



**SIERRA COUNTY
BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
RESOLUTION Nº 107-090**

**Resolution Opposing the Relocation of
Asylum-seekers to Sierra County**

Whereas, the Board of County Commissioners of Sierra County, met in a regular meeting on May 21, 2019, at 10:00 A.M. in the Sierra County Administration Office, 855 Van Patten, Truth or Consequences, NM 87901; and,

Whereas, NMSA 1978, § 4-37-1 (1975) grants Counties the powers necessary “to provide for the safety, preserve the health, promote the prosperity and improve the morals, order, comfort and convenience of the county and for its inhabitants;”

Whereas, NMSA 1978, § 4-38-18 (1876) provides that the Board of County Commissioners has the power to represent the County and to manage the interest of the County;

Whereas, there is an immigration crisis on the border of the United States of America with the United Mexican States;

Whereas, the vast numbers of immigrants seeking asylum in the United States has created a humanitarian crisis in southern New Mexico for both County residents and asylum-seekers alike; and,

Whereas, the asylum-seekers released in El Paso, Las Cruces, Albuquerque, Deming and Lordsburg have placed an immense drain on local governments and community resources and finances; and,

Whereas, nearby Las Cruces, New Mexico, has been so overwhelmed by large numbers of asylum-seekers that it has closed its Meerscheidt Recreation Center and the

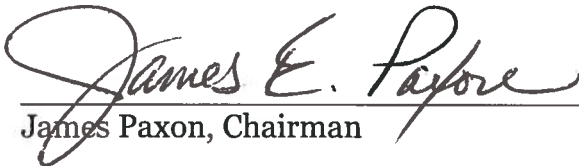
Frank O'Brien Papen Community Center to the public so that it may be used as intake and temporary housing for asylum-seekers; and,

Whereas, Sierra County is an impoverished community with very limited resources, and is not equipped to handle, even on a small scale, the placement of asylum-seekers in the community, as neither the County nor local governments have the human or financial resources to house these individuals or the social or medical services to accommodate these individuals; and,

Whereas, asylum-seekers released in Sierra County will remain trapped in the community indefinitely, as the area has very limited transportation infrastructure. There are no bus or railroad stops, commercial flights, a transit system, or even taxi service; and,

Now, Therefore, be it Resolved by the Board of County Commissioners of Sierra County, New Mexico, that public safety and constituent services are paramount, and demands that it oppose the relocation of asylum-seekers to Sierra County, and that it call upon the President to close the United States/Mexico border to immigration.

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF SIERRA COUNTY


James Paxon, Chairman


Travis Day, Vice-Chair


Frances Luna, Commissioner

Attest:

Shelly K. Trujillo
Sierra County Clerk