April 24, 2025

The Board of Bent County Commissioners met in their office at the courthouse at 9:00 a.m. Those present were:

Chairman Alan Stump
Commissioner Phil Hemphill
Commissioner Jennifer Scofield
Administrator Doug Bankert
Clerk to the Board Lynda G Moss

**CoreCivic:** Warden Ensey gave the monthly update.

- 164 IRC's and 14 GED's to date.
- Toured the Bent County jail with Sheriff Six to offer assistance in making the jail compliant. Discussed the septic issues at the jail with Six. Ensey said he is not happy with the facility's septic system either. Someone is coming next week to see if they can improve it. He is happy to share the findings with Six.
- Health inspector is at the facility now.
- Did well with audit done by corporate.
- DOC security audit is next month.
- Corrections Week begins May 5th. They have lots of fun activities planned for the staff.
- Corporate will be at the facility next month for a stakeholders meeting, to see how we are doing things differently to improve our facility.

Ensey asked the commissioners about possibly putting a sign on the GATS bus. Ensey asked if the county controlled the gun range at Fort Lyon. The one we use here is not in good shape or very safe for trainings. The commissioners said they were not sure, but they will check. Stump asked about the bill for meals sent to the county jail. Ensey said he understood that the bill was sent monthly, but it wasn't getting paid timely. The commissioners will check and see what is going on.

Lisa Smith, Emergency Preparedness Manager, came to the meeting with Jon Brewer and Shannon Byerly from the Division of Fire Prevention & Control to talk about wildfire assistance and give an overview of their services to the new commissioners. Smith asked several questions of the pair about when to call and when the fees start if we request aid. Smith praised the job the local fire department does. Las Animas Fire Chief, Jim Pryor, said they appreciated the backup from the state. Brewer said the mutual aid agreement between the state and the county is a five-year plan and will be up next year, so they will be back to discuss that when it gets closer to the renewal

Jonas McGinnis, Simplified Benefits and Stacey Kindsvater, Ingmire Phillips, met with the commissioners to discuss the upcoming insurance renewal for the county's health insurance. McGinnis gave several different plans to choose from. The county had several high claims, so some companies did not want to give a quote. In order to lock in the price as quoted, they will need an answer by May 6th.

Treasurer Kathy Brown presented the 1st Quarter Public Trustees report. Brown reported she had completed several foreclosures and has several more scheduled.

Accepted the 1st Quarter Public Trustees report on a motion from Hemphill and seconded by Scofield.

Brown updated the commissioners on the mix up with the McClave School District mill levy increase. She has sent out all the corrected tax notices to those affected by the mistake. Brown said she did not want to send anything under $2.00, so we need to decide where that money will come from. Scofield said we can have a work session with you and the Assessor to work out those details.

Approved the minutes from April 17th on a motion from Scofield and seconded by Hemphill.

Approved payroll on a motion from Hemphill and seconded by Scofield.

Approved the change order request in the amount of $13,300.00 for the Rock Sol engineering contract for the sidewalk grant on a motion from Scofield and seconded by Hemphill.

Approved a letter of authorization for Social Services Director Jonna Parker to access the DOR's driver services portal on a motion from Hemphill and seconded by Scofield.

Adopted **Resolution 2025-15** – Adopting the current commissioner districts until after the next census when we have better data and a GIS system in place on a motion from Hemphill and seconded by Scofield.

Adopted **Resolution 2025-16** – Adopting Special Event Liquor Permits to be approved by the local liquor authority without first being sent to the state on a motion from Scofield and seconded by Hemphill.

Approved request to use not more than $3,000.00 from the conservation trust fund to match funds from the Community Center to purchase a treadmill on a motion from Hemphill and seconded by Scofield.

Jarrod Sharp, fair board member, asked for an update about any restrictions on having alcohol on the fairgrounds. The commissioners told him there were not any restrictions. They are alright with the fair board having a beer garden the night of the rodeo/concert.

With no further business the meeting was adjourned at 11:45 a.m.

Respectfully submitted

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Clerk to the Board Chairman of the Board