

SANTA FE COUNTY
BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
SPECIAL MEETING
September 8, 2026

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

SFC CLERK RECORDED 10/14/2026



Tuesday/September 8, 2026
Special Board of County Commissioners Meeting
Hybrid In-Person and Virtual Meeting
Santa Fe County John Gaw Meem Historic Building
Commission Chambers, 2nd Floor
102 Grant Avenue, Santa Fe NM 87501

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1. Opening Business

- A. Call to Order – 1:30 p.m.**
- B. Roll Call.**

Members Present:

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

Members Excused:

None

C. Approval of Agenda. (Action Item)

Commissioner Cacari Stone moved to approve the agenda. Commissioner Johnson seconded. The motion passed by unanimous [5-0] voice vote.

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2. Introduction of the 2026 Don Diego de Vargas, La Reina, and Fiesta de Santa Fe Royal Court

COMMISSIONER CHAIR JUSTIN GREENE: Would you please join us up here and, for all of the County involved people, please come join us up here and introduce yourselves to the community. Stand up and this is going to be your stage for a little while, please.

ELOISA GONZALES: Thank you, Commissioners. Thank you, County employees, for being here. My name is Eloisa Gonzales. I am the 2026 President of the Fiesta de Santa Fe, and it is my honor to present these ladies and gentlemen that are representing us this year as the 2026 Don Diego de Vargas. Andres Archuleta Sanchez. Gosh, I always forget when I need it. Andres Archuleta y Sanchez and La Reina...

SPEAKER1: ¡Que viva!

MS. GONZALES: Que viva! And La Reina de la Fiesta Angelique Martinez y Romero.

SPEAKER2: ¡Que viva la vida!"

GROUP: "¡Que viva la vida!"

ANDRES ARCHULETA: Buenas tardes. I cannot say it's a pleasure being here. The last time I was here, I was being fired because you violated my rights and wanted me to take a vaccine. I was on the front lines delivering meals for our people, and you decided to let me go because I didn't take a vaccine based on my religious rights. So, I cannot say it's a pleasure being here.

MS. GONZALES: I'm sorry. That's just, this is not the place.

MR. ARCHULETA: That's fine. Then I'm done.

SPEAKER3: That's unacceptable.

MS. GONZALES: I'm sorry Andres, I apologize. Andres? I'm sorry, Reina, can you take over while I go address this?

ANGELIQUE MARTINEZ Y ROMERO: Buenas tardes. ¿Como esta Santa Fe? How are you doing? It is such a great honor to be here and to continue these traditions. My name is Angelique Martinez-y Romero, and I have the honor and privilege as serving as your 2026 La Reina de la Fiesta de Santa Fe. This is the 314th year that we will be celebrating Fiestas and I would like to introduce these beautiful ladies who have stood behind me, starting with Native American Princess from the Pueblo of Pojoaque, Hannah PoPovi Water Flower Sarmiento. Spanish Princessa Patricia Felix. Spanish Princessa Gemma Varela-Romero, and Spanish Princessa Elizabeth Romero de Soveranes. I would like to also introduce our Cuadrilla because these gentlemen have been great and they've come...Okay. Okay.

DOMINIC MCCARTHY CAPITÁN ALVAREZ: Hello, I am Dominic McCarthy, Capitán Alvarez. Forgive me, for I don't know the full names of everyone here as far as the roles we're representing except for my own, but we have I believe Capitán Primero,

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Manuel Barrela. Thank you. Sorry Capitán Primero. Capitán Segundo, Joseph Cross. Custodio del Estandarte, Bill Shmiley. Alcalde Mayor, Jason Salazar. Sargento Mayor, Paul Garcia. Padre Presidenté, he was here, Jeff McCarthy. We have Padre Gerald Garcia. Forgive me, I don't have the names here, but we have Anthony Rivera and Dominic Vigil. Thank you.

SPEAKER3: ¡Que viva [inaudible] (0:04:56)!

GROUP: ¡Que viva!

MS. MARTINEZ Y ROMERO: We would like to invite you to come and celebrate our Fiestas with us. We hope to see you on the plaza y ¡Que Viva la Fiesta!

Group: ¡Que viva!

MS. MARTINEZ Y ROMERO: Muchísimas gracias.

MS. GONZALES: Alright, let's give this group a round of applause and we also want to mention...And on behalf of the Santa Fe Fiesta Council, we want to thank the Santa Fe County for making any wrongs right. Thank you. Our feelings, taking everything into consideration. We thank County Manager Lisa Cacari Stone, Bustamante and all the other Commissioners for your endearing efforts to make sure that we feel welcomed and we honor this visit and we're thankful for being here, and we will always be a partnership and ¡Que Viva County de Santa Fe!

GROUP: ¡Que viva!

SPEAKER4: [inaudible]

GROUP: ¡Que viva!

SPEAKER4: [inaudible]

GROUP: ¡Que viva!

SPEAKER4: [inaudible]

GROUP: ¡Que viva!

CHAIR GREENE: So, thank you so much. It's so great to have you here again. Thank you so much for being here. We are going to continue. Are you up for some music? Will you entertain us and please, do the honors.

[Band plays music]

CHAIR GREENE: Thank you so much. Thank you.

SPEAKER5: Thank you so much.

CHAIR GREENE: Muchisimas, yes. Thank you. Mil gracias. So, thank you everybody. We have a video prepared by Santa Fe County and the Fiesta Council with personal connections to Fiestas including former members of the Royal Court Fiesta Council and its connection to Santa Fe County. I encourage you all to watch this here and enjoy for a few minutes. Thank you.

3. Fiesta de Santa Fe Connections: County Employees Reflect

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A. Screening of Video Featuring Santa Fe County Employees with Personal Connections to Fiesta de Santa Fe, Including Former Members of the Royal Court and Fiesta Council.

[Video plays]

JESSICA LUCERO MUNIZ: My name is Jessica Lucero Muniz and I've been involved with the Santa Fe Fiestas since 2006 as the Santa Fe Fiesta Queen. What inspired me to become involved in the Fiestas de Santa Fe was my family, watching my father, my aunts, my uncles and many of my cousins participate in the Fiestas de Santa Fe.

DANIELLE TENNYSON: My name is Danielle Tennyson, I've been involved with the Fiesta since I was a little girl. I got to serve as a page on Carolee Friday's Royal Court, when she was La Reina, and then I tried out for La Reina in 2010. I was elected and it was one of the best experiences of my life.

DOUGLAS NAVA: Buen dia. My name is Douglas Antonio Nava. I've been involved with Fiesta de Santa Fe since the age of 21. I've been on two Cuadrillas. I was the Alcalde Mayor in 1997, Padre Presidente in 2004 and in '21 and '22, I was given the honor to be General Don Diego de Vargas.

ELENA TERCERO: My name is Elena Tercero, and I have been involved with Fiestas as long as I can remember. What inspired me to become involved with Fiestas de Santa Fe really is my family heritage. So, the standard bearer that came with Don Diego de Vargas, Don Fernando Durán y Chaves is actually...I am actually a direct descendant of him.

JENNIFER CINTAS: My name is Jennifer Cintas and I have been involved with the Santa Fe Fiestas since I was four years old. I believe our Fiesta is important. It teaches us how to live together. We've lived together for over 400 years, to live, to learn each other's traditions and community. We couldn't be the town that we are without that. We're the oldest living community celebration in the world, and I just want to keep that going for my son and my grandchild.

JENNIFER RICHARDSON GARCIA DE ROMERO: ¡Buenos días le dé Dios! Me llamo Jennifer Richardson Garcia de Romero. For me, being a part of our traditions, learning my faith, my heritage, my culture allowed me to want to be a part of something more. When I decided to finally run for Fiesta Queen, I wanted to do something that would make my family proud and also something that they could be a part of with me.

PHILIP VIGIL: My name is Philip Vigil. I've been involved with Fiestas de Santa Fe for three years. The part of Fiestas that brings me the most joy is seeing the family, visitors, different generations all get together and celebrate a tradition that has been passed down through generations.

MS. MUNIZ: ¡Que viva La Fiesta de Santa Fe. ¡Que viva!

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MS. TENNYSON: ¡Que viva La Reina.

MR. NAVA: ¡Que viva Fiestas de Santa Fe pero mas importante!
¡Que viva La Conquistadora!

MS. TERCERO: ¡Que viva!

MS. CINTAS: ¡Que viva La Fiesta!

PHILIP VIGIL: ¡Que viva La Fiesta!

MS. GARCIA DE ROMERO: ¡Que viva la Fiesta! ¡Que viva nuestra ciudad y
que viva nuestra herencia!

[Video ends]

CHAIR GREENE: Thank you everybody for participating in that video and
taking part of this. This is great to see the heritage and the traditions continue here. We
have a proclamation today that we are going to read and I think Commissioner...

CHAIR GREENE: Okay, well. The three of you, if you'd like.

COMMISSIONER LISA CACARI STONE: [inaudible]

**4. BCC Proclamation Concerning Fiesta de Santa Fe Presented to Don Diego de Vargas, La
Reina and Royal Court**

- A. Presentation of Proclamation Proclaiming September 8, 2026, as "Fiesta de Santa Fe
Cultural Celebration and Belonging Day."

COMMISSIONER BUSTAMANTE: For those watching at home, fact,
we are here together with a Proclamation in the Community's House for the Fiesta de
Santa Fe. So, instead of reading a three-page Proclamation to you, we will acknowledge
that this is the oldest community celebration and for those of you and your beautiful
faces who I saw in the video and for those who couldn't be with us today, ¡Que viva las
Fiestas!

GROUP: ¡Que viva!

COMMISSIONER BUSTAMANTE: ¡De eterno, que viva!

GROUP: ¡Que viva!

TREASURER JENNIFER MANZANARES: Buenos días. No sabia que hiba a hablar,
yo tengo los refreshmenets afuera, espero que van a tomar con nosotros. Welcome
everyone and thank you for joining us today in this beautiful City, in Santa Fe. It's our
County, our beloved City. So, to the Fiesta Queen and Court, to Don Diego de Vargas and
his staff, thank you so much for all of the time you've donated to our community, all the
kids' smiles. Mi'jita got to see everyone on the first day at Sweeney Elementary and she
said, "Nana, I saw Victor." So, I want to acknowledge that on our team, Victor also
shares a lot of his energy, his time. So, I want to thank the Commission, I want to thank

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the County Management for all that they've done to bring this into our...Our Commissioner said it best, our home.

COMMISSIONER CACARI STONE: Gracias. Gracias Commissioner Bustamante, Treasurer Manzanares. I just want to welcome everyone here. Bienvenidos a todos. I especially want to thank the Presidente, La Señora Eloisa Gonzales. I'd like to also thank former President Crystal Lucero, the Cuadrillas, the Fiesta Council, the Queen, the Court, the leadership. I also want to give a special recognition and honor to our County employees who also serve and honor their own tradition en nuestra familia y comunidad. You walk the path of warriors and lionesses who build culture with governance, and this is what we're about. We're in the People's Chamber and I think the morale behind us by Señor Federico Vigil really speaks to that tradition. I want to just read what this proclamation symbolizes and then I want to present it to the Fiesta Council Queen. I know the King left and I think that any harm that's ever been done, I encourage ongoing dialogue, if it needs a conversation with the County Manager, HR. As a penitente always says, "If I've ever harmed you in any way, unintentionally, let us find healing together." So, that's why we're here. This Proclamation recognizes that Santa Fe is home to Sovereign Pueblos, centuries old Hispano villages, immigrant families and people of many cultures, faiths, identities and traditions. We have distinct histories but shared destinies together. The challenges of the past remind us that we can choose dialogue over division through deep listening with an open heart, understanding and deep appreciation for one another. We create opportunities for celebrating and healing. Our hope as the Board of County Commissioners is that our children and grandchildren inherit a Santa Fe where many histories and herstories can be remembered. Many traditions can live and all people can thrive with dignity and respect. We present to the President and the Reina and the leadership here, the Proclamation for you to take home signed by our total Board of County Commissioners. Thank you to the County Management. Thank you to the County Management and the leaders who also see with deep vision and clarity our purpose here to serve all. Comisionada.

COMMISSIONER BUSTAMANTE: Thank you. Thank you, Commissioner, Cacari Stone. I also want to recognize that this is the Celebración de los Españoles de Santa Fe. Esto es lo que somos: mestizos. ¿No? We're mixed people now, but this is a celebration for our culture of being Hispanos and I appreciate that we're acknowledging all the different communities around here, but we also have a right to be proud of who we are, the most resilient people in the world because now we're a mix of people. ¡Y que vivan las Fiestas de Santa Fe y todos! And there's food outside the door.

COMMISSIONER CACARI STONE: ¡Que viva Nuevo México!

COMMISSIONER BUSTAMANTE: Oh! ¡Que viva Nuevo México, Nuevo México! Alright.

CHAIR GREENE: Thank you, Commissioners, and thank you, Treasurer

Manzanares. This is beautiful, welcome back once again. We have some small gifts from Santa Fe County to recognize today, a little Proclamation memorabilia for you all to take home with you. Please Commissioners, would you join me up here and we can pass these out to folks from...

COMMISSIONER CACARI STONE: Remind them we have refrescos prepared for them.

CHAIR GREENE: Yes.

COMMISSIONER CACARI STONE: Before they go.

CHAIR GREENE: Yes. We're going to have some more dancing. We're going to celebrate a little more, but we also have some refreshments outside made by Commissioner Cacari Stone and Treasurer Manzanares. Thank you so much. Right, this is hospitality Santa Fe County style. So, thank you for being here and thank you for everything here.

CHAIR GREENE: You're welcome. Right on. Yeah. Thanks for being here. So, where are the...

MANAGER SHAFFER: They've been handed out.

CHAIR GREENE: They've been handed out. So, I, okay.

SPEAKER8: [inaudible]

CHAIR GREENE: Okay. So, proclaiming today September 8, 2026 as Fiestas de Santa Fe Cultural Celebration and Belonging Day because you know, you belong here. Thank you for being a part of our history here at Santa Fe County. This is an honor for us and the honor is all ours. So, thank you very much and thanks for being here. Thank you for your patience and working through some of these issues you know. We all learn and we all grow stronger through time and relationships and everything here. So, we lost the band. Maybe that was it.

GROUP: No, they're here.

CHAIR GREENE: Oh, they're here, they're here. Alright, alright. So, please join us for a little bit more celebration and dancing here. Thank you very much and ¡Que vivan las Fiestas! Cheers.

EXECUTIVE MANAGER SMITH: ¡Que viva! Motion to adjourn.

CHAIR GREENE: Thank you.

5. Fiesta de Santa Fe Celebration: Music and Dancing

CHAIR GREENE: We're going to celebrate for 15 minutes until we come back for our regular meeting.

6. Concluding Business

A. Adjournment. (Action Item)

CHAIR GREENE: Commissioners, we're going to... can I entertain a motion to adjourn?

COMMISSIONER ADAM JOHNSON: So moved.

CHAIR GREENE: Got a motion from Commissioner Johnson, a second from Commissioner Hughes. All in favor, say aye. Thank you very much. This meeting is adjourned.

Commissioner Johnson moved to adjourn. Commissioner Hughes seconded. The motion passed by unanimous [5-0] voice vote.

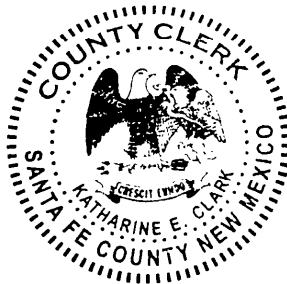
CHAIR GREENE: We will celebrate until 2:15 p.m. Please enjoy your day. Thank you, guys. Thanks for being here.

GROUP: Thank you, thank you!

7. Public Meeting Disclosures

Santa Fe County makes every practical effort to ensure that auxiliary aids or services are available for meetings and programs. Individuals who would like to request auxiliary aids or services should contact Santa Fe County Manager's Office at (505) 986-6200 in advance to discuss specific needs (e.g., interpreters for the hearing impaired or readers for the sight impaired).

8 September 2026 01:58:23 PM



Approved by:

Justin Greene, Chair
Board of County Commissioners

Attest to:

Katharine E. Clark
Santa Fe County Clerk

COUNTY OF SANTA FE)
STATE OF NEW MEXICO) ss

BCC MINUTES
PAGES: 9

Hereby Certify That This Instrument Was Filed for
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Deputy _____ County Clerk, Santa Fe, NM
Katharine E. Clark

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