

**SIERRA COUNTY COMMISSION  
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES  
JANUARY 19, 2021**

**CALL TO ORDER: 10:00 A.M.**

The Sierra County Board of County Commissioners met in Regular Session at 10:00 A.M. on Tuesday, January 19, 2021, at the Sierra County Commission Chambers, 855 Van Patten, Truth or Consequences, New Mexico.

**ROLL CALL:**

Commissioner James Paxon, Chairman  
Commissioner Travis Day, Vice-Chair  
Commissioner Hank Hopkins, Member

Clerk of Board: Shelly Trujillo

County Attorney: Dave Pato

County Manager: Bruce Swingle

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:**

**NEW MEXICO STATE FLAG PLEDGE:**

**ALSO IN ATTENDANCE:**

Caren Cowan, Jocelyn Holguin, Travis Atwell, Chuck Wentworth-Sentinel,  
Glenn Hamilton, John Richardson, Amy Whitehead

**I. APPROVAL OF AGENDA:**

Commission Vice-Chair Day **MOVED** to approve the agenda as presented.  
Commissioner Hopkins **SECONDED** the motion. Motion carried with  
Commissioners District 1-2-3 voting yes.

**II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

- A. Regular Meeting-December 15, 2020
- B. Special Meeting-January 12, 2021

**Commission Vice-Chair Day MOVED to approve the minutes as presented. Commissioner Hopkins SECONDED the motion. Motion carried with Commissioners District 1-2-3 voting yes.**

**III. PUBLIC COMMENT: LIMITED TO 3 MINUTES**

**Robin Tuttle-See Attached**

**IV. CONSENT AGENDA:**

- A. Resolution No. 109-040- Account Payables**
- B. Resolution No. 109-041-Budget Adjustments**
- C. Resolution No. 109-042-Indigent Claims**
- D. Indigent Burial B2020-012**
- E. Indigent Burial B2020-013**
- F. Indigent Burial B2020-014**
- G. Indigent Burial B2020-015**
- H. Claim of Exemption 21-001-Villa/Realzola**

**Commission Vice-Chair Day MOVED to approve Consent Agenda as Amended, removing Item C. Commissioner Hopkins SECONDED the motion. Motion carried with Commissioner Districts 1-2-3 voting yes.**

**V. PRESENTATIONS/REPORTS:**

- A. NM Film Office Film Liaison Cary Gustin**
- B. John Richardson on behalf of Slash Ranch Regarding Reinstatement of State Meat Inspection Program**

**VI. BOARD OF FINANCE:**

- A. December Reconciliation**

**Commissioner Hopkins MOVED to approve November Reconciliation as presented. Commission Vice-Chair Day SECONDED the motion. Motion carried with Commissioner Districts 1-2-3 voting yes.**

**County Manager Swingle pointed out that there was one inmate in Restrictive Housing due to Covid-19 protocols.**

**VII. OLD BUSINESS:**

**VIII. NEW BUSINESS:**

**A. Volunteer Fire PERA Annual Reporting Form**

Commission Vice-Chair Day **MOVED** to approve Volunteer Fire PERA Annual Reporting Form as presented. Commissioner Hopkins **SECONDED** the motion. Motion carried with Commissioner Districts 1-2-3 voting yes.

**B. Transfer of Fire Administration Command Vehicle to Las Palomas Fire Department**

Commission Vice-Chair Day **MOVED** to approve Transfer of Fire Administration Command Vehicle to Las Palomas Fire Department as presented. Commissioner Hopkins **SECONDED** the motion. Motion carried with Commissioner Districts 1-2-3 voting yes.

**C. Road Director Request for Salary Increase**

Commissioner Hopkins **MOVED** to approve Road Director Request for Salary Increase as presented. Commission Vice-Chair Day **SECONDED** the motion. Motion carried with Commissioner Districts 1-2-3 voting yes.

**D. Letter of Support for Juliet Sullivan**

Commission Vice-Chair Day **MOVED** to approve Letter of Support for Juliet Sullivan as presented. Commissioner Hopkins **SECONDED** the motion. Motion carried with Commissioner Districts 1-2-3 voting yes.

**IX. CONTRACTS – AGREEMENTS – PROCUREMENT:**

**A. 2020 State Homeland Security Grant Program (SHSGP)**

Commissioner Hopkins **MOVED** to approve 2020 State Homeland Security Grant Program (SHSGP) as presented. Commission Vice-Chair Day **SECONDED** the motion. Motion carried with Commissioner Districts 1-2-3 voting yes.

**B. State Price Agreement Parts 1 & 2-Don Chalmers/MHQ-Fire Administration**

Commissioner Hopkins **MOVED** to approve State Price Agreement Parts 1 & 2-Don Chalmers/MHQ-Fire Administration as presented. Commission

**Vice-Chair Day SECONDED the motion. Motion carried with Commissioner Districts 1-2-3 voting yes.**

**C. Sole Source Posting-411 Equipment, LLC Part 3-Fire Administration**

**Commissioner Hopkins MOVED to approve Sole Source Posting-411 Equipment, LLC Part 3-Fire Administration as presented. Commission Vice-Chair Day SECONDED the motion. Motion carried with Commissioner Districts 1-2-3 voting yes.**

**D. State Price Agreement-B&H Fuel-Road Department**

**Commission Vice-Chair Day MOVED to approve SCRDA Arbitrage and Tax Certificate as presented. Commissioner Hopkins SECONDED the motion. Motion carried with Commissioner Districts 1-2-3 voting yes.**

**E. Project Participation Agreement between Sierra County and Spinlaunch**

**Commission Vice-Chair Day MOVED to approve Project Participation Agreement between Sierra County and Spinlaunch as presented. Commissioner Hopkins SECONDED the motion. Motion carried with Commissioner Districts 1-2-3 voting yes.**

**F. Spinlaunch Intergovernmental Agreement between the New Mexico Economic Development Department and Sierra County**

**Commission Vice-Chair Day MOVED to approve Spinlaunch Intergovernmental Agreement between the New Mexico Economic Development Department and Sierra County as presented. Commissioner Hopkins SECONDED the motion. Motion carried with Commissioner Districts 1-2-3 voting yes.**

**G. Agreement between the County of Sierra and the City of Elephant Butte Regarding the Administration and Enforcement of the City's Floodplain Management Regulations**

**Commissioner Hopkins MOVED to approve Agreement between the County of Sierra and the City of Elephant Butte Regarding the Administration and Enforcement of the City's Floodplain Management Regulations as presented. Commission Vice-Chair Day SECONDED the motion. Motion carried with Commissioner Districts 1-2-3 voting yes.**

**H. SunZia Southwest Transmission Project Memorandum of Understanding**

**Commissioner Hopkins MOVED to approve SunZia Southwest Transmission Project Memorandum of Understanding as amended.**

Commission Vice-Chair Day **SECONDED** the motion. Motion carried with Commissioner Districts 1-2-3 voting yes.

**I. First Amendment to Local Government Road Fund Cooperative Agreement**

Commission Vice-Chair Day **MOVED** to approve First Amendment to Local Government Road Fund Cooperative Agreement as presented. Commissioner Hopkins **SECONDED** the motion. Motion carried with Commissioner Districts 1-2-3 voting yes.

**J. First Amendment to Local Government Road Fund County Arterial Program Cooperative Agreement**

Commission Vice-Chair Day **MOVED** to approve First Amendment to Local Government Road Fund County Arterial Program Cooperative Agreement as presented. Commissioner Hopkins **SECONDED** the motion. Motion carried with Commissioner Districts 1-2-3 voting yes.

**X. RESOLUTIONS – ORDINANCES – PROCLAMATIONS:**

**A. Resolution No. 109-043-Establish Depositories**

Commission Vice-Chair Day **MOVED** to approve Resolution No. 109-043-Establish Depositories as presented. Commissioner Hopkins **SECONDED** the motion. Motion carried with Commissioner Districts 1-2-3 voting yes.

**B. Resolution No. 109-044-Designate Official Signature on County checks and State LGIP Transactions**

Commission Vice-Chair Day **MOVED** to approve Resolution No. 109-044-Designate Official Signature on County checks and State LGIP Transactions as amended to include Chairman Paxon. Commissioner Hopkins **SECONDED** the motion. Motion carried with Commissioner Districts 1-2-3 voting yes.

**C. Resolution No. 109-045-Authorizing and Approving Submission of a Completed Application for Financial Assistance and Project Approval to the New Mexico Finance Authority for the Colonias Infrastructure Fund**

Commission Vice-Chair Day **MOVED** to approve Resolution No. 109-045-Authorizing and Approving Submission of a Completed Application for Financial Assistance and Project Approval to the New Mexico Finance Authority for the Colonias Infrastructure Fund as presented. Commissioner Hopkins **SECONDED** the motion. Motion carried with Commissioner Districts 1-2-3 voting yes.

**D. Resolution No. 109-046-Appointment of Board and Committee Members**

Commission Vice-Chair Day **MOVED** to approve Resolution No. 109-046-Appointment of Board and Committee Members as presented. Commissioner Hopkins **SECONDED** the motion. Motion carried with Commissioner Districts 1-2-3 voting yes.

**E. Resolution No. 109-047-Appointment of Chair and Vice-Chair of Sierra County Commission**

Commission Vice-Chair Day **MOVED** to approve Resolution No. 109-047-Appointment of Chair and Vice-Chair of Sierra County Commission as presented, with Commissioner Paxon as Chair and Commissioner Day as Vice-Chair. Commissioner Hopkins **SECONDED** the motion. Motion carried with Commissioner Districts 1-2-3 voting yes.

**F. Resolution No. 109-048-Public Notice Describing Procedures for Requests for Inspection of Public Records**

Commission Vice-Chair Day **MOVED** to approve Resolution No. 109-048-Public Notice Describing Procedures for Requests for Inspection of Public Records as presented. Commissioner Hopkins **SECONDED** the motion. Motion carried with Commissioner Districts 1-2-3 voting yes.

**G. Resolution No. 109-049-Open Meetings Act**

Commissioner Hopkins **MOVED** to approve Resolution No. 109-049-Open Meetings Act as presented. Commission Vice-Chair Day **SECONDED** the motion. Motion carried with Commissioner Districts 1-2-3 voting yes.

**H. Resolution No. 109-050-Parliamentary Procedures and Robert's Rules of Order**

Commission Vice-Chair Day **MOVED** to approve Resolution No. 109-050-Parliamentary Procedures and Robert's Rules of Order as presented. Commissioner Hopkins **SECONDED** the motion. Motion carried with Commissioner Districts 1-2-3 voting yes.

**I. Resolution No. 109-051-Public Participation at Sierra County Commission Meetings**

Commissioner Hopkins **MOVED** to approve Resolution No. 109-051-Public Participation at Sierra County Commission Meetings as presented.

**Commission Vice-Chair Day SECONDED the motion. Motion carried with Commissioner Districts 1-2-3 voting yes.**

**J. Resolution No. 109-052-In Support of Legislative Creation of Special Hospital District Pursuant to Special Hospital District**

**Commission Vice-Chair Day MOVED to approve Resolution No. 109-052-In Support of Legislative Creation of Special Hospital District Pursuant to Special Hospital District as presented. Commissioner Hopkins SECONDED the motion. Motion carried with Commissioner Districts 1-2-3 voting yes.**

**K. Ordinance No. 21-001-Spinlaunch Proposal for an Economic Development Project**

**Commissioner Hopkins MOVED to approve Ordinance No. 21-001-Spinlaunch Proposal for an Economic Development Project as presented. Commission Vice-Chair Day SECONDED the motion. Motion carried with Commissioner Districts 1-2-3 voting yes.**

**L. Resolution No. 109-053-Support of Reinstatement of a State Meat Inspection Program in New Mexico**

**Commission Vice-Chair Day MOVED to approve Resolution No. 109-053-Support of Reinstatement of a State Meat Inspection Program in New Mexico as presented. Commissioner Hopkins SECONDED the motion. Motion carried with Commissioner Districts 1-2-3 voting yes.**

**M. Resolution No. 109-054-Amending the Designation of the Location of Election Day Polling Places for All Statewide Elections Conducted in 2021**

**Commissioner Hopkins MOVED to approve Resolution No. 109-054-Amending the Designation of the Location of Election Day Polling Places for All Statewide Elections Conducted in 2021 as presented. Commission Vice-Chair Day SECONDED the motion. Motion carried with Commissioner Districts 1-2-3 voting yes.**

**XI. EXECUTIVE SESSION (11:52 A.M.) SECTION (10-15-1E THRU H):**

**At 11:52A.M. Commission Vice-Chair Day MOVED to go into Executive Session for Personnel, Real Estate, Pending and Threatened Litigation. Commissioner Hopkins SECONDED the motion. Roll call vote was taken with all Commissioners present voting yes.**

**District 1 – Yes  
District 2 – Yes**

**District 3 – Yes**

**PENDING AND THREATENED LITIGATION:**

**A. D. Caouette**

**PERSONNEL:**

**REAL ESTATE:**

**XII. OPEN SESSION ACTIONS FOR EXECUTIVE SESSION:**

**Commission Vice-Chair Day MOVED to come back into Regular Session. Commissioner Hopkins SECONDED the motion. Roll call vote was taken, with all Commissioners present voting yes.**

**DATE AND TIME OF NEXT REGULAR SIERRA COUNTY COMMISSION MEETING: February 16, 2021**

**The date and time of the next Regular Sierra County Commission Meeting has been scheduled for Tuesday, February 16, 2021, at 10:00 A.M. at the Sierra County Commission Chamber at 855 Van Patten, Truth or Consequences, New Mexico.**

**Commission Vice-Chair Day MOVED to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Hopkins SECONDED the motion. Motion carried with Commissioner Districts 1-2-3 voting yes.**

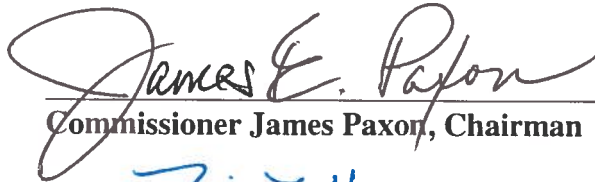
**ADJOURNMENT: (12:28 P.M.)**

**There being no further business to come before the Board. Commission Chair Paxon adjourned the meeting at 12:28 P.M.**



Dated this 19th day of January, 2021.

**SIERRA COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS**

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Commissioner James Paxon, Chairman

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Commissioner Travis Day, Vice-Chairman

  
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Commissioner Hank Hopkins, Member

**ATTEST:**

  
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Shelly K Trujillo, County Clerk