

PUBLIC HEARING
JANUARY 10, 2017

The Colfax County Board of Commissioners met on this date in in Public Hearing in the Commission Chambers with the following members present:

William Sauble, Chairman
Landon Newton, Vice-Chairman
Roy Fernandez, Member

Also present were: Mary Lou Kern, County Manager, Robin Blair, County Attorney and Rayetta M. Trujillo, County Clerk.

Chairman Sauble called the hearing to order at 8:33 a.m. The purpose of the hearing was to discuss and consider the adoption of an ordinance for a partial property tax rebate for low income taxpayers in accordance to state statute 7-2-14.3, N.M.S.A. 1978.

Also present were: Robert Thompson, Road Superintendent, Marsha Hyde and Jonni Valdez-Silva, Assistant County Manager, Tom Stanfill and John Rea.

Chairman Sauble explained that every other year by law, the commission is to review the possibility of adopting an ordinance which would provide a tax rebate for low-income property owners and noted the county has opted in the past not to adopt an ordinance authorizing the partial property tax rebate for low income tax payers.

Chairman Sauble stated there were two New Mexico counties that have adopted a Partial Property Ordinance, which were Santa Fe and Los Alamos.

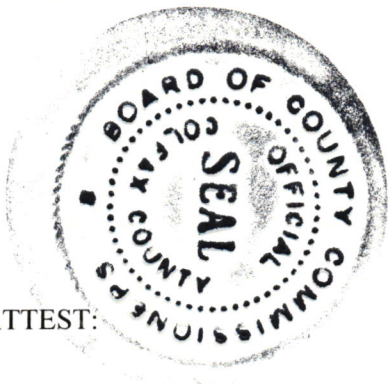
Marsha Hyde stated she would be considered low income, but did not feel right about getting a rebate and others having to pay more.

Commissioner Fernandez asked how the County has handled this issue in the past, Chairman Sauble stated the ordinance was never passed. Commissioner Fernandez asked if there was any information regarding how it would affect revenue. Manager Kern stated there was no way of knowing how many property owners would take advantage of the rebate. Commissioner Fernandez stated he felt there was no way he could make a decision on this matter without any type of numbers as to the impact on the budget.

Robin Blair, County Attorney, stated the property tax feeds the General Fund and was not sure if the fund could afford the cut.

Commissioner Newton stated there were no way of knowing the impact on the budget since there was not any information available regarding the impact, he agreed with Commissioner Fernandez that a decision could not be made without any type of numbers as to what it would be.

Chairman Sauble adjourned the Public Hearing at 8:52 a.m., as there was no further discussion.



ATTEST:

COLFAX COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

William E. Sauble

Chairman

James L. Newton

Vice-Chairman

R. P. Fernandez

Member

Rayetta M. Trujillo
Clerk of the Board