

**EDDY COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
MINUTES OF A SPECIAL MEETING
April 24, 2019**

Be it remembered that the Eddy County Board of Commissioners held a special meeting in room 211 of the Eddy County Administration Complex on April 24, 2019 at 9:00 a.m. Henry called the meeting to order, Smith led the Pledge of Allegiance and the salute to the New Mexico State flag.

PRESENT:

JON HENRY	CHAIR, DISTRICT 2
ERNEST CARLSON	VICE-CHAIR, DISTRICT 1
STEVE MCCUTCHEON	COMMISSIONER, DISTRICT 4
SUSAN CROCKETT	COMMISSIONER, DISTRICT 5
RICK RUDOMETKIN	COUNTY MANAGER
ROBIN VAN NATTA	COUNTY CLERK
DARLENE ROSPRIM	CHIEF DEPUTY CLERK
MARK CAGE	SHERIFF
GEMMA FERGUSON	ASSESSOR
MELISSA WASHBURN	CHIEF DEPUTY ASSESSOR
LAURIE PRUITT	TREASURER
BILLY MASSINGILL	DETENTION WARDEN
MARIA MALDONADO-MERJIL	CHIEF DEPUTY ADMIN
GAY WEST	EXECUTIVE ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT
TERRA DOUGAN	ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT
ROBERTA SMITH	CO-COUNTY MANAGER/FINANCE DIR
JESSICA STYGAR	ASSISTANT FINANCE DIRECTOR
ROXANN BRANNON	HR DIRECTOR
CAROL HENNINGTON	IT DIRECTOR
SHARON DODSON	ASSISTANT IT DIRECTOR
ROSIE MUNOZ	IT DEPARTMENT
WESLEY HOOPER	CO-COUNTY MANAGER/COMM SRVCS DIR
STEVE MCCROSKEY	COUNTY PLANNER
BRIAN STEPHENS	FACILITIES DIRECTOR
ALTON WALKER	PUBLIC WORKS
CHRISTINE MCCROSKEY	PUBLIC WORKS FINANCE DIRECTOR
JOSHUA MACK	FIRE MARSHAL/FIRE SERVICE DIRECTOR
MICHELLE ARDOIN	FISCAL OFFICER FIRE SERVICES
BETSY BRADSHAW	ADMIN ASSISTANT FIRE SERVICES
BAMBI KERN	REDA DIRECTOR
KIRSTENE CAMPBELL	HR SPECIALIST REDA
MIKE SMITH	CARLSBAD CURRENT ARGUS
DYLAN BARRERA	RED ROCKET MEDIA

9:00 A.M.

1. **OPEN MEETING – COMMISSION CHAIRMAN JON HENRY.**
2. **PUBLIC COMMENTS/ANNOUNCEMENTS. (THREE MINUTE TIME LIMIT PER PERSON) (WE REQUEST ALL COMMENTS BE RESPECTFUL AND COURTEOUS IN NATURE)** None.
3. **PUBLIC HEARING – LIQUOR LICENSE APPLICATION:**
 - a. **OPEN** - At 9:01 a.m. Crockett moved, seconded McCutcheon to open the public hearing. Voting yes: Wood, Crockett, McCutcheon, Henry and Carlson. Passed 5-0.
 - b. **STAFF COMMENTS:** Smith explained James Bowen was requesting the BOCC to approve the Liquor License Application #1119153 for Property Management of Whites City, LLC dba Cactus Café.
 - c. **PUBLIC COMMENT. THREE MINUTE TIME LIMIT PER PERSON.** None.
 - d. **COUNTY ATTORNEY COMMENTS/QUESTIONS:** Tabor explained this was placed on the special meeting agenda because of time constraints. The BOCC had limited ability to deny the license.
 - e. **COMMISSIONERS COMMENTS/QUESTIONS:** McCutcheon verified it was the proper distance from any schools.
 - f. **ELECTED/LEGISLATIVE OFFICIALS' AND DEPARTMENT HEADS' COMMENTS/QUESTIONS:** None.
 - g. **ENTERTAIN MOTION AND SECOND:** Wood moved seconded by Crockett to approve the Liquor License Application #1119153 for Property Management of Whites City, LLC dba Cactus Café.
 - h. **FINAL COMMISSIONERS' COMMENTS:** None.
 - i. **BOARD ACTION.**
 - i. **APPROVE/DISAPPROVE LIQUOR LICENSE APPLICATION**
Name of Applicant: Property Management of Whites City, LLC dba: Cactus Café
Location of Licensed Premises:
26 Carlsbad Caverns Hwy., Whites City, NM 88268
Voting yes: Wood, Crockett, McCutcheon, Henry and Wood. Passed 5-0.
 - j. **ADJOURN HEARING:** At 9:07 Carlson moved, seconded by McCutcheon to adjourn the public hearing. Voting yes: Wood, Crockett, McCutcheon, Henry and Wood. Passed 5-0.
4. **FY 2019-2020 PRELIMINARY BUDGET REVIEW, DISCUSSION AND DIRECTION WORKSHOP #2 – ROBERTA SMITH:** Smith gave a quick summary from the budget workshop #1. She had made adjustments to the cities; Artesia to \$400K and Carlsbad \$635K, Carlsbad DOD at \$85K, the

Horse Council \$10K, \$750 for the State Library, decreased the recreation fund by \$35K however if the \$250K was not approved she would leave the original transfer. Smith pointed out she had already moved the \$250K based on direction from the first work shop, and the benefits to the DWI were decreased to \$95K. This left us with a \$6.1M deficit to the general fund. Smith reviewed the PSA allocation; the lobbying PSA was \$45K. Carlson felt this was vital and wanted it left in the budget. Henry pointed out Mike Hernandez, City of Carlsbad Administrator, was here and could speak to the needs of the City. Hernandez stated the City's GRT had increased; however, the demands on the budget had increased. The City had partnered with the County on numerous road projects. Henry stated he understood the money from the county was for fire and EMS services to County residents and liked partnering on special projects for additional monies. Hernandez handed out a sheet with the distribution of funds to the City. Smith stated the increase of funding to the Village of Loving would be \$65K and Hope \$20K. McCutcheon asked what services were provided by Loving and understood the County did some road projects for them, and would be taking over their Fire Department. Wood stated Hope was dependent on the County for funding. They had minimal GRT money. Mack stated the County covered all calls in Loving and Hope. Smith stated Cavern City Advocacy was at \$15K, Grammy's House was \$25K, the Sheriff's Posse was not in good standing as a 501C3, so was not sure if the County should fund the PSA. Carlson stated they should have a certificate of good standing. McCroskey stated the Posse was operating a RV Park illegally in the County. Smith stated a letter had been sent giving them until June 15 to produce the certificate. The Horse Council needed to provide a proof of liability policy. McCutcheon and Carlson stated the necessary documents needed to be provided before giving any money. Crockett stated she was not in favor of giving more to Grammy's House than the Carlsbad Advocacy Center. Crockett suggested taking the \$35K difference and splitting between Hope and Loving. Henry wanted to move the City of Carlsbad to \$400K and the City of Artesia to \$250K. Carlson wanted to double the amount given to both cities making Carlsbad \$500K and Artesia \$300K. The total of PSA's presented equaled \$1.6M. Crockett wanted to give the Village of Hope \$20K, the Village of Loving \$45K, Grammy's House \$10K and leave the Cities at \$500K and \$300K. Carlson wanted to take \$2,500 from the Horse Council and the Sheriff's Posse. Smith suggested putting the money in a pool and have them come and request the amounts wanted. Carlson stated that might be an option next year but was not in favor of doing that this year. He wanted to give the City of Carlsbad \$500K, City of Artesia \$300K, Village of Hope \$20K, Village of Loving \$40K, Grammy's House \$10K, the Sheriff's Posse \$37,500 and the Horse Council \$7,500.

- 5. LEGISLATORS, ELECTED OFFICIALS AND COUNTY DEPARTMENT HEADS COMMENTS/ANNOUNCEMENTS/UPDATES:** Smith stated Commissioner Crockett had to leave the meeting and left the following statement. She was in favor of giving the Assessor 1 position, reclassifying

the 2 positions for the Clerk, reclassification of 1 position for the Sheriff's, 1 position for Facilities and the incentive pay. Washburn stated since the initial request they had reevaluated and the real need was for a Deed Clerk and funding for the position could not be taken from the Assessor's 1% money. Brannon stated the new position would cost approximately \$72K. Smith stated she had a BPA Student in her current budget which she would transfer to the Clerk's budget to fund that position and supported the reclassifications. Mack offered his BPA position which was in the budget but not filled. Cage advocated for the Animal Control increase to at least the same as Code Enforcement. He could back off of the Process Server position. He needed at minimum 14 vehicles. He also stated it was crucial to have a records clerk position. Smith reviewed the following changes \$420K for one half of the REDA budget, and Cottonwood Volunteer Fire Department requested the manager's Tahoe. Smith decreased general services operations to \$400K, pay DWI benefits of \$95K, HIDTA benefits of \$117K. HIDTA had 1 position overlooked and needed to add \$26,272 to the benefits. Facilities asked for \$2.2M but was given \$1M as they had not spent all of last years' budget. It was discussed to make the 1 position requested a manager and not a director for \$93K. Public works was asking for 4 trucks, 2 for North and 2 for South Eddy County. Detention needed a new records clerk and stated if could unfreeze some positions to help with facilities. Massingill asked to make a purchase of the copiers, washers and dryers during this budget cycle; which would remove that amount requested for next year. Mack stated his department was in need of an OEM Coordinator but would look for alternate funding sources. Hooper, who was out at a conference, wanted to make it clear he had requested a reclassification of a position, not a new position. He would move the indigent position out of his department which would be a cost savings in his department.

6. INTERIM CO-COUNTY MANAGER'S COMMENTS/ANNOUNCEMENTS/UPDATES: Smith stated the FEMA budget sat at \$13.8M.

7. COUNTY COMMISSIONERS' COMMENTS/ANNOUNCEMENTS/UPDATES: The consensus of the Commission was to approve a records clerk for the Sheriff, 2 Civil Processors, reclassification of the Animal Control Officer, Deed Clerk for the Assessor, reclassification of the 2 positions in the Clerk's office along with the BPA student, HIDTA benefits, Manager for Facilities, okay with General Services, reclassification of detention position, \$500K to facilities, 14 vehicles for the Sheriff, 1 extra truck for Public Works for a total of 4. The next budget meeting would be held at the next regular meeting on May 7, 2019.

8. **ADJOURN:** At 2:07 p.m. Crockett moved, seconded by Carlson to adjourn the meeting. Voting yes: Wood, Crockett, Henry and Wood. Passed 4-0.

CHAIR: _____

ATTEST: _____

DATE: _____