



AGENDA
ESPAÑOLA CITY COUNCIL/RIO ARRIBA COUNTY COMMISSION
JOINT WORK SESSION
OCTOBER 24, 2013, 6PM
RIO ARRIBA COUNTY COMMISSION CHAMBERS
1122 N. INDUSTRIAL PARK ROAD, ESPAÑOLA, NM

A. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Alice A. Lucero called the meeting to order on behalf of the City of Española at 6:05pm.

Mayor Lucero thanked Rio Arriba County for hosting the Joint Work Session.

Commissioner Barney Trujillo called the meeting to order on behalf of Rio Arriba County at 6:05pm.

B. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE MOMENT OF MEDITATION/ INVOCATION

Mayor Lucero led the Pledge of Allegiance and Councilor Pedro Valdez led the moment of Meditation/Invocation.

C. ROLL CALL/ DETERMINATION OF QUORUM

Roll Call:

The following Governing Body members were in attendance:

Mayor:	Alice A. Lucero
Mayor Pro-Tem:	Dennis Tim Salazar
Councilors:	Elaine Herrera
	Eric Radosevich
	Cory Lewis
	John Hernandez
	Peggy Sue Martinez
	Pedro Valdez
Absent:	Robert Seeds

D. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Mayor Lucero presented the following agenda for approval:

---Begin---

- A. CALL TO ORDER**
- B. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE MOMENT OF MEDITATION/ INVOCATION**
- C. ROLL CALL/ DETERMINATION OF QUORUM**
- D. APPROVAL OF AGENDA**
- E. PUBLIC COMMENTS**
- F. COUNCILOR/COMMISSIONER COMMENTS**

G. ITEMS PROPOSED FOR CONSIDERATION/DISCUSSION ITEMS

1. Economic Development
2. North Central Solid Waste Authority (NCSWA)

H. EXECUTIVE SESSION

Pursuant to New Mexico Open Meetings Act Section 10-15-1 (H) Subsection (2) limited personnel matters; (5) discussion of bargaining strategy preliminary to collective bargaining negotiations; (7) attorney-client privilege pertaining to threatening or pending litigation in which the public is or may become a participant; (8) discussion of the purchase, acquisition or disposal of real property or water rights by the public body.

I. ADJOURNMENT

---End---

Motion by Councilor Valdez to approve the agenda by Councilor Valdez; seconded Councilor Lewis.

Motion carried 7-0.

J. PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no members of the public wishing to comment.

K. COUNCILOR/COMMISSIONER COMMENTS

Councilor Lewis thanked the County Commission and stated that he looked forward to cooperation. Commissioner Trujillo stated that it had been a long time since the last City Council/County Commission Joint Work Session and would like to conduct such a meeting quarterly. He stated that he had seen progress within the City.

Commissioner Danny Garcia welcomed everyone to the Rio Arriba County Commission Chambers. He stated that this was his first City Council/County Commission Joint Work Session as a Commissioner. Councilor Radosevich thanked the County for hosting the meeting. He expressed the belief that it was important that the two (2) entities work together. Mayor Pro-Tem Salazar thanked the County Commission and County staff. He stated that he thought it was great that Assistant County Manager David Martinez and Economic Development Director Chris Madrid had spoken during a City Council Meeting.

Mayor Lucero echoed the comments by Commissioner Trujillo and Mayor Pro-Tem Salazar. She stated that when she and Assistant County Manager Trujillo had met to plan the agenda, they had discussed the session occurring quarterly or biannually. She stated that if there were another meeting in six (6) months, the election would be over and they would know who the new players were.

L. ITEMS PROPOSED FOR CONSIDERATION/DISCUSSION ITEMS

3. Economic Development

Mayor Lucero stated that there was a project at the Hunter Building and the City had been meeting with several partners including: Rio Arriba County, Siete del Norte, and the Co-op Market. She explained that there had been discussion of placing the library in the building at one time, but the Library Board decided that they would like to have a new building. She stated that Moving Arts had decided that they would like a complete renovation and the City of Española did not have the money; however, a partnership could be fruitful.

Economic Development Director Madrid stated that it was good to start working when there was enthusiasm. He reported that the group was at the stage of throwing ideas on the table and organizing. He stated that Siete del Norte had obtained a grant in the amount of \$700,000 for sustainable agriculture. Economic Development Director Madrid continued that farmers were farming and selling at commodity prices and a food hub would allow them to aggregate the food and go after other markets. He stated that a market was the second phase and if products could be sold and circulated locally, Roger Montoya would create a town hub and bring people out to Mainstreet.

He stated that the Mayor had looked into both slowly getting the building up to speed and a Public/Private partnership. Economic Development Director Madrid stated that both possibilities had merit. He noted that Planning & Zoning Director Naranjo had seen fit to say that all ideas sounded good, but there needed to be a plan and requested due diligence. Economic Development Director Madrid stated that he had contacted the State Environment Department and requested that they survey the building so that the collaborative group could seek out grant money.

Councilor Hernandez asked how the food hub was similar to the new building placed in Los Alamos. He stated that he had understood that the building had been placed for growers to have a location on a year round basis. Economic Development Director Madrid stated that there were similarities; however, the one in Los Alamos served a resale function whereas a food hub would be the wholesale entity. He clarified that they would aggregate and sell their product to an establishment.

Mayor Lucero stated that the food hub was looking at selling fresh vegetables to the schools, hospitals, detention center, etc and would enter into contracts with local entities. She stated that there were seven (7) food hubs in the nation that had been successful. She stated that Mr. Darian Cabral of Cosetta del Norte was working with them and Cosetta del Norte was comprised of several farmers with green houses that grew year round. Mayor Lucero stated that there would also be areas to sell goods like jams, honey, etc. She expressed disappointment that the commercial kitchen at the college had closed. She stated that she had inquired what it cost to run a commercial kitchen and had discovered at it was \$70,000 per year. She stated that she would like to see Northern New Mexico College join as a partner and open the kitchen due to the proximity. Mayor Lucero explained that, because the City had been allowed to purchase the Hunter building for half of the appraised price, the Hunter family had been promised that the building would be named after CL Hunter. She cited the CL Hunter Arts Center and Mercado as an example of a name for the building.

Mayor Lucero reported that there would be shops for retail and beauty as well. She stated that the City was working on a lease agreement with Siete del Norte as they had some funding that they wished to commit. She affirmed that Mr. Todd Lopez was looking at gaining funding from the McCune Foundation, USDA, Rio Arriba County or through a Tax Increment Development District. She communicated that the City was looking to make this a regional effort as it was best when applying for funding.

County Manager Tomas Campos asked Economic Development Director Madrid if Rio Arriba County would need to obtain business incubator status for the Hunter Building to get around the anti-donation clause. Economic Development Director Madrid replied that assisting Siete del Norte would be permissible under the Local Economic Development Act (LEDA) Ordinance as retail was now allowable. He explained that the idea of getting the price down was not to give a business less than fair market value rent, but rather to help pay for the non-profit organizations.

Mayor Lucero mentioned that Siete del Norte would be selling the blue building in Ranchitos. Economic Development Director Madrid stated that it would be purchased for retail. He continued that from a zoning standpoint, he looked forward to forming a relationship with the City to issue incentives. He cited the new

brewery as an example of a business that had to pay nearly \$30,000 to pave their parking lot. He stated that incentives could be given which would allow the business additional time to complete the project.

Mayor Lucero stated that Mr. Roger Montoya and Mr. Todd Lopez had people willing to provide services pro bono.

Commissioner Trujillo asked what state the building was in. Mayor Lucero replied that it was structurally sound as beams typically used for bridges had been used in the construction. She added that the second floor was level. Mayor Lucero curbed her remarks by stating that the Heating & Cooling system needed work, bathrooms needed to be remodeled, an elevator needed to be installed and the windows needed to be replaced.

Councilor Lewis stated that he wanted to let the Commission know that this is the first he had heard about the project.

Mayor Lucero stated that the environmental issues were lead paint and oils and it had been estimated that it would cost \$50,000 to abate them. She explained that the meetings had begun two (2) weeks prior and the project had moved quickly since Economic Development Director Madrid was hired.

Councilor Lewis stated that he did not want any lapses in communication. Mayor Lucero replied that everyone was learning about the project at the same time. She stated that the City had discussed Moving Arts initially, but it had changed because Moving Arts decided that they wanted a full renovation of the building.

Commissioner Garcia commented that he felt the project was a good idea. He announced that Rio Arriba County was already working with the City through the Economic Development Director and asked if the building was going to be enough. Mayor Lucero responded that the plan included building small shops around it. She stated that the spaces would be small and affordable and the old body shop would be renovated to allow farmers to sell year round. She reported that there had been discussion of the addition of studio apartments.

Commissioner Garcia asked if the City had purchased the full lot and asked the size. Mayor Lucero replied in the affirmative and stated that she believed the property was six (6) acres. She mentioned that a small portion of the property had been given to the New Mexico Department of Transportation (DOT).

Councilor Valdez stated that he had visited Gillette, Wyoming where the Town and County had worked together to build a facility that served the public well. He stated that it took entities getting together to making things happen. Councilor Valdez stated that he would like to bring up issues that the two (2) entities could help each other with. He stated that he had been informed about Rio Arriba County's idea to build a Wellness Center and he thought that City could participate.

Councilor Valdez stated that Rio Arriba County could assist with the softball fields, Boys & Girls clubs (YMCA, etc.) and Industrial Park. He announced that the Plaza Foundation would like to incorporate a library and a Spanish Colonial Center on the south side of the park.

Councilor Radosevich explained that the Governing Body had come to the agreement that grass or sod was not feasible so the City was looking into using artificial turf. He stated that the project had begun with \$590,000 and a state of the art lighting system had been installed. He stated that the City had secured funding for a walking track to encompass the complex and there had been plans to install multipurpose fields. Councilor Radosevich stated that he would like to see Rio Arriba County partner with the City to place artificial turf which would save a large amount of money per year in water. He stated that the children in the area deserved more and he was tired of people asking why they had to leave the City to play softball.

Mayor Lucero commented on the proximity of the field to the County building. Councilor Radosevich stated that the complex would generate revenue.

Commissioner Trujillo stated that he saw the need for recreation and the County was working on creating something in the Alcalde area. He stated that having a collaboration worked and it was a good time for the entities to get together and ask the Legislature for money. He reported that Rio Arriba County had hosted a Legislative breakfast where they asked representatives about the best process to acquire funding.

Commissioner Trujillo agreed that he understood the need to have a facility and was on board to help out the City in terms of finance; however, they would have to discuss what they had to contribute. He expressed the belief that it was long deserved for the community and a good way to do business.

Commissioner Trujillo stated that Economic Development Director Madrid would guide the direction of the County as far as development. He stated that he understood that the Plaza area was the place that most festivities took place and he was sure that the schools would be on board to help with the endeavors. He stated that he would like to hold a larger meeting to define a direction.

Mayor Lucero stated that it was no secret about where the City stood with audits. She stated that if the two (2) entities approached the State Legislature for funding for the complex, she would respectfully request that the County be the leader so that they could fund it and it would be their contribution. She added that the County would have to serve as the fiscal agent. Commissioner Trujillo stated that the County understood the issues with the audit and expressed the belief that all involved wanted to resolve the issues. County Manager Campos stated that the offer stood for the County to become the fiscal agent for any grant. He added that they would not charge an administrative fee.

County Manager Campos informed Councilor Valdez that Rio Arriba County did fund three (3) Boys & Girls Clubs and were sponsoring a YMCA event that weekend. Rio Arriba County Public Information Officer Erika Martinez explained that the City was partnering on the event.

Councilor Hernandez asked about the possibility of obtaining federal grants. Economic Development Director Madrid stated that the funding for local governments and non-profit organizations by the Federal Government had gone down. He stated that the match for most grants used to be 10% and was now 20%. Mayor Lucero stated that with Siete del Norte being the lead on the project, they could apply for the funding themselves.

Councilor Martinez thanked Rio Arriba County for hosting the meeting. She expressed the belief that collaboration was not only a good thing, but mandatory. She stated that there had been a lot of discussion about a plan. She communicated that she believed the most important issue was the creation of a master plan that both Governing Bodies agreed upon.

Councilor Martinez stated that she had heard about the Hunter building project by cutting someone's hair that was involved with Siete del Norte. She stated that she was interested, but believed that it was important for the County and City to get together on issues defining the community. She stated that the drug issue was a subculture that had begun to define the culture. Councilor Martinez stated that she would love to see the County collaborate on the baseball fields and recreational complex.

Commissioner Garcia stated that all of the initiatives were a good idea. He explained that there were always concerns about budgetary constraints; however, it should not stop the two (2) entities from working together. He expressed his support of the collaboration and stated that he was going to begin working with the Economic Development Director on initiatives for the communities up north.

County Manager Campos suggested a meeting the following month to discuss the drug and jail issue. He stated that their work force was dwindling because the County could not locate employees that could pass a drug test. He stated that Rio Arriba had become the #1 county for overdoses and the money had poured in. County Manager Campos stated that he had seen individuals profit by opening counseling centers and the Governor was bringing in Arizona Companies. He expressed the belief that Española and Rio Arriba were the only ones that could do this effectively.

Mayor Lucero invited the County to participate in the Drug Summit Implementation Team. She explained that throughout the year, the group met on recommendations that had come from the community. She explained that it was a regional effort with members from the US Attorney's office, Drug Enforcement Agency (DEA), High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area (HIDTA), local law enforcement except the Sheriff's department, HOY and the DWI Council. She stated that the creation of arts and recreation programs were about creating alternative activities.

Deputy County Manager Trujillo stated that someone from the County always attended and kept him updated. He expressed concern that programs could be devastated so easily. He explained that he had worked in the non-profit sector and the transition to private was difficult. He stated that it would take the new company close to a year to get up to speed. Mayor Pro-Tem Salazar stated that the current company had been in place at Valle del Sol for four (4) months.

Councilor Martinez stated that it was important to recognize that the City and the County were not the only entities and the pueblos and schools could also be invited. She stated that she had brought up the idea of trying to create a youth alliance and had met with Superintendent Trujillo.

Commissioner Trujillo proposed the formation of a committee to define priorities. Mayor Lucero suggested that the committee be staff driven so they could meet at any time.

Deputy County Manager Trujillo stated that another meeting could be set for February. He offered to meet with Interim City Manager Duran to follow up on tasks and assignments.

Councilor Lewis agreed with Commissioner Trujillo. He stated that he liked the idea that when a new Mayor and Council came in, they would have the full four (4) years to work on the endeavors.

Councilor Martinez stated that the three (3) most important topics were economic development, drug issues and recreation. She explained that relationships were built on trust and faith and in order for this to work, all entities needed to be faithful to the relationship. She added that everyone needed to bring the things they could bring as the Infrastructure Capital Improvement Plan (ICIP) was coming along quickly. Councilor Martinez stated that the legislative session was something that the two (2) entities could collaborate on. She communicated that she looked forward to being in the loop.

Commissioner Trujillo stated that he would like to meet sooner. He explained that he came from state government and that type of government typically moved faster.

County Manager Campos asked Interim City Manager Duran what the City was going to do about the hold harmless tax. Mayor Lucero stated that the New Mexico Municipal League (NMML) would lobby for municipalities to keep hold harmless. County Manager Campos stated that New Mexico Association of Counties would do the same; however, Española would lose the funds immediately and Rio Arriba would lose them in fifteen (15) years. He explained that there was limited time to pass a reimbursement to hold harmless as it had been left open for the City and County to pass a tax. County Manager Campos stated that he did not wish to pass the tax onto the City as only food was sold in Española. He reiterated that there was a small

amount of time to pass such a measure and it could be as small as 2/16ths or 3/8ths. He added that the funds could be committed to economic development. Councilor Valdez stated that NMML would be presenting a resolution to the legislature and the tax would have to be issued if it did not pass.

4. North Central Solid Waste Authority (NCSWA)

Mayor Lucero stated that she would like to provide some of the concerns that people had brought to her regarding NCSWA. She stated that things were working well and commended NCSWA Manager Gino Romero for doing an excellent job.

Mayor Lucero stated that the public had requested additional permits as the amount had gone from twelve (12) to four (4). She stated that she would also like handicapped services for elderly families, etc. She stated that they used to have distinctive carts so they could be given special accommodations. She expressed concern about safety issues at the transfer station and stated that she was not sure how that could be resolved.

Councilor Lewis commended NCSWA Manager Romero and stated that any time he had an issue, he called and NCSWA Manager Romero and Station Foreman Alex Coriz were on top of it. He affirmed that they were providing good customer service and explained that people did not mind paying if they got good service.

Councilor Valdez reported that the Board had been working on the Joint Powers Agreement (JPA) and Memorandum of Understanding (MOU). He stated that he would be meeting with Interim City Manager Duran and NCSWA Manager Romero regarding the JPA and it would eventually be considered by the Council for approval.

Commissioner Trujillo stated that, when driving by the Dreamcatcher and at the Santa Claran, he had encountered MCT bins. County Manager Campos stated that the City had more authority than the County to limit this. He requested that the City enforce the franchise. NCSWA Manager stated that commercial revenues were down \$40,000.

Councilor Martinez stated that she thought it was important for everyone to recognize that the County and City are one (1) entity in the City limits. She stated that the County subsidized NCSWA and she was the County because the County did not stop at City limits. Councilor Martinez stated that if the subsidy came from the County, it came from her too. She continued that half of the cards provided to the City were never picked up or used and people were doing the City and County a favor by cleaning up the community. She stated that if this were not done, there would be a situation like at the Veteran's clinic where the bin was always filled by others.

County Manager Campos agreed that NCSWA Manager needed the money. He stated that he also realized that the County did not end at City limits. He stated that the tax did end at City limits. He explained that Environmental Gross Receipts Tax was not captured in the incorporated area. Councilor Martinez stated that the City also paid an environmental tax. County Manager Campos replied that he did not control that tax.

County Manager Campos stated that the largest issue in the county was the billing issue. He reported that he would propose that a mill levy be passed for solid waste inside the County as it would generate \$4 million for solid waste. He added that he would ask the legislature to be the first County to do that and if it went to referendum, he was unsure regarding what the outcome would be. Mayor Lucero asked if the mill levy would be in lieu of the monthly bill. County Manager Campos replied in the affirmative.

Commissioner Trujillo stated that he was open to having more meetings like this as there were at least two (2) commissioners interested in the endeavor.

Commissioner Trujillo excused himself as he had family obligations.

Commissioner Trujillo exited at 7:40pm.

Councilor Valdez noted that 80% of people were giving their cards to someone else.

Councilor Radosevich stated that the people were now dumping their trash in arroyos. Councilor Hernandez stated that it had forced him to consolidate his trash and he had felt the impact. He suggested that five (5) to six (6) would be more reasonable.

NCSWA Manager Romero stated that when he was hired, permit cards cost \$1.2 million of service. He added that tipping fees had escalated even though they were piggybacking off of the Los Alamos price agreement. He explained that they were going to Santa Fe on a limited basis to open up communication.

NCSWA Manager Romero reported that the removal of green waste had curbed landfill fees. He added that the state of NCSWA had gotten better and the next move was to push recycling. He reported that there were counties in New Mexico that were paying for all their solid waste disposal through single or local stream recycling. NCSWA Manager Romero curbed his remarks by stating that NCSWA was a long way from that; however, the process had begun. He stated that subsidies existed to control prices.

NCSWA Manager Romero stated that a three (3) bag rule had been passed; however, most people in the County left six (6) to seven (7). He added that they had allowed people to drop their trash off because they could not send a driver once a week. He encouraged the public to recycle. NCSWA Manager Romero stated that there could be money in recycling, but NCSWA was not at that point yet and did not have the equipment.

NCSWA Manager Romero discussed the City cleanup and explained that people from outside of City limits had taken advantage. He reported that they were targeting specific districts. He commented that during the previous clean-up, there had been 215 trucks per hour that filled five (5) semi truckloads of trash.

NCSWA Manager Romero stated that NCSWA paid \$31,000 for general liability and they were taking safety and driver education courses. He explained that employment was up by ten (10) people. He stated that as the company got more efficient, they became a safer and better company.

NCSWA Manager Romero stated that Code Enforcement Officer Michael Marquez had been great to work with and stated that it was nice when everyone worked together in the community. He stated that there had not been enough communication among City and the County as there was issues with the franchise. NCSWA Manager Romero cited the appearance of multiple MCT dumpsters in City limits. He clarified that the Dreamcatcher Theater was on Pueblo property.

Councilor Lewis asked Interim City Manager Duran if the Planning & Zoning Department was being responsive. Interim City Manager Duran replied in the affirmative and added that the next phase was to take people to court. Councilor Lewis stated that the biggest problem was that the Planning & Zoning Department was not enforcing situations.

NCSWA Manager Romero stated that the County did have handicap pick-up. He stated that the City did not provide billing with addresses. He explained that individuals with a handicapped placard did get specialized services.

Commissioner Garcia stated that he would like to echo what NCSWA Manager Romero said. He stated that as far as the transfer station, in rural communities, they experienced a major problem with illegal dumpers. He

reported that he was still pushing for the completion of the audits within the City and the County as the more people that paid, the less the County had to subsidize.

Deputy County Manager Martinez suggested that he meet with Interim City Manager Duran the following week. Mayor Pro-Tem Salazar suggested meeting the week after Thanksgiving.

Deputy County Manager Martinez thanked everyone for coming. He stated that when a community was constantly demoralized, there was diminished self-confidence. He stated that when people felt good and looked good, they started to address issues.

M. EXECUTIVE SESSION

There was no need to enter into Executive Session.

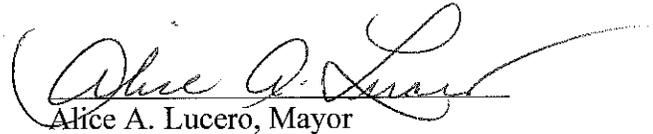
N. ADJOURNMENT

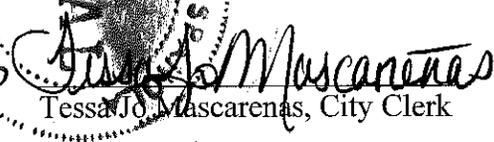
Motion by Councilor Valdez to adjourn; seconded by Councilor Lewis.

Motion carried 7-0.

The meeting ended at 8:00pm.

PASSED, APPROVED and ADOPTED THIS 9th DAY OF DECEMBER 2013.


Alice A. Lucero, Mayor



Tessa Jo Mascarenas, City Clerk