

**Minutes of Meeting
Lea County Board of Commissioners
November 18, 2021**

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, and Commissioner Jonathan Sena, District 4. Commissioner Pat Sims, District 5 was absent.

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. 21-NOV-256R, Approving the Following Meeting Minutes:
 - November 4, 2021, Regular Meeting Minutes
 - November 10, 2021, Special Meeting Minutes

Chair Long requested approval and asked if there were any public or Commissioner comments concerning this agenda item. Vice Chair Jackson moved to approve Lea County Resolution. No. 21-NOV-256R, Approving the November 4, 2021 Regular Meeting Minutes and the November 10, 2021 Special Meeting, 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 Sims, absent. The motion passed.

- Public Comments (Non-Agenda Items)
 - There were no Public Comments
- Commissioner and Manager Comments
 - Vice Chair Jackson had no comment.
 - Commissioner Eidson had no comment.
 - Commissioner Sena expressed his appreciation for all of the hard working staff of Lea County.
 - Chair Long recognized and welcomed audience members City Manager Yutzy from Eunice, and Mayor Burns and Chief Jackson from Tatum.
 - County Manager Gallagher had no comment.

- Consideration of Lea County Resolution No. 21-NOV-257R, Approving Appointment(s) to the Lea County Environmental Services Advisory Committee.

Chair Long requested approval and asked if there were any public or Commissioner comments concerning this Agenda Item.

Commissioner Sena stated his choice for District 4 was Kyle Armstrong.

There were no other comments.

Commissioner Sena moved to approve Resolution. No. 21-NOV-257R, Approving Appointment(s) to the Lea County Environmental Services 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 Sims, absent. The motion passed.

- Consideration of Lea County Resolution No. 21-NOV-258R, Approving Appointments to the Lea County Roads Advisory Committee.
- Chair Long requested approval and asked if there were any public or Commissioner comments concerning this agenda item. Commissioner Sena moved to postpone Resolution No. 21-NOV-258R, Approving Appointments to the Lea County Roads Advisory Committee to the next Commission Meeting in December. 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 Sims, absent. The motion passed.
- Consideration of Lea County Resolution No. 21-NOV-259R, Approving Discretionary Funding Up to \$150,000.00 for the Purchase of Mobile Data Terminal Units and Hardware for the City of Lovington Police Department. (Vice Chair Dean Jackson, Commissioner – District 1)

Vice Chair Jackson requested approval and Chair Long asked if there were any public or Commissioner comments concerning this agenda item. Vice Chair Jackson moved to approve Resolution No. 21-NOV-259R, Approving Discretionary Funding Up to \$150,000.00 for the Purchase of Mobile Data Terminal Units and Hardware for the City of Lovington Police 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 Sims, absent. The motion passed.

ITEM 02: ACTION ITEMS

- Consideration of Lea County Resolution No. 21-NOV-260R, Approving Recommendation from the Lea County Fair & Rodeo Board of Authorization for Out of State Travel November 29 – December 1, 2021 to Attend the International Association of Fairs and Expositions (IAFE) Convention in San Antonio, TX. (Jim Kemp, General Manager Fairgrounds)

Fairgrounds General Manager Kemp requested approval and Chair Long asked if there were any public or Commissioner comments concerning this agenda item. Commissioner Eidson moved to approve Resolution No. 21-NOV-260R, Approving Recommendation from the Lea County Fair & Rodeo Board of Authorization for Out of State Travel November 29 – December 1, 2021 to Attend the International Association of Fairs and Expositions (IAFE) Convention in San Antonio, TX. 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 Sims, absent. The motion passed.

- Consideration of Lea County Resolution No. 21-NOV-261R, Approving Recommendation from the Lea County Fair & Rodeo Board for Authorization of Out of State Travel, November 29 – December 3, 2021, to Attend the 2021, Professional Rodeo Cowboys Association (PRCA) National Convention in Las Vegas, NV. (Jim Kemp, General Manager Fairgrounds)

Fairgrounds General Manager Kemp requested approval and Chair Long asked if there were any public or Commissioner comments concerning this agenda item. Vice Chair Jackson moved to approve Resolution No. 21-NOV-261R, Approving Recommendation from the Lea County Fair & Rodeo Board for Authorization of Out of State Travel November 29 – December 3, 2021, to Attend the 2021, Professional Rodeo Cowboys Association (PRCA) National Convention in Las Vegas, NV. 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 Sims, absent. The motion passed.

- Consideration of Lea County Resolution No. 21-NOV-262R, Requesting a Change to the Public Retirement Association of NM (PERA) Return to Work Provisions. (Corey Helton, County Sheriff)

Sheriff Corey Helton requested approval.

Chair Long asked what counties were already in favor of this Resolution and also if the Sheriffs Association was in favor.

Sheriff Helton answered that he did not have a list of counties at this time, and the Sheriffs Association did support this Resolution.

Chair Long asked if there were any other public or Commissioner comments concerning this agenda item. Vice Chair Jackson moved to approve Resolution No. 21-NOV-262R, Approving a Change to the Public Retirement Association of NM (PERA) Return to Work Provisions. 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 Sims, absent. The motion passed.

- Consideration of Lea County Resolution No. 21-NOV-263R, Approving Donation of four (4) Ford Interceptor SUV's from the Lea County Sheriff's Office to the Lovington Police Department. (Corey Helton, County Sheriff)

Sheriff Corey Helton requested approval. Chair Long asked if there were any public or Commissioner comments concerning this agenda item.

Vice Chair Jackson stated it was a great thing to be able to donate to other entities like this.

Chair long agreed with his statement.

Vice Chair Jackson moved to approve Resolution No. 21-NOV-263R, Approving Donation of four (4) Ford Interceptor SUV's from the Lea County Sheriff's Office to the Lovington Police Department. 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 Sims, absent. The motion passed.

- Consideration of Lea County Resolution No. 21-NOV-264R, Approving a Memorandum of Agreement Between Lea County and the City of Hobbs Regarding Lea County Funding the Cost of the Lea County Communication Authority Dispatching for Other Municipalities in Lea County. (Michael Gallagher, County Manager.)

County Manager Gallagher requested approval and Chair Long asked if there were any public or Commissioner comments concerning this agenda item.

Vice Chair Jackson spoke about Tatum being concerned that they will lose citizens from their town if their dispatchers should become employed with LCCA. He expressed to them that he believes the increase pay offered by LCCA would be an incentive for them to be able to stay in their community and commute back and forth to work. Vice Chair Jackson went on to give examples of employees who currently commute to work in Lea County.

Commissioner Sena expressed his support and gratitude for the hard work of all involved with LCCA.

Commissioner Sena moved to approve Resolution No. 21-NOV-264R, Approving a Memorandum of Agreement Between Lea County and the City of Hobbs Regarding Lea County Funding the Cost of the Lea County Communication Authority Dispatching for Other Municipalities in Lea County. 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 Sims, absent. The motion passed.

- Consideration of Lea County Resolution No. 21-NOV-265R, Approving a Memorandum of Agreement Between Lea County and the City of Eunice Regarding Lea County Funding the Cost of the Lea County Communication Authority Dispatching for the City of Eunice. *(Michael Gallagher, County Manager)*

County Manager Gallagher requested approval. Chair Long asked if there were any public comments concerning this agenda item. Vice Chair Jackson moved to approve Lea County Resolution. No. 21-NOV-265R, Approving a Memorandum of Agreement Between Lea County and the City of Eunice Regarding Lea County Funding the Cost of the Lea County Communication Authority Dispatching for the City of Eunice. 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 Sims, absent. The motion passed.

- Consideration of Lea County Resolution No. 21-NOV-266R, Approving a Memorandum of Agreement Between Lea County and the City of Jal Regarding Lea County Funding the Cost of the Lea County Communication Authority Dispatching for the City of Jal. *(Michael Gallagher, County Manager)*

County Manager Gallagher requested approval. Chair Long asked if there were any public or Commissioner comments concerning this agenda item. Commissioner Eidson moved to approve Lea County Resolution No. 21-NOV-266R, Approving a Memorandum of Agreement Between Lea County and the City of Jal Regarding Lea County Funding the Cost of the Lea County Communication Authority Dispatching for the City of Jal. 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 Sims, absent. The motion passed.

- Consideration of Lea County Resolution No. 21-NOV-267R, Approving a Memorandum of Agreement Between Lea County and the City of Lovington Regarding Lea County Funding the Cost of the Lea County Communication Authority Dispatching for the City of Lovington. *(Michael Gallagher, County Manager)*

County Manager Gallagher requested approval. Chair Long asked if there were any public or Commissioner comments concerning this agenda item. Vice Chair Jackson moved to approve Lea County Resolution No. 21-NOV-267R, Approving a Memorandum of Agreement Between Lea County and the City of Lovington Regarding Lea County Funding the Cost of the Lea County Communication Authority Dispatching for the City of Lovington. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Sena. Secretary polled the Commission. Chair Long, yes; Vice Chair Jackson, yes; Commissioner Sena, yes; Commissioner Eidson, yes; Commissioner Sims, absent. The motion passed.

- Consideration of Lea County Resolution No. 21-NOV-268R, Approving a Memorandum of Agreement Between Lea County and the City of Tatum Regarding Lea County Funding the Cost of the Lea County Communication Authority Dispatching for the City of Tatum. *(Michael Gallagher, County Manager)*

County Manager Gallagher requested approval. Chair Long asked if there were any public or Commissioner comments concerning this agenda item. Vice Chair Jackson moved to approve Lea County Resolution No. 21-NOV-268R, Approving a Memorandum of Agreement Between Lea County and the City of Tatum Regarding Lea County Funding the Cost of the Lea County Communication Authority Dispatching for the City of Tatum. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Eidson. Secretary polled the Commission. Chair

Long, yes; Vice Chair Jackson, yes; Commissioner Sena, yes; Commissioner Eidson, yes; Commissioner Sims, absent. The motion passed.

- Consideration of Lea County Resolution No. 21-NOV-269R, Approving Exceptions to the Lea County Human Resources Policy and Procedures for the Recruitment and Retention of Employees at the Lea County Communication Authority. *(Craig Bova, Human Resources Director)*

Human Resources Director Bova requested approval. Chair Long asked if there were any public comments concerning this agenda item. Commissioner Eidson moved to approve Lea County Resolution No. 21-NOV-269R, Approving Exceptions to the Lea County Human Resources Policy and Procedures for the Recruitment and Retention of Employees at the Lea County Communication Authority. 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 Sims, absent. The motion passed.

- Consideration of Lea County Resolution No. 21-NOV-270R, Approving Salary Ranges for Certain County Departments, the Lea County Communication Authority, and the Sheriff's Office. *(Craig Bova, Human Resources Director)*

Human Resources Director Bova requested approval. Chair Long asked if there were any public comments concerning this agenda item. Vice Chair Jackson moved to approve Lea County Resolution No. 21-NOV-270R, Approving Salary Ranges for Certain County Departments, the Lea County Communication Authority, and the Sheriff's Office. 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 Sims, absent. The motion passed.

- Consideration of Lea County Resolution No. 21-NOV-271R, Approving Salary Adjustments for Certain County Departments, the Lea County Communication Authority, and the Sheriff's Office. *(Craig Bova, Human Resources Director)*

Human Resources Director Bova requested approval. Chair Long asked if there were any public comments concerning this agenda item. Vice Chair Jackson moved to approve Lea County Resolution No. 21-NOV-271R, Approving Salary Adjustments for Certain County Departments, the Lea County Communication Authority, and the Sheriff's Office. 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 Sims, absent. The motion passed.

- Consideration of Lea County Resolution No. 21-NOV-272R, Authorizing Out of State Travel December 15 – 16, 2021 to Dallas/Fort Worth, Texas to Attend Annual Aircraft Rescue and Fire Fighting (ARFF) Training for the Lea County Regional Airport ARFF Fire Department. *(Lorenzo Velasquez, Emergency Manager)*

Emergency Manager Velasquez requested approval. Chair Long asked if there were any public comments concerning this agenda item. Commissioner Eidson moved to approve Lea County Resolution No. 21-NOV-272R, Authorizing Out of State Travel December 15 – 16, 2021 to Dallas/Fort Worth, Texas to Attend Annual Aircraft Rescue and Fire Fighting (ARFF) Training for the Lea County Regional Airport ARFF Fire Department. 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 Sims, absent. The motion passed.

- Consideration of Lea County Resolution No. 21-NOV-273R, Ratifying Out of State Travel October 30 – November 3, 2021, to Denver, Colorado to Attend the 2021 Design-Build Conference and Expo. *(Edmundo Lara Facilities Director)*

Facilities Director Lara requested approval. Chair Long asked if there were any public comments concerning this agenda item. Commissioner Eidson moved to approve Lea County Resolution No. 21-NOV-273R, Ratifying Out of State Travel October 30 – November 3, 2021, to Denver, Colorado to Attend the 2021 Design-Build Conference and Expo. 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 Sims, absent. The motion passed.

ITEM 03: DISCUSSION ITEMS

- Discussion of County-Wide Noise Ordinance. *(John Caldwell, County Attorney)*
- Discussion of Dangerous and Dilapidated Buildings Ordinance. *(Lorenzo Velasquez, Environmental Services Director)*
- Discussion of Cannabis in the State of New Mexico and Lea County. *(Michael Gallagher, County Manager)*
- Discussion of Employee Compensation Benefits. *(Michael Gallagher, County Manager)*

- Discussion of Lea County's Accounts Payable for October 2021. (Chip Low, County Manager)

ITEM 04: EXECUTIVE SESSION

- **Board of County Commissioners**
- At 10:33 a.m. Vice Chair Jackson moved to convene in Executive Session pursuant to Discuss Threatened Litigation Involving Employment Practices, and Pending Litigation Involving the Detention Center, Law Enforcement, and Maintenance of county Property; the Disposal of Real Property in Northern Lea County, and the Disposal of Real Property in Southern Lea County, as Authorized by NMSA 1978 § 10-15-1 H (7) and (8) Respectively.

The meeting reconvened at 12:14 p.m.

ITEM 05: OTHER BUSINESS

There was no other business.

The meeting adjourned at 12:14 p.m.

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
LEA COUNTY, NEW MEXICO



Rebecca Long, Chair



Dean Jackson, Vice Chair



Gary G. Eidson, Member



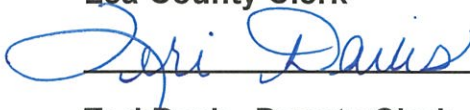
Jonathan Sena, Member



Pat Sims, Member

ATTEST: Keith Manes

Lea County Clerk



Teri Davis, Deputy Clerk

