



**SANTA FE COUNTY**  
**REGULAR MEETING**  
**BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS**

**May 9, 2023**

1. A. This regular meeting of the Santa Fe Board of County Commissioners was called to order at approximately 2:05 p.m. by Chair Anna Hansen in the County Commission Chambers, 102 Grant Avenue, Santa Fe, New Mexico.

**B. Roll Call**

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

**Members Present:**

Commissioner Anna Hansen, Chair  
Commissioner Hank Hughes, Vice Chair  
Commissioner Anna Hamilton  
Commissioner Camilla Bustamante  
Commissioner Justin Greene

**Members Excused:**

None

- C. Pledge of Allegiance**
- D. State Pledge**
- E. Moment of Reflection**

The Pledge of Allegiance and the State Pledge were led by Chair Hansen and the Moment of Reflection by Monica Harmon from the Growth Management Department. Chair Hansen who acknowledged that this building and Santa Fe County is the original homeland of the Tewa people also known as Ogha Po'oga Owingeh, "White Shell Watering Place."

Commissioner Hughes asked for a moment of silence for Nolan Zisman, a volunteer on the Transportation Advisory Committee and active in his community, and also for the most recent victims of gun violence.

Commissioner Bustamante asked for a moment of silence for the victims of anger in this country.

SFC CLERK RECORDED 06/21/2023

**F. Approval of Agenda**

CHAIR HANSEN: I want to apologize to Manager Shaffer for referring to him as our previous Manager, but I can't help but associate the budget hearings with our former County Manager, Katherine Miller.

GREG SHAFFER (County Manager): Madam Chair, if that's the worst thing I'm called this week then things are okay.

CHAIR HANSEN: Okay. Great

MANAGER SHAFFER: In terms of the agenda, I wanted to apologize that the land acknowledgement wasn't included and staff is working to make sure that our template agenda has that moving forward.

In terms of the actual substance of the agenda, the initial agenda was posted last Tuesday, May 2<sup>nd</sup> and the amended agenda was posted on Friday, May 5<sup>th</sup> at about 5:24 pm, which is in excess of 72 hours before today's meeting as required by the Open Meetings Act. The caption was updated and packet material was added for Consent Agenda 4. D, which concerns the donation of rural property by the Rancho Viejo North Community Association for the northeast-southeast connect.

Packet material was either added or updated for agenda item 4. E, 5. A, 7. A, 7. F, and 8. B. And in addition, items 1 through 4 were added to agenda item 12. A, Matters from the County Attorney. Thank you.

CHAIR HANSEN: Thank you, Manager Shaffer. What's the pleasure of the Board?

COMMISSIONER HAMILTON: Madam Chair, move to approve the agenda as described.

COMMISSIONER HUGHES: I second.

CHAIR HANSEN: So I have a motion from Commissioner Hamilton and a second from Commissioner Hughes.

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

**2. APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES**

**A. Request Approval of the April 5, 2023 Special Meeting**

CHAIR HANSEN: Do we have any changes? I submitted some to the stenographer, to Karen.

COMMISSIONER HAMILTON: Madam Chair, move to approve the April 5<sup>th</sup> special meeting minutes with the changes.

CHAIR HANSEN: Thank you.

COMMISSIONER HUGHES: Second.

CHAIR HANSEN: Okay, I have a motion to approve from Commissioner Hamilton, a second from Commissioner Hughes.

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

**B. Request Approval of the April 11, 2023 Regular Meeting**

CHAIR HANSEN: Does anybody have any changes? Seeing none, what's the pleasure of the Board?

COMMISSIONER HUGHES: Madam Chair, I move to approve the minutes of April 11<sup>th</sup>.

COMMISSIONER HAMILTON: Second.

CHAIR HANSEN: Okay, I have a motion from Commissioner Hughes, a second from Commissioner Hamilton.

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

**C. Request Approval of the April 14, 2023 Special Meeting**

CHAIR HANSEN: Does anybody have any changes?

CHAIR HANSEN: Madam Chair, move to approve.

COMMISSIONER BUSTAMANTE: Second.

CHAIR HANSEN: Okay, I have a motion by Commissioner Hamilton, a second by Commissioner Bustamante.

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

**3. CONSIDERATION PROCLAMATIONS, RESOLUTIONS, AND/OR RECOGNITIONS**

None were presented.

**4. CONSENT AGENDA**

**A. Request (1) Approval of Amendment No. 1 to Agreement 2022-0185-FIN/CW Between Santa Fe County and REDW, LLC., Increasing the Compensation an Additional \$166,994, for a Total Contract Sum of \$324,228, Inclusive of NMGRT, and Extending the Term for An Additional Year and (2) Delegation of Signature Authority to the County Manager to Sign the Purchase Orders (Finance Division/Bill Taylor and Yvonne S. Herrera)**

**B. Request (1) Approval of Amendment No. 5 to Agreement No. 2018-0151-HA/MM Between Santa Fe County and the Boys & Girls Club of Santa Fe/Del Norte Extending the Term an Additional Year and Increasing the Compensation an Additional \$170,000 for a Contract Sum Not to Exceed \$1,020,000, Inclusive of NMGRT, and (2) Delegation of Signature Authorization to the County Manager to Sign the Purchase Order (Purchasing Division/Bill Taylor and Community Development Department/J. Jordan Barela)**

- C. **Request (1) Approval to Utilize the Statewide Price Agreement No. 00-00000-20-00110 with Road Runner Plaster & Drywall LLC., Pursuant to Ordinance No. 2012-5 Section 1, Outside Contracts, for the Re-stucco of the Airport Road Facility, in the Amount of \$517,313.64, Inclusive of NMGRT, and (2) Delegation of Signature Authority to the County Manager to Sign the Amendment and Purchase Order(s) (Purchasing Division/Bill Taylor and Public Works Department/Phillip Montano)**
- D. **Request (1) Approval of Property Donation Agreement from the Rancho Viejo North Community Association (RVNCA) for Property Necessary to Construct the Connection of an ADA-Compliant Trail as Part of the Northeast/Southeast Connector Roads Project and (2) Delegation of Signature Authority to the County Manager to Sign All Documents Necessary to Accept Conveyance of the Donated Property (Public Works Department/Ivan Trujillo and Scott Kaseman) (Caption Updated and Packet Material Added)**
- E. **Request Approval of Report of April 14, 2023, Inspection of the Santa Fe County Adult Detention Facility Pursuant to Section 33-3-4 NMSA 1978 (County Manager's Office/Gregory S. Shaffer and County Attorney's Office/Jeff Young) (Packet Material Added) (Caption Updated)**

CHAIR HANSEN: Is there anything that any Commissioner would like to have taken off the Consent Agenda? Seeing none.

COMMISSIONER HAMILTON: Madam Chair, move to approve the Consent Agenda.

COMMISSIONER GREENE: Second.

CHAIR HANSEN: Okay, I have a motion from Commissioner Hamilton, a second from Commissioner Greene.

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

**5. ASSESSOR'S ANNUAL REPORT AND VALUATION MAINTENANCE PROGRAM**

- A. **Presentation on Assessor's Annual Report and Valuation Maintenance Program, Including Informational Document titled: "2023 Accomplishments/Goals/ Deficiencies"**

CHAIR HANSEN: Welcome, Assessor Romero. Welcome, Deputy Ivan Barry and staff from the Assessor's Office, welcome also. Nice to see you all. Thank you for being here.

ISAIAH ROMERO (County Assessor): Good afternoon, Madam Chair, Commissioners. So Ivan and I want out to Cerrillos, New Mexico and when we got to one of the properties there they said, are you guys the Men in Black? And today, this was not exactly planned out but that's what we have today. We'll be going over an overview

of the relationship of sales and valuations in our office, reappraisal plan and our valuation plan. And I'll be going over the annual report and Ivan will be going over the property valuation maintenance program.

So the first thing I will be discussion is assessed valued, taxable valuable and net taxable value, and we'll wait until we can see that a little better and I'll go over the sample.

CHAIR HANSEN: Matt will be right with you.

ASSESSOR ROMERO: Okay. Well, I can talk about something real quick. I just want to thank and really highlight the abilities and the talent and the hard work that our office puts in day in and day out. These people in our office are very talented. They understand the market. They understand their job, and with vacancies we understand how each position is very important and how we all contribute to everything that we do. I just really want to state how great our office is and those employees that work within our office and those that help put this together, and help in sending out our notice of values.

So if you look at the sample, the example, it talks about there in the red on page 2, market value. We're not expressing market value. That is the value that is captured based on data and sales information, and that is usually stored in our system -- that's our mass appraisal system, a part of our mass appraisal system. And market value is the value again that is derived utilizing the three approaches to value -- the assessed comparison, the income approach, and the cost approach.

When we get to the assessed value for non-residential -- non-residential means that that's vacant land or commercial. So non-residential property, the market value and assessed value are the same. But when you're talking about residential value, the assessed value is different than the market value, depending on when they purchased, right. There's the three percent limitation of valuation, and those could be different based on when they purchased due to that limitation.

Let's continue on to taxable value. Taxable value is one-third of the assessed value, and that is what the state has made a decision on is you are taxed, essentially on one-third of your value. And then once you take out the exemptions -- everyone's familiar I hope with the head of family exemption, veteran's exemptions, and total exemptions in general, once you've taken those out of taxable value, you now get to net taxable, and that net taxable is what you would multiply times the mill rate to get your actual tax dollars to be paid.

Now, there's a whole lot of data here and I don't want to take a lot of your time, but if you go down to -- you look at that first part it says there prior year, 2022 and 2023, that is a snapshot of how we did 2022 and 2023. If you look at the subtotal for residential land, residential improvements, non-residential land and non-residential improvements, for 2022 we had \$9,499,787,114. And for the year of 2023 we have \$10,683,199,567, which is a difference of 12.5 percent, roughly 12.5 percent.

Personal property, if you get to the subtotal there, you'll see that we increased about almost one percent, as far as for personal property. State assessed -- so state assessed is something -- it's property within our county that is assessed through the state because it goes through many county lines. And that state assessed has gone from \$152 million, roughly, to \$164 million. And that increase as well is about 7.5 percent. That

gives you a subtotal of everything of \$9,746,689,758 to \$10,942,498,996.

So once you've taken out the exemptions that there will give you the net taxable. And for the next taxable we've moved up from \$8 billion, roughly – \$8,694,115,440 to \$9,690,983,656, which is a difference of 11.5 percent.

Agricultural property, on the bottom left, this is just what I explain to you, this is just a portion of taxation that I wanted to explain to you a little bit. So agricultural, if you choose to grow or produce something of sustenance to either sell or consume, you could, if you meet requirements, pay your value at a special method of valuation. And those accounts, we have 2,242 of those accounts, and 458,262 acres that are being valued at a special rate because of agricultural purposes. And the total reduction would be about \$472,651,348. That just gives you an idea of how much is reduced due to the special method in the County of Santa Fe.

If you look at the bottom right you have protests and it looks like the total amount that was being protested for 2021 was \$796,263,734, and in 2022 it was \$759,636,924. And if you look there, the total final adjusted values were \$658,752,500 for 2022, and \$744,191,519 for 2021.

This is a history of new value added, and this is at market. Remember I was telling you guys about market value. So the total new value added to the tax rolls is \$531,275,709. One thing to remember is this year we noted that hospitals were not on the tax rolls. Well, they were, but not fully, not the buildings. One hospital, their land was being assessed, the other hospital a small portion. But we never truly had an application for an exemption. So we're going through that process now. So they've been placed on the tax rolls and that's why you have such an increase from 2022. And the hospitals account for about \$281 million of that value, and we're going through the process now of looking at their information, looking at their data to see what portion of their property is indeed charitable, educational or religious. So if you want to be exempt, and you're not a government in New Mexico you have to be charitable, educational or religious. And we're going through that process with them now.

So the growth of net taxable value history, and these values here include new to the tax rolls as well as increases in valuation within the county. So this one here is telling the tale of net taxable. That's after the exemptions have gone through. And total here increase from 2022 was \$654,420,676 to close to a billion. So it's \$996 million roughly. Something to consider, the last page on this page is 2021 we decided to decrease values because of COVID especially on the commercial side. Not too much on the res because those values were stable somewhat that year, but in 2021 commercial values did decrease. As you know, many hotels were not open and that showed us that their values did somewhat decrease. And this year we've said, okay. COVID seems to not be having such an effect. People are traveling. We're looking at the Rocky Mountain Lodgers data, it seems to be that we're back to at the very least of 2019 numbers, depending on how inflation has affected some of these values.

This page will talk a little bit about how the relationship of the sales data and our values and our mean ratio is about 94 percent, which is within standard. If you see to the right of IAAO, meaning that our mean ratio, we're about 94 percent of those sales prices, our value, in all neighborhoods. And then the median is close to 94 percent as well, and when we look at the coefficient of dispersion and price related differentials, measures of

conformity, and it looks like for the COD we're somewhat five percent up or down from the middle range.

This is just somewhat of an explanation of COD and PRD, and to the next page, page 8. And this is a – these are representative of the permits that we receive within our office. We receive County, City permits, and we also receive permits from the state and that's what our totals are, all those all together. If you look at all three of them you'll see 2019, I wanted to give you guys an understanding of how COVID has affected our office and affected the permits that we receive. And in 2019, prior to COVID, we were receiving quite a bit of these permits. And they're different permits for maybe for solar, for new additions, things of that nature. And in 2020 you'll see they decreased because of COVID, and they slowly have increased, so 2022 seems to continue increasing.

And what does that mean to us? That means if we continue to receive permits that means there's no building in Santa Fe County, and we would then reflect that in our valuation, once we've got out to measure them, and been able to place them on the tax rolls.

The next page, so sales affidavits, so we receive sales affidavits for residential property. So the sales affidavits are reflective of residential sales affidavits we're receiving in our county. And we look at the top part where it talks about the sales affidavits in total, both city and county. In 2019 we received about 3,694 sales affidavits or transactions that took place, and if you see 2021, there was that spike, right? Everyone knows that spike. That's when everyone was trying to sell. Anything that was placed on the market for sale was gone in a heartbeat. We started to see somewhat of a pull-back in the market and I think everyone was expecting that. Is the recession coming? Are we in a recession? I can tell you right now as far as sales affidavits we have decreases as far as the amount that we've been receiving for the city and the county. They're reflective of that as well.

Let's go ahead and go to the second to last page, page 10, and there we're talking about total residential value has increased eight percent. Total non-residential value, as I spoke earlier is vacant land and commercial has increase 24 percent, and that is due to us decreasing values in 2021, and now increasing them back to where they should be for the market, and something the state asked us to do as well. They said, hey, looks like the market is coming back. We said, okay, we'll take a look at it, and it seems like we are reflecting the market. As you know, sometimes it's hard for us to get market information for vacant land and commercial because you don't have to fill out an affidavit per state statute for vacant land or commercial. We tried to get something passed this past year in legislation. It died.

So total net taxable value has increased again, 11.5 percent. And total new was increased about 52 percent from last year.

We can go to the last page and well talk a little bit about our accomplishments. Our first accomplishment is customer service presentation in Boston, It's You We Value; ways to provide five-star customer service to internal and external users. We presented out in Boston and we gave examples and ideas of how we are offering great customer service. That was something we're all involved in, Ivan and I and others that are here with us today.

The second is IAAO award, we received on Tuesday, August 30<sup>th</sup>, the Office of



the Santa Fe County Assessor was announced as a recipient in the 2022 International Association of Assessment Officers distinguished assessment jurisdiction award. Representatives received this award while attending or presenting during the 2022 IAAO annual conference in Boston. This award was received due to many technological advancements that have been implemented to better serve the greater Santa Fe community. And so we went out to Boston, we presented and we did receive this award.

The next thing that it states here is we worked with the County Land Use to request vehicle identical VIN information from mobile home placement permits so when a new mobile home comes into the county and they get a permit, they then have to state, hey, this is the VIN number of this mobile home because they're very hard to track. Sometimes it's hard to even find the VIN number in a mobile home and sometimes they're in the cabinet. Sometimes they're on the tongue. Different places. So they can let us know ahead of time, this is the VIN number and it's easier for us to value.

We mailed out the notice of value on April 1<sup>st</sup>. For me I think this was important because this is a reflection of how the Assessor's Office has been planned and has been operating to where we have two news guys come into the office. Not exactly new but new management managing the office. We didn't skip a beat. There were other counties that weren't able to mail out April 1<sup>st</sup>. They had to mail out in May and they asked for an extension, and we were able to mail out on time because of the help of the employees that we do have in the office. They did not skip a beat.

Goals: let's go to goals. So reappraisal plan review, we moved it from a three-year to a four-year. Statute states we have to be at a five-year plan. We found that a four-year plan is more advantageous for us than the three-year, because it seems like we can spend a little more time on taking a look at some of these vacant parcels and say, hey, what's going on with this? Does it have some issues with elevation? Do they have issues with flooding? And we're going to try to spend a little more time on what we've captured and if that's correct, by adding one more year from the three-year to four-year. That's very important to us.

And something that we've thought about is as Ivan and I came in, we want to focus more on the fundamentals. We want to focus more on, hey, I know we've done so many shiny things but do we need to go back and make sure some of these screws are tightened, make sure we're still following some of these old processes on the stuff that we have to do. And I think sometimes when you have a successful office and maybe I'll go back to a video I saw because my son plays soccer and I'm always looking at soccer videos, but we were talking to a soccer coach who's coaching a new team. It's not a new team but he's coaching a team that was pretty successful. And they asked him, what is your plan to continue that success? And he said, what I truly want to do is I want to get back to the fundamentals and we'll build from there. And that has been the thought of ours collectively within the office.

To continue on, improve processes in place for ultimate quality assurance, reviews and audit. We just want to make sure that everything that's going out from our office that quality has taken a look at as well as the chiefs, and we're sending out good information and great information. We're using something called Sequatool to search and to see, does this combination look right? Why do we have two exemptions on this property or on these properties, and we're really trying to find ways to when things don't

make sense so we can find those mistakes. We're not a perfect office. We're not. And we're going to send out some accounts where we didn't mean to do that. So we're doing our best now to find new ways to find those issues.

Improved collaboration with elected office and elected officials and Commissioners. I'm not sure if you saw the front page, Madam Chair. Did you notice that the Santa Fe County log was there? All right. That was something you requested last year, I believe.

CHAIR HANSEN: I noticed it immediately. I was going to recognize and thank you for that because I completely appreciate that. But I noticed it immediately. I just kind of let you do the presentation but I am grateful.

ASSESSOR ROMERO: And that's just the point of that bullet point is we trying to work with the Treasurer's Office. We have initiatives where we've been on the radio together. Commissioner Greene, I'm thankful he's gone out to the public with us to Pojoaque, and so when we go out we're not going alone. There's been many times where we are out in the public and they say, hey, why isn't the Commissioner here? Why isn't the Treasurer here? And we've been able to do that as a joint effort and I think it was successful. And numbers isn't always what I view success. The way I view success is: are we available?

COMMISSIONER GREENE: Thank you for inviting me.

ASSESSOR ROMERO: You got it. Data cleanup efforts to establish better conformity with assessment and mapping data, and some of that has to do with some of the work we're trying to do with GIS and with Erle, and we spoke a little bit about that yesterday.

Organize and execute a new agricultural reappraisal plan. We want to make sure that we are taking a look at every property that is claiming agricultural exemption and we're checking to see if they're still utilizing it in the same way, in the same fashion to receive the special method. As we saw earlier, you receive a really decrease in your valuation for using your property for that purpose.

Adapting new employees and managers in their new roles and creating better support resources, including continued professional development and leadership opportunities. I think many of us have found out that when we're looking for individuals who are to lead in our office, they haven't led for 20 years of 15 years. The new up-and-comers that are now leading, you say, hey, I see something in this person. They have what it takes to lead, and now we just need to develop them and that's where we're making an initiative of making sure we develop those young leaders. What I mean by young is those leaders who haven't been leading for a long time. So making sure they feel supported and give them everything they need.

Continued updates and implementation of future workflows for our major processes. Collaborating with other government offices to receive mobile home information – I spoke a little bit about that to better track assessed mobile homes. Collaborate with City offices to regularly receive new business information. This will prove better assess our business personal property accounts, and that's just working with the City and the County and receiving lists from them of new accounts that apply for business licenses, and making sure they're paying taxes on the BPP accounts or they have accounts created in our office.

Future of technological advances, and that's look forward and looking to see when do we need a new CAMA system and how do we prepare for that? I think so many times we want to do these things, right? But we don't lay the foundation, and that's really us taking a look to see what exactly do we have? Are we collecting the correct data to be prepared for that transition of a new CAMA system. The CAMA system is the system that we utilize to mass appraise all accounts. And ours is about 15 years old.

Recruitment and hiring to become fully staffed for optimum performance. We've had some movement on that. I think we have maybe three or four positions that are still open. GIS, and I think the County as a whole, we're doing our best to find out if the compensation is correct for those GIS techs, and taking a look to see if that needs to be changed. So we're hopeful that that is being done at the moment.

Collaborate with Santa Fe Public Schools to attract student interns. There was a program in Santa Fe Public Schools that I think would be kind of cool and is going to be kind of cool as we work with them. It's a scenario where they work with our office. They're paid by Santa Fe Public Schools, and they're graded on how they're performing in our office based on the information we give their teacher. So if we tell their teacher, hey, they need more help on effort, or they need more help on being on time or applying themselves. We give them ideas and understanding of what they can do to improve, and they do get a grade at the end of the day.

Collaborate with land use to create processes for valuation of short-term rentals. I know that's been a huge subject lately, short-term rentals, and we didn't have enough information this year to make any changes with short-term rentals. However, we do have in our plans to identify all those accounts and go forward with valuing those as statute calls us to in the next NOV's. And we're having conversations now with many representatives with the community, such as the Santa Fe Realtors Association and the New Mexico Association of realtors on how we should go forward with that and disseminating information to everyone.

Complete website upgrade to include conversation of paper forms, electronic and fillable forms for use by the public. Our goal is that if you want to apply for exemptions, right now you can change your address online, but all that is available online and we want to conform to how the new website has developed to. We want to conform to that style. Ours was kind of the older style and we want to upgrade or update ours to conform to the style that you all have and be partners in as many ways as we can with the County.

The deficiencies: PTD found that we're not in compliance with disabled veteran exemptions over five acres. We are currently working with counsel in the final response. And with that, what PTD stated is if you have an account that is five acres or more, or more than five acres, actually, you should get the exemption, meaning the 100 percent exempt from the tax rolls, if you're 100 percent disabled from service, that you should be – at the moment right now, the way we handle those properties, it doesn't matter if you're five acres to 20 acres, you're exempt to the tax rolls. What PTD said is that you should only have, per statute, five acres exempt. And the rest, the excess, should be at market, it should be valued. So that's something we're taking a look at and we're speaking to new counsel, which we do have new counsel. We no longer had Bridget Jacobo. If anyone was familiar with Bridget Jacobo, we're thankful for the work that she has done and we do have new counsel and we're taking a look at that as we speak.

All right. And Ivan for the property valuation maintenance program.

CHAIR HANSEN: Thank you, Assessor Romero. I want to recognize that our former County Assessor, Gus Martinez, is in the audience. Welcome.

IVAN BARRY (Deputy Assessor): All right. So I'm getting ready to load up the property valuation maintenance program document, and so hopefully you'll be able to see that on your screen here pretty shortly. All right. So what I'm going to do today is I'm going to be talking to you about our valuation maintenance program. I will try to take this at a 30,000 feet attempt or approach, because there's a ton of information as to what this entail. Isaiah covered a ton of information too so I'll try to be efficient with the time that we have here today. So I'm going to go forward to page 4. We have a preface. I'm going to go there and let you guys read that on your own if you'd like. However, I'm going to jump to page 4 and kind of get into the meat and potatoes of what we're here for today.

What is the purpose of our property valuation program? So the Office of the Assessor has a statutory obligation to determine valuation for all properties in Santa Fe County, and we're also expected to implement a program updating property values so that current and correct values of property are maintained. The property valuation program components, there's two essential components to our program and that is the valuation and maintenance of data for all property, as well as the reinspection of all taxable improved property every three to four years. So as Assessor Romero mentioned, we are on a four-year cycle. We have taken the quality into consideration when going this direction.

As Assessor Romero discussed yesterday, our operating budget, we have two basic funds. We have the 101 fund, or the general fund that we operate from, as well as the 203 fund, also known as the one percent fund or the County property valuation fund. This is a fund that has been given to us by statute to allow us to conduct this program that we're discussing today.

On page 5 here at the bottom, some of this information we discussed yesterday in regards to our budget. This is a historical look at our general fund. As you can see here, for FY 2022-23 we're looking at \$2,600,000 approximately.

On the next page, we also have a historical bar graph talking about our one percent budget as well as a cumulative budget history for both of those budgets combined. Again, I know we talked about this yesterday so I don't want to take up to much time. However, if you would like to see the information it's there for your reading pleasure.

The next thing that I'd like to discuss is obviously, the transfer of ownership here in Santa Fe County, so property transfers happen every day and we get this information when the properties are transferred, they record their deeds with the Clerk's Office, we get that information and we update ownership in our system, which then also funnels out to the Treasurer's Office as well to make sure that you have a correct notice of value, as well as correct tax bill. Our goal is to enter all of these transactions within two weeks of receiving them. However, thanks to our staff this is happening much faster than that, usually two to three days out. However, we do have that two-week timeframe in place.

The next thing I'd like to discuss is GIS parcel mapping and maintenance. By statute, one of the main responsibilities of the Assessor's Office is to locate, map, and

value all properties within Santa Fe County, and this happens with a heavy lift from our GIS Department, which when fully staffed is four in place; currently we have two. So two people for más o menos 90,000 parcels. It's a heavy lift but this is what we're working with in our office.

I will go forward to page 9 and you will be able to see the historical GIS and mapping statistics. Now, these totals are taking into consideration such as lot splits, lot consolidations, adjustments, public notices – many different things. But as you can see here, for 2022, we have less activity that we're reflecting, whether that's the costs going up in construction or the cost of labor going up, at the end of the day, after much discussion with the Assessor, now we can say for sure that's there's just less activity in the market.

On to page 10 – I hope I'm not going too fast. Or maybe not fast enough. The next thing we'll talk about is valuation and appraisal. The Assessor shall also implement a program of updating property values so that current and correct values of property are maintained. And how do we do that? I'll read the list of items here on page 11. That's through affidavits. So any time sales are being shared we get that information and we correct that information. New construction, so building permits, that is being tracked as well. Land splits or mergers, that is something that we are tracking and we are working with our GIS Department to be on top of that. Agricultural, grazing review. I know Isaiah talked about those numbers earlier. Our CAMA or modeling, so our computer – I know it's computer assisted mass appraisal. So getting all of these factors that we're receiving and using the expertise of our CAMA specialist we're able to determine values on a mass scale using these factors to help us come up with fair and equitable values. And also data entry. So that's all of the information that we've collected. It's being entered into the system.

Business personal property. We send renditions to business owners and we receive this information on the business personal property that they own, and we use the depreciation schedules that are provided to us by the State of New Mexico to help determine values for property within businesses and like Assessor Romero said, we're working with the City and the County for business licenses to be on top of that and to be up to date with the most current businesses that exist in our counties.

I also mention livestock on the title there, but livestock reports that we receive from the New Mexico State Livestock Inspectors Office, again, they have a schedule as to how livestock is valued and we use that information to stay current with those as well.

A lot of this information is about appraisals and at the end of the day an appraisal is an opinion of value based on the data that we have available. So that's how we come up with these valuations.

On page 13 you'll see we come up with our values based on the three approaches. I know Assessor Romero mentioned this already but we have the sales comparison, the cost approach, and the income approach. This is how we determine by using those three different approaches.

The next thing I'd like to talk about is one we get this information we do have a quality control who looks over this information and the quality control works in conjunction with the chief appraisers as well as the CAMA specialists, as well as the systems programmer, and they check for errors. Now, after that's done lists are provided

or compiled by the chiefs, lists of problems that may have errors, and these lists are now delegated to appraisers who go out into the field and they check to make sure that everything is good or if anything needs to be updated that that's updated.

Once we feel good about the data that we've collected we can deliver that data to our print service and they send out your 90,000 notices of value. So we are on the other side of that currently on the schedule right now, and like Assessor Romero said, we're extremely happy because walking into this year that was something that was necessary for us to do by statute.

The next thing is after we send out the notice of value, property owners have 30 days to protest their values if they believe that their values are too high. They have 30 days to do that. They also have 30 days to apply for any exemptions that they may qualify for. So that happens in the month of April. After that time is complete we begin our protest season and we have informal protest hearings and formal protest hearings, and this is to help property owners resolve any valuation discrepancies they may see. We have different – that's the way that works out.

Now on page 17, you'll see in the middle of your page, the historical protest data and this is the quantity of how many protests we have received over the years. I will say that 2023 is not listed here but what we are seeing is that we are closer to our 2019 number, which shows people are getting back out there and they're protesting the values. So we have about 1,600. You'll see an exact number next year when we do this again.

The next thing I'd like to talk about is something that Assessor Romero already touched on about staffing. We're at a better place. I believe at the beginning of the year we were down eight employees and we're closer to reaching our goal of being fully staffed and we're working on different initiatives to be able to recruit qualified employees. We are trying to recruit qualified employees as well as –

We'll get through this as quickly as possible. Again, we support our staff in allowing and searching for different ways to support them whenever there's educational opportunities that arise. A lot of ways is we're trying to make sure that all of our appraisers maintain or receive their certified property appraiser certificate through the State of New Mexico. We have about 20 employees in the office who have this certification, which now being a part of the Assessor Affiliate, we're seeing that is not the case around the state so I'm very proud to say we have many employees that have this certification. And we're also really excited that the increase passed the legislation so we're looking forward to that as well, to help continue support and foster these relationships with our appraisers.

We're also very thankful to Santa Fe County for the opportunities of New Mexico EDGE courses that are offered, and also the Santa Fe County Human Resources Department for helping allow the educational experience from New Mexico EDGE to be considered in the job/employment process. I think that has been extremely beneficial to many people within our office and I'm sure the greater Santa Fe County. We are sincerely thankful for that opportunity.

I'll jump forward to page 19. Here's a look at the staff that we have in our office, and I won't go much further into that. As we discussed many times, we have moved to a four-year cycle, so at the bottom there you can see that we're talking about that Phase 1, so something that has commenced as of April of this year. So we are working on our first

phase of our four-year cycle. This is to include about 20,795 parcels, so that's the first year of reappraisal, and then if you'd like more information on the continuation of each phase, we have those listed there as well.

With that I would jump forward to page 23 of 26, so we're getting closer, guys. That is the re-inspection plan. That is basically – what is the process for someone appraising each property? And that's going to be with an initial view using Eagleview for our annual and oblique imagery to help us make determinations on properties, as well as site visits. We'll gather that information, update amenities, and then enter that information into our 15-year-old CAMA system.

Page 24, we will see a map of Santa Fe County and currently we are in the blue section, so that is the first year of this four-year cycle. So this is for residential. This is about 19,508 accounts. Again, this is just residential. We'll also take a look at commercial. So here's commercial. Again, it's the blue area, and this is going to make up 1,287 parcels. So this is year one out of the four-year cycle.

And finally, the reinspection flow chart. So this is the basic logic that an appraiser would use during the reinspection period. So if you're every curious of how this works out, this is what's going through the appraiser's brain as they are looking at each property. And with that, we are at final here and we will stand for questions.

CHAIR HANSEN: Thank you, Assessor Romero and Deputy Assessor Barry for a very good presentation and complete. You're a very important part of the County. We all value, so to speak, using your terms, and I'm extraordinary grateful that you continue to use the Santa Fe County logo with your own logo, because it really helps constituents understand that this is a Countywide office and that we're all working together, which I think is really important. I will go to the Commissioners for questions. Commissioner Greene.

COMMISSIONER GREENE: Thank you, Madam Chair. Thank you, Assessor and Deputy. That was great. You've taught me three or four times and it takes three or four times to get into this brain so I appreciate it and now I think I – now I'm dangerous.

So two questions. One, are there other exemptions that we're allowed to enact as a matter of policy that we could create to incentivize different things, such as if somebody put solar panels on top of their roof, would we be able to, because it's a fixed asset, would we be able to reduce their – similar to a veterans' deduction? Are those policy things available to us?

ASSESSOR ROMERO: Madam Chair, Commissioners, that is something that would have to be done through legislation.

COMMISSIONER GREENE: So they're not currently available. But legislation, that's a state sort of thing that would have to be –

ASSESSOR ROMERO: Madam Chair, Commissioners, the only thing that I'm aware in the line of solar panels is they're not to be valued on residential property. But as far as an exemption, that's something that would have to be considered and passed through legislation, Commissioner Greene.

COMMISSIONER GREENE: Just for discussion purposes, like a fixed asset such as an EV car charger or a solar panel could be incentivized through a deduction in their property taxes is we went to the legislature. I guess we would have to

do that. But in a progressive county like this it might be something we would want to look at.

So my next question, you gave a great year-by-year look backwards and you mentioned that the trends for the first four months of 2023 were, hey, maybe we're heading into a recession, are you able to pull a first four months, year-to-date for maybe the last few years so we could see what you're seeing. Not necessarily a complete year but we're now four months into 2023 so if we saw the first four months of 2021, first four months of 2022, first four months of 2023, we might be able to see sort of up to date numbers for some of those trends on valuations and numbers of sales, things that might show some –

ASSESSOR ROMERO: Madam Chair, Commissioner Greene, some of the data that we could follow quarter by quarter would be something like building permits or affidavits, but as far as coming with an idea of all the data, how it comes together, that is something we do towards the end of the year or the following 1<sup>st</sup> of January. And that's when we come up with that information, because as we capture it that's when we put all that information together. But as far as information, we could capture that information as far as building permits, as well as affidavits if you'd like to see that info we can try to see if we can get those quarter by quarter for you all, if that's what you'd like to see.

I meet monthly with Deputy Manager with Leandro and we have great conversations on the economy as well as what we're seeing so we can discuss that and we can maybe share that with you. If you'd like to meet with us, we love to have you guys in our office at some point.

COMMISSIONER GREENE: Thank you. I can see the Deputy Manager's tail wagging when you talk about economics. And it's good information for all of us to know, especially now when we're hiring an economist to be really as up to date as possible. But thank you. This was great.

ASSESSOR ROMERO: Madam Chair, Commissioners, yes, we've been working in conjunction with Leandro and take a look at that information and data, yes. As far as our opinion, not just mine but many of the opinions within our office of the great minds we have in our office, right? Who do follow the data, who do follow the economy. The CAMA specialist, he's one of the guys I look to who has shown me a lot about appraisal and what he's always taught me is you want to look at the markets if you're a player in the game. You're a player in the market. Understand and know the market if you are in the market because it allows you to feel the market and see what's coming and see what's happening. So there are many people within in the office who do follow it very well and love that type of work. And again, just another example of how specialized the people are within our office, Commissioner Greene.

COMMISSIONER GREENE: That's great. Thank you for the information and reminding me how to see what you do. Thank you.

CHAIR HANSEN: Thank you, Commissioner Greene. Are there other questions from the Board? Okay. I am really grateful that you use EDGE classes. I think it's really important. They're a valuable tool for the County and for each office, and I think that it's important that we take advantage of what's been created for our wellbeing, so to speak, and how much it adds to the quality of life for people to understand how County operations work and many benefits that the EDGE classes have to offer.



ASSESSOR ROMERO: Madam Chair, I like to put Ivan on the spot so, poor guy, I'd like to put him on the spot to see if we could get a little bit of his opinion in New Mexico EDGE.

MR. BARRY: Absolutely. So at the beginning, when I first started with the County, this was something that was offered as to be able to learn more about how government works through New Mexico EDGE and to see that they have – I don't want to say incentivized but made it hold some kind of weight in getting the certificates. I hold a certificate, certified public official through New Mexico EDGE. I was working to get my manager, but it's been very, very beneficial to me as an employee, and now with the weight that has been allowed by everyone here as well as again, Human Resources. It's awesome to be able to provide another alternative form of education to the people who are looking to become leaders within our office. So we're extremely, extremely grateful and I am speaking from my heart when I say that, honestly. Thank you.

CHAIR HANSEN: Thank you.

ASSESSOR ROMERO: Madam Chair, I just want to state one thing, Deputy Ivan Barry and I always say, we're just a couple of guys from the South Side who were given an opportunity to be able to lead here at the County and be able to grow here at the County. So we're grateful for that. We're grateful for New Mexico EDGE for allowing others just like us to come in to become leaders like us, to have that opportunity. Not to be stuck at their position. What do I do? How do I move up? So again, County Manager, thank you for that. Human Resources, Sonya Quintana, thank you for that. And we're just grateful for that. We're able to speak to others first person on how you can move up in Santa Fe County and become a leader.

CHAIR HANSEN: And I have to say I think it's good for everyone, including the leaders up here on the dais. I know when I've attended EDGE classes I know that employees of the County are always grateful to see the Commissioners also attending these classes alongside them because it brings camaraderie and support. And so I think those are really important skills to also have. So I am a big believer in EDGE and anybody on this Commission can verify that.

**5. B. Resolution No. 2023-041, a Resolution Approving the County Assessor's Property Valuation Program in Accordance with State Statute**

CHAIR HANSEN: So with that, is there anything else? We have a resolution that we need to pass. Do I have a motion for a resolution approving the County Assessor's property valuation program in accordance with state statute?

COMMISSIONER BUSTAMANTE: So moved.

COMMISSIONER GREENE: I'll second.

CHAIR HANSEN: Okay. I have a motion from Commissioner Bustamante and a second from Commissioner Greene.

COMMISSIONER GREENE: And in discussion, I'd like to make a point that you now live in District 1, in Tesuque so you're not from the South Side anymore.

CHAIR HANSEN: One of the great things is you can move around Santa Fe County. We like our employees to live in Santa Fe County.

ASSESSOR ROMERO: I've become a farmer and sometimes I don't want to go out there in the sun and pull the weeds and water the trees, but yes.

CHAIR HANSEN: Okay, so thank you very much. Anything else under discussion?

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

CHAIR HANSEN: Okay. Congratulations. Good job. One more thing, Assessor Romero?

ASSESSOR ROMERO: So Madam Chair, Commissioners, I just want to state one more time that I'd like to thank the Assessors before me, the employees before us, right? A recognition of Herb Gerstner who passed away during COVID. We are grateful for the work they have done. We're not here without their work and the work that our office continually does every single day and from the fact that they enjoy their work. They're passionate about their work. We're not just the "government office." We love what we do. We love valuation inputting data. We enjoy it. Not always, right? It's not 100 percent. We do come in days when it's like, today's not the day. But a majority of the time we're doing the best that we can, the best that we're able to do. We like to use the analogy of we bring the weather with us every day.

CHAIR HANSEN: Recognizing that former County Assessor Gus Martinez is in the building and he's smiling, he knows what you're saying so we appreciate that very much and thank you very much everyone for your service in the Assessor's Office and throughout the County. So thank you.

ASSESSOR ROMERO: Thank you.

[Deputy Clerk Ganz provided resolution numbers.]

**6. APPOINTMENTS/REAPPOINTMENTS**

None were presented.

**7. MISCELLANEOUS ACTION ITEMS**

- A. Final Order for CASE # 16-5281 Arroyo Hondo de Santa Fe (Oshara Village Phase 2) Preliminary Subdivision Plat and Development Plan. G.E. Richards Property, LLC, Applicant, JenkinsGavin, Inc., Agent, Requested Approval of a Preliminary Subdivision Plat for 250 Residential Lots on 111.12 Acres. The Property is Located in the Community College District, Within a Planned Development District, East of Richards Avenue and South of Rabbit Road, within Section 16, Township 16 North, Range 9 East (Commission Districts 4 and 5). Approved 4-1**

CHAIR HANSEN: Welcome, Jose.

JOSE LARRAÑAGA (Building & Development Supervisor): Thank you, Madam Chair. G.E. Richards Property, LLC, applicant, JenkinsGavin, agent, requested

approval of a Preliminary Subdivision Plat for 250 residential lots on 111.12 acres. The property is located in the Community College District, within a Planned Development District, east of Richards Avenue and south of Rabbit Road, within Section 16, Township 16 North, Range 9 East, Commission Districts 4 and 5.

On March 8, 2022 the applicant brought forward and requested the Board of County Commissioners for a Preliminary Subdivision Plan and Development Plan for 250 residential lots on 111.12 acres. The Board approved the applicant's request. This is the final order for the BCC decision. I stand for any questions, Madam Chair.

CHAIR HANSEN: Are there any questions from the Board?

Commissioner Greene.

COMMISSIONER GREENE: Thank you, Madam Chair. Thank you, Jose. I'm wondering about the use of ADUs on these properties. Is it allowable? Is it precluded? Is there anything in the subdivision rules to preclude this or are there any preparations being made to include them in construction?

MR. LARRAÑAGA: Madam Chair, Commissioner Greene, I believe these lots are already maxed out at the maximum build, so ADUs probably wouldn't fit on these lots. It's going to be mixture of housing throughout and you'll see this project is coming forward for final phase in a month or so.

COMMISSIONER GREENE: So what are the average lot sizes here?

MR. LARRAÑAGA: The agent for the applicant is here also if you have any questions of her.

CHAIR HANSEN: In general, in the Community College District and in Oshara particularly the lots are quite small and there's not a lot of room to build an ADU since they're so densely backed in, because 50 percent is open space in the Community College District so if I'm saying anything wrong I'm sure Ms. Jenkins and Jose will correct me but that is the format of that division.

COMMISSIONER GREENE: I understand. Just as a point, on a quarter acre lot, which I think these are larger than a quarter acre – they're smaller than a quarter acre? Very small?

MR. LARRAÑAGA: Madam Chair, Commissioner, I don't have the exact lot size but Madam Chair is correct. There's 50 percent open space so if you just look at the math, and 250 units on 111 acres, plus 50 percent open space, so about 50+ acres, 250 lots.

CHAIR HANSEN: And I do understand your concern for ADUs and in many situations that might be appropriate but these are such dense, tiny lots to begin with that there's no room to build an ADU.

COMMISSIONER GREENE: I've lived on a tenth of an acre with an ADU as well, so it's pretty easy to do, even at a small scale. But I understand. This is just something to look forward to in the future. The ADU solves our rental housing problem and creates a model for the next generation of housing and a variety of issues that we face right now. The single-family model is really made for maybe an unaffordable class of – it doesn't solve our affordability or our rental issue. So thank you for hearing me out. Thank you.

CHAIR HANSEN: Any other comments? Commissioner Hughes or Commissioner Hamilton, would you like to make a motion?

COMMISSIONER HUGHES: Thank you, Madam Chair. I'll make a motion to approve the final order.

COMMISSIONER HAMILTON: Second.

CHAIR HANSEN: I have a motion from Commissioner Hughes, a second from Commissioner Hamilton.

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

7. B. **Final Order for Case # 15-5054 La Entrada Final Plat for Phase 1/Sub Phase 4 Univest-Rancho Viejo, Applicant, JenkinsGavin, Inc. (Colleen Gavin), Agent, Requests Final Plat Approval for Sub-Phase 4 of The La Entrada Residential Subdivision Phase 1 to Create 49 Residential Lots Within a Previously Approved 404-Lot Residential Subdivision. The Property Is Located Within the Santa Fe Community College District Planned Development District, Between Avenida Correcaminos and Caminito de las Rositas, North of Rancho Viejo Blvd and West of Avenida del Sur Within Sections 19 & 20, Township 16 North Range 9 East (Commission District 5) Approved 5-0**

CHAIR HANSEN: Welcome, John. Nice to see you.

JOHN LOVATO (Case Manager): Thank you, Madam Chair and Commissioner. Univest-Rancho Viejo, applicant, JenkinsGavin, Colleen Gavin, agent, requests Final Plat approval for Sub-Phase 4 of the La Entrada Residential Subdivision to create 49 residential lots within a previously approved 404-lot residential subdivision. The property is located within the Santa Fe Community College District Planned Development District, between Avenida Correcaminos and Caminito de las Rositas, north of Rancho Viejo Boulevard and West of Avenida del Sur within Sections 19 and 20, Township 16 North Range 9 East, Commission District 5.

On November 15, 2022 the applicant brought forward a request to the Board of County Commissioners for final plat approval for Phase 1, Subphase 4 for 49 residential lots on 16 acres. The Board approved the applicant's request. This is the final order for that BCC decision. In your packet you will find a final order, vicinity map, staff memo and plan sets. Thank you and I stand for any questions you may have.

CHAIR HANSEN: Commissioner Greene.

COMMISSIONER GREENE: I would ask the same thing. Is there anything precluding ADUs or encouraging them during development?

MR. LOVATO: Madam Chair and Commissioner Greene, there is not. These lots were created prior to the SLDC where ADUs were not asked for at the time and everything was based off the base density of a hydrologic model. As much as the SLDC does the same, in this request there is no ADUs.

COMMISSIONER GREENE: Thank you.

CHAIR HANSEN: Any other questions from the Board? Commissioner Hughes.

COMMISSIONER HUGHES: Yes, I think it would be interesting to know what the – I know that 50 percent of the area is open space but what's the density of the

housing?

MR. LOVATO: So the property lies within the Community College District as discussed and the base density is 2.5 dwelling units as the required minimum. These average lot sizes range from 0.1 acres to 0.6 acres in size. So it's a 3.5-acre minimum.

COMMISSIONER HUGHES: So a tenth of an acre to half an acre, a little more.

MR. LOVATO: Correct.

COMMISSIONER HUGHES: Okay. I noticed, in response to Commissioner Greene's question, in the final order, condition #5 says accessory dwelling units are prohibited in these lots. So they're actually prohibiting them in this case. And probably because the lots are so small in some places that it might make sense. I suppose the half-acre lots could have accessory dwelling units.

CHAIR HANSEN: From what I'm hearing from the Commission this might be something that we need to address in the SLDC, because I don't think this is a subdivision issue. I think this is an overall SLDC issue.

COMMISSIONER HUGHES: Thank you, Madam Chair. I was not suggesting that we make any changes to this here. I think it's just interesting to discuss because there was a law proposed in the legislature to require every lot to allow accessory dwelling units, no matter the size and the communities in the Community College District objected strenuously to that because it was Reena Szcepanski who proposed the law, and she's the representative for the Community College area and she got quite an earful from the homeowners associations on that. So it's just an interesting discussion.

CHAIR HANSEN: It is an interesting discussion and how do we make sure that we do have more affordable housing and generational housing also. Because that is what ADUs are, is they are generational housing. A lot of times there are grandparents and a lot of times there are kids. Not that it's a discussion that we change right here but it is a discussion that I think is happening on the Board and so it's something we should think about as we move forward.

MANAGER SHAFFER: Madam Chair, Commissioners, we'd be pleased to put on the next agenda a presentation concerning the actual accessory dwelling provisions in the SLDC. They generally are permitted in many areas of the county. Whether a particular subdivision wants to have that is a matter of private property rights is a different matter, but as it relates to capacity constraints it's typically going to be on water is what is going to be a limiting factor as you look at utilities to the area. But again, we'll provide a presentation concerning that, but in my recollection of the SLDC is that it was a sea change relative to its ability or efforts to try and allow accessory dwelling units, but that will be in the next agenda.

MR. LOVATO: Madam Chair, relative to Manager Shaffer's comments, they would have to have done studies, reports and assessments to accommodate traffic, water, as Mr. Shaffer had suggested, and a lot of other various obstacles that they would have to have gone through in order to get these ADU units.

CHAIR HANSEN: I would also like to suggest that if the next month's – if the May 30<sup>th</sup> agenda is a bit crowded maybe it could be moved to June, the first meeting in June, depending on how crowded the May 30<sup>th</sup> meeting becomes.

MANAGER SHAFFER: Duly noted, Madam Chair. We'll make it in the near future, mindful of general agenda management. Thank you.

CHAIR HANSEN: Thank you very much. I appreciate that. Anything else, Commissioner Hughes?

COMMISSIONER HUGHES: Yes, Madam Chair. I'll move to approve the final order for La Entrada final plat for Phase 1.

COMMISSIONER HAMILTON: Second.

CHAIR HANSEN: Okay, I have a motion from Commissioner Hughes, a second from Commissioner Hamilton. Under discussion? Seeing none.

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

7. C. **Resolution 2023-042, a Resolution Authorizing Santa Fe County to Apply for a Federal Charging and Fueling Infrastructure Grant and Delegating the County Manager Authority to Execute all Related Documents and Agreements**

[Momentary audio difficulties were experienced at this point.]

TAYLOR HOHENSEE (Community Development): ...the grant is approximately \$700 million dollars and it is available to local governments and requires a 20 percent match. The match currently is covered by the New Mexico Department of Transportation, so this is going to come from no financial burden to the County as of right now, and the deadline to apply is May 30, 2023. The timeline is very tight to apply. We have currently started the application. We have started working on the application, but it is – there's a lot going on. Our main idea is to install charging stations, focusing on fast charging stations which can provide up to 80 percent charge in 20 to 60 minutes and these charging stations will be used on public – they have to be accessible to the public as well as for County. So the idea is to have a wide geographic spread that covers the entire county and focusing on County facilities.

We are focusing on this because it's going to help to reduce our greenhouse gas mission goals through revving up our EV transportation and building up our infrastructure as well as building up the public infrastructure for electric vehicles. We're currently working with the North Central New Mexico Economic Development District for grant writing assistance and engineering assistance as well. So we have a lot of planning in place; we just need to go ahead to apply. And I will stand for questions.

CHAIR HANSEN: Thank you, Taylor. I think we all support more charging stations in the county, but I'll go to questions from the Commissioners. Commissioner Hamilton.

COMMISSIONER HAMILTON: Yes, I think it's a great idea to apply for this and kudos for whoever funds this opportunity. Without the grant would charging stations have to be on County property?

MR. HOHENSEE: They do not have to be on County property. We are focusing on County property primarily because of the tight time limit. This grant opportunity is funded for the next five years so we are going to be using this opportunity to also apply for planning aspect, so to create recharging plans as well as to work on our

transit, our fleet plan, to transition to EV. So we're going to be doing that and incorporating that into this grant as well.

COMMISSIONER HAMILTON: Great. So if you're also trying to get things spread out around the county so that they're not all concentrated in the most highly developed area, that's a great idea and one of the few County buildings that are distributed all over the place are fire stations, which is great to get it into areas that might not otherwise receive this sort of thing, but there are other concerns there. As long as they're not in the way to respond to vehicles. But great idea. Thank you.

CHAIR HANSEN: Thank you, Commissioner Hamilton. Commissioner Greene.

COMMISSIONER GREENE: Thank you. We discussed this a little bit and part of the concept we talked back and forth about was to distribute these at County facilities of course, but also to potentially be sort of a clearing house for creating a program for private property owners to apply to a County program that they could then have – instead of them having to apply to the feds that we might be able to over-apply and get ten that we would then be able to, if they provided the match, be able to then have installed at their restaurant or shopping center or other places that are not necessarily only community County facilities. And since it's no money out of the County's pocket there's not the Anti-Donation Clause but there's a federal incentive for this. So there's an opportunity to do that.

Do you know about how many you think you're going to be applying for?

MR. HOHENSEE: Currently we are discussing anywhere between I would say 17 or less sites.

COMMISSIONER GREENE: And all DC fast chargers?

MR. HOHENSEE: DC fast chargers in the majority of the sites. I will say all of this comes with stipulations where in current talks with Utilities, a lot of that is dependent on how much of the infrastructure it would take to get the DC fast charger at the proposed sites.

COMMISSIONER GREENE: That was going to be my concern, to not worry and make the perfect the enemy of the good and make sure that you get a charger, as opposed to just a fancy DC fast charger. Which is great and we definitely need those. I'd look at senior centers as well. Those are interspersed and some of the extreme ones, like El Rancho is at the edge of the county and Rio en Medio is up at the top of the world up there and some other opportunities there.

MR. HOHENSEE: Absolutely. Our priorities right now are different senior centers, administration facilities and affordable housing units.

COMMISSIONER GREENE: And then DC fast chargers are wonderful but I don't actually know every many people that can charge their cars with DC fast chargers. It's sort of the next generation of charging, so I don't know if there's a model that allows for Level 2 and Level 3, or making sure that you have both.

MR. HOHENSEE: They can be intermixed. So the grant requires a mix of – it has to be at least four ports per site, but it doesn't have to be one or the other.

COMMISSIONER GREENE: Great. And then definitely, let's put in for somewhere at Public Works as well as the jail and at the Sheriff's Department for their fleet so that we can be ready for when we can actually get some cars for them.

MR. HOHENSEE: Definitely. Absolute.

COMMISSIONER GREENE: Thank you.

CHAIR HANSEN: Any other questions? Commissioner Hughes.

COMMISSIONER HUGHES: Thank you, Madam Chair and I'm going to show my ignorance here a little bit. When you say DC fast chargers, are those the super-fast chargers, or are they similar to the ones we have here at the County already.

MR. HOHENSEE: Currently there's eight DC fast chargers in the entirety of the county and they're all within Santa Fe city limits, so those are going to be like the Tesla superchargers.

COMMISSIONER HUGHES: Are we applying to do any of the superchargers?

MR. HOHENSEE: We – not necessarily Tesla oriented. No. They're not specific to any vendor right now.

COMMISSIONER GREENE: Madam Chair.

CHAIR HANSEN: Commissioner Greene.

COMMISSIONER GREENE: I think I can speak for – DC fast chargers are the technology that Tesla created but it has now become a more open source version that can charge more than Teslas. It's a different plug but it's the same technology of charging.

COMMISSIONER HUGHES: Okay. Thank you. Thank you, Commissioner Greene. Yes, I think that my experience is that we need some of those fast chargers because then you can actually charge a car in a reasonable amount of time and keep using it rather than having to plug it in overnight. Thank you. That was all. It's a good idea.

CHAIR HANSEN: Thank you, Taylor and welcome to Santa Fe County and welcome to Sustainability Department. Thank you for your work on this. What's the pleasure of the Board?

COMMISSIONER GREENE: I'd like to make a motion to adopt Resolution 2023- authorizing Santa Fe County to apply for the federal charging and fueling infrastructure grant.

COMMISSIONER HAMILTON: Second.

CHAIR HANSEN: Okay, I have a motion from Commissioner Greene, a second from Commissioner Hamilton. Under discussion?

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

7. D. **Request (1) Approval of Amendment No. 4 to Agreement 2020-0001-CMO/ KE Between Santa Fe County and Griffin & Associates Marketing, dba Sunny 505, Increasing the Compensation an Additional \$625,471.50 for a Total Contract Sum of \$2,030,471.50, Inclusive of NMGRT; and (2) Delegation of Signature Authority to the County Manager to Sign the Purchase Order**

CHAIR HANSEN: Nice to see you, Lisa Katonak and of course Mr. Taylor, welcome.



LISA KATONAK (Marketing Coordinator): Good afternoon, Commissioners. The item and issue before you is approval of Amendment #4 to the agreement between Santa Fe County and Griffin & Associates Marketing for dba Sunny 505, increasing the compensation an additional \$625,471.50 for a total contract sum of \$2,030,000, inclusive of New Mexico GRT and to delegate signature authority to the County Manager to sign the purchase order.

The summary is the County Community Development Department wishes to amend the agreement with Sunny 505 to continue to provide the County with advertising and related promotional services for fiscal year 2024. Amendment #4 will increase the compensation payable to the contractor an additional \$625,471.50 inclusive of New Mexico GRT. The amount of the increase to the contract sum requires approval by the Board of County Commissioners, pursuant to the County Resolution 2014-0143.

Background is that tourism in Santa Fe County is a major economic driver creating jobs and enhancing communities, and in 2009, prior to the COVID-19 pandemic, the economic impact of tourism in Santa Fe County accounted for \$1.2 billion in visitor spend and \$101 million in state and local taxes with over 8,921 jobs supported by visitor spending.

Investing in marketing, advertising and promotion for Santa Fe County lodgers' tax provided Santa Fe County lodgers collection totaling over \$1.3 million for fiscal year 2022. Results of the marketing programs have helped to increase growth in lodgers' tax revenues as well as increased growth in the gross receipts tax collections along with providing support for many Santa Fe County businesses. In fiscal year 2024, the Santa Fe County tourism program will be investing more lodgers tax funds to support marketing, advertising and promotional efforts for our destination in order to one, increase the marketing efforts for the destination from seasonal to encompassing more year-round marketing efforts for all four seasons as the nm Tourism Department's New Mexico True campaign is moving more towards this all year-round programming.

Two, we would like to saturate the existing target markets of Texas, Colorado, California, Arizona and New Mexico, as well as pursue new and emerging markets in line with the New Mexico Tourism Department's NM True campaign, specifically targeting more of the California markets – Los Angeles, San Francisco, San Diego, etc.

Keeping up with inflation and price increases of marketing and advertising and promotion since the COVID pandemic with media outlet increases from ten to 65 percent, depending upon the marketing medium. We would work on marketing, advertising and promotional activities to include digital and print placement, agency oversight and planning, website, public relations, communications and data technology.

Marketing, advertising and promotional work will promptly begin in order to cover end of summer promotions as well as the fall season. Therefore we are requesting Amendment #4 to begin July 1, 2023 in order to allow for media placement during critical peak tourism seasons.

Compensation of the contract agreement shall be increased by \$625,471.50 utilizing fiscal year 2023 funds for this intended purpose. Our requested action is to approve Amendment #4 with Griffin and Associates Marketing, dba Sunny 505 increasing the compensation and additional \$625,471.50 for a total contract sum of, Bill, do you want to rattle that number off?

BILL TAYLOR (Purchasing Director): \$2,030,471.50 inclusive of tax.

MS. KATONAK: And to delegate signature authority to the County Manager to sign the purchase order. I stand for questions.

CHAIR HANSEN: Any questions from the Board? Thank you. I don't have any questions. What's the pleasure of the Board?

COMMISSIONER HAMILTON: Madam Chair, move to approve.

COMMISSIONER HUGHES: Second.

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

7. E. **Resolution No. 2023-043, a Resolution Authorizing the County Manager to Sign All Documents Necessary to Execute a New Lease to Replace Lease Agreement No. 29-0217-CSD/MS Between Santa Fe County and Youth Shelters and Family Services and to Authorize the Submission to New Mexico State Board of Finance for Approval**

CHAIR HANSEN: Hi, Scott. Welcome.

SCOTT KASEMAN (Public Works): Good afternoon, Madam Chair and Commissioners. The Public Works Department is requesting approval of a resolution giving the County Manager authority to sign all documents necessary to execute a new lease between the County and Youth Shelter and Family Services for the lease of two buildings and property on Agua Fria Street in Santa Fe, and to submit that lease to the State Board of Finance for approval.

In May of 2008, the County entered into a lease with Youth Shelters and Family Services to support them in providing clinical services to county residents. Originally staff has prepared an amendment to approve today but the Department of Finance informed us that the Board of Finance could not approve that amendment because the original lease had not been supported for Board of Finance approval, and they could not grant that approval retroactively.

So the County Attorney's Office quickly drafted a new lease and we procured an emergency appraisal that is currently pending and we are requesting the resolution at this time because the lease expires on May 28<sup>th</sup>. We also have a May 23<sup>rd</sup> deadline to report to the Board of Finance. So today we are requesting approval of that resolution to grant the County Manager authority to sign the lease. And with that I'll stand for questions.

CHAIR HANSEN: Commissioner Hughes.

COMMISSIONER HUGHES: Thank you, Madam Chair. So as you probably know, some of you know, I was approached by Youth Shelters right after I got elected and I want to disclose I have never worked for the shelter or had any financial connection, other than I know they do good work. But they are requesting that in addition to allowing in-kind services for the building lease, which is already part of this, but they also be allowed to provide in-kind services for the ground lease. Part of the problem they're facing is in 2008 this was not a big amount of money that they were paying for the ground lease but it increases four percent every year. And so it started something under \$10,000, not it's over \$20,000 which they have to raise through private fundraising. None of their grants will pay for this.

And so I think it would be reasonable to also allow them to use their in-kind services, which are great, to our community, to pay for the ground lease as well. That would mean that the County would have to pay the state out of some other source, but I think we can more easily absorb \$20,000 than Youth Shelters and Family Services can.

MANAGER SHAFFER: Madam Chair, Commissioners, I don't have any financial data in front of me, so I can't speak to their financial wherewithal one way or another. I can say that we haven't budgeted for this expense relative to paying for their ground lease, and I would also mention that I don't believe that this type of arrangement is unheard of. We have many of these different lease arrangements where there are pass-through costs to the non-profit user of the facility, and so this would be setting a precedent that I would just suggest we would have to be prepared to replicate in other parts of the County. Those include ground lease payments to the State Land Office. First Choice comes to mind, which I believe has more extensive payment requirements than this, but there are also instances in which I believe our lessees are required to provide costs for maintenance as well.

So again, this would be something I would respectfully suggest we think carefully about and also how it would be replicate elsewhere and I wouldn't suggest we make that decision on the fly. Thank you.

CHAIR HANSEN: Comments?

COMMISSIONER HUGHES: Madam Chair, I do understand not wanting to make that decision on the fly and I was sick last week so I didn't even notice this on the agenda till now, so I was told that this is an emergency because the lease ends up – expires on May 28<sup>th</sup>, which is before our next meeting. So I don't know if there's way we can postpone the decision on this. We are of course in the budget season so it seems like this is the perfect time to budget money for Youth Shelters if we wanted to, going forward, but I don't know if there's an opportunity to consider this more fully or if we do have to make the decision on the fly.

CHAIR HANSEN: Commissioner Hughes, I would not want to have them without a lease if we don't approve this because of the late notice. That could put them even in more jeopardy, which is concerning to me because they do provide a tremendous amount of services and I think this is something that possibly we can bring up. How long are these leases for?

MR. KASEMAN: Madam Chair, Commissioners, this lease is for four years but that term could be amended and we could do a one-year term with options.

CHAIR HANSEN: So maybe that's something that we should consider, to do a one-year term with options so that we don't jeopardize the Youth Shelters. I don't want to see them jeopardized, especially with the Board of Finance, because they are difficult.

MR. KASEMAN: Madam Chair, Commissioners, if you would just provide your direction on how you would like to see the lease drafted we can amend that tomorrow and whatever you decide then the County Manager can adhere to.

CHAIR HANSEN: Okay, I'm going to go to Commissioner Hamilton.

COMMISSIONER HAMILTON: Thank you, Madam Chair. I'm a little confused. I hadn't noticed in this [inaudible] more carefully is the way this is being presented is with the County paying for the \$20,000 or without?

CHAIR HANSEN: Without. Correct?

COMMISSIONER HAMILTON: And Commissioner Hughes is suggesting that we pick it up? Is that what the story is?

CHAIR HANSEN: Yes.

COMMISSIONER HAMILTON: I have concerns – whether it's a good idea or a bad idea, it's just making the decision on the fly. And so I would suggest we do something to approve this now with the potential ability to amend it later.

CHAIR HANSEN: Or look at it in the next year's budget, which I think would be more than ample to reconcile since they probably are prepared to pay this this year but it's something that we could look at in the future, but I'm also concerned about many of our other facilities that also pay a ground lease and the effects that it will have on them. But if the Board is amenable to this, let's do a lease for one year and be able to look at it in the next year.

COMMISSIONER HUGHES: Madam Chair, I think we're headed in the right direction. I'm a little worried that if we do it for a year then next year at this time we'll be in the same position. So we would have to make a commitment to actually look at changing the lease in July, when our new fiscal year starts. I mean at least look at it. That would be the time to change it is when our fiscal year starts and we could budget the money or at least consider budgeting the money.

COMMISSIONER HAMILTON: Within two months?

COMMISSIONER HUGHES: Yes.

COMMISSIONER HAMILTON: Well, we're doing the budget for the fiscal year now so there's no difference considering it now or in two months, other than having time to consider it. And I would want information on all the other organizations that we support with these pass-throughs, so that we can look at the ramifications of it. I'm not sure with all the budget stuff we're doing now that we could do that by July, effectively.

COMMISSIONER HUGHES: Well, I guess I'm not saying we have to do it by July. I'm just saying it makes sense to do it as part of the budget process or to consider – perhaps what we could do is when we consider the budget next week we could set aside the money in case we decide to do this.

CHAIR HANSEN: I personally agree with Commissioner Hamilton. I think we have to assess all of the facilities that we have because we have La Familia. We have – I can think of – I know Esperanza is a little unique situation, but there are many facilities that we do have these in-kind agreements with and I wouldn't want to make one organization feel like they were special and different than one of the other ones.

COMMISSIONER HUGHES: Right. Thank you, Madam Chair. I don't disagree with anything that anybody has said. I would like to point out that not every organization has to actually hold a bake sale to raise the money to pay the County. And so there may indeed be some differences between them and we certainly should look at all of them. I don't know how many there are. I know there's La Familia and perhaps Esperanza. But every group is funded differently so the reason Youth Shelters is bringing this forward is in part because of not only the important work they do but the struggle that they have raising the money, which another group may not have trouble with. I think those would be all things we'd have to take into account. I'm fine with us passing this for

a one-year lease as long as we can consider this during our budget process so if sometime during this next year we do decide to give Youth Shelters a different arrangement we can to that.

CHAIR HANSEN: I'm going to go to Commissioner Greene.

COMMISSIONER GREENE: Thank you, Madam Chair. I think just as a matter of consistency for this we're prepared to do a four-year lease. We can do the budget part later, regardless. I don't know if I would want to give them the insecurity of a one-year lease when they want a four-year lease because there's a level of risk in having to be reassessed, right? And reappraised. So I would probably say if we're prepared to do a four-year lease, let's do a four-year lease but if we can take care of the ground lease part at a later date that we then deal with that at a late date irregardless of the lease, as an amendment.

MS. KASEMAN: Madam Chair, Commissioners, and Manager Shaffer, could we amend the lease? If we did a four-year lease could we still in one year amend it?

MANAGER SHAFFER: Madam Chair, Commissioners, yes. I don't believe that there would be any problem with doing that. You're simply changing the form of that consideration.

CHAIR HANSEN: I personally agree with that because of security for the facility and not putting them at risk. I would not want to see that. That's why I think it's important that we make this decision. Commissioner Hamilton, I thought you had your hand raised.

COMMISSIONER HAMILTON: Actually, I was going to bring up exactly what Commissioner Greene brought up. I don't see [inaudible] but the question is what would our options be, but doing a four-year lease does allow us to consider. I would agree that that's the way to go.

COMMISSIONER HUGHES: Madam Chair, one more question.

CHAIR HANSEN: yes.

COMMISSIONER HUGHES: So does the four-year lease then correspond with when the state lease is up?

MR. KASEMAN: Madam Chair, Commissioner Hughes, that is correct.

COMMISSIONER HUGHES: And do we have an opportunity then to try and get a better deal with the state at that point? Because it seems like we're also in kind of a bad deal. I don't know of any lease that goes up four percent a year. That's more than inflation, generally.

: Madam Chair, Commissioner Hughes, I don't see why we cannot ask.

COMMISSIONER HUGHES: Okay. Thank you.

CHAIR HANSEN: Any other comments from anyone. Rachel, I saw you come in the room. Do you have any comments? Okay, so what's the pleasure of the Board? Can I have a motion to approve?

COMMISSIONER HUGHES: Madam Chair, I'll make a motion to approve the lease as presented with the understanding that we will investigate Youth Shelters' request in the coming months.

CHAIR HANSEN: In the coming year.

COMMISSIONER HUGHES: Well, there's many months in the year.

Yes.

COMMISSIONER HAMILTON: Second.

CHAIR HANSEN: So I have a motion from Commissioner Hughes, a second from Commissioner Hamilton.

COMMISSIONER BUSTAMANTE: Actually, in the interest of discussion –

CHAIR HANSEN: Discussion.

COMMISSIONER BUSTAMANTE: I think it would be prudent that we would say – since it's four years and it could be in the next few months, would you accept a friendly amendment that would specify by a specific date so that we would make sure – it's up to you. It's not necessary.

COMMISSIONER HUGHES: I'm good at setting deadlines and missing them, so –

CHAIR HANSEN: Yes, I don't want to –

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

**7. F. Resolution No. 2023-044, a Resolution Adopting a Revised Organizational Chart for the Santa Fe County Fire Department**

CHAIR HANSEN: Welcome, Deputy County Manager Elias Bernardino, and Santa Fe County Fire Chief Jacob Black. Welcome.

JACOB BLACK (Fire Chief): Madam Chair, Commissioners, good afternoon. This afternoon I'm here to present to you specifically Exhibit E of the packet material of the proposed restructure of Santa Fe County Fire Department Administration. And this proposed restructure has been something that has been built and worked on collaboratively over the last six month with input from command staff, district chiefs, the County Manager's Office, as well as County Commissioners.

So with that, we're bringing forward some proposed change and we'll see if we can bring up the presentation.

[Due to technical difficulties the Commission recessed from 3:55 to 4:05]

CHAIR HANSEN: Okay, I'm calling this meeting back to order and we will go on to Chief Black. I'm sorry about the delay but here we are.

CHIEF BLACK: Madam Chair, Commissioners, thank you very much. So I'm here today to present to you the resolution to adopt the restructure of the Santa Fe County Fire Department Administration. As presented to you back in March, I discussed how we presented a restructure that is in the packet material as well as what you'll be seeing in this presentation. We worked on this with input from our command staff, as well as district chiefs, as well as the County Manager's Office as well as County Commissioners.

When we look at the current organization of Santa Fe County, this is a representation of the current organization chart of Santa Fe County Fire Department. As you can see it's a large, extensive organization, and there's a number of reasons why we need to consider restructuring and organizing the department. First we need to create a

synergy within our teams and various divisions to be more effective. Secondly, we also need to support emergency operations, as well as increase support to our regional and district staff. We also, looking at our current organization chart, we need to restructure the organization to increase our span of control, and also address succession planning as well. The last thing we also want to form an organization that will support Resolution 2022-87 as we look to focus on recruitment and retention of our district members, as well as we look at building our regional staff as well.

As we've sought input from our stakeholders internal, we also took a look at what is common throughout neighboring departments as well. Santa Fe City Fire Department, their Fire Chief has two direct Assistant Chiefs that report to them. One oversees emergency operations. The second oversees support services, which also includes EMS as well as Mobile Integrated Health. So those are two different teams under the Support Services Assistant Chief.

Sandoval County, similar in nature. They have two Deputy Chiefs that report to the Fire Chief. One is Emergency Operations, the second is administration and EMS. And looking at Bernalillo County, they have two Deputy Chiefs and overseeing various aspects of the department. One commonality between all of these departments is that they do have a healthy level of mid-level managers of either the division chief rank or the battalion chief rank to oversee specific teams or functions within the department.

In front of you now is the proposed restructure. This is in the packet materials as well and now I'll take you through how this has affected basically each division within the department. First we have the Assistant Chief over Emergency Management and Special Operations. We're recommending at this time no changes to this division as we're waiting the findings from the OEM Task Force and what their recommendations are. So at this time, this division and this aspect of the department will stay as is and will not see any proposed changes.

Next we have the implementation of the Deputy Chief. This was approved during FY 23 and now trying to implement that within the organization. So the Deputy Chief in this proposed structure will coordinate emergency operations as well as overseeing non-emergency operations in the department. Additionally it would form what we are going to be forming as our training, EMS and recruitment division. This is at the core of bringing in new individuals into our department as well as training them and preparing them to serve within the department.

So the Deputy Chief will oversee – have three primary direct reports. One will be the Assistant Chief of Operations. The second will be overseeing a battalion chief over the training, EMS and recruitment division. And then the third will be overseeing an Assistant Chief of Support and Fire Prevention. So that is currently our Fire Marshal/Assistant Chief position that will be taking on more additional responsibilities that I'll speak to in a few minutes.

As we look at the training, EMS and recruitment division, we look at that and as we evaluate that division and we try to capture everything that was in that division. The first thing that we'll talk about is the captain of recruitment and retention. Currently in our structure that was a captain position. That was not only recruitment and retention but also district liaison. So that district liaison provided support and service to the fire districts. For example, we had a number of stations that were vandalized, broken into and

equipment stolen, and that captain of recruitment and retention and district liaison had to spend a large amount of time assisting the district chiefs in working with the Sheriff's Office, Risk Management, and to work through the process of addressing those problems. And obviously, when that was happening he wasn't able to perform recruitment and retention.

So we're looking to separate those two duties, district liaison, recruitment and retention, and have a captain of recruitment and retention within this division that is uniformed, that knows what the job is, and is easily able to work with individuals to get them on board and to get them into the training.

Additionally, we have our EMT Fire Training Captain. That has residing in the operations side. We are proposing to bring that into the training, EMS and recruitment division, and as we look to develop that we are going to continually reassess the needs of our department and address as we are growing the department, how we can better improve in the future. We believe that this will create a robust training division that will really help facilitate the development of bringing in recruits on the career side as well as the district side as well the district side as well.

EMS is a top priority for us. It is a large component of what we do and it is prioritized in every single level within our department. It's prioritized from the top all the way into our entry level positions and the recruit positions in the fire regions as well as the districts as well. It's prioritized so much so that of our eight chief level officers, seven of us are paramedics which consist of about two years of school for EMS. So this is a priority that we see throughout the organization and I believe prioritizing training with EMS training within the training division and capturing that there will really help extend that to all aspects of the department.

Continuing on, we're going to look now at specifically the Assistant Chief of Operations. We'll have the Fire Chief oversee the Deputy Chief, then have one of those three direct reports as the Assistant Chief of Operations. That Assistant Chief of Operations will oversee our fire regions, so daily staffing of roughly 30 firefighters on duty every day throughout Santa Fe County. And then we're also proposing to reclassify a current vacant Assistant Chief position into the operational District liaison recruitment and retention battalion chief.

So capture a number of things there. So one, that individual will be an operations battalion chief level officer that will be overseeing our community opioid prevention program, we hope. And additionally they will serve as a district liaison, really working to bridge the gap between our fire regions and our districts, and allow and help facilitate our emergency operations as well as provide support to the districts, like I said in not only daily operations but those admin activities such a station break-in, something like that. They know the ins and outs of the County and will be able to come in and support the district chiefs in that manner.

Next we'll also look at the Assistant Chief of Support and Fire Prevention. We're proposing that the current Fire Marshal/Assistant Chief will take on more responsibility, specifically to oversee facilities, fleet and logistics, as well as fire prevention. We know that this is going to be a transition and so we're proposing that this transition will take over – will happen over the next three months as we ease these roles and responsibilities into that position.



It is noted that this is a large undertaking with all of these matters, fleet, logistics and facilities, and so the Assistant Chief of Support and Fire Prevention has the Deputy Chief as well as myself to ensure that he has the support to move forward and address those needs within these divisions.

Lastly, on the far right-hand side of our proposed org chart we have our district chiefs. And the district chiefs will remain reporting directly to the Fire Chief. This is consistent with the reporting structure outlined in 1997-11, as well as what the district chiefs prefer and have voiced as their preference. I believe that the implementation of the Deputy Chief over operations and over the support and fire prevention divisions will allow for me to increase my capacity and my attention and support to the district chiefs to ensure that they're receiving the support that they need to continue their operations.

So the results of this restructure, we believe that it will create synergy between our teams and our division through our support services and through our support and Fire Prevention Service bringing all of those positions together by creating synergy with our EMS training and our training division, bring that to where we can have a robust training division, as well as tying recruitment into that division, that newly created division as well.

We also anticipate that it will provide more continuity and support within our emergency operations having that district, that battalion chief of operations and district liaison to facilitate the operations of our department. Additionally, we're going to be anticipating seeing increased support to our regional district members, and that's not only happening, what's happening within the Fire Department as well, but the proposed Public Safety Administrative Support Division as well will greatly increase the support to our regional staff and our district staff as well.

As you can see too, the proposed restructure develops a healthy span of control and improving that, and additionally increase succession planning with the implementation of a Deputy Chief as well as a battalion chief within the ranks of the operations to help facilitate that.

Lastly, we believe that it creates a structure that supports the goals set forth in Resolution 2022-87 to really support a robust recruitment and retention and training division and as you can see on the screen, the figure from the National Volunteer Firefighter Council, they're a marketing firm that I presented to you last BCC that really talks about getting people engaged, inviting them, building that commitment, showing that we have a healthy training division that can address their needs and provide them the services and the training they need to get them to a place that they can serve. And so with that I stand before you for any questions.

CHAIR HANSEN: Thank you, Chief Black. Commissioner Hamilton.

COMMISSIONER HAMILTON: Yes, I want to recognize the fact that you took a lot of inputs, certainly from up here and thought about them and responded to a lot of them and the vast majority of the restructuring that you did I think is really good. The change or the responsibilities in the Deputy Chief, you gave a lot of consideration to that and I really appreciate you did that.

As you and I talked about, as you well know, I still have a problem with EMS being done under training. I think it makes complete sense to have recruitment and training together, but as we've talked about, all the other restructuring responds positively

to this. The structure should really reflect the function. So I feel that this organization structure should show, for example, who's going to be involved in daily planning and strategic planning, exactly as we talked about.

When you think about it, I respect the ways you said that EMS is so emphasized. Everybody in the department is EMS as well as fire trained. But three-quarters of our responses are medical responses so the EMS captain should be clearly involved in the daily operations planning in addition to the strategic planning. So I just want to put on the record that I really appreciate all the other restructuring. It's incredibly well done. I'm very proud of you for doing that. I still think EMS should be [inaudible] And in addition there's this thing that I noticed that we didn't – maybe we talked about, that moving COOP, also I agree with that. I think that was well done. But COOP is now separated. It's a singular EMS program, aside from making emergency responses, and it's now separated from the EMS captain.

So those are my two remaining issues. I'm only one person but I really want to put on the record that moving forward, that's something that without knowing names, without knowing who's in what position, somebody from outside will look at the structure and go, well, EMS probably, they help training but they're not participating in the day to day planning, and that seems to be not the message that we want to give. But thank you for listening so sincerely and really giving thought to all the inputs you received.

CHAIR HANSEN: Thank you, Commissioner Hamilton. Commissioner Bustamante.

COMMISSIONER BUSTAMANTE: Madam Chair, Chief Black, thank you for the clarifications. When I look at this, it's one of those that if we were all going to be gone tomorrow, if something happened and we didn't know what was standing it up, that's how I look at things initially and have a lot of questions from the first presentation, and you sincerely did some due diligence. So I too want to thank you for the explanation. If we all walked away tomorrow and no one knew what was going on I feel that you have clarified that in this plan. Thank you.

CHAIR HANSEN: Thank you, Commissioner Bustamante. Commissioner Greene.

COMMISSIONER GREENE: Thank you, Chief. I appreciate the outreach that made and going to explain to somebody who's relatively new and doesn't know how you operate and gave me a good perspective, as I say, enough to be dangerous. So thank you. I too have a concern about EMS, since that is such a workload and I love that you accentuate its value in the organization, but I do think that it should almost be its own standalone – I don't know if it's a captain or somebody that really takes ownership of that function. All the EMS, all those MIHO and COOP folks that are dealing with those healthcare issues as opposed to fire issues. And of course there's overlap. You run to the scene, when the Sheriff shows up and the deputies show up you run to the scene of fires and the EMS, there's a lot of overlap there but that is a real function where life and death happens. Fire is putting out a fire. Those can be wildland, they can be a variety of different scenarios there, but a car accident is sometimes just a broken bone, EMS is all first line.

And the same thing with how we're growing the MIHO and the COOP programs,

those two areas are – that’s a really up and coming opportunity to shine and to provide a level of service to help bring Santa Fe County to the next level of serving our community. In general, I’m probably good with 95 percent of all of that and really wish that maybe we looked more at how to help and grow the EMS. That’s maybe where it’s making the perfect the enemy of the good.

But I do think that – I reiterate what Commissioner Hamilton had to say there. And then we’re also willing to look at this again in a couple of months when we have the emergency management scope put into this. So there is definitely – this is a transitional sort of plan right now and there’s things that you said that will take three months to happen. Moving in that direction; that’s fine, but I think we should all look at this again and maybe ask you to say is there still another way? What is the fiscal impact? What is the cost? What is the structural? Is it because you have people in these places or you wish you had – what are the constraints that you’re seeing to address – well, Commissioner Hamilton and myself are speaking about for the EMS side of this and then where the COOP and the MIHO programs are going to go. In our budget for next year I think we have one additional person for the COOP program or the MIHO program. That’s still not going to be enough, right? But is that going to grow to five people and is that properly serving the County?

Anyway, I hope that we address where we’re going with this soon but thank you for getting this to this point and I’m happy to look at it again in a few months when emergency management and maybe some EMS revisions are specifically addressed.

CHAIR HANSEN: Commissioner Hughes.

COMMISSIONER HUGHES: Thank you, Madam Chair. I don’t have much to add to what’s been said. I think that – I do appreciate the outreach and the work on this. I think the only thing I would say is it’s probably going to take more than a couple months to see if this works if we approve it. So I think we should allow as much time as it takes to get all these positions filled and see how everything works. Thank you.

CHAIR HANSEN: Do you have any comments, Chief Black?

CHIEF BLACK: Madam Chair, Commissioners, thank you for your feedback and your comments. It is duly noted. And I think as we’ve worked through this organization chart there is concerns that you have and the prioritization of EMS, I think is shared. And we see that. And this is the first step that we’re recommending to move forward in laying the foundation. I think this is our step to move forward to try to address the growth and address the immediate concerns and needs of our department, given the constraints that we have. I see that EMS and the medical side of things with COOP and MIHO are things that we can and need to prioritize moving forward. And the proposed structure is, we believe, the foundation to that, to being able to move forward and then be able to fully what we anticipate to grow and increase those services in the near future.

CHAIR HANSEN: Any comments or a motion from the Board?

COMMISSIONER HAMILTON: I move to approve.

COMMISSIONER GREENE: And I’ll second.

CHAIR HANSEN: Okay, so we have a motion to approve by Commissioner Hamilton, a second by Commissioner Greene. Under discussion. Seeing none.

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

CHAIR HANSEN: Congratulations. We look forward to seeing the next reiteration of this chart with the results from our task force.

CHIEF BLACK: Thank you.

**8. PRESENTATIONS**

**A. Santa Fe County Lodgers' Tax Presentation**

CHAIR HANSEN: Welcome, Lisa.

MS. KATONAK: Good afternoon, Madam Chair, County Commissioners. I would like to introduce to my right Ms. Dezaree Vega-Garcia of Sunny 505. She is the president of Sunny 505 and today we will be presenting the Santa Fe County lodgers' tax update.

Today we will be presenting the tourism marketing strategy, how we leverage the New Mexico True brand, visitor geographics and demographics, marketing and advertising campaigns, the fiscal year 2023 cooperative marketing program, our digital and print media campaigns, public relations, social media, our travel guide, website, lodgers' tax grant program, and lodgers' tax collection, and a whole lot more.

So presenting on our marketing strategy, I like to think we are all travelers enjoying everything that Santa Fe County has to offer, whether we're exploring the rich arts and culture scene, our history, tasting local cuisine, participating in an event or a tradition, or enjoying our great outdoor adventures. Santa Fe County has it all. Our marketing efforts have a wide distribution to our target markets. Our imagery of Santa Fe County is New Mexico True.

Santa Fe County partners with the New Mexico Tourism Department and leverages the New Mexico True brand, a very successful brand campaign that's anchored with nine years of record-breaking growth in the state's tourism industry, and that Santa Fe County has benefited from. The New Mexico True brand speaks to why people come to New Mexico and why they come to Santa Fe County. It speaks to our authentic experiences that one can have here, not just the sightseeing but the site-doing.

Partnering with New Mexico True brand has allowed us to keep our own identity while leveraging the power and recognition of a successful national campaign. On this slide our New Mexico True brand strategy works through the trip planning funnel from creating awareness of our destination, to driving action and ultimately to securing bookings or booking that trip.

I'm going to have Dez now introduce us to the visitor geographics and demographics.

DEZAREE VEGA-GARCIA: Madam Chair, Commissioners, we have three major demographics that we target every single year: Gen-xers, baby-boomers, and then millennials. I'm particularly interested in that group, being a millennial myself. The psychographics we target are couples interested in travel, spa and wellness, outdoor recreation, and then arts and culture, of which we know we have lots of that.

Our target geographics are Texas, Colorado, California – and we're going to expand more into California and I'll talk about that a little bit later – Arizona and New

Mexico. We have a multi-pronged approach in our marketing efforts because consume information in very different ways. So we have a print campaign in which us print publications, targeted digital, which targets all those demographics and psychographics I just talked about, our Santa Fe County travel guide, which is currently at the printers. It's a beautiful piece. I'll make sure everybody gets a copy of that once it's completed. Public relations, which helps us to tell the Santa Fe County story, and then our e-newsletters and our insider blogs which also help us tell the Santa Fe County story. And then of course social media and our Santa Fe County website, our sfmtrue.com website. And all of our marketing pushes back to that website because it's really the hub of all of our communications, and we know that that's where people go to book their trip and research where they're going to travel to next.

As Lisa mentioned, we always opt into the New Mexico True Co-op program. This year we submitted our grant on April 21<sup>st</sup>. We should be getting award amounts this month. The wonderful thing about New Mexico True is it allows us to kind of opt into some of these programs that maybe we wouldn't necessarily have access to. So you can kind of see some of the things that we've opted into as of last year: *50 to 80*, which is Denver's lifestyle publication, *Los Angeles* magazine, targeting those Californians that we want to talk to, then the *New Mexico True Adventure Guide* and *New Mexico* magazine.

Our digital campaign, again, we're talking to all those demographics that I spoke about previously, but we're focusing our creative based on what people are interested in, so January, February, March and April, we're focused on skiing and spa and wellness, because as we know, we have a lot of incredible resorts with great spas. May and June, the focus is culture. Again, spa and wellness, and then outdoor adventure, because we have so much outdoor adventure here in the county. And reiterating those target markets: Texas, Colorado, Arizona, New Mexico, and California.

Our print campaign is always very niche. As you can see, some of these publications, we have the *New Mexico True Adventure Guide*, *New Mexico Magazine Cookbook*, their hundred-year anniversary that's coming out in July, and then *Texas Monthly*. We want to talk to those Texans and get them to come visit us. And we always negotiate display advertising and editorial pieces along with it because we want to make sure again that we're telling the Santa Fe County story, because there's so much to talk about.

Public relations – again, going back to this idea of telling the story of Santa Fe County. Public relations is a really valuable tool for us. You can see since 2019 we're received 334 news stories, which is really powerful because people tend to believe the things they read in the media about the stories that they're being told, so it's really powerful for us to be able to talk about Santa Fe County through media. We're reached a circulation of over three billion, which if we were to have paid for that advertising spend that would be really difficult for us to attain. So we love the idea of public relations because it allows us to tap into those audiences that we wouldn't necessarily be able to talk to. So you see some of the stories there those are in your packets. "Wild west meets *Game of Thrones* on revitalized New Mexico highways", a great piece about George R.R. Martins and the sky railway. And then some great things with *Travels with Darley*, which Lisa is going to talk about that a little bit later.

Our social media, social media as we know, everybody's opting in to Facebook, Twitter, Instagram. We also have a YouTube account. We have been really successful in garnering additional page views, account increases of people visiting the page, and that's really important to us because we want people to see our content. We also want them to engage with it, because there's no point in pushing out all this content if people aren't reading it and engaging with it. So we've been really successful at being able to increase the engagement across the board on all of our social media platforms.

Our Santa Fe County Travel Guide, this is a really exciting piece that we've done this year. That beautiful photo of Golondrinas. This is 56 pages. We added some trip itineraries this year, so really fund things for people to create some experiences when they come to Santa Fe County. We're always highlighting all the tourism assets and of course the businesses so we partner really closely with the businesses to make sure all of the information we have is accurate and that they're represented well in the travel guide.

The travel guide is distributed statewide and through multiple out of state markets as well, but we also have it on our website in a .pdf form because like I said previously, people consume information in two different ways so we want to make sure we have a tangible piece for them and then a .pdf if they want to get it on the website.

And our website. I think this is one of the most wonderful pieces in our arsenal. We've been really successful in increasing page sessions and increasing visitors over the past year and again, going back to the conversation on engagement, those increases tell us that people are staying on our website. They're looking at our content. They're engaging with it and that's what we want them to be able to do and be able to plan their trip.

Our insider blog, this comes out every other month, lots of stories about what's happening in the county, events, culinary, trying to get people really excited to come to the county and spend their vacations here. And I will let Lisa speak to the lodgers' tax program.

MS. KATONAK: Thank you, Dezaree. Thank you, so much, Dez. In regard to the lodgers' tax grant program, this past fiscal year The Lodgers' Tax Advisory Board put out a notice of funding availability for non-profit organizations to apply for funds that would market, advertise, and promote their tourism destination, attraction or event. And I am proud to say 17 organizations were awarded through the grant program, so anywhere from New Mexico Wildlife Association down in Edgewood, to the Santa Fe Century for their bike race, to Parallel Studios for their current new media festival, to the Santa Fe Downtown Kiwanis Foundation for their historical burning of Zozobra, to the Santa Fe Opera.

There is a variety of non-profit organizations across the board through arts, culture, education, music that we support.

One of the exciting components of our marketing efforts this past year was travels with Darley. She is a travel host through PBS channel and she came last summer to film two Santa Fe County episodes in Santa Fe County. Santa Fe Railroads and glamping, and Santa Fe art and history. Some of the adventures that she had while she was here was she rode the sky railway, had a personal interview with George R. R. Martin of *Game of Thrones*. She went glamping in the Galisteo Basin, attended the International Folk Art Market, visited galleries on Canyon Road, had a spa day at Ojo Santa Fe Spa resort. She baked up some jalapeño cornbread in a horno with Chef Jose at Four Seasons Terra

Restaurant, and she drove the historic Turquoise Trail and visited Kevin Box of Origami in the Garden, just to name a few items.

So this is being broadcast through PBS along with Create Channels, also being streamed through JOURNY, and eventually Amazon Prime, and she has been also a spokesperson and an advocate talking about Santa Fe and why you need to come here.

MS. VEGA-GARCIA: Like Lisa likes to say, Darley is the gift that keeps on giving. We are able to get her on local TV stations, did some interviews with the Santa Fe *New Mexican* while she was here so that partnership was really fruitful for us.

MS. KATONAK: So here on slide 19, on the fiscal year 23, the last updates on this chart indicate over 24 percent increase from July of 2023 to November of 2023 when compared to the same time last fiscal year -- as of today, I am very excited to report that Lodgers' tax totals for the collection to date are over \$1.2 million at \$1,273,302. And so we are on track to match and most likely exceed last year's total lodgers' tax collection, which was \$1.3 million.

And Dez is going to talk about our future projects.

MS. VEGA-GARCIA: Future projects -- so I talked a little bit about expanding more into California and as Lisa mentioned, that kind of aligns with what the state is doing, so we're excited to tap into more markets in California. We're also going to be doing some regional airport digital displays, so those displays that you see when you travel somewhere -- Austin, Dallas, wherever, they'll have them by the baggage claims, at the staircases, all over the place. So we're going to be looking at opportunities to do that.

Luxury print publications as well, because we have so many great resorts that we want to make sure that we're promoting, and then of course continuing to create new video and social media assets that we can add to social media to highlight all of the county businesses and all of our tourism assets.

MS. KATONAK: And that concludes our presentation, Commissioners, and we'll stand for questions.

CHAIR HANSEN: Thank you, Lisa and thank you, Dezaree. Comments, questions? Commissioner Bustamante.

COMMISSIONER BUSTAMANTE: Madam Chair, thank you. I'm excited. I didn't see any smiles when you said that number? I said that's good industry. It's clean industry, for the most part, relative to a lot of the other industries that we have. In the industries of full disclosure Grandma was born at Ojo and the other great grandmother was born at Golondrinas. And it's about who and where we are. I'm really grateful for this.

There is a commitment that I made and I feel that this is an important place to say it, and I was actually going to reserve it for a little later when the Commissioners disclose, but the opportunity -- the glamping opportunity and how -- and I've committed to working with Commissioner Greene on this, but it is something that can add to our lodgers' tax, glamping is outside of a residential type, and really I think there's something there that can have that one gold line that's way up there, continue to stay high and grow and do it in a safe manner.

So first, I want to commend your efforts and thank you for the presentation, and then just to acknowledge that I think we have some room to expand some of the interests

in the county and what it really means to come in, stay and leave some cash and then go back home and tell everyone all about it. So thank you very much for that.

MS. KATONAK: Thank you so much, Commissioner Bustamante.

CHAIR HANSEN: Commissioner Hughes, and then I'll go to Commissioner Greene.

COMMISSIONER HUGHES: Thank you, Madam Chair. Thank you for that presentation and all the good news. I wondered how you select which agencies get the funding of the 17 non-profits. Does everybody who applies get something, or how do you do that?

MS. KATONAK: Thank you so much, Commissioner Hughes, for the question. So with the notice of funding availability, we send out a request for proposal or application. It happened to be that this past fiscal year 17 organizations applied. There is a cap of their grant award of \$5,000. However, 17 organizations applied and the Lodgers' Tax Advisory Board reviewed every application and found every application to be fit for funding. So we were able to fund all 17. We are looking at the new fiscal year. We are looking at increases in the lodgers' tax grant program, because we would like to share the wealth, so to speak, and be able to support our non-profit organizations that are hosting events and attractions and festivals, because that is why visitors come here. They come for the events, they come for the festivals, and so we want them to have a good time. So we want to support our local organizations.

COMMISSIONER HUGHES: So will you be increasing your maximum amount from \$5,000?

MS. KATONAK: Yes. So right now, we're working through some of the numbers. We're working on incentivizing some of the grant awards into increments so those who may be off-season, we would incentivize those who are off-season who have a tourist attraction or an event that is not in the peak season, that they potentially could receive more funds. Also organizations that have multiple events throughout the year could also get some incentive and an increase in those grant awards.

COMMISSIONER HUGHES: Okay. I'm glad you're looking at it to be as effective as possible. Thank you.

MS. KATONAK: Yes. You're very welcome. Thank you so much, Commissioner.

CHAIR HANSEN: Commissioner Greene.

COMMISSIONER GREENE: Thank you, Madam Chair. Thank you, Lisa and Dezaree. That was great. It makes me want to take a vacation here. I'll take a day off. So one thing to sort of circle back around to something that Commissioner Hansen was very happy to point out with the Assessor's Office and I see Santa Fe County coming up along the bottom of this, but not our logo. And our logo sort of represents a lot of what we represent here and it has culture, the mountains, and the architecture. So it gives us the opportunity to work that into the branding. It really is a pretty nice logo and it's up there. That's great. The gray, sort of bold, doesn't have the secondary meaning to it and I think there's a lot of opportunity to use that in that branding and be recognizable.

Another part of festivals are run by organizations and non-profits. That's wonderful; we should support them. So two parts to this. There's also the sort of outdoor recreation side of this that sometimes is not represented by anybody, right? And so how



can we accentuate that in a way that shows that we are not crowded like Colorado, right? Let's not jinx it, right? Let's hope we can keep that manageable and enjoyable for all of us to enjoy but to really be able to accentuate the outdoor rec industry where our trails don't have somebody pushing them on to them and saying, no lift line. And there's always something comparative, right? You can say like in college we used to compare our terrible weather in Syracuse to the terrible weather in Seattle. Here we should be comparing the lack of lift lines to the really long lift lines in Colorado. Get more skiing in and things like that.

That's a for-profit business but it is in Santa Fe County and we get a lot of gross receipts tax from the ski basin. And so getting their data to sort of help sell Santa Fe. When we have six inches of new powder and so on. All those things to sort of show how we have – we've got the snow.

Also, using technology and wondering if we can start to – I think the technical term is re-market. So when somebody goes to any art festival, anybody that you give money to, do they share data so that then our ads can come up. Once we know that somebody's gone to the folk art market and there's a Facebook pixel or there's Google retracking, these are technology best practices that we could mandate or give technical assistance, and have that assistance for groups that don't necessarily have that, but mostly it goes to that museum, right? Even if we didn't give them money but if they go to the Georgia O'Keefe museum we should know that, even if we don't really follow it. It's like technology follows it.

They're interested in Santa Fe and we have to keep plugging them and giving them different seasonal and it keeps coming up. Man, we don't let them get away. And so using technology and maybe creating a technical assistance service or small expertise that sometimes it's way beyond a small organization to have it, and if we just helped them have it it would leverage – a lot of what you're talking about is leveraging New Mexico True, but here it's leveraging every time these people get somebody to go to their site, they should be getting plugged with more Santa Fe County ads.

MS. KATONAK: Thank you so much, Commissioner Greene, for your comments. In regard to the outdoor recreation, something that we have been really touting the past couple of years, especially this past year is skiing. We've been on the top of some major lists for skiing and we are comparing ourselves to Colorado, you don't have to wait here; the skiing is just as good. So we are touting those assets and for sure skiing is a major economic driver for Santa Fe County.

Also, in regard to the technology, Dez, if you'd like to chime in on the data.

MS. VEGA-GARCIA: Absolutely. So Commissioner Greene, we actually do a lot of remarketing. When they come to our website we remarket to them. It's one of the ways that we remarket to them. We also, to your point about kind of the – geo-fencing is the technology that we call it in the biz. We do try to leverage a lot of that as well, all falling within those psychographics and demographic information so that we can make sure that the people that we're talking to at those events are the exact people that we know come to the county. So I'm glad that you're in line with that because that's exactly some of the things that we're doing. So thank you.

COMMISSIONER GREENE: Right. Just to follow on on that, these geographic areas we work with, Arizona, Texas, these are logical drive places that you

can sort of passively sort of pull somebody in of course, and just put it out there. But if somebody from New York or somebody from Germany actually clicks on the International Folk Art Market thing they should not stop – they should continue to get things targeting them, because they’re already – they found us and now we need to keep doing that. And so that’s a way that you can’t flood those markets because you don’t know who you’re going to get. You want smart ads in those places. Even if they’re from Japan. Those are high-dollar people, right? If somebody from Japan goes and says I like Indian Market. How do you make sure that they really want to come to Indian Market and giving them a full spectrum of this.

And then the other thing of that outdoor rec thing is that almost like a weekly why Santa Fe County is an amazing place to visit this week. This week the river’s running because there’s all sorts of runoff from the mountains. And spring is coming. All the flowers are coming. Always having our natural beauty in a weekly thing is the good thing about nature, knock on wood, is that it happens every years, really pretty much. And so once you start to build content about the lilacs blooming this week. This is lilac season, right? And we need to build amazing pictures of lilacs so we can flood that and have it for years to come. And then ski season, great ski pictures. When the aspens are changing, great aspens.

So it’s that content, and even if you’re using a picture from five years ago that just happened to be a great picture, you get to reuse it and sort of show, remind people, man, next year, this week, for spring break, I’m going to Santa Fe. Just building content. The digital media is a great platform to work on. So great job. Thank you.

CHAIR HANSEN: Thank you, Commissioner Greene. So I’m wondering – it breaks my heart in many ways that the Center for Contemporary Arts has closed, but what’s going to happen? They will not obviously apply for this money for Meredith Monk. So then that goes back into our Lodgers’ fund. So then what happens? Do we not redistribute it, or what happens?

MS. KATONAK: Thank you so much, Madam Chair. So in regard to CCA, the lodgers’ tax grant program is a reimbursable grant, so there is no money lost, so to speak, because they show proof of the receipts and their media placement and then they get reimbursed. And so if nothing has been done no money will be lost because it is the lodgers’ tax revenue fund and so we would just reappropriate those monies into the new fiscal year and have a bigger dollar amount for us to provide grants for.

CHAIR HANSEN: And Bienvenidos on the plaza they have asked me repeatedly if they could get lodgers’ tax. They are an information booth. Do they not qualify, or did they miss an application or what happened?

MS. KATONAK: So Bienvenidos is an organization who has been in contact with us. In working with the Deputy County Manager and their office we have looked at the new fiscal year to be able to appropriate funds specifically for those types of organizations that may not fit in the lodgers’ tax grant program but in another way. So while she is aware that there is a program that we are looking at for the new fiscal year in order for her to be able to apply.

CHAIR HANSEN: That would be great. So then my other comment is of course what Commissioner Greene said about our County logo. Our County logo is really beautiful. It’s much more interesting than the gray Santa Fe County that I’ve seen on this

display here. I know the New Mexico True is not that exciting of a logo either compared to what it used to be, but our logo would fit very nicely in this spot and give it a bit of color and be much actually more interesting. And I think it's important to get our logo out there and keep our brand alive. This is – Santa Fe County is not our brand.

And then the other thing that I was looking at this the other night and I realized that everybody in all of the pictures is young. The reality in Santa Fe is that they youngest person on this Board may be in their fifties, and so I think that it behooves us to advertise to people who are also not in that demographic, so to speak. I didn't see that. I would like to see that, so that because people in the age range of the people on this dais are the people who travel. And I think that might be a good ability to find some models and people who were of more diversity so to speak. Because I think it does lack some diversity in the pictures.

So I am also supporting of this whole glamping idea and how we can market that, because I did watch all of the Travels with Darley. I saw all of them on PBS and I thought they were great. They were really fun, and I know the place that she went to glamping because I've been there for a party, so that's something that Santa Fe, somehow we need to create that in our SLDC so that we can provide that kind of experience because I know in the past there were people who wanted to do it on the Caja. The one out in Galisteo is really quite nice, but it was really a heavy lift for them to get permitted, so that's something we need to look at is how the permitting works. They had to have each tent exactly the same permitted. So that meant they had to have 12 or 13 permits when every single glamping tent was exactly the same. So I think that's something that we as a Board need to think about and otherwise, I love the graphic design, as a former graphic designer. I love photography. I don't think of myself – I think of myself as still a photographer and the pictures are beautiful, but I think a little bit more diversity in age demographics would be helpful.

So with that, Commissioner Hamilton, did you have anything? Okay. So thank you very much. Good job. It's the one opportunity we get to give you our feedback so in no way am I being negative; I think what you're doing is great. But at the same time I want to be able to share my thoughts. Just like Commissioner Greene, Commissioner Hughes, Commissioner Bustamante, we all care about Santa Fe County and making sure that people come here and have a fantastic experience. So thank you once again.

MS. KATONAK: Thank you so much, Madam Chair and Commissioners. And just some parting thoughts in regard to our logo. Because we are a New Mexico True partner with the New Mexico Tourism Department there are specific guidelines and criteria that as a partner we abide by with the NM True brand. However, where there are opportunities where we can collaborate with our logo, which is the Santa Fe County government logo, we make every effort to be able to incorporate both of them. So I just wanted to let you know about that item.

CHAIR HANSEN: I think you should lobby them and explain to them we like our logo.

COMMISSIONER GREENE: We can lobby them too.

CHAIR HANSEN: Commissioner Bustamante and myself, along with Paul Olafson and Juan Torres attended the Outdoor Rec Economic Conference this morning for the kickoff that will be October 23<sup>rd</sup> through the 25<sup>th</sup>. It was a good kickoff

and it's great that it's going to be here in Santa Fe and that we can show off a number of our trails and open space and pueblos and tribes and make sure that people recognize what a vast experience they can have when they come to Santa Fe County. So thank you and we'll see you again, I'm sure.

MS. KATONAK: Thank you so much.

**8. B. Presentation on Proposed Amendments to Section 12.14, Transfer of Development Rights (TDR) of the Sustainable Land Development Code**

CHAIR HANSEN: Robert Griego.

ROBERT GRIEGO (Planning Director): Good afternoon, Madam Chair, Commissioners. I'm here with Angela Bordegaray. She is our newest senior planning and she's been working on the TDR program. For this presentation today we're going to provide an overview of the TDR program, specifically for the new Commissioners. We did have a presentation last May. Part of the overview will include what are TDRs? What are some of our TDR policies including the policies outlining our Sustainable Growth Management Plan. We have specific TDR resolutions through the County. We also have within the County's strategic plan we have a strategy within the strategic plan regarding TDRs, the TDR regulations outlined in the Sustainable Land Development Code and the proposed amendments to Section 12.14 of the SLDC for TDRs.

So the first piece, what are TDRs and the TDR program. The Sustainable Growth Management Plan identified TDRs as part our growth management strategy to direct growth to areas with adequate public facilities and services, and to promote preservation of areas that are non-growth areas, our SDA-2 an SDA-3 areas. TDRs are a conveyance of development rights for property that are qualified as a sending area, and this is a property to be conserved, to another parcel of land in a receiving area, and that's a designated growth area.

The TDR program is the voluntary redirection of growth from the sending areas to the receiving areas. Sending areas are qualified through the TDR program in SDA-2 and SDA-3 areas which meet specific criteria in the code which includes sensitive environmental land, riparian areas, habitats, archaeological sites, agricultural land, water rights are a bonus, and open space and scenic vistas. Receiving areas have been identified through the County's SGMP, Sustainable Growth Management Plan, and the Sustainable Land Development Code, and there are specific zoning districts which have been zoned to allow increased density and greater flexibility for dimension standards.

Zoning districts in the SLDC which allow higher density include the mixed-use zoning districts, the planned development zoning district, commercial/general, industrial, and industrial light.

The County's TDR policies, again, were identified as part of our future land use objectives including identifying TDR land, density transfer options, our existing agricultural element of the SGMP. One of the policies in the SGMP was to support the creation of a TDR bank and a TDR program and establishing the use of TDRs as receiving areas to promote higher density in priority growth areas and incentivize the protection and conservation of open space, agricultural land and environmentally

sensitive areas.

TDR resolutions include Resolution 2016-33, which is a resolution directing staff to initiate the County TDR program. Within this resolution we established TDR qualification procedures including TDR application, TDR site visit process and the TDR qualification report which is a non-binding estimate of TDRs on the site. And then TDR certification procedures, Resolution 2016-141 established a County TDR bank and the TDR bank includes – the County also approved a TDR open space conservation pilot program to allow TDRs on County open space properties to be deposited into the TDR bank. We are currently in process with that with the Open Space team.

So a summary of our program is that, again, our policies and regulations have been established in the SGMP and SLDC but there are some amendments that we need to make post-changes to make the program function. There is some issues that we'll be outlining shortly that we are proposing for changes.

The TDR process again, the TDR marketplace is a listing by property owners of TDR certificates who want to sell their TDRs to developers. The developers are able to contact TDR owners individually and negotiate the price and sale of TDRs. The TDR bank has functions to kind of help stabilize the TDR program and facilitate the private TDR market by bridging the time gap between the sellers of TDRs. It also provides a mechanism to act as a revolving fund for continued protection through buying, holding and selling TDRs. Proceeds from the TDR sales can be used for future acquisition of TDRs and also stabilizes the market price of TDRs and provides some certainty for the market in the development of TDRs.

The next slide show again a summary of permanently protected properties in the TDR program, TDR sending areas permanently considered through TDR plats and TDR agreements, 111 acres on the Glorieta Mesa, four TDRs were created on that. That was a 111-acre property. The property would have built one home, and that's the property on the far left, the Glorieta Mesa property. Two lots in Dalton Canyon were preserved adjacent to the Santa Fe National Forest. That land could have been developed and created additional density in an area which was better conserved. And then there was 103 acres along Turquoise Trail Scenic Byway where there were five TDRs. So those TDRs, six of those TDRs have been sold to the private market.

There's still an issue with the TDR supply and demand issue which I'll be getting into shortly.

The next section here is just talking about the existing SLDC regulations and then proposed SLDC amendments to the TDR section. The TDR transfer ratio – the current TDR transfer ratio is one TDR from a sending area is equal to four additional units in our growth area or our SDA-1 area. And we are proposing to increase that from one TDR is equal to five additional units in the receiving area in order to help stimulate the TDR market, the TDR program. We're also proposing to establish a TDR ratio for rental units and we're proposing that a one TDR is equal to ten rental units in a receiving area.

Affordable housing, we did have this discussion with the Board last May where the discussion about affordable housing to address some of the affordable housing issues, staff is proposing to accept affordable housing for TDR requirements to include adjustments for both density and dimension standards. This would allow the higher density in our receiving areas, where we want to see growth on adequate public facilities

and services, and we will also be able to address our affordable housing. The density issue was identified in the affordable housing plan and was more recently reviewed where the cost of housing and the density were a barrier for affordable housing. So we hope that this proposal would help stimulate additional affordable housing in our receiving areas.

In addition we are proposing to change some technical changes. Again, as the code was adopted in 2015 as we developed the program there is some additional language changes that we need to address in regards to the TDR programs which we will review.

One of the next proposed changes, a density transfer charge, I simply wanted to add in this section to allow payments into the TDRs and this is one of the issues that we're currently having. Currently the TDRs that are in the marketplace, there's very limited numbers. Only five TDRs are remaining. The others have been sold. There's a need for development to know that there's TDRs available in order for them to proceed with development. Development is not required to obtain the TDRs until the final development plat but developers have indicated that they need certainty in the market and they need to know that there's TDRs available at a price that they would be able to proceed with development. So we have heard from development that there is a lack of supply and we need to address that. This proposed change for the density transfer charge would allow a payment in lieu of TDRs and the funding would then go into the TDR bank which we could then utilize to purchase additional TDRs.

And the next section again will be to clarify some of the TDR bank procedures and allow the TDR bank administrator authorization to negotiate a purchase or sale development subject to approval from the Board. And a big change that we have, when we developed the section, the TDR section was established, there was a TDR transfer ratio for density but the initial adjustments to the dimension standards that are allowed in Chapter 8 of the Sustainable Land Development Code were now carried forward to Chapter 14. So we have standards that allow additional height for buildings, for instance, or additional increases to lot coverage that are allowed within the zoning districts but do not have a mechanism to show what that TDR ratio would be. So we are proposing some TDR density transfer ratio standards for the zoning districts that allow the increases to the TDR.

For the affordable housing section, we did – we are looking at options for the TDR exemption if the Board desires to exempt all TDRs. There's some options that we wanted to provide. In the staff memo we identified that option – we'll call it option 1, but that would be exempt affordable housing, defined as any housing unit built to benefit those whose income is more than 80 percent of the area median income and it will pay no more than 30 percent of their gross income on housing, which will remain in effect for 30 years.

That was the proposal that was in the plan. After reviewing the plan with the staff, including our affordable housing staff, there were a couple of other proposals that we came up with to address affordable housing. One of the options was to exempt affordable housing, defined as any housing unit built to benefit those whose income is no more than 120 percent of the AMI. This was brought forward as a result of the costs for housing, including the interest rates and 80 percent of the median income is not as robust for affordable housing that many of those within the 80 percent or less might be renters as

opposed to homeowners. So the 120 percent would allow a broader spectrum of the public to be able to – additional units to be built for that category.

Option 3 would be – was also to address affordable housing based on housing conditions. This would exempt affordable housing, defined as any housing unit built to benefit those whose income is no more than 100 percent of the AMI, and this option would include a provision for the affordable housing administrator to request an adjustment to the AMI requirements to the Board of County Commissioners and not on an annual basis up to a ten percent adjustment based on the housing market and the housing conditions.

So again, these are some proposals we've identified and we will be bringing this forward to the Board at the next Board meeting to publish title and general summary.

The next slide shows on the left-hand side of the slide that we have here identifies the zoning district. This is an example of one of the zoning districts that allows increased density with TDRs. So we see on the left-hand side without the color on it with residential density is one dwelling unit per acre. With TDRs it's 20 units per acre. Again, these are the exact density and dimension standards that are in Chapter 8 of the SLDC for each of those zoning districts.

What you see on the right in green are the proposed density and dimension standards table that we would identify what the number of TDRs they're required to achieve those increases to the base dimension standards. So again, as we discussed earlier, the residential density is currently – the TDR transfer ration currently in the SLDC in Section 12.14 there's one TDR per four; we are proposing one TDR for five additional units. And then we're proposing one TDR for ten additional units for rental units.

In regard to non-residential, we are also proposing to have those standards identified so how much would it cost – how many TDRs would you require to achieve the adjustments to the dimension standards is identified for each of the dimension standards. So for instance, if there's a requirement in the mixed-use, non-residential the base minimum is ten and with TDRs you could decrease that to five. And that would require one additional TDR per lot.

So again, on the far right of that table it shows the affordable housing and it identifies each of those items that would increase or adjust the density and dimension standards for affordable housing would be exempt, and that's the proposal that we'd like to bring forward to the Board.

That's kind of a complicated table and again, I can certainly address any questions. I've got a couple more slides here. The other option, again, as we've discussed for the TDR development transfer charge option. This would be payments in lieu of TDRs by the TDR bank. These funds would be deposited in the TDR bank for acquisition of additional TDRs. This would allow the option for development to purchase TDRs in order for potential development to proceed. Again, this is part of the necessity to have certainty in the TDR market.

Final slide, here is again, next steps so we anticipate bringing the request for authorization to publish title and general summary of an ordinance to amend SLDC Section 12.14 at the next Board of County Commissioners meeting, and then the next step after that would be to have a public hearing to consider the proposed ordinance. With

that I stand for questions from the Board.

CHAIR HANSEN: Thank you, Robert. Commissioner Hughes.

COMMISSIONER HUGHES: Thank you, Madam Chair. Thank you, Robert, for bringing this forward. I'm really glad to see this moving ahead because I think this is a very important program, both for preserving open space but also for creating affordable housing and just creating more density, more transit-oriented development. So in terms of the affordable housing, in order to get the exemption, does the whole development have to be affordable? Or does the exemption apply to – if someone is just doing the 15 percent affordable, does the exemption apply to that 15 percent of the units? How does that exemption work?

MR. GRIEGO: Thank you, Madam Chair, Commissioner Hughes. The way that we've discussed that internally with our team and Legal is the exemptions would be for the affordable units. So let's say it's a 100-unit subdivision and they're required to do 15 percent affordable housing. Those would be exempted. And then if they get any more percentages those would be exempted from TDRs. Let's say out of that 100-unit development, for an example here, they want to do an extra 15 units, those 15 units, they would not be required to bring TDRs but they would be required to do the market units.

COMMISSIONER HUGHES: Okay. Thank you. And then I think I understand the way you're doing the bank, so when you're saying payment in lieu, they're just really paying ahead of time and then we're going to use that money to buy TDRs somewhere else. So it's not really like won't go eventually to purchasing transfer of development rights. It's just that you're allowing people to purchase the density bonus before the transfer of development rights are available on some other property. Is that right?

MR. GRIEGO: Right. That's correct, Commissioner Hughes. We did discuss this with our TDR consultant. Again, he was very resistant to use the term payment in lieu because again, it's not just a payment to the County. It's basically a charge for that that would go into the TDR bank. So the proposal would for acquisition of additional development rights.

COMMISSIONER HUGHES: Okay. And then when do we envision bringing this forward for the next step?

MR. GRIEGO: We anticipate bringing the ordinance forward, hopefully at the end of the month. We have a draft ordinance that we've been reviewing and we hope to finalize that and get that ready for the meeting on May 29<sup>th</sup>.

COMMISSIONER HUGHES: Thank you very much. Thank you, Madam Chair.

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

COMMISSIONER GREENE: Thank you, Robert, and welcome Angie. It's great to see you on Team Santa Fe County, so welcome aboard. So if you could go back – I don't know if you can go back to the dimensional standards table that you had there. It appears like we're getting to a 48-foot tall building on a 25-foot wide lot. And I'm wondering if you could give me a scenario. I can sort of envision scenarios for this and I just would like to hear it from you all first before.



CHAIR HANSEN: What number are you on?

MR. GRIEGO: I think it's slide 13, Commissioner. So, yes. Thank you, Commissioner Greene, for that. Basically, so again, this table is currently in Chapter 8 of the code. Again, the amendments – what we're trying to add is to identify the ratio, the cost of those to increase, again, to go from 27 to 48 feet you would need one TDR for 25,000 square feet of building area. I think I understand your question. I'm just trying to get to it. I guess, again, within the building itself, if they increased the height to 48 feet and they increased the frontage to 25 that would still be a valid site development plan for that project. And I guess it would still need to meet all the code requirements that we have. These adjustments to the dimension standards would be, again, would be an allowable use. But again, there could be other factors. So again, I don't know what that specific scenario might look like but we might be able to address that as the development conceptual plan came forward for review.

COMMISSIONER GREENE: Okay.

MR. GRIEGO: If there were any issues, again –

COMMISSIONER GREENE: This is already existing and somebody could build a 48-foot tall building on a 25-foot wide lot.

MR. GRIEGO: We've never had that before now. So we would need to review that in accordance with the code. So just to back up a little bit more, in regard to the existing Section 12.14, it does identify that the adjustments to the – again, they're allowed, but it's not a rezoning request, again, to increase the density or it doesn't require a variance or the dimension standards. So I guess maybe again, if there is an issue with the 48 feet and the 25-foot frontage, again, that may be something that we need to address. I'm not exactly sure what that would look like.

COMMISSIONER GREENE: Okay. A little – you kind of want to see how the scenario would play out in a way that you would say what is the form that this is going to take? This is the architectural form, the streetscape, the 48-foot tall buildings in Santa Fe County are pretty rare and giving somebody that kicker because they're bringing in these TDRs may still may not be appropriate, right?

And so I kind of want to make sure that we're not promising more than we can deliver in making something that suddenly bites us, because they'd go, well, it's allowable, 48 feet. They figure the way around it; we go, wow, that's just not appropriate. I don't know if these are townhomes, these are apartment complexes. Apartments don't necessarily have 25-foot wide lots, street frontage, so there's a lot of sort these weird that maybe could be explained some offline, right? It doesn't have to be here. It could be part of this – because I do want to get my head around this.

I appreciate you inviting me to go over this with you at other times and this is great for all of us to get up to speed on it and I'd like to be able to own it and tell it and just to see more specifically how this has been applied successfully so far, and then where the gaps have been, where you wish this could have been applied. And then are these all single-family homes? Do these become clusters of three-plexes and two-plexes, or my favorite theme of the month for everybody is accessory dwelling units. Could these be used as a way to create accessory dwelling units because those are a homeowner having a rental unit that allows them to defray their costs of owning a home?

So there's a lot of opportunities with this that I think that we could explore to

really make this gain the traction that it is intended to have and then I wonder if even in the sending areas if there's a different way that we could actually implement that in a way that – either clustering as opposed to keeping the sensitive areas away from development but clustering homes in a way that allows for an added density with either accessory dwelling units or with a cluster of a tri-plex of lots that allows for not all these receiving areas like Commissioner Hughes' neighborhood district, which seems to be all at the receiving end, but also a lot of other districts where these communities, whether it's in a village like Cerrillos or Madrid or in Glorieta where some density should be potentially achieved or Pojoaque.

But using these transfer of rights into a different model. So I don't know if I have a question or an answer right here but I'd love to work with you with this to understand it more in the next few weeks before this comes forward so we can get it right.

MR. GRIEGO: Thank you, Commissioner. Just in regard to the, again, the receiving areas. They are areas that have public facilities, so County water, County sewer, have the public facilities in the designated zoning districts that allow those dimension standards are based on those adequate public facilities.

COMMISSIONER GREENE: Another follow-up on that. A 6,000 square foot McMansion with eight bedrooms and a massive amount of water use is one thing, versus six 1,000 square foot units in a clustered development with even 12 bedrooms but they achieve a difference market for what we're trying to achieve here, that's affordability. We need more houses and more affordable costs. And so this could be another way of looking at the TDR way and saying like if you bring in a TDR onto a one-acre lot and you manage to downsize the size of the home, but you increase the number of dwelling units, that maybe you achieve what we're looking to achieve in water use, in affordability, and these critical aspects of land use while we're not making big mansions for out of state people that use them six weeks a year. Anyway, just thinking out loud of how else to use these rights.

CHAIR HANSEN: Thank you. So how high is 48 feet? What are we talking about? Are you talking about like a three-story, four story? Okay, so a four-story building. I kind of think that's inappropriate in Santa Fe County. And so it depends on if it's an apartment complex out by the Community College – I don't remember if that was a four-story building or not. That was something that was approved that we're still in discussion about that road. This is a very complicated issue as far as I can tell, and I think I have a pretty good grasp on it in some ways. I do think that the TDR program is very important but I don't want to put Santa Fe County in the same class as the city and all of a sudden we're building higher buildings than the city is building and then therefore the City says, oh, well, we're going to build a higher building than you're building. I don't want to see that kind of competition happening. And that's what I see from my experience here.

So I think you need to meet with each of us before this gets brought forward to publish title and general summary because I think that we all have certain concerns that we need to talk about. So that's what I would like to recommend is that you meet with each of us over the next three weeks or four weeks to go to June 9<sup>th</sup> or whatever or next meeting, that each of us have a chance to really give you some input and really understand this because it's one thing to do a presentation; it's a whole other thing to sit

down with you and get a real explanation of how this is going to work and how we can make – because I do think the TDRs are very valuable and the fact that we are the only ones that have them probably in the state, I think we have a responsibility to do this right so that what we’re sharing with the rest of our counties because a lot of times other counties follow what we do and so I think this is important.

With that I’m going to move on and thank you for the presentation.

MR. GRIEGO: Thank you, Commissioner. I just wanted to clarify again, just in case I wasn’t clear that the dimension standards table which allows the 48 feet is already in our code. So it would require an amendment to change that. So what we’re proposing here is just identifying the number of TDRs it would take to achieve those dimension standards.

CHAIR HANSEN: I appreciate that. Thank you.

## 9. MATTERS OF PUBLIC CONCERN

CHAIR HANSEN: How many people do you have online, Daniel?

DANIEL FRESQUEZ (Media Coordinator): Madam Chair, right now I have one phone call user raising their hand.

CHAIR HANSEN: Okay. And how many people do I have in the audience who want to make comments on Matters of Public Concern? Okay. So I’m going to allow two minutes. We are usually a little generous in our time so I will ask the people in the chambers to please come forward and make your comments.

CINDY PABST: Madam Chair and Commissioners, thank you very much for the opportunity to speak publicly on an issue that’s very important to me and my Indivisible colleagues here with me. But before I do that I want to thank Anna Hamilton. She’s my Commissioner and she does a really good job of taking care of stuff in our district and I also want to thank you, Anna, for the townhall that you put together for us recently with the DOE. So I better hurry up. The issue at hand is the modernization of election services. So I am not given to hyperbole but I’m really afraid, honestly, of what’s happening to the democratic process. So the blowback of 2020 is still ongoing. The threat is real; it’s palpable.

So my concern is the upcoming election 2024. Please ask yourselves these three questions: Are we ready for what could be an election circus? Are we prepared for violence against voters and election workers? Do we have a strategic plan for the future regarding these questions, meaning 2024 and beyond? Please do everything you can possibly do and maybe a little bit more in election safety and readiness. Thank you. And I didn’t get to tell you who I am. I’m Cindy Pabst. I’m representing Indivisible, the Democratic Party of Santa Fe County, as well as I’m a ward chair in the Eldorado area. Thank you.

CHAIR HANSEN: Thank you, Cindy. Next, please.

DOTTIE INDYKE: Madam Chair, Commissioners, thank you very much for the opportunity to be able to speak. I’m a member of Indivisible SOS. You know us; you’ve seen us for the last few days making ourselves very visible. We’re 100 local women working for the betterment of our community in areas like health, education, criminal justice reform and environment. And one of our top priorities is preserving and

strengthening democracy, both locally and nationally. And of course the bedrock of this effort is securing our elections, making sure we have fair and safe elections.

Santa Fe up to now has been fortunate to elect capable clerks that have run clean elections but the environment in our country has drastically changed since 2016 and we would be foolish to think that election chaos can't happen here. That's our group's concern. We're especially concerned that the Clerk's Office doesn't have the infrastructure it needs going into the 2024 general election where Trump is likely to be on the ballot. We're especially concerned about staffing of that office, since well trained, devoted and capable people are the core, obviously, of any successful endeavor, certainly elections.

It seems that there are few incentives to retain staff. For example, the office offers low pay to its staff and lack of options for moving up in the ranks to higher levels of responsibility and higher pay. So anyway, to cut to the chase, we are not election experts. We don't know all the issues and we don't assume that everything is broken but we have lived long enough, us older women, to know that without proper care things can easily fall apart. And this would be disastrous in an election undermining public confidence. We understand that the County Manager, from the County Manager's testimony yesterday that a restructuring is taking place and we support this process and we hope that it will strengthen our election infrastructure in both the short and the long term. I'm Dottie Indyke. Thank you very much. Appreciate it.

CHAIR HANSEN: Thank you. Next, please.

SANDY DRANSFIELD: Maybe I should start with good evening. Madam Chair and Commissioners, I'm Sandy Dransfield. I'm the founder and past president of Indivisible SOS for six years. I'm not going to repeat who we are; I think you heard that, but what I do want to do is just clarify our concern. Election security is an emergency issue across our nation and our state and our county. We are very, very concerned about the 2024 election. We think we will see subversive actions the likes of which we only began to see with January 6<sup>th</sup>.

Our ask is that we urge all the Commissioners to prioritize voting upgrades including space, filling vacancies by increasing compensation, and creating a career ladder. I also want to end by saying we appreciate, and I say this from my heart, your acknowledgement that we need a path forward. We're counting on you to make the 2024 election secure. So thank you very much.

CHAIR HANSEN: Thank you, Sandra, very much. Is there anyone else in the audience who wants to speak? Okay, Daniel, I'll go to the person online.

MR. FRESQUEZ: Madam Chair, our first speaker online is Donna Thiersch.

DONNA THIERSCH: Yes, hi. I'm Donna Thiersch. Thanks for letting me speak. First of all, my comments are directed to the budget approval for the County Clerk's election funds. Security is the most fundamental need for election services. The County needs to view the necessary requests made n May 9<sup>th</sup>, yesterday, [sic] proposed by Santa Fe County Clerk Katharine Clark. It is

This is ludicrous when I am a seasonal worker versus folks responsible for duties such as ballot printing, ballot boxes, same day registration using computer functioning, internet security, draft planning, paper ballots monitoring ballot machines and much

more. We rely on the County Clerk's Office employees who have families to support, children to raise, employees who have [inaudible] to build a career in the County, to carry out these duties free from partisan activities. Staff is expected to treat the public with respect regardless of being subjected to a hostile environment conditions throughout the state of New Mexico. Thank you.

CHAIR HANSEN: Thank you, Donna. Is there anyone else online.

MR. FRESQUEZ: Madam Chair, our next speaker is a call-in use. For this call-in user, I'm going to ask you to hit star 6 on your phone to unmute and I'm going to start the two-minute timer.

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Good evening. Thank you for taking my call. I just have a couple complaints about the Clerk's Office. I'm wondering why they're still requiring appointments. All the other elected offices are open to walk-ins. [inaudible] so we elected as a public servant [inaudible] Appointments need to end. I drove for a long distance because I don't live in the city to visit the Clerk's Office and I didn't know there was appointment requirements so I had a waste of my day and I had to take off and I was turned away. The [inaudible] I dealt with was very rude to me. I was very furious that you also have security as you walk in. I understand the offices are short-staffed. Everyone is these days.

I heard from the meeting yesterday she's short-staffed because of the pay but I hear the County's lowest pay is pretty decent. It's not lack of a good pay. It's poor leadership, actually. We voted her in; we could vote her out. She should stop any requirement of appointments because that's a waste of people's time, especially me where I live in a rural part of the county and I had to drive far not knowing this requirement. Thank you.

CHAIR HANSEN: Thank you. Do we have anyone else on line?

MR. FRESQUEZ: Madam Chair, I'm not seeing anybody else online.

CHAIR HANSEN: Thank you. Thank you, everybody for making your comments. We are always happy to have comments from the public and we take them seriously. So thank you, and with that I'm going to close Matters of Public Concern.

## **10. MATTERS FROM THE COUNTY MANAGER**

### **A. Miscellaneous Updates**

MANAGER SHAFFER: It's nice to see you all again. My only miscellaneous update is that we do have two additional special meetings that are scheduled, one for certain and one if necessary to approve the budget. First special meeting is on Monday, the 15<sup>th</sup> of May. It is a meeting to potentially take action on the interim budget for fiscal year 2024. That's the operating budget, and then again, we have an additional special meeting if necessary, also at 2:00 pm on Wednesday, the 24<sup>th</sup> of May. So those are the only things I wanted to emphasize, Madam Chair and Commissioners. Thank you.

CHAIR HANSEN: So once again, the May 15<sup>th</sup> meeting is at 2:00 p.m.?

MANAGER SHAFFER: Yes. That is correct.

CHAIR HANSEN: So 2:00 p.m. on May 15<sup>th</sup> and 2:00 p.m. on May 24<sup>th</sup> if needed. I'm just repeating that so we're all aware. That's all you have?

MANAGER SHAFFER: That's all I have. Thank you.

CHAIR HANSEN: Thank you, Manager Shaffer.

**11. 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 HANSEN: I will start with Commissioner Greene.

COMMISSIONER GREENE: Thank you, Madam Chair. I think my main thing is a thank you to County Manager Shaffer for coming out to Tesuque Pueblo today to help negotiate towards an opportunity to reopen the 592 transfer station. Nothing was settled today but it was a good faith effort on both of our parties and our communities here, and I think we're making progress. Over the past two weeks I've received about 80 emails, all in favor of reopening the transfer station, and we'll work towards reopening that because it seems like everybody really wants that up there. In a small community like Tesuque 80 emails is a lot, so I've responded to about half of them at this point. I need to get to the rest of them.

Other than that, I really appreciate all the work that staff has been doing so far and this has been great. Thank you very much.

CHAIR HANSEN: I will go next to Commissioner Hughes.

COMMISSIONER HUGHES: Thank you, and I'll be brief as well. I did have a townhall meeting last week and one of the things that we talked about there and has been subject of emails from my constituents since then is the imminent closure of Richards Avenue at Avenida del Sur, which is going to cause our County Manager to take much longer to get to work, as well as everybody else who lives in that neighborhood. So there is a lot of concern about that with the closure of Richards Avenue Rancho Viejo Boulevard will be the only road out of Rancho Viejo. And so I'll be also working with the Sheriff's Office and the Fire Department to make sure that emergency services are available, people aren't speeding – I don't think people will be able to speed because it will all be backed up. But there is a concern there and I hope the contractors can work as quickly as possible so that we can reopen.

And I'll just also mention we do have some good applicants to be my liaison and Sara is going to start the interview process this week, and of course thanks again to Brittney Montoya for filling in. She's been a great help in the interim. Thank you, Madam Chair.

CHAIR HANSEN: Thank you, Commissioner Hughes. Commissioner Hamilton.

COMMISSIONER HAMILTON: Thank you. I actually just wanted to mention that you guys over time have approved CDBG funding and what not for the Greater Glorieta well drilling project and coming out of my driveway and dropping down the hill I had a great view of the giant well-drilling rigs sticking up in the air starting their work. I should have stopped to take a picture but I'll do that tomorrow and share – I wanted to thank everybody in the County who's been working on that and working to

help communities to do these kinds of necessary projects. It's really appreciated.

CHAIR HANSEN: Thank you, Commissioner Hamilton. Commissioner Bustamante.

COMMISSIONER BUSTAMANTE: Thank you. Two big issues, and there was something when we were having the discussion regarding the road concerns, the speeding in the areas, and I was grateful that Los Pinos was mentioned. I want to make sure that it is not just the street that I live directly off that gets addressed during my term on the Commission, which I can say historically had been the case with other Commissions. So it may or may not be an issue of perception but I did hear from Galisteo since the meeting that they had slowed down, but we really have to do something with the gravel trucks that are back at it and driving very fast in Galisteo, and then get back to the issues of Paseo Real where they don't have any egress in the event that there were a critical emergency on that road. That was Paseo C de Baca, and then Paseo Real is another speed area.

The other thing that I had mentioned in previous meetings with regard to the groundbreaking of the northeast-southeast corridor is one thing that the community of Cerrillos, and we have a number of people who are saying please stop all activity until you've talked with us was to do whatever we can when we go into disturb the natural environs to keep it to a minimum. And I've already heard that they have cleared away much more into some areas of what I'm understanding to be natural habitat of wildlife for the placement of the new senior center/fire station.

That being said, to whatever end, when we do go in and recognizing that impact is everything, that a full disclosure of how this is going to be overcome. They had been assured and the perception again is that we've failed them in not being sensitive to the natural environment that's being disturbed for the placement of that building.

So both of those issues remain high in my priority list as I hear regularly from the community members in those areas, specifically with regard to those issues, and if we can have someone please look into what disturbances, I'll make a trip out myself to see how far if it could actually go further than the senior – than the location that had been identified for the senior center. I will continue probably to receive those emails and complaints as I have quite a few. Thank you.

CHAIR HANSEN: Thank you, Commissioner Bustamante. I have a number of announcements. First of all, the San Ysidro blessing in May 14<sup>th</sup>, 1:00 p.m. Normally it's always on the 15<sup>th</sup> but the 15<sup>th</sup> is a Monday and so it will be actually at 1:30 p.m. right after mass, and so for those love Agua Fria they way I do please join me in celebrating San Ysidro Day and the blessing at the river. We had a really great ribbon-cutting at Romero Park, Phase 2. It was exciting to see that the contractor is ready to go and is working and is already making incredible progress.

Also in May I will have my first Coffee and Tea under the Trees on May 27<sup>th</sup>. The New Mexico Extension service will be there. It will be Tom Dominguez who will talk about planting and all the things that the Extension Service provides to Santa Fe County.

On June 5<sup>th</sup> we are going to have a ribbon-cutting that I want to invite all of you to, and that is a ribbon-cutting to celebrate the Public Works wash-bay renovation on Monday, June 5<sup>th</sup> at 11:00 a.m. at our Public Works Complex. So for any of you who have not been able to see this new wash-bay, it has actually been converted, the

renovation into offices and it is a fantastic environment. And you can also then see all the other buildings that we have built at the campus for Public Works and hear about the plans that we plan to do in the future out there for curb appeal and beautification, since it is sometimes a little hard to find the Public Works Offices because they're kind of hidden behind a big berm. So that's Monday, June 5<sup>th</sup> at 11:00 am.

On June 1<sup>st</sup> I'm hoping to do a townhall with the Forest Supervisor, Sean Sanchez, and then finally, I just want to give a brief report about the City's Summit of the Americas. Myself and Jacqueline, our Sustainability Manager, were the only people from New Mexico that attended. The Governor was invited. Governor Polis was there. Secretary of State Lincoln was there. Undersecretary Jose Fernandez of Economic Development at the State Department was there, and he is very interested in mining. I told him I would be more than happy to share our Mining and Hard Rock Ordinance because of the 1842 Mining Ordinance at the federal level is a disaster and something that has to be changed. I think working with the Secretary of State, Jose Fernandez is very interested in this, is an avenue that we could start to get congressional changes. As all of you know I like to work on federal issues besides County issues. I believe very strongly that federal issues affect us here at the County and that is what I see the connection to it is.

I want to invite you to all these events and give you a brief update on the events that we've had, and thank you for a good meeting so far.

**11. B. Elected Officials' Issues and Comments, Including but not Limited to Constituent Concerns, Recognitions and Requests for Updates or Future Presentations**

CHAIR HANSEN: I know we have the County Clerk, so Clerk Clark, would you like to say a few words?

KATHARINE CLARK (County Clerk): Hello, Commissioners. Thank you for letting me speak. I do want to update everyone on some of the activities in the Clerk's Office. We are working still towards having all of our documents online. We're hoping to finalize that this month. We are starting to hear from entities who want to have their positions on the ballot. Our next upcoming election is in November of 2023 and that's the regular local election which should see school boards, soil & water districts, but we also may see a special election before that time. We're starting to hear from different entities that they want to sneak in a special election before the regular local election, so we're keeping an eye on those referendums to see if enough signatures are submitted where we would have to run a special election in between now and the regular local election.

So if you are interested in getting documents from the Clerk's Office and you don't want to make an appointment there's two ways of doing that. One is to go online to the index, which is always available and look for your documents, pull the instrument number and just email us and we can have those documents ready for you to pick up in between appointments. And the other is to use the computers in the lobby of our office where you can do the research yourself and don't have to pay the research fee for when we're doing a deep dive looking for your documents. Thank you.



CHAIR HANSEN: Thank you, Clerk Clark. Next, is there any other elected officials on line? I don't see any in the chambers, and I don't see Daniel so I'm going to trust that there's nobody else online.

**12. MATTERS FROM THE COUNTY ATTORNEY**

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

- 1. Arroyo Hondo District Trail Easements**
- 2. Threatened Litigation Concerning the Petition Requesting the Board of County Commissioners of Santa Fe County, New Mexico to Adopt an Ordinance Declaring "Area 1B" to be Part of the Traditional Historic Community of Agua Fria**
- 3. Breach of Settlement Agreement and Related Agreements Related to Annexation**
- 4. *City of Santa Fe vs. the County of Santa Fe*, First Judicial District Court**

CHAIR HANSEN: Mr. Young.

JEFF YOUNG (County Attorney): Thank you, Madam Chair and Commissioners. First I'd like to let the Commissioners know that with the recent lifting of the COVID-19 public health emergency we are looking at updating the annual Open Meetings Act resolution and should have a draft for you at the next meeting or so.

Second, I would ask that we go into executive session to discuss threatened or pending litigation in which Santa Fe County is or may become a participant, as allowed by Section 10-15-1 (H)(7) NMSA 1978; and discussion of the purchase, acquisition or disposal of real property or water rights, as allowed by Section 10-15-1(H)(8) NMSA 1978. Those items specifically including Arroyo Hondo District trail easements; threatened litigation concerning the petition requesting the Board of County Commissioners of Santa Fe County to adopt an ordinance declaring "Area 1B" to be part of the Traditional Historic Community of Agua Fria; breach of settlement agreement and related agreements related to annexation; and four, *City of Santa Fe vs. the County of Santa Fe* in the First Judicial District Court.

CHAIR HANSEN: Do I have a motion to go into executive session.

COMMISSIONER HAMILTON: Madam Chair, I move to go into executive session to discuss the matters just presented by the County Attorney.

COMMISSIONER HUGHES: And I'll second.

COMMISSIONER HAMILTON: Do we have to come back out afterwards?

CHAIR HANSEN: Yes, we do. I have a motion by Commissioner Hamilton, a second by Commissioner Hughes. May I please have a roll call vote?

**The motion to go into executive session passed by unanimous roll call vote as follows:**

Commissioner Bustamante	Aye
Commissioner Greene	Aye
Commissioner Hamilton	Aye
Commissioner Hughes	Aye
Commissioner Hansen	Aye

MR. YOUNG: Madam Chair, if I could also add on that, I don't expect to have any additional action items out of this so if you'd also like to adjourn it's at the pleasure of the Board to adjourn, that would be fine as well.

CHAIR HANSEN: Okay. It says here potential action on items so I didn't want to cut you off if you had something. So I think we can have a motion to adjourn right after right now. So we can adjourn at this point. So can I have a motion to adjourn after executive session without coming back to the dais?

COMMISSIONER HAMILTON: Yes. I move that we adjourn our regular meeting now as we break for executive session and don't return.

COMMISSIONER HUGHES: Second.

CHAIR HANSEN: Okay, so I have a motion from Commissioner Hamilton, second from Commissioner Hughes.

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

**12. B. Potential Action on Items Discussed in Executive Session**

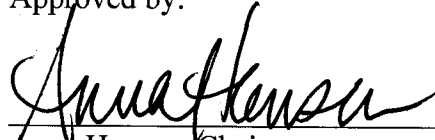
None was required.

**13. CONCLUDING BUSINESS**

- A. Announcements**
- B. Adjournment**

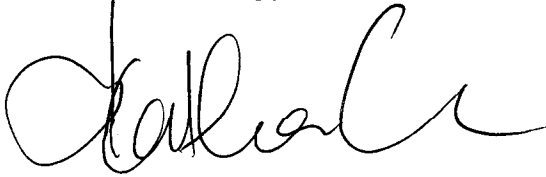
Having completed the agenda and with no further business to come before this body, Chair Hansen declared this meeting adjourned at 6:05 p.m.

Approved by:



Anna Hansen, Chair  
Board of County Commissioners


ATTEST TO:



KATHARINE E. CLARK  
SANTA FE COUNTY CLERK



Respectfully submitted:

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

SFC CLERK RECORDED 06/21/2023