



County of Los Alamos

Minutes

County Council – Regular Session

*Denise Derkacs, Council Chair, Theresa Cull, Council Vice-Chair,
Melanee Hand, Suzie Havemann, Keith Lepsch,
David Reagor, and Randall Ryti, Councilors*

Tuesday, October 29, 2024

6:00 PM

White Rock Fire Station #3 – 129 NM-4

1. OPENING/ROLL CALL

The Council Chair, Denise Derkacs, called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

Council Chair Derkacs made opening remarks regarding the procedure of the meeting.

Mr. John Craig, Deputy County Manager, listed the County employees in attendance via Zoom.

The following Councilors were in attendance:

**Present: 6 – Councilor Derkacs, Councilor Cull, Councilor Havemann, Councilor Lepsch,
Councilor Reagor, and Councilor Ryti**

Online: 1 – Councilor Hand

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Led by: All.

3. PUBLIC COMMENT

Ms. Katie Rosenbaum spoke.
Ms. Cristina Pendergraft spoke.
Ms. Janet Montoya spoke.
Mr. Jonathan Ernst spoke.
Mr. Steve Johnson spoke.
Mr. Ken Mack spoke.

No ecomments.

4. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

A motion was made by Councilor Cull, seconded by Councilor Ryti, that Council approve the agenda as presented.

The motion passed with the following vote:

Yes: 7– Councilor Derkacs, Councilor Cull, Councilor Hand, Councilor Havemann, Councilor Lepsch, Councilor Reagor, and Councilor Ryti

5. PRESENTATIONS, PROCLAMATIONS AND RECOGNITIONS

- A. Proclamation Designating November 4th-11th, 2024 as "Operation Green Light for Veterans in Los Alamos County"

Councilor Cull presented the Proclamation to Eluterio Garcia, Representative of the Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 8874.

Mr. Eluterio Garcia spoke.

Mr. Jonathan Ernst spoke.

- B. Proclamation Designating November 2024 as National Native American Heritage Month in Los Alamos

Councilor Havemann presented the Proclamation to Kim Engelking, Native American Cultural Club High School Sponsor, Student Representatives from the Native American Cultural Club, Julie Dare, Liaison for the Native American Students and Families, and Jovita Mowrer, Native American Student Support

Ms. Jovita Mowrer, Native American Student Support - LAPS Teacher, spoke.

Ms. Kimberly Engelking, Native American Cultural Club High School Sponsor, spoke.

Ms. Julie Dare, Liaison for the Native American Student and Families, spoke.

- C. Presentation of the 2024 National Community Survey (NCS) Results by the National Research Center

Ms. Julie Williams-Hill, Public Information Officer, spoke.

Mr. Brandon Barnett, Senior Survey Associate - Polco, presented.

Public comment:

None.

No action taken.

6. PUBLIC COMMENT FOR ITEMS ON CONSENT AGENDA

None.

7. CONSENT AGENDA

Consent Motion:

A motion was made by Councilor Cull, seconded by Councilor Ryti, that Council approve the items on the Consent Agenda as presented, and that the motions contained in the staff reports be included for the record.

- A. Approval of Budget Revision 2025-18 for Additional Funding from the State of New Mexico for the JJAB Program and Additional Budget for Safety Net Care Pool and Medicaid Requirements

I move that Council approve Budget Revision 2025-18 as summarized on Attachment A and that the attachment be made part of the minutes of this meeting.

- B. Contract for General Services, Agreement No. AGR24-67 with Blue Cross and Blue Shield of New Mexico, A Division of Health Care Service Corporation, a Mutual Legal Reserve Company, an Independent Licensee of the Blue Cross and Blue Shield Association, in an Amount Not to Exceed \$1,300,000, for the Initial Term, plus Applicable Gross Receipts Tax, for the Purpose of Providing Medical Insurance Benefits to Eligible Los Alamos County Employees

I move that Council approve the contract for general services, Agreement No. AGR24-67 with Blue Cross and Blue Shield of New Mexico, A Division of Health Care Service Corporation, in an amount not to exceed \$1,300,000, for the initial term, plus applicable gross receipts tax, for the purpose of providing medical insurance benefits to eligible Los Alamos County employees.

- C. Approval of Amendment No. 2 to Services Agreement AGR20-04, with Delta Dental of New Mexico, in an Amount Not to Exceed \$185,200, plus Applicable Gross Receipts Tax, for the Initial Term Plus this First Two Renewal Terms, for the Purpose of Providing Dental Insurance Benefits for Los Alamos County Employees

I move that Council approve Amendment No. 2 to Services Agreement AGR20-04, with Delta Dental of New Mexico, to extend the provision of Dental Insurance Benefits to Los Alamos County employees for one additional year, in an amount not to exceed \$185,200.

- D. Approval of Amendment No. 3 to Services Agreement No. AGR20-06, with Unum Life Insurance Company of America, in an Amount Not to Exceed \$1,104,400, plus Applicable Gross Receipts Tax, for the Purpose of Providing Long Term Disability (LTD) Insurance Benefits to Eligible Los Alamos County Employees

I move that Council approve Amendment No. 3 to Services Agreement No. AGR20-06 with Unum Life Insurance Company of America for Long Term Disability Benefits, in an amount not to exceed \$1,104,400, to extend the provision of Long-Term Disability Benefits to Los Alamos County employees for two additional years.

- E. Award of Bid No. IFB 25-30 with L.A. Inc. for the Purpose of the Lift Station Rehabilitation Project - Los Arboles and North Road

I move that Council approve the Award of Bid No. IFB 25-30 with L.A. Inc. for the Purpose of Lift Station Rehabilitation Project - Los Arboles and North Road in the Amount of \$339,450.00, and a contingency in the amount of \$85,000.00, for a total of \$424,450.00 plus Applicable Gross Receipts Tax.

- F. Award of Bid No. IFB 25-19 with Wagner Construction, Inc. for the Purpose of the NM State Road 4 16" Water Transmission Line Replacement Project

I move that Council approve the award of Bid No. IFB 25-19 with Wagner Construction, Inc. for the purpose of the NM State Road 4 16" water transmission line replacement project in the amount of \$5,418,807.00 and a contingency in the amount of \$665,000.00, for a total of \$6,083,807.00, plus applicable gross receipts tax.

- G. Approval of Submission of an Application to the Department of Homeland Security and Emergency Management (DHSEM) Hazard Mitigation Grant for Emergency Generators

I move that Council approve the submission of an application to the Department of Homeland Security and Emergency Management (DHSEM) for emergency generators in an amount not to exceed \$388,000 and authorize the Utilities Manager to sign the application.

Approval of the Consent Agenda:

The motion passed with the following vote:

Yes: 7 – Councilor Derkacs, Councilor Cull, Councilor Hand, Councilor Havemann, Councilor Lepsch, Councilor Reagor, and Councilor Ryti

8. INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCE(S)

- A. Councilor Lepsch introduced the Incorporated County of Los Alamos Ordinance No. 02-363, an Ordinance to Amend Minor Errors and Omissions in Chapter 16: Development Code, Article I, Division 4 (r) and Division 12 (b) and (c); and Article IV, Sections 16-20(e), 16-30(a)(2) and (a)(4), 16-45(d) and (e), 16-48(a) and (b), 16-53(d), 16-58, 16-61(b), and 16-66(d).

Public comment:
None.

No action taken.

- B. Councilor Havemann introduced the Incorporated County of Los Alamos Ordinance No. 736; An Ordinance Terminating the Economic Development Project of Pebble Labs Inc., A Delaware Corporation.

Public comment:
None.

No action taken.

- C. Councilor Cull introduced the Incorporated County of Los Alamos Ordinance No. 02-362 a Code Ordinance Amending Chapter 16, Development Code, Article V, Sections 16-68, 16-69, 16-70, 16-71, and 16-74(h), Pertaining to Approval Authority for Minor Zone Map Amendments.

Public comment:
None.

No action taken.

9. BUSINESS

- A. Discussion and Possible Action on Services Agreement No. AGR 25-06 with MCT Waste, LLC in the Amount of \$10,997,221.65 plus Applicable Gross Receipts Tax for Solid Waste & Recycling Transportation Services

Mr. Armando Gabaldon, Environmental Services Manager, presented.
Mr. Eric Martinez, Deputy Public Works Director, spoke.

Public comment:
None.

A motion was made by Councilor Ryti, seconded by Councilor Cull, that Council approve Services Agreement No. AGR 25-06 with MCT Waste, LLC in the Amount of \$10,997,221.65 plus applicable Gross Receipts Tax for Solid Waste & Recycling Transportation Services.

The motion passed with the following vote:

Yes: 7 – Councilor Derkacs, Councilor Cull, Councilor Hand, Councilor Havemann, Councilor Lepsch, Councilor Reagor, and Councilor Ryti

B. Discussion and Possible Action on Purchase of Electric and Diesel Buses and Electric Chargers

Mr. James Barela, Transit Manager, presented.
Mr. Juan Rael, Public Works Director, spoke.

Public comment:
None.

A motion was made by Councilor Cull, seconded by Councilor Havemann, that Council approve the purchase of two battery electric buses (BEB) from Gillig in an Amount Not to Exceed \$2,500,200.00; one diesel bus from Gillig in an Amount Not to Exceed \$ 625,748.00; and two electric bus chargers from Gillig in coordination with ChargePoint in an Amount Not to Exceed \$429,200.00.

The motion passed with the following vote:

Yes: 7 – Councilor Derkacs, Councilor Cull, Councilor Hand, Councilor Havemann, Councilor Lepsch, Councilor Reagor, and Councilor Ryti

RECESS

Councilor Derkacs called for a recess at 7:58 p.m. The meeting reconvened at 8:10 p.m.

10. PUBLIC HEARING

A. Public Hearing for County Council to Consider Case No. REZ-2024-0019 for a Minor Zone Map Amendment for the Property at 1725 17th Street, Commonly Known as the Women's Dorm Building

Chair Derkacs introduced this Public Hearing item at 8:10 p.m. and explained the procedures.

Chair Derkacs polled the Council for potential Conflicts of Interest or ex-parte communication.

Councilor Reagor attended the Planning and Zoning meeting and was at the hearing as the Council Liaison. He affirmed that he has not reached a decision on the merit of the Amendment as a result of this communication.

Councilor Ryti has heard about the proposed Map Amendment from a couple of different people. He affirmed that he has not reached a decision on the merit of the Amendment as a result of this communication.

Ms. Linda Matteson, Deputy County Manager, spoke.
Mr. Alvin Leaphart, County Attorney, spoke.

Motion for a Closed Session:
None.

A motion was made by Councilor Ryti, and seconded by Councilor Lepsch, that Council remand Case No. REZ-2024-0019 to the Planning and Zoning Commission for further hearing, and further moved to authorize the Chair of the County Council to sign an order prepared by county staff that is consistent with this motion.

The motion passed with the following vote:

Yes: 6 –Councilor Derkacs, Councilor Cull, Councilor Hand, Councilor Lepsch, Councilor Reagor, and Councilor Ryti

No: 1 –Councilor Havemann

The Public Hearing for this item was adjourned by Chair Derkacs at 8:39 p.m.

11. COUNCIL BUSINESS

A. General Council Business

None.

B. Appointments

None.

C. Boards and Commission Vacancy Report

None.

D. Board, Commission, and Working Group Reports

Councilor Ryti reported on attending the Environmental Sustainability Board and the Board of Public Utilities meetings.

Councilor Reagor reported on the Planning and Zoning Commission.

Councilor Havemann reported on the Art in Public Places Board meeting.

Councilor Cull mentioned an upcoming meeting of the Inclusivity Task Force.

Councilor Hand mentioned the Transportation and Library boards met at the beginning of October. She reported on the Regional and State Working Group.

E. County Manager's Report

Ms. Anne Laurent, County Manager, reported a written update will be provided at the next Council meeting. There will be an employee appreciation event Thursday. Early voting polls will be open through next Tuesday in White Rock and other places.

F. Council Chair Report

Chair Derkacs reported on attending meetings with the County Manager and the County Attorney. She attended meetings with the representatives from our Congressional Delegation, a joint meeting with Los Alamos Public Schools and UNM-LA. She also toured the County Development projects with representatives from the Governor's office, and State as well as Federal Delegations.

G. Approval of Councilor Expenses

None.

H. Preview of Upcoming Agenda Items

- 1) Tickler Report of Upcoming Agenda Items

Chair Derkacs highlighted upcoming agenda items.

12. COUNCILOR COMMENTS

Councilor Ryti commented on the National Association of Counties Environment Energy and Land Use Policy Committee meeting, a meeting with Karen Williams, UNM-LA development director, and he attended the Main Street Futures meeting, and participated in a jail inspection. He also attended the Environmental Management Clean up Forum and a ribbon cutting ceremony for building 6 at UNM-LA.

Councilor Hand commented on the North Central Regional Transit District executive board meeting, the North Central Regional Transit District finance subcommittee meetings, the First Judicial District Stakeholder meeting for the Assisted Outpatient Treatment program, and the Los Alamos County booth at the Farmer’s Market. She will be attending the Los Alamos Retired and Senior Organization summit at SALA. She also commented on upcoming North Central Regional Transit District and First Judicial District Stakeholder meetings.

Ms. Anne Laurent, County Manager, spoke.

13. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 9:02 p.m.

INCORPORATED COUNTY OF LOS ALAMOS

Denise Derkacs, Council Chair

Attest:

Naomi D. Maestas, County Clerk

Meeting Transcribed by: Marie Pruitt, Deputy Clerk

Los Alamos County Council
 Regular Session
 October 29, 2024
 Item 7.A

Budget Revision 2025 - 18
 Council Meeting Date: 10/29/2024

| | Fund & Department | Org | Object | Revenue (decrease) | Expenditures (decrease) | Transfers In(Out) | Fund Balance (decrease) |
|--|---|----------|--------|-----------------------|----------------------------|----------------------|----------------------------|
| 1 | CSD/ Social Services/Medicaid | 15150760 | 8359 | | \$ 45,600 | | \$ (45,600) |
| 2 | CSD/ Social Services/Safety Net Care Pool | 15150760 | 8369 | | \$ 64,700 | | \$ (64,700) |
| 3 | CSD/Social Services/JJAB | 01150540 | 8369 | | \$ 21,805 | | \$ (21,805) |
| 4 | CSD/Social Services/JJAB | 01150540 | 3479 | \$ 21,805 | | | \$ 21,805 |
| 5 | CSD/Social Services/JJAB | 01150540 | 8369 | | \$ 690,500 | | \$ (690,500) |
| 6 | CSD/Social Services | 01150510 | 8369 | | \$ (690,500) | | \$ 690,500 |
| 7 | | | | | | | \$ - |
| 8 | | | | | | | \$ - |
| 9 | | | | | | | \$ - |
| 10 | | | | | | | \$ - |
| <p>Description: 1. Received annual invoices for County Supported Medicaid and Safety Net Care Pool, these adjustments align with the total requirement. 2. Received Funding for JJAB Program, and moving grant match into JJAB account.</p> | | | | | | | |
| <p>Fiscal Impact: (\$110,300) in Health Care Assistance Program (HCAP)</p> | | | | | | | |

Chelsea Ashcraft _____
 Date

_____ County Manager Approval if Required

Cory Styron _____
 Signature

Erika Thomas _____
 Signature