

**SIERRA COUNTY COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
August 19, 2025**

CALL TO ORDER: 9:30 AM Public Hearing Declaring a public safety disaster in Sierra County due to the threat of injury and damage from Mexican Wolves.

CALL TO ORDER: 10:00 am Regular Meeting

The Sierra County Board of County Commissioners met in Regular Session at 10:00 A.M. on Tuesday, August 19, 2025, at the Sierra County Commission Chambers, 1712 N Date St, 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:

Monica Zepeda, Josh Baker, Steve Mull-Sentinel, Patrick Flores, Joshua Chavez, Tim Kuzdrowski, Ryan Williams, Gay Skidmore, Dale Skidmore, Paul Waters, Dan Helton, Michael and Kim Perry, Kelsie Cochran, Kristie Hawkins, William & Loretta Rabenau, Marsha Wright, Sharon Luna, Lisa Daniel, Bruce Swingle, Susan Swaim, Jack Diamond, Mickey Atwell, Mr. and Mrs. Schneberger, Derek Bean, Virginia Lee, Candi Chavez, Jessica Pena, Patrice Love, Brett Mellot (US Forest Service), Kayce Edwards, Sandy Jones

I. APPROVAL OF AGENDA: With amendment moving Item X. A-Resolution 2025-68 to be heard after Public Comment

Commission Vice Chair Paxon MOVED 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 July 15, 2025**
- B. Special Meeting July 31, 2025**
- C. Special Meeting August 13, 2025**

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

**Bruce Swingle
Susan Swaim
Jack Diamond**

All spoke in OPPOSITION to the Mexican Wolf and in Support of the Resolution Declaring a public safety disaster in Sierra County due to the Mexican Wolf.

Lisa Daniel- Flying X Ranch: Asked the Commissioners for more maintenance on Red Rock Road as it is terrible and tearing up their vehicles. The Road is only maintained once or twice a year and she would like more maintenance.

X: A- Resolution No. 2025-68 Declaring a Public Safety Disaster in Sierra County due to the threat of injury and Damage from Mexican Wolves.

Commission Vice Chair Paxon MOVED to approve Resolution No. 2025-68 as presented. Commissioner Hopkins SECONDED the motion. Motion carried with Commissioners District 1-2-3 voting yes.

IV. CONSENT AGENDA:

- A. Resolution No. 2025-66 Accounts Payable**
- B. Resolution No. 2025-67 Indigent Claims**
- C. Indigent Burial B2025-016**

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

V. PRESENTATIONS/REPORTS:

- A. Years of Service award
- B. Department Reports

VI. BOARD OF FINANCE:

A. July Reconciliation

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

VII. OLD BUSINESS:

A. Sierra Vista Hospital Joint Powers Agreement Amendment

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

VIII. NEW BUSINESS:

A. Approval of donation, 2000 Vermeer BC 1800A Woodchipper from Sierra Soil & Water Conservation District to the County of Sierra.

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

IX. CONTRACT-AGREEMENTS-PROCUREMENTS

A. Approval of Unauthorized purchase: Flood Commissioner

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

B. Preservation Agreement between the State of NM Historic Preservation Division and Sierra County

C. JPA Between the Department of Cultural Affairs Historic Preservation Division and Sierra County to improve Hillsboro Community Center.

Commission Vice Chair Paxon moved to approve Preservation Agreement AND JPA as presented in one motion.

Commissioner Hopkins SECONDED the motion. Motion carried with Commissioners District 1-2-3 voting yes.

D. MOU Between Sierra County and T or C School District for student admission to school sporting events.

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

E. MOU between Sierra County and Sierra County Arroyo Flood District to provide temporary seed funding for operations.

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

F. RISE Grant agreement between Sierra County and The Olive Tree

G. BHIZ Grant agreement between Sierra County and The Olive Tree

Commissioner Hopkins MOVED to approve Both agreements (RISE and BHIZ) as presented. Commission Vice Chair Paxon SECONDED the motion. Motion carried with Commissioner Districts 1-2-3 voting yes

H. NM Capital Outlay Grant Agreement 25-J3162

Commission Vice Chair Paxon MOVED to approve Agreement 25-J3162 as presented. Commissioner Hopkins SECONDED the motion. Motion carried with Commissioner Districts 1-2-3 voting yes.

I. NM Capital Outlay Grant Agreement 25-J3163

Commissioner Hopkins MOVED to approve Grant Agreement 25-J3163 as presented. Commission Vice Chair Paxon SECONDED the motion. Motion carried with Commissioner Districts 1-2-3 voting yes

J. NM Capital Outlay Grant Agreement 25-J3165

Commission Vice Chair Paxon MOVED to approve Agreement 25-J3165 as presented. Commissioner Hopkins SECONDED the motion. Motion carried with Commissioner Districts 1-2-3 voting yes.

K. Cost of Care Agreement between the County of Bernalillo and the County of Sierra

Commission Vice Chair Paxon MOVED to approve Cost of Care 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. 2025-68 MOVED TO AFTER PUBLIC COMMENT

B. Resolution No. 2025-69 FY 26 Budget and Transfer Amendment

Commissioner Hopkins MOVED to approve Resolution No. 2025-69 as presented. Commission Vice Chair Paxon SECONDED the motion. Motion carried with Commissioner Districts 1-2-3 voting yes.

C. Resolution 2025-70 FY 26 Budget Amendment-Arroyo Flood District

Commission Vice Chair Paxon MOVED to approve Resolution 2025-70 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): NO executive session

PENDING AND THREATENED LITIGATION:

XI. OPEN SESSION ACTIONS FOR EXECUTIVE SESSION:

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 September 16, 2025 at 10:00 A.M. at the Sierra County Commission Chambers 1712 N. Date Street Truth or Consequences, New Mexico.

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

ADJOURNMENT:

**There being no further business to come before the Board, Commission
Chair Day adjourned the meeting at 11:45am.**

Dated this 19th day of August 2025.

SIERRA COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS



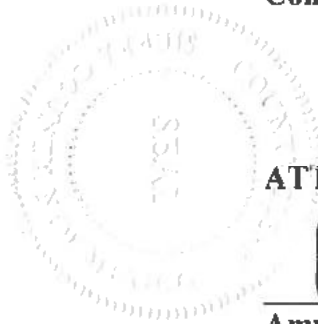
Commissioner Travis Day, Chairman



Commissioner James E Paxon, Vice-Chairman



Commissioner Hank Hopkins, Member



ATTEST:



Amy Whitehead, County Clerk