

The Board of County Commissioners, in and for the County of Otero, State of New Mexico, met in a Work Session at the Otero County Courthouse in Alamogordo, County and State aforesaid. Meeting called to order by the Vice-Chair person at 9:00 a.m., May 10, 2004; and she announced that reasonable notice for this meeting was given to the Alamogordo Daily News, and to Radio Stations, KPSA, KINN and KYEE.

Present:

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| Clarissa McGinn | Vice-Chair person |
| Doug Moore | Member |
| Ruth Hooser | County Manager |
| Ray Backstrom | Assistant County Manager |
| Dan Bryant | County Attorney |
| Bill Lee Parker | Road Superintendent |
| Lynn Estrada | Deputy Clerk |

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Commissioner Moore gave the invocation. Commissioner McGinn led the Pledge of Allegiance and Salute to the Flag of the State of New Mexico.

1. **Old Business:** Update on EMS/Medical Director for VFD'S.

Commissioner McGinn stated that when the EMS Departments brought their concerns of the Volunteer Medical Director's rising malpractice insurance cost, we started looking into how we could be able to fund this position so we wouldn't lose the Medical Director. Most of all 33 counties are working on the same issue along with the State Insurance Pool Board. The State Board is working on a solution that would provide one Medical Director for the State out of UNM Medical Center, with the possibility of

having other Medical Directors in our local areas branched underneath that one Medical Director. The Insurance Board meets again in June and we will have an update from them on the solution of this issue.

2. **Administration:** Consider approving Resolution No. 05-18-04/92-48 authorizing the issuance of a series of jail project revenue bonds for the Otero County Prison Project in Chaparral, NM. Also consider approving a form of notice for consideration of an ordinance the issuance of Otero County, NM Jail Project Revenue Bonds, Series 2004.

Dan Bryant, County Attorney, stated that there are several steps that the County will go through to make this process happen. We won't be taking final action on this project until late June. This resolution starts the process for us to draft an amended Bond Ordinance that includes the expansions of the project. The ordinance will be published and come before the Board for the June 8th meeting.

3. **Detention:** Consider a Medical Service Agreement/Contract #PS-04023 between Otero County and Vernon Farthing, M.D.(Physicians Network Assoc.) for the Detention Center. Virginia Blansett, Detention Administrator, stated that this physician has a lot of experience with Detention. Dan Bryant stated that there is an increase in cost in this contract proposal over what we were spending on Dr. Singh's contract.

4. **Assessor:** Discuss Otero County property previously assessed to Harry D. Lenox. Mr. Lenox has been paying taxes on this piece for many years. The amounts of taxes that have been paid are worth the appraised value. Dan Bryant stated that under the statute there are 3 different items that we have to look at. The first is the value of the property. If the value is less than \$5,000.00, there are no formal requirements. If it is worth more that \$5,000.00 you either have to hold an election approving the disposition or you have to put it out for bid. Mr. Palkki, County Assessor, is certain that

the value is under \$5,000.00. The Counties assessed valuation doesn't express market value. In order to be real sure about this piece we need to have an independent appraisal done. Also Mr. Lenox will need to establish he is the heir of J.W. Lenox, who is his deceased brother, whose name was on the Deed. If this hasn't been done Commissioner Moore would like to get him set up with the Probate Judge to help him through this process. Dale Palkki requested the Commission call Mr. Lenox to speak with him on this matter. Commissioner Moore stated that he would be happy to call Mr. Lenox.

b. Dale Palkki, County Assessor, discussed the pricing of copies, faxes and maps. He stated that his office and the Clerk's Office are not charging the same price. These fees should be the same for all departments. Dan Bryant suggested that all Department Heads get together and come up with a uniform fee listing.

5. Attorney: At Commissioner Nivison's request we have revised the Memorandum of Understanding with the Lincoln National Forest for the CPR Program. This MOU was brought to the prior Commission. At that time it involved 3 National Forests and 5 Counties. The National Forest came to Commissioner Nivison in April and asked to have the MOU revised so each County had an MOU with force. Commissioner Nivison would like this item added to the agenda under his name for approval for the May 18th meeting.

6. Citizen Communications:

a. Charles W. Murrell- Consider passing an ordinance regarding jake brake specifics, ½ mile east of Tularosa, NM along US 70. Mr. Murrell stated that the State told him we need a specific ordinance that prohibits jake brake use in order to post signs. The State Police can't enforce this issue because there are no signs within the Village limits. Dan Bryant stated we could draft an ordinance and have a Public Hearing that addresses jake brake use in certain parts of the County.

b. John Cooper- Requesting Indigent Medical assistance for citizens of Otero County, treated at New Mexico Rehabilitation Center in Roswell, New Mexico. This is something that Otero County has never done before. Most of their funding comes from the State and some from Chaves County Indigent. Mr. Cooper stated that they have a contract with Chaves County, it's not part of their Indigent Ordinance. Commissioner Moore requested Gloria Sainz, Indigent Coordinator, to get a copy of the contract from Chaves County that they have with the Rehabilitation Center. Speak with Indigent Coordinator in Chaves to see what kind of language they used and the services that they provide. Also need to know the basic framework would be for them to qualify as another provider. This item will be tabled until the June 8th meeting in order for Gloria to gather all the information requested.

7. **Public Hearing:** Consider to approve new road names: Marble Heights located in the Marble Canyon Estates Subdivision, Melody Avenue located off of Fleetwood Circle in the Dungan Fire District, Sam's Court located off of Section Road in the La Luz Fire District. Brenda Garcia, GIS Department, approached the Board with the request for the new road names and house numbers. Letters have been mailed to all residents and the surrounding areas. There has been no response. Commissioner Moore would like to have a copy of the letter that is mailed to the residents. Commissioner Moore stated that once the roads are named the residents assume that they are County owned therefore maintained by the County.

There being no further business before the Board the Vice-Chair person adjourned the meeting at 10:30 a.m.

APPROVED:

Clarissa McGinn, Vice-chair person

ATTEST:

Mary D. Quintana, County Clerk