

**SIERRA COUNTY COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
June 23, 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, June 23, 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
Commissioner Sandy Jones, 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, Steve Mull-Sentinel, Josh Chavez, Tim Kuzdrowski, Jessica Pena, Ernie Armijo, Ruben Lucero, Patrice Love, Ryan Williams, Sulome Anderson, Brielle FeHaous, Naima Feltaous, Virginia Womak, Maja Perez

I. APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

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

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES: 5/26/2026

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.

III. PUBLIC COMMENT:

Sulome Anderson from Monticello- Spoke in opposition to the rumor that an AI data Center is being considered in Sierra County. Strongly oppose. Brielle Feltous, Kyle Smith, June Russett all spoke in opposition.

IV. CONSENT AGENDA:

- A. Resolution No. 2026-37 Accounts Payable**
- B. Resolution No. 2026-38 Indigent Claims**
- C. Indigent Burial B2026-05**
- D. Indigent Burial B2026-06**
- E. Indigent Burial B2026-07**
- F. Claim of Exemption 26-002 Taylor**

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

V. PRESENTATIONS/REPORTS:

- A. Years of Service awards**
- B. Department Reports**

VI. BOARD OF FINANCE:

- A. May 2026 Reconciliation**

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

VII. OLD BUSINESS

N/A

VIII. NEW BUSINESS:

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

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

B. Discussion and Direction re: Spaceport Rd. (A013)

Commission Chair Paxon stated that we need to get a meeting together with the State land office, DOT, and private landowners.

Commissioner Jones stated that there is a need for more right of way that is wider than the prescriptive easement and we need to determine who the players are, get everyone together to see if we have a willing group of participants.

Commission Chair Paxon MOVED to direct the staff to determine ownership on the land for the road and examine the needs of the right of way, include the DOT. 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.

IX. CONTRACT-AGREEMENTS-PROCUREMENTS

A. MOU between Sierra County and Black Range Ranger District for parking

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

B. Contract between Sierra County and T or C Municipal Schools for School Resource Officer Position

Commissioner Jones MOVED to table Contract Agreement until July meeting for amendments. Commission Vice Chair Hopkins SECONDED the motion. Motion carried with Commissioner Districts 1-2-3 voting yes.

C. Contract #2026-06-001 between Sierra County and the City of T or C Vector Control Services

Commission Vice Chair Hopkins MOVED to approve Contract #2026-06-001 as presented. Commissioner Jones SECONDED the motion. Motion carried with Commissioner Districts 1-2-3 voting yes.

X. RESOLUTIONS – ORDINANCES – PROCLAMATIONS

A. Resolution No. 2026-39 Sierra County Adopting the Sierra County 2026 Hazard mitigation action plan.

Commissioner Hopkins MOVED to approve Resolution No. 2026-39 as presented. Commissioner Jones SECONDED the motion. Motion carried with Commissioner Districts 1-2-3 voting yes.

B. Resolution No. 2026-40 FY26 Budget Adjustment Resolution

Commissioner Hopkins MOVED to approve Resolution No. 2026-40 as presented. Commissioner Jones SECONDED the motion. Motion carried with Commissioner Districts 1-2-3 voting yes.

C. Resolution No. 2026-41 Budget Adjustment Resolution- Certifying the correctness of the Fy25-26 physical inventory.

Commissioner Jones MOVED to approve Resolution No. 2026-41 as presented. Commissioner Hopkins SECONDED the motion. Motion carried with Commissioner Districts 1 & 3 voting yes and Commission District 2 voting No.

D. Resolution No. 2026-42 Adopting FY2028-2032 Infrastructure Capital Improvement Plan

Commission Vice Chair Hopkins MOVED to approve Resolution No. 2026-42 as presented. Commissioner Jones SECONDED the motion. Motion carried with Commissioner Districts 1-2-3 voting yes.

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

A. County of Sierra v. State of NM

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.

XII. OPEN SESSION ACTIONS FOR EXECUTIVE SESSION:

Commission Vice Chair Hopkins MOVED to come back into Regular Session and Table item 12. Commissioner Jones 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 July 21, 2026 at 10:00 A.M. at the Sierra County Commission Chambers 1712 N. Date Street Truth or Consequences, New Mexico.

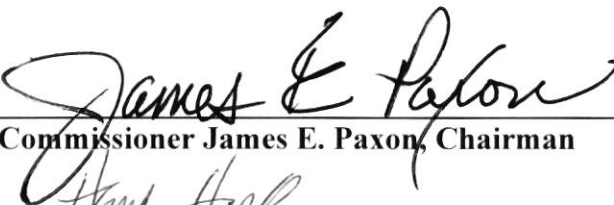
Commission Vice-Chair Hopkins MOVED to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Jones SECONDED the motion.

ADJOURNMENT:

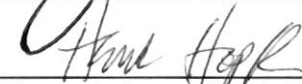
There being no further business to come before the Board, Commission Chair Paxson adjourned the meeting.

Dated this 23rd day of June 2026.

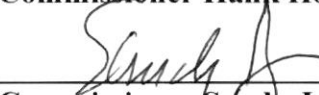
SIERRA COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS



Commissioner James E. Paxon, Chairman



Commissioner Hank Hopkins, Vice-Chairman



Commissioner Sandy Jones, Member

ATTEST:



Amy Whitehead, County Clerk

