

**SIERRA COUNTY COMMISSION  
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES  
FEBRUARY 20, 2024**

**CALL TO ORDER: 10:00 am Regular Meeting**

**The Sierra County Board of County Commissioners met in Regular Session at 10:00 A.M. on Tuesday, February 20, 2024, at the Sierra County Commission Chambers, 1712 N Date St, Truth or Consequences, New Mexico.**

**ROLL CALL:**

**Commissioner Travis Day, Chairman  
Commissioner James Paxon, Vice-Chair  
Commissioner Hank Hopkins, Member**

**Clerk of Board: Shelly K. Trujillo Absent  
Chief Deputy Clerk Amy Whitehead Present**

**County Attorney: David Pato**

**County Manager: Amber Vaughn**

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:**

**NEW MEXICO STATE FLAG PLEDGE:**

**ALSO IN ATTENDANCE:**

**Jessica West, Sandy Jones, Kayce Edwards, Josh Baker, Chuck Wentworth-Sentinel, Ruben Lucero, Michelle Atwell, Travis Atwell, Ernie Armijo, Candace Chavez, Keith Whitney, Billy Neeley, Tony James**

**I. APPROVAL OF AGENDA:**

**Commissioner Hopkins MOVED to approve the agenda as presented. Commission Vice Chair Paxon SECONDED the motion. Motion carried with Commissioners District 1-2-3 voting yes.**

**II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

**A. Regular Meeting-January 23, 2023**

**Commissioner Hopkins MOVED to approve the minutes as presented. Commission Vice-Chair Paxton SECONDED the motion. Motion carried with Commissioners District 1-2-3 voting yes.**

**III. PUBLIC COMMENT: LIMITED TO 3 MINUTES**

**IV. CONSENT AGENDA:**

**A. Resolution No. 110-221- Account Payables**

**B. Resolution No. 110-2222- Indigent Claims**

**C. Indigent Burial B2024-004**

**Commissioner Hopkins MOVED to approve the Consent Agenda as presented. Commission Vice Chair Paxton SECONDED the motion. Motion carried with Commissioner Districts 1-2-3 voting yes.**

**V. PRESENTATIONS/REPORTS:**

**A. Years of Service award**

**B. Department Reports**

**C. Flood Commissioner Report**

**D. Planned Prescribed Fire and Wild Fire on Black Ranger District and Gila National Forest for the 2024 Fire Season**

**VI. BOARD OF FINANCE:**

**A. January Reconciliation**

**Commissioner Hopkins MOVED to approve the April Reconciliation as presented. Commission Vice-Chair Paxton SECONDED the motion. Motion carried with Commissioners District 1-2-3 voting yes.**

**VII. OLD BUSINESS:**

**VIII. NEW BUSINESS:**

**A: Road Vacation Request VR24-001 for portion of 2<sup>nd</sup> Street in Chloride**

**Commission Vice-Chair Paxon MOVED to approve Petition for Road Vacation VR24-001: Commissioner Hopkins SECONDED the motion. Motion carries with Commissioners District 1-2-3 voting yes.**

- B: Approval of 2025 SP Request for Funding**
- C: Approval of 2025 SB Request for Funding**
- D: Approval of 2025 CAP Request for Funding**

**Commissioner Hopkins MOVED to approve Approval of 2025 SP, Approval of 2025 SB, and Approval of 2025 CAP Request for funding. Commission Vice Chair Paxon SECONDED the motion. Motion carried with Commissioners District 1-2-3 voting yes.**

## **IX. CONTRACTS – AGREEMENTS – PROCUREMENT**

### **A. SunZia Community Benefits Agreement**

**Commission Vice-Chair Paxon MOVED to approve SunZia Community Benefits Agreement as presented. Commissioner Hopkins SECONDED the motion. Motion carried with Commissioner Districts 1-2-3 voting yes.**

## **X. RESOLUTIONS – ORDINANCES – PROCLAMATIONS**

### **A. Resolution No. 110-223-Resolution Authorizing Employer Pick-up of Member Contributions for determining tax treatment under the Internal Revenue Code.**

**Commissioner Hopkins MOVED to approve Resolution 110-223 as presented. Commission Vice Chair Paxon SECONDED the motion. Motion carried with Commissioner Districts 1-2-3 voting yes.**

### **B. Resolution No. 110-224 Compensation for Notarial Services**

**Commission Vice Chair Paxon MOVED to approve Resolution No. 110-224 as presented. Commissioner Hopkins SECONDED the motion. Motion carried with Commissioner Districts 1-2-3 voting yes.**

### **C. Resolution 110-225 Resolution supporting Luna County in their opposition to the designation of the Mimbres Peaks National Monument**

**Commissioner Hopkins MOVED to approve Resolution 110-225 as presented. Commission Vice Chair Paxon SECONDED the motion. Motion carried with Commissioner Districts 1-2-3 voting yes.**



**D. Resolution No. 110-226 setting the salaries of Sheriff's Executive Assistant and the Chief Deputy Clerk**

**Commission Vice-Chair Paxon MOVED to approve Resolution No. 110-226- as presented. Commissioner Hopkins SECONDED the motion. Motion carried with Commissioner Districts 1-3 voting yes. Commission District 2 voted no.**

**E. Resolution No. 110-227 Resolution and Order approving request of El Rio Sol Transmission LLC to use certain roads in Sierra County and other matters.**

~~Commissioner Hopkins MOVED to approve Resolution No. 110-226- as presented. Commission Vice-Chair Paxon SECONDED the motion. Motion carried with Commissioner Districts 1-2-3 voting yes.~~

**XI. EXECUTIVE SESSION SECTION (10-15-E THRU H):**

**Commission Vice-Chair Paxon MOVED to go into Executive Session for Personnel, Real Estate, Pending and Threatened Litigation. Commissioner Hopkins SECONDED the motion. Roll call vote was taken with all Commissioners present voting yes.**

**District 1 – Yes**

**District 2 – Yes**

**District 3 – Yes**

**PENDING AND THREATENED LITIGATION:**

**Cauoette v. Bd. Of County Comm'rs of Sierra County**

**PERSONNEL:**

**REAL ESTATE:**

**DISPOSAL OF REAL PROPERTY**

**XII. OPEN SESSION ACTIONS FOR EXECUTIVE SESSION:**

**Commission Vice-Chair Paxon MOVED to come back into Regular Session. Commissioner Hopkins SECONDED the motion. Roll call vote was taken, with all Commissioners present voting yes.**

**DATE AND TIME OF NEXT REGULAR SIERRA COUNTY  
COMMISSION MEETING:**

**The date and time of the next Regular Sierra County Commission Meeting has been scheduled for Tuesday, March 19, 2024 at 10:00 A.M. at Albert Lyon Events Center, Truth or Consequences, New Mexico.**

**Commission Vice Chair MOVED to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Hopkins SECONDED the motion.**

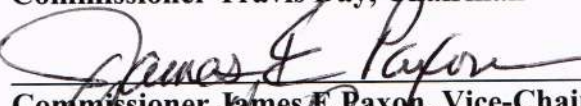
**ADJOURNMENT:**

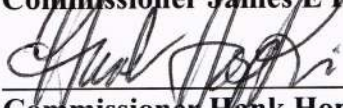
**There being no further business to come before the Board, Commission Chair Day adjourned the meeting.**

Dated this 20<sup>th</sup> day of February 2024.

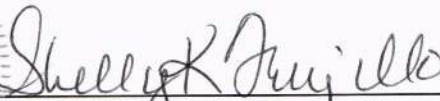
**SIERRA COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS**

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Commissioner Travis Day, Chairman

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Commissioner James E Paxon, Vice-Chairman

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Commissioner Hank Hopkins, Member

ATTEST:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Shelly K Trujillo, County Clerk

