

SANTA FE COUNTY
BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
REGULAR MEETING
April 28, 2020

Henry Roybal, Chair - District 1
Anna Hansen, Vice Chair - District 2
Rudy Garcia - District 3
Anna T. Hamilton - District 4
Ed Moreno - District 5

SANTA FE COUNTY

REGULAR MEETING

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April 28, 2020

1. A. This regular meeting of the Santa Fe Board of County Commissioners was called to order at approximately 2:01 p.m. by Chair Henry Roybal

In accordance with the Public Health Emergency Order issued by the State of New Mexico, this meeting was conducted on a platform for audio/video meetings.

[For clarity purposes, repetitive identification and confirmations of those on the phone have been eliminated and/or condensed in this transcript.]

B. Roll Call

Roll was called by County Clerk Geraldine Salazar and indicated the presence of a quorum as follows:

Members Present:

Commissioner Henry Roybal, Chair
Commissioner Anna Hansen, Vice Chair
Commissioner Rudy Garcia
Commissioner Anna Hamilton
Commissioner Ed Moreno

Members Excused:

None

C. Pledge of Allegiance

D. State Pledge

E. Moment of Reflection

The Pledge of Allegiance and the State Pledge were led by Chairman Roybal and the Moment of Reflection by Joey Doolittle of the RECC.

F. Approval of Agenda

1. Amendments

2. Tabled or Withdrawn Items

KATHERINE MILLER (County Manager): Mr. Chair, we have an

SFC CLERK RECORDED 06/10/2020

amended agenda from last Friday, 4/24. At 4:53 it was posted. A couple of items were added to the agenda. Item 2 on Consent, 2. G, a resolution determining reasonable notice for the remainder of the calendar year 2020 for the Open Meetings Act.

CHAIR ROYBAL: G is actually part of the Consent Agenda. Is that correct?

MANAGER MILLER: Yes, Mr. Chair. It's on Consent. Item 2. G. That was added on Friday. Also under Miscellaneous Items, items 4. A, was withdrawn. That was a request to publish title and general summary but we withdrew that. I'll talk about that under Matters from the County Manager on our updates. And then also item 4. C, an approval of an agreement between Santa Fe County and Rancho Viejo Industrial Park Owners Association was added. Otherwise the agenda is as it was posted on 4/20.

CHAIR ROYBAL: Great. Thank you, Manager Miller. Back to the Board. Are there any concerns, questions, as far as the agenda and the changes that we made. Are there any other requests from the Board? If there's not any I would entertain a motion.

COMMISSIONER HANSEN: Mr. Chair.

CHAIR ROYBAL: Yes.

COMMISSIONER HANSEN: I would like to make a motion to approve the agenda.

CHAIR ROYBAL: So we have a motion from Commissioner Hansen. Do I hear a second?

COMMISSIONER MORENO: Second.

COMMISSIONER HAMILTON: Second.

CHAIR ROYBAL: Okay, we have multiple seconds from Commissioner Hamilton and Commissioner Moreno. I'm going to go to a roll call vote. I do really want to quickly see if Commissioner Garcia has joined us yet. Commissioner Garcia? Okay, I'll still call on him for the vote.

The motion passed by unanimous [4-0] roll call vote. [Commissioner Garcia was not present for this action.]

I. G. Approval of Minutes: March 24, 2020 Special Meeting and Canvass Board Meeting

CHAIR ROYBAL: Are there any changes? Commissioner Hansen.

COMMISSIONER HANSEN: Thank you, Mr. Chair. I have submitted the changes. I do have one additional changes that I'm going to tell Debbie. I'm assuming she's on the line. It's on page 25, line 3, and the word is things – since I can't hand her the minutes. But the other section has been changed, so with that I move to approve the minutes with changes.

CHAIR ROYBAL: Thank you, Commissioner Hansen. Thank you for the changes. Are there any other changes? I'll entertain a second as well.

COMMISSIONER HAMILTON: Second.

CHAIR ROYBAL: We have a motion from Commissioner Hansen and a second from Commissioner Hamilton. I'll go to roll call.

The motion passed by unanimous [4-0] roll call vote. [Commissioner Garcia was not present for this action.]

1. H. Recognition of New Hires

MANAGER MILLER: Mr. Chair, Commissioners, I also think Commissioner Garcia might have joined us.

CHAIR ROYBAL: Okay. Commissioner Garcia are you on the line?

MANAGER MILLER: I know he's trying to log on so I thought I heard him join us. Anyway, I will go to the recognition of new hires. While we have slowed down on our hiring the month of March still had some hirings in process, which is probably a good thing. So we do have a few new employees that started in the month of March. On the screen is the list of those.

In Senior Services, Carrie Dubois, cook. In our Corrections Facility, two detention officers, Lawrence Aragon and Elijah Vigil. In Property Maintenance, technician Muriah Townsend. In Sustainability, sustainability specialist in Public Works, Adeline Murthy, and in the Sheriff's Office, administrative assistant, Sandra Archuleta and sheriff's deputy I, Nicolas Lefleur, and sheriff deputy cadet, Ruben Blea.

So I'd just like to welcome them to Santa Fe County and while it's a challenging time to start a new job, hopefully they're ready to get right in and learn their new positions.

CHAIR ROYBAL: Thank you for that update, Manager Miller, and you're right; it's definitely a difficult time and definitely a time where things aren't normal. So I would welcome the new employees and staff members and just say things will get back to the norm and you'll see how the County typically operates in the future. Right now we're at a very challenging time and we hope that you will make your career here at Santa Fe County, so we welcome you and appreciate you today. Any other comments from the Board? Okay, seeing none, we're going on to our next item.

1. I. Recognition of Years of Service

MANAGER MILLER: Thank you, Mr. Chair. As you know, at the County we recognize those new employees or employees that have had a five-year increment in their employment with Santa Fe County. It's just a matter of recognizing employee retention and the value of continuously staying at Santa Fe County. So just as a way of expressing our appreciation to those employees who contribute to the County and choose to make their career with us we send them a note and a pen, and those employees who have hit their five-year mark – we didn't have any that hit ten years. We have three that hit their five-year mark, and that is Sean Di Palma in the adult facility, and Pauline Carillo in Human Resources, and Joseph Lujan in the Sheriff's Office. So just wanted to congratulate them and thank them for their dedication to Santa Fe County and the county residents.

CHAIR ROYBAL: Thank you, Manager Miller, and I just want to reiterate and thank our staff that are celebrating their service years here at Santa Fe

County. I think that it's definitely something that we do appreciate because we do need to keep our staff on. It's hard when we have turnover so to see staff that is dedicated and making a career at Santa Fe County is what we need and what we always push for because that's the way that you build a program. So I'm really proud that we do have people celebrating their anniversaries and congratulations to you all. We look forward to continued success and work together. Do we have any other Commissioners that want to make comments? I'm going to go through the list. Commissioner Hamilton.

COMMISSIONER HAMILTON: Yes. I know it's difficult when we have to go through on video to be spontaneous but you and the County Manager said it so well, we're really glad and very proud to have the contributions of these people who've reached these milestones and of everybody else. And although it might seem a little anti-climatic in this sort of haltered operations to be hitting this milestone, we definitely celebrate your presence.

CHAIR ROYBAL: Thank you, Commissioner Hamilton. Commissioner Hansen.

COMMISSIONER HANSEN: Thank you, Chair Roybal. Yes, we're grateful that you're here and welcome to the new employees who have joined us and with that, thank you, Chair Roybal for the opportunity to say a few words.

CHAIR ROYBAL: Thank you, Commissioner Hansen. Commissioner Moreno.

COMMISSIONER MORENO: Sure. I welcome and congratulate the people who have five years and more and I'm sure that your experience in the County will lead to many benefits.

CHAIR ROYBAL: Thank you, Commissioner Moreno. Commissioner Garcia, are you online? Commissioner Garcia.

COMMISSIONER GARCIA: Yes, I'm here on line.

CHAIR ROYBAL: Okay. Got you, sir. We just are recognizing our employees who have a five-year service anniversary. Did you have any comments for them, sir?

COMMISSIONER GARCIA: I don't. Thank you.

CHAIR ROYBAL: Thank you, Commissioner Garcia.

1. J. Santa Fe County Employee of the Quarter, 1st Quarter of 2020

MANAGER MILLER: Mr. Chair, Commissioners, as you know we have an Employee of the Quarter program that recognizes employees who made a significant contribution to Santa Fe County during the previous three-month period, and that significant contribution may include providing excellent service to our constituents, developing and implementing a new program that benefits the organization, or providing exemplary performance to Santa Fe County in their daily job performance, to be demonstrating a willingness to work above and beyond the call of duty, or some other contribution that a nominator believes to be important to recognize.

The process for selecting the Countywide Employee of the Quarter begins with the designated recognition teams selecting one person from department or elected office Employee of the Quarter for their group. And then the ones from each one of those

groups are considered for the Countywide Employee of the Quarter award.

I believe there's six groups. This first quarter of the year we only received nominations from two groups. I have a feeling some of that has to do with the onslaught of COVID-19. It was a bit challenging in March and the beginning of April to do all the things that we needed to do relative to transitioning from working regular schedules to how we're now functioning with about 175 people working from alternative work schedules outside – from home, and then another 100 working modified work schedules. So I have the feeling that's why we didn't get as many nominations that we usually do but that doesn't take away from the two nominations that we did receive.

First of all, from the Public Safety group, Danielle Tennyson, who is a department administrator and has been with the County since May 14, 2013, was nominated from the Public Safety group. The nominators say that Danielle consistently exceeds expectations in providing administrative support to members of the Fire Department. She consistently maintains a positive and professional attitude and provides consistent, accurate and timely communication to staff. Danielle makes the staff the number one priority and has been an amazing addition to the Fire Department team. So congratulations, Danielle.

Then in Public Works, John Paul Trujillo is a truck driver II that has been with the County since November 2, 2015 and the nominator for John Paul stated that he is a great employee and always goes above and beyond to complete his duties, and also additional duties as needed. Most recently he assisted in picking up refuse from the collection centers and also assisted with the Solid Waste Department was needed to operate equipment during a fire. John Paul frequently receives compliments from the public regarding the customer service he provides when assisting the duties of the collection centers. He recently completed his certification for certified solid waste operator by the State of New Mexico, even though this is not required in his position as a truck driver II. John Paul consistently strives to learn more in his own position and from others within the Public Works Department.

So for the two nominations that were submitted, both of them received two hours of administrative leave and I prepared a letter that will be sent to them, and they can submit that with their timesheets when they choose to take those two hours off. And then for the winner for the quarter they'll receive one of the glass trophies – it's called a trophy but the blown glass sculpture, I guess you would say, that we provide. They're obviously not here today but at a future meeting we'd like to be able to present that to the winner at a future meeting, but meanwhile both employees will receive their nomination certificate and the Employee of the Quarter which is and who was selected from the two is John Paul Trujillo, and he will receive an additional certification as Employee of the Quarter through office mail and he will also receive a letter awarding him with eight hours of administrative leave to be taken at a time of his choice and turn that in with his timesheet for a day off.

So I just want to congratulate John Paul Trujillo and thank him for his great job. It's definitely a testament to the fact that a truck driver is nominated because they're kind of out there by themselves and obviously he makes an impression on all those who he works with and the public he interacts with to really going above and beyond and doing good things at the collection centers and assisting community members as well as assisting his coworkers and obviously they appreciate it and wanted to make sure that he

was recognized for that. So thank you and congratulations to John Paul.

CHAIR ROYBAL: Thank you, Manager Miller. I just want to say that it's an honor for us to sit here and see the accomplishments that our staff is doing out there and see that they're going above and beyond. Huge thanks to Danielle and to John Paul for their dedication and hard work to Santa Fe County. They represent us as a whole as far as Santa Fe County goes, from us elected officials to staff. We recognize and acknowledge and thank you for your hard work. And congratulations. I think that you've set the bar for the rest – all strive for the same success. So thank you and congratulations. I'm going to go to Commissioner Hansen.

COMMISSIONER HANSEN: Thank you. I just want to say congratulations to John Paul and to Danielle and thank you for being such great employees of Santa Fe County. We appreciate your hard work and your dedication to the County. So thank you very much.

CHAIR ROYBAL: Commissioner Hamilton.

COMMISSIONER HAMILTON: Thank you, Mr. Chair. I'm just also very happy to chime in and congratulate both Danielle and John Paul and to comment to both of you and obviously in a special way to John Paul how impressive it is for people to be singled out from frankly very impressive employees that we're proud and making this competition really pretty stiff. So this should feel like a sweet recognition of the special efforts and the contributions you make. Thank you very much for that.

CHAIR ROYBAL: Thank you, Commissioner Hamilton, for the way you express your thoughts. Commissioner Moreno.

COMMISSIONER MORENO: Thank you, Mr. Chair. I think the value of this program is pretty important. It provides an incentive to even having time off for your work, and I think every employee should be aspiring to do the good work that we are doing for the people of Santa Fe County. Thank you.

CHAIR ROYBAL: Thank you, Commissioner Moreno. We appreciate your comments and sentimental thoughts. I'm going to go to Commissioner Garcia for our last.

COMMISSIONER GARCIA: Mr. Chair, very well said by all the Commissioners. Thank you for the employees. Appreciate that. Thank you.

MANAGER MILLER: Mr. Chair.

CHAIR ROYBAL: Yes, go ahead.

MANAGER MILLER: I think John Paul is with Gary on the screen. Can you wave to us John? So there's the winner.

CHAIR ROYBAL: Great job. Did you guys have any comments?

GARY GIRON (Public Works Director): Mr. Chair, thank you for the opportunity for John Paul. He really is an exemplary employee. He went above and beyond the night that he was called to put out a fire. I think it is notable that he finished at 2:30 in the morning and turned around and was back on the clock on his regular shift. That is what makes Santa Fe County employees special.

CHAIR ROYBAL: Yes, sir. I agree with Mr. Giron. The type of dedication you show Santa Fe County is very unique and we do appreciate everything you do for us. I want to yield the floor to you for any comments.

JOHN PAUL TRUJILLO (Public Works): I would just like to say thank

you to the Commissioners, all the supervisors here at Public Works. I've learned a lot from all of them. Also the employees. It's not just me; it's everybody that's at Solid Waste. It's a team effort. So thank you very much. I'm very honored.

CHAIR ROYBAL: Mr. Trujillo, I will just say that it's refreshing to see somebody as humble as yourself to recognize the team. It's really the sign of a true leader so once again, I do thank you. I'm going to go to other Commissioners for some comments. Commissioner Hansen.

COMMISSIONER HANSEN: Thank you, Mr. Chair. Thank you, John Paul, for your great work and thank you for being such a caring human being. I really am grateful to have you here at Santa Fe County and we look forward to seeing you in person, hopefully sometime in the near future. So all the best and thank you once again.

CHAIR ROYBAL: Thank you, Commissioner Hansen. I'm going to go to Commissioner Garcia.

COMMISSIONER GARCIA: Thank you.

CHAIR ROYBAL: I think he's having some technical difficulties so I'm going to go to Commissioner Hamilton.

COMMISSIONER HAMILTON: Yes, thank you. Really, John Paul, that was so well said and so I just wanted to congratulate you again and also recognize and offer some congratulations for the effort you put out to get the addition certification, which is a very big deal and very positively reflective of how well motivated you are to learn and to expand your horizons. Thank you.

CHAIR ROYBAL: Okay, I'm going to go back to Commissioner Garcia if he's on line yet. Okay, I'm going to go to Commissioner Moreno.

COMMISSIONER MORENO: Well, it's a great and well deserved credit to John and carry on. Good work.

CHAIR ROYBAL: Thank you, Commissioner Moreno. Commissioner Garcia, are you back on the line? I can see that there's an emblem here saying due to low bandwidth there's an issue with your connection. So I don't know if you can hear us or not but we can't hear you. Commissioner Garcia, are you back on? Okay, so I know that Commissioner Garcia would have loved to be able to comment and also show his appreciation to Mr. Trujillo. We are very grateful for your hard work and we look forward to our future endeavors as a County together. So thank you, sir and congratulations once again.

2. CONSENT AGENDA

- A. **Request Approval of County Health Care Assistance Claims in the Amount of \$3,420 (Community Services/Jennifer Romero)**
- B. **Resolution No. 2020-31, a Resolution Requesting an Increase to the Fire Operations Fund (244) to Budget a New Mexico Youth Conservation Corps Commission Grant in the Amount of \$125,124 (Finance Division/Yvonne S. Herrera)**
- C. **Resolution No. 2020-32, a Resolution Correcting the Revenue in Budget Resolution 2019-139 in the Corrections Fund (247) in the Amount of \$25,000 (Finance Division/Yvonne S. Herrera)**
- D. **Resolution No. 2020-33, a Resolution Requesting an Increase to the**

- Fire Operations Fund (244) to Budget a Fire Protection Grant Council Award for the Eldorado and Glorieta Fire Districts in the Amount of \$400,000 (Finance Division/Yvonne S. Herrera)**
- E. Resolution No. 2020-34, a Resolution Authorizing the Disposition of Fixed Assets Worth Less Than \$5,000 for the K-9 Being Retired from the Sheriff's Office in Accordance with State Statute (Finance Division/Yvonne S. Herrera)**
- F. Request (1) Approval of Amendment No. 3 to Agreement No. 2017-0223-I-LG/MM Between Santa Fe County and Utton & Kery, P.A., for Legal Services, Increasing the Compensation \$75,000, Exclusive of GRT, for a Total Not to Exceed Amount of \$325,000, Exclusive of GRT, and Extending the Term an Additional Year, and (2) Authorization for the County Manager to Sign the Purchase Order (Purchasing Division/Bill Taylor and Legal Department/Gregory S. Shaffer)**
- G. Resolution No. 2020-35, a Resolution Determining Reasonable Notice for the Remainder of Calendar Year 2020 in Accordance With the New Mexico Open Meetings Act, Applicable to All Meetings of the Board of County Commissioners ("BCC") and to the Meetings of County Boards and Committees Created and Appointed by the BCC ("Appointed County Committees"); Establishing Permissible Meeting Locations and A Webcast and Broadcast Policy; Requiring Meeting Agendas to Include Instructions on how the Public Can Participate in Meetings Remotely During the COVID-19 Public Health Emergency When In-Person Attendance is Prohibited; and Repealing Resolution No. 2019-150 (Legal Department/Gregory S. Shaffer)**

CHAIR ROYBAL: Are there any items on this agenda that need more clarification or if any of the Commissioners would like to isolate something to get additional information? And if not, then I'd like to know what the pleasure of the Board is.

COMMISSIONER HANSEN: Mr. Chair.

CHAIR ROYBAL: Yes, Commissioner Hansen.

COMMISSIONER HANSEN: I would like to move to approve the Consent Agenda but I would like to make a comment during discussion, once we have a second.

COMMISSIONER HAMILTON: I would second.

CHAIR ROYBAL: Okay, so we have a motion from Commissioner Hansen and a second from Commissioner Hamilton. Under discussion I'm going to go to Commissioner Hansen.

COMMISSIONER HANSEN: I just want to recognize John Utton for all of his work and years of service to the County. It looks like he's worked at the County for almost 20 years and I want to just thank him for all of his hard work and all of the water rights and acquisition and transfers and all that he's been doing for many, many years for the County. So I just wanted to make that comments.

COMMISSIONER GARCIA: Can somebody hear me? I'm sorry, Commissioner, to interrupt you.

COMMISSIONER HANSEN: We can hear you, Commissioner Garcia.

COMMISSIONER GARCIA: Can you see me?

COMMISSIONER HANSEN: No, but we don't –

MANAGER MILLER: Yes, we can.

COMMISSIONER HANSEN: I can't see you. I've tried to pin you a couple times, but there's no pin to pin you.

COMMISSIONER GARCIA: As long as Katherine can see me I'm okay with it.

COMMISSIONER HANSEN: Okay. Good.

COMMISSIONER GARCIA: I apologize. My battery went dead.

COMMISSIONER HANSEN: I just once again want to say thank you to John Utton for his service. That was all I wanted to say under discussion.

CHAIR ROYBAL: Commissioner Hansen, is it one of the items that is on the Consent Agenda that you are recognizing Mr. Utton for?

COMMISSIONER HANSEN: Yes, it is. I'm sorry. I will tell you the number exactly. It is 2. F under the Consent Agenda.

CHAIR ROYBAL: Okay. For the compensation increase?

COMMISSIONER HANSEN: Yes.

CHAIR ROYBAL: Thank you so much, Commissioner Hansen. Okay, are there any other comments from the Board?

COMMISSIONER GARCIA: Yes, I have a question, Mr. Chair.

CHAIR ROYBAL: Yes, which item, Commissioner Garcia?

COMMISSIONER GARCIA: What's the compensation for Utton and Kery? Increasing the compensation by \$75,000? Don't we have an existing contract with them, and now we're getting up \$75,000. Really quick, somebody, please.

MANAGER MILLER: Mr. Chair, we have a contract with Mr. Utton's firm and this is an extension of the contract for an additional year and the contract is an estimated compensation. He's actually compensated by the hour he works on different water rights and water projects with us but predominantly Aamodt. And that contract was done through a competitive RFP. I believe this is our third year or fourth year in that contract.

COMMISSIONER GARCIA: With all due respect to Mr. Utton, Mr. Chair, great job. I understand that. So how many amendments can we do to a contract. This is our number three. Can we go four, five, six? Where are we at?

MANAGER MILLER: Mr. Chair, Commissioner Garcia, for professional services we typically contract for one year with options for three additional years, one year at a time.

COMMISSIONER GARCIA: Thank you. No further questions, Mr. Chair.

CHAIR ROYBAL: Thank you, Commissioner Garcia. So we have a motion and a second, and just for clarification, this contract that we are renewing, it is an increase by a competitive RFP. Is that correct? That's what I heard you say, Katherine?

MANAGER MILLER: Yes, Mr. Chair. When we did the original RFP it would have been – this might be last year. I'd have to look at the actual packet material. I

believe it is, with amendment number three, that would typically mean we're in our fourth year of the contract and this would add the additional year and compensation for the additional year. So I believe we would after this year go out for a new RFP.

CHAIR ROYBAL: Okay, with that being said we have a motion and a second.

The motion passed by unanimous [5-0] roll call vote.

[The County Clerk provided the resolution numbers.]

MANAGER MILLER: Mr. Chair.

CHAIR ROYBAL: Yes.

MANAGER MILLER: I wanted to see if the Sheriff is on the line. If you noticed in the Consent Agenda there was a resolution to retire one of our K-9 dogs from the Sheriff's Office, and that's Jackson, and Jackson has been with the County since 2012. We didn't know if he would be available today for you could say good bye to him but I did notice that the Sheriff's Office is on the list of call-ins, but I didn't know if they had Jackson or his handler available or not.

CHAIR ROYBAL: Good point, Manager Miller. I appreciate you saying that. I'd like to go to the Sheriff if he is available or if there's staff with the canine that we're retiring.

KEN JOHNSON (Undersheriff): Mr. Chair, this is the Undersheriff. The Sheriff isn't available right now. However, Deputy Barnett and Jackson are not available but Deputy Jackson will be retiring effective Friday. We hope to have some type of ceremony some time down the road once the restrictions are lifted, but due to the Governor's orders we haven't had any type of reception for him.

CHAIR ROYBAL: That is great. We really appreciate that. I want to make sure, put it out there that we'd like to attend the service. Do we have one of the handlers or our deputy that are adopting him?

UNDERSHERIFF JOHNSON: Deputy Barnett will be taking responsibility for Jackson moving forward and Jackson will be her pet going forward.

CHAIR ROYBAL: All right. What a way to retire. Well, thank you, sir. I appreciate the information. Do you have other comments?

COMMISSIONER GARCIA: Mr. Chair, I have a couple of comments.

CHAIR ROYBAL: Okay. I was actually referring to the Undersheriff, but if he's done I'll go to Commissioners. Are you done, sir?

UNDERSHERIFF JOHNSON: Just, as the Manager said, Deputy Jackson has been with us since 2012. He's been involved in a lot of cases and he's done a great job. Deputy Barnett kind of revitalized the K-9 program when she brought Jackson into the office. We do have an addition canine, Akiro, and hopefully with these motivated deputies we will continue the program moving forward and hopefully we'll continue with additional canines in the future. It's a valuable thing for law enforcement.

CHAIR ROYBAL: I agree 100 percent, sir. We appreciate all the service that this canine has brought to Santa Fe County and I can't say that enough because I know that it's a vital tool to our Sheriff's Department, so thank you. I do want to go to

Commissioner Garcia. You had a comment, sir?

COMMISSIONER GARCIA: Yes. Thank you, Undersheriff and Major. I see the Major in the background there. In regards to Officer Jackson, the officer was actually involved for seven years in the K-9 unit?

UNDERSHERIFF JOHNSON: That's correct, yes, Commissioner.

COMMISSIONER GARCIA: Is that the average employment for a K-9 unit, and if so, so everyone's clear, we have a K-9 unit – how does that work?

UNDERSHERIFF JOHNSON: So the average work span for a law enforcement canine ranges from like seven to nine years. That's about the time Deputy Jackson has been with the agency and he's developed a couple of medical issues due to his age and he's retiring but we are going to keep the K-9 program alive here at the Sheriff's Office and once we identify another handler we'll look into possibly getting another canine.

COMMISSIONER GARCIA: Thank you, Mr. Chair, Undersheriff. Also in regards to – what's the actual state law as into the K-9 unit, Officer Jackson? Is he up for auction? Or does the handler keep him? Or can I have the dog? How does that work, state law for a K-9 unit through the state?

UNDERSHERIFF JOHNSON: Commissioner Garcia, Mr. Chair, the canine is property of Santa Fe County and we go through the process of releasing the asset. It's common practice for the canine handlers to adopt the canine and remain his owner for the rest of his life. However, if the handler wished not to then we would probably get back to you about getting the canine adopted.

GREG SHAFFER (County Attorney): Mr. Chair, Commissioner, if I could just add to that, state law mandates that the K-9 dog be offered to its trainer or handler free of charge, so that's a requirement of state law and only if they did not want that opportunity to adopt the K-9 dog would it then be offered to an organization described in Section 501 (c)(3) free of charge, would be the second choice. If both of those declined then it could be sold to a qualified individual capable of providing a good home for the animal. So that's the way it would go in terms of the first right going to the handler.

COMMISSIONER GARCIA: Thank you, Mr. Shaffer. Mr. Chair, can you actually tell us just really quick, for the general public, can you tell us some of the things that Officer Jackson did, how important it is to have a K-9 unit on our staff, Officer Jackson? Can you maybe highlight some of the items that he's done for the taxpayers?

UNDERSHERIFF JOHNSON: Yes, Commissioner and Mr. Chair. A canine is a valuable tool for the Sheriff's Office and Deputy Jackson has been involved in apprehensions of suspects, has been involved in recovery of narcotics and he assists at the jail. So he's been very versatile and he does a lot of duties, and he's been instrumental in working with the other new canine when he was first coming aboard. It's a really valuable tool for us.

COMMISSIONER GARCIA: Thank you, Mr. Chair and Undersheriff Johnson. Does Officer Jackson have a last name?

UNDERSHERIFF JOHNSON: Barnett?

COMMISSIONER GARCIA: Thank you to the Sheriff's Department and the K-9 unit. No further questions, Mr. Chair.

CHAIR ROYBAL: Thank you, Commissioner Garcia. Do we have any

other questions or comments from the rest of the Board? I'm going to go to Commissioner Hamilton.

COMMISSIONER HAMILTON: No. I have to say thank you to Manager Miller for highlighting that because I actually didn't want to let that pass and to you, Commissioner Garcia, for a totally enjoyable exchange on our retiring deputy and new retiree.

CHAIR ROYBAL: Thank you, Commissioner Hamilton. I'm going to go to Commissioner Hansen.

COMMISSIONER HANSEN: Thank you, Chair Roybal. I wish him/her all the best in its next life as a retired officer from Santa Fe County. Thank you.

CHAIR ROYBAL: Thank you, Commissioner Hansen. I'm going to go to Commissioner Moreno.

COMMISSIONER MORENO: Thank you, Mr. Chair. I've seen this dog, not in action but on a demonstration, let's say, a couple of times in the Sheriff's Office and a dog like that is a really important asset for finding drugs, tracking down bad guys, and for my money there's nothing better than a good dog.

CHAIR ROYBAL: Well said, Commissioner Moreno. And well said by all of our Commissioners. I think that everybody realizes that anybody that's had a pet, especially a dog, knows the dedication and loyalty that these animals show to their owners and handlers and we all know that they are a vital asset and just the companionship in general that an animal of this sort provides and is instruments. So we know that they have a very vital role in our law enforcement, and words alone can't express the gratitude that we have for this canine and his dedication to our County.

So thanks again, Undersheriff. We really appreciate all the information you brought forward to share with us. We don't always hear all the details of what an animal or what our Sheriff's deputies goes through or what a K-9 deputy goes through in the field so we really appreciate you highlighting it and we look forward to the future celebration on this retirement of this canine. Thank you, sir.

UNDERSHERIFF JOHNSON: And I'd also, before we break, Mr. Chair, I'd also really like to recognize Deputy Vanessa Barnett who has been the handler for Deputy Jackson for his entire time here at the Sheriff's Office. It takes a lot of dedication on the part of the handler, 24 hours a day, seven days a week they care for the animal. They take them to medical appointments. So she's really put in a lot of time and effort with this canine, and as I said earlier, she was really instrumental in bringing the K-9 program back to the Sheriff's Office. I wish they could have been here this afternoon but she had other obligations. But I definitely will let everyone know when we do have a ceremony. That way you can all come and celebrate with her and the canine and thank you all for all your support with the K-9 program.

CHAIR ROYBAL: Yes, sir. Thank you, Undersheriff Johnson.

3. APPOINTMENTS/REAPPOINTMENTS

There were no appointments or reappointments.

4. MISCELLANEOUS

A. (ITEM WITHDRAWN)

B. **Request (1) Approval of Agreement No. 2020-0213-PW/AG between Santa Fe County and La Pradera Homeowners Association for the Shared Maintenance of a Portion of Dinosaur Trail, and (2) Acceptance of Santa Fe County Request for County Maintenance as a County-Maintained Road and Grant of Right-of-Way or Easement for the Same Portion of Dinosaur Trail**

MR. GIRON: Mr. Chair, Commissioners, good afternoon. Item 4. B, to be clear, I'm going to be putting up a map so we can see if we can put that up on the screen. Items B and C are both related to Dinosaur Trail. As you'll see on that map, those red lines that you see, that long red line that goes from Richards Avenue half-way down that road, that is the La Pradera Homeowners Association portion of the shared maintenance.

Then you will see going down that road there is a white section there. That actually is still Dinosaur Trail. That is a portion that is owned by the New Mexico Department of Transportation that they are responsible for that portion of road. Then you that last short section of Dinosaur Trail that comes to Rancho Viejo Boulevard, that's the Rancho Viejo Industrial Park Owners Association shared maintenance portion of the road.

To be clear with you, part of the agreement that we have in front of you, this is a shared maintenance road. This means that the owners associations will be fully responsible for the maintenance of vegetation clearing on the shared maintenance of the road, including the right-of-way in a manner that ensures traffic and pedestrian safety, and the County shall be fully responsible for all other maintenance on the shared maintenance road including the right-of-way.

As you can see, Dinosaur Trail connects from Richards Avenue to Rancho Viejo Boulevard and in that regard [inaudible]. It's approximately 1.9 miles long. If approved today these two portions of road will be added to the County-maintained road survey and reported to the Department of Transportation as part of our reporting requirements. This section of road, the La Pradera section, Public Works staff has confirmed that the La Pradera Homeowners Association has completed the necessary road improvements for acceptance of Dinosaur Trail in that the property owners along the La Pradera Homeowners Association segment have executed a satisfactory Grant of right-of-way that's attached to the documents you have.

With that, I'll stand for any questions.

CHAIR ROYBAL: Thank you for your report, Mr. Giron, and correct me if I'm wrong but I think that that includes items B and C. Is that correct?

MR. GIRON: Yes, Mr. Chair, that is correct. It is items B and C, and if you would like I could give you a simple summary on item C as we go forward and we could vote on this one. It's up to you.

CHAIR ROYBAL: Okay. I think we'll vote on item C first and we'll get less of an explanation going by what you already gave for item B. But are there any questions from the Board of comments? And if now, I would entertain a motion.

COMMISSIONER HANSEN: Chair Roybal.

CHAIR ROYBAL: Commissioner Hansen.

COMMISSIONER HANSEN: So what I was wondering about with that map that was just up and is no longer up, that in part is no longer going to be shared maintenance or it is going to be continued shared maintenance.

MR. GIRON: The red portion will continue, Mr. Chair, Commissioner, the red portions will continue to be shared maintenance. This actually confirms that they are a partner.

COMMISSIONER HANSEN: And so this section will be part of the County road system even though it will be shared maintenance.

MR. GIRON: Mr. Chair, Commissioner, that is correct.

COMMISSIONER HANSEN: Okay. I just wanted to be clear about that. Thank you. And I have one other comment. I think it is unfortunate that this is not considered a frontage road by DOT, because I think that in the future, since there is no frontage road along Interstate 25 this is where a frontage road needs to be.

CHAIR ROYBAL: Okay. Thank you for those comments, Commissioner Hansen. I'm going to go to Commissioner Hamilton.

COMMISSIONER HAMILTON: I don't think I have any further questions.

CHAIR ROYBAL: Commissioner Moreno.

COMMISSIONER MORENO: I'm happy to see this because these areas in my district have been a mess for quite a while and parties that came to agreement, the businessmen and the La Pradera Association, worked together to make sure that it would be a sustainable project and that everybody has buy-in, and that's a good thing. Now we're going to be able to connect the other side of Rabbit Road. Thank you. I approve.

CHAIR ROYBAL: Okay, Commissioner Moreno. I believe this is in your district, correct?

COMMISSIONER MORENO: Yes.

CHAIR ROYBAL: I am going to come back to you for the motion. For now I'm going to go to Commissioner Garcia.

COMMISSIONER GARCIA: When I was three years old, four years old, that used to be the old drag racing strip here in Santa Fe. People would go down and they'd drag race on that. So a couple questions. What does shared maintenance mean, and who's going to do what? I'm asking for the record because I've been on that road many times in the last month and it's been upgraded. There are roads in my district that need upgrading and they're moving forward, at a little slower pace than I wish they would. But what's the shared maintenance agreement between us and the homeowners association and what does that mean?

MR. GIRON: Mr. Chair and Commissioner, shared maintenance means that the owners association shall be fully responsible for the maintenance of vegetation on the shared maintenance road including the right-of-way – the County shall then be fully responsible for all other maintenance of the road including the right-of-way.

COMMISSIONER GARCIA: Thank you, Mr. Giron. So who's going to fix all that stuff? The County or the homeowners association?

MR. GIRON: Mr. Chair, Commissioner, prior to us taking ownership of

the road under the shared maintenance agreement the Transportation Advisory Committee reviewed that road and made a punchlist that required all of the improvements to that road bringing it up to County standards. From this point forward that roadway will then be our responsibility. And then just to remind you that as the northeast connect becomes a reality in a few years this road becomes very important connector.

COMMISSIONER GARCIA: So thank you, Mr. Chair. Thank you, Gary. And the reason why I'm asking is because everything to the northeast-southeast connector is a project that's been around for a while and now we're adopting this road as a County road from the New Mexico State Highway Department because it was their responsibility and we're going to do some kind of a trade-off with the DOT – again, I understand it. I just want to make sure that everything that's coming here to the south side is upgraded and it's up to standard because in five or seven years, when that road starts falling apart, who's responsibility is it to maintain that road? Us or La Pradera Subdivision?

COMMISSIONER MORENO: It's the County.

MR. GIRON: Mr. Chair, Commissioner, it will be the County's responsibility.

COMMISSIONER GARCIA: So Mr. Chair, with all due respect, so why are we having this shared agreement with the subdivision if they have no responsibility? Why are getting involved in this other than giving us the right-of-way?

MR. GIRON: Mr. Chair, Commissioner, they shall maintain responsibility for all the vegetation and they manage all that. The engineers had a concern with those two portions.

COMMISSIONER GARCIA: So understanding that the crosswalks, the speed humps – I'm just curious as into three, five, seven years, once we accept this -- the County is going to deal with the speed humps – not with the shoulders; the County is going to deal with everything else. Correct?

MR. GIRON: Mr. Chair, Commissioner, that is correct.

COMMISSIONER GARCIA: Thank you, Mr. Chair. Thank you, Gary.

CHAIR ROYBAL: Thank you, Commissioner Garcia. Okay, so we're going to go to Commissioner Hamilton. Did you have any questions?

COMMISSIONER HAMILTON: No, sir, I don't. Thank you.

CHAIR ROYBAL: Okay. So I'm going to go back to Commissioner Moreno. Did you want to make a motion, sir?

COMMISSIONER MORENO: Yes, I do. I so move.

COMMISSIONER HANSEN: Chair Roybal, I will second this.

CHAIR ROYBAL: I believe the motion was for approval from Commissioner Moreno. Is that correct, sir?

COMMISSIONER MORENO: Yes.

COMMISSIONER HANSEN: Yes.

CHAIR ROYBAL: And we have a second from Commissioner Hansen. Are there any other questions or comments under discussion?

COMMISSIONER HANSEN: I will just say again for the record that I believe this is eventually going to be a frontage road and DOT needs to be looking at that.

COMMISSIONER GARCIA: Actually, this should be a frontage road. It's

always been a frontage road. And now the DOT is actually giving it to the County and the County will see the future of this road. The reason I'm asking about this, is we have the northeast-southeast connector. We have that area where all the growth is going to go. If you sit there for two or three hours on that road, there's a lot of traffic there. We're going to accept this road. I'm okay with it. We're going to accept this road. There's no walking paths, no shoulders, no this, no that. And then the right-of-way from pavement to pavement and we're going to accept this road and why I'm bring this up is because it goes to Cerrillos. That road there, that used to be a State road, we accepted it. If we take that road, I want to just make sure that we're going to upgrade that road when it comes to maintenance, etc., etc. Because this road that we're accepting today, I'm okay with it. There's a lot of traffic on that road – and the right-of-way width, it's not – I'm okay with it but I just want to put that on the record. Because this road is going to have a lot of traffic and the DOT is telling Santa Fe County. So let's accept it and maintain it.

What do we do? We actually put two or three or four inch asphalt over it, and now we're accepting it. Just for the record. Thank you, Mr. Chair.

CHAIR ROYBAL: Thank you, Commissioner Garcia. So I'm going to go to the vote.

The motion passed by unanimous [5-0] roll call vote.

COMMISSIONER GARCIA: Mr. Chair, I'm okay, just as long as my comments are for the record.

CHAIR ROYBAL: And Commissioner Garcia, I just want to say that you may want to put your comments in writing because we did have – it was breaking up a little bit. I don't know if it was the same for everybody. So I would definitely put your comments in writing and send them to the stenographer.

COMMISSIONER GARCIA: Mr. Chair, just on that note, so maybe Manager Miller could help us out. So actually Commission meetings are recorded verbatim, so Webex or Zoom and whatever else, are we okay recording all that stuff verbatim?

COMMISSIONER HANSEN: Commissioner Garcia and Mr. Chair, as somebody who regularly reads the minutes I will be sure that your comments are correct, and if not, I'll send you the pieces of pages on the minutes and you can make sure that they are correct.

COMMISSIONER GARCIA: Thank you, Commissioner.

CHAIR ROYBAL: Thank you. I appreciate that collaboration. I just think it's important, being that it was a little bit difficult to hear some of the comments that we do hear those. So Commissioner Garcia, I believe you voted in the affirmative. Is that correct?

COMMISSIONER GARCIA: Yes.

4. C. Request (1) Approval of Agreement between Santa Fe County and Rancho Viejo Industrial Park Owners Association for the Shared Maintenance of a Portion of Dinosaur Trail and (2) Acceptance of Santa Fe County Request for County Maintenance as a County-Maintained Road and Grant of Right-of-Way or Easement for the Same Portion of Dinosaur Trail

MR. GIRON: Mr. Chair and Commissioners, this item C is for the Rancho Viejo Owners Association segment of Dinosaur Trail. If Daniel could put the map up one more time. If you'll notice the map there is a small section in red of about a thousand feet that is the section that is in question. And we're asking for approval of an agreement between Santa Fe County and the Rancho Viejo Industrial Park Owners Association for the shared maintenance of this portion of Dinosaur Trail, and acceptance of Santa Fe County as a County-maintained road, and a Grant of 88 or easement for the same portion of Dinosaur Trail.

And I want to be clear that that intervening white section in the middle will not be County-maintained. That is New Mexico DOT road and that will continue to be that. With regard to the Rancho Viejo Industrial Park section, the owners association has negotiated a shared maintenance agreement with the County and has executed a Grant of right-of-way which are attached for approval of acceptance by the body.

The Public Works staff have determined that all of the necessary road improvements that were conditions of acceptance have been completed. The owners association has negotiated with Public Works staff and the County Attorney's Office the shared maintenance agreement that is attached. With that I will stand for any questions.

CHAIR ROYBAL: Okay, do we have any questions of the Board? I'm going to go to each Commissioner individually. I'm going to go ahead and go to Commissioner Hansen.

COMMISSIONER HANSEN: Thank you. I don't have any questions at the moment, but once again, I'll say for the record that this entire road needs to be maintained and taken over by DOT.

CHAIR ROYBAL: Thank you, Commissioner Hansen. Commissioner Garcia. [Commissioner Garcia's comments were inaudible]

CHAIR ROYBAL: Commissioner Hamilton.

COMMISSIONER HAMILTON: I don't have any questions. Thank you.

CHAIR ROYBAL: Okay. Commissioner Moreno.

COMMISSIONER MORENO: Yes, I have a question. I have a question about how did this agreement come to be? This is a question for our Director of Public Works.

MR. GIRON: Mr. Chair, Commissioner, this has been in process for at least two years and it actually went to the Transportation Advisory. They did a review and they came back and made a recommendation to the Commission where they developed a punchlist and all the activities then between then and now have been complied with in order to make this maintenance agreement happen. And Cristella is on the line. She may have additional information.

COMMISSIONER GARCIA: So Mr. Chair, Commissioner Moreno.

COMMISSIONER MORENO: I wasn't finished with my question.

CHAIR ROYBAL: Go ahead, Commissioner Moreno.

COMMISSIONER MORENO: Thank you. My understanding is that Warren Thompson and La Pradera Association worked together to make the pieces fit together, and that's how we're going to make that a good road for that whole area. And with their support and money that interchange is going to be, hopefully, improved and that would be a good thing too.

MR. GIRON: And Mr. Chair, Commissioner, I will say that I agree. It would be easy for Public Works to collaborate.

CHAIR ROYBAL: Okay. Thank you, Commissioner Moreno. Thank you, Mr. Giron. I'm going to go to Commissioner Garcia. Commissioner Garcia, did you have another comment, sir?

COMMISSIONER GARCIA: Yes, I do. So if this was DOT right-of-way, DOT maintenance, even for the previous item, DOT maintenance, DOT right-of-way, so now we're taking over it. What are we getting in return as a trade-off to the DOT? Anything? Or we're just accepting their maintenance that will be there for years?

MR. GIRON: Mr. Chair, Commissioner, we are not taking control over the DOT portion of the road. That still remains the responsibility of the State. So that white portion on that map is still DOT, part of the DOT right-of-way. It will not be the County's responsibility.

COMMISSIONER HANSEN: Mr. Chair, Mr. Garcia, if I could chime in here. That portion of La Pradera, I don't believe it ever was DOT. At least it hasn't been for quite some time. There's only certain sections of Rabbit Road and La Pradera that were DOT.

COMMISSIONER GARCIA: Thank you, Mr. Chair, Commissioner. I understand. So I guess the question is why are we actually accepting – just for the record. So the developer approved this road. The developer is benefiting off this road, so why are we accepting that road. I don't understand. I understand why we are accepting it. Thank you. I'm done, Mr. Chair. Thank you.

CHAIR ROYBAL: Thank you, Commissioner Garcia. I'm going to go to Commissioner Hamilton. Do you have any comments, Commissioner Hamilton?

COMMISSIONER HAMILTON: No. I appreciate it but I don't have any further comments.

CHAIR ROYBAL: Okay. Commissioner Moreno.

COMMISSIONER MORENO: No more for me.

CHAIR ROYBAL: Okay, Mr. Giron, did you have anything else closing to say?

MR. GIRON: Mr. Chair, I appreciate the attention to this matter.

COMMISSIONER MORENO: Do we need a vote?

CHAIR ROYBAL: I'm going to Commissioner Moreno for the motion. I don't believe we have a motion. So Commissioner Moreno, sir, I'll let you make the motion.

COMMISSIONER MORENO: I so move.

CHAIR ROYBAL: So Commissioner Moreno moves to approve.

COMMISSIONER HANSEN: I will second.

CHAIR ROYBAL: Commissioner Hansen seconds. I'm going to go to roll call vote.

The motion passed by unanimous [5-0] roll call vote.

5. MATTERS OF PUBLIC CONCERN

CHAIR ROYBAL: Do we have anyone from the public that would like to address the Commission today? Once again, I ask –

TESSA JO MASCARENAS (County Manager's Office): Nobody signed up.

CHAIR ROYBAL: Thank you, Tessa. We appreciate that. Okay, so seeing that we don't have anybody that has said that they would have anything of public concern and also from our Tessa Jo Mascarenas has also indicated that nobody has signed up for public concern, I'm going to go ahead and close public concern.

6. PRESENTATIONS

There were no presentations.

7. MATTERS FROM THE COUNTY MANAGER

A. Miscellaneous Updates

CHAIR ROYBAL: Manager Miller, do you have miscellaneous updates for us?

MANAGER MILLER: Yes, Mr. Chair, Commissioners. I have a few of them. First of all, the County Clerk does intend to bring forward a plan to further consolidate precincts and reduce the number of election day voting convenience centers. We had hoped to have that as an agenda item today but we are waiting on San Ildefonso Pueblo relative to them having a voting convenience center on pueblo land and whether they will accommodate doing that or not, and they meet tomorrow, Wednesday.

So we need to have a meeting – at the latest we would need to have a special meeting at the latest Monday which is I believe May 4th, because we would also have to publish in the paper and also gain District Court approval. So we think – and that would be done by the 12th of May, so we think Monday of next week is the latest we could hold a special meeting for that. So one thing I was wondering is the availability of the Commission to do a special meeting next Monday. Do you have time in the afternoon to do that or in the morning?

COMMISSIONER GARCIA: Mr. Chair, I have a question.

CHAIR ROYBAL: Okay. Commissioner Garcia.

COMMISSIONER GARCIA: Is there a reason why the County Clerk can't actually give us the information as into what voting centers she's going to close down, not close down?

MANAGER MILLER: Mr. Chair, I believe she is on the line and she

might be able to give you additional information but one of the reasons is we are trying to work with the pueblos. We typically have centers on pueblo land and during this COVID-19, some of the pueblos have already indicated they do not want to open the pueblo for a voting convenience center so San Ildefonso is one that we're still waiting to hear from.

GERALDINE SALAZAR (County Clerk): Manager Miller, this is for Commissioner Garcia. Tomorrow I will have a teleconference with the Pueblo of San Ildefonso so that will give me more direction, but tomorrow morning I have a meeting with them, with their tribal council, so I will listen to what they need to state, but so far two pueblos have declined to have voting convenience centers on their Indian land, and one, Pojoaque Pueblo, does not see where we will have the voting convenience center there as part of their pueblo. It's in their business district. So we're going to go ahead with that at the County satellite office. So all that's pending is San Ildefonso Pueblo.

So if they decline, they may decline because by New Mexico Election Code, if we have any voting convenience centers on their tribal land it has to be open to all voters, not just their tribal members. So that's what we're discussing. There's a slight possibility that we will have 19 voting convenience centers throughout the county on election day, meaning from 30 we've narrowed it down to 19 so far. But we will see tomorrow to make a final decision with all of our paperwork and everything.

COMMISSIONER GARCIA: I have the floor, Mr. Chair.

CHAIR ROYBAL: Commissioner Garcia had the floor, and I believe it was Commissioner Hansen. So I'm going to go to Commissioner Garcia and we'll go to afterward Commissioner Hansen.

COMMISSIONER GARCIA: So Madam Clerk, thank you for the response. So we're going from 30 to 19. That means we're going to get rid of 20 voting sites throughout Santa Fe County, so that means we're going to remove 10 centers. Are they all going to be within Native American property? Or are they going to be in Edgewood? Or are they going to be in La Cienega? And then the other question I have is into if the Native Americans do not want to have a center there we can go vote in, they still want their own little voting district with their pueblo.

CLERK SALAZAR: Commissioner Garcia, you're going in and out.

COMMISSIONER GARCIA: Okay. So for the short – any voting sites in my district are going to be eliminated? Yes or no?

CLERK SALAZAR: Let me pull my list here. One second. And you need to remember also, this COVID-19 pandemic is complicating things.

COMMISSIONER GARCIA: So Madam Clerk, I totally understand that. So the question is, so we have the Native Americans, San Ildefonso, you mentioned and Pojoaque, so you're going to get rid of ten sites. So from 30 to 19 –

CLERK SALAZAR: [inaudible] sites are going to be eliminated that we're aware of, but we don't know for sure yet, till tomorrow morning.

COMMISSIONER GARCIA: I have a question voting on this stuff until we know till tomorrow morning.

CLERK SALAZAR: Okay. Let me – there are many options right now for people to vote, because of the COVID. I know that Santa Fe County in general would prefer that we don't even have any voting convenience centers. We would have wished that the New Mexico Supreme Court would have ruled that it would have been an all-

mail ballot election but that did not happen. So we are ordered to have in-person voting. And we cannot recruit all of our poll workers. Not many of them want to work because of COVID-19.

So the options for voting for the voters in Santa Fe County are absentee voting by mail. It's occurring right now where they call our office and we sent them an application and then they fill it out and we put it into the system so that they can vote absentee. They can do that via calling our office. They can do that online, requesting an absentee ballot.

The second option is the Secretary of State tomorrow will start automatically mailing out absentee ballot request applications to every registered voter in the whole state who is registered within a major party and that is Democratic, Republican and Libertarian. Those voters who received the absentee ballot application from the Secretary of State are those who have not applied via our office or online.

So after they go through all the records we've been inputting every day, the Secretary of State will look at their system and only pull non-requested absentee ballot application requests, and they'll send everything out tomorrow.

The other opportunity – so those are two opportunities to reach out and for voters to vote. The next opportunity is alternate sites, and also the Clerk's Office. They will be able to vote in the Clerk's Office, absentee in-person voting from May 5th through May 25th. And also one Saturday at the Clerk's Office, May 30th. In addition to the Clerk's Office being an alternate site for absentee in-person voting, there's also going to be alternate sites for early voting, which begins Saturday, May 16th through Saturday, May 30, 2020 from the hours of 12 noon to 8 pm, Tuesday through Friday, and Saturdays are 10 am to 6:00. Those locations are Abedon Lopez Community Center for early voting sites, alternate; Christian Life Church, Town of Edgewood Administrative Office; Max Coll Corridor Community Center; Pojoaque County Satellite Office; Santa Fe County Fair Building; and then the South Side Library.

After that we will also have election day voting sites, and these are the ones that we are changing from 30 to possibly 19. So those are Christian Life Church, El Camino Real Academy, Galisteo Community Center, Glorieta Pass Fire Station, Gonzales Community School, La Cienega Community Center, Max Coll Corridor Community Center, Montezuma Lodge, Nambe Community Center, Nina Otero Community School, Pojoaque Middle School, Salazar Elementary School, Santa Fe County Fairgrounds Building Santa Fe County Fire Station in La Tierra, St. John's Methodist Church in Santa Fe, Tesuque Elementary School, Tony E. Quintana Elementary School, Town of Edgewood Administration Office, Turquoise Trail Charter Elementary School.

Those are the polling sites that we have selected based on voter turnout and also based on the recruitment of poll workers. And also we have to have protocols in place for voters and for poll workers and my staff regarding face masks, gloves, sanitation – on and on.

Okay. Does that answer some of your questions?

COMMISSIONER GARCIA: Really quick, today we're actually just assorting the vote to moving to Monday, a special meeting, and then we'll vote on those 30 sites to 19 sites. Correct?

MANAGER MILLER: Mr. Chair, Commissioner Garcia, yes. We had hoped that we'd be ready for presentation today but since we're waiting on confirmation

about San Ildefonso Pueblo, we need to do it sometime after Wednesday. And the latest we could do it is Monday.

COMMISSIONER GARCIA: Thank you, Mr. Chair. Thank you, Manager Miller. I'm okay with it.

CHAIR ROYBAL: Okay, Commissioner Garcia. I would like to see the information, and once again the voting sites that will be open and this once again is just given the circumstances that we're faced now with this pandemic. Is that correct, Madam Clerk?

CLERK SALAZAR: I have very high concerns about the safety and health of our community members, our poll workers, the County Clerk's staff, the communities in general. So this is the best way that we felt to put this together and thinking about the safety and health of our community. This is just part of what we're doing along with all of the other responsibilities, minimizing contact. And I am very concerned. The ideal for me would have been all-mail ballots just sent out, just like we've done in the past with one election. We have the experience with that. But that didn't happen. The legislature does not want to meet in order to make the change by law. So this is what we have. And this is – for my office, for me and my staff, this is in the best interest of the public, the County employees, voters, and our community.

CHAIR ROYBAL: Okay, thank you Madam Clerk. I think I still would like to see what the turnout at the different voting polls in my district to make sure we are looking at – the highest those are. And so I think right now this is just a miscellaneous update. Correct me if I'm wrong, and we're looking at a May 4th special meeting. Is that correct, Manager Miller?

MANAGER MILLER: Mr. Chair, that's correct. I just wanted to get a sense of whether morning or afternoon worked better for the Commissioners.

COMMISSIONER HAMILTON: I think Commissioner Hansen and I both have comments and questions though.

CHAIR ROYBAL: Okay. We'll go to Commissioner Hamilton.

COMMISSIONER HAMILTON: No, I think Commissioner Hansen was in line and then I'll go after her.

CHAIR ROYBAL: Okay. Commissioner Hansen.

COMMISSIONER HANSEN: Mr. Chair, Manager Miller, I want to say that any time on Monday will work for me. Early afternoon would be fine. Late morning is fine. I am concerned that making sure that the pueblos are able to vote if that is where we are discontinuing polling places but I know it is their choice. But I just want to make sure that they can get absentee ballots and that they have a place to vote nearby. So thank you very much.

CLERK SALAZAR: Commissioner Hansen, I've been in communication with San Ildefonso and the other pueblos. I've been working with them and some of them made their decisions immediately. The most recent issue is with San Ildefonso Pueblo. And so I've sent them detailed information regarding how their tribal members can vote. So all of that's there and that's what we're working on. There are locations – these's several options also how to vote. Thank you.

COMMISSIONER HANSEN: Okay. Thank you.

CHAIR ROYBAL: Thank you, Commissioner Hansen. Commissioner

Hamilton, I'm going to go to you.

COMMISSIONER HAMILTON: So first of all, I'm available Monday except for between 9:00 and 10:00 am. My questions, I have a number of thoughts on this and I gather we'll talk more about it Monday, but it was predictable for a long time, and I recognize there was a move to go to all-mail-in ballot. It's been predictable for months now that this pandemic is going to have the potential to effectively disenfranchise people. And it is a balancing act between encouraging people to vote and protecting both the community and poll workers.

It's not necessarily – to me – an obvious decision that closing most of the polling places is what will protect poll workers and the community if the effect of closing one third of the polling places is that the remaining two-thirds of the open polling places are more crowded, or because they're more crowded are going to discourage people from going out and voting. Hopefully most of those people will do absentee ballots and I recognize there is a lot to balance here, but the fact of the matter is that if there are enough poll workers than having lesser density might actually be a preferable way to go. So I think we need to consider all options, and frankly, there are other ways that I can think of and I bet lots of other people can to manage some of the polling sites, besides all or nothing – either all-mail-in ballots or actually having to walk into a building to vote. And I really hope that we're considering some of those because right now, the more people you have going into a building over and over again the more exposures and the more concerns other individuals are going to have.

So I really hope there is some thought being given to thinking outside the box of how to handle voting at least some locations. And finally, I have a question about: these are the locations that we're considering for the in-person voting on the final day, on the actual election day of June 2nd. What's happening – early voting starts theoretically is my understanding is it's starting Tuesday, May 5th. What's happening at those locations?

CLERK SALAZAR: We're preparing for those locations. In addition to that, we've been hit with 9,000 absentee ballot requests and we anticipate much more than that. We have over 80,000 qualified voters in Santa Fe County and once I get this set with San Ildefonso Pueblo, how we're going to go, what's their restrictions, then my goal is to immediately start advertising when people can vote, how people can vote, get the information out there so that people know. But a lot of our voters are already very aware and are applying for absentee ballot applications so that they can receive their ballot.

In addition to that, the Secretary of State is also. So there are many ways that they can still vote, minimizing – because we're very concerned about the contact, person to person contact, and if we can minimize some of that and really push the other areas of voting from the first step of absentee voting, then the absentee in-person voting, then the Secretary of State's automatic, then early voting where we've increased one more for early voting to get the South Side, and also then the election day voting.

So I think once we solidify what we're doing, and there's been much thought and concern put into this, the stress level to deal with this is tremendous when you think about putting together an election in this manner and the safety of our community.

COMMISSIONER HAMILTON: Right.

COMMISSIONER GARCIA: Mr. Chair, I have a couple of questions.

CHAIR ROYBAL: Okay, Commissioner Garcia. Go ahead.

COMMISSIONER GARCIA: I thank the previous Commissioners for actually commenting on what's happening with the election. With all respect to the County Clerk as into keeping our poll workers safe and kudos to County Manager Miller and her team because we actually have staff out there that every day are working on the grader, working on the backhoe and delivering meals. So we're all here together as a team. It's not just poll workers but we're actually doing a good job in keeping our distance as into – we understand. We get it. But like Commissioner Hamilton said we've got to think outside the box, and yes, the safety of the workers, we've got to understand that, but we also have a lot of other employees out there in public safety – you can go on and on. So, yes, we're thinking about everyone else out there. Manager Miller is in contact with us five Commissioners this week and we just want to make sure that we understand the [inaudible] as into everybody being safe out there and I think the State of New Mexico and Santa Fe County is doing an excellent job.

So I think one of the concerns I have is why does the Pueblo of San Ildefonso holding up the decision of the County Clerk? If they don't want to have a center there then they can go vote at [inaudible] or whatever out there.

CLERK SALAZAR: Yes. You're correct, Commissioner Garcia. They can go vote at the – and that's what I highlighted to them. They can go to the Nambe Community Center and they can also go Pojoaque Middle School. Yes, you are correct.

COMMISSIONER GARCIA: Madam Clerk, thank you. And I also want, with all due respect to the Native American [inaudible], your decision as into what we're going to do, we have to keep moving. Move, move, move, right?

CLERK SALAZAR: I agree, but I have to allow some courtesy and respect for voters who I represent in the indigenous communities also. And it just happened that the tribal council meeting was on Wednesday, no sooner, and that's the only time, so I stated – so I see this as being courteous to another government.

COMMISSIONER GARCIA: I understand. Thank you, Madam Clerk. Thank you, Mr. Chair.

CHAIR ROYBAL: Thank you, Commissioner Garcia. So this was under discussion. I want to be available – I do want to ask Madam Clerk, how many voting areas will be closed in my district.

CLERK SALAZAR: Your district. Let's see if I can pull the map.

COMMISSIONER GARCIA: And mine as well, Mr. Chair. We're going to deal with this on Monday, correct?

CLERK SALAZAR: Do you want me to do this on Monday?

COMMISSIONER GARCIA: No. It's up to the Chairman.

CHAIR ROYBAL: I'm just curious on my district, if it doesn't take too long.

CLERK SALAZAR: Chair Roybal, where do you vote?

CHAIR ROYBAL: I vote actually in El Rancho, I believe.

CLERK SALAZAR: Okay. We're eliminating El Rancho. It's very small, and we have connectivity issues there. And so what we have there is the Pojoaque Middle School just down the road, and Santa Fe County's Nambe Community Center.

CHAIR ROYBAL: Okay. All right. So then typically we vote at the middle school that's in Pojoaque, correct?

CLERK SALAZAR: The Pojoaque Middle School. Right off that road.

CHAIR ROYBAL: Since last year we've been able to vote at any voting center.

CLERK SALAZAR: Yes. Yes. Everyone can vote at any of these voting convenience centers. Just because it's next to your home or your work, you can come into the Clerk's Office or the fairgrounds, any of the voting convenience centers that are open during early voting or election day. But I high recommend that you request for an absentee ballot.

CHAIR ROYBAL: Okay. And then just for the clarity of the public, this is something that is being put in place due to the COVID-19 pandemic at this point, correct?

CLERK SALAZAR: Correct.

CHAIR ROYBAL: Okay. Thank you, Madam Clerk. I appreciate your time and patience and all the edification. Are there any other comments?

COMMISSIONER GARCIA: Just really quick, I talk about the school board, Facebook, whatever it's called, Snapchat, and my grandma actually voted at Sunset Sweeney Elementary all her life and they moved the voting place to Amy Biehl. So for those elders that always were used to going and voting in the same place, same place all the time, I just find it a little hard to change their voting location. So that's just food for thought. My grandma still wants to go vote at Sweeney.

CLERK SALAZAR: Chair Roybal, Commissioner Garcia, there's many factors that come into play when we make changes. For example, years ago, we had to make a change up north because when we calculated how many voters were there and everything we had to set up and pay for it came out to be \$40 a ballot, which was a much higher cost than other locations. So there's many variables that we look at. We don't just do this just to do it. We look at the situation. We look at how effective it is, how many voters, on and on. So there's many. So I understand about your grandmother.

CHAIR ROYBAL: Mr. Chair, thank you, Madam Clerk and so by us closing some centers or voting locations we're actually going to save money, right?

CLERK SALAZAR: That's always the plan, but I can't guarantee anything. But yes, I would think. Even with all-mail ballots I think it would have been much more cost effective. But the more we do this type of voting where it's different, then the more information we have. Because years ago they didn't hold onto that information. And I have, throughout the years tried to put all of our archival records about voting on our website where you can look at where people vote and all that, all those statistics.

So as time goes on and technology, we get better and better with that. And also Finance is going to be tracking our costs better, whereas in the past it hasn't happened the way I have wanted and so we have discussed that and so we're looking at that also – how to really track costs for elections and how to improve also for information for the Board.

COMMISSIONER GARCIA: Thank you, Mr. Chair. Thank you, Madam Clerk.

CLERK SALAZAR: Thank you.

MANAGER MILLER: Mr. Chair, we're still on Miscellaneous updates. That was just my first one. You have requested from me an update on the YDP closure and I just wanted to let you know we did close the facility. I mentioned at our last BCC

meeting that we had offered positions to the employees. Just to give you the final numbers on that, we had 13 employees at the Youth Detention Facility and ten of those employees accepted positions with the County. We did offer positions to all 13 and of them three of them declined positions and the other ten accepted them. Most of them moved to the adult facility and have already transitioned in to their positions.

Additionally we moved the two youth that were in the facility to San Juan County. I believe we had one other youth that we have transported to San Juan. Also you had asked about Bernalillo County. They are still not able to enter into a contract with us at this time. We'll still be looking into that at the beginning of the fiscal year, and San Juan County indicated they did a per diem rate with us but the manager did let me know they would potentially accommodate a take or pay type of arrangement. I told them that clearly we're going to see how all of the COVID-19 goes but thanked them for that communication, so that that's something that we can also consider going forward.

And that's about it. I think we've actually used the facility at a point that we thought we had a positive in the adult facility. We actually did utilize the youth facility for a brief period to spread out inmates out but we don't need to do that at the moment and our count at the adult facility is significantly down. It's in the low 300s. That's the lowest it's ever been since we opened the facility. So that's it on the YDP. I don't know if you have any questions.

CHAIR ROYBAL: So I don't have any questions but I'm going to any of the Commissioners. Do you have any questions or comments?

COMMISSIONER GARCIA: Mr. Chair, I'd just like to thank Manager Miller and Santa Fe County and her team as into we're doing good. Our employees are still working and I get chills talking. So we're doing very well and I think we're going to weather this storm, Santa Fe County is, and our colleagues across the County line, state line, you know what I'm talking about. It's like whatever help we can help them out with. Thank you, Katherine and your team. The employees out there are still working and I appreciate that. Thank you.

CHAIR ROYBAL: Thank you, Commissioner Garcia. I'm going to go to Commissioner Hansen.

COMMISSIONER HANSEN: Thank you, Manager Miller, for the update on YDP and our inmates and thank you.

CHAIR ROYBAL: Thank you, Commissioner Hansen. Commissioner Hamilton.

COMMISSIONER HAMILTON: No. I might have some questions with further updates, but thank you, Commissioner Garcia, for that comment.

CHAIR ROYBAL: Okay. Commissioner Moreno, did you have any comments relative to the Manager's update?

COMMISSIONER MORENO: I don't. I'm happy to encourage people to use the opportunity to get an absentee ballot. That's probably the most efficient way to get your business done and that's my take on that. Thank you.

CHAIR ROYBAL: I just want to say thank you.

7. B. COVID-19 Emergency Updates

MANAGER MILLER: Mr. Chair, I had mentioned to you earlier that these are some of our COVID-19 emergency updates, what things we're doing. I had mentioned earlier that we did have an item that we withdrew from the agenda and that was whether or not we needed an ordinance for open burning ban, and it turns out that we did not need an ordinance for that, that the Fire Marshal already has that authority to prohibit open burning and he does intend to do that beginning Saturday, May 2nd until further order from the Fire Marshal.

There are several reasons for that action but right now it's to reduce the risk of unwanted human-caused wildland fires in the unincorporated areas of Santa Fe County, which is obviously an area prone to wildland fires, and as Commissioner Hamilton mentioned, she spent a great deal of time with a brush fire yesterday. So clearly we're in fire season. It's also to help prevent exposure of fire and medical personnel to COVID-19 during any out of control open burning fires where the implementation of social distancing wouldn't be possible. It also ensures the availability of our Fire Department resources and personnel for critical medical needs caused by the current pandemic. Also personal protective equipment designed to reduce risk associated with smoke exposure is in severe shortage and we'd like to make sure we reduce irritants in the air that could create upper respiratory symptoms which may be incorrectly attributed to COVID-19 and could result in unnecessary testing and self-quarantine.

Also we want to reduce the smoke and particulates in the air that might exacerbate conditions in someone with respiratory sensitivity, and avoid exacerbating the negative effects caused by COVID-19 public health emergency. It's consistent with pro-active measures that are already adopted by several states, counties and federal agencies. For example, there's a ban on campfires in national forests.

There are some exemptions, not intended to make stay at home recommendations even harder and the following ones are exempt from the open burn prohibition and that would be recreational fires and outdoor fire burning materials other than rubbish where the fuel being burned is contained in an incinerator, outdoor fireplace, portable outdoor fireplace, barbecue grill, barbecue pit and has a total fuel area of three feet or less diameter, two feet or less in height, for pleasure, religious ceremony, cooking or similar focuses. Also pressurized liquid or gas devices, like stoves or grills with shut-off valves in an area at least three feet from any combustible materials, and portable outdoor fireplaces, and those would need to be used in accordance with manufacturer's instructions. They shall not be operated within 15 feet of a structure or combustible material.

And the Fire Marshal is on the call if you have any questions but I just wanted to make sure that the Board was aware that the Fire Marshal does intend to implement the open burning ban on Saturday, May 2nd until further notice.

COMMISSIONER GARCIA: Mr. Chair, I have a question.

CHAIR ROYBAL: Go ahead.

COMMISSIONER GARCIA: Thank you, Manager Miller. So what you're telling us is that after Saturday, there will be no burns. Correct?

MANAGER MILLER: Correct. Except for those exceptions that I mentioned, that there will be no burning. And one of the things also I would like to point out is we did change our solid waste process, so one of the items that came out of the

emergency ordinance that the BCC passed was allowing me to create some policy changes and one of them that we did to combat the effects, and particularly the financial effects of the COVID-19 pandemic was to make it so that to use our transfer stations, you just need a valid permit but we are not punching that permit. So you can go to the transfer stations, limited to one trip per day, but you would not have a punch made. As opposed to burning, you do have that option to take trash to the transfer stations at no cost

CHAIR ROYBAL: Commissioner Garcia, go ahead, sir.

COMMISSIONER GARCIA: So, thank you, Manager Miller, Mr. Chair.

So here's what happened this weekend in my community is the City of Santa Fe closed the transfer station BuRRT, whatever you call it, so now all the people that can't go to the BuRRT transfer station they're going to La Cienega. So my question, when you go to BuRRT, you get charged \$25, \$10, whatever your weight is, at BuRRT And so now all these individuals that can't go throw trash in the City transfer station, they're coming to La Cienega. I got a call from the mayor in Edgewood

So you don't have to answer this question right now but how are we dealing with the individuals from the city. I know this lady had a truckload of trash. And so, I'm loading her trash and put it in my truck and took it to La Cienega. So those are the things, the County is actually absorbing this cost in La Cienega or up north, so they're not being charged. It's something we have to look at. When the City closes their transfer stations they come to La Cienega. I'm a little concerned about that. More traffic, more trash.

We're covering the cost for city residents. Food for thought, Manager Miller. Thank you.

COMMISSIONER HANSEN: Mr. Chair.

CHAIR ROYBAL: Commissioner Hansen.

COMMISSIONER HANSEN: Commissioner Garcia, the BuRRT transfer station is only closed on the weekend. It is not closed during the week. And it's kind of a similar thing at the BuRRT transfer station. People are showing their cards and just going in. So BuRRT is not closed. Only on the weekend. And they still have the same hours. Also on our transfer stations, you have to be a county resident and you have to show a punch pass to get in. So if people need punch passes I'm wondering if we are able to sell punch passes on line yet. Because that seems to be one of the issues that happened at the complex, is that people want to come in and buy punch cards for the transfer stations.

COMMISSIONER GARCIA: So really quick, Mr. Chair. Thank you, Commissioner, on that note. So BuRRT is open during the week for residential customers as well as contractors, correct?

COMMISSIONER HANSEN: It's not open to people who have trash pickup. But if somebody does not have trash pickup they are allowed to come and take trash there. That means rubbish from in their house. We are not taking green waste. You can go onto the SWMA site. I also sent out an update on what SWMA is doing to everybody. If you want to clean up your yard because you're home right now, they're not taking that at BuRRT. They're taking rubbish and trash. But most people in the city have pickup. Like myself, I live in the city. My trash gets picked up. Most of the people in my district, which is where BuRRT is – Las Campanas, Agua Fria, have also waste haulers. So a lot of the people have waste haulers. It is only for those people who are coming there to drop off their rubbish and trash from their household.

COMMISSIONER GARCIA: Thank you, Mr. Chair, Commissioner. Just

in regards to applying for a solid waste permit, to get a punch card – in La Cienega, we don't have good internet service in the valley there. So you can go somewhere and – for example, somebody wanted to get a trash permit. You had to go to the Treasurer's Office. Ambra helped them out. They had to get a trash permit. You're two weeks out in order to get a trash permit. But thank you for your comments on the BuRRT because individuals out there need to know that. Thank you.

COMMISSIONER HANSEN: You're welcome.

MANAGER MILLER: Mr. Chair, Commissioner Hansen, Commissioner Garcia, we can't – we don't do the mail-in permits but you can get them in the Treasurer's Office by appointment. You can get them at the satellite offices between 10:00 and 12:00, Monday through Friday in Pojoaque, and you can get them at the Public Works Facility. So, you are able to get them, and like I said, you only need – you just need a valid card. So if you have one that is a card, even if it's been punched, you don't need to buy another one because we're not punching them

COMMISSIONER GARCIA: Thank you, Mr. Chair, Manager Miller. We're two weeks out, but anyway, we're good.

MANAGER MILLER: -- because it's also property tax payment time, but they can get them at Public Works.

COMMISSIONER GARCIA: Okay.

CHAIR ROYBAL: Manager Miller, Commissioner Garcia, I do have a question relative to that as well. I did have a constituent that actually went with an older punch, that was already all punched out and tried to throw some trash and of course staff turned this individual away. But I did want to ask, like, let's say that somebody has a pass that's from 2019 that was still valid of course this year but they've used all their punches and they of course, they can't afford to buy another one at this point. If they bought a smaller punch, like a three-punch card, if they could afford that, would there be room to see if there was something that was validated this year if they had a three-punch card if they used it, but they can't afford to buy another one. I'm just wondering if an instance like that – I did have an instance where somebody had a punch card that had been punched since 2014 or something to that effect. Of course that's something that of course we couldn't accept but if somebody has a card relative to this year or the end of last year where they used all their punches and they couldn't afford to buy another punch, is there anything we could do to help an individual out at that point? I haven't heard of anybody at this point but I'm just curious.

MANAGER MILLER: Mr. Chair, they can buy a single punch. I don't know if you can buy a three; you can buy a single punch, and it will be good for all your trips until we start punching again.

CHAIR ROYBAL: How much is a single punch? Do you know off hand? Probably not. I don't know.

MANAGER MILLER: I want to say it's like \$12 or \$13. Gary might know off the top of his head. I think that a three-punch are like \$28 or something like that. It comes out to about \$10-something a trip. And then – and we made them all the same so it didn't matter. A three-punch is \$27.50.

COMMISSIONER GARCIA: So, Mr. Chair. Real quick. I think Manager Miller and the County Commission, we're actually doing an excellent job as into helping

the residents out. If they need to borrow a punch card, don't tell anybody that but they can borrow my punch card, but we're actually doing an excellent job in helping out the individual who needs to throw trash and can't afford it. So there's a way around where we can do it now during the virus, so I think we're good.

CHAIR ROYBAL: Thank you, for that comment, Commissioner Garcia.

COMMISSIONER GARCIA: [inaudible]

CHAIR ROYBAL: Manager Miller, I know you were talking when that intervention happened, but just for the public's edification we would say it was \$27 I think for a three-punch. Is that correct?

MANAGER MILLER: Mr. Chair, I think it's \$27.50. A one-punch is \$18, but as I said, it's not going to get punched until we start punching again.

CHAIR ROYBAL: I think that's a great option for our constituents that are in a hard situation so I appreciate that, Manager Miller.

MANAGER MILLER: And Mr. Chair, the purpose of having to have a punch card is because it's similar to what Commissioner Hansen was referring to, you have to be an eligible user of the transfer stations, and an eligible user is a resident that isn't in the city limits that has city trash pickup. It's those residents out in the county with county property.

CHAIR ROYBAL: Okay. Thank you for that clarification.

MANAGER MILLER: So I brought that up, Mr. Chair, just to point out about the burn ban and I also had brought up the burn ban because I knew you might get calls from your constituents about that so we wanted to make sure you were aware and that there is that option to go to the transfer stations if somebody has trash that they had originally wanted to burn, they could take it to the transfer station as long as they have a valid punch card.

CHAIR ROYBAL: Thank you for saying that on the public record because I think it's important that during the time that people can't burn things that they usually may burn that they have an option to take it to the transfer station. As I said, I think in our last BCC meeting, I've witnessed people getting rid of branches and shrubs along the Pojoaque River and it's something we need to try and mitigate because it does cause a safety concern as far as a fire hazard and things of that nature. So I hope that that will kind of get mitigated during this time. Thank you. Was that it?

MANAGER MILLER: Mr. Chair, we just have one more quick update relative to COVID-19. The governor had a conference call today with county managers and the New Mexico Counties. We had an opportunity to ask a few things. One of the big questions is will counties be able to have their county fairs? And we're bumping up against needing to make a decision as to whether we hold our county fair because we have to actually start to contract for things that occur in a county fair and we need that lead time to secure those things.

What she kind of indicated was to give her a couple of weeks because then one of the biggest challenges in addition to the way it hurt the public health, one of the big challenges is how do we set the parameters for reopening or having gatherings of more than five people and she wants that time. She it's likely that in two weeks they would have guidelines for that. I just want to let the Board know, we are getting to that critical point of needing to make a decision about whether we postpone the county fair, cancel

the county fair. I don't know if we could – I was going to talk to Community Services whether we could even just push it off by a couple weeks because it gives us a little bit more time. Obviously we don't want to push it off into the school year but maybe a little more towards the end of August instead of the beginning of August might give us time to make that decision, a final decision as to whether we can hold the county fair or not based upon what the governor's orders are.

Also they talked a little bit about a special –

COMMISSIONER GARCIA: Mr. Chair, I'm sorry, Manager Miller, just on that note on the county fair. Probably 90 percent of the individuals that go to the county fair are from my district, my part of the county and I would appreciate it if we could just wait for the next two or three weeks to make a decision on that and move it up because it's very important to the 4-H individuals in my district, so if we can actually just wait a couple more weeks I'd appreciate that. Thank you.

MANAGER MILLER: Thank you, Commissioner. I was hoping to see if we can wait to kind of the last minute, and the guidelines would allow us to have some kind of county fair for those who participate in that.

Also there was quite a bit of discussion about fairness and whether it's fair that small businesses aren't able to open when the big box stores are and the governor stressed that it's not an issue of fairness; it's an issue of trying to get people to stay at home, that the only way we're really going to get in front of this as a state is to make sure that people stay home. And having options of places to shop just encourages people to go out and shop and not stay home.

There have been a lot of counties who have passed resolutions asking that the governor let their counties open up, particularly those counties with little or no positive cases, but she's still holding to the position that the stay at home order is until the middle of May and believes that it really is a matter of saving lives in order to do that. So she stressed that with all of us again.

There was talk about if there's a special session sometime in June/July, this summer, what would the likely measures be that the state would take to shore up their own budget. As I suspected, one of them will be to look at general fund, capital outlay projects that are not encumbered. The County staff has been working diligently to get every project that we have out there and how we can prioritize those that have general funds, state capital appropriations, so that we can move those forward and hopefully encumber those funds. So that's been a big focus of ours.

Having been in that position before to make recommendations to the legislature and to the governor about where you can get money in order to shore up your operations for a time when revenues are not that good. Typically, general fund capital outlay is one of the places that you can pull back several hundred millions of dollars that have been set out in grants but has not been executed in contracts. So I anticipate that will be something they will be looking at doing and starting to communicate with local governments about the status of their appropriations.

And then we talked a little bit about what the state has received in funding from the federal government. In the CARES Act the state has received I think a \$600 million allotment as well as about a little over a billion dollars so there's somewhere between \$1.7 and \$1.7 billion in funding that the state has received. Just a reminded, no local

governments other than Albuquerque and Bernalillo County met the standard of a population of over 500,000. So those are the only two local governments in the State of New Mexico that received any of the federal money directly for dealing with the pandemic.

The money is pretty restricted as it's currently been appropriated from Congress and my understanding from the conversation is that the state is going to be looking in the few days and communicating with the local governments how they might be able to access those funds. However, the state is going to have a large need for those funds because they're the ones who've been paying for all the testing, and the tests are very expensive, as well as they're the ones who've been doing all that they can on the state level to get PPE and putting money into that. So I anticipate the state will want to keep a large share of those funds. They can't really be used as revenue replacement; so they're more specifically to the COVID-19 response. Hopefully, because we have had several expenditures for that at Santa Fe County, so hopefully we will be able to get reimbursement but they have not indicated how as of yet we anticipate getting more information -- so that's my update on the conversation with the governor and my COVID-19 update.

COMMISSIONER HANSEN: Mr. Chair, Katherine, I want to just mention that I want to thank the governor sincerely for opening up the nurseries. I have four nurseries in my district and I was grateful that she saw that they were included under the agricultural exemption and I have Plants of the Southwest, Payne's, Waterwise, and of course my favorite nursery, Agua Fria. So I was really grateful to her for recognizing that exemption for the nurseries. So thank you.

CHAIR ROYBAL: Thank you, Commissioner Hansen. Thank you for your report as well, Manager Miller. Do we have any other comments from the Board?

COMMISSIONER GARCIA: Mr. Chair, in regards to the capital projects, how is the capital outlay team moving forward? Do we know which projects are actually general fund and which projects are STB funds? And so the question I have is into if oil and gas industry funds capital outlay projects from the general fund, and that money from oil and gas can only be utilized for bricks and mortar per se, so why would the governor's office take away those funds that can only be utilized for bricks and mortar and not for programming dollars?

MANAGER MILLER: Mr. Chair, Commissioner Garcia, that's what I said. They would look at the general fund appropriations. The general fund appropriations, probably over this past session and the one last year probably put \$300 million, give or take, in general fund capital appropriations out into agencies and local governments. So that's what they would be looking at. And that's what they would likely pull back. And then the other thing that's happened in the past when we went through this in 2009/2010, is that it swapped some of the severance tax bond capacity for some of the projects that had been funded at the state level with general fund. They didn't do that so much with local projects. They actually went through the LFC and DFA and the agencies all went through any capital appropriation grants that they had provided to local governments, tribal governments and other entities throughout the state and said which ones of these are general fund and have not been encumbered for a contract for construction, and pulled back what had not been under contract.

And so particularly if a project is really new and hasn't started moving yet or isn't funded completely they tend to look at those because that's – while it's discouraging to lose your appropriation, it's not stopping something that's already started. It's also not going at the workforce that's already employed. So I just know from experience that that's where they'll have to look. They'll also sweep funds from numerous funds that they maybe have built up cash balances in. They'll go through and they'll look to sweep funds. They'll likely have hiring freezes, continue hiring freezes, and that's what they'll do to try to shore up their revenues.

They're going to be hurting from the price of oil. That's one of the biggest revenues for the state and I guarantee they weren't looking at \$12 a barrel while they made their budget.

COMMISSIONER GARCIA: Thank you, Mr. Chair. So how much – being on the school board, they actually took a lot of our money in the last two or three years from our capital reserve funds. How much can they take from our cash reserve funds? Can they take from our cash reserve funds?

MANAGER MILLER: Mr. Chair, Commissioner Garcia, yes, they can. How they do it is they look at our cash reserves and then they look at your distribution, and they offset your distribution. So they don't physically reach into your bank account and pull out your money. They just lower your distribution by an amount offset by what you might have in your cash reserves I think when we did it in 2008/2009, the school district was supposed to have five percent and I don't think they took anybody down lower than seven percent, but I can't say what they would do now. That's just historically what they've done in the past.

COMMISSIONER GARCIA: So Mr. Chair, Manager Miller, did the governor's office talk about the permanent fund, because it is a rainy day. It's raining out there, so did they actually talk about what they can do with the permanent fund?

MANAGER MILLER: Mr. Chair, Commissioner Garcia, it was mentioned but not specifically as to how they would look to it, but the permanent fund is a potential source of funding to shore up the state. I'm sure that will be something under discussion.

COMMISSIONER GARCIA: Thank you, Mr. Chair. Thank you, Manager Miller.

CHAIR ROYBAL: Thank you, Commissioner Garcia. Is there any other questions or comments from the Board?

COMMISSIONER GARCIA: Just, Mr. Chair, really quick. I know we're actually in the virus situation and we're all serious about it but Rudy has to just make a little bit of comments, but your picture behind you is a little crooked. Why don't you fix it up?

CHAIR ROYBAL: As I stated earlier, it's not the picture, it's my head.

C. FY2021 Budget Preparation: Update and Request for Preliminary Direction on Specific Items

MANAGER MILLER: Yes, Mr. Chair, I just want to preface this. We're not asking for any decisions. What we're trying to do is provide you with information as we – as I said last BCC meeting, we had gone to all of the departments and elected officials and asked what areas they could cut in their budget. So this is a process of working collaboratively with each of the department directors, each of the division directors, each of the elected officials, and asking them what they think that they can live without in order to still provide essential services and critical services to the community, and maybe scaling back some of those nice to have items, some of our expansion initiatives.

So this has been the process that we've been following all month and we'll bring more detailed stuff to you in May but right now we just want to start to show you those areas where we're having success, some areas where we may have some challenges, and so Joey put together a presentation. I also have Mr. Shaffer who's going to talk about our health insurance premiums a little bit as well. So I was hoping we could get all the way through the presentation of both Joey Rowe and Greg Shaffer and then stand for questions.

CHAIR ROYBAL: Okay. Thank you, Manager Miller.

JO A. ROWE (Budget Administrator): Good afternoon, Chair Roybal and Commissioners. Thank you for having me again to speak about our budget. This is an update and a request for preliminary direction, but as Manager Miller stated, we're not really looking for any type of voting or anything like that today.

So the status of our fiscal year 21 budget, these deadlines you've seen before. The interim budget is still due on June 1st and the final budget is still due July 31st. And we do have some items that require some discussion that are included in this presentation, and those are personnel matters, health insurance, and revenue projections.

And again, as Manager Miller stated, we have been working with departments. They've all been fantastic with meeting deadlines, coming up with more cuts with us this year, and so due to the anticipated decline in revenue, the department reduced their budget requests in several areas. These were areas including the non-mission-critical fixed assets, contractual services, non-essential travel and training. Departments were able to identify \$6,468,216 in budget reductions, and these amounts have been cut from the original FY 21 department requests that were submitted to us originally when we had our budget hearings with the departments.

They also, as I had mentioned to you two weeks ago during the Board meeting, they have pledged to leave \$3,718,596 in the fiscal year 20, current year appropriations, and those unspent funds will fall to cash and would be available for use in fiscal year 21 to help shore up some of our decline in the revenues.

We have implemented a hiring freeze through at least the end of this fiscal year and this would also allow an estimated \$2,795,662 to fall to cash, and with all that being said it's very uncertain what's going to happen still with this economic downturn. So we really need to look at some additional long-term cost-saving measures. So we're reviewing those. We're looking at what we can do to continue providing all of our services to our citizens, our constituents while still being able to cut back on some of those as Manager Miller stated, those nice to have things, like a fixed asset that may need to be replaced but it can wait a year or two before that happens.

As you know, personnel expenditures in government always comprise the largest percentage of our operating budget and Santa Fe County is no exception to that. Sixty-five percent of our operating budget is personnel. So because this is a recurring expenditure our workforce would ultimately need to be considered for reductions. Now, that does not mean at this point we are not looking – I want to make sure that I stress this – we are not looking to lay off. We are not looking to furlough and we are not looking to eliminate positions. So we're hoping that by doing all these cost-saving measures now, upfront, that we will be able to avoid that.

So on the next slide, personnel matters, this is what we've done without affecting employees that are currently working with us. We've implemented the hiring freeze. The departments and elected officials are asked to justify any vacant positions as mission-critical. That will go through Human Resources and the Manager's Office and if they are deemed mission-critical then they will be able to do the request to fill those positions. We have recommended a hiring freeze though for the non-mission-critical through a minimum of December 31st. So through the end of this calendar year. And then when we get towards that deadline we can review that to determine feasibility of filling those frozen positions based on how our revenues are doing because we should know by then how our revenues are.

Another option that we've been looking at, just to let you know, public safety positions, rather than saying that all positions are frozen across the County or only public safety positions aren't frozen, what we're talking about doing with them is because of the mission-critical status of those positions we decided to look at maybe a ten percent vacancy rate. So that's kind of where we've been working on that. For fiscal year 21 we're recommending not to include a COLA or a merit increase in the budget when we're building it, and we also are not going to be granting FTEs unless they're grant funded, and we have directed management to review overtime costs to ensure reasonability.

So we're working with Public Safety specifically because they are the biggest users of overtime due to the mandatory overtime and the way that the shifts work. But we have been working with those managers and directors to be able to see if there is something that we could do that's within the confines of how we have to operate to be able to reduce some of those costs.

And the next slide is discussing health insurance and I am going to turn this over to Mr. Shaffer if he's on here.

MR. SHAFFER: Thank you, Joey, Mr. Chair. So one of the funding needs that has been identified as part of the budget preparations to date is in regards to medical and prescription drug benefits for County employees. And we, working with our actuaries, are projecting an increase in funding, a need for increase in funding ranging from one million to \$1.4 million. The driver of that needed increase primarily comes down to the increasing trends with regard to employee medical and prescription claims as well as an anticipated increase in our stop-loss insurance premiums.

With regard to claimants and claim costs, what is presented on page of your presentation is really to just present to the Board how anomalous 2019 was from a large claim perspective. As you see, in 2017 and 2018 we had fairly consistent large claimant activity where we had six claimants in each year whose claims were in excess of \$75,000.

In 2019 that doubled and we had 13 claimants who had claims in excess of \$75,000 for the overall year. The total amount of those large claims was in excess of \$2 million and that represented slightly over 27 percent of our overall claim cost was attributable to 13 obviously very serious health issues for employees and/or their dependents.

So large claimant activity is clearly a very big driver of the anticipated need for funding in calendar year 2021. The overall trend line for the cost of medical and prescription benefits for employee per month has generally trended upward from plan inception of January 2017 to date, with a 22.7 percent increase.

So to sum up on that point, across the board employee claims have historically and will continue to increase is the anticipation, and then we also are dealing with the impact to our actuarial analysis of those very large claims from plan year 2019.

On the next slide, this is slide 6, you have from our insurance consultant, their actuarial estimates of what our funding requirements are. They provide three options. One, a conservative option, Option two, a moderate option, and Option 3 being an optimistic option. I'll take those in reverse order. Option 3, which is labeled the optimistic option, is that you are simply trying to cover your projected paid claims and your projected non-claim costs and do nothing else. You're just trying to break even; you have no buffer for a claim fluctuation, and you have no cash reserve build-up built in to your funding model.

Option 2, which is labeled the moderate option, includes a claim fluctuation margin of \$188,995. So you're building in a little bit of a buffer to the extent that your claims exceed what you're projecting on an actuarial basis. And then Option 1, which is the so-called conservative model, includes on top of that claim fluctuation margin an additional margin for cash reserve build-up. That's where you're building your reserves in the group self-insurance fund over time so that you can potentially better weather above average claims or potentially start to self-insure against very large catastrophic claims on an individual basis.

So again, this is straight from our actuarial analysis using Gallagher, our insurance consultant. And as you see as you drop down to the bottom of page 6 and those charts, the needed increase in funding ranges from \$1.4 million and change of the most conservative option down to approximately one million for the optimistic option. Generally speaking, management would support making sure that we have enough resources to go with the Option 1 funding level, the conservative model, because we believe that long term, that's the best option to ensure that our group self-insurance fund is adequately funded and prepared to provide long-term benefits to County employees.

So moving on to slide 7, we think, having said that, that a moderate funding level may be adequate, and the reason for that is we anticipate, and Gallagher anticipates, that COVID-19, somewhat perversely, may actually have a positive impact on our overall claim experience for plan year 2020, and that's due to the fact that elective procedures have been prohibited for coming up on about two months now. And so depending upon what the actual infection rate is for County employees relative to COVID-19 and what level of care they require, we could actually see a positive claim trend line in 2020 due to those elective procedure restrictions. So if those reductions in claims were to materialize, those savings would be available to meet the 2021 estimated funding needs under the conservative option.

So again, to sum up on that point, while we recommend that we target fully funding the conservative funding option put forward by Gallagher, we believe that there is a reasonable prospect that we will be able to meet that funding need utilizing in part some savings from claims experience due to elective procedures being restricted during the COVID-19 public health emergency.

So with regard to the funding gap between what we need in 2021 and what our current bimonthly contribution rates will get us that funding gap could be bridged in multiple ways. You could increase employer and employee bimonthly contribution rates. So again, those contribution rates are divided between the County and between employees based both upon the type of coverage you elect as well as the number of people you insure, as well as what your actual salary levels are. You could shift more risk to employees by increasing co-pays, deductibles and co-insurance. In other words do a plan redesign. That's been discussed in the news relative to the City of Santa Fe, an option that they're considering to meet their budget shortfall.

You could provide a one-time subsidy to the group self-insurance fund from County cash reserves, or you could do a combination of any of the above in order to meet that funding gap.

With regard to options that were being explored and continuing on that theme, however you look at it, management feels at this time that increasing both the employer and employee bimonthly contribution rates will ultimately be necessary at some level. We think that that will be necessary and prudent for a variety of reasons. First, funding your self-insurance program through bimonthly contributions matches recurring revenue to recurring expenditures. It also ensures that the County cost is responsive to member levels, meaning that our expense and contribution will increase or decrease with member levels, because it's again, tied to payroll and bimonthly contributions.

By increasing your bimonthly contribution rates as necessary you avoid potential drastic catch-up contributions in future years when the County is no longer able to hold the contribution rates flat through cash infusions. We've been informed that other governmental entities nationally have had to impose very significant contribution rate increases after they failed to increase contribution rates over a period of time. Increasing the bimonthly contribution rates as your primary funding source is probably most compatible with the concept of pool risk which is what a self-insurance fund is. We're all pulling together to cover those catastrophic health situations that would lead to the high claims that we were talking about earlier.

Bimonthly contribution rates, the way the County has structured them, progressive, meaning that employees that earn more pay more for their health insurance. In contract, increasing co-pays, deductibles and co-insurances means that users of medical services will bear a higher percentage of any increase in funding that's passed on to employees, and they'll bear that burden at a time when they're least able to afford it.

We feel that even in today's environment some increase in bimonthly contribution rates would be tolerable for employees to take. Two obvious examples: the current situation is drastically driving down the cost of gasoline which results in a significant savings to employees. In addition, the current restrictions that are in place are producing opportunities for discretionary spending.

Finally, even the increase in employee contribution rates that would be on offer if

that were the option that was chosen by the Board of County Commissioners would be much smaller than make-ups via furloughs that are being proposed elsewhere.

So those are some of the reasons that management feels that some increase to both the employer and employee bimonthly contribution rates would be necessary.

So the last 15.4 percent increase to the bimonthly contribution rates. I'll start out at the macro level. Under that scenario the County would be contributing \$901,774 additional dollars toward the needed funding, and the employees' share on an aggregate level would be \$343,354. So again, the County would be picking up \$901,000 of the approximate \$1.2 million that would be needed to meet the moderate funding option.

When you look at the impact to County employees on a bimonthly contribution basis it will vary based upon whether or not the employee is enrolled in the HMO plan or the PPO plan, as well as how many dependents they enroll and what their income levels are. For a single employee, at the lowest contribution tier, it would be \$7.72 per bimonthly contribution if it was just themselves that were enrolled, and for the person in tier 4, the highest tier, it would cost \$13.52 more per bimonthly contribution so you would double that to see what the monthly amount would be.

If you look at the family coverages, again focusing on the Presbyterian HMO, which is where most of our employees are enrolled, you would have \$22.79 per bimonthly contribution, so doubling that it would be about \$45 per month for someone to cover their family, up to approximately \$40 per bimonthly contribution or almost \$80 for someone in the top tier.

So again, that gives you a sense of what those numbers would translate into relative to a moderate funding increase that was met entirely through an increase to bimonthly contribution rates for both the employee and employers. So we're not asking for a decision by the Board today on that score, but rather wanted to simply provide to you some information relative to a not insignificant funding need with regard to medical and prescription drug benefits.

I think it's back over to you, Joey.

MS. ROWE: Thank you, Mr. Shaffer. Mr. Chair, Commissioners, so on a totally different subject now, the revenue projections that we have budgeted currently in the fiscal year 21 budget to submit with our interim that is due at the end of next month, we have assumed a 40 percent GRT – that we are going to receive 70 percent of our GRTs and currently in the budget we have that we would receive zero percent of our hold harmless, however, after discussion with Manager Miller she indicated that she may have some information that we could actually see some of that hold harmless revenue coming in, and we are assuming that we are going to be receiving about 90 percent of our property tax revenues that we ordinarily would have seen had this economic downturn and COVID-19 not happened.

So the good news is, due to conservative spending and just being aware that something of this nature may happen, Santa Fe County has \$37,883,280 in the unassigned general fund balance, and that was as of a few weeks ago. So with that being said there does appear to be sufficient fund balance to counter the initial reduction in revenues that we're possibly anticipating, but depending upon the length and severity of this economic downturn, because it's a fluid situation, these assumptions may be optimistic. And so therefore we really need to continue looking at our recurring costs and consider how we

can continue reducing those. So just in case we realize lower than anticipated revenues, if we have a longer term recession, because as you can see the unassigned general fund balance will maintain us for only a limited period of time. What that limited period of time is we're not really sure yet because we need to look at how much revenues are coming in and how much expenditures are going out the door.

So as it is, as Manager Miller mentioned, the state could require the County to relinquish some of our capital funding and so County staff are reviewing any general fund capital grant awards to expedite those expenditures were possible.

So with that, the presentation is done and I stand for questions.

CHAIR ROYBAL: Okay. Thank you, Attorney Shaffer and Ms. Rowe. Appreciate it. I'm going to go to my Board and I'm going to start with Commissioner Hansen if we have comments and questions.

COMMISSIONER HANSEN: Thank you, Mr. Chair. Thank you very much Joey. That was very helpful, and thank you, Mr. Shaffer. I know you're not looking for any direction or comment at the moment but I really appreciate the insurance information. I think that is something that we definitely need to think about and I do support the moderate option to – I'm just moving back a little bit to see – I appreciate all the information. Thank you.

CHAIR ROYBAL: Thank you, Commissioner Hansen. I'm going to go to Commissioner Garcia.

COMMISSIONER GARCIA: Just really quick. Thank you for this information. For the individuals that have cut their budgets for savings, can we actually have a list of the items that have been cut for savings, whether it's maintenance, and how – we actually approve those cuts? I'd just like some information on that stuff. And also with regards to the projections, who from the County is actually doing the projections as into where we are next year or the following year? Who's doing the projections?

MANAGER MILLER: So, Mr. Chair, Commissioner Garcia, I've been working with Joey, and at the moment, the problem for us is – I don't want to say it's a guess, but in some ways it is. We have no idea what are gross receipts tax revenue is going to look like. We'll know a little bit more at the end of May, and also, I think that the State Tax & Rev Division is going to try to give some projections on gross receipts tax because they have the data before we actually receive our distributions. So they indicated on a call a couple of weeks ago that they were going to try to provide some information to us at the local government level to help us get a little more information as they get information from their revenue forecasters relative to GRT what that might look like as it comes down to the local level.

But what we did is we actually looked at what it looked like in 2008/2009 as far as how bad did that economic recession hit us. And our gross receipts tax at that particular time dropped at its lowest level about 25 percent below the level it was prior to the recession. So Joey did kind of a look at, okay, not just, okay, let's take a flat amount but she took each month, if we were to say what would the distribution for May be? What would it do in July. And then if it started to come back up in the fall. So we took it on a monthly basis, taking just an estimate, but then we said, okay, what does that look like for a whole year? And that came out, the whole year, at an average of 30 percent below.

So some months, it could be that we only receive 30 percent; some months we

might receive 50 percent of our prior year, and some months of our prior average, and some months might be 70, 80 percent. And so we said what does it come out to average for the whole year next year, and that was 70 percent. So that's where we got the gross receipts tax revenue.

Then for property tax, that's a real tough one because it's hard to say, will people just not be able to pay or have a delay in their payments for a while. And I think ten percent is probably high – ten percent of property tax revenue, but it did go down in the last economic downturn, and one of the things with property tax, you're collecting for the prior year's valuation. So we're not going to see probably a drop in value if we see one at all for another year. As a matter of fact the Assessor has already finished valuation and the valuation was up, but that's because they're really valuing the property as of the end of last year, and we send out bills in November you'll be paying for 2020, not 2021.

So that's the challenge with property tax. There's a lag in – there's one thing that's our collection rate; we may not collect at the same rate we currently collect at at 96, 97 percent of the bills that are sent out, so we anticipate well have a lower collection rate. But we also believe at some point there will be a hit in valuation, in which case you could see lower property values. Typically yield control, which is a formula that tries to level off property tax revenue. If your values go down, your rate goes up. And if values go up your rates go down, so that you net a similar revenue.

So it's really hard to say what will happen to property tax and property tax revenue. We're not estimating that we'll see a change in the valuation. What we're estimating is that we may see a drop in current year collection because people won't be able to pay it right away, or they will have to pay over time. And we don't think we'll see that until sometime in the middle of next fiscal year.

So that's why this is a challenge for us because property tax – it's a good thing for property tax to be stable, and much more stable than gross receipts, but you don't see the effect of the downturn in payment of property tax until much further down the road. We won't know that until next December, January.

COMMISSIONER GARCIA: So Mr. Chair, Manager Miller, thank you. So individuals are kind of exempt from paying their rent payment, their water bill. So are they exempt from paying their property taxes?

MANAGER MILLER: Mr. Chair, Commissioner Garcia, no, they're not. The protest period for protesting that valuation, when the total valuation is certified, and then how that has to get to determines the rate. So the BCC in September has to approve the rates. So the whole cycle is set by statute, including payment. And the only individual who can defer payment to a later date in state government is the Property Tax Division Director at State Tax & Rev. And they were requested, even our Treasurer sent a letter requesting a delay in property tax payment, but they chose not to. He said that because of that timing and because of it being a revenue that not just counties rely on, or an individual county, but debt is paid out of the tax bills at the state level, the city level, the school level, the college level, county level. Operations for the city, the county, the schools and community colleges all count on that revenue. They thought it would be too disruptive to just not even have a distribution by pushing the data off.

So they didn't extend the time. Now, what they did discuss is when they have a special session looking at if you ended up having – you didn't pay and you had penalty

and interest, that the way to alleviate that penalty and interest would be some statutory remedy that if you do pay it you've got a credit on some other tax. But they have to change the law to do that. They could not suspend penalty and interest.

COMMISSIONER GARCIA: Mr. Chair, Manager Miller, so because of our bond rating, can the County take [inaudible] to the federal government and borrow money because we're a great county?

MANAGER MILLER: No, but I will tell you that one of the things that the governor indicated also is they're looking at what is going to be done with the federal loan packages that have the \$650 billion worth of help to small businesses, but quite a few of those businesses couldn't access it and many of them in New Mexico couldn't access it. So she was looking at whether – I think the administration is looking at whether any of those funds that are coming through the federal government could also be used to assist New Mexico businesses where PPP program fell short for New Mexico.

So while we couldn't do that – we're very limited in what we can do to help individuals. We have the issue of anti-donation so we can't just give money to individuals. We through economic development we have the Local Economic Development Act that allows us to help businesses, but it's also been restricted. I don't know of any instances where it can be for work, capital – salaries and rents and things like that. We could assist indigents and what we have done is we have put more money to our partners that help the homeless and indigent individuals with housing needs, food needs. So we do that through contract with the shelters and our housing partners. Those are way we can assist.

We can assist through our affordable housing through down payment assistance or what we're looking at how can we assist people from having foreclosure. And there's ways we've done it in the past where we – I think we did some bridge loans. We also bought some homes out of foreclosure. And so Joseph and Penny and I have been looking at how could we direct some of our affordable housing funds from the Happy Roofs program and from the developers subsidy program to possibly assisting in a foreclosure prevention initiative like we did the last time we had an economic downturn.

Those are really the only ways through local economic development, Affordable Housing Act and through the indigent exemption, the constitution, that we're able to give direct assistance to individuals or businesses. But I think the state is also looking at how they could potentially use some of the federal funding which could be used differently than state funding for some of those types of initiatives.

COMMISSIONER GARCIA: Thank you, Mr. Chair. Thank you, Manager Miller.

CHAIR ROYBAL: Thank you, Commissioner Garcia. Do I have any other comments or questions from any other Commissioners? Commissioner Moreno, do you have a question or a comment?

COMMISSIONER MORENO: Yes, I think the key word that I heard is flexibility. We are in a position where we don't know what's going to happen. And holding the spending and managing the money as needed. The money from the feds or whatever package through the legislature, it's not going to be enough of a sudden fix. I think it's going to be kind of a rough road and it will take a lot of patience and I think that would be my take on the situation over all. Thank you.

CHAIR ROYBAL: Thank you, Commissioner Moreno. Any other comments from the rest of the Board? Commissioner Hamilton.

COMMISSIONER HAMILTON: Just really quickly because that was very comprehensive information I really appreciate it and I think I only want to reiterate the value of reviewing this, maybe even monthly, because I have absolutely no contest with any of the assumptions that have been made. They're really valid, conservative assumptions. There are a lot of sources – it turns out, because I tried to do a little research on whether there were other universities or institutes or whatever doing some estimations of tax losses and things like that due to the coronavirus and there are some sources out there, so we in the County can use those for some external comparison in these GRT projections.

But we're going to have to review those assumptions. For instance, the issue that we might start recovering later in the fall and GRTs might go up, etc., etc. And that could definitely happen, or it could go in the other direction if travel is way down and there's any kind of resurgence as things open up more. So the idea of reviewing this pretty consistently is something I think would stand us in good stead. Otherwise, what Manager Miller and Joey did are just I think really good grounds for us to make ongoing decisions on. I really appreciate it.

CHAIR ROYBAL: Thank you, Commissioner Hamilton. Commissioner Hansen, do you have any closing remarks?

COMMISSIONER HANSEN: Thank you, Mr. Chair. No, I'm grateful for all the information and thank you once again for all your hard work, Joey.

CHAIR ROYBAL: Thank you, Commissioner Hansen. I couldn't agree more. I really appreciate the fact that the County's being pro-active and using a pro-active approach. I think that in meanwhile we're doing everything we can to protect our constituents and still keep our services. So thank you to all of County staff. Manager Miller, did you have anything else or can we go to the next?

MANAGER MILLER: Mr. Chair, I just kind of want to wrap up with what we're going to try to do over the next two BCC meeting is – so we've given you the foundation of how we're building the FY 20/21 budget, and then we'll in the next two meetings show you the details of things like what we took out of the budget. We wanted to let you know that those were the foundations which we were building into the budget, things like no COLAs. We know we need to do something with the health insurance premiums. We're going to look for one that balances an increase but make sure we keep the fund solvent. Looking at hiring freezes. We don't want to eliminate positions but what we would do is not fund those that we say we don't need to fill for six to eight months. We would only fund the for, say, half of a year starting January 1, and then as we get closer to that timeframe, if it looks like revenues aren't going to be where they need to be in order to start hiring again, then we say, hey, we're just going to continue to freeze those and pull that funding out of the budget.

So those were the foundations we were trying to brief you on that we're building into the budget and if there were any you had serious concerns about we wanted you to let us know, but what we're really striving not to do is that everybody who is currently employed with Santa Fe County that wants to stay employed at Santa Fe County, that we have the funding to keep them employed at Santa Fe County, and not at less than their 40

hours a week or what their pay schedule is, if they're in public safety. We are trying to get overtime down because in public safety we probably spend \$4 to \$5 million a year in overtime, but we just can't do that going forward. So we're trying to work with Corrections, the Sheriff's, the Fire Department, RECC to look at are there ways to staff with maybe not as many people on a shift so that if somebody calls in sick you don't fill that shift with somebody on overtime; you just have one less person on that shift. And can you do that and not jeopardize public safety.

So that's the balance we're working on with each of the managers or elected officials, directors in public safety, and with the staff to see that we can do that and if it means – the way we do that is you fill your positions but you don't have anybody on overtime shifts because they rotate. That might be the key way. So you may not see as many vacancies in public safety as you could in another. The other, for instance with the jail, we're at our lowest population, so do we need as many guards on every shift? Are there some posts that maybe we don't have to fill, and therefore we don't have to have somebody on an overtime shift to fill a particular post?

So those are the things that we're really working on how to get those costs down, and balancing that with making sure that we maintain the same level of public safety.

So those are – they take a little time translating to budget numbers. That's why we can't show you some of those specifics yet but we hope to start laying those out for you at the next two BCC meeting, with the idea that we're going to do an interim budget. And I estimate the budget will change several times over next year. I don't think – I'd be shocked if we get it right the very first time. So I anticipate we'll be making adjustments and reviewing things with you every Board meeting as events roll out.

CHAIR ROYBAL: Okay. Thank you for that updating, the clarification, Manager Miller. Appreciate that.

8. MATTERS FROM COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

A. Commissioner Issues and Comments, Including but not Limited to Constituent Concerns, Recognitions and Requests for Updates or Future Presentations

CHAIR ROYBAL: Do we have any announcements from any of the Commissioners?

COMMISSIONER HANSEN: Mr. Chair.

CHAIR ROYBAL: Commissioner Hansen.

COMMISSIONER HANSEN: I want to thank the Sheriff's Office for having a deputy at the front desk in the kiosk with the constituent liaisons. I heard from Sara, my constituent liaison, how helpful that is and so I wanted to specifically recognize the Sheriff's Department for having that deputy at the kiosk. I think that is really – it helps them feel much safer and I think it is an important step in keeping our building open.

I think I mentioned last time at the Northern Rio Grande Heritage Area, we have hired a new executive director, Margaret Campos. We had another board meeting on the 18th. I think those were the only things that I wanted to mention. I just want everyone to be safe and stay home. So thank you very much, Mr. Chair and other Commissioners.

CHAIR ROYBAL: Thank you, Commissioner Hansen. I'm going to go to Commissioner Hamilton.

COMMISSIONER HAMILTON: Fine. Thanks. I just wanted to mention that we're going to do another Coffee with the Commish on Saturday, the first Saturday of May. So starting at 9:00 and we're doing it in virtual space and hopefully we'll be a little more technologically successful this time. I'm hoping that everybody who has things they're concerned about and wanted to talk about will join us. Thank you.

CHAIR ROYBAL: Thank you, Commissioner Hamilton. I'm going to go to Commissioner Garcia.

COMMISSIONER GARCIA: No, Mr. Chair. I'm fine, thank you.

CHAIR ROYBAL: Thank you, Commissioner Garcia. Commissioner Moreno, did you have any announcements? Concerns? Recognitions?

COMMISSIONER MORENO: No. I'm good.

CHAIR ROYBAL: Thank you, Commissioner Moreno. I just want to thank Commissioner Hansen for recognizing the Sheriff's Department for covering our kiosk. They do an outstanding job along with our Fire Department as well. So thank you for everything that you do. I know Commissioner Hamilton had mentioned earlier that she was out at a brush fire and had an unscheduled hiking trip. We appreciate you all and all the hard work that you put out there. So with that being said I'm going to go on to our next item.

10. MATTERS FROM OTHER ELECTED OFFICIALS

CHAIR ROYBAL: Madam Clerk, did you have any announcements?

CLERK SALAZAR: Yes, Chair Roybal. I'd like to just make an announcement. This is kind of nice when I get tired, because I'm doing all my work while I'm going through this process with you. In response to the ongoing COVID-19 public health crisis, the Secretary of State and the state's 33 county clerks are encouraging all voters to vote using an absentee ballot and avoid in-person voting for the 2020 primary election. And as I stated before, we have multiple ways that voters can vote in Santa Fe County and throughout New Mexico, so I want to encourage that.

Tomorrow I'll have more of an established idea of where we're going to be for election day, and my push will be for advertising for information for voters and education. This way they'll know clearly what we'll be doing in Santa Fe County. I want to thank all of the County staff who have helped us with regards to our elections and all of the work that we do in the Santa Fe County Clerk's Office, and that means IT and Community Services. There are many departments that have been helping us and they've been there for us. We require a lot of assistance, especially during elections, and even more now. So I want to just give a shout-out to all the other County staff and management team who help us on a daily basis with what we're doing.

I also state that I'm very proud of Santa Fe County and what we're doing, especially with the task force, Rachel's leadership is tremendous. I think that it is a real plus for our County that department managers and elected officials and all of us can be in the same meeting and discuss these issues and listen, because then we take those back to our responsibilities and follow through. But we have a tremendous team and I'm very

proud of Santa Fe County. Thank you.

CHAIR ROYBAL: Thank you, Madam Clerk, Ms. Geraldine Salazar. We appreciate your comments and the commendation of our staff. You're absolutely right; they do a great job, and we also want to thank you for all your hard work as well. Do we have any other elected officials that are here at the meeting that have any announcements? Any other elected officials that would like to make a public announcement? Okay, I'm going to go ahead and close Matters from Other Elected Officials.

9. **Santa Fe County Board of Finance**
 - A. **Call to Order**
 - B. **Roll Call**

At 5:30 Commissioner Hamilton moved to recess as the Board of County Commissioners and reconvene as the Board of Finance and Commissioner Hansen seconded.

The motion passed by unanimous [5-0] roll call vote.

Roll was called by Clerk Salazar and demonstrated the presence of all five Commissioners.

- C. **Approval of Agenda**

There were no changes to the agenda and Commissioner Hansen moved to approve the agenda. Commissioner Hamilton seconded.

The motion passed by unanimous [5-0] roll call vote.

- D. **County Treasurer's 1st Half of FY2020 Report and Request for Approval of Six-Month Investment Strategy**

PATRICK VARELA (County Treasurer): Good afternoon, Mr. Chair and Commissioners. Today I stand with you guys in a different light than I did back in November. A lot of things have happened over the past months and you'll see the state that we're in right now and the challenge that I have.

As everybody's heard, we have near zero interest rates, which affects our overall portfolio. Last year when I spoke with you we were at about a 150 basis points, which is a 1.5 percent interest rate, and within one month we dropped to zero. Before that, in previous years, 2016 and 2017, we were riding the horn of the bull. We getting actually good return on investments. We were up in some investments we were making up to three percent.

So right now we're having a lot of issues, and you'll see that other bullet point. A lot of our securities are being called or they're getting these mandatory calls which I'd never heard of before until now, and that is that the government is allowing Freddie Macs

and Fannie Maes to refinance at lower interest rates, so I'm predicting that we're going to have about \$60 million plus being called and I'm going to have to invest in these low interest rates.

That's not the only challenge. There's also a low inventory on investments to buy because the government has been buying so many Treasuries and bonds over the last months to put liquidity in the market, so some of that's available now. It's above par. It's not really a huge premium but instead of paying par it's like par-spot 12 or par-spot 30, so that's another challenge that we're going to have to go into that I have to do to reinvest in this environment.

I was talking with Katherine earlier this month about how much should we hold back from investing just in case we need the liquidity cushion. Also there could be the possibility of higher bank fees with our bank because we have so many services that the more we have good interest rates, now they've reduced the interest rate. So we may have to start paying. So I'm trying to do an analysis to see how much cash I need to have at the bank so we don't pay anything.

Since I came in office we had like maybe 14, 15 accounts; now we have over 30, and they're needed, and then we have other services as well that we've added on. All those services cost, so in the past we were making some good interest. Now, we're not going to be and it's going to be for a while I'm sorry to say, so I need to see how much liquidity we need to keep in our bank so we don't have to pay those rates.

And the next is our merchant card web services. It's not the same as it was in the past. Some customers say they're going to call their Commissioners, they're going to call the Manager's Office. They're not used to seeing what they did and that's their history, but that's the least right now of my concern. My concern right now is the cash flow in the County. But of course this is always on the burner because it does affect the customers. They can't see their current information the way that they used to in the past.

So when I spoke with you back in November this is what the yield curve looked like. Those of you who have been in my Investment Committee meeting, remember last year we were on an inverted curve. So for about two quarters and then it started to resurrect itself. So as you can see at this point in time, when I did this presentation to you in November this is what it looked like. So it had kind of flattened. It was getting a lot better. It was resurrecting.

This is January 2nd, right after New Year's, this is what it looked like. Still kind of flat but still showing some good yield rates, especially on the 30-year. As you can see that was raising up on basis points. We can't invest that far but that's an indicator that things were starting to look better because before it was low because of the inverted curve.

This is what it looked like right after the COVID-19 started impacting here. Those of you that remember, in our Investment Committee meeting since January I stated that when it hit here it was going to hit pretty hard because we're a county as a whole but we're not like other countries because our country is so big and massive that we have different industries, different types of employment, so geographically, compared to Spain and Germany where they're smaller countries and they all fit in the size of our country, so the outlook that I was looking at, because I've been tracking it for a while, was going to be that it was going to be dropping pretty quick, and as you can see back on February

3rd it started to invert again, especially in the years that we can invest in, which is in the one- to five-year, in our operational portfolio.

The 27th, and as you can see, the scale started to go down. This is just before the Fed's met and they did the drastic cut. It was dropping pretty fast and it was actually kind of phenomenal because I've never seen it drop so fast in the past before.

This is 3/3, March 3rd, when everything was starting to fall apart. People were going to stores, hoarding what they could get. Anything from toilet paper to pasta. So it started to affect the markets because people weren't spending financially. They were spending to get food and other things that they thought they needed to withstand this virus.

And here's where it really tanked on April 3rd. This is after the Fed's said, okay, we're going to have to drop everything down so they pretty much – they were reducing the rates. It still had a curved shape; it wasn't inverted anymore, but if you look at the yields that we were getting, it went from large amounts into the percentages. For the one year we're getting spot 15 and then in year five we're getting spot 39.

This is the 16th. This is still after everything started to rebalance itself out. But this is pretty much where it is today still. It hasn't really moved. So I'm assuming that this is what it's going to be, that this is what it's going to look like for a couple of years to come because we're still not out of this. New Mexico is doing a very good job – the governor is doing a good job of keeping the epidemic from spreading too well but my concern is opening up other states and them coming to New Mexico because for tourism and bringing that back to here so we can have a relapse of the epidemic coming up. So hopefully if everybody stays what they're doing and everybody listens to the governor then this will stay and we won't get any more because there has been talks about them going actually to zero and to a negative rate, which I don't believe would happen but it would help the government's overall balance sheet, but the countries that have gone into negative rates have not come out of it since. So it would be really dangerous that they would do that but right now you really don't know what to predict. But I predict myself that it's going to stay at this for the next, actually a few years because of the delay that's going into the economy and there's no GDP right now.

So if you look at this slide, this is the curve. When I came into office, the next day, it looks similar, and actually it was a little bit better, and that was two years after the main really crash and here in the Treasurer's Office we were suffering from people with delinquent taxes because they weren't paying them because they were either out of work or they couldn't find jobs or they were delinquent, so delinquent that they didn't want come in because they were embarrassed, and we were able to get them back to where they were, but this is what the environment looked like for the first couple years that I was the Treasurer. So as you can see it was in a better state so I could go out three, five years, it looks a lot better, more appetizing but it still wasn't – we weren't getting what we were in the past.

So here's just an overall report. This is a projection from tomorrow's meeting. They saying that they're still going to keep the fed rate from zero to 0.25, with a probability of ten percent that it would go up above that, so that's not going to happen. You can look at other central banks and you can see where the USA is at zero to spot 25. You've got the Euro Bank at zero, and you've got Bank of England at 10 and so on. You

can see the countries that are at negative rates. There's Switzerland, Bank of Japan. You can see where they're in negative rates and they have been in negative rates and they've never been able to pull out. As far as I can remember Bank of Japan has been negative for the past six years. So that's the danger of a country saying, yeah, we're going to go into negative rates to help balance our books but the chances of getting out are really slim and they have a lot of trouble doing that.

So right now, the average bank interest rates are about .006. Average bank savings rates are about .009, and average money market rates are about .016. So that's what we're getting on some our rates with our fiscal agent and some of the market money. We have some really good sweep accounts that were paying close to two percent and they just dropped them overnight to – we actually with the fed change.

Going from what I talked about earlier, these are what I'm receiving now. It's mandatory calls. So like I said, they're going out to refinance these securities for the lower interest rates, so we have quite a bit that are going to be called. Luckily we have enough that are bullets. The bullets at the time were hard to find. They're still very hard to find. Otherwise we could get our Treasuries. At a point in 2016 I was buying more Treasuries because Treasuries were outperforming the paper. So I was getting a lot of Treasuries at that time and sometimes I was getting floaters that would track the rise plus spot-12.

You can see, everybody heard about the stock market going into circuit breakers three times in a row in the past few months. That means that the trading dropped below 20 percent so they have to cease trading. It went from 29,000 back in January to a low of almost 18,000, just the Dow itself. This is a snapshot. I uploaded this to present to you. The Dow was back at 23,000 but nowhere near the 29,000 it was and it took four years to get to the point it is now to where it was at the beginning of the year.

So this is the GDP, predicted GDP. As you can see 2020 is in the negative. Beforehand it was targeted at being a very good year. In fact there was talks about raising the interest rates again, but with this epidemic going out, they're looking at a negative GDP. You know that the Fed's monetary policy goes to – I spoke on this before – it's called Tyler's Rule, and it's a balance of GDP, unemployment, and inflation. And they're looking at growth, to raise up the Fed rates, they're looking at growth up to three, 3 ½ to four, is what they like to see so they can start raising it. But you can see for the year 2021 they're projecting that it's going to be up close to five percent, and that's just a forecast.

The chart above shows the inflation rate. So when you have high inflation the Feds typically will raise interest rates. When you have low inflation they typically start lowering it down, and that's what coincides with the amount of unemployment. Well the slide on the bottom is the unemployment, the employment rate. We went from having about 200,000 nationwide. At the point that I did this it was over 22 million unemployed. So you know that until people start going back to work or GDP straightens out that these interest rates are going to hold until things start to rebalance out.

So these are the Barkley indices. We track our bonds. So the bonds have been really high. So it doesn't mean we're going to have interest. It's just the value's been high. So we run a Lehmann Brothers ticker even though they're non-existent the ticker remains the same, and you can see the value on the Lehmann Brothers' ticker that we use which is US aggregated, which is a mixture of federal fixed income paper as a

benchmark, and you can see that it's way high. It's 2,314.27. Before hand it had been in the 1500s. It was so high that it actually started to skyrocket once the government started buying more and more of these bonds.

So this is just kind of a snapshot of the Dow over the – this is a six-month graph. So you can see – and I highlighted February 29th. That's the highest it's ever been. It was at 29,000, and you can see in just a few – not even a month, it dropped to an all-time low of 18,000. So this when things started really churning and then with the shelter in place going on all over the place, the oil prices started to follow this pattern as well.

This is a five-year snapshot and I actually put a snapshot in a [inaudible] where in November of 2004 to what it is now, is where it's almost at right now, so it took all those years to go up to 29,000. So that means everything was doing well. Now a lot of the stocks, a lot of the ones that were straggling they have taken them even off the S&P, because they're out of condition.

This is the NASDAQ or what I call the NAZ. In 2019 it also followed – it took a drastic turn and this is just in a matter of 30 days. This shows the confidence in consumer spending and factories and manufacturers holding back to see what was going on.

And as you can see oil plunged below \$10 a barrel. This is before I turned it in. I think the next day there was now a negative for crude oil, so the futures looked bad on this and that's because there's nobody traveling. There's too much oil around. In fact I was reading a while ago on Bloomberg that some oil producers had to pay some facilities in Texas to hold 23 million gallons of oil, so now they're having to pay the refineries. It's vice versa right now.

The other thing that's actually kind of frightening that a lot of consumers are looking at. There's been talks about there being a food shortage. Well, that's the supply and demand that makes things so erratic. So for about a month everybody was spending crazy, buying everything from toilet paper to pasta, like I said before, and they were starting to just overall use money so they started producing a lot more food, output. So the slaughterhouses starting doing a lot more slaughtering and they overdid it and now they're having to – because everybody bought and nobody's buying as much as they were, they're having to have less on the meats. They're actually having to bury it and I think you've heard a lot of the dairy farmers are having to dump thousands of gallons a day of milk because the demand isn't there because no restaurants are buying them. Same with the beef. The restaurants aren't buying them like they would. There's a 70 percent reduction pretty much is what I've heard. The reduction in hospitality food. So that reduction is there and they've gone so far as having to again compost their onions and potatoes too because the supply is there; the demand's not. So that's the whole balance is going on.

That's where – the talk, especially with the PPEs, they had them and there was talk that there was a material shortage. Well, there wasn't a material shortage. The demand wasn't there and so they're not taxed a lot; they made to what's needed. And then there's a sudden demand. They're having to play catch-up now to suit those needs. Plus the federal government, during the Trump administration, they haven't restored their reserves like they were supposed to after the Zika virus and the Ebola outbreak. They didn't replenish all that PPE that they were supposed to. So if our big leaders aren't doing that then we're going to have a problem across the board. As you can see it trickled

down. And that's where our economy is pretty much right now and I don't see it resurrecting in the next – any time soon.

With that I stand for any kind of questions.

CHAIR ROYBAL: Okay. Thank you for the presentation, Treasurer Varela. I'm going to go to my Board. Commissioner Hansen, did you have questions, comments?

COMMISSIONER HANSEN: Thank you, Treasurer Varela. It's very sobering and very sad. But I appreciate the information. I did have one question here on one slide that didn't have a start date. I think it was the slide on NASDAQ, where it was coming up from? It's 8153.58. Where does that start?

TREASURER VARELA: That was the highest it was that day in 2019. We were on an upward trend.

COMMISSIONER HANSEN: No, but I want to know where it was coming from by the green line. I mean how long is this projection for?

TREASURER VARELA: This is a six-month projection so this would have been October-November.

COMMISSIONER HANSEN: Okay.

TREASURER VARELA: So we had a gradual upward trend after the inverted curve, so everything looked really good. It looked really promising. Then all of a sudden this happened and pushed everything down. It's going to be down for a while. Even if these companies – they're doing a lot better. They're not back to what they were by any means but with all the problems that we're having with the shortages and then the extra money in the system it's going to hold these rates down.

COMMISSIONER HANSEN: Thank you.

TREASURER VARELA: Sure.

CHAIR ROYBAL: Thank you, Commissioner Hansen. Commissioner Hamilton.

COMMISSIONER HAMILTON: Thank you very much for the information but I don't have any questions at this moment.

CHAIR ROYBAL: Thank you, Commissioner Hamilton. Commissioner Moreno, did you have any questions? Comments?

COMMISSIONER MORENO: Thank you. I'm going to say again, flexibility is going to be our friend. If we go one way too much we may not be able to change. So flexibility, and just [inaudible]

CHAIR ROYBAL: Thank you, Commissioner Moreno. Commissioner Garcia.

COMMISSIONER GARCIA: Mr. Chair, thank you. A couple of comments. Bank fees – why are they higher, and merchant services. Just a couple of comments. The bank that we deal with, is it a local bank? I hope it's a local bank. We need to look into that. With that said, this is an action item. I'd like to make a motion actually that we actually approve the six-month investment strategy with the oversight of the County Manager, to make sure she oversees this and signs all the stuff. With that I'd like to make a motion.

COMMISSIONER HANSEN: Commissioner Garcia, we haven't finished. We have still another part of the plan to be presented.

COMMISSIONER GARCIA: Oh, I thought we were done with the presentation. Sorry, Commissioner.

TREASURER VARELA: No, I was just standing for questions on my economic outlook.

CHAIR ROYBAL: Thank you, Commissioner Garcia, for your comments. I just want to say thank you to our Treasurer Varela also for giving us this very comprehensive update. It is a trying time right now and it's very sobering as Commissioner Hansen indicated, so we appreciate it. So with no other questions if you'd like to continue, Treasurer Varela.

TREASURER VARELA: Yes, thank you.

COMMISSIONER HAMILTON: Mr. Treasurer, Mr. Chair, Commissioner Garcia, I had a question that I think would be interested to answer on the bank fees and whether the bank was local.

TREASURER VARELA: Yes. Our bank is First National which is now called Sunflower. It's just down the street from the Bokum Building. That's our fiscal agent. Every company that we do business with has either a presence in Santa Fe or a presence in New Mexico and that goes with our broker-dealers. They have to have some kind of physical presence in order for us to be able to do any kind of trades. So I try and keep everything local as much as we can.

COMMISSIONER GARCIA: So Mr. Chair, Commissioner, Mr. Treasurer, with all due respect, First National Bank is not a local bank anymore. It used to be a local bank and now it's somebody else so it's not really a local bank anymore. So can you explain that as into how you feel it's a local bank?

TREASURER VARELA: It actually was. When we got the contract it was First National. They had established that they had a 1070 certification which means it was a local one, because if you look at the writing on your desk I think it says 1070. That was a New Mexico charter. A 3070 means it's a New Mexico charter for credit unions. That number changed back about two years ago and I think we're looking – right now we're still under contract with them. We're in an RFP with them, but I think we're going to be going out for an RFP next years. But there's not too many more local banks that exist anymore. As you know, LANB went to Enterprise, which is actually – I think St. Louis. Yes, they're a St. Louis bank and Bank of Albuquerque is actually Bank of Oklahoma. I think the only one that actually is still a local bank is New Mexico Bank and Trust.

So those are getting absorbed because of the last recession for one thing because their balance sheets were way off. We have too much money for them to even look at us as a customer because it would really throw off their balance sheet and they would be able to lend to other customers. I told this to Katherine. This might be something that we need to look at as Santa Fe County going and getting their own public charter and opening a bank of our own. It can be in stages and it could be an operational one at first and then once we get the longevity, actually open it up to Santa Fe County customers and their employees and so on. But then we'd only have to pay the Feds with everything else. We wouldn't have to pay any fees because it would all be in-house.

I know the City tried to do that a couple years ago. I kind of read their analysis on it and I've called some other people that I know and I've talked to them, it doesn't seem

like it's that hard. I think the first, the really expensive part of it is the ERP system but now there's cheaper ones that are cloud-based that they don't have to – and then of course there are all the certifications that you need monthly. But it might be something that you guys should look at later on. But those fees are basically for the servicing fees. So any kind of wires could possibly go up. Of course the interest rates are going down so that was offsetting our past fees. Any kind of services that we had additionally, now we have PayMatch which is using a lot of our – they're using that for the credit provider. Well, those ones we were having trouble putting a bank account for each individual agency. Like for instance, ambulance have their own bank because it has to have some kind of tracking. So if an ambulance customer pays through that portal, it settles in that account. Same with the property tax. It will settle in the property tax account, and I know the Sheriff was interested in having one for animal control as well. So each one has to have their own, so we're piling up a bunch of services. So we have to have an amount of liquidity to offer the services that we have and we're going to have. So I need to figure out how it's going to impact. So we don't have to pay – I was going to say out of pocket, but we don't have to pay any fees so we don't have to increase our holdings at the bank. But that can be an offset for them too, because they might say, well, that's too much money for us to hold for you. So that can be a challenge.

COMMISSIONER GARCIA: So Mr. Chair, Mr. Treasurer, thank you for the update. I just think that Santa Fe County has the best credit in the entire nation so like I would think that banks are actually coming to us. You guys have the best credit. We actually won't charge you these merchant services or just maybe in the future and as the County Commission, as the policymakers, we actually need to think about how we invest the public's money in a local bank, because like I said we have the best credit in the entire nation. So just food for thought. Thank you, Mr. Chair.

CHAIR ROYBAL: Thank you, Commissioner Garcia. So if we could move on to the next part of the presentation, Treasurer Varela.

TREASURER VARELA: Sure. So like I stated earlier, we're going to have to work together so I'm going to have to work really, really closely with Katherine and we want to make sure we don't invest too far out because we don't know what we're going to need money on. So we're just going to kind of keep things on a [audio difficulties] as we go along to see where we're going to put the money and how long and how much we have to --

COMMISSIONER GARCIA: So Mr. Chair, Mr. Treasurer, with all due respect, we have to invest. Is that the County Manager, the County Commission? Or who?

TREASURER VARELA: [The Treasurer's audio connection was very weak and cutting out.] But we have to worry about cash flow. What we're going to need to see where things are in six months.

COMMISSIONER GARCIA: Mr. Chair, Mr. Treasurer, so once again, our fund that the County Commission oversees and that you as the Treasurer as the investor, so does Manager Miller or the Commission actually say where are you going to put these bonds, or what stock market – how that works. So is that up to you? Obviously it is up to you, but does the Manager have oversight over that stuff?

TREASURER VARELA: No. [audio very poor] What I do is I provide my

plan, and when you approve my plan, and then I have my committee meeting, which I invite you to come to, we talk about this on a monthly basis. This is what we're doing. This is what the outlook looks like and this is why we're doing it. So I don't just go out and say, I'm going to put it out in seven years. Because that happened to me. When I came into this office, I inherited a lot of long terms and over the years I had to unload them. I didn't unload them at a loss. I actually profited on them but it was way outside of the window. The communication I think is way better. I'm not [inaudible] with the Manager of the Investment Committee. I'm very transparent. I talked to everyone and say this is what is going on. This is what it looks like. So I'm always –

COMMISSIONER GARCIA: We appreciate that.

COMMISSIONER HAMILTON: And Mr. Chair.

CHAIR ROYBAL: Commissioner Hamilton.

COMMISSIONER HAMILTON: There's the County Investment Policy

as well.

TREASURER VARELA: Exactly. Yes.

COMMISSIONER HAMILTON: So there are guidelines.

COMMISSIONER GARCIA: Thank you.

TREASURER VARELA: Some people have gotten in trouble. Actually I have a friend of mine that was a good investor that was retained as a City Treasurer and he almost bankrupted it within a couple of months because he made a good decision but on investing he didn't think about cash flow. So I had to kind of help him out for three months to get him out of that mess. So that's something that could be – potentially it could happen to anybody if they try to go after yield and doing something to get a big pat on the back but that's not what it's about. Of course it's taxpayer money but we have to make sure it's safe.

COMMISSIONER GARCIA: Thank you, Mr. Treasurer. Sorry to interrupt you.

TREASURER VARELA: That's okay. I'm here to answer any questions because now is the time that there's going to be a lot of questions. So that same treasure, he was asking how our County is and I [audio interference] And I think about it like a ship with a captain. We have a good captain and we have good officers so we're going to cruise. We may not cruise at the same speed but our County Manager is our captain and we have all the other officers. As long as we follow the line we're going to be okay and follow what's recommended.

We'll make it. We made it through before in 2008 through 2011 when I really had these challenges before so like I say I was fortunate, I guess you could say I was fortunate to have to go through this when I came in office but I kind of know what to do already and the communication to keep with now.

So with that, on the screen, this is the balance in our operations portfolio. We have \$131,436,592.19. Our core portfolio, which – you might want to know this, Commissioner Garcia – this is the core portfolio. It's money that's deemed that we don't need it within ten years so we can go actually out ten years on this core portfolio, which we can get a little bit better revenue. The core, because we're going out a little bit more on the curve, so on that one we have a balance of \$27,128,630.71. Our GOB 2011 portfolio has \$4,955,654.42. The 2013 portfolio GOB has \$4,524,527.03. Our GOB 2018

has \$12,503,450.69. Our GOB 2019 has \$18,825,922.65. Our Charles Schwab account has \$34,963,167.46. And our housing, when I opened the account, it had \$4 million. It has since grown, but it's not growing as fast because I thought I could put this money where I could get more money in our ICS account because it was paying 1.5 percent at the time. It only lasted for about five days until it went down.

So the total that we have right now in our fixed income portfolio is \$230,437,912.18.

So this is our net estimated income or our yield that we're getting or our profit, is another word. That we're getting. Since January 2nd to March 31st in our Sunflower – Sunflower Bank, it's actually, they're our custodial, which is US Bank, we've made \$905,037.07 in yield. Charles Schwab we made \$91,462.70 in yield. In UBS, we've made a total of \$279,196.73, for a total estimated yield income of \$1,275,626,58. That's not going to happen anymore because as of 3/31, so now they're starting to call and those interest rates are going to be way different.

So at the end of last year we made about \$5.25 million in earned income within the yield. So we won't be seeing that pretty much anymore because the rates are so low so I'm going to say we're going to get anywhere in the neighborhood between \$2.5 to \$3.2 million, maybe, at the end of the year with the help of the first quarter. So my strategy now, and I'm going to explain this in detail because it's a lot different. I'm going to look at investing in steppers with long call protection. Now call protection is like if I buy something now it may have three months or six months call protection and you'll see a higher coupon, meaning a higher yield. We're going to get that yield as long as it has a call protection. So if it has three months call protection, so in July you'll get three months of the higher interest and then it will get called again. The only challenge is I'll be in that rate environment in July which I predict it's going to be the same.

So those help a little bit because you get a little bit more coupon value. I need to invest in more – CDs are still paying a lot, believe it or not, the bank CDs. They haven't caught up yet to the reductions so there's still a lot of CDs out there so I'm still going to be getting some if I can locate them, making Santa Fe County [audio very poor] almost every bank in the nation at some point, and some maturity date. I know my manager, Theresa, she probably wants to strangle me but I buy a bunch of these and probably Melanie Ramirez in Finance because they have to reconcile them, but we have a huge list of CDs. So if I can get those and locate them and we don't have them, because we can't duplicate them, I'm going to get those too.

I'm going to just take coupons with higher yield cash flows, still following [inaudible] and be the safety, yet those kind of coupons – supranationals, they have [inaudible] spreads right now, those are still – they have gone down in value. They're paying about one-spot 20. That's for three years. So those are actually a good instrument to buy, only they're being hard to find now, because everybody is trying to get what they can. Investing in government money markets for the [inaudible] investments. I'm going to invest in some cash accounts that pay better yield than our regular bank accounts.

And then of course I'm going to invest in alliance with 6-10-10 and of course our IP policy. We're going to have to work with the County Manager on cash flows and maintain a liquidity cushion to pay any kind of emergency that we need. We just went through one, we're going through one. We may need money, like say for instance in a

different location, so I can actually move that money to another fund so there can be coverage if needed.

So these are my suggested investment strategies from now till – for six months and it may change. If they change I'll bring them to the Investment Committee meeting, because now this market, everything is changing radically day by day. So I stand now for any questions on my strategy.

CHAIR ROYBAL: Thank you, Treasurer Varela. I'm going to go to Commissioner Garcia.

COMMISSIONER GARCIA: Thank you, Mr. Chair. Just a couple of quick questions. Do we actually make money off our investments. Is that per year? Is that quarterly? How does that work?

TREASURER VARELA: I'm sorry. I only heard part of your conversation.

COMMISSIONER GARCIA: Mr. Treasurer, so you talked about \$1.2 million that we actually make money off our investments. Is that per year or is that quarterly?

TREASURER VARELA: The \$5.25 million? That's what we made last year in yield income. It comes in because each instrument that we buy has a different pay period for the interest. Some are semi-annually, some annually, some six months so they pay at different intervals, so that's how come I estimated. That's what we made. That's in the record since I've been in office. We were at a higher interest rate. We're not going to receive that now. We're going to be – right now, like I said earlier, we are at – what we got between January and March will probably be the most that you'll see in a whole quarter from now on because now they're being called and we're having to invest in a lower interest environment.

COMMISSIONER GARCIA: So, Mr. Chair, Mr. Treasurer, so every year you invest with the County Commission's approval, you actually invest every year and that's what we made last year, \$5.2 million. Correct?

TREASURER VARELA: Actually, I invest almost daily because it comes in, but yes, I propose a strategy and I always invest within that strategy.

COMMISSIONER GARCIA: Thank you, Mr. Treasurer. Also, Mr. Treasurer, you seem like you're very knowledgeable as into how the taxpayers' dollars are invested. So the concern I have – what happens if you weren't here today or tomorrow? Who's going to take over the reins as into –

TREASURER VARELA: You know, that's going to happen.

COMMISSIONER GARCIA: I know. That's where I'm going with this. Actually, you've been there for 7 ½ years and I just want to know like who has the institutional knowledge that you have, that you've gained as into how does the County, our Treasurer, how does our Treasurer invest our money? I just want to make sure that the taxpayers' money is invested in a proper way, which you've done an excellent job, so that's just a concern or challenge I have as into, past that year, who's going to do this job? Katherine Miller? The County Commission? I'm not mentioning any names. We have a lot of investing that we've done, that we need to do throughout Santa Fe County because we're a very great county, so I just want to know as into – there's a lot of knowledge, the things that are put on the screen as into like – who's going to do all that

stuff. It's just a concern or challenge that I have as a County Commissioner, policymaker.

TREASURER VARELA: Mr. Chair, Commissioner Garcia, I'm sorry, I can't really answer that question. I came into office with the investment knowledge. I used to invest with a company I worked for before and basically what it was, it was payroll. It was a different kind of investing but care beyond different guidelines but I've learned this for many years. I'm going to say about 22 years, just what I have a knowledge of it. But everything goes by what's happening in the world. You just have to pay attention to what's really going on and knowing [connections cuts out]

COMMISSIONER GARCIA: So Mr. Chair, if no other Commissioners have any questions –

COMMISSIONER HAMILTON: Yes, we have questions.

COMMISSIONER GARCIA: Sorry.

CHAIR ROYBAL: I'm fine if you wanted to make a motion, Commissioner Garcia, and we can also go around the room.

COMMISSIONER GARCIA: I'd like to make a motion and then we could open it up for discussion, if you're okay with that, Mr. Chair. That we actually move forward with the Treasurer's plan, including that we include Manager Miller's signature authority on the plan or the –

CHAIR ROYBAL: Okay. Thank you, Commissioner Garcia. Commissioner Hamilton.

COMMISSIONER HAMILTON: Are you calling on me to ask questions?

CHAIR ROYBAL: Yes, ma'am. If you want to second it it's up to you.

COMMISSIONER HAMILTON: I'm not sure what the motion – no, I don't. I think there needs to be a clarification. Treasurer Varela, I appreciate that you're trying to do the logical thing here with some of this revised investment planning and appreciate your emphasis on interacting with everybody as this plan goes forward and with the County Manager respecting needed cash flows. Which of these things would you be most concerned about over the next few months if things change substantially – if things get substantially worse? If the economy and the market take certain turns that might force the Feds to take some unusual actions? Which do you think those of these are most labile that you're going to keep an eye on?

TREASURER VARELA: Mr. Chair, Commissioner Hamilton, everything's really important. That's how come I keep an eye on every single market there is. Our biggest concern that I can see is making sure that we have money for what we need to pay for. So I'm going to say cash flow is going to be the next big thing that's there. Right now we've had a lot of calls, like I stated earlier. I haven't reinvested again because I need to find out from our Manager and from our Finance Director what they think is a good safety net to have on hand as with liquidity. Because I don't want to put something out, say, I'm going to buy something for six months and then they say, well, you know what? We're going to need something in two months. So really communication is going to be the key for the next few – I'm going to say more than six months, more like till the end of the year, it's going to be key because like I said, this could happen again. We could get a relapse just by people being crazy and not doing social distancing. So we need to really keep a good communication network before things get bought, because then we don't want to have to buy at a loss. Because it can't go any more lower. And so if

we would sell it, we would sell it at a loss. We don't want to do that. So I'm going to say cash flow is going to be the most important part right now.

COMMISSIONER HAMILTON: Thank you. Commissioner Garcia, I just want a clarification of what you mean by the add-on, in terms of approvals. There is an investment philosophy that includes the investment policy, which these fall – the Treasurer has developed in light of that investment policy. I didn't understand the second part of your motion.

COMMISSIONER GARCIA: Mr. Chair, Commissioner, I just wanted to make that the Treasurer, with all due respect to him isn't just tied up for him making all the decisions to invest all the County's money. So as long as the Investment Committee is involved, and they approve everything he does, I'm okay with that.

COMMISSIONER HAMILTON: Thanks for the clarification.

TREASURER VARELA: Mr. Chair.

CHAIR ROYBAL: Yes, Treasurer Varela.

TREASURER VARELA: Just a point of clarification to Commissioner Garcia, when I came in office our IP or Investment Policy was – you could drive a truck through it. It wasn't really clear. The people that are on our committee, when I came in I spoke with our County Manager and I said, look, this is kind of weird. I said we should actually tighten it up. So all the group, a lot of you, were in it. We made it what it is now and actually a lot of other counties have used ours as a model and actually the City of Española actually used ours as a model for their own city too.

COMMISSIONER GARCIA: Mr. Chair.

CHAIR ROYBAL: Go ahead, Commissioner Garcia.

COMMISSIONER GARCIA: Mr. Chair, Mr. Treasurer, as long as we have like oversight, with all due respect to you, Mr. Treasurer.

COMMISSIONER HANSEN: Mr. Chair.

CHAIR ROYBAL: Commissioner Hansen.

COMMISSIONER HANSEN: Yes, so I want to invite Commissioner Garcia to come to the Investment Committee and see the policies and see all the things that we have changed over the years, because since Commissioner Hamilton and myself, Commissioner Roybal, have been serving on the Investment Committee we have update and upgraded the policy, working with the County Manager and with the Treasurer. So we have made the policy much stronger. And that is the guiding principle that the Treasurer has to follow is the policy that we have written.

And so I will second your motion so we have a second, but the main issue is to improve the Treasurer's investment plan for the next six months, and that means the Investment Committee will be meeting on a regular monthly basis to see what he is doing and the County Manager always attends the Investment Committee. We haven't met for a month, so in fact we're having this Finance meeting but our next meeting will be in May.

COMMISSIONER GARCIA: Awesome. Thank you, Commissioner, Mr. Treasurer.

COMMISSIONER HAMILTON: Mr. Chair.

CHAIR ROYBAL: Commissioner Hamilton.

COMMISSIONER HAMILTON: Another thing I wanted is maybe, Mr. Treasurer, you might send out the more recent, updated Investment Policy to all the

Commissioners, and part of the reason I'm suggesting it is because I thought I would mention that it's on the County website but the one that comes up is dated 2014, so if you made that available to everybody that would probably be helpful.

COMMISSIONER HANSEN: Mr. Chair.

CHAIR ROYBAL: Go ahead, Commissioner Hansen.

COMMISSIONER HANSEN: And possibly we could get the correct and the latest policy up on the website, Commissioner Hamilton, because we did approve a new policy, I believe it was last year.

TREASURER VARELA: Correct.

COMMISSIONER HANSEN: Yes. So maybe we can get the new policy up on the website. That would be really helpful.

TREASURER VARELA: Thank you for that suggestion.

CHAIR ROYBAL: Thank you, Treasurer Varela and Commissioners for your comments. I know that this policy has been a living document over the years that I've been a Commissioner and I've seen it improve substantially as Treasurer Varela has indicated, and so I'm very happy and proud of the fact that we have made these changes to this policy, and so with that being said I just want to reiterate that Treasurer Varela has worked extensively on this as well and I do want to thank my fellow Commissioners for the work that we've done. And I think in the future we should probably look at doing a summary or some sort of training for our Commissioners and anybody else that would like to kind of know where the policy is at, because it's something that we all should know as policymakers, how this is in place and how it protects our constituents. So I appreciate that and I think that if we could spend some time with all of our Commissioners so they understand it thoroughly.

So once again, thank you. We do have a motion from Commissioner Garcia and a second from Commissioner Hansen. I'm going to go to a roll call vote.

The motion passed by unanimous [5-0] roll call vote.

CHAIR ROYBAL: So we have a unanimous decision on approving the Treasurer's six-month investment strategy. Thank you, again, Treasurer Varela. I don't know if you have any closing comments.

TREASURER VARELA: Actually, I need to give you my other balances. This isn't just to approve the strategy.

CHAIR ROYBAL: Okay. Go ahead, sir.

TREASURER VARELA: So if I can get the presentation back on line again real quick. This will be brief because it's just basically the statement balances. Our LANB Studio account, that's the lock box for the studio, it's now at \$5,157,035.29. I think when I came in office it was – I don't know if Manager Miller is there, but it was more like \$6.5 million. So every time they put in I do a draw down, so that's the draw down balance.

Our various CDs that we have in local – Guadalupe Credit Union, US Eagle – we have a balance of \$1,259,439.14. Our First National Santa Fe, we have a closing balance in March of \$42,604,196.04. Our UBS 2013 Series has \$1,312,530.72. Our UBS government money market actually has \$20,302,482.25. Our UBS 2016 improvement

bond has \$7,832,155.82. Our GRT 2016 has \$1,009,801.03. Our USB 2017 CD is still paying this amount. This is what we were getting back in the day when the interest rates were high. The CD is paying 3.35, so that's a quarter of a million, because we can't go over FDIC, the interest on that thus far in a different account that we have there, that account has \$15,879.11. BNY/Mellon, which was the Portagon one that we sold a few years back, that's there and we have \$2,791,311.44, for a total of \$82,034,830.84. The grand total at the end of March of \$320,472,742.99.

This is where there's a lot of heartburn. We're still getting 2.5 percent or 250 basis points from LANB. That's just our lock box CD. First National, we're now only getting 12 basis points. Our FICA account at UBS, we're getting ten; we were getting 2.05. Schwab, in the different accounts, we're getting anywhere between 10 and 1.56 percent in our earning. So you can see how things have taken a drastic turn unfortunately.

Our core account average earnings are anywhere between 1.58 to 3.5. Before we were getting about 3.94 percent. Our munis were in the neighborhood of 2.96 or almost three percent, and our combined ops is making about 1.75 now. Like I said, we're going to get a lot of calls, but that's about what the average is now. Before we were getting about 2.43. So you can see the drastic changes that have happened over the past couple of months. Like I said, we're not going to see – and actually, kind of – we don't have to really fear about that because statutorily we can only buy munis issues in the state, our only criterias. I've been telling other treasurers around the country, I think munis are going to be a little bit risky because we could go back in that we can't buy and say California but we never know for them to be able to go belly-up and you're stuck with that investment. So that's just something I'm throwing out there. It's just the risk. We don't have to worry about it because we can only invest in New Mexico and New Mexico bonds are all AAA rated because of having to close the state on a balanced budget.

That's all I have. I think if there are any other questions that I can answer.

CHAIR ROYBAL: Are there any other questions for the Treasurer? I'm going to go around the table. Let's start with Commissioner Hansen.

COMMISSIONER HANSEN: No, I have no other questions.

CHAIR ROYBAL: Okay. Commissioner Hamilton.

COMMISSIONER HAMILTON: I don't have a question. I just wanted to make a clarification. I had actually – because I thought it would be the quickest way to get there, I googled the Investment Policy. It didn't actually take me to the County website. It came up with the 2014 policy. If you go to the website what's posted is the 2018 policy, which is clearly better, less out of date, but Mr. Treasurer, if you don't mind checking, because I thought Commissioner Hansen was right that we had some revisions in 2019. So I just wanted to clarify that. You do have a 2018 policy posted.

TREASURER VARELA: Yes, thank you, Commissioner. We did have a revision because there were several changes made in statute. If you remember, we had some different durations, different permissible bonds now, so we put those – we did put them in policy and yes, I'll see who does that. I guess I'll talk to Daniel E. Fresquez to make sure or see how we do that.

COMMISSIONER HAMILTON: Fabulous. Thanks.

TREASURER VARELA: Thank you.

CHAIR ROYBAL: Thank you, Commissioner Hamilton. I'm going to go

to Commissioner Garcia.

COMMISSIONER GARCIA: No further questions, Mr. Chair. Thank you, Mr. Treasurer.

TREASURER VARELA: Thank you.

CHAIR ROYBAL: Thank you, Commissioner Garcia. Commissioner Moreno.

COMMISSIONER MORENO: I think I'm good.

CHAIR ROYBAL: All right. Thank you, sir. Okay, Treasurer Varela. Thank you again for your update and all the information. I know in years before you were a lot happier to share that information than now. We're doing a great job in being proactive in taking care of our constituents' tax dollars.

TREASURER VARELA: Yes. That's important. As Manager Miller stated earlier in trying to get an extension on the property taxes, it was knocked down, but at least we made the effort and actually they look at Santa Fe County and say, well, at least they made the effort for us. So it all pans out. They might be a little bit angry but when they see you tried they're okay about it.

CHAIR ROYBAL: All right. Thank you, sir, and I like the action figures in the background there. Thanks again, Treasurer Varela.

TREASURER VARELA: Thank you.

CHAIR ROYBAL: Okay, we don't need action on this. It was just for information, correct?

E. Adjourn and Reconvene as Board of County Commissioners

CHAIR ROYBAL: I'll entertain a motion to adjourn and reconvene as the Board of County Commissioners.

COMMISSIONER HANSEN: Mr. Chair, so moved.

COMMISSIONER HAMILTON: Second.

CHAIR ROYBAL: A motion from Commissioner Hansen and a second from Commissioner Hamilton.

The motion passed by unanimous [5-0] roll call vote.

[The meeting of the Board of Finance adjourned at 6:35 p.m.]

The Board of County Commissioners reconvened at 6:35 p.m. with all Commissioners present:

Members Present:

Commissioner Henry Roybal, Chair
Commissioner Anna Hansen, Vice Chair
Commissioner Rudy Garcia
Commissioner Anna Hamilton
Commissioner Ed Moreno

Members Excused:

None

12. INFORMATION ITEMS/MONTHLY REPORTS

- A. Community Services Department Monthly Report**
- B. Finance and Purchasing Monthly Report**
- C. Growth Management Department Monthly Report**
- D. Human Resources Monthly Report**
- E. Public Safety Monthly Report**
- F. Public Works Monthly Report**

MR. SHAFFER: If the Board does not have any questions of department directors regarding the reports I would just respectfully ask that the Board dismiss folks from participating in the meeting at this time.

COMMISSIONER HANSEN: Mr. Chair.

CHAIR ROYBAL: Commissioner Hansen, go ahead.

COMMISSIONER HANSEN: I want to thank Rachel for the Community Services report and all the work that they are doing on the Connect program and working with the City in funding the shelters. And absolutely, I just want to thank Rachel and Patricia and her entire team, the Finance Department and Yvonne, Penny and her entire department, Sonya and Pablo and Gary, I want to thank them all for their reports. It's very helpful to know everything that's going on. I'm very grateful.

CHAIR ROYBAL: Thank you, Commissioner Hansen. I also would like to just thank all of our staff who put these reports together. They're really beneficial and helpful. Are there any other comments from any of the Commissioners?

COMMISSIONER HAMILTON: No comments, just similar thanks for doing the reports and sticking around for questions.

CHAIR ROYBAL: Okay. Any other comments? If not I'm going to go ahead and release staff. Thank you very much.

11. MATTERS FROM THE COUNTY ATTORNEY

- A. Executive Session. Limited Personnel Matters, as Allowed by Section 10-15-1(H)(2) NMSA 1978; Board Deliberations in Public Hearing(s) on the Agenda, as Allowed by Section 10-15-1(H)(3) NMSA 1978; Discussion of Bargaining Strategy Preliminary to Collective Bargaining Negotiations Between the Board of County Commissioners and Collective Bargaining Units, as Allowed by Section 10-15-1(H)(5); Discussion of Contents of Competitive Sealed Proposals Pursuant to the Procurement Code During Contract Negotiations as Allowed by Section 10-15-1(H)(6); Threatened or Pending Litigation in which Santa Fe County is or May Become a Participant, as Allowed by Section 10-15-1 (H)(7) NMSA 1978; and, Discussion of the Purchase, Acquisition or Disposal of Real Property or Water Rights, as Allowed by Section 10-15-1 (H)(8) NMSA 1978, including:**

- 1. *PMB Ltd. v. Santa Fe County Board of County Commissioners*, No. D-101-CV-2018-03417**

MR. SHAFFER: Thank you, Mr. Chair. At the BCC's April 14, 2020 meeting we went into executive session at the end of the meeting and did not reconvene in open session. So I would therefore respectfully request at this point a motion to have the minutes of this meeting reflect that the matters discussed during the April 14, 2020 executive session were limited only to those specified in the motion for closure.

COMMISSIONER HAMILTON: I so move.

COMMISSIONER GARCIA: Second.

CHAIR ROYBAL: There was a motion from Commissioner Hamilton and a second from Commissioner Garcia. We're going to go to a roll call vote.

The motion passed by unanimous [5-0] roll call vote.

CHAIR ROYBAL: Mr. Shaffer, it doesn't appear we have any other pending business after we go into executive session so we can follow the same path that we did for our last meeting. I don't know if the motion – if we have to bring forward the motion – include it with our executive session motion in order to dismiss from the executive session.

MR. SHAFFER: Yes, Mr. Chair. I would respectfully ask at this point for a motion to adjourn the open session of the meeting and go into executive session for the purposes of discussing pending or threatened litigation in which the County is a party as allowed under the Open Meetings Act. The case to be discussed is *PMB, Ltd. v. Santa Fe County Board of County Commissioners*, Cause No. D-101-CV-2018-03417.

CHAIR ROYBAL: Is there a motion.

COMMISSIONER HANSEN: So moved.

COMMISSIONER MORENO: Second.

COMMISSIONER HANSEN: I want to make sure – so we are concluding the meeting also, Mr. Shaffer? You included that in the motion?

MR. SHAFFER: That is correct. That is included in the motion, that we'll be adjourned from the open portion of the meeting. We won't be coming back in open session.

The motion to go into executive session pursuant to NMSA Section 10-15-1-H (7) to discuss the matters delineated above passed by unanimous roll call vote as follows:

Commissioner Garcia	Aye
Commissioner Hamilton	Aye
Commissioner Hansen	Aye
Commissioner Moreno	Aye
Commissioner Roybal	Aye

[The Commission went into executive session at 6:42 p.m.]

13. CONCLUDING BUSINESS

- A. Announcements
- B. Adjournment

Having completed the agenda and with no further business to come before this body, Chair Roybal declared this meeting adjourned at 6:42 p.m.

Approved by:

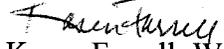

 Board of County Commissioners
 Henry Roybal, Chair



ATTEST TO:


 GERALDINE SALAZAR
 SANTA FE COUNTY CLERK

Respectfully submitted:


 Karen Farrell, Wordswork
 453 Cerrillos Road
 Santa Fe, NM 87501

BCC MINUTES
PAGES: 64

COUNTY OF SANTA FE)
STATE OF NEW MEXICO) ss

I Hereby Certify That This Instrument Was Filed for Record On The 10TH Day Of June, 2020 at 10:26:21 AM and Was Duly Recorded as Instrument # 1918501 of The Records Of Santa Fe County



Deputy  Witness My Hand And Seal Of Office
 Geraldine Salazar
 County Clerk, Santa Fe, NM

SFC CLERK RECORDED 06/10/2020
 SFC CLERK RECORDED 06/10/2020