

**SIERRA COUNTY COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
May 26th, 2026**

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, May 26, 2026, at the Sierra County Commission Chambers, 1712 N Date St, Truth or Consequences, New Mexico.

ROLL CALL:

**Commissioner Jim Paxon, Chairman
Commissioner Hank Hopkins, Vice-Chair (Telephonically)
Commissioner Sandy Jones, Member**

Clerk of Board: Teresa Sopkowiak for Amy Whitehead

County Attorney: Adrian Nance for David Pato

County Manager: Amber Vaughn

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

NEW MEXICO STATE FLAG PLEDGE:

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE:

**Monica Zepeda, Steve Mull-Sentinel, Patrick Flores, Tim Kuzdrowski,
Jessica Pena, Ernie Armijo, Keith Whitney, Patrice Love, Ryan Williams,
Billy Neeley, Candace Chavez, Robert Perez Maja Perez, Michelle Atwell**

I. APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

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

II. Public Hearing:

A. Sierra County Affordable Housing Ordinance:

No speakers on the Affordable Housing Ordinance

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES: 4/21/26

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

IV. PUBLIC COMMENT:

No public comment

V. CONSENT AGENDA:

- A. Resolution No. 2026-30 Accounts Payable**
- B. Resolution No. 2026-31 Indigent Claims**
- C. Indigent Burial B2026-03**
- D. Indigent Burial B2026-04**

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

VI. PRESENTATIONS/REPORTS:

- A. Years of Service awards**
- B. Department Reports**
- C. Schneider Electric Solar Project**

VII. BOARD OF FINANCE:

- A. April 2026 Reconciliation**

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

VIII. OLD BUSINESS

N/A

IX. NEW BUSINESS:

A. Road Closure request-NM Spaceport Authority (June 2026)

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

B. Request for approval for the Purchase of a Pivot Air Breathing Air Compressor for the Arrey/Derry Volunteer Fire Department:

Commission Vice-Chair Hopkins MOVED to approve Purchase of a Pivot Air Breathing Air Compressor as presented. Commissioner Jones SECONDED the motion. Motion carried with Commissioner Districts 1-2-3 voting yes.

C. Request for Approval for Sierra County Road Department Infrastructure Placement Permit No. 2026-0526-01

Commissioner Jones MOVED to approve Sierra County Road Department infrastructure placement permit No. 2026-0526-01. Commission Vice Chair Hopkins SECONDED the motion. Motion carried with Commissioner Districts 1-2-3 voting yes.

X. CONTRACT-AGREEMENTS-PROCUREMENTS

A. CLLA JPA Amendment

Commission Vice Chair Hopkins MOVED to approve the CLLA Amendment as presented. Commission Chair Paxon SECONDED the motion. Motion passed with Commissioner Districts 1 and 3 voting yes and Commissioner District 2 voting no.

B. Hillsboro Community Center Management Agreement

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

- C. **Road Maintenance Agreement with NMDOT for maintenance on A013**
TABLED by Commissioner Districts 1-2-3.

XI. RESOLUTIONS – ORDINANCES – PROCLAMATIONS

- A. **Resolution No. 2026-32 Authorizing of a Wildfire Risk Reduction Grant and Confirming Compliance with Program Requirements for the Community Wildfire Protection Plan update**

Commissioner Jones MOVED to approve Resolution No. 2026-32 as presented. Commission Vice Chair Hopkins SECONDED the motion. Motion carried with Commissioner Districts 1-2-3 voting yes.

- B. **Resolution No. 2026-33 FY26 Budget Adjustment Resolution**

Commissioner Jones MOVED to approve Resolution No. 2026-33 as presented. Commission Vice Chair Hopkins SECONDED the motion. Motion carried with Commissioner Districts 1-2-3 voting yes.

- C. **Resolution No. 2026-34 Budget Adjustment Resolution-CLLA**

Commission Vice Chair Hopkins MOVED to approve Resolution No. 2026-34 as presented. Commission Chair Paxon SECONDED the motion. Motion carried with Commissioner Districts 1 & 3 voting yes and Commission District 2 voting No.

- D. **Resolution No. 2026-35 Adopting FY27 Preliminary Budget**

Commission Vice Chair Hopkins MOVED to approve Resolution No. 2026-35 as presented. Commissioner Jones SECONDED the motion. Motion carried with Commissioner Districts 1-2-3 voting yes.

- E. **Resolution No. 2026-36 Adopting FY27 Preliminary Budget for Sierra County Flood Commissioner.**

Commission Vice Chair Hopkins MOVED to approve the Proclamation as presented. Commission Chair Paxon SECONDED the motion. Motion passed with Commissioner Districts 1 & 3 voting yes.

Commissioner Jones Abstained from voting.

F. Ordinance No. 2026-002 Sierra County Affordable Housing

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

**XII. Executive Session (Section 10-15 E-H)
Pending and Threatened Litigation**

A. Sierra County v. Pluma, LLC

Commission Vice-Chair Hopkins MOVED to go into Executive Session for Pending and Threatened Litigation. Commissioner Jones SECONDED the motion. Roll call vote was taken with all Commissioners present voting yes.

XIII. OPEN SESSION ACTIONS FOR EXECUTIVE SESSION:

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

A. Direction to staff regarding Pluma Contract

Commissioner Jones moved to direct staff to move forward with the project closeout of the Fairground project. If negotiations fail, the commission will direct staff to terminate the contract.

Commission Chair Paxon motioned to approve the Direction to Staff regarding Pluma Contract. Vice-Chair Hopkins SECONDED the motion. Motion carried with commissioner districts 1-2-3 voting yes.

B. Direction to staff regarding Fairgrounds Improvements.

Commissioner Jones motioned to TABLE Direction to staff regarding Fairgrounds Improvements. Vice-Chair Hopkins SECONDED the motion with commission districts

**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 June 23rd, 2026 at 10:00 A.M. at the Sierra County Commission Chambers 1712 N. Date Street Truth or Consequences, New Mexico.

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

ADJOURNMENT:

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

Dated this 26th day of May 2026.

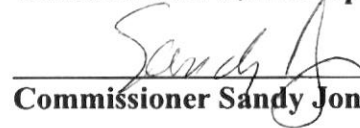
SIERRA COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS



Commissioner James E. Paxon, Chairman

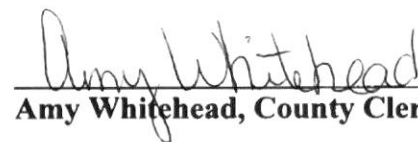


Commissioner Hank Hopkins, Vice-Chairman



Commissioner Sandy Jones, Member

ATTEST:



Amy Whitehead, County Clerk

