

**Minutes of Meeting
Lea County Board of Commissioners
April 14, 2022**

Chair Jackson called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. in the Lea County Courthouse.

Commissioners present were, to wit: Chair Dean Jackson, District 1, Vice Chair Gary G. Eidson, District 3, Commissioner Rebecca Long District 2, Commissioner Jonathan Sena, District 4. Commissioner Pat Sims, District 5.

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

Commissioner Sims led the Pledge of Allegiance followed by the Invocation by Commissioner Sena.

ITEM 01: COMMISSION

- Consideration of Lea County Resolution No. 22-APR-086R Approving the March 31, 2022 Regular Meeting Minutes.

Chair Jackson requested approval and asked if there were any public or Commissioner comments concerning this agenda item. Commissioner Sims moved to approve Resolution No. 22-APR-086R Approving the March 31, 2022 Meeting Minutes. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Sena. Secretary polled the Commission. Chair Jackson, yes; Vice Chair Eidson, yes; Commissioner Sena, yes; Commissioner Sims, yes; Commissioner Long, yes. The motion passed.

- Public Comments
 - None
- Commissioner and Manager Comments
 - Commissioner Long – No Comment
 - Commissioner Sims – No Comment
 - Commissioner Sena – Spoke about upcoming Grand Opening of CTECH.
 - Vice Chair Eidson – Added to Commissioner Sena’s comment by mentioning that Mike Rowe will be attending the Grand Opening of CTECH on May 5, 2022 at 11:30am.
 - Chair Jackson – Commended Environmental Services Director, Lorenzo Velasquez and Assistant County Manager, Corey Needham for the acquisition and use of the Tumbleweed Machine.
 - Manager Gallagher – Reminded everyone that the LCCM are now live streamed. Recognized several Lea County employees for their participation and assistance with the Easter Celebration being held on the Courthouse Lawn yesterday and today.

- Consideration of Lea County Resolution No. 22-APR-087R Authorizing Out of State Travel April 21- 23, 2022 for the County Commissioner Chair Dean Jackson (District 1) to attend the Stop 30x30 Summit in Lincoln, Nebraska.

Chair Jackson requested approval and asked if there were any public or Commissioner comments concerning this agenda item. Commissioner Long moved to approve Resolution No. 22-APR-087R Authorizing Out of State Travel April 21- 23, 2022 for the County Commissioner Chair Dean Jackson (District 1) to attend the Stop 30x30 Summit in Lincoln, Nebraska. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Sims. Secretary polled the Commission. Chair Jackson, yes; Vice Chair Eidson, yes; Commissioner Sena, yes; Commissioner Sims, yes; Commissioner Long, yes. The motion passed.

- Consideration of Lea County Resolution No. 22-APR-088R Approving \$200,000.00 Appropriation from District 5 Fiscal Year 2021-2022 Discretionary Funding to the City of Jal for Infrastructure Improvements. (Commissioner Pat Sims, District 5)

Commissioner Sims requested approval and Chair Jackson asked for any public or Commissioner comments. Commissioner Sims moved to approve Lea County Resolution No. 22-APR-088R Approving \$200,000.00 Appropriation from District 5 Fiscal Year 2021-2022 Discretionary Funding to the City of Jal for Infrastructure Improvements. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Sena. Secretary polled the Commission. Chair Jackson, yes; Vice Chair Eidson, yes; Commissioner Sena, yes; Commissioner Sims, yes; Commissioner Long, yes. The motion passed.

ITEM 02: ACTION ITEMS

- Consideration of Lea County Resolution No. 22-APR-089R Appointing Monica Russell, Public information Officer as Custodian of Public Records. (Michael Gallagher, County Manager)

Manager Gallagher requested approval. Commissioner Long moved to approve Lea County Resolution No. 22-MAR-089R Appointing Monica Russell, Public information Officer as Custodian of Public Records. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Sims. Secretary polled the Commission. Chair Jackson, yes; Vice Chair Eidson, yes; Commissioner Sena, yes; Commissioner Sims, yes; Commissioner Long, yes. The motion passed.

- Consideration of Lea County Resolution No. 22-APR-090R Approving a Health and Fitness Incentive Program at the Lea County Sheriff's Office. *(Craig Bova, Human Resources Director)*

Craig Bova requested approval. Chair Jackson asked for any public or Commissioner comments. Commissioner Eidson moved to approve Lea County Resolution No. 22-MAR-090R Approving a Health and Fitness Incentive Program at the Lea County Sheriff's Office. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Sims. Secretary polled the Commission. Chair Jackson, yes; Vice Chair Eidson, yes; Commissioner Sena, yes; Commissioner Sims, yes; Commissioner Long, yes. The motion passed.

- Consideration of Lea County Resolution No. 22-APR-091R Appointing a Freeholders Committee to Evaluate the Vacation of Dedicated Alleys and Streets in Humble City, Unit 1, Blocks 31, 44, and 47, Being East of Gilbert Street and North of Texas Street in Section 35, township 17 South, Range 37 East N.M.P.M. in Lea County New Mexico. *(Bruce Reid, County Planner)*

County Planner Reid requested approval. Chair Jackson asked if there were any public or Commissioner comments concerning this agenda item.

- Commissioner Long asked if the purpose of this request was to put a business on his property.
County Planner Reid responded no. He went on to explain the property owner wished to put his home in the middle of his property as is the across the street neighbor.

Commissioner Sims moved to approve Lea County Resolution No. 22-APR-091R Appointing a Freeholders Committee to Evaluate the Vacation of Dedicated Alleys and Streets in Humble City, Unit 1, Blocks 31, 44, and 47, Being East of Gilbert Street and North of Texas Street in Section 35, township 17 South, Range 37 East N.M.P.M. in Lea County New Mexico. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Sena. Secretary polled the Commission. Chair Jackson, yes; Vice Chair Eidson, yes; Commissioner Sena, yes; Commissioner Sims, yes; Commissioner Long, yes. The motion passed.

ITEM 03: DISCUSSION ITEMS

- Discussion of Legislative Redistricting (*Steve Pierce, State Chair of the New Mexico Republican Party*)
Chair Jackson stated that Steve Pierce was unable to make it today so this item was postponed.
- Discussion of Lea County's Fiscal Year 2022-2023 Budget: (*Michael Gallagher County Manager, Chip Low, Finance Director*)
 - County Departments/Offices Presentations
 - **County Assessor, Sharla Kennedy** – Presented Assessor's Office budget breakdown and had no requests for additional funding.
 - **LCDC Warden, Ruben Quintana** – Presented the budget break down for the Lea County Detention Center and requested additional funds to purchase dryers.
 - **DWI/Probation Director, Kelly Livingston** – No changes or increases needed in her budget.
 - **Environmental Services Director, Lorenzo Velasquez** – No budget adjustments necessary
 - **Facilities Director, Edmundo Lara** – Additional funding requested for training, custodial supplies, roof care, and maintenance and repairs at the event center
 - **Emergency Communications Center Director, Angela Martinez** – Request was made for additional budget funding citing the consolidation of dispatching services, new employees and equipment.
 - **Fairgrounds Director, Jim Kemp** – Invited everyone to an appreciation banquet for Wrights Amusements, at the Convention Center today at 11a.m. He also stated that the Jr. High School Rodeo begins tomorrow at 9am. Budget increases were requested to cover the rising costs of labor and supplies associated with operations of the Fairgrounds and Event Center.
 - **Corey Needham, Assistant Manager, Lea County** – Increases in Road Department and Lea Regional airport only.
 - **Director of Finance, Chip Low** – Presented detailed budget break down and explanation of increases due to additional positions, employees and benefits.

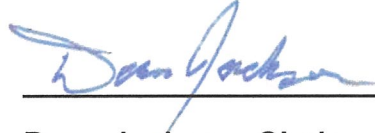
ITEM 04: OTHER BUSINESS

Commissioner Long made two suggestions for discussion items at the next Lea County Commission Meeting:

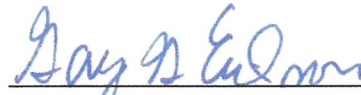
- Home Address issues within the county (E911 Addresses)
- Lea County Clean Up day(s)

Chair Jackson asked if there was any other business. There being no other business, he requested a Motion to Adjourn. Vice Chair Eidson made a Motion to Adjourn. The Motion was Seconded by Commissioner Sena. The Meeting Adjourned at 10:15 a.m.

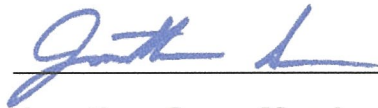
BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
LEA COUNTY, NEW MEXICO



Dean Jackson, Chair



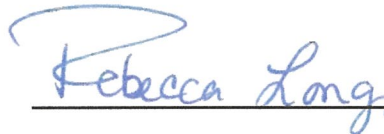
Gary G. Eidson, Vice Chair



Jonathan Sena, Member



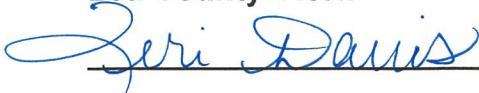
Pat Sims, Member



Rebecca Long, Member

ATTEST: Keith Manes

Lea County Clerk



Teri Davis, Deputy Clerk

