Resolution Establishing Film, Media and Music Advisory Board

Whereas, the Board of County Commissioners of Sierra County, met in a regular meeting on August 18, 2020, at 10:00 A.M. in the Sierra County Administration Office, 855 Van Patten, Truth or Consequences, NM 87901; and,

Whereas, NMSA 1978, § 4-37-1 (1975) grants Counties the powers necessary “to provide for the safety, preserve the health, promote the prosperity and improve the morals, order, comfort and convenience of the county and for its inhabitants;” and,

Whereas, NMSA 1978, § 4-38-18 (1876) provides that the Board of County Commissioners has the power to represent the County and to manage the interest of the County; and,

Whereas, Sierra County has a long tradition of Film and Television production, and history including the renaming of the county seat for a television show; and,

Whereas, many film makers and film workers choose to live in Sierra County, including New Mexico Film and Television Hall of Fame member Rod McCall, and Film Producer Dan Schatzman; and,

Whereas, Hot Springs High School has a vibrant dual credit Film and Television class preparing students for well paying jobs in the industry taught by County Resident Tamir Rawlings, whose locally shot feature was recently honored at the Santa Fe Film Festival; and,
Whereas, Sierra County has unique locations, including Western and Ghost towns, New Mexico’s largest lake, Elephant Butte, Spaceport America, historic Hillsboro and Truth or Consequences, all of which have hosted movies and commercials; and,

Whereas, Truth or Consequences hosts an annual film festival that attracts visitors and film makers from around the country; and,

Whereas, Sierra County has world class hotels and restaurants along with affordable budget friendly accommodation’s and dining; and,

Whereas, the State of New Mexico has recognized Film Production as a core economic development initiative, having created more jobs than any other initiative since the Manhattan Project; and,

Whereas, the recent industry shutdown has created a need for much more production to replace inventory on streaming services such as Albuquerque based Netflix; and,

Whereas, the 2019 New Mexico legislature added an additional 5% incentive for Rural areas such as Sierra County; and,

Whereas, Cary “Jagger” Gustin has represented Sierra County and Truth or Consequences for 27 years as the longest serving state recognized film Liaison; and,

Whereas, opportunities to market and recognize Sierra County as a world class film destination will be enhanced as the world looks to Spaceport America; and,

Whereas, several residents of Sierra County have contacts and knowledge to assist Mr. Gustin to sell the county as a film destination and assist in servicing projects that choose to shoot here.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS THAT:

(1) Sierra County hereby establishes a film, media and music advisory board, consisting of full and part time residents of the county, appointed to represent the varied regions of the county to assist and advise the County Film Liaison, to help sell the county and to advise the County Commission on further steps to advance the county as a film destination, to encourage and help local businesses to be involved in film and television statewide and to train and assist local students and residents in jobs required by New Mexico’s rapidly expanding multi media industries.

(2) The board shall meet quarterly either in person or by video conference.
(3) The Film Liaison shall provide a report of activity and prospects for Sierra County Film and the board shall report to the County Commission in writing when necessary, but no less than annually.

(4) The Film, Media and Music Advisory Board is subject to the Open Meetings Act, NMSA 1978, Section 10-15-1 et seq., and the Governmental Conduct Act.

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF SIERRA COUNTY

James Paxon, Chairman

Travis Day, Vice-Chair

Frances Luna, Commissioner

Attest:

Shelly K. Trujillo
Sierra County Clerk