

REGULAR SESSION-BOARD OF QUAY COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

February 22, 2010

9:00 a.m.

BE IT REMEMBERED THE HONORABLE BOARD OF QUAY COUNTY COMMISSIONERS met in regular session the 22nd day of February, 2010 at 9:00 a.m. in the Commissioners' Room of the Quay County Courthouse, Tucumcari, New Mexico for the purpose of taking care of any business that may come before them.

PRESENT & PRESIDING:

Franklin D. McCasland, Chairman
Bill Curry, Member
Robert Lopez, Member
Ellen L. White, County Clerk
Richard Primrose, County Manager

OTHERS PRESENT:

Larry Moore, Road Superintendent
Drake Swenson, Tucumcari Food Cooperative
James & Renee Rinestine, Nara Visa Residents
Bryan Rinestine, Nara Visa Resident
Ron Jones and Justin Stevenson, New Mexico Wildlife Services
Tom Dominguez, Quay County Ag Extension Agent
Becky Wallace, PMS Health Clinic
Darla Munsell, Quay County CDBG Administrator
Cheryl Simpson, Quay County Manager's Office
Melvin Keith, Nara Visa Resident
Donald Adams, Quay County Fire Marshall
Bob Beaulieu, Quay County Chamber of Commerce
Michael Perez, Nara Visa Resident
Jimmy Burns, Nara Visa Resident
Jimmy Valentine, Nara Visa Resident
Lewis & Elaine James, Nara Visa Residents
Delton Judd, Nara Visa Resident
Adolph Miera, Nara Visa Resident
Frank Garnett, Nara Visa Resident
T.J. Rich, Quay County Detention Center
Thomas Garcia, Quay County Sun
Catherine Bugg, KTNM/KQAY Radio Station

Chairman Franklin D. McCasland called the meeting to order. Michael Perez led the Pledge of Allegiance.

A MOTION was made by Robert Lopez, SECONDED by Bill Curry to approve the minutes from the February 8, 2010 regular commission meeting. MOTION carried with all members voting "aye".

A MOTION was made by Bill Curry, SECONDED by Robert Lopez to approve the Agenda as presented. MOTION carried with all members voting "aye".

Public Comment: NONE

Melvin Keith, Nara Visa resident expressed his concerns regarding the condition of the roads in the Nara Visa area following the recent heavy snowfall. Keith stated his wife drives a school bus and the routes are still un-passable for the most part. Keith said when the blade men finally got to the area, it was more of a hit and miss operation and the snow was not removed or grated properly which left a bigger mess with the mud. Keith stated the roads are not maintained in a positive manner prior to the snows which makes repairs even more difficult following a snow or heavy rain. Keith said the school bus routes should be a priority throughout the County.

Chairman McCasland agreed the Bus Routes have to be maintained and bladed first following a heavy snow. McCasland stated he went to Nara Visa with County Manager, Richard Primrose and Road Superintendent, Larry Moore following numerous phone calls following the snow to inspect the conditions. One of the roads of concern that led to the Etheridge place is not a County Road. McCasland stated he was aware that a prior blade man had bladed that road in the past, however the County is not in a position to blade private roadways and are being very strict about following this procedure. Following the numerous complaints from the Nara Visa area, Chairman McCasland asked the County Manager and Road Superintendent to compile a list of the hours and dollars spent in the Nara Visa area following the snow. McCasland reminded those in attendance this snow storm was County wide. Roads were closed and residents were snowed in all over the County. The County owns 6 blades and had 5 drivers as one driver had recently quit. These blades cover 1100 miles of road throughout the County. County wide the snow removal cost the County \$61,000.00, with \$24,000.00 of that being centralized in the Nara Visa area which is 40% of the total amount spent. McCasland stated he understood the problem with the roads in that area.

Melvin Keith said the biggest problem with the snow removal was timing and the lackluster efforts of the blade man. He said the blade was not low enough and went as fast as it could to blade a narrow strip down the middle of the road. The roads needed worked on while they were frozen and not days later while they were melting.

Commissioner Curry said he was concerned about the comment Keith made in regards to the roads being in poor condition prior to the snow. Keith replied saying most of the caliche is gone already and the areas needing special attention don't receive the quality of service they need. Keith said the school bus routes are terrible and causing damage to his wife's school bus with regards to normal maintenance of the bus.

Michael Perez echoed Keith's concerns stating if the blade men had a better game plan when the snow arrived, the attack plan would have been more successful. If the blades were in a position with the crews knowing where to start and go next following the snow, they would not have the mess and 10 inch ruts now. A little maintenance prior to the snow would go a long way. Perez said he knew the crews were new to that area and had no idea where the roads were much less which were bus routes. Perez asked how the budget worked with regards to what roads get bladed when and what kind of a schedule they were on.

McCasland explained the funds are limited and distributed County wide. Commissioner Curry stated there are 1100 miles of County Roads to maintain and he recognizes the problem with new blade men, however they have not been successful with employing someone from the Nara Visa area who knows the territory. Chairman McCasland said nothing would please the Commission more than to employ a person from the area that is familiar with the roads and would take pride in working for the County and the residents of Nara Visa.

Richard Primrose explained the budget process for the road department. The budget for this past fiscal year was a little over one million with a 22% decrease last year and at least a 27% decrease from the State for this year. Every bit of the Coop, School Bus Routes and CAP project funding was spent in the Nara Visa area this passed year.

Jimmy Valentine, another resident for Nara Visa said his main concern was the issue of getting emergency personnel, such as the ambulance to residents in need. Valentine stated the blades should have been in a position to begin clearing snow immediately instead of wasting time for driving time for the blade men.

Bryan Rinestine stated the roads that were bladed properly down both sides are now dry and are in good shape. The roads where the blade made one pass down the middle are like river beds.

Frank Garnett suggested hiring someone from the Nara Visa area as a temporary or part-time employee that had access to the blade and would be under the instruction of the Road Superintendent and be available for help with snow removal, or other weather related problems. Primrose stated it was a good idea and he would contact Risk Management for advice on procedures for this type of employee.

Chairman McCasland, along with the Commissioners and Manager thanked the residents of Nara Visa for their professional approach to resolving a serious problem and being eager to work with the County to do what's best for everyone.

Chairman McCasland requested a recess. Time noted 9:50 a.m.

Return to regular session. Time noted 10:00 a.m.

David Tixier, Owner of Magnum Steel Buildings, Inc. was scheduled as Item Number Three (3) on the Agenda, but was not present.

Ron Jones, New Mexico Wildlife Specialist gave a brief overview of the livestock loss and damage control statistics for the time period August 1, 2009 to February 20, 2010. A copy of his report is attached and made a part of these minutes. Jones introduces NM Wildlife Biologist, Justin Stevenson who presented a power point slide regarding disease control and tracking device procedures.

Joe Schallert, Quay County Sheriff joined the meeting. Time noted 10:10 a.m.

T. J. Rich, Quay County Detention Center presented the Inmate Pharmaceutical Services Contract with Bob's Budget Pharmacy. A MOTION was made by Bill Curry, SECONDED by Robert Lopez to approve the Contract. MOTION carried with all members voting "aye". A copy of said Contract is attached and made a part of these minutes.

Drake Swenson presented the Tucumcari Food Cooperative program to the Commissioners. Swenson stated this COOP would be a buyers club with a small membership fee. The membership would allow residents to purchase fresh produce along with other items once a month after placing orders. Swenson requested permission to use the Quay County Exhibit Center as a distribution site one day a month for 3 to 4 hours. All Commissioners agreed this was a worthwhile project and agreed to the facility use as long as the distribution days did not conflict with other events, mainly the fair and 4-H activities of the youth. A MOTION was made by Bill Curry, SECONDED by Robert Lopez to approve the facility use. MOTION carried with all members voting "aye".

Larry Moore, Quay County Road Superintendent gave the following report:

1. Blade men are all still out working to repair roads and blades are being serviced in between to keep them in good repair.
2. The blades have plows on them and are ready for the next snow storm.
3. Moore will be attending the RPO meeting on Wednesday, February 24, 2010.
4. Moore is still the Vice-Chair of the Public Works Affiliate. He will be attending meetings to begin establishing maintenance procedures to help departments regarding all aspects of Public Works.
5. The 2010-2011 projects are currently being submitted.

Chairman McCasland requested a recess. Time noted 11:15 a.m.

Return to regular session. Time noted 11:25 a.m.

Darla Munsell, CDBG Coordinator for Quay County requested approval of Resolution No. 49; authorizing the submission of the NM CDBG planning application. As well, Munsell requested approval of the FY2011 CDBG planning application. A MOTION was made by Bill Curry, SECONDED by Robert Lopez to approve both requests as submitted. MOTION carried with all members voting "aye". Copies of said Application and Resolution are attached and made a part of these minutes.

County Manager Richard Primrose presented the following Manager's Report:

1. Received a Thank You note from the Tucumcari Library for the donation of funds that purchased computer chairs.
2. Presented the Financial Reports and Gross Receipts Tax Report.
3. Conducted a Department Head Meeting on Wednesday, February 17 and budget worksheets were distributed.
4. Informed the Commissioners he will be requesting quotes from approved Auditors for the upcoming Audit.

CHECKS WERE REVIEWED AND APPROVED: A MOTION was made by Bill Curry, SECONDED by Robert Lopez to approve expenditures. MOTION carried with all members voting "aye".

A MOTION was made by Bill Curry, SECONDED by Robert Lopez to go into session as the Indigent Claim Board. MOTION carried with all members voting "aye". Time noted 11:35 a.m.

-----INDIGENT CLAIMS BOARD-----

Return to regular session. Time noted 11:45 a.m.

Quay County Sheriff, Joe Schallert presented the January Statistic Report from his office. A copy of said report is attached and made a part of these minutes.

UNDER OTHER BUSINESS:

1. Commissioner Curry stated he was assisting Donna Dominguez, Quay County Treasurer in contacting all the local financial institutions regarding investment of the reserve funds for the County.
2. Chairman McCasland stated the last law suit regarding Lee Stone has been dismissed. It was determined the County had followed all regulations with regards to installing cattle guards. McCasland stated he would like to inform the press they printed misleading information from the Stones and made the Commission, Judge and District Attorney's Office look bad to the public

because the press did not get all the facts from both parties prior to printing the article. The Commission could not make a public comment prior to the law suit being ruled upon due to it being pending litigation.

A MOTION was made by Robert Lopez, SECONDED by Bill Curry, to go into Executive Session pursuant to the Open Meetings Act 10-15-1(H)7 NMSA to discuss pending litigation. Lee Stone vs. Board of County Commissioners. MOTION carried with Lopez voting "aye", Curry voting "aye" and McCasland voting "aye". Time noted 11:45 a.m.

-----EXECUTIVE SESSION-----

Return to regular session. Time noted 12:45 p.m.

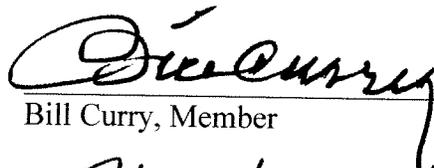
A MOTION was made by Bill Curry, SECONDED by Robert Lopez that only the items listed above were discussed during Executive Session and no action was taken. MOTION carried with Lopez voting "aye", Curry voting "aye" and McCasland voting "aye".

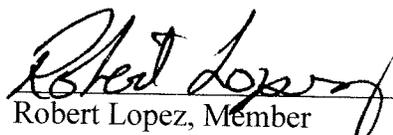
Chairman McCasland announced the Commissioners would be having lunch at Del's Restaurant. The public is welcome to attend.

There being no further business, a MOTION was made by Bill Curry, SECONDED by Robert Lopez to adjourn the regular meeting of the Board of Quay County Commissioners until the next regular meeting set for Monday, March 8, 2010 at 9:00 a.m. unless sooner called. MOTION carried with all members voting "aye". Time noted 12:55 p.m.

BOARD OF QUAY COUNTY COMMISSIONERS


Franklin D. McCasland, Chairman


Bill Curry, Member


Robert Lopez, Member

ATTEST:


Ellen L. White, County Clerk