

Regular Meeting (Remote Meeting in compliance with NM Open Meetings Act)  
April 13, 2021  
6:00 P.M.

Members Present: Mayor Nuñez, Mayor Pro Tem Torres, Trustee Whitlock, Trustee Crist, and Trustee Atencio.

Others Present: Mike Castillo, Kenton Martin, Jorge Au, Ricardo Gonzales, Frank Angel, Alfredo Holguin, Linda Alvarez, Shirley Rice, Tim Thornton, David Shields, Lisa Neal, Dave Sment, Elizabeth Porras.

A regular meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Village of Hatch was held remotely. In attendance through remote electronic communication were Mayor Nuñez, Mayor Pro Tem Torres, Trustee Whitlock, Trustee Crist, and Trustee Atencio. Mayor Nuñez asked the Clerk Treasurer for roll call as follows: Mayor Nuñez – Present, Mayor Pro Tem Torres – Present, Trustee Atencio – Present, Trustee Whitlock – Present, and Trustee Crist – Present. There being a quorum, Mayor Nuñez called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

Trustee Atencio led all in attendance in the Pledge of Allegiance and Trustee Whitlock gave the opening prayer. Mayor Nunez then called for a moment of silence.

Trustee Whitlock moved to approve the agenda as presented. Seconded by Trustee Crist. Motion carried with all Trustees voting aye.

Trustee Whitlock moved to approve the consent agenda as presented. Seconded by Trustee Atencio. Motion carried with all Trustees voting aye.

Ricardo Gonzales with El Paso Electric informed the public that on April 17, 2021 between midnight to approximately 3:00 a.m. there will be a planned power outage in parts of Hatch. These power outage is to inspect substation for required replacement of a feeder that has been heating up. They will also be donating trees for earth day, so that the Village can plant them at the Community Center.

Linda Alvarez commented on Bridging the Digital Divide. The term digital divide refers to the gap between people with effective access to digital and information technology and those with very limited or no access at all. WIFI Connectivity, open up the internet to community members by allowing public access. This will allow citizens to have telehealth visits; easily setup appts.; access public transportation, Create a digital Divide Plan and elder care in rural communities for citizens 75 to 85 and 85 and over. This would give an estimate of the scope of possible needs for short and long-range planning in the Hatch Valley. Lisa Neal Library Director, comment in regards to the availability of WIFI at the Library, and also computers available for public use.

Dave Shields with Bohannon Huston gave a project status update for all ongoing services provided. On the Canal Road Low Water Crossing project crews are removing the drive pads and curbs that were unacceptable. The Chile Capital Lane Extension Project is complete and 2019/20 LGRF funding has been closed out. The NMDOT 2020/21 funds have been requested

and should be paid in the next couple weeks. All clearance requests have been sent to the different agencies as required. The Hatch Airport Pavement preservation work is complete, and markings are 95% complete. The Hatch Water Preliminary Engineering Report was approved by NMED and has been sent to DFA to approve and process the grant closing. The Hatch NMDOT LGRF Projects 21/22 NMDOT District One has preliminary approval for 2021/22 grant to pave Fajardo St. The Hatch Gateway Monument on I-25- both the I-25 signs and the Veterans Park sign designs have been sent to the NMDOT Property Management Committee in Santa Fe for their review. They denied the sign in Veteran's park, however District One said they would let Property Management make the decision on it. At this point, at least it has moved out of District One and on to Santa Fe. After being stalled for months it's finally moving. On the issues with the Village Properties BHI has reached out to several surveyors to retrace the property boundaries for both the Village Yard and the Well on NM 187. The well property does have a deed to the village and we'll have the surveyor retrace the boundary to make sure it is clear of adjacent properties. The Village Yard property is going to be more complex since one lot is still showing NMDOT as the owner and the other shows Candelaria as owner. It will need to be re-platted and filed with the county.

Alfredo Holguin provided a project status update for all ongoing services provided by Wilson & Company. The Rodey Lift Station Rehabilitation and New Chile Capital lane Lift Station Project, and the Placitas Water System Improvements agreements for Engineering Services have been submitted to NMED for concurrence on both of the projects. Data Collection and Coordination with Village Public Works to begin as soon as Agreements are executed. On the current funding applications for the 2021 NMED CWSRLF Project Hatch Storm Pump Improvements which include pump, motor and control replacements with back-up power generator the Village accepted award offer and is working on closing documents. The 2021 Capital Outlay Project: Hero's Park Multi-Purpose Flood Control funding request in the amount of \$200,000 has been approved. The 2021 Colinas Infrastructure Funds Project Hero's Park Multi-Purpose Flood Control funding request for \$400,000. The application was submitted on March 3, 2021 and final funding recommendations scheduled for May 20, 2021.

Trustee Atencio moved to approve to file an application with USDA Rural Development for financial assistance to purchase patrol units for the Police Department. Seconded by Trustee Torres. Motion carried with all Trustees voting aye.

Trustee Whitlock made a motion to approve to create an ordinance authorizing the Village of Hatch to enter into a loan agreement with the NMED for the purpose of obtaining project loan funds in the principal amount of \$610,000 plus (0.0%) accrued interest; and loan subsidy grant funds in the amount of \$782,000 for a total funded project of \$1,392,000; Designating the use of the funds for the purpose Hatch Storm Pump Improvements defined in the most current project description form as approved by NMED; Declaring the necessity for the loan. However; the motion died due to the lack of a second.

Trustee Whitlock moved to table item number nine of the agenda until the next meeting. Seconded by Trustee Atencio. Motion carried with all Trustees voting aye.

Trustee Whitlock moved to approve Resolution No. 1012 Adopting the Village of Hatch, Dona Ana County, New Mexico, Multi-Jurisdiction Multi-Hazard Mitigation Plan. Seconded by Trustee Atencio. Motion carried with all Trustees voting aye.

Trustee Crist moved to approve Ordinance No. 413 An Ordinance of the Mayor and Council of the Village of Hatch, amending the Village Code, Title 6 Animals, Chapter 6.04 Animal Care and Control by adding section 6.04.240 Memorandum of Understanding, establishing an effective date; and providing for repeal and severability. Seconded by Trustee Whitlock. The Board was polled as follows: Mayor Pro Tem Torres-aye, Trustee Atencio-aye, Trustee Whitlock-aye, Trustee Crist-aye. Motion carried.

\*6:57 p.m. Trustee Whitlock moved to convene in closed executive session to discuss threatened or pending litigation, employment matters as authorized by the open meetings act § (H)(7). Seconded by Trustee Crist. The Board was polled as follows: Mayor Pro Tem Torres-aye, Trustee Atencio-aye, Trustee Whitlock-aye, Trustee Crist-aye. Motion carried.

\*7:06 p.m. Trustee Whitlock moved to reconvene in open session from closed executive session where no decisions were made. Seconded by Trustee Torres. The Board was polled as follows: Mayor Pro Tem Torres-aye, Trustee Atencio-aye, Trustee Whitlock-aye, Trustee Crist-aye. Motion carried.

Trustee Torres moved to approve to remove Diana Gonzales from probationary status to non-probationary status and give her a fifty cents pay increase effective April 1, 2021. Seconded by Trustee Atencio. Motion carried with all Trustees voting aye.

Trustee Crist moved to approve the ratification of Emergency Appointment of Police Chief to serve in the additional position of Animal Control Officer to address ongoing public health emergency caused by a dangerous animals. Seconded by Trustee Atencio. Motion carried with all Trustees voting aye.

Trustee Whitlock moved to approve to authorize the Mayor to send a letter to the Third Judicial District Court and Magistrate Court in regards to the Community Crisis within the Village of Hatch. Seconded by Trustee Atencio. Motion carried with all Trustees voting aye.

Lisa Neal, Library Director reported that traffic is picking back up at the Library. Library staff continues to assist people as much as possible with helping them file unemployment, taxes, job searches, internet service for homeschooling, etc. Mike Castillo Public Works Director reported that the department has been busy getting the swimming pool cleaned up for operations. Frank Angel, Lieutenant gave a brief update on the Police Department and reported a busy month conducting road tests.

There being no further business Trustee Crist moved to adjourn at 7:59 p.m. Seconded by Trustee Torres. Motion carried with all Trustees voting aye.

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_, Mayor  
\_\_\_\_\_

ATTEST:

Date: \_\_\_\_\_