

**SIERRA COUNTY COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
FEBRUARY 18, 2025**

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 18, 2025, 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 (Present by Phone)
Commissioner Hank Hopkins, Member**

Clerk of Board: Amy Whitehead

County Attorney: David Pato

County Manager: Amber Vaughn

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

NEW MEXICO STATE FLAG PLEDGE:

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE:

Monica Zepeda, Sandy Jones, Kayce Edwards, Josh Baker, Steve Mull-Sentinel, Patrick Flores, Michelle Atwell, Travis Atwell, Ernie Armijo, Keith Whitney, Billy Neeley, Tony James, Tim Kuzdrowski, Ryan Williams

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 28, 2025

Commissioner Hopkins MOVED to approve the minutes as presented. Commission Vice-Chair Paxon 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. 2025-16 Accounts Payable

B. Resolution No. 2025-17 Indigent Claims

C. Indigent Burial B2025-004

D. Indigent Burial B2025-005

E. Claim of Exemption 25-001 (Chavez)

Commission Vice Chair Paxon MOVED to approve the Consent Agenda as presented. Commissioner Hopkins 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. ORC Presentation

E. Planned Prescribed Fire and Update for the 2025 Fire Season by Tony James Forest Service

VI. BOARD OF FINANCE:

A. January Reconciliation

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

B. Approval of Suspense Fund Account for a Property Tax Refund Claim

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

VII. OLD BUSINESS:

VIII. NEW BUSINESS:

A: County Road Closure Request: Aerospace Test at and around the Spaceport

Commissioner Hopkins MOVED to approve the County Road Closure Request: Commission Vice Chair Paxton SECONDED the motion. Motion carries with Commissioners District 1-2-3 voting yes.

IX. CONTRACTS – AGREEMENTS – PROCUREMENT

A: Agreement between Holly Asphalt Co. and The County of Sierra

Commissioner Hopkins MOVED to approve Agreement between Holly Asphalt Co. and The County of Sierra as presented. Commission Vice Chair Paxton SECONDED the motion. Motion carried with Commissioner Districts 1-2-3 voting yes.

B. MOU between Sierra County, City of T or C, City of Elephant Butte to share cost for high resolution Geo Aerial Imagery.

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

C. MOU Between The County of Sierra DWI Program and The NM Department of Finance and Administration.

D. Statement of Assurances Local DWI Grant and Distribution Program

Commissioner Hopkins MOVED to approve MOU and Statement of Assurances (C and D) as presented. Commission Vice Chair Paxton SECONDED the motion. Motion carried with Commissioner Districts 1-2-3 voting yes.

X. RESOLUTIONS – ORDINANCES – PROCLAMATIONS

A. Resolution No. 2025-18 Appointing Members of the Board of Registration

Commission Vice Chair Paxon MOVED to approve Resolution No. 2025-18 as presented. Commissioner Hopkins SECONDED the motion. Motion carried with Commissioner Districts 1-2-3 voting yes.

B. Resolution No. 2025-19 Budget Adjustment

Commissioner Hopkins MOVED to approve Resolution No. 2025-19 as presented. Commission Vice Chair Paxon SECONDED the motion. Motion carried with Commissioner Districts 1-2-3 voting yes.

C. Resolution 2025-20 Authorizing the County to Submit and Application to the Department of Finance to participate in the Local DWI Grant and Distribution Program.

Commissioner Hopkins MOVED to approve Resolution 2025-20 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:

Tracy v. BoCC

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 18, 2025 at 10:00 A.M. at the Sierra County Commission Chambers 1712 N. Date Street Truth or Consequences, New Mexico.

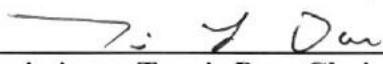
Commissioner Hopkins MOVED to adjourn the meeting. Commission Vice Chair Paxson SECONDED the motion.

ADJOURNMENT:

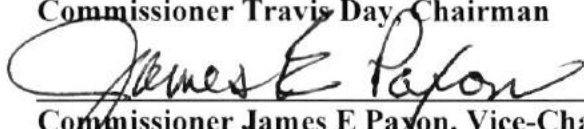
There being no further business to come before the Board, Commission Chair Day adjourned the meeting.

Dated this 18th day of February 2025.

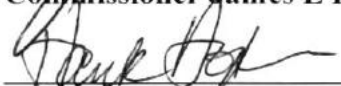
SIERRA COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS



Commissioner Travis Day, Chairman



Commissioner James E Paxton, Vice-Chairman



Commissioner Hank Hopkins, Member



ATTEST:



Amy Whitehead, County Clerk