF Fire Department. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Sena. Secretary polled the Commission. Chair Long, yes; Vice Chair Jackson, yes; Commissioner Eidson, yes; Commissioner Sena, yes; Commissioner Jones, yes. The motion passed.

- Consideration of Lea County Resolution No. 20-FEB-058R Authorizing Out of State Travel June 28 – July 1, 2020 to San Diego, California for Society for the 2020 Human Resource Management (SHRM) Annual Conference & Exposition for Human Resources Department. (*Sandrea Brito, Executive Coordinator*)

Coordinator Brito requested approval. Chair Long asked if there were any public comments regarding this agenda item. Vice Chair Jackson moved to approve Lea County Resolution No. 20-FEB-058R Authorizing Out of State Travel June 28 – July 1, 2020 to San Diego, California for Society for the 2020 Human Resource Management (SHRM) Annual Conference & Exposition for Human Resources Department. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Jones. Secretary polled the Commission. Chair Long, yes; Vice Chair Jackson, yes; Commissioner Eidson, yes; Commissioner Sena, yes; Commissioner Jones, yes. The motion passed.

- Consideration of Lea County Resolution No. 20-FEB-059R Approving a Memorandum of Understanding Between Lea County and Lovington Municipal



School District to Provide Quality Teachers for Students in the Lea County Juvenile Detention Center. (*Ruben Quintana, Warden*)

Warden Quintana requested approval. Chair Long asked if there were any public comments regarding this agenda item. Vice Chair Jackson moved to approve Lea County Resolution No. 20-FEB-059R Approving a Memorandum of Understanding Between Lea County and Lovington Municipal School District to Provide Quality Teachers for Students in the Lea County Juvenile Detention Center. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Sena. Secretary polled the Commission. Chair Long, yes; Vice Chair Jackson, yes; Commissioner Eidson, yes; Commissioner Sena, yes; Commissioner Jones, yes. The motion passed.

- Consideration of Lea County Resolution No. 20-FEB-060R Authorizing the Submittal of an Application to the New Mexico Department of Finance and Administration, Local Government Division to Participate in the Local DWI Grant and Distribution Program for Fiscal Year 2021. (*Kelly Livingston, DWI/Probation Director*)

Director Livingston requested approval. Chair Long asked if there were any public comments regarding this agenda item. Commissioner Eidson moved to approve Lea County Resolution No. 20-FEB-060R Authorizing the Submittal of an Application to the New Mexico Department of Finance and Administration, Local Government Division to Participate in the Local DWI Grant and Distribution Program for Fiscal Year 2021. The motion was seconded by Vice Chair Jackson. Secretary polled the Commission. Chair Long, yes; Vice Chair Jackson, yes; Commissioner Eidson, yes; Commissioner Sena, yes; Commissioner Jones, yes. The motion passed.

- Consideration of Lea County Resolution No. 20-FEB-061R Approving a Cooperative Educational Services (CES) Agreement Between Lea County and Lynco Electric RV Parking Fence (612 Feet) and Avenue B Fence (673 Feet) at the Lea County Fairgrounds. (*Erich Franke, Facilities Director*)

Director Franke requested approval. Chair Long asked if there were any public comments regarding this agenda item. Vice Chair Jackson moved to approve Lea County Resolution No. 20-FEB-061R Approving a Cooperative Educational Services (CES) Agreement Between Lea County and Lynco Electric RV Parking Fence (612 Feet) and Avenue B Fence (673 Feet) at the Lea County Fairgrounds. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Eidson. Secretary polled the Commission. Chair Long, yes; Vice Chair Jackson, yes; Commissioner Eidson, yes; Commissioner Sena, yes; Commissioner Jones, yes. The motion passed.

- Consideration of Lea County Resolution No. 20-FEB-062R Approving Funding for Construction of New Restroom and Office Facility at the Lea County Fairgrounds. (*Erich Franke, Facilities Director*)

Director Franke requested approval. Chair Long asked if there were any public comments regarding this agenda item. Vice Chair Jackson moved to approve Lea County Resolution No. 20-FEB-062R Approving Funding for Construction of New Restroom and Office Facility at the Lea County Fairgrounds. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Jones. Secretary polled the Commission. Chair Long, yes; Vice Chair Jackson, yes; Commissioner Eidson, yes; Commissioner Sena, yes; Commissioner Jones, yes. The motion passed.

- Consideration of Lea County Resolution No. 20-FEB-063R Approving a Cooperative Educational Services (CES) Agreement Between Lea County and Donner Plumbing for Inmate Shower, Dish Washing Room, and Holding Area Improvements. (*Erich Francke, Facilities Director*)

Director Francke requested postponement. Chair Long asked if there were any public comments regarding this agenda item. Vice Chair Jackson moved to postpone Lea County Resolution No. No. 20-FEB-063R Approving a Cooperative Educational Services (CES) Agreement Between Lea County and Donner Plumbing for Inmate Shower, Dish Washing Room, and Holding Area Improvements. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Eidson. Secretary polled the Commission. Chair Long, yes; Vice Chair Jackson, yes; Commissioner Eidson, yes; Commissioner Sena, yes; Commissioner Jones, yes. The motion passed.

### **ITEM 03: DISCUSSION ITEMS**

- Discussion of Lea County's Health Complex and Nor-Lea Hospital District. (*Michael Gallagher, County Manager*)

Manager Gallagher presented a discussion of Lea County's Health Complex and Nor-Lea Hospital District.

- Discussion of Lea County Road Projects. (*Corey Needham, Assistant County Manager - Operations*)

Assistant County Manager Needham presented a discussion of Lea County Road Projects.

Chair Long requested a break at 10:56 a.m.

The meeting reconvened at 11:05 a.m.



- Discussion of Lea County's FY 2020 – 2021 Budget. (*Chip Low, Finance Director; Sharla Kennedy, Lea County Assessor; Susan Marinovich, Lea County Treasurer; Ruben Quintana, Warden; Kelly Ford Livingston, DWI/Probation Director; Monica Russell, Lea County Event Center Director; Jim Kemp, Lea County Fairgrounds Manager; Craig Bova, Human Resources Director; and Robert Lathrop, IT Director*)

Director Low, Assessor Kennedy, Treasurer Marinovich, Warden Quintana, Director Livingston, Director Russell, Manager Kemp, Director Bova, and Director Lathrop presented a discussion of Lea County's FY 2020 – 2021 Budget.

- Discussion of Lea County's Financial Report. (*Chip Low, Finance Director*)

Director Low presented a discussion of Lea County's Financial Report.

- Discussion of Lea County's Accounts Payable. (*Chip Low, Finance Director*)

Director Low presented a discussion of Lea County's Accounts Payable.

#### ITEM 04: EXECUTIVE SESSION

- **Board of County Commissioners**

- Pursuant to Section 10-15-1 (H2), (H7), (H8), of the New Mexico Statutes Annotated (NMSA) 1978; to Discuss Threatened Litigation Matters Involving the Construction of the Lea County Judicial Complex, a Personal Injury in a Traffic Accident in Central Lea County, Construction at the Lea County Detention Center, and Pending Litigation Matters *HB Construction V. Lea County*, D-202-CV-2019-03467 and *Cordova v. Lea County*, as Authorized by the NMSA 1978 § 10-15-1 H (8).

• At 11:11 a.m. Vice Chair Jackson moved to convene in Executive Session pursuant to **Section 10-15-1 (H2), (H7), (H8), of the New Mexico Statutes Annotated (NMSA) 1978; to Discuss Threatened Litigation Matters Involving the Construction of the Lea County Judicial Complex, a Personal Injury in a Traffic Accident in Central Lea County, Construction at the Lea County Detention Center, and Pending Litigation Matters *HB Construction v. Lea County*, D-202-CV-2019-03467 and *Cordova v. Lea County*, as Authorized by the NMSA 1978 § 10-15-1 H (8).** The motion was seconded by Commissioner Eidson. Secretary polled the Commission. Chair Long, yes; Vice Chair Jackson, yes; Commissioner Eidson, yes; Commissioner Sena, yes; Commissioner Jones, yes. The motion passed.

The meeting reconvened at 12:16 p.m.

Let the record reflect that only those matters announced in the motion to go into closed session were discussed.

**ITEM 05: OTHER BUSINESS**

There was no other business

The meeting was adjourned at 12:16 p.m.

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
LEA COUNTY, NEW MEXICO



Rebecca Long, Chair



Dean Jackson, Vice Chair



Gary G. Eidson, Member




Jonathan Sena, Member



Richard Don Jones, Member

ATTEST: Keith Manes

Lea County Clerk



Hollye Shearer

