

SANTA FE COUNTY
BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
REGULAR MEETING
March 11, 2025

Camilla Bustamante, Chair - District 3
Lisa Cacari Stone, Vice Chair - District 2
Justin Greene - District 1
Hank Hughes - District 5
Adam Johnson - District 4

SFC CLERK RECORDED 04/30/2025

SANTA FE COUNTY
BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
MEETING

March 11, 2025

1. A. This meeting of the Santa Fe Board of County Commissioners Board was called to order at approximately 2:00 p.m. by Chair Camilla Bustamante in the County Commission Chambers, 102 Grant Avenue, Santa Fe, New Mexico.

B. Roll Call

Roll was called by Deputy County Clerk Jennifer Wilson and indicated the presence of a quorum as follows:

Members Present:

Commissioner Camilla Bustamante, Chair
Commissioner Lisa Cacari Stone, Vice Chair [virtually]
Commissioner Justin Greene
Commissioner Hank Hughes [virtually]
Commissioner Adam Johnson

Members Excused:

None

C. Pledge of Allegiance

D. State Pledge

E. O'ga P'ogeh Owingeh Land Acknowledgement

F. Moment of Reflection

The Pledge of Allegiance and the State Pledge were led by Chair Bustamante. She acknowledged that this building and Santa Fe County as being in the original homeland of the Tewa people also known as O'ga P'ogeh Owingeh, "White Shell Watering Place." The Moment of Reflection was led by Jovan Perez of the Public Works Department.

G. Approval of Agenda

CHAIR BUSTAMANTE: Manager Shaffer, do we have any changes to the agenda as provided?

GREG SHAFFER (County Manager): Chair Bustamante, Commissioners,

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in terms of the agenda as presented staff would recommend the following changes. First, we would like to withdraw item Consent Agenda item 4. A which is the final order for Case #24-5230, and we'd also like to postpone until the end of the month agenda item 11. A. 1 under executive session.

CHAIR BUSTAMANTE: Do we have a motion to approve the agenda as amended?

COMMISSIONER GREENE: I will motion to approve the agenda as amended, yes.

CHAIR BUSTAMANTE: Motion to approve by Commissioner Greene.

COMMISSIONER JOHNSON: I will second.

CHAIR BUSTAMANTE: Second by Commissioner Johnson.

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

2. Approval of Meeting Minutes

A. Request Approval of January 28, 2025 Board of County Commissioners Meeting Minutes

CHAIR BUSTAMANTE: Do we have any changes, discussion, or motion to approve the minutes provided for January 28th?

COMMISSIONER GREENE: Madam Chair, I've got a few changes.

CHAIR BUSTAMANTE: Commissioner Greene.

COMMISSIONER GREENE: On page 2 there was a conflict of the motion. So I think the motion was made by myself but then it was stated it was made by the Chair, Commissioner Bustamante, but that's easily corrected. On page 23, Abiquiu is spelled wrong in multiple places. It might be a spell-check thing. On page 32, there was a work spelled as "as" instead of "ask" and on page 71, it said I wanted to give a shout-out but it was said I wanted to give a shot-out. So minor spelling issues but –

CHAIR BUSTAMANTE: Thank you. Were all those corrections received? Is there any other discussion, changes, comments? If not do I have your motion to approve?

COMMISSIONER GREENE: Motion to approve as amended.

CHAIR BUSTAMANTE: Motion to approve by Commissioner Greene.

COMMISSIONER JOHNSON: Second.

CHAIR BUSTAMANTE: Second by Commissioner Johnson.

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

B. Request Approval of February 11, 2025 Board of County Commissioners Meeting Minutes

CHAIR BUSTAMANTE: Do we have any comments, changes?

COMMISSIONER GREENE: That looked great and I will move to approve as presented.

CHAIR BUSTAMANTE: Motion to approve by Commissioner Greene.

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Do we have a second?

COMMISSIONER CACARI STONE: I second that.

CHAIR BUSTAMANTE: Second by Commissioner Cacari Stone.

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

3. Consideration Proclamations, Resolutions, and/or Recognitions

A. Request Approval of Letter from the Board of County Commissioners to the US Department of Energy's National Nuclear Security Administration Regarding Los Alamos National Laboratory's Statewide Environmental Impact Study

CHAIR BUSTAMANTE: Commissioner Hughes.

COMMISSIONER HUGHES: Yes. I have a letter in response to the site-wide environmental impact statement.

CHAIR BUSTAMANTE: Is there anything you want to say about this letter?

COMMISSIONER HUGHES: Yes. It covers several items. It covers items. It covers the pollutants originating from Los Alamos and Pueblo Canyons and their tributaries and groundwater discharge to the Rio Grande upstream of the Buckman Direct Diversion intake, the hexavalent chromium, PFAS contamination, water rights reserved for water use, the Caja del Rio power line, and the electrical upgrade capacity of the project, hydropower, and the decrease in spotted owl habitat. And of course asking Los Alamos to take the no expansion or surge of plutonium production. I think Commissioner Greene has some additions he'd like to make.

CHAIR BUSTAMANTE: Commissioner Greene.

COMMISSIONER GREENE: Thank you, Madam Chair. Thank you, Commissioner Hughes. I appreciate us preparing a letter of response and I'd hope that we would do something as comprehensive and as focused on our constituents as possible, landscape and environment inclusive of that, but there are four areas that I hope we could add into this. I have some language that I'm prepared to submit but the date for this letter is still a month off. There's a month of further review time and so I think that at some point in this discussion I hope that we can table this so that we can refine this a little further, discuss it more today, maybe discuss it even at the next meeting and be ready at our first meeting in April to get a more comprehensive letter.

But the four areas that I wanted to discuss in our response was one dealing with housing. The fact that the Los Alamos area does not have sufficient housing to support the mission at the lab and that a lot of spillover has happened into Santa Fe County. I think there should be a paragraph or two addressing that in this because it has to do with displacement of some of our constituents here and pushing people further from their ability to live in our community.

Secondarily, with so much of the folks living here in Santa Fe County and the fact that there are a lot of people that even live as far away as Sandoval and Bernalillo County, the transportation has become an issue for the lab's operation and that we should have a comment about that and maybe some suggestions about how they could improve

their transportation planning and commuting systems for lab workers.

Third, another area that I hope to discuss in this is the tax distribution. As more and more jobs have moved off the hill and into Santa Fe County, specifically in the City of Santa Fe but in Santa Fe County, there are somewhere between ten and fifteen percent of the staff of Los Alamos National Laboratory is now working here in Santa Fe, and I think we need to add some tax distribution and equity comment into this. It may not officially be an environmental impact study but I do think it relates to it and it is something that we should discuss in this letter.

Lastly of the four items, as I mentioned previously, the off-site facilities over the past few years the national labs and Los Alamos specifically has increased its footprint in the Santa Fe area and has developed two facilities here in Santa Fe and I think we need to address those in some way to talk about how it affects the tax distribution equity for Santa Fe County as well as transportation. Maybe it's a good solution for transportation because it might cut down on some transportation, but it also affects the housing issue here.

So I would hope that we could have some time to discuss this and add these four topics into the impact study because I think those are even more impactful for our community of constituents here.

CHAIR BUSTAMANTE: Thank you, Commissioner Greene. Further discussion? Commissioner Johnson.

COMMISSIONER JOHNSON: Thank you, Madam Chair. I'm not opposed to that, but I do have a question which is that the first page of the letter, paragraph 3 says we support the no-action alternative that continues cleanup of the site that is LANL, but no growth of the site or the mission. So I guess I would wonder, and I do agree that housing, transportation, tax distribution, off-site facilities, those are all of concern, but it seems that we are advocating that LANL not grow further. So I wonder how these fit into that equation.

To me the four proposals, or at least three of the four, sort of accept the fact that they will grow. So I guess I wonder how we want to square that.

CHAIR BUSTAMANTE: Commissioner Greene.

COMMISSIONER GREENE: Thank you, Commissioner Johnson. So we're not saying that LANL's going to close, right? And LANL is continuously replacing workers and hiring new workers regardless of whether it's through attrition or through retirements. There's not any more housing really up in the Los Alamos Mesa area. And so currently, a lot of their hires are off-mesa, whether in Rio Arriba County and the Espanola area or in Santa Fe or even as far away as Albuquerque to fill their needs there. So housing will continue to be an issue regardless. Transportation continues regardless of whether they expand their mission. The tax issue, as they – no expansion of the mission still might need some things because the modernization of the lab has moved some functions off the mesa and into Santa Fe. So even if the things don't expand and they stay the same, they will still potentially move into Santa Fe, so the off-mesa things could come into Santa Fe in some way. And then the tax issue is an ongoing thing regardless of whether it moves off the mesa or not, they are currently here.

And so putting it into a letter and sort of marking our territory in this letter and our opinion in this, I think there's still, regardless of what path they take or what opinion

of what path they take, this is still a part of the discussion that needs to be brought forward.

CHAIR BUSTAMANTE: Further discussion?

COMMISSIONER JOHNSON: Thank you for that explanation, Commissioner Greene. I guess I would wonder if it might be – the four issues that you brought up, and again, I support them and I think they are issues that we need to grapple with. Maybe that is something that we share those issues with Rio Arriba County and maybe Taos County, Sandoval County, Bernalillo County. So I wonder if there's a second letter or something that captures those. Because this specifically – I'm throwing that out there. I think that I am open to consideration. I think that we should table this and work on it a little bit. So I suppose I'd be curious to hear what my fellow Commissioners think.

CHAIR BUSTAMANTE: Commissioner Cacari Stone, do you have any comments, questions or concerns regarding the letter that's been provided?

COMMISSIONER CACARI STONE: Yes, I do, thank you, Chair. I want to first thank Commissioner Hughes for a very extensive letter, and you hit the high points with the environment and the impact study. And thank you, Commissioner Greene, for including the reinvestment priorities in transportation, housing, and regarding the taxes. However, I am sort of in the same mind-frame as Commissioner Johnson in considering two separate letters and keeping this letter focused on the environmental impact and the outcomes we're seeking and requesting from LANL.

CHAIR BUSTAMANTE: Okay. Anything further?

COMMISSIONER HUGHES: Maybe that makes sense to consider this letter separately, and a separate letter [inaudible].

CHAIR BUSTAMANTE: Okay. Commissioner Greene.

COMMISSIONER GREENE: Thank you, Madam Chair. We have a month. There are additional letters that are going to be coming out, whether it's from the Buckman Direct Diversion, which specifically speaks about water. I think housing is such a bit issue for Santa Fe County and if we don't put something in here about housing – it's nice to talk about spotted owl habitat but human habitat are our constituents. And I'm drafting my comments to this based on what I think the constituents of Santa Fe County are most interested in, and the constituents of District 1, but if you think we need to do two letters, I probably won't vote for this then. If we think this is urgent to get this filed today, like it's going to make a difference by doing this today, then this is not ready for prime time in my opinion.

I think we should have one letter. If we all agree that these are all parts that should be part of the letter we should all just go for one letter and make it perfect in 30 days.

CHAIR BUSTAMANTE: Thank you, Commissioner Greene.
Commissioner Hughes.

COMMISSIONER HUGHES: Well, I'd like to – I'm okay incorporating Justin's comment. I think though we should do it by the next meeting.

CHAIR BUSTAMANTE: Thank you. Commissioner Cacari Stone.

COMMISSIONER CACARI STONE: Thank you, Chair. I just want to clarify. So Commissioner Hughes, this is in response to a statewide environmental impact study.

CHAIR BUSTAMANTE: Site-wide.

COMMISSIONER CACARI STONE: So if it's an environmental impact study that we're responding to, would it seem awkward if we're replying and including community infrastructure, like housing and transportation?

COMMISSIONER HUGHES: Well, I think we can say anything we want in the letter, really.

CHAIR BUSTAMANTE: I would also offer, I think that we could probably understand that additional housing and transportation have environmental impacts. The issues of tax distributions aren't decisions that are made – one, they're not made by the County and wouldn't be appropriate for site-wide environmental assessment. So tax distribution and off-site facilities aren't necessarily – when we talk about financial aspects are not environmental impact, as defined by what would normally be in an environmental impact statement.

To that end, since there are considerations and we're discussing what the impacts that would be included in a site-wide environmental impact study, would be. It's apparent that we do need to – and I understand that there's concurrence from Commissioner Hughes to table this and have further input on what would actually be included in a letter for a site-wide environmental impact study. Commissioner Cacari Stone, I see your hand up.

COMMISSIONER CACARI STONE: I have lowered it. Thank you, Chair.

CHAIR BUSTAMANTE: Are there any other discussions? I understand there is a consideration to table this. If there's a motion to table it, as there's some confusion, clearly, as to what would be included in a site-wide environmental impact statement, and additional components that may be appropriate. Do we have a motion to table this matter? Commissioner Johnson.

COMMISSIONER JOHNSON: Move to table the matter until next meeting with the provision that we consider adding transportation, housing, and off-site facilities as environmental impacts to this letter.

COMMISSIONER GREENE: And I'll second that.

CHAIR BUSTAMANTE: We have a second from Commissioner Greene.

COMMISSIONER CACARI STONE: Wait.

CHAIR BUSTAMANTE: Commissioner Cacari Stone.

COMMISSIONER CACARI STONE: If this is the right procedure. If we can add to that motion that we include and review the LANL statewide environmental impact study itself, because we want to be sure we're speaking to the relevance as a Commission.

CHAIR BUSTAMANTE: Sorry. What is your addition?

COMMISSIONER CACARI STONE: That we actually, if we're going to table it, but before we bring it back on the agenda we review and include in it an exhibit or an amendment that has the statewide environmental impact study so we can review it.

CHAIR BUSTAMANTE: Okay. Commissioner Cacari Stone, it is a site-wide, it is not a statewide. It is a site-wide environmental impact statement. I just want to make sure.

COMMISSIONER HUGHES: It's just a typo on the memo.

COMMISSIONER CACARI STONE: Okay. It says statewide. Yes. It says statewide. I'm just reading what it says. Thank you.

CHAIR BUSTAMANTE: No, I appreciate it. Thank you for pointing that out. Commissioner Johnson.

COMMISSIONER JOHNSON: Can we clarify what the friendly amendment would be to the motion?

CHAIR BUSTAMANTE: The friendly amendment would be – Commissioner Cacari Stone, please correct me if I'm incorrect. That you are asking for the actual site-wide environmental impact study to be included in our packet materials as we review and discuss or actually determine whether or not we support the letter as amended for our next meeting.

COMMISSIONER CACARI STONE: Yes. That is correct. Thank you.

COMMISSIONER JOHNSON: I accept that as friendly.

CHAIR BUSTAMANTE: Okay. Commissioner Johnson accepts that as a friendly amendment. We have a hand from Commissioner Hughes.

COMMISSIONER HUGHES: Yes. I just want to note that the original letter was based on the site-wide environmental impact statement and I read most of the statement and so did the Attorney. But, yes, we should attach that for everybody to see.

CHAIR BUSTAMANTE: Thank you very much. Commissioner Greene.

COMMISSIONER GREENE: So I would take that as a friendly amendment. As a second I will concur with that. I agree that having the site-wide environmental, at least the draft version attached to our packet is useful. It's useful for us to be able to have it at our fingertips and for the community to have that. I also wonder if it's worthwhile inviting LANL or NNSA or whoever is in charge of that to our next meeting to discuss these issues so that maybe they could put forward some of these things. Our letter is pretty much public record right now and they may have ways to address that in the letter. Again, we still have over 30 days and two meetings before this letter is due. So giving them a chance, maybe they decide not to show up. That's sometimes something that LANL does, but giving them the invitation is a nice opportunity for them to discuss these things and understand further their position as to whether the power line, or whatever the things. Maybe what they're doing for the spotted owl, or what they're doing for housing and so on, because they will know ahead of time what our concerns are.

CHAIR BUSTAMANTE: So the recommendation from Commissioner Greene is to invite representation from Los Alamos National Laboratory. I don't think that would be a problem, at the time that we hear the letter. So that's not a problem at all and I don't think it needs to be part of the official approval of this agenda but we will include that we will invite Los Alamos at the time we bring this forward after we've worked on that. So we have a motion by Commissioner Johnson, a second by Commissioner Greene, with a friendly amendment to include the site-wide assessment in our packet.

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

4. **Consent Agenda**

- A. Final Order for Case No. 24-5230. Univest-Rancho Viejo, Applicant, JenkinsGavin, Agent, Requested a Preliminary Plat for a Major Subdivision with Sub-Phases for La Entrada Phase 2. The Site is Located at 235 and 199 Avenida del Sur, SDA-1, Parcel ID No's. 99306461 and 910002515 (Commission District 5) (Growth Management Department/Kenneth Quintana, Case Manager) (APPROVED 5-0) **WITHDRAWN**
- B. **Resolution No. 2025-028, a Resolution Requesting a Budget Increase to the Health Care Assistance Fund (223) in the Amount of \$80,977 (Finance Division/Yvonne S. Herrera and Community Services Department/Anne Ryan)**
- C. **Resolution No. 2025-029, a Resolution Requesting a Budget Increase to the State Special Appropriation Fund (318) in the Amount of \$93,333 (Finance Division/Yvonne S. Herrera and Community Services Department/Anne Ryan)**
- D. **Request (1) Approval of Change Order No. 2 to Agreement No. 2024-0285-PW/DK, With Davenport Construction Management, Increasing the Compensation by \$41,197.69, for a Total Contract Sum of \$387,127.48, Exclusive of NM GRT, and Extending the Date of Substantial Completion to June 17, 2025; and (2) Delegation of Authority to the County Manager to Sign the Purchase Order (Public Works Department/Curt Temple and Purchasing Division/Bill Taylor)**

CHAIR BUSTAMANTE: Are there any items that any of the Commission would like to have pulled, or do we have a motion to approve?

COMMISSIONER HUGHES: I move to approve but I think we removed

4.A.

COMMISSIONER JOHNSON: That is correct. Second.

CHAIR BUSTAMANTE: Item 4. A has been removed from the agenda. It was removed as part of the approval of the agenda at the beginning of our meeting, so we do not have 4. A. and we have a motion to approve from Commissioner Hughes, a second from Commissioner Johnson.

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

[The Clerk's Office providing resolution numbers throughout the meeting.]

5. **Appointments/Reappointments**

None were brought forward

6. **Miscellaneous Action Items**

- A. **Resolution No. 2025-031, a Resolution Authorizing the County Manager to Complete and Submit Community Wildfire Defense Grant (CWDG) Program Applications and Related Documents and**

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Agreements

CHAIR BUSTAMANTE: We will be hearing from Mr. Dominguez and Mr. Caputo.

SALVATORE CAPUTO (Public Safety): Good afternoon, Madam Chair and Commissioners. First we'd like to say thank you for the opportunity to present to you today. As you stated, we're here to request approval to apply for the community wildfire defense grant, as well as the grant signing capability for the authority of the County Manager or a designee, in order to complete this grant process.

Just to give you some background information, as you're all aware, we completed our countywide hazard mitigation plan, I think it was last year, and there was a blatant risk identified at the top for Santa Fe County, and that's how at risk we are from wildfire throughout all 30 communities that are approximately identified in our current community wildfire protection plan, also known as our CWPP. So that is identified as one of the highest risks that we face today. Time and time again pro-active mitigation efforts can significantly reduce the risks that we see with wildfire hazards.

So just to give you a brief overview of what that grant entails, the CWDG grant actually provides us with federal funding to support this wildfire mitigation that's outlined in the prescription that's in that CWPP – I apologize for all the acronyms; please ask for clarification if you need it. Our CWPP currently outlines approximately, like I said, 30 communities that are either moderate to high risk throughout our 2200 square miles that we're made of.

This grant application is going to require a huge collaborative effort on our part which we're actually in the final days of completing. Just to give you some background why the fact that this is federal funding is so important, currently what we're able to do as a County entity is to go into property assessments through our wildland firefighting team. We're able to provide constituents and community members with a brief prescription of what needs to be done to harden their home and provide those defensible spaces that you're all aware of.

The issue is that as a county entity we're not able to provide the hands-on work that it takes to actually complete those projects. And as you know, a lot of your constituents are unable to perform these tasks by themselves. By this being a federal funding opportunity we're able to provide those services through contracting with third parties and these third parties can then go on to these private properties and actually do the hands-on work that is required to meet these prescriptions for these mitigation efforts.

So that's in a nutshell what this application is allowing us to do. There are two forms of this application that we're looking to take advantage of. Right now, our CWPP, that community wildfire prevention plan, is in places as of the fall of 2020. It is in date and is good typically for ten years. Good practices on that five-year march which we are in now at 2025 is to work on getting that renewed, so there is going to be the opportunity for two grant applications here. One is to then secure that federal funding to update and revise our current CWPP, to stay in date. That grant itself requires a ten percent match. The good news is that they do recognize in-kind labor, and in-house in the Fire Department we're not only able to potentially see that ten percent match with the in-kind but also with our designated, already approved budget.

The second half is going to be the heavy lift. The CWPP, again, recognizes those 30 moderate to high risk communities, and what they can do is allow again for that funding to provide that third-party contract labor to go in and provide the hands-on mitigation efforts. We've been working collaboratively, and I'd be remiss if I didn't take a moment to thank the team. We've been working with the Lorrie Kindler, who is a contractor, via the County Manager's Office to help complete this task. We quickly realized that there was about three months of work ahead of us to get done in three weeks, and through the two of us are proud to stand up here to tell you that that's been accomplished as of approximately three hours ago with one final email.

Like I say I'd be remiss not to mention that there's at least seven people not here that provide a lot of the heavy lifting – Deputy County Manager Leandro Cordova was a huge resource for us with the non-fire specific information, along with all his resources. There was multiple people from Public Works as well as data analysts from our ASD Department and GIS – they got stuck with a lot of that typical twice as much work with half the amount of time and they pulled through for us every single time. So I want to take that moment to recognize that. There was a lot of people that helped us get this done.

But what the mitigation side of the grant looks like is upwards of a \$10 million grant with a 25 percent match. Again, that 25 percent match can be done in-kind and what Deputy County Manager provided us this morning was a budget that looks like we're going to be able to handle a big chunk of that \$2.5 million expectation of match just in-kind with the labor that it's going to take to get this project done.

So with that \$10 million, what we're able to do, if awarded, would be able to start working our way through that long list of those 29 communities, again, countywide, and actually providing that contracted labor to help with the mitigation efforts, in congruent with our Public Works Department to help with the greenwaste side of all that. That project, is going to be allotted to be allowed to be done over five years, which means we don't have to do all 30 communities in one year, thankfully. We're looking at completing five to six communities a year. So this is looking like a long-term process with a pretty heavy lift.

So just to summarize, what we're here to do is to request, due to the grant deadlines and compliance requirements, the reason why we're asking for that signature authority for County Manager Shaffer is because we found out about this grant opportunity just a few weeks ago and the deadline is this Friday, March 14th. So again, the request is for your approval to apply for these two versions of the CWDG grant as outlines in the packet material, and to grant that signing authority to County Manager Greg Shaffer, or his designee, and at this time we'd be happy to answer any questions you have on this grant.

CHAIR BUSTAMANTE: Thank you. Any questions? Commissioner Greene.

COMMISSIONER GREENE: Thank you, Madam Chair. Thanks, guys, for putting this together. Any time we can leverage federal funds or state funds and provide a match instead of \$10 million of cost at only \$2.5 million that's great. So two questions sort of related to this. We've set aside a lot of money for affordable housing and one of the things that we've done with affordable housing monies is provide for those that are less fortunate to upgrade their homes. And I'm wondering – this may be a

question not for you all as much as our attorneys in the room. I'm wondering if fire mitigation and upgrades of homes to make them more fire-resistant and fireproof, maybe – resistant is probably the right word, is an eligible expense that we might be able to use some affordable housing funding for those that would be qualified for that.

MANAGER SHAFFER: Chair Bustamante and Commissioner Greene, I believe for tree removal the likely answer is no. It doesn't fit within the definition of infrastructure but we can reconfirm that. If they were taking other measures relative to replacing a roof and obtaining one that was in fact – I think it's Class A is the designation but don't hold me to that, that that may be an eligible expenditure, but for the type of tree removal and such I think that would not fit within the definition of infrastructure, which is typically something tangible.

COMMISSIONER GREENE: I appreciate that. I hope that we can explore that possibility because as I'm seeing over at the legislature right now some of the upgrades to the fair statewide insurance of last resort program is going to require a lot of resiliency built into homes. And so some old, traditional homes that have old roofs that are not fireproof might need a new \$10,000 or \$20,000 roof just to be fireproof and for them to be able to get insurance. So it's like this vicious cycle of risks for folks, not only through fire but also loss of potentially your mortgage, because if you don't have insurance availability that's one of the only ways that your mortgage can be pulled away from you. So that was my first question and I hope we can look at using these funds for some of those allowable upgrades there.

And then in terms of what communities, you mentioned 29 communities. In a case like this it would be great to see a map of those communities and start to figure out how to prioritize these and to understand – fire season's coming very soon. It's probably already here, and to really make our constituents aware of these risks and that we're going to prioritize their communities and make a case for who goes first and who goes second. Hopefully, god forbid there's a fire and you're last. So let's try to figure out which are the highest risk and how to figure out which ones should be addressed first.

If you could present that, not necessarily today, but it'd be good to know what those 29 communities that you've identified are so that we can start to make people aware, us aware of those things.

MR. CAPUTO: Madam Chair, Commissioner Greene, so thank you. Yes. That's something that we'll get to through the proper channels, and just on that front, this federal grant is directly tied to our current CWPP, so that's where we got the list of those 29 or 30 communities directly from, and it's very specific in their writing that every project that we come to the table with as we move forward with this has to directly tie to the communities in the CWPP. So we did make a point, after finding out how much the cost was actually behind serving these communities, to avoid triaging one community over the other. We worked diligently with the grant writer, Lorry, to take a much more vague approach and get pricing for what each community would cost per structure found in that community via our data with GIS, and we're able just to prove that we were going to need substantially more than just their \$10 million max just to justify why we're asking for the maximum allotted amount, and then the idea being as this conceptualizes and we actually move forward with implementation, if we're awarded, we're going to be sitting down with a project management group and properly looking at how to sort

through and prioritizing appropriately to get through those communities.

COMMISSIONER GREENE: Thank you, Madam Chair. One more question if I may. Is this a program that we think is at risk from federal cuts?

MR. CAPUTO: Madam Chair, Commissioner, yes. At this time it's hard to speak on that. All we know is that there were a lot of federal grants that were cut as we were first researching this with the County Manager's Office, and this one was still available to be applied for with an extension. So not knowing for sure it appears that this one is still holding strong.

COMMISSIONER GREENE: Okay. Thank you.

CHAIR BUSTAMANTE: We have Commissioner Johnson and then we have Commissioner Cacari Stone.

COMMISSIONER JOHNSON: Thank you, Madam Chair. Thank you, both. This is exciting. I know that's sort of a strange work to use in the context of fire, but for our mitigation purposes this sounds amazing. It gives us an opportunity to work around the Anti-Donation Clause which causes us trouble in this area and also in housing. So I'm really – my fingers are crossed. The deadline is Friday?

MR. CAPUTO: Yes, sir.

COMMISSIONER JOHNSON: So you got it in early, which is great. What's the timeline for receiving funds or notification of award and funding ultimately? Any idea?

MR. CAPUTO: Madam Chair and Commissioner Johnson, yes, sir. We were informed that it could take approximately up to a year to start seeing that money coming into fruition for us to be able to expend it, and just to answer Commissioner Greene's – one of his questions about fire season being upon us, so we have already identified that this is kind of a next year project but we don't want anyone to think that we've forgotten about the current year that we're in. On a side note, parallel, we're working with the County Manager's Office and many other divisions as well that we're working towards a huge community outreach event that's being held at the end of this month, all solely focused on wildfire mitigation efforts. And we're taking a very holistic approach, that's not just what can the Fire Department do for you but all the other entities within the County that serves you and the best way to approach fire season, and that will be followed by subsequent events in each one of your districts moving forward as well to kind of bring that message around to the citizens one on one as much as possible.

So we're not forgetting that there is still this fire season to contend with, so we are making some short-term efforts as well under the rules that we also have to abide by, but this will be very much so a year from now that we can start hitting this five-year project.

COMMISSIONER JOHNSON: Great. Thank you. And I think we'll see some of those on this agenda later on. So I won't ask about why we learned about this late but I trust that we are correcting the system so that we're up to date with emails and notifications and the like. It could be the federal government. I don't think we need to hash that out but I just want to make sure that our planning is aligned.

So good job getting this in under the wire, but obviously it would be great if we had a little bit of a runway next time.

And I guess I am with Commissioner Greene. It would be useful even if it's available to you in the next couple of days to see what those 29 communities are. I

represent District 4 which I'm sure has a great number of them in there, but it would be swell to see them.

And my final question is – and you may have said this and I just didn't understand. The in-kind match can be through labor. Can it actually be through the physical labor of removing trees on the subject property? Private property?

MR. CAPUTO: Madam Chair and Commissioner Johnson, that's kind of a yes and no. So if it was our County employees doing so then yes, absolutely. But because we're using the third-party entity with the grant money we won't be able to account for the grant expenditure for the in kind, but what we have found out is the level of project management and the resources needed to pull off this project in general over the next five years is just salaries and a very low, rough estimate alone for now on those salaries, takes care of a pretty big chunk. Yes, sir. And we'll be able to solidify that, and there's flexibility in that moving forward.

COMMISSIONER JOHNSON: That makes sense. I hadn't connected the dots about the third-party entity. That makes sense. Thanks for answering that. Again, very exciting. Good luck to us all in this grant. It's really needed. It will be a huge help. Thank you, Madam Chair.

CHAIR BUSTAMANTE: Thank you, Commissioner Johnson.
Commissioner Cacari Stone.

COMMISSIONER CACARI STONE: Yes. Thank you, Chief Caputo, Mr. Dominguez, for your hard work. Commissioner Johnson already asked one of my questions but what's the turnaround time where you'll actually get notified if we're awarded or not?

MR. CAPUTO: Madam Chair and Commissioner Stone, what we're aware of from the grant writer is that it takes approximately 12 months to 18 months to be notified, so that's why it's approximately that one year to start seeing that awarded money if it is granted.

COMMISSIONER CACARI STONE: Okay, well, I wish you well and I write federal grants for my day job and a living and if in fact we don't get awarded I encourage our team to ask for a meeting with the project officer and look for opportunities for any other funding that might be released in the future that we'd be eligible for, since you put all the work and time into this.

CHAIR BUSTAMANTE: Thank you, Commissioner. Quick question, and I know that it's going to be somewhat discussed in – or it's related to item B. When we do get the – there's a lot of fallen branches and stuff like that that I know that we'll be dealing with. We're working closely with Sustainability to make sure that whatever chipping, that we're not throwing it away but we need to use some as ground cover to make sure that we're retaining moisture where it needs to be, where we're able to do that and not create a different type of hazard. Are we making sure in that process that this is part of the plan?

MR. CAPUTO: Madam Chair, yes, ma'am. I can definitely speak towards the short-term answer I gave you earlier about those mitigation efforts. We have been having quite the large Zoom meetings, if you will that included Sustainability, Growth Management, a lot of the major players in the County to make sure we're getting all those perspectives. I've got no hard answers on the yeses and no's but those people are

definitely included in those plans moving forward.

CHAIR BUSTAMANTE: Thank you very much. If there is no further conversation or questions, Commissioner Hughes, if there are none – Commissioner Cacari Stone, you have your hand up again?

COMMISSIONER CACARI STONE: I'm sorry for interrupting but thank you, Chair. I just wanted to note that – I don't know if letters from congressional members, usually with federal grants that helps. And since we still have a couple days perhaps you've already included that, but they certainly – fire mitigation is also on their radar and it could be helpful, and consider both parties when you ask for letters. It could help. Thanks.

MR. CAPUTO: Madam Chair, Commissioner Stone, thanks for bringing that up but what we found from the grant writer was this grant in particular specifically has no room for any form of attachment. It's just a straightforward application: Give us your numbers and we'll let you know. So thank you for that, but I don't think there's room for that on this one. But we'll remember that going forward.

CHAIR BUSTAMANTE: Thank you.

COMMISSIONER GREENE: Madam Chair, if there's nothing else I'll make the motion.

CHAIR BUSTAMANTE: Commissioner Greene.

COMMISSIONER GREENE: Wonderful. I will make a motion to approve item 6. A, a resolution authorizing the County Manager to complete and submit Community Wildfire Defense Grant, CWDG, Program Applications and related documents and agreements.

CHAIR BUSTAMANTE: Motion made by Commissioner Greene.

COMMISSIONER HUGHES: Second.

CHAIR BUSTAMANTE: Second by Commissioner Hughes.

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

6. B. Resolution No. 2025-032, a Resolution Authorizing the Disposal of Specified Solid Waste without Paying Service Fees in Santa Fe County

CHAIR BUSTAMANTE: Ryan Ward and Jacqueline Beam.

JACQUELINE BEAM (Sustainability): Madam Chair, Commissioners, thank you for the opportunity to speak today on this resolution. I am accompanied by Ryan Ward, the Roads, Fleet, Solid Waste and Traffic Division Director – we need an acronym for that. I am pleased to talk about something that dovetails appropriately with the preceding presentation by the Fire Department. Santa Fe County proposed to offer a free residential solid waste disposal day at all convenience centers on Saturday, April 12th to encourage participation in the Great American Cleanup, and also offer a free tire drop-off day on March 29th in accordance with the RAID grant agreement for this year for the County, and provide residential solid waste disposal day at all County convenience centers on Saturday, September 20th to encourage participation in the Toss No Mas Cleanup. And finally, offer several free greenwaste disposal days on select dates in 2025 to encourage disposal of greenwaste at convenience centers rather than through open

burning.

Under Ordinance No. 2022-04, the Board of County Commissioners may, through resolution, authorize the disposal of solid waste without paying service fees.

Keep Santa Fe Beautiful will host the Great American Cleanup on Saturday, April 12, 2025, and the Toss No Mas Event is anticipated to be scheduled for September 20, 2025, with the goal of engaging community members in cleaning up litter throughout Santa Fe. To support these events, County staff propose suspending the deduction against trips on unexpired solid waste punch card permits for tire disposal on March 29, 2025, and for residential solid waste disposal on April 12, 2025, and September 20, 2025.

Additionally, staff propose suspending the deduction against trips on unexpired solid waste punch card permits for the disposal of green waste at select County convenience centers from July through September, and these events aim to encourage the disposal of greenwaste at County convenience centers instead of open burning, helping to reduce the wildfire risks.

Furthermore, based on participation trends in recent years' free solid waste days, the Solid Waste budget is able to absorb the associated costs of these free events.

In addition to the above, the subject resolution would earmark \$500,000 from the Environmental Gross Receipts Tax fund to support free community-based greenwaste disposal. Specifically, the resolution would delegate authority to the County Manager to authorize free greenwaste disposal days in communities during the spring and summer of 2025. The dates and details of these community free greenwaste disposal events would be determined in consultation with the Office of Emergency Management, Fire Department, and Public Works Department. Such free waste disposal would augment the significant public outreach campaign concerning wildfire risk and mitigation, which is set to kick off on March 29, 2025, at the Santa Fe County Fairgrounds.

As of February 21, 2025, the Environmental Gross Receipts Tax Fund has \$2,044,038 in available resources. And with that I stand for any questions.

CHAIR BUSTAMANTE: Do we have any questions? Commissioner Greene.

COMMISSIONER GREENE: Thank you for bringing this forward. I encourage all of our community to clean up your yard and take this opportunity for free disposal of greenwaste, not so much to clean up your yard for beautification but really for fire resiliency. I'm wondering then, do we think that the Toss No Mas event is going to happen? Is that a statewide event? And is it now going to become the breaking bad habits, everybody dress up as Heisenberg while you're picking up litter or something like that? Or Walter White?

MS. BEAM: Madam Chair, Commissioner Greene, I wish I had a few more details for you. All we have right now is that it's anticipated to be on September 20th and we'll have more details in the future.

COMMISSIONER GREENE: Thank you.

CHAIR BUSTAMANTE: Commissioner Johnson.

COMMISSIONER JOHNSON: Thank you. I really support this. I think it's a great initiative and as Commissioner Greene said, we need to provide as many opportunities for people to do fire mitigation on their property and really it's helpful to have that free greenwaste disposal. So I'll make a motion when it's appropriate. Move to

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approve a resolution authorizing the disposal of specified solid waste without paying service fees in Santa Fe County.

CHAIR BUSTAMANTE: Okay. We have a motion to approve

COMMISSIONER GREENE: And I'll second.

CHAIR BUSTAMANTE: Seconded by Commissioner Greene. Do we have some discussion? Commissioner Cacari Stone.

COMMISSIONER CACARI STONE: No.

CHAIR BUSTAMANTE: Okay. Do we have discussion, Commissioner Hughes?

COMMISSIONER HUGHES: Just to add that I think this is a very good idea.

CHAIR BUSTAMANTE: Thank you. If there is no further discussion –

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

6. C. **Resolution No. 2025-033, a Resolution to Grant the County Manager Authority to Sign a Water Rights Purchase Agreement and All Other Documents Necessary or Proper to Acquire the Water Rights from Platte Land & Water, LLC, have the Water Rights Permitted for Direct Diversion at the Buckman Direct Diversion by the County; and Carry Out Conveyance of Title and Change of Ownership to the County**

CHAIR BUSTAMANTE: Good to see you, Travis.

TRAVIS SODERQUIST (Public Works): Good afternoon. My name is Travis Soderquist. I'm the Deputy Utilities Director. I'm here with a resolution to grant the County Manager signatory authority for the water rights purchase agreement and all other documents required to obtain 48 acre-feet of water from Platte Land and Water, LLC. The details on this is 48 acre-feet of water for \$19,000 per acre-foot. Last time I think you guys saw a water rights purchase it was for \$36,000. This water rights purchase kind of fell into the County's lap and it turned out to be a pretty good deal, both for the base price, but for the fact that it was also an approved transfer into the BDD already, so we didn't have to dedicate any staff or attorney time to working through that process.

If you recall my presentation back in January, which was the water accounting and a presentation of the water right portfolio. We went through the details of what we take into consideration when we go to purchase water rights and how much water we have tied up to certain developments, what we can expect and what we're going to do for future years. And part of that presentation for the future projects included 40 acre-feet of water purchased by the County every year, and this would satisfy that assumption that we have when we're projecting out our availability of water.

The reason for the purchase is the County helps facilitate development and growth by going out and acquiring water rights, which turns out to be pretty difficult if you don't know where to look. People actually seek out the County to purchase water rights because they know that we're always looking. Back to the presentation that I had in the January meeting, it aligns with our water right portfolio planning, and this one just turned

out to be a really good deal for us.

So the total purchase price will be \$912,000 and if approved the water should be part of our portfolio as soon as the signature is dry. I stand for any questions.

CHAIR BUSTAMANTE: Do we have any questions for Travis?
Commissioner Greene.

COMMISSIONER GREENE: Thank you, Travis. I think I agree. This sounds like a deal. It's like about half the price what we're charging other people so I think that's great. Do we have money set aside for water rights purchases?

MR. SODERQUIST: So when people pay the fee in lieu we put that money aside and it gets turned around and used for purchasing of additional water rights. So last year we had just over \$4 million paid to the County through the fee in lieu process and we used just over \$2 million of that to purchase water rights and that is including this purchase if it is to go through.

COMMISSIONER GREENE: Great. So in the past, or has anybody ever thought of putting out an RFP and soliciting water rights transfers to the County?

MR. SODERQUIST: I don't know if we've ever thought about doing an RFP for something like that. It seems like I am frequently getting propositioned for purchasing water rights, groundwater rights, surface water rights, all over the place, water to the tune of \$50,000 per acre-foot. So they're not few and far between for me to have them come across my desk. Water rights purchase of this quality are few and far between. So that's kind of why the County has made a push to go after this purchase specifically.

COMMISSIONER GREENE: To just follow up. You get people offering you water rights at \$50,000 currently?

MR. SODERQUIST: I've heard that. The majority of the water rights that are offered to the County are \$36,000 per acre-foot. And people are setting the price based off either their hopes or their best available knowledge which was the most recent purchase price from the County.

COMMISSIONER GREENE: Okay. I think we should pursue as much as we can, so thanks for jumping on this.

CHAIR BUSTAMANTE: Thank you. Any other comments, questions for Travis? If there are none I'll entertain a motion to approve.

COMMISSIONER GREENE: I will make a motion to approve item 6. C, a resolution to grant the County Manager authority to sign a water rights purchase agreement and all other documents necessary or proper to acquire the water rights from Platte Land and Water, LLC, have the water rights permitted for direct diversion at the Buckman Direct Diversion by the County; and carry out conveyance of title and change of ownership to the County.

CHAIR BUSTAMANTE: I hear a motion to approve by Commissioner Greene. Commissioner Cacari Stone, I saw that you were going to attempt to make a motion. DO you want to second that?

COMMISSIONER CACARI STONE: I want to second the motion. Thank you.

CHAIR BUSTAMANTE: We have a motion by Commissioner Greene, a second by Commissioner Cacari Stone.

6. D. ITEM WITHDRAWN

6. E. Request (1) Approval of Amendment No. 1 to Agreement No. 2024-0124-PW/BT with Molzen Corbin to Provide Engineering Design and Construction Services for the Abajo Lift Station Project, Increasing the Compensation by \$424,398.08 for a Total Contract Amount of \$1,010,978.08, Exclusive of NM GRT; and (2) Delegation of Authority to the County Manager to Sign the Purchase Order

CHAIR BUSTAMANTE: Mr. Taylor. Thank you, Bill. What do you have for us?

BILL TAYLOR (Purchasing Director): Good afternoon, Chair Bustamante and Commissioners. We're here before the Board for an amendment to a design contract regarding related to the Abajo lift station. There were additional design services required once the audit of the flows at that lift station were discovered to be extreme and requiring additional an additional lift station be added to the normal lift station. And with that, Madam Chair, I have Curt Temple here from Public Works who can explain the issue with the additional design services. This also includes construction observation services from the engineer to our construction. And with that I'll stand for any questions.

CHAIR BUSTAMANTE: Do we have any questions for either Bill Taylor or Curt? If there are no questions do we have a motion to approve the amendment?

COMMISSIONER GREENE: I'll move to approve item E, a request to approve the Amendment No. 1 to Agreement No. 2024-0124-PW/BT with Molzen Corbin to provide engineering design and construction services for the Abajo Lift Station Project, increasing the compensation by \$424,398.08 for a total contract amount of \$1,010,978.08, exclusive of NM GRT; and two, delegating the authority to the County Manager to sign the purchase order for Public Works.

CHAIR BUSTAMANTE: We have a motion by Commissioner Greene. A second?

COMMISSIONER JOHNSON: Second.

CHAIR BUSTAMANTE: Second by Commissioner Johnson.

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

6. F. Resolution No. 2025-033, a Resolution to Amend the Santa Fe County Road Map and to Certify a Report of the Public Roads in Santa Fe County

CHAIR BUSTAMANTE: Brian Snyder and Ryan Ward.

RYAN WARD (Public Works): Good afternoon, Madam Chair, Commissioners.

CHAIR BUSTAMANTE: Hello, Ryan. How are you?

MR. RYAN: This particular item comes before BCC every year. It's our road maintenance list. To give you a little bit of background, annually, Santa Fe County is required to update the County road map and submit a certification to the New Mexico

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Department of Transportation by April 1st. The County is allocated a portion of the New Mexico combined motor vehicle tax revenue averaging \$65,000 per year based on fiscal years 2020 to 2024. This supports the maintenance and improvement of Santa Fe County roads.

The total miles this year, and I'll give you just a little bit of background, and I want to thank staff, Beau Romero in particular who's our GIS Public Works representative. He went through and so as we go through some of these items and these numbers and some of the changes that were made, he's done a great job going through, spending a lot of time cleaning up certain things and so that's what you'll notice as we kind of go through some of the total miles this year and the changes.

I think the big change was adding the northeast-southeast connector paved roads, so Falcon Way, Rabbit Road Connection, and a piece of Avenida del Sur. So I just want to make sure to give you a little bit of background and how we looked at it this year, to give you some insight. So the total miles maintained in 2025 is 559.33 miles, which is approximately just a little bit over two miles is what's been added from last year's maintenance log which was 557.15 miles.

Asphalt is 191.35 in 2025. You have chip seal roads, which are the rock and the asphalt emulsion, 114.44 miles. Cold millings, which are what we mill off the old pavement surface relay, a lot of times for base material and then to build up kind of a pavement section, we have 2.07 miles. Gravel, 1.38; basecourse 71.62; and dirt roads make up 178.47 miles.

The deletions this year, there's two, but to kind of give you a little bit of information on that, there were some that were reclassified so the deletions were mostly from our transfer stations. So we do maintain the road to the transfer station. It's on our road inventory log, but those are basically service roads and not a – as we think about County roads in that format. And so those were deleted. It doesn't mean that we won't maintain those. We'll still maintain those coming in. Oro Place was deleted. It was a duplicate.

And then as you go to additions, I mentioned some of the newly paved roads on the northeast-southeast connector. Those are defined roads that were added. There were some crossovers, divided lanes in Camino La Tierra, and so those segments that make up a divided road, we've connected that to make sure that we're capturing those pavement miles this year.

And then the corrections were tied to, as I briefly mentioned in the beginning, were tied to segment linked changes of the roads, pavement surface corrections, ending and beginning points of certain roads. So there's a lot of various corrections that we made this year to clean some things up. Worked really close with our GIS team. They're always great to work with. And then we added about 76 roads to help improve the consistency throughout GIS and all of the data that we do have.

So I stand for any questions. One thing if I could, briefly, because I know there's a few more items on the agenda, to give a little bit of background on how we manage pavement. I'll keep it brief, but there's a scoring system. So IMS, which you may be familiar with, was our contractor. The pavement collection was done in 2021 and we moved from a PASER rating, which was a visual rating of the road to see scoring of it and it's more subjective, depending on who's looking at that, to a PCI score, or pavement

condition index, which is defined by scanning the road, so they use different technologies – LIDAR, there's a couple other technologies they use.

So we have that data now and that's helping drive a lot of these projects, and typically, when we're looking at scoring in that range it's zero to 100, 100 being the best. Our goal is to remain 70 across the board on all of our paved roads. If we can stay around the 70 or above, that's really our goal in how we manage and how we pavement preservation.

So those are some things to kind of think about. As you see some of these other things you'll see PCI scores in there on roads that we're trying to do. Usually a break point is when it gets below 40 and kind of in that range you're looking at a total reconstruction so your costs significantly go up. So our focus on a lot of these project efforts are to capture the roads that we can basically make the biggest impact on to bring those scored up but also stop the point of them at the break point where they go to reconstruction and you're spending four to five times the amount of money to bring those back. So I just wanted to give that information. I'll stand for any questions.

CHAIR BUSTAMANTE: Thank you, Mr. Ward. Commissioner Cacari Stone.

COMMISSIONER CACARI STONE: Thank you, Chair Bustamante. Mr. Ward and Mr. Snyder, always appreciate your work at Public Works. I just have a quick question on what do you do with all the previous maps? Are they put in a digital archive?

MR. RYAN: Madam Chair, Commissioner Cacari Stone, could you repeat that question?

COMMISSIONER CACARI STONE: Yes. I think maps are fabulous markers of our growth in Santa Fe County. I was just curious where all the historical maps go. Is there a digital archive? And how far back does it go?

MR. RYAN: Thank you for that question. We have record copies of the road maintenance list and what we've maintained back to the early 90s. So those old logs were before we were basically capturing things in GIS. So the old maintenance logs capture those mileages and those roads in those districts, whereas now, everything is in GIS and as those things change they're updated. I don't want to speak for our GIS team. Typically, you'll keep some of that historical data as things change. This year's map, I know going back to when we first starting doing GIS mapping for this specific item, that it was covered going forward. So I'll be glad to reach out to GIS and make sure if we have some of that old historical data sets for those roads but typically they're archiving older maps.

COMMISSIONER CACARI STONE: Thank you.

CHAIR BUSTAMANTE: Commissioner Greene.

COMMISSIONER GREENE: Thank you. Thank you, Ryan. I'm wondering if there is an assessment. I see here the list of roads and I'm wondering if there's like a maintenance – I know that I get frequent calls on County Road 84 and it went from every six weeks to every four weeks to every three weeks, which seems to be the amount of regular grading. Is there a – is that public knowledge? Is that something that is shareable so that people can see how much resources or how regular the maintenance happens on these things? That's the first one on these regularly maintained roads.

And then like for the other roads that have the LIDAR or whatever the assessment, do we have the scores of those readily available to know that this one is almost there and maybe in another year it's going to degrade and it's going to be ready to be replaced?

MR. RYAN: Madam Chair, Commissioner Greene, great questions. The dirt roads that we maintain typically, as you mentioned, we have our EAM or enterprise asset management system. That system captures all the work orders coming in and that's where we've gotten into a routine of specifically that road, 84, that we know degrades quickly based on speed and all those other things. We actually have it set to where it generates a new work order every three weeks, and there's certain things that we've become much better at doing and focusing on in regard to that, so our Lucidity system captures all the historical data. It's not public facing. Those work orders that are captured are in our system. Our work order submittal is public facing where the public can submit different work orders, but currently it's not facing outward on GIS. Those types of things.

And then two, the other roads, the PCI scores are what's guiding us going forward and so that – the data was captured, they're finalizing up, which is pretty amazing. We've been working with them over the last several years to finalize up all those data sets to where we're hoping this next year budgetary-wise we can go back out, scan the roads, so now we'll have a baseline of those scores for paving and we'll know kind of the deterioration rates on those bell curves to figure out in these areas, maybe closest to the mountain, they're degrading a year or two quicker than what you see maybe in Stanley.

And so looking at some of those things, but I think when we scan the roads again we have the current – to your point, we have the scores now that help guide us. They're not public facing either. They're within our system but within our GIS system. So it could be something that could be shared.

COMMISSIONER GREENE: Wonderful. Thank you very much.

CHAIR BUSTAMANTE: Further questions?

COMMISSIONER JOHNSON: Move to approve a resolution to amend the Santa Fe County road map and to certify a report of the public roads in Santa Fe County.

CHAIR BUSTAMANTE: Motion by Commissioner Johnson.

COMMISSIONER GREENE: Second.

CHAIR BUSTAMANTE: Second by Commissioner Greene.

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

6. **G. Request (1) Approval of Agreement No. 2024-0286-PW/JL Between Santa Fe County and WSP in the Amount of \$1,502,155, Exclusive of NM GRT, to Provide Engineering Design Services for Road Improvements to CR-55A General Goodwin Road in Santa Fe County; and (2) Delegation of Authority to the County Manager to Sign the Purchase Order(s)**

MR. TAYLOR: Thank you, Chair Bustamante, Commissioners. We're before the Board for approval of a contract with WSP engineering firm in the amount of

\$1,502,155, exclusive of NMGRT, to provide engineering design services for road improvements to County road 55-A, known as General Goodwin Road in Santa Fe. We issued a request for proposals and received three proposals. The committee reviewed and ranked WSP as the most qualified and entered into negotiations and we're before the Board to request approval of that contract. I have Lawrence Imprescia here from Public Works here to answer any questions specific to the project, and I'll stand for questions.

CHAIR BUSTAMANTE: Do we have any questions on this matter?

COMMISSIONER GREENE: Just thank you for bringing this forward. I have a friend at the end of the road who frequently bugs me, even though it's not my district. He says when's my road getting done. So thank you very much.

CHAIR BUSTAMANTE: If there are no questions do we have a motion to approve?

COMMISSIONER GREENE: I will make the motion to approve item G, request for approval of Agreement No. 2024-0286-PW/JL between Santa Fe County and WSP in the amount of \$1,502,155, exclusive of NM GRT, to provide engineering design services for road improvements to CR-55A General Goodwin Road in Santa Fe County; and two, delegation of authority to the County Manager to sign the purchase orders.

CHAIR BUSTAMANTE: Commissioner Cacari Stone, do you want to second, or do you have discussion?

COMMISSIONER CACARI STONE: Yes. I second that motion.

CHAIR BUSTAMANTE: We have a second from Commissioner Cacari Stone.

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

- 6. H. Request (1) Approval of Agreement No. 2025-0208-PW/DK with TLC Company, Inc. for Construction Services Required on Seven County Roads Improvements Identified by Infrastructure Management Program in the Amount of \$1,851,722.26, Exclusive of NM GRT; and (2) Delegation of Authority to the County Manager to Negotiate and Execute the Contract, Change Orders, and the Purchase Order(s)**

CHAIR BUSTAMANTE: Bill

MR. TAYLOR: Thank you, Chair, Commissioners. Again, we're before the Board. The Purchasing Division issued an invitation for bid. We received very good response to this IFP from TLC Company, EMCO, R.L. Leeder, Albuquerque Asphalt, and Star Paving. They were relatively close bids, so we were encouraged with that, but the lowest, most responsive bid was determined to be with TLC, and we're before the Board to request approval to enter into that contract and begin work on multiple – this is going to be the infrastructure roads. So there's multiple roads involved in here that they're going to be taking care of. With that, again, Lawrence is here to answer any questions specific to those roads that are on the list to be improved.

CHAIR BUSTAMANTE: Do we have any questions regarding item H? Commissioner Greene.

COMMISSIONER GREENE: Not a question but just a thank you for

getting all these roads taken care of. One of them, I operate a delivery company and I frequently have drivers tell me about roads and one of these is on that notorious list. So thank you very much for getting that taken care of. So with that I will make a motion to approve item H, request for approval of Agreement No. 2025-0208-PW/DK with TLC Company, Inc. for construction services required on seven county roads improvements identified by Infrastructure Management program in the amount of \$1,851,722.26, exclusive of NM GRT; and two, delegation of authority to the County Manager to negotiate and execute the contract, change orders, and the purchase orders.

CHAIR BUSTAMANTE: We have a motion by Commissioner Greene.

COMMISSIONER JOHNSON: Second.

CHAIR BUSTAMANTE: We have a second by Commissioner Johnson.

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

6. I. Resolution No. 2025-034, a Resolution Requesting an Increase to the General Fund (101) in the Amount of \$350,000

CHAIR BUSTAMANTE: Yvonne Herrera.

YVONNE HERRERA (Finance Director): Madam Chair, Commissioners, the budget adjustment before you is for Sustainability Division and it is to budget electric grid modernization grant funding received from the New Mexico Energy, Minerals and Natural Resources Department. This funding will be used to help develop and implement the Balanced Resource Acquisition and Information Network, which we've all heard of as the BRAIN, data center and management platform, which will enable County staff to monitor building system performance, track energy usage and production, and analyze utility bill data in real time. This funding will replace and free up \$350,000 of general fund resources originally budgeted for the project and the Sustainability Department and I stand for any questions.

CHAIR BUSTAMANTE: Do we have any questions for Ms. Herrera?
Commissioner Johnson.

COMMISSIONER JOHNSON: I guess – I'm not sure it's a question for Yvonne, but the BRAIN, as I understand it can't turn off a thermostat remotely, but is there an upgradable capability that's baked into that system?

MS. BEAM: Madam Chair, Commissioner Johnson, yes. There will be layers to come once we review the application for an amount of time that will be determined by Public Works and leadership. But certainly there are many layers that can happen. This is a base layer that's really more utilities focused, and then also we do have the e-gauges which are through the grid modernization grant, which is real time for electric usage.

COMMISSIONER JOHNSON: Okay. Yes. So it's a base infrastructure and it can be built upon.

MS. BEAM: Correct.

COMMISSIONER JOHNSON: We thought about that in advance as far as capabilities of remote control. Okay. Thank you, Jacqueline.

CHAIR BUSTAMANTE: Thank you. Any further questions? If we have

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no questions for Jacqueline –

COMMISSIONER JOHNSON: Madam Chair, I'll move to approve a resolution requesting an increase to the general fund 101 in the amount of \$350,000.

COMMISSIONER GREENE: And I'll second that.

CHAIR BUSTAMANTE: Okay, we have a motion by Commissioner Johnson for the approval of the increased amount of \$350,000 with a second from Commissioner Greene.

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

6. J. Resolution No. 2025-035, a Resolution Requesting Project Funding Reallocations Within the Capital Outlay GRT Fund (313) in the Amount of \$433,519 and Project Funding Reallocation Within the General Fund (101) in the Amount of \$54,591

CHAIR BUSTAMANTE: Ms. Herrera.

MS. HERRERA: Hello again, Madam Chair, Commissioners. The budget adjustment before you is requesting budget reallocations in the general fund and the capital outlay GRT fund for the following purposes: capital outlay GRT monies totaling \$350,000, originally budgeted at mid-year for the County Clerk's broadband project at Dinosaur Trail is no longer needed as the project is now being funded by state general fund monies. We are requesting that \$291,000 of this amount be re-allocated to the Camino Jacobo sidewalk project to cover a funding gap of \$90,973 to provide a 15 percent contingency fund.

The next reallocation request will providing funding to the County's senior centers' IT infrastructure updates project which will improve network and internet access and functionality for the public, County operations, including public safety. The remaining \$59,000 from the Clerk broadband budget referenced above, and \$54,591 from the general fund funding that was released in the prior BAR is being recommended to fund this project.

And the last re-allocation being requested will address the additional funds needed at 240 Grant for the space configuration for Growth Management and Community Development, as well as department signage improvements. Capital outlay GRT funds budgeted for the 102 Grant upgrade project are available for re-allocating to the 240 Grant Avenue improvements. And with that I have myself and various departments available for any questions.

CHAIR BUSTAMANTE: Do we have any questions for Ms. Herrera or individuals from various departments? Commissioner Greene.

COMMISSIONER GREENE: Thank you, Madam Chair. Thank you, Yvonne. Question: Have all of these IT upgrades been done? That's the short question, for the senior centers?

MS. HERRERA: Madam Chair, Commissioner, I'll refer to IT Director Daniel Sanchez.

DANIEL SANCHEZ (IT Director): Good afternoon, Chair, Commissioner Greene. No. We have done site assessments. We worked with the CSD Department and

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Facilities to conduct those site assessments and based on what we found we proposed a solution for each location based on their needs.

COMMISSIONER GREENE: And so this would be excess money beyond what their needs are?

MR. SANCHEZ: This would complete the project for infrastructure like switches, access points, wiring, cabling within the building that they are now running across the floor. We run proper data jacks throughout the facility based on what they currently need.

COMMISSIONER GREENE: Okay, so there's going to be wifi, there's going to be capacity at all of these senior centers within the next few months?

MR. SANCHEZ: Correct.

COMMISSIONER GREENE: And access control, is that one of the other things that's being integrated into this?

MR. SANCHEZ: Yes, Commissioner. One thing we're doing is enabling a site-to-site VPN so that the staff members will actually be logging into the system as if they were here, while on a guest network. We can still prohibit things like adult content, those types of things. And then we're also going to put exterior facing access points so the Sheriff's Department, Fire Department, can sit in the parking lot and do what they need to do, just for a local presence for security.

COMMISSIONER GREENE: Fabulous. And security cameras at these locations?

MR. SANCHEZ: I believe CSD is working with Facilities to get those put in so this is part of the infrastructure that will allow that once they get those installed.

COMMISSIONER GREENE: And so better IT in these places, access control and security cameras and probably the BRAIN and things like will all work under this. Wonderful.

Switching over to the roads, or the sidewalks over at Camino de Jacobo, are any street trees or any landscaping a part of this or is it all just concrete?

P.J. MONTANO (Public Works): No, this is just for ADA improvements and a two-inch mill and inlay of the paved road.

COMMISSIONER GREENE: So it's a road and sidewalks.

MR. MONTANO: Yes.

COMMISSIONER GREENE: Was there any discussion of adding some street trees in there and providing some landscaping for this development?

MR. MONTANO: That was not part of the design, no.

COMMISSIONER GREENE: That's disappointing. We should be putting some trees in for people to walk under, especially in such an urban location like this, but here we are.

PAUL OLAFSON (Community Development Director): Madam Chair, there is some landscaping there and this does not preclude it. This was more of an ADA driven project. So that's not saying we can't do street trees, but it wasn't part of the funding stream to get this immediate improvement done.

COMMISSIONER GREENE: Okay. Thank you very much.

CHAIR BUSTAMANTE: Commissioner Cacari Stone.

COMMISSIONER CACARI STONE: Yes, thank you. There seems to be

a collaboration with Community Services, Community Development, and Public Works. My question is something that our residents and constituents may have. How do these priorities get decided and how do these – the Camino Jacobo and the IT infrastructure and the Grant complex come to the top? I just want to understand.

LEANDRO CORDOVA: (Deputy County Manager): Madam Chair, Commissioners, that's an excellent question and we hope to provide a presentation to the BCC on the 25th on our ICIP capital improvement evaluation criteria rating and ranking and such, but the quick answer is it was rated and ranked. It went through internal committees and some of the evaluation which you'll see on the 25th highlights things like the ADA as additional points. So the fact that we needed to comply with ADA requirements would have probably provided this project a few extra points. It's also been in the queue for quite a while.

We've been developing this project over many years and at this point we're finally ready to construct the project so after all of the design work and the preliminary work we're at this point. I hope that answers your question and we certainly will be ready to present that to you on the 25th and take many, many more questions and the feedback from the BCC to help us improve our process because we're certainly looking to make it better for both staff and the BCC.

COMMISSIONER CACARI STONE: Thank you. I look forward to that presentation.

CHAIR BUSTAMANTE: Thank you, Leandro. And just for clarification, what we're hearing on the 25th, is that regarding these projects or is that how we're doing these projects, projects in general for new projects?

MR. CORDOVA: Madam Chair, it would be in general, just so that the Board can have an idea of how we rate and rank and what the evaluation criteria looks like. And again, we'll be seeking feedback from the Commissioners. We do want to hear from you and make sure that we can incorporate that feedback into the process to improve it.

CHAIR BUSTAMANTE: Thank you. Any other questions? If there are no further questions do we hear a motion?

COMMISSIONER GREENE: I will make a motion to approve a resolution requesting project funding reallocations within the Capital Outlay GRT Fund, #313, in the amount of \$433,519 and project funding reallocation within the general fund, account #101, in the amount of \$54,591.

COMMISSIONER JOHNSON: Second.

CHAIR BUSTAMANTE: We have a motion to approve by Commissioner Greene, a second from Commissioner Johnson.

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

[The Commission recessed from 3:35 to 3:45.]

8. Matters of Public Concern

CHAIR BUSTAMANTE: Subject to three minutes. Do we have anyone in

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the chambers who wants to speak for items of concern? And do we have anyone online? One person online. So we're open for items of public concern. Three minutes. If you'll state your name and your concern.

GARY ZARP: I'm Gary Zarp and I'm part of Churchill, group of people who are on a well and we're having a protest meeting, it's not scheduled yet but it's coming up. It's been going on for years about getting – in 2011 it started, or at 2006, I mean, and then it got stopped in 2011. And they withdrew it at that time that – the applicants did because of protests and now it's been activated again. And I apologize but I'm very new to the area. I've only been here a year and this is all new coming on but I've been at meetings about it and everything, and as I understand it, our group of wells within this Churchill community – it's in the county.

And we have several wells and usually two, three, four people to a well. And some commercial businesses want to use our wells as backups, our water table as backups in case theirs gets low and we're feeling like, we're residential, not commercial and this has happened before that it did go down level and trouble. And our wells, they're marginal anyway.

But when we had the last meeting with Hank Hughes, was out and had a meeting with us, one of your Commissioners. And what he said, we were talking about it and I'd had this idea before too, is if we were on County water it wouldn't be an issue. And we're saying the same thing about why don't these people get on County water instead on getting wells for backup. Because some of their other stuff in commercial is for those businesses is on County, and Hughes was going to be bring this up, if not at this meeting at another meeting, that that would be a solution to everything if we, the group – we're 12 to 15 residences that are on wells. And if we would get on County water, and the County water is only a half a mile away from us, so it'd be pretty easy to get down there. And if we get on County water then there'd be no issue because it wouldn't affect the water table.

And the reason too we feel like and that is we're a very small community and surrounded all around us are developments that have sprung up and all of those have the County water. That doesn't seem right to any of us. So I'm sorry if I'm not being specific and notifying of the case numbers and all that kind of stuff. It appears my wife and I are the only ones here and I just wanted to let the group of Commissioners know is that it's really important to us and our lives to have water.

CHAIR BUSTAMANTE: Thank you. Thank you very much and I understand that your Commissioner is aware of the location.

MR. ZARP: Okay. Thank you.

CHAIR BUSTAMANTE: Our next speaker? Anyone else from the chambers? If not, let's go online.

DANIEL FRESQUEZ (Media Specialist): Chair Bustamante, we have Chris Mechels.

CHAIR BUSTAMANTE: Thank you.

CHRIS MECHEL: Madam Chair and Commissioners, I'm revisiting a problem that I've been bringing to your attention for some months now. Since November I have tried to gain access to the elections material from the November election and this has been blocked. It's to the point now that nobody will even respond to emails

questioning what happened to my IPRA request. I basically just send you an email and get no response. This is the only county in the state that won't reply to a request for the materials. So you might ask yourself why this is so.

Recently I came across some information which should be of some use to you. It seems this IPRA request that continues to be stonewalled the only solution to that is to sue. The question is who gets sued? The answer is you get sued. The County Clerk does not get sued; she can't be sued. The County Attorney won't be sued; he can't be sued. You can be sued and you will be sued.

You probably don't know that because nobody has been trying to tell you that. You own the records. The Clerk does not. Therefore you are the people that should be responsible for producing those records, and if you don't, you can be sued. Think about that. The record that she's hiding or appears to be hiding because we can get these records from other counties and get a pretty good approximation is. The fact is that your County Clerk violated the Election Code in the November election because she used the wrong statute for the same-day registration, and she came to know it. So she willingly violated the Election Code.

That happens to be a fourth degree felony if prosecuted. If you conspire with her to conceal this information from the public and prevent it being dealt with then you become part of the conspiracy and you are liable to a fourth degree felony charge. You might consider this.

I didn't know until recently that the County Clerk can't be sued so of course she stands over there with a happy smile knowing that I can't get to her, and the fact is that that reason I can't get to her is because she doesn't own the records. Does she protest? She does not. You own the records. That is why you will be sued and bear the consequences thereof. So I suggest that you actually have a serious talk with the Clerk, a serious talk with the County Attorney who has not been advising you of any of this. A serious talk with the County Manager who's been keeping this from you.

The Commission has been set up by those three agents. And I think you should really be serious about that because you are the ones that are going to be held responsible. So anyway, please take a look at this. Clean it up. The Clerk needs to come clean and we need to deal with it. Thank you so much and good luck.

CHAIR BUSTAMANTE: Thank you, Mr. Mechels. Anyone else?

MR. FRESQUEZ: Chair Bustamante, there are no more users wishing to speak.

CHAIR BUSTAMANTE: Okay. Thank you.

7. Presentations

A. Presentation Concerning Proposed Revisions to the Existing Resolutions Regarding Community Centers (No. 2013-61 and No. 2015-24)

CHAIR BUSTAMANTE: Chris Chappell.

CHRIS CHAPPELL (Public Works): Good afternoon, Chair Bustamante, members of the Commission. I'm with the Public Works Department, Administrative Services Division. Today we're bringing before you a presentation regarding the rental of

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the various community centers throughout Santa Fe County. Since late 2023 Public Works has been responsible for managing the rental of all County-owned and leased community centers. In the almost two years that we have been managing the rentals we have found various topics needing to be addressed. Changes need to be made and policies need to be added. With insight from Risk Management, our Legal team and the community we will address these proposed changes in this presentation.

So initially we are proposing to rescind and replace resolutions numbers 2013-61 and 2015-24. In 2013 Santa Fe County established Resolution 2013-61 laying out policies and procedures surrounding the rental of the various community centers including La Cienega, Nambe, Bennie J. Chavez, El Rancho, Rio en Medio, Cundiyo and Nancy Rodriguez. In 2015 an amendment to the resolution was passed adding the Max Coll Center. In this presentation we'll go through the key changes that we recommend.

Those key changes are blackout dates that are going to be added, photo ID requirement, requirement for only applicant to receive keys, timeline for returning keys being added, and extended reservation timeline from three months to a year, and a cancellation policy requirement up to seven days in advance. Additionally, we're going to recommend a rate increase to align with inflation and similar entities. We also recommend an increase to the deposit. Rate changes will be based on CPI changes, third-party insurance requirements for rentals, and senior centers to be rented weekends only.

So throughout this presentation you'll notice on the titles there underneath we have specifically where in the draft resolution, we make note of so feel free to follow along.

The blackout dates: We recommend the right to blackout dates for any reason such as nationally recognized holidays, and the weekend preceding or following these days, County-sponsored events, voting and/or maintenance of the facilities. We came to these conclusions based on the fact that during these time periods County staff involved with scheduling and maintaining these facilities are on break throughout this time. We found that it's kind of needed. If we have our constituents renting the facilities it's hard for us to have to get there, come off of their vacations and things like that.

Additionally, we want to make sure that the renters understand that events such as voting and County-sponsored events take precedence on these centers as they always have in the past.

Photo ID required and key distributed to renter only. So we have a lot of renters that send their family members to pick up the keys – friends, family members, everything like that. So in other words an applicant will come forward to us. They'll pay their fees and a day or so before the event they'll send in a family member. We've naturally been accepting this. We are proposing to change that requirement. We feel that the liability of holding the key should like solely on the renter. That way they can't just, for example, sublease it. Furthermore, we'd like to require a photo ID. We don't currently make mention of requiring the photo ID but we'd like to add the verbiage in there. This will ensure that any renter is actually a county resident. We have a lot of customers or rather constituents call us from various other communities, from other counties wanting to rent our facilities basically because they know that we do have relatively low prices. And this will also help with consistencies for screening through the application process and subsequent refunds, deposit process.

Furthermore, we'd like to add a timeline of two days for returning the keys. Rather two days after the event has taken place. We hope that this will prevent keys from being forgotten. In the past a few constituents have forgotten to bring the keys back and we do have plenty of spares on hand but having to remember all the time – we really want to get away from the liability behind multiple people having the keys, just in case they decide to go back for forgotten items, anything like that.

Additionally, a two-day return policy provides a reasonable buffer without immediately impacting the subsequent rentals. We hope to get those keys. We don't want to run out of the keys. I'll note that Public Works is in the process of trying to acquire some hardware where physical keys will no longer be needed. We think that this is crucial. Not only will it take away the risk of multiple renters having the key at the same time. We feel that having an expiring code on their doors is going to be widely beneficial.

So, reservation timeline and cancellation policy: It is recommended that an extended rental timeline be enacted from three months in advance of calendar dates to one year in advance, and it is recommended to enact a rental cancellation policy of up to seven days prior to the event. So at current and for the longest time since probably the enactment of 2013-61, renters have been allowed to approach us three months in advance of their event and request the rental. We're finding – and this is directly from input from our constituents that three months is not nearly enough time to prepare for an event. They're finding that if they come to us and they have to wait in line outside at 8:00 am – this is typical for us now – they're anticipated or their requested facility might be already rented by the person in front of them if they don't get there in time. So we'd like to extend it to one year in advance.

With that again I'll note that we are working with an online application. We're about 90 days. In the memo I noted we're looking around the end of March to move forward with that app. Realistically it's looking more like the timeline of 90 days before we launch the app, but constituents will have at that point the opportunity to log in one year in advance of their required dates. And instead of coming in person they'll be able to just do it online at their leisure. Again, this echoes the ability for our constituents to have that additional time to find other venues if ours are unavailable.

So these next slides deal directly with the rate changes. In my memo I note that we've reached out to various organizations. We've reached out to all of our constituents, regular renters, regular organizations for feedback. We've not had much push-back on this at all. In fact I think it was one particular organization that had a push-back that just felt they don't want the rates changed at all. With that, as I state in this slide, since the ratification of the resolution inflation has increased 34.9 percent and this increase has greatly impact the way community centers have utilize revenue received from the rentals

We recommend that the fees be implemented that are comparable to those charged by other entities in our state that offer similar services. We've reached out to several of them; we'll touch base on that, but our proposed rate change is based on the 34.9 percent increase of the CPI. As you can see on this slide the original rates are outlined as follows: A single rental, which is just a typical constituent rental, it's \$50 per event. An annual rental is currently \$150, so that's for organizations that want one event per month for the entire year. And the annual other, which is events that exceed one meeting per month, they are \$250.

Based on the 34.9 percent increase you can see the rates there. Our proposed rates take into consideration, round off kind of number, just for easy memorization and better impact for the community. So I list a couple of entities that we reached out to – the City of Santa Fe, the Genoveva Chavez Center is pretty popular. In comparison with ours, we charge for an entire day. They charge per hour. As you can see here, for classrooms it's \$130 per hour. So in comparison to that we feel that this is a pretty equitable increase. Likewise with the Santa Fe Women's Club, you can see that they have a tiered system, again based on hours.

An increase to the deposit amounts is recommended. Currently we charge \$50 for cleaning/damage deposit. We'd recommend increasing that to \$150. We base this on past damages, the times the centers have been left dirty, and the potential for future damages and to align with other similar entities. We feel, that in our experience we've honestly seen that a lot of people have considered the \$50 deposit to be a cleaning fee. A lot of times they'd rather just not get their \$50 back and leave the facilities dirty. This results in us retaining the \$50 fee, in this case no longer a deposit. We feel that raising this amount will deter some of these renters from leaving the centers dirty.

So again, earlier I mentioned the rate increase to align with the CPI. I've inserted some data here if you'd like to look over it, feel free. But we want to ensure that the County rates fluctuate with inflation. It should be noted that we hope to inflate it but to decrease it as well, based on inflation. If it goes back down we'd like to mimic that as well.

Third-party insurance requirement: At current, we charge a \$25 TULIP insurance fee per event. Now, we're recommending that renters purchase single-use third-party insurance in lieu of the County absorbing the cost under the County's insurance umbrella. Our goal in this policy is to emulate again what other entities are currently doing and we feel that having renters seek out insurance will release Santa Fe County from the liability of damages that may occur during an event and we feel that it places the responsibility solely on the renters. We feel that being responsible stewards of the County Public Works want to ensure that any potential liabilities remain with the customers while safeguarding the County's interest.

This is one of the topics that gets to be one of the harder ones. We obviously want to keep in mind all of our constituents and what's best for them, but again, as I mentioned, being a good steward of the County we have to look out for our facilities and everything involved.

Finally, the senior centers to be rented weekends only. This is to prevent maintenance crews from having to clean or inspect facilities after weekday events and before senior daytime activities. We feel that based on the raw metrics this change will not affect many rentals at all. In fact in 2024 only two weekday rentals took place at senior centers, both of those were at Nambe. Realistically, if we were to apply this across the board the organizations that rent their facilities typically don't rent facilities that coincide with senior centers. They're trying to pursue Nancy Rodriguez, for example. A lot of them in fact going towards Nancy Rodriguez we found that, again, based on the raw metrics, only three organizations in total in 2024, again that being Nambe and this was a rare occasion that that particular entity was renting on a weekday.

So to conclude, the updates and changes proposed for the resolution are aimed at

improving accessibility, insuring fair usage, and better aligning with the needs of our community. We believe these changes will help streamline the process, make facilities more accessible, and promote a more equitable environment for all. I sincerely look forward to your feedback. We look forward to your support in implementing these changes. I thank you all for your time and with that I'll stand for any questions.

CHAIR BUSTAMANTE: Questions for Mr. Chappell? Commissioner Greene:

COMMISSIONER GREENE: I'll take it. Thank you. I really appreciate some of the modernization of this, both in terms of rates and access and getting rid of keys is brilliant. And so that goes back to what we were talking about at the previous item where we were talking about modernizing the IT in some of these places. So really focusing – if it means it has to come back to us one more time to get access control incorporated into all of our community centers – 100 percent for that.

So a couple comments here. If somebody wants to rent a year in advance, that should be a premium rate. If somebody wants to do last minute, it's like hotel bookings. If somebody really needs to be somewhere on a certain date I would recommend that we charge a premium for anything over three months, and then once it's three months or less then you start to reduce the rates into what your last minute rental would be and so you can sort of maximize revenue based on people's needs to make sure that they have it on a specific date.

If it's possible, also if somebody wants to rent it and put a designee, I think it's possible to have not only the person but at the time that they rent it allow them to have one or two designees that they could say, oh, my nephew is going to come pick up the key and here is their contact information. But they're a responsible party, but it's not a random person. So you can authorize somebody to do that on your behalf, because sometimes people are just not mobile and they want to take responsibility for it but they have somebody they can pick up – if we're getting rid of keys that doesn't really matter but just trying to put a designee or a second or a third person who could be a responsible party.

So again the tiers could also be based on weekdays or weekends. So if somebody wants it on a weekend or holiday times, I think we should have them on holidays even if our staff isn't working we should try to make it as – that's when people want to have a Memorial Day party at Nancy Rodriguez or something like that. So I don't think we should restrict those holidays but we might want to put a premium on holidays so that that resource is available to the community, but, hey, if you want to rent it on Memorial Day it's an extra \$150, whatever. It's worth it, right? These are affordable spaces whatever rate we're going to come up with is a very affordable space.

In terms of cleaning, I think that honestly at the end of the day we should be sanitizing these spaces and not just allowing people to say I cleaned it up. Accept a base level of cleaning of our facilities, folks coming in and sanitizing and cleaning up a space so that we know it's safe for the next people to come in. But then also have a deposit that is if you leave it trashed, well, we're going to charge you and that's going to be your responsibility there.

And so that's – those would be my comments. I'm happy to work with you with that. I would recommend not only looking at community centers but maybe pick the

brain of the Santa Fe Convention Center, Randy Randall. He comes out of the hotel industry, and so get the insights of somebody who is a facilities manager for rentals so that you have a little bit more of the prioritized thinking of should we raise the rates from a year in advance because hotels will – if somebody needs a hotel, their wedding day is on a certain date. Get that money. If we're willing to lock something up and block it out a year in advance, which is pretty far in advance, I think there's a need to sort of say, okay, you can have it but it's going to cost you an extra \$100 for that. It's worth it. If somebody's having a wedding at Nancy Rodriguez, certainly \$100 extra to book it out a year in advance and to take it out of rotation is worth it for them.

Also I think Nancy Rodriguez is a great example of one that's in the city, essentially, even though it's in the county. These more remote ones, whether it's up in the north or down in the south might have a lower rate and we can look at the ones that are more popular, and sort of have a tiered rate system there to say, look, you might want Nancy Rodriguez but if you can't get that one, Max Coll is going to be a little more affordable and we can push people to those and offer those things.

I'm happy to work with you any way you want and introduce you to the folks over at the City, or you could go reach out to the hoteliers and say, hey, this is what we're thinking of tiers rates and security deposits and things like that. Thank you. And I really appreciate you looking at this.

MR. CHAPPELL: Madam Chair, Commissioner Greene, thank you very much for your input. It's taken with great consideration. To touch base on a couple of different things you mentioned, as far as the cleaning and sanitizing after, that's precisely what happens after each event, which is why we go back to the community centers that coincide with the senior centers, that's exactly how we're trying to get our point across. We want to make sure we have ample time to get our field crew out there to get these cleaned after each event. Literally after each event we do have somebody there cleaning it.

So I love your ideas of the lower rate based on location. We have the metrics based upon how many renters have been at each facility. So if we wanted to go that route we definitely have the metrics on how we can compile that and move forward with it. Thank you for your consideration and your input.

COMMISSIONER GREENE: Dynamic pricing, right? Last minute you can get an airplane ticket or a hotel room but if you book a year in advance you will actually pay the most expensive airplane ticket is the day they open the bookings. For the first 30 days, a year out, but for the first 30 days if something's available there should be almost a premium on that because somebody really needs those dates and they should be willing to pay just a little bit more. Not over too much, but it's just if you're going to lock something up a year in advance it's important to you and it takes it away from other people that have less forethought.

MR. CHAPPELL: Duly noted. Thank you.

COMMISSIONER GREENE: Thanks.

CHAIR BUSTAMANTE: Thank you, Commissioner. Because I was unable to see which one of you had your hand up first on the screen I'm just going to go in order that they are on my monitor. Commissioner Hughes and then Commissioner Cacari Stone, and then Commissioner Johnson.

COMMISSIONER HUGHES: Okay. Thank you, Madam Chair. My question is about insurance. How does it work now and how would it be proposed that people have their own insurance? And might that not be a hardship on some smaller groups?

MANAGER SHAFFER: Chair Bustamante and Commissioner Hughes, I can speak to the latter point. We actually, through the New Mexico County Insurance Authority have access to tenant/user liability insurance program, or a TULIP coverage, so it's very easy. You apply on line. It only takes a few minutes. It's fairly affordable and as this moves back forward we can bring forward specific rates, but it's much cheaper than the rental of the facility.

The goal, as was mentioned in the presentation is really to protect the County against tail risk in terms of an individual getting injured at our facility while we're not present and potentially facing significant third-party liabilities associated with such claims, as well as significant, out of the ordinary property damage. So again, in sum, it's affordable coverage and as we move forward we'll bring that information back to you. But in addition it is very easy for them to obtain as the New Mexico County Insurance Authority has already done that in terms of having a vendor who is willing to supply that coverage.

And then finally, again, it simply protects the County from claims arising out of the use of our facility at a time when we're not present to monitor or otherwise gather evidence. I think now we collect that fee and are endeavoring to generally have it covered through our umbrella policies, and so this would make sure that it is in fact user-specific and specific to the event at issue. I hope that answered the question.

COMMISSIONER HUGHES: Yes. I'm glad it's easily obtainable and affordable by people, but I'm also just wondering, in the current system, have we had any claims against us recently? Is this a real issue?

MR. CHAPPELL: Madam Chair, Commissioner Hughes, at current we have had several different incidents where we've utilized revenues to replace damages or rather to fix damages. We've not sought liability insurance claims being that typically it might just be too costly for us to do so. There's never been anything that hasn't been significant where we feel, and likewise where Legal felt that it would be necessary to do so. And again, to expand a little bit on Manager Shaffer's input, the insurance that we're proposing, again, it's going to be easy for others to obtain, but what we're leaving in there is the third-party. We're not pushing anybody towards one specific entity or anything like that. So we feel that, say, for example, somebody had that type of insurance coverage on their home, they could present it to us and show that they're already covered.

So we feel that it's readily available for constituents to get to.

COMMISSIONER HUGHES: And they can get it even for just a one-day event?

MR. CHAPPELL: That's precisely the goal behind these liability insurances. There's several different companies out there. As Manager Shaffer was stating, our particular Counties entity, they specify that these – the insurance that's purchasable through them is specifically just for a one-day event.

COMMISSIONER HUGHES: Okay. And you're going to present to us some examples of this when you get the information? How much it costs when you get

the information.

MR. CHAPPELL: Yes, we will. With the Consent Agenda we'd like to use.

COMMISSIONER HUGHES: Okay. Thank you.

MR. CHAPPELL: Thank you.

CHAIR BUSTAMANTE: Thank you. Commissioner Cacari Stone.

COMMISSIONER CACARI STONE: Thank you for your presentation. I just have a quick question. What's considered a government issued photo ID?

MR. CHAPPELL: Madam Chair, Commissioner Cacari Stone, government issued ID would fall under the umbrella of New Mexico State ID. We've accepted passports, and again, going back to New Mexico State ID's, it's not necessarily a driver's license, as I'm sure you aware that government will issue IDs and it will specify not for driving or anything like that. But anything that is vetted through another entity other than ourselves.

COMMISSIONER CACARI STONE: Okay, I guess my question is would a consular ID card from the Mexican Consulate, a driver's license, a municipal or community identification card work as well? People have different reasons why they might not have – some of our constituents who may not have some of what you mentioned above, and I just want to be sure we're not discerning citizenship status.

MR. CHAPPELL: Yes, with consideration to that I've delved into deeply what New Mexico State will grant or rather who the State of New Mexico will grant IDs to. I feel that the ID's from my little knowledge are readily available to any kind of citizen regardless of status. You mentioned consulate ID's, yes, absolutely. It's something that has been vetted and as long as we can definitely show that it was vetted and we know that this person is who they say they are, that's our point. We just want to make sure that they are who they say they are. They're not going to rent it and then go into the facility and destroy it or anything like that. It's just kind of a loose covering so we can have assurances on our end.

COMMISSIONER CACARI STONE: Okay. I appreciate that clarification. I just again want to be sure our centers are open to all our constituents in all districts. Thank you.

CHAIR BUSTAMANTE: Commissioner Johnson.

COMMISSIONER JOHNSON: Thank you, Madam Chair. Mr. Chappell, thanks for the presentation. I have a couple of questions. I'll try not to be redundant. So just to go back to the insurance thing. My guess is that – well, let's clarify. Are we requiring insurance, but it is from a third party or are we just recommending that each renter get insurance?

MR. CHAPPELL: Chair Bustamante, Commissioner Johnson, we're proposing – we're requesting a requirement with this. Now at current, we're not requiring. We require it with a \$25 fee. Again, as Manager Shaffer was stating, our idea in this is to get away from the umbrella rental fee so to speak insurance fee with the liability held to the County. We want that liability to be with the individual renters or organizations that are renting these facilities. We want to require it in hopes that if in the odd circumstance if something does come up and happen, it doesn't fall to the County's responsibility. We don't have the liability as much so as the renter themselves.

COMMISSIONER JOHNSON: Okay. Thanks. On the one hand it seems like it's a burden on the renter. On the other hand it's a burden on the County. So I feel like we need to think about that a little bit more where the prior fee was quite easy because it's baked into the just requirements of renting. In this other scenario the renter goes to our website. Hopefully that would be listed. That would be the sort of lowest barrier. Although I'm not sure if that's allowed because we can't prefer specific renters. So it seems like the \$25 fee is quite convenient, but I also again understand that there's a reason for moving away from that policy.

Actually, is so when would we consider this as an ordinance?

MR. CHAPPELL: Commissioner Johnson, this would be a resolution. We're looking to rescind the previous resolutions and present this as a new resolution that supersedes.

COMMISSIONER JOHNSON: At the next meeting or in a month?

MR. CHAPPELL: We're hoping to take this to the 25th for Consent

Agenda.

COMMISSIONER JOHNSON: Okay. Sorry. I have a scouting list. Just give me a second. So there are not really very many requests for weekday rentals. Is that correct?

MR. CHAPPELL: For the renters that coincide with the senior centers, no. Seniors have the priority to those particular centers and they are 8:00 to 5:00, Monday through Friday. So realistically our topic was to state that no rental should be taking place after those business hours. So essentially if somebody wanted to come in from, say, 5:30 to 7:00 or so, we feel that there's not enough time for our field staff to get out there, clean it, prior to the next 8:00 am senior meeting.

COMMISSIONER JOHNSON: Okay. Thank you. So annual renters, are they – if there's an annual fee, or there's a tier for annual renters, do they get to chose those in advance or how do they fit into that system? Do they just say we're going to buy 12 up front. We're going to sketch it out a year, but then we need to still wait a month for the next month the year out. I'm just a little bit confused about how those interface.

MR. CHAPPELL: Commissioner Johnson, with our – of course moving forward with our app, our whole idea is to have these organizations create their account and be able to get online January 1st of the year and schedule out all the way through December 31st, one event per month or again, depending on the amount that they pay, they can do multiple amounts per month. At current, the same thing, same type of system. They come in. We approach them prior to January 1, give them that deadline and let them present us with their proposals for what days they'd like, giving them priority based on what event they'd like.

COMMISSIONER JOHNSON: So the annual renters do receive some sort of priority in being able to secure all those dates.

MR. CHAPPELL: First and foremost, the constituents will always have priority. We try to make accommodations for any type of individual. And again, this is where we feel that the priority towards individual renters, constituents, will take precedence over them. They'll be able to get in beforehand. Instead of approaching us January 1 they can come to us a year in advance and then just make sure that that date's available.

COMMISSIONER JOHNSON: I see. I think I got confused by that. So it may need to be spelled out in the exhibit in the resolution. Just so that we're clear on the rules.

MR. CHAPPELL: Yes, absolutely.

COMMISSIONER JOHNSON: Yes. Thank you. What's – who are these non-county residents? Not who they are specifically, but how common is that? It makes sense that we have this requirement. I'm just kind of curious as to what the community centers are experiencing as far as out of county renters.

MR. CHAPPELL: Yes. All of these organizations as we like to call them are basically committees of these organizations. So county constituents that come together. Acequia type of groups. We have different types of cooking groups. We have sewing groups. Things of that nature. Something like you'd consider like a 4-H Club, something like that. Brings the community together and they consider themselves an organization. They have their documents in place and everything like that. Those organizations that have something to do directly with the County.

COMMISSIONER JOHNSON: I see. Okay. I do have a question about the keys. I agree with Commissioner Greene that a designee is a good idea, just to add flexibility, just to lower the bar. I think that unless the timeline for the access control is far in the future we should just contemplate that in the resolution now, because the key pad can be, you could show your ID but you could tell your cousin the number to get in. So there may just be a little bit of an onerous requirement for keys that is going to be totally wiped out when the access control comes in, and I think it's worth considering the access control in advance.

But I like access control because it allows us the ability to sort of understand who's accessing the facility and hopefully we'll have more cameras and security apparatus to help with that.

The final thing is I support what Commissioner Cacari Stone said. I think that the resolution and its exhibit that's sort of the policy manual should explicitly state that we accept consular ideas or other things for our non-citizen residents of Santa Fe County who – we want to provide a welcoming platform for them as well. So I am in support of that and would like to see that in the resolution.

MR. CHAPPELL: Thank you, Commissioner Johnson.

COMMISSIONER JOHNSON: Thank you for your work. This is good job.

MR. CHAPPELL: Thank you.

CHAIR BUSTAMANTE: Thank you, Mr. Chappell. I have some questions regarding community organizations and registered organizations. And having realized the benefit of especially the community organizations in our county, essentially, in a lot of ways they help us a County, both staff, employees, and Commissioners and elected officials, frankly, do our work better. Because these community organizations, specifically the Agua Fria Community Organization, the La Cienega Valley Association, the Galisteo Community Association, etc. They do a lot of work that – I can't say that it's necessarily on behalf of the County but definitely in a way that allows some of the work that we have to do directly with constituents to be further involved, further into talking directly with community members because they have representation throughout their

particular jurisdiction.

For those entities, and I'll just say I have received concerns or complaints, frankly, and having been a custodian – I don't think that was the term – yes, I think it was a custodian, as the La Cienega Valley Association president once upon a time, and I'd get the key, drive all the way into town, get the key, come back, make sure I drove the key back. This has long been a discussion. So we're grateful because we all know that Airbnbs have worked just fine electronically. We just learned that we're getting the wifi in the buildings and there is no real good reason to not have some type of electronic pass into the buildings.

But when we have these community organizations that do a lot of work that helps the County do better work, some of the complaints that I've also received is that they've been bumped for a wedding or a birthday party, or somebody knew somebody so they took them off of their regular first Thursday of every month schedule. So I'd like for us to make sure that somehow in this new ordinance we're recognizing the community organizations that really we work with when we have community-wide planning, when it's time to do a community plan.

We work with the San Marcos Community Association, among all the others that are on our community organization list. So that being said, I think it's really important to recognize their good work to – we charge them just as we would any other, but we should also hold the work that they're doing as a priority. Many of them are once a month. Maybe they're more than once a month. There are some that have a breakfast every other month, etc. But to make sure that we're accommodating their uses as much as possible.

So community organizations for the benefit of those in the chambers here, community organizations are those organizations that work with the community at large, specifically for issues in the community at large.

Registered organizations may be something like the sewing circle or the acequia association, or the mutual domestic. They're there for the benefit of their particular organization and they're using it for their purposes, not necessarily for an issue at large in their community area.

So I think it should be very specific to that type of use that benefits the County and the work that we do with regard to planning, organization. We know we can get a larger pool of people when we reach out to that particular CO versus the RO. And then you have the rococo, so if anybody wants to see what that is it's all about art and we can go there another time. Anyway, I don't know why I went there. We have a registered organization, a community organization, and then somebody talks about the cocoa all the time it's the rococo.

That being said, those organizations exist and it's important that we know about them and their use and the importance to our community work within the county. So that's really my greatest interest is making sure that one, we elevate their use so they don't get bumped. If they're first, I recognize for things like collections, etc. there are things that no, they can't have their meetings at that, but I don't think any one of those organizations should be bumped because somebody's friend needed it for a funeral. Or talk to them about it. Maybe the person deserves it for their funeral. But it's important that those organizations are acknowledged for the good work that they do.

So I appreciate everything that you're doing. It really does make a difference in

our communities to have community buildings that they can go to and take care of their business and see each other and meet. So thank you sincerely for your presentation today.

MR. CHAPPELL: Madam Chair, thank you for your comments and for your clarification on communities versus counties. I think that was the point I was trying to get across and you touched base on it perfectly. So thank you.

CHAIR BUSTAMANTE: You did very well. I'm grateful for your presentation. Thank you.

9. Matters from the County Manager

A. Miscellaneous Updates

MANAGER SHAFFER: Thank you, Chair Bustamante and Commissioners. The only real update that I wanted to provide the Board and hopefully help further our public outreach effort is we are planning a wildfire mitigation and preparedness community education day on Saturday, March 29th from 9:00 am to noon at the County Fairgrounds. The hope is that this event will help equip residents, homeowners associations and property owners with essential information and resources to strengthen their wildlife mitigation and preparedness efforts.

Topics that we know that will be addressed include Smart 911 and emergency alerts, firescaping and home wildfire assessments, evacuation planning, sustainable landscaping, volunteer opportunities to assist relative to these efforts. Thus far representatives are slated to be present from the Santa Fe County Fire Department, our Office of Emergency Management, our Regional Emergency Communication Center, our Sustainability Division, as well as the City of Santa Fe Fire Department and Fire Marshal's Office, and the State Department of Homeland Security and Emergency Management. And we'll continue to work between now and the event to identify other presenters and boothers who would be in a position to provide valuable information to our residents and we look forward to working with each of you to help also spread the word to get folks out to this important event.

That's the primary update that I have for you, Chair.

CHAIR BUSTAMANTE: Thank you, Manager Shaffer. Okay.
Commissioner Greene.

COMMISSIONER GREENE: Thank you, Manager Shaffer. I was approached by the folks at PNM and given the wind shut-down and that they would like to participate in the fire mitigation. And if it's possible to put them on our next agenda it will be just prior to that. They've asked to update the Commission about that pre-emptive shut-down and to see if we had questions about it and how we could work closer together in that. So as you mentioned, you were looking for other people to become involved in that, here's one for you.

MANAGER SHAFFER: Thank you for that, and we had reached out to PNM as of the preparation for my updates I hadn't had confirmation that they were interested, so that's great news and we'll be sure to advertise that as well and make sure that they're on our next agenda. Thank you, Commissioner Greene.

COMMISSIONER GREENE: Thanks.

9. **B. The First Session of the 57th Legislature: Updates and Potential Action to Express Support for or Opposition to Legislation that Has Been or May be Introduced** [*Exhibit 1: Legislature Report*]

CHAIR BUSTAMANTE: Do we have anything for our 57th legislature to report?

HVTCE MILLER (County Manager's Office): Good afternoon, Chair Bustamante, Commissioners. Intergovernmental Outreach Coordinator with the County Manager's Office. It looks like all the reports have been passed out. This same report is available on BoardDocs as well under item 9. B.

So the report I've provided you today is simple in nature. We're almost at the finish line there. We have this week and on Saturday, the 22nd will be the last day of the legislature. It looks like things are going fairly well but to my surprise, the list of things that have been passed and sent over to the Governor's Office I was surprised to see it was still at four items, the same from last week. And the following pages, pages 2 through 21 are all the pieces of legislation that have passed, either from the House onto the Senate or from the Senate onto the House.

I wasn't going to spend much time going over particular items there but I just wanted to note that particular categories that are related to our priorities at the County for categories, I noted that there was a particularly large amount of crime bills, bills related to sustainability, and bills related to housing as well. Of particular note regarding sustainability, Senate Bill 21, which is permitting discharge into waterways, that passed its final committee this morning so it will be going onto the House floor and it looks like it's moving quite well.

In housing, House Bill 448, which creates the Office of Planning and Development for Housing within DFA, that is moving forward and it looks like it's got good traction. And that would be beneficial to the County in that it more clearly organizes at the state level for the state itself and for localities and tribal governments to go to a centralized location within the state to learn how to get its housing projects done and affordable housing projects done, which is a great need within the state, this legislative session and previous legislative sessions as well.

The budget has not been heard on the Senate side so that's still being debated and all the finishing elements and agency requests and also capital outlay and also any tax changes which affect the state budget as a whole as well are still being contemplated and therefore House Bill 2 is still working its way through the Senate.

In asking our contract lobbyist today I was told that the capital outlay bill, it appears that it would come about Friday or Saturday in the House Tax and Revenue Committee and then we'll be able to see what the projects are for Santa Fe County that have been funded and the amounts they have been funded at. So we're still waiting on that as well this week.

If there were particular bills within this report or any that you had questions about, I was providing you these particular bills because they're closest to the finish line right now and they have the most likelihood of advancing on, and if you had any

questions on those either/or related to subject matter, I can get you the information. I just didn't want to spend too much time here going over each and every piece of legislation related to particular subject matter.

Particular bills that we've been discussing in the Manager's Office that were of concern that we wanted to bring to your attention was House Bill 438 and I don't have that information provided to you in the report but I can give you a synopsis of House Bill 438. The title is Employment Payment for Unused Leave, and what it is is the latest version is the substitute which was in House, Labor, Veterans and Military Affairs Committee, and the bill as it stands is: the substitute for House Bill 438 would require the state or political subdivision allow employees to cash out unused compensatory leave or at least compensatory leave at least twice per year and require those employers to pay employees for the full value of unused compensatory leave at the end of each calendar year. So that's comp time.

So the County itself doesn't have it within the budget right now to make those payments so if this bill were to pass and we were required to pay comp time that would be a concern. I don't believe that we have the actual fiscal impact to the County as of yet right now to say what that cost would be to the County, but this does fall under the purview of protecting revenue for the County. So I don't believe that taking any position on this particular bill would take any special action by the County Commission at this point because it's already in the purview of your legislative priorities to protect revenue of the County.

Two other bills that were of concern to the County that would affect revenue are House Bill 344 and Senate Bill 295. And what these bills do are eliminate GRT for medical services and also medical supplies or related materials, related to medical services. And from the fiscal impact report for House Bill 344, it estimates an impact of \$83.5 million to \$102.1 million impact to local governments. So that's to say over the whole state, counties and municipalities. So we don't know what that particular impact would be to the County but we do bring that to your attention because it is of particular concern because it could decrease the GRT generated by the County.

I'll go to the County Manager if you wanted to add more to those particular bills of interest.

MANAGER SHAFFER: Thank you, Hvtce, for the presentation generally. I'll just clarify relative to House Bill 438 under County policy and collective bargaining agreements. Accrued compensatory leave is paid out upon separation as of right. What this bill would do if it were to be enacted by the legislature in its current form would mandate that the County offer to buy compensatory leave back from employees on a twice annual basis. We don't need legislation for that. If that's something the Board wants to entertain we could move forward with that. That's something that we could negotiate with collective bargaining units and unions regarding. But what this bill would do if it was enacted would mandate that that be done, and as Hvtce said it's a commandeering of local resources and we would have to be budgeting for that potential recurring contingent liability, and that's really the basis for any objection is those decisions really should be entrusted to the Board of County Commissioners.

Relative to the potential tax package and the significant deductions that are being at least considered by a significant number of legislators who had signed on to co-sponsor

the tax legislation, we'd have to, again, go through the process of estimating what that would mean to us. It would not be insignificant if you think about the number of medical providers that we have within Santa Fe County. And it underscores the challenges that we face as it relates to tax policy in that the legislature establishes what deductions are and ultimately what our tax base is through the gross receipts tax and as Hvtce alluded to, those impacts could be not insignificant as we go forward relative to that legislation.

So our basic position is that we need certainty relative to the tax base and revenue as we plan our budgets and we plan for future needs of our communities. Certainly a robust and complete hold harmless would help. That's not what's currently on offer. But we also know from the last time that a hold harmless was enacted into law that those aren't permanent guarantees and with regard to the food deduction and exiting medical deduction, the legislature ultimately phased those out.

So again, those are issues that we'll be actively monitoring. We feel within reason that we have, based upon the Board's general policy resolution, the ability to advocate to maintain local control over local taxes as well as voice our opposition to efforts to reduce the tax base and reduce the amount of local revenue coming to the County to meet constituent needs and priorities as defined by the Board. So I'd be happy to answer any questions on those but the last couple weeks we anticipate that there will be some defense being played relative to local control and local tax revenue.

CHAIR BUSTAMANTE: Thank you, Manager Shaffer. Are there any questions, comments, concerns? Or more information that you'd like to provide?

MR. MILLER: Chair Bustamante, that concludes the overview of my report, so I'm happy to entertain any questions.

CHAIR BUSTAMANTE: Any questions? Commissioner Hughes or Commissioner Cacari Stone?

COMMISSIONER HUGHES: No questions.

COMMISSIONER CACARI STONE: No questions either. Thanks.

CHAIR BUSTAMANTE: Thank you. Thank you very much.

MR. MILLER: Thank you.

10. Matters from County Commissioners and Other Elected Officials

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

CHAIR BUSTAMANTE: As well as any pertinent, relevant meeting notes that you want to share with your fellow Commissioners. We'll start with Commissioner Cacari Stone, go to Commissioner Hughes, and then come to the dais.

COMMISSIONER CACARI STONE: Thank you, Chair Bustamante. I was able to participate in my first Metropolitan Planning Organization Committee, of course with Commissioner Greene and Commissioner Johnson as well.

I want to give a successful update to the County-City collaboration along with the Mexican Consulate for the Know Your Rights. On February 27th we had about 150 community members. There had to be at least eight lawyers that came from the Mexican Consulate, and provided people legal services on site. In order to do intergovernmental

work well it takes a village and our County team really showed up from the County Manager to the Fire Chief, the Sheriff's Office. I want to thank Kimberly Vigil. I think she's still on, shout-out to you for stellar organizing and pulling together a power point that showed the difference between the law enforcements at the City and the County level. I think that was very helpful. Thank you to Jennifer Romero. Thank you to the Comms Team; Daniel Fresquez did an amazing job. The reason I'm bringing up their names, Olivia Romo as well, is we actually provided the translations simultaneous from Spanish to English. It was very successful, and Daniel was actually able to record those, so our Comms Team, along with the County Manager's Office have uploaded a special webpage with resources and you can view the videos. We have testimonies where the State, our Attorney General, as well as our State Police, as well as our City and County law enforcement stand together and it was a true testimony to together stronger and united communities. So I thank you for your time on that.

I just want to also thank the County for the support of me being able to participate in the National Association of Counties. It was my first time at the legislative forum in DC. These are very, very important intensive opportunities again to do intergovernmental facilitation, meetings on the hill. I just want to report that there were 72 members from across all New Mexico counties in participation, including Commissioner Greene. It was great that Ambra was able to join us from his office as well. The County Treasurer Manzanares, the County Clerk Clark, and many others who participated from Santa Fe.

And I just wanted to highlight as we're going into a budget period with the County that local government matters and constituents listening now or later, they were presenting the president's executive orders and anticipating the federal impacts. At this point as information we'll understand as we go. I think the DOGE and the federal funding freezes and the elimination of federal employees does have an impact locally. Congressional offices particularly, Senator Lujan, Senator Martin Heinrich and Congresswoman Theresa Leger are all available to constituents and to our County and our County Commissioners to bring stories regarding Medicaid cuts that may come down the pike, how they're going to impact county hospitals.

We have \$1.8 billion of Medicaid coming to New Mexico. Disaster reform, emergency management, the tariffs, which will increase the cost of the housing, building market. As we look at drywall, as we look at lumber. I think there's a whole slew of stuff to consider as Commissioners and when we think about our budget being sound, how do we make provisions to assure there are safety net monies for our communities in terms of food and being able to afford.

I know that we I did some work with Commissioner Hughes with Anchorum and others, Consuelo's Place anticipated a 40 percent hike and increase in homelessness as a result of executive orders and the federal decisions. So we are yet to make decisions as a Commission and I hope together we'll make sound decisions but also think about creating a pocket of money for our safety net. Thank you, Chair Bustamante.

CHAIR BUSTAMANTE: Thank you, Commissioner Cacari Stone, Commissioner Hughes.

COMMISSIONER HUGHES: Thank you. Well, I did meet with the residents of Churchill Road last week and I just wanted to mention they are a small enclave that's not on public water and they're worried about their wells, particularly, and

I don't know if they expressed this. The County is proposing to move the water rights from Stagecoach, which is downtown, to a County well in Rancho Viejo and only use the well when there's a drought. So there wouldn't be any problem except when there's a drought and they're worried that it will affect their wells. Now, whether it will or not, it doesn't matter, but I think also, just due to climate change their wells are drying up. They regularly have to go get water from a County station and bring it and fill their tanks that way. So we may need at some point to figure out how to put them on public water, because they are surrounded by communities that are on public water. In fact the sewer line we're proposing goes right near them. So maybe they can benefit from that as well.

Also, I just want to mention we're moving ahead with a supportive housing project. I'm happy to work with Commissioner Cacari Stone. She's an expert in mental health and I like to think of myself as an expert in housing. So together we can bring some clarity to that. Yes, Consuelo's Place, homelessness is probably going to increase so I'm glad that we're able to support Consuelo's Place in a small way. That's about it.

CHAIR BUSTAMANTE: Thank you, Commissioner Hughes.
Commissioner Greene.

COMMISSIONER GREENE: Thank you, Madam Chair. As mentioned by Commissioner Cacari Stone, I got back from Washington, DC from the National NACo legislative meeting. It was a great experience to be with our brothers and sisters from around the country discussing county issues. Got to meet with our delegation. Met with Senator Ben Ray Lujan face to face and then some of the team members from Congresswoman Theresa Leger Fernandez' office, from Senator Heinrich's office and from Representative Stansbury's office.

Some of the things that were take-aways from the NACo meeting were some issues from the federal budget. The federal budget hasn't been passed but the House guidelines really have – there were five listed issues. The first one was of major concern. Maybe less impacting our hospitals in Santa Fe County but impacting our rural hospitals in counties that surround us that will then impact our hospitals because as NACo put it, the Medicaid cuts that are proposed could impact 75 to 80 percent of rural hospitals around the country. So if the Taos Hospital or the Las Vegas Hospital were to close then our hospitals might be impacted with some additional load here.

Another tax policy issue that was brought up to us was removing the tax deductibility of county bonds and municipal bonds. And so it was put to us that this would raise our cost of borrowing anywhere from 20 to 30 percent. And while it may not impact us because our bond rating is very good, it would also put us at a competitive disadvantage compared to some other areas that are competing in the market for bonds.

Also brought up was immigration and jails and liability, things that we've already covered here amongst ourselves so I feel that we're relatively prepared for those other issues that were brought up and the tariffs, but really the issue on our hospitals and our bonding ability were a big issue that was brought up in NACo.

As for BDD tour, we had to cancel our March meeting. We had some miscommunications at the City due to that blackout issue that didn't come to fruition, but none the less, the City cancelled all evening meetings that day and this qualified as a City-County meeting with the City as the lead, so we had to cancel that meeting.

We did have a tour of the BDD treatment facility a little over a week ago – less

than a week ago actually. Oh, maybe a week ago, but thanks to the BDD staff and the legal team for their time for their explanations. Commissioner Johnson was there and took part in it. It was a great tour to understand the history and the facilities that are making a lot of the water that Santa Fe County drinks. It was a great explanation there.

Lastly, on the water issue, I want to thank Ambra, our liaison, and our County Manager. Ambra went to take part in the Chupadero Water Association meeting last night and was able to understand the concerns of the community and make sure that the communications between the County and the water association are clear and really make sure that our relationship with that organization and that community were spot on so that they know that they can communicate with us and that we know who to communicate with them to make sure that we have their issues addressed.

Just to give you some reference, we have a resolution and we've been investing a bunch of money that has been state money up till now for the most part in upgrading the Chupadero water system. There's a little ways to go but they've just brought a new well and pre-treatment facility or maybe that was unnecessary because of the quality of the water coming out of it, but a new water tank. And we've got some waterlines to do in the near future. And the resolution that is 2012 says that at some point Santa Fe County would be taking over this water system. And so we have a bunch of steps to go to get to that point and so we're trying to expedite that so it just doesn't linger forever. Thank you, Madam Chair and we'll see you in a couple weeks.

CHAIR BUSTAMANTE: Thank you, Commissioner Greene.
Commissioner Johnson.

COMMISSIONER JOHNSON: Thank you, Madam Chair. As Commissioner Greene mentioned, I attended the BDD tour. I found it illuminating and impressive. I want to thank staff who run the facility. We had a great tie. It was very interesting to see the processing that we do at that station and it's extremely important. Our water quality is great that runs through those pipes, so compliments to them.

As was mentioned, we had our first meeting of the MPO and me as a member, outgoing chair Greene, that is another City-County collaboration. I attended also with Commissioner Greene the EV patrol and recruiting roll-out. I hope that was after the last BCC. I thought that important that we make steps toward electrification in Santa Fe County and this was a good first step. It was somewhat hijacked by the breaking news of the Hackman-Arakawa deaths in Santa Fe and so I want to give a shout-out to Sheriff Mendoza who was able to nimbly skip between the different topics of the day, but it was fun to go out to the movie ranch, so keep an eye out for the patrol vehicles.

I want to thank Growth Management. They sent a whole squad to chat with the Community of Canada de los Alamos on an issue sort of about jurisdiction and the use of the forest, and we're trying to make county-specific solutions and they were very helpful in that. So I appreciate their efforts there.

For the North Central Regional Transit District we had a meeting on the 7th, county relevant updates. One I think of great interest to me is a micro-expansion in La Cienega for Phase 1 of the blue bus routes. They are both zone and sort of specific sort of bus stop strategies being deployed in that area. Phase 1 is sort of forthcoming quite soon. Phase 2 which is very needed for Santa Fe is a connection to the Santa Fe area from the transit center down here. And it's surprising that we don't have one but the blue bus will

be the partner to begin that and so I think both Councilor Garcia and I who are the Santa Fe representatives are very interested in pushing that forward.

The Santa Fe station for the blue bus is prepared to be expended although it's just a preliminary study at this time, and then the NCRTD is also establishing an art and transit program where the blue bus shelters would be decorated by local artists or designed with local art.

So one final thing. This is funny and personal, but my neighbor and constituent and friend, Drew Daniels, was the cinematographer for the film, *Anora*, which really cleaned up at the Oscars so I just want to give him a shout-out. They made an incredible film and we have these folks in Santa Fe. So it's worth acknowledging that. Thank you..

CHAIR BUSTAMANTE: Thank you, Commissioner Johnson. I didn't have any committee meetings since our last but we have the WPAC on Thursday of this week and again, that is a meeting that people are available to attend and observe from the public or as a Commissioner. We have had a meeting, actually an open house last night with INTERA, the consultant that's doing the sampling for PFAS. That was yesterday at Public Works. I want to thank Public Works for making that available and having people come in. We have right now I believe close to ten consent letters that have been provided from the areas that have been targeted for sampling per the grid that will give us an idea of what the expanse is and the locations of the PFAS contamination. I'm sorry for those who may not know who INTERA is. INTERA is the contractor for the PFAS identification work that the County has contracted with.

We also have had a lot of discussion in various areas from the mutual domestic asking some questions that I have and I'm hoping that we can get some information about the County's role with our mutual domestics, the various local entities that provide water in our smaller rural areas and what we can do and how water is served by those entities and how the County works with entities like mutual domestics.

As well, we had meetings regarding road access from Highway 14 which consistently seems to come up as an issue and it's one of those straight-aways where traffic coming out onto Highway 14 continues to be an issue and I'm very grateful to Ryan from our Public Works for meeting with constituents to address those issues.

Otherwise, that is all that I have. I hope I'm not leaving anything out. We had a meeting while everyone was meeting with the team in DC we had a meeting requested by their local support liaisons with Theresa Leger Fernandez, Martin Heinrich, Ben Ray Lujan and our representation, because they wanted an update on the PFAS issue. So we met with them and gave them the details of how many households approximately have been potentially affected, where we stood with the work with PFAS and any concerns that we would have that we would want to pass off to our federal representation. But everything is moving forward smoothly and they understand that the liability is largely nationally being put on the manufacturers of the constituents of concern. So that happened as well.

10. **B. Elected Officials' Issues and Comments, Including but not Limited to Constituent Concerns, Recognitions and Requests for Updates or Future Presentations** - There were none

11. Matters from the County Attorney

A. Executive Session. Limited Personnel Matters

1. Performance Evaluation of the County Manager

CHAIR BUSTAMANTE: Our closed session has been cancelled.

WALKER BOYD (County Attorney): I believe this item has been moved to the next meeting.

CHAIR BUSTAMANTE: That item has been moved to our next meeting.

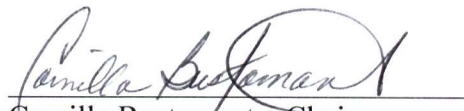
12. Concluding Business

A. Announcements


B. Adjournment

Upon motion by Commissioner Johnson and second by Commissioner Cacari Stone, and with no further business to come before this body, Chair Bustamante declared this meeting adjourned at 5:15 p.m.

Approved by:


Camilla Bustamante, Chair
Board of County Commissioners

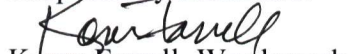
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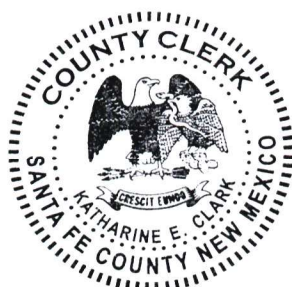


KATHARINE E. CLARK
SANTA FE COUNTY CLERK



Respectfully submitted:

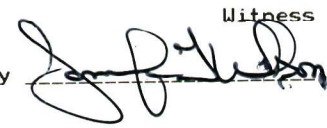

Karen Farrell, Wordswork
453 Cerrillos Road
Santa Fe, NM 87501



COUNTY OF SANTA FE)
STATE OF NEW MEXICO) ss

BCC MINUTES
PAGES: 48

I Hereby Certify That This Instrument Was Filed for
Record On The 30TH Day Of April, 2025 at 01:54:26 PM
and Was Duly Recorded as Instrument # 2057938
of The Records Of Santa Fe County

Witness My Hand And Seal Of Office
Katharine E. Clark
Deputy  County Clerk, Santa Fe, NM

SFC CLERK RECORDED 04/30/2025