

**SIERRA COUNTY COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
January 28, 2025**

**CALL TO ORDER: 9:45 Public Hearing Amendment to Animal Control Ordinance
10:00 am Regular Meeting**

The Sierra County Board of County Commissioners met in Regular Session at 10:00 A.M. on Tuesday, January 28, 2025 at the Sierra County Commission Chambers 1712 N. Date Street, Truth or Consequences, New Mexico.

ROLL CALL:

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

Clerk of Board: Amy Whitehead

County Attorney: David Pato

County Manager: Amber Vaughn

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

NEW MEXICO STATE FLAG PLEDGE:

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE:

Josh Baker, Mickey Atwell, Joshua Chavez, Keith Whitney, Ernie Armijo, Monica Zepeda, Candace Chavez, Isaac Rivers, Patrick Flores

I. APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

Commission Vice-Chair Paxon **MOVED** to move Item VIII D to Item 3 on the Agenda due to time constraints for attendees and to approve the agenda as amended. Commissioner Hopkins **SECONDED** the motion. Motion carried with Commissioners District 1-2-3 voting yes.

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

A. Regular Meeting-December 17, 2024

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

III. PUBLIC COMMENT: LIMITED TO 3 MINUTES

ITEM VIII D: Moved to first order of business due to presenters time constraints.
Direction To Authorize work on a Revised MOU with the Fair Board Appointing a
Member of Sierra County Staff and a Commissioner.

Members Jared Bartoo, Serena Bartoo and Jennie Shepperd presented a request for
upgrade and repair wash racks and drainage problem at the Fairgrounds. Hank
Hopkins mentioned the sun needs to be blocked from the bleachers. Manager
Vaughn stated that these issues have been brought to her attention and are on her
radar to be taken care of in the near future.

Commissioner Hopkins MOVED to appoint Jim Paxon, Amber Vaughn, and Ernie
Armijo to the Sierra County Fair board to represent the County.
Commission Vice Chair Paxon SECONDED the motion. Motion carried with
Commissioners District 1-2-3 voting yes.

IV. CONSENT AGENDA:

- A. Resolution No. 2025-01- Account Payables
- B. Resolution No. 2025-02- Indigent Claims
- C. Indigent Burial B2025-001
- D. Indigent Burial B2025-002
- E. Indigent Burial B2025-003
- F. Claim of Exemption 24-013 (Eischens)

Commission Vice-Chair Paxon MOVED to approve the Consent Agenda as
presented. Commissioner Hopkins SECONDED the motion. Motion carried
with Commissioner Districts 1-2-3 voting yes.

V. PRESENTATIONS/REPORTS:

- A. Years of Service awards
- B. Department Reports
- C. Flood Commissioner Annual Report- Not present
- D. 2025 Fire Season and Prescribed Fire planned for 2025-Not present

New Detention Administrator Patrick Flores introduced himself and stated that he has 18 years experience in a correctional setting. He is reviewing and revising policy now and is very happy to be here.

VI. BOARD OF FINANCE:

A. December Reconciliation

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

VII. OLD BUSINESS:

VIII. NEW BUSINESS:

A. Approval of 2026 SP Request for Funding

B. Approval of 2026 SB Request for Funding

C. Approval of 2026 CAP Request for Funding

Commission Vice-Chair Paxon **MOVED** to approve the Request for Funding SP, SB, and CAP as presented. Commissioner Hopkins **SECONDED** the motion. Motion carried with Commissioners District 1-2-3 voting yes.

D. Direction to Authorize work on a Revised MOU with the Fair Board Appointing a member of Sierra County Staff and a Commissioner.
Item D moved to 1st order of business on the agenda. (See below Public Comment)

E. Appointments of Board and Committee Members. Commission Vice-Chair asked that it be confirmed that County Manager Vaughn is the voting Representative and Commissioner Paxon is the Alternate.

Commissioner Hopkins **MOVED** to approve the Appointment of Board and Committee Members as presented. Commission Vice-Chair Paxon **SECONDED** the motion. Motion carried with Commissioners District 1-2-3 voting yes.

F. County Road Closure Request: Temporary closure of A021 Space Race

Commission Vice-Chair Paxon **MOVED** to approve County Road Closure Request as presented. Commissioner Hopkins **SECONDED** the motion. Motion carried with Commissioner Districts 1-2-3 voting yes.

IX. CONTRACTS – AGREEMENTS – PROCUREMENT

- A. MOU between the County of Sierra and the City of Truth or Consequences-Provision of Emergency Management Services**
Cost is \$10k annually for Emergency Management to help the City of T or C.

Commissioner Hopkins **MOVED** to approve MOU between County of Sierra and City of T or C as presented. Commission Vice-Chair Paxon **SECONDED** the motion. Motion carried with Commissioner Districts 1-2-3 voting yes.

- B. First Amendment to Local Government Road Fund Cooperative Agreement Contract No. D20231**
Will be paid by the State and save the County \$61k per year.

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

- C. First Amendment to Local Government Road Fund Cooperative Agreement Contract No. D20229**

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

- D. MES-Fire Equipment-SPA-Las Palomas Fire Department**

Commissioner Hopkins **MOVED** to approve MES-Fire Equipment-SPA-Las Palomas Fire Department as presented. Commission Vice-Chair Paxon **SECONDED** the motion. Motion carried with Commissioner Districts 1-2-3 voting yes.

- E. MCLL-Chevrolet Tahoe PPV-SPA-Sheriff's Office**

Commission Vice Chair Paxon **MOVED** to approve MCLL-Chevrolet Tahoe PPV-SPA-Sheriff's Office as presented. Commissioner Hopkins **SECONDED** the motion. Motion carried with Commissioner Districts 1-2-3 voting yes.

F. RFP #2024-07-021 Hazard Mitigation Plan-Notice of Award

Commissioner Hopkins **MOVED** to approve RFP #2024-07-021 as presented. Commission Vice-Chair Paxon **SECONDED** the motion. Motion carried with Commissioner Districts 1-2-3 voting yes.

X. RESOLUTIONS – ORDINANCES – PROCLAMATIONS

A. Resolution No. 2025-03 Appointment of Chair and Vice-Chair of Sierra County. Commissioner Hopkins moved to appoint Travis Day as Chair and Jim Paxon as Vice Chair.

Commissioner Hopkins **MOVED** to approve Resolution No. 2025-03 as presented. Commission Vice Chair Paxon **SECONDED** the motion. Motion carried with Commissioner Districts 1-2-3 voting yes.

B. Resolution No. 2025-04 Sierra County Manager Authority
Attorney Pato asked to adjust the Authority for the County Manager to \$60k.

Commission Vice-Chair Paxon **MOVED** to approve Resolution No. 2025-04 as presented. Commissioner Hopkins **SECONDED** the motion. Motion carried with Commissioner Districts 1-2-3 voting yes.

C. Resolution No. 2025-05 Open Meeting Act

Commissioner Hopkins **MOVED** to approve Resolution 2025-05 as presented. Commission Vice Chair Paxon **SECONDED** the motion. Motion carried with Commissioner Districts 1-2-3 voting yes.

D. Resolution No. 2025-06 Parliamentary Procedures and Robert's Rules of Order

Commission Vice-Chair Paxon **MOVED** to approve Resolution No. 2025-06 as presented. Commissioner Hopkins **SECONDED** the motion. Motion carried with Commissioner Districts 1-2-3 voting yes.

E. Resolution No. 2025-07 Public Participation at Sierra County Commission Meetings.

Commissioner Hopkins **MOVED** to approve Resolution 2025-07 as presented. Commission Vice-Chair Paxon **SECONDED** the motion. Motion carried with Commissioner Districts 1-2-3 voting yes.

F. Resolution No. 2025-08 Signature Authority on County Checks.

Commission Vice Chair Paxon **MOVED** to approve Resolution No. 2025-08 as presented. Commissioner Hopkins **SECONDED** the motion. Motion carried with Commissioner Districts 1-2-3 voting yes.

G. Resolution No. 2025-09 Establishing Depositories

Commissioner Hopkins **MOVED** to approve Resolution 2025-09 as presented. Commission Vice-Chair Paxon **SECONDED** the motion. Motion carried with Commissioner Districts 1-2-3 voting yes

H. Resolution No. 2025-10 Public Notice Describing Procedures for Requests for Inspection of Public Records.

Commission Vice Chair Paxon **MOVED** to approve Resolution No. 2025-10 as presented. Commissioner Hopkins **SECONDED** the motion. Motion carried with Commissioner Districts 1-2-3 voting yes

I. Resolution No. 2025-11 Opposing Abuse of the Antiquities Act

Commissioner Hopkins **MOVED** to approve Resolution No. 2025-11 as presented. Commission Vice-Chair Paxon **SECONDED** the motion. Motion carried with Commissioner Districts 1-2-3 voting yes

J. Resolution No. 2025-12 Authorizing Sale or Disposal of Tangible Personal Property by Sierra County. Clerk's Office trade of 2018 Ford F150

Commission Vice Chair Paxon **MOVED** to approve Resolution No. 2025-12 as presented. Commissioner Hopkins **SECONDED** the motion. Motion carried with Commissioner Districts 1-2-3 voting yes

K. Resolution No. 2025-13 Establishing a License Tax under the Liquor Control Act

Commission Vice Chair Paxon **MOVED** to approve Resolution No. 2025-13 as presented. Commissioner Hopkins **SECONDED** the motion. Motion carried with Commissioner Districts 1-2-3 voting yes

L. Resolution No. 2025-14 Budget Adjustment

Commissioner Hopkins **MOVED** to approve Resolution No. 2025-14 as presented. Commission Vice-Chair **SECONDED** the motion. Motion carried with Commissioner Districts 1-2-3 voting yes

M. Resolution No. 2025-15 In support of the Appointment of Yvette Herrell as Assistant Secretary of the United States Department of Interior.

Commission Vice Chair Paxon **Moved** to approve Resolution No. 2025-15 as presented. County Chair Day **Seconded** the motion. Motion carried with Commissioner Districts 1-2-3 voting yes

N. Direction to Order Publication of Ordinance No. 25-001 Property Tax Rebate Benefiting Low-Income Taxpayers.

Commissioner Hopkins **Moved** to **NOT PUBLISH**- Direction to Order Publication of Ordinance No. 25-001 as presented. Commission Vice-Chair Paxon **Seconded** the motion. Motion carried with Commissioner Districts 1-2-3 voting yes

O. Ordinance No. 25-002 Amending Animal Control Ordinance.

Commission Vice Chair Paxon **Moved** to approve Ordinance No. 25-002 as presented. Commissioner Hopkins **Seconded** the motion. Motion carried with Commissioner Districts 1-2-3 voting yes

XI. EXECUTIVE SESSION SECTION (10-15-E THRU H):

Commission Vice-Chair Paxon **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. Ramirez v. Sierra County
- B. Estate of Tracy v. Sierra County

PERSONNEL:

REAL ESTATE:

XII. OPEN SESSION ACTIONS FOR EXECUTIVE SESSION:

Commission Vice-Chair Paxon **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:

The date and time of the next Regular Sierra County Commission Meeting has been scheduled for Tuesday, February 18, 2025 at 10:00 A.M. at the Sierra County Commission Chambers at 1712 N Date, Truth or Consequences, New Mexico.

Commissioner Hopkins **MOVED** to adjourn the meeting. Commission Vice-Chair Paxon **SECONDED** the motion.

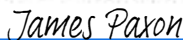
There being no further business to come before the Board, Commission Chair Day adjourned the meeting.

Dated this 28th day of January, 2025

SIERRA COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS



Commissioner Travis Day, Chairman





James Paxon (Feb 18, 2025 14:54 MST)

Commissioner James E. Paxon, Vice-Chairman



Commissioner Hank Hopkins, Member

ATTEST:

Amy Whitehead, County Clerk

Meeting Minutes January 18th, 2025

Final Audit Report

2025-02-18

Created:	2025-02-18
By:	Monica Zepeda (mzepeda@sierraco.org)
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"Meeting Minutes January 18th, 2025" History

-  Document created by Monica Zepeda (mzepeda@sierraco.org)
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