

WORKSHOP

March 10, 2016

The Colfax County Board of Commissioners met on this day for a workshop session in the Training Room at the Colfax County Courthouse with the following members present:

William E. Sauble, Chairman
James Landon Newton, Vice-Chairman
Roy P. Fernandez, Commissioner

Also present were: David Mielke, Attorney for Pueblo of Sandia; Stuart Paisano; Isaac Lujan; Lawrence Avila; Donald Avial; Jose Otero; Tim Hagaman, NMEDD Tribal Liaison; Mary Lou Kern; Robin Blair, County Attorney; Virginia Mack, Chief Deputy Clerk; and Cheryl Navarette, Assistant County Manager .

The Board of Commissioners held a workshop at 10:00 a.m. in the Training Room in the Colfax County Courthouse with the Sandia Pueblo for Sandia Properties in Moreno Valley.

Stuart Paisano explained to the commission that they wanted to preserve the ranch to insure it would be available in the future for their people. To do this, they are wanting to put the land into Trust, which would help them get Federal funds, grants, and preserve the land. They are maintaining it and are selective as to who visits the ranch. No ATV's are allowed other than for ranch management.

In outlining their process, they have done an environmental assessment, surveys, and will need to fill out an application with the Bureau of Indian Affairs. They are working with Philmont Scout Ranch since their lands border, on easements and communications for the scouts in case of emergency and fire. They are in the process of cleaning up titles of mining claims that are on the property.

They want local government support including the County's. In other words, they want to continue to be neighborly. Mr. Paisano mentioned they had support from the local communities of Eagle Nest and Angel Fire.

Chairman Sauble asked whether they are considering a casino. They said no casino.

The ranch is approximately 16,000 acres. Attorney Blair asked if "whether they had purchased the lands subject to a first right of refusal with Deanna Murray". They said no.

Chairman Sauble stated that if the land went into a Trust Land, that would affect County property taxes along with the Cimarron/Eagle Nest school district and South Central Hospital District in Springer with their tax revenue. They pay about \$19,000.00 in taxes and less than half goes to the county. The county would like the school and hospital to continue to receive their money and with a cost of living index. This would be Pill (Pilt) payments.

Chairman Sauble stated he spoke with the superintendent and hospital director in the past but would revisit with them again and maybe get something in writing as to what they want. Sandia would also need to bring it up to their tribal council.

Both parties agreed to meet the first commission meeting in April in Eagle Nest to go over contacts and other items pertaining to this. Chairman Sauble will visit again with the school and hospital districts and Attorney Blair and Attorney Miele will confer and draft paperwork to be reviewed.

Sandia Pueblo wanted to meet with Western Wood Products about lumber from thinning out the forest. Chairman Sauble was asked to take them out to the plant.

Workshop ended at 11:05 a.m.

Colfax County Board of Commissioner

William E. Sandoz
Chairman

James J. Newton
Vice-Chairman

R. J. Farver
Commissioner



ATTEST:

Theresa A. Mack
Clerk of the Board *Chief Deputy Clerk*

James J. Newton