

**Minutes of Meeting  
Lea County Board of Commissioners  
March 12, 2020**

**Chair Long called the meeting to order at 9:16 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 Jones led the Pledge of Allegiance followed by the Invocation by Commissioner Sena.**

**ITEM 01: COMMISSION**

- Consideration of Lea County Resolution No. 20-MAR-065R Approving the February 27, 2020 Regular Meeting Minutes.

Chair Long asked if there were any public comments concerning this agenda item. Commissioner Sena moved to approve Lea County Resolution. No. 20-MAR-065R Approving the February 27, 2020 Regular Meeting Minutes. 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.

- Public Comments

Nick Maxwell made comments in regards to ELEA and Holtec.

David Shaw made comments in regards to the Coronavirus.

- Commissioner and Manager Comments

Commissioner Sena, Eidson, and Vice Chair Jackson all thanked Chair Long for speaking to President Trump and bringing up the importance of oil and gas.

Chair Long made comments in regards to meeting President Trump.

Manager Gallagher asked department heads to speak on the Coronavirus including, Director Angela Martinez, Warden Ruben Quintana, Director Erich Franke, Director Lorenzo Velasquez, and Director Kelly Livingston.

- Recognition of County Employee – Service Awards

Director Angela Martinez recognized Alisha Hanson for one year of service and Dannette Flores for fifteen years of service.

General Manager Jim Kemp recognized Jacob Reed for one year of service.

Director Erick Franke recognized Kala Laughlin for one year of service.

Assistant County Manager Corey Needham recognized Jeremy Neff for one year of service, Seth Thomas for five years of service, and William Peden for twenty-five years of service.

Warden Ruben Quintana recognized Octavio Hernandez for five years of service and Maria Velazquez for ten years of service.

Director Kelly Livingston recognized Stephanie Rice for ten years of service.

Sheriff Corey Helton recognized Connie Balderaz for twenty years of service.

Manager Gallagher recognized David Minton for thirty-five years of service.

**ITEM 02: ACTION ITEMS**

**Manager Gallagher requested to move up 20-MAR-068R to the first action item.**

- Consideration of Lea County Resolution No. 20-MAR-068R Accepting and Approving the FY 2018 – 2019 Financial Audit for Lea County. (*Chris Garner, CPA/Partner of Pattillo, Brown & Hill, LLP*)

Chris Garner 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-068R Accepting and Approving the FY 2018 – 2019 Financial Audit for Lea County. 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-MAR-066R Approving Recommendations from the Lea County Fair & Rodeo Board Approving an Agreement between Lea County and MC Productions for the Open 4D Barrel Race Promoter on Monday, August 3, 2020 During the 2020 Lea County Fair & PRCA Rodeo. (*Larry Wheeler, Fair & Rodeo Board Chair*)

Lea County Fair & PRCA Rodeo Board Chair Wheeler 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-MAR-066R Approving Recommendations from the Lea County Fair & Rodeo Board Approving an Agreement between Lea County and MC Productions for the

Open 4D Barrel Race Promoter on Monday, August 3, 2020 During the 2020 Lea County Fair & PRCA Rodeo. 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-MAR-067R Approving Recommendations from the Lea County Fair & Rodeo Board Approving an Agreement between Lea County and Marleah Cramer Photography for the Official Lea County Fair Photographer During the 2020 Lea County Fair & PRCA Rodeo. *(Larry Wheeler, Fair & Rodeo Board Chair)*

Lea County Fair & PRCA Rodeo Board Chair Wheeler 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-MAR-067R Approving Recommendations from the Lea County Fair & Rodeo Board Approving an Agreement between Lea County and Marleah Cramer Photography for the Official Lea County Fair Photographer During the 2020 Lea County Fair & PRCA Rodeo. 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.

**Chair Long requested for Discussion of Lea County Fair & Rodeo Advertising Budget for the 2020 Lea County Fair & PRCA Rodeo to be moved up on the agenda.**

- Discussion of Lea County Fair & Rodeo Advertising Budget for the 2020 Lea County Fair & PRCA Rodeo. *(Larry Wheeler, Fair & Rodeo Board Chair)*

Lea County Fair & Rodeo Board Chair Wheeler presented a discussion of Lea County Fair & Rodeo Advertising Budget for the 2020 Lea County Fair & PRCA Rodeo.

- Consideration of Lea County Resolution No. 20-MAR-069R Authorizing the Approval and Execution of an Application for Law Enforcement Protection Funds (LEPF) for FY 2020 – 2021. *(Corey Helton, County Sheriff)*

Sheriff Helton 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-MAR-069R Authorizing the Approval and Execution of an Application for Law Enforcement Protection Funds (LEPF) for FY 2020 – 2021. 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-MAR-070R Approving Task Order No. 2019-7 Between Lea County and Molzen Corbin for Lea County Zip Franklin Memorial Airport PAPI. *(Corey Needham, Assistant County Manager – Operations)*

Assistant County Manager Needham 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-MAR-070R Approving Task Order No. 2019-7 Between Lea County and Molzen Corbin for Lea County Zip Franklin Memorial Airport PAPI. 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-MAR-071R Approving Award of Bid No. 06 2019 – 2020 One (1) Road Widener for the Lea County Road Department to Bee Equipment for the Midland Machinery SA Road Widener. *(Corey Needham, Assistant County Manager - Operations)*

Assistant County Manager Needham 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-MAR-071R Approving Award of Bid No. 06 2019 – 2020 One (1) Road Widener for the Lea County Road Department to Bee Equipment for the Midland Machinery SA Road Widener. 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-MAR-072R Approving Public Employees Retirement Association (PERA) Volunteer Fire Departments Annual Reporting for Knowles, Maljamar and Monument. *(Lorenzo Velasquez, Director of Emergency Management)*

Director Velasquez 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-MAR-072R Approving Public Employees Retirement Association (PERA) Volunteer Fire Departments Annual Reporting for Knowles, Maljamar and Monument. 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-MAR-073R Authorizing Lea County's Fiscal Year 2019 – 2020 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter Payment and Certification for the Safety Net Care Pool Fund. (*Chip Low, Finance Director*)

Director Low requested approval. Chair Long asked if there were any public comments regarding this agenda item. Commissioner Jones moved to approve Lea County Resolution No. 20-MAR-073R Authorizing Lea County's Fiscal Year 2019 – 2020 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter Payment and Certification for the Safety Net Care Pool Fund. The motion was seconded by Chair Long. Secretary polled the Commission. Chair Long, yes; Vice Chair Jackson, no; Commissioner Eidson, yes; Commissioner Sena, no; Commissioner Jones, yes. The motion passed.

**Chair Long requested a break at 10:43 a.m.**

**The meeting reconvened at 10:50 a.m.**

**ITEM 03: DISCUSSION ITEMS**

- Discussion of Lea County's FY 2020 – 2021 Budget. (*Chip Low, Finance Director and Michael Gallagher, County Manager*)

Director Low and Manager Gallagher presented a discussion of Lea County's FY 2020 – 2021 Budget.

**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 as Authorized by the NMSA 1978 § 10-15-1 H (8).

• At 11:52 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.** 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 12:17 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 12:17 p.m.

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
LEA COUNTY, NEW MEXICO

  
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Rebecca Long, Chair

  
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Dean Jackson, Vice Chair

  
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Gary G. Eidson, Member

  
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Jonathan Sena, Member

  
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Richard Don Jones, Member

ATTEST: Keith Manes

Lea County Clerk

  
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Tryon Hassen

