

**EDDY COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
MINUTES OF SPECIAL MEETING
May 23, 2018**

BE IT REMEMBERED that the Eddy County Board of Commissioners held a special meeting on May 23, 2018 at 8:30 a.m. This was a BOCC Facility Inspection Tour.

PRESENT:

SUSAN CROCKETT	COMMISSION CHAIRMAN, DISTRICT 5
JAMES WALTERSCHEID	COMMISSION VICE-CHAIR, DISTRICT 1
JON HENRY	COMMISSIONER, DISTRICT 2
LARRY WOOD	COMMISSIONER, DISTRICT 3
STELLA DAVIS	COMMISSIONER, DISTRICT 5
KENNEY RAYROUX	ASSISTANT COUNTY MANAGER
RAY ROMERO	PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR
JAY FRANCIS	COUNTY ATTORNEY
GAY WEST	ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

Rayroux stated that this meeting was informational only and no action would be taken during this meeting. All present boarded a County van with Romero as tour guide. Rayroux stated that Eddy County is responsible for all the road work regardless of who's doing the work or where the funding comes from.

First facility to be toured was GR 23, Rock-Daisy Road— Rayroux explained that this road was damaged enough to receive FEMA funding for the repairs on 6 miles of the road. There have been issues with the Contractor, Century Club, so Public Works will complete the work which includes removing excess rock on the road and fix two low-water crossings. This is a chip seal road and the cost of the road was \$6.1 million. Question was raised as to why we didn't finish the last four miles and Rayroux stated that the County needs \$3.5 million to do that portion.

Rayroux explained that FEMA sends crews out to inspect roads and determine the damage. From there, FEMA determines which roads are damaged. Rayroux stated that all signage, culverts and cattle guards are the County's responsibility and not paid for with FEMA funds. He continued that we have increased our base for chip seal to 1" first pin and 5/8" to 3/4" second pin. Rayroux also explained that because Eddy County had codes and standards we were able to get upgraded roads using FEMA funds.

Romero said that he doesn't like it when the semi-trucks turn off of the County roads because it damages the roads. Rayroux stated that chip seal is designed to hold up to low-volume car and pickup traffic. It is not designed to hold up to heavy-volume semi-truck traffic. Rayroux stated that we need to get into a preventative maintenance program to keep the road sealed.

The next facility was Crossbuck Road. Romero stopped at a low water crossing explaining that they had put 4' of rock riprap on the sides of the road to hopefully help the stability of the crossing during flooding events. FEMA allocated \$35,000 to repair Crossbuck and Eddy County invested another \$508,000 more on the repairs and improvements. Rayroux further stated that the water that flows over the crossing is what floods SKP Ranch area.

The tour continued to CR 19 Trails End Road which was the first FEMA project and has since been tested by flood waters and withstood the flooding well. While FEMA didn't allocate very much to these road repairs, the County invested \$600,000.

Rayroux said that a three-mile section of Sidekick Road is a FEMA project with \$3.1 million in funding and is currently in its design phase.

11:25 a.m. – Short Break and Quick Tour of Facilities at Public Works, District 2

At 11:50 a.m. we went to Old Loco Road. The north side is complete and the south side is still a work in progress. From Old Loco Road we proceeded to the Sandpoint Landfill where Rayroux explained and showed the new scale house and shop/office. We learned that the County is saving \$1 million by digging out Cell 5 using County staff. The projected life expectancy of the current landfill has decreased from 75 years to 50 years causing staff to consider enlarging the property. Rayroux explained that we have an opportunity to start crushing concrete that is brought to the Landfill. The crushed concrete would then be used on roads. The concrete would need to be brought in separate from other items. Several incentives are being discussed for the concrete to be brought in a certain size, which would save on crushing time and labor.

1:39 p.m. – Lunch at Public Works, District 1

At 2:27 p.m. we left for Roadrunner Road. Romero explained that one of the biggest needs and highest usage building roads is water. He said that the County is going to need to look at drilling some water wells. Romero said that Roadrunner Road is showing 3 to 5 years of wear in only 1 year due to the heavy truck traffic and that a seal needs to be put on the road.

The route to Roadrunner Road included traveling down CR 720 Black River Village Road which is in extremely bad condition and is not a FEMA project. It was mentioned that the 6 ½ miles between Old Cavern Highway and Roadrunner Road is the worse section of Black River Village Road. Rayroux stated that Jim Davis, an Eddy County citizen, has visited with Rayroux a couple of times regarding the salt water disposal sites that are moving into an area by Black River. He is very concerned that the River will be contaminated by these SWD sites.

Due to time constraints, we were unable to get to White City Road and Buck Jackson Road. We continued our tour to CR 793 Rawhide Road which is off Highway 31. The funding from FEMA for this road was for one culvert only. The current project is a 1.1 mile section with more damage being done with each passing day. This project needs to be started very soon in order to avoid further damage. The project would include overlay, chip seal and shoulders.

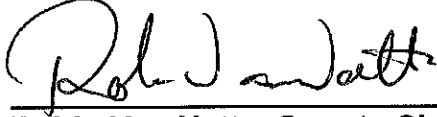
Meeting was adjourned at 4:18 p.m.

EDDY COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS



Susan Crockett, Commission Chairman

Date: June 26, 2018

ATTEST: 

Robin Van Natta, County Clerk

Date: 6-26-18