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Co-Presidents' Communiqué

Hello Members and Friends,

Well, it's that time of year when we pull out the pumpkin spices, carve a jack-o'-lantern, and begin a holiday season that hopefully lets us connect with family and friends. But this year it's also a time to reflect how fortunate we are in our bustling city of Las Cruces, while many other Americans are feeling the pain of a war located across the world.

As we all know too well, there are many Americans in the Middle East who have died, are still in captivity, or are facing daily catastrophic events. Of course, our hearts go out to those families.



I did want to mention this because it should remind us of how grateful we are that our government is still within good standing. I'm not suggesting our Democracy doesn't have faults, but we have what many other countries do not — the right to observe our chosen religions, to bring our grievances to a fair courtroom, the right to comment at governmental meetings, the right to join peaceful demonstrations, and the right to make changes with our political leaders through an open voting process.

It's the responsibility and mission of the League of Women Voters to ensure that we support these rights, and that we encourage others to do the same. We don't all have to think alike (thank goodness we don't) or belong to the same political party. However, shouldn't all of us stand up, and speak against behaviors such as violence, child and elder abuse, drug proliferation, voting intimidation, and deliberate miscommunication?

—continued next page

Nov. General Mtg: Dr. Shortage

America's healthcare system is failing: costs are rising, access to quality care in rural and low-income communities is declining, and common health metrics are lower in America than in other advanced countries. What the heck is going on?

November's program for the LWV General Meeting will examine two interconnected issues underlying this complex national problem and some New Mexico solutions. The meeting begins at 2:00 p.m., Saturday, Nov. 11 at the Doña Ana Community College Workforce Center, 2345 Nevada Ave. (If attending via Zoom, please log in by 1:50 p.m.)

The program will start with a 30-minute documentary titled "American Hospitals: Healing a Broken System" that explores the growing trend of hospitals as money-making businesses and the impact on patients and health professionals. After the film, there will be a panel discussion by Mary Feldblum, Executive Director of Health Security for New Mexicans Campaign, and Harriet Brandstetter, the former CEO of La Clinica de Familia and currently a health professional recruiter for New Mexico Health Resources, Inc. The panel discussion will touch on key healthcare cost drivers and solutions like "global budgets," the national shortage of physicians, and state efforts to recruit and retain more physicians. The panelists will invite questions from the audience.

For those digging deeper, join the **LWVSNM Book Club on Thursday, Nov. 2 at 3 p.m.** for a virtual discussion of "[An American Sickness: How Healthcare Became Big Business and How You Can Take it Back](#)" by Elisabeth Rosenthal. Contact Beth Bardwell for more details at betbardwell@gmail.com.

Members of the public are invited to attend. The Zoom link is:

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/7806258925?pwd=TEVfVW1NR01nc0RlZ0gwS0MxY0F2QT09>

▪ Beth Bardwell, Vice President

Co-Presidents' Communiqué (cont.)

So, at the start of this year's holiday dinner, not only will I ask the good Lord to watch over my family, I'll also reflect on what our League has done to help strengthen our Democracy. And, I'll seek guidance on what more we can do, individually and as an organization, to protect our constitutional republic. I ask that you consider the same.

Have a safe and beautiful holiday season!

- [Jo Galván Nash](#)
Co-President



2023/24 LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF SOUTHERN NEW MEXICO BOARD:

Jo Galván Nash & Kathe Kanim – Co-Presidents

Beth Bardwell – Vice-President

Edwina Jaramillo – Secretary

Kathy Brook – Treasurer

Kathy Brook & Eileen VanWie – Past Presidents

Dale Yeo – Voter Services Co-Director and
TBA, Co-Director

Kate Mangelsdorf – Membership Director

Eileen VanWie & Josie Miller – Youth Engagement
Co-Directors

TBA – Public Relations Director

and

Nancy Stanton – Development Chair

Jo Galván Nash – The Voter Editor

Mary Flynn, Chair, and Johnnie Aldrich and Kate
Mangelsdorf, Members – Nominating Committee

TBA – Historians

Claudia Powell & Cindy Broughton – Otero Unit
Liaisons



Volunteers Needed for Holiday Event

Are you creative? How about helping to decorate the room for our 2023 Legislative Conversation and Holiday Social? We could use some creative minds from 11:00 a.m. to 1:45 p.m. on Saturday, Dec. 2 at the DACC Workforce Center, 2345 Nevada Ave. In addition, if you have some spiffy holiday decorations that the League can borrow, let us know.

Beth Bardwell is also looking for volunteers to pick up and set up the food and beverages. If you are interested, please email betbardwell@gmail.com.

Upcoming Calendar Events

NOVEMBER 2023

Child Safety Protection Month; National Adoption Awareness Month; American Indian Heritage Month

Nov. 2, Thurs., **LWV Book Club**, 3pm, [Zoom](#)

Nov. 5, Sun.: **Daylight Savings Time Ends**

Nov. 6, Mon.: **Regular Board Mtg**, 5:30, Zoom,
[contact Kathe if you want to attend.](#)

Nov. 7, Tue.: **CANCELED** Affordable Housing Comm.

Nov. 8, Wed.: **Youth Engagement Comm**, 4pm, [Zoom](#)

Nov. 4, Sat.:

• **Early Voting Ends**

• **Requests for an electronic ballot must be received**

Nov. 7, Tues: ELECTION DAY

• **Polls Open 7am-7pm**

• **Last Day for Same Day Voter Registration**

• **Absentee Ballots must be turned in by 7:00 p.m.**

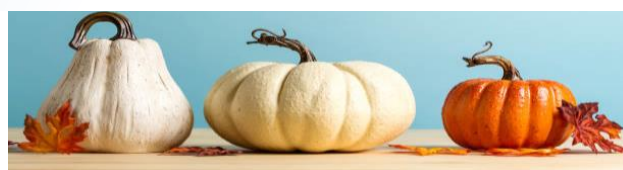
Nov. 11, Sat.: **Veterans' Day**

Nov. 11, Sat.: **LWVSNM General Meeting** - Hybrid,
2pm, DACC Workforce Center, 2345 Nevada Ave.
light refreshments served.

Nov. 13, Mon.: **Education Committee**, 5 pm, contact
[Eileen VanWie](#) if you want to attend or join.

Nov. 18, Sat.: **LWV-NM Board Meeting**, 11am

Nov. 23, Thurs.: **Thanksgiving Holiday**



Forums Continue to Foster Voter Awareness

There have been several additional Candidates' Forums over the past several weeks. League members continued to ask candidates questions ranging from the economy to safety to their personal experiences and skill-sets. Co-Presidents Jo Galván Nash and Kathe Kanim served as the moderators at the forums in Mesilla and the Village of Columbus, respectively. Other volunteers have included Vice President Beth Bardwell, Secretary Edwina Jaramillo, Development Chair Nancy Stanton, and Past-President Kathy Brook. The Otero unit also completed another candidate forum for the Alamogordo City Commission. Volunteers in Otero County included Claudia Powell, Tom Krajci, Cindy Broughton, Sue Pressler and Joann Vuolo.

At each event, members of the audience were invited to submit their written questions. Audience members at every location were respectful and their questions were thought-provoking.



PHOTOS – Top: For the first time, LWVSNM held a Candidates' Forum in the village of Columbus. Eleven candidates for trustee, mayor and municipal judge are running for seats in southern Luna County. The event was held at the Ruth Coleman Community Center, with Kathe Kanim, Beth Bardwell and Nancy Stanton making the trek.



Bottom: Five candidates vying for seats as Mayor and Trustee attended the LWVSNM Candidates' Forum at the Mesilla Community Center. There was a good turnout.

At each Forum, citizens were encouraged to join LWVSNM and more importantly, to get registered and vote on or before Nov. 7.

County Clerk Discusses Upcoming Vote

County Clerk Amanda López Askin and LWVSNM Voter Services Director Dale Yeo (both pictured at right) talked about preparations for the Nov. 7 Local Regular Election during the League's October General Meeting. Dr. Askin reviewed several changes made this year to voter laws and she answered questions about ranked choice voting, while Dale talked about the League's two Voters' Guides which have been distributed in Doña Ana County. Candidates' answers to League questions also appear on Vote411.org.

The English guide included elections within Las Cruces and Mesilla; the Spanish guide featured races throughout the county. Both can also be found on the LWV website (www.lwvsnm.org).





An Invitation is Headed Your Way! ...

League members, along with the members of the AAUW and the NAACP-DAC, will soon receive their invitations to our first combined **Legislative Conversation and Holiday Social**. **SAVE THE DATE: Saturday, Dec. 2, 2023, from 1:45-4:30 p.m. at the Doña Ana Community College Workforce Center, 2345 Nevada.**

It will be quite fun to meet with members from other organizations, and to have face-to-face conversations with our area lawmakers. If you personally know one of our Legislators, please encourage them to attend.

Although a Zoom link will be given to those who want it, we encourage you to attend in-person, if possible.



SNEAK PEAK:

With the leadership and coordination of Liz Rodriguez-Johnson and Beth Bardwell, there are multiple local businesses who are donating food, beverages, and gift certificates for our event! You may even go home with an early holiday gift!

Watch for your e-invitation to get all the information you'll need about this special event. Your **RSVP is encouraged to [Beth Bardwell](#)**.



When you visit these local businesses, please thank them for their donations for this event:

- Albertson's - El Paseo Rd.
- El Vagon Tacos
- Indulgence Bakery & Café
- Liz Rodriguez-Johnson
- Nothing Bundt Cakes
- Sprouts
- Sunset Grill
- Ashley Furniture
- Hacienda de Mesilla
- La Posta de Mesilla
- New Mexico Thrift Boutique
- Sam's Club
- Starbucks - University Ave.

Have You Voted?

Assisting voters at Corbett Center, an early voting site, are (l to r): League member William Little, Lisa Kirby, Co-President Kathe Kanim, Sheila Johnson & Sara Tetting.



LWVNM Nuclear Issues Study

In November and December there will be opportunities to learn more about nuclear power generation in the context of climate change. At the state convention last April, LWVNM approved a study on this topic and LWV of Central New Mexico will be hosting two presentations to which all League members are invited on November 14 via Zoom. Watch for an email announcement from LWVCNM, providing a link. The presentation is also likely to be recorded for members to view at their convenience. A written report by the committee along with references will also be available soon with consensus meetings expected to occur in December 2023.

This study was motivated by concern that we will not be able to replace fossil fuels with renewable energy sources fast enough to achieve the targets for mitigating climate change. The study then is focused on understanding the implications of greater reliance on nuclear energy to fill the gap. Please see an overview of the study by committee chair, Karen Douglas, in the [Fall 2023 La Palabra](#).

I encourage all members to increase their knowledge of nuclear power and to participate in the discussion. Nuclear New Mexico was the topic of the October sessions of the Academy of Learning in Retirement here in Las Cruces. Three of the programs dealt with the impact of past nuclear activity in New Mexico, including the eviction of inhabitants of the Pajarito Plateau to house the Manhattan Project and the impact of uranium mining on the Navajo Nation. The final speaker was a proponent of greater use of nuclear energy. In part he discussed the topic in the context of generating electricity to raise people throughout the world out of poverty.

Please consider joining the League's discussion of this topic.

▪ *Kathy Brook
SNM Past-President and
member of the study committee*

Good News v Bad News About the Membership Total

The good news is that your 2023/24 Membership Handbook is only days away from being emailed to you. The yearly membership total now stands at 96 members. There are also many new members this fiscal year: Most recently, those who have joined are Rich Ferrary (husband of Rep. Joanne Ferrary), Edward Measure (husband of member Rorie Measure), Virginia Rice (wife of member David Rice), and Nicole Heckathorn, an NMSU student. Others who have joined since May are Marci Beyer, Carol Hernandez, Stan Hernandez, Mallorie Holder, Debby Hunt, Kayleigh Martinez, Nancy Stanton, and Melissa Toledo-Ontiveros. Welcome everyone!

Unfortunately (the bad news), we have lost 21 members compared to the previous year. This number includes members from Otero County. Fewer members will negatively impact the current budget by approximately \$1,267 due to the loss of membership dues. A few of the non-renewals are because they have passed away (one) or have moved out of Las Cruces (four); we hope the others will return to our League in the future. In the meantime, with your help we will continue to invite new members to join our team.

▪ *Jo Galvan Nash, Co-President*

LWVSNM To Participate in Elections as “Watchers”

One dozen members of LWVSNM will be “watching” the General Election process up close on Tuesday, Nov. 7. Their job is to do what the title indicates — *watch*. They will observe the entire process, from when the polls open to when they close. Several other League members are also election judges.

Watchers are not paid staff and they are not “challengers” who will probably also show up. The SNM Watchers take notes about a variety of issues: how did the process run? Were there long lines? Did the machines work well? Were there any disruptive issues?

Were the trained election workers doing their jobs smoothly and efficiently?

The observations will eventually be forwarded to the County Clerk and to the Secretary of State. The LWV Watchers this election are: Johnnie Aldrich, Alex Burr, Rebecca Courtney, Amoreena France, Pattie Hartman, Charlotte Lipson, Kate Mangelsdorf, Jo Galván Nash, David Rice, Elisa Sanchez, Gill Sorg and Eileen VanWie.

In December’s Voter, we’ll let you know some of their observations.

Two Student-Related Events Under Development

A second meeting of the *Know Your Local Government* Committee with Educator Jamie Patterson, City Councilor Yvonne Flores, Community Outreach Director Catrina Godinez, and Community Liaison Grace Telles was achieved via Zoom on Friday, October 13, continuing the conversation about the *Know Your Local Government* event for February 15, 2024. Students will study local government in their school classes and then attend the event at City Hall. Students will be invited to solve real problems impacting Las Cruces and will create a presentation to share possible solutions with each other and a panel of judges. Hopefully solutions will be shared later with the City Council. As we get closer to the event, we will reach out to League members to see who would like to participate and/or serve as a judge.

We thought we would not be able to have NM Listens sessions with NMSU sociology students this fall, since NMSU Sociology Professor and LWVSNM member Cynthia Pelak is not teaching the course. She is so committed to the process that she recently invited a new colleague who is teaching the course to agree to the opportunity. Because of the short time frame to find facilitators needed for a face-to-face class of 75 registered students, we reached out to Kathy Brook for assistance. We plan two visits to the class, one before the election and one after the election, to get the students’ thoughts on our government and on civic issues important to them.

We were not able to provide voter registration opportunities at the Gadsden District this fall because of conflicting events at the District. Arrangements will be made for February 2024 registration opportunities.

A meeting of the Youth Engagement Committee, along with the LCPS Civic Engagement Project, is planned for Wednesday, Nov. 8 at 4:00 pm via Zoom. We invite League members interested in youth engagement to reach out to Josie (jomiller@lcps.net & jghernan@comcast.net) and Eileen (vanwieek@yahoo.com) to be included on messages to the Committee.

▪ *Eileen VanWie and Josie Miller, Youth Engagement Committee Co-Directors*

On October 21, 2023, the guest speaker of the DAC chapter meeting was Interim Police Chief Jeremy Story. He spoke about the changes he has seen in the department over the 16 years he has worked there. He believes there have been many improvements and they continue to consider changes.

Regarding transparency with the public, the Interim Chief talked about the Town Hall public meetings that have been held recently (another one is scheduled for January 2024) and the new “Bridging the Badge” online monthly information sessions. The most recent one gave a presentation about the impact of fentanyl on the community and the challenges police encounter. Interim Chief Story took questions from the attendees and there was considerable discussion.

After the police chief’s session, former Mayor Bill Mattiace spoke briefly about why he is running for a City Council position. Classie McClure, another candidate for a different Council position, also spoke about her goals if she is elected.

Officer reports were given. There were brief discussions about the future MLK Breakfast event in January and the State NAACP Conference held in Albuquerque on November 11th.

- Submitted by Jennifer Kreie, jenniferkreie@gmail.com
NAACP and LWVSNM

UPCOMING GOVT. MEETINGS

LC City Council: Nov. 6; Nov. 13 (wrksess); Nov. 20; Nov. 27 (wrksess); all at 1:00 p.m., City Hall

County Commission: Nov. 14; Nov. 28; all at 9:00 am, DAC Govt. Center.

LCPS School Board: Nov. 10, (retreat) time-TBA; Nov. 28, 6:00 pm; LCPS Admin. Bldg. Board Room.

Día de los Muertos continues through Nov. 2. It’s a Mexican celebration (and observed throughout our state) when people welcome the souls of the departed back to the physical world for a short time. A candlelight procession will begin in Mesilla on the 2nd starting at 6:30pm and will end at the Mesilla cemetery.



Books for LWVSNM Book Club – November 2023

We read so we know things

BOOK CLUB MEETINGS ARE ON 1ST THURSDAY OF EACH MONTH

If you would like to participate, contact Erika at grafwebster@icloud.com

Books Selected for Upcoming Meetings

<p>Nov 2 Moderator: Vicki Simon</p>	<p>An American Sickness: How Healthcare Became Big Business and How You Can Take It Back (Paperback, 432 pgs) In these troubled times, perhaps no institution has unraveled more quickly and more completely than American medicine. In only a few decades, the medical system has been overrun by organizations seeking to exploit for profit the trust that vulnerable and sick Americans place in their healthcare. Very quickly Americans have been made to accept paying more for less. How did things get so bad so fast?</p>
<p>Dec 7</p>	<p>Tyranny of the Minority: Why American Democracy Reached the Breaking Point by Steven Levitsky (Author), Daniel Ziblatt (Author) A call to reform our antiquated political institutions before it’s too late—from the <i>New York Times</i> best-selling authors of <i>How Democracies Die</i>. America is undergoing a massive experiment: It is moving toward a multiracial democracy, something few societies have ever done. But the prospect of change has sparked an authoritarian backlash that threatens the very foundations of our political system. Why is democracy under assault here, and not in other wealthy, diversifying nations? Our Constitution makes us uniquely vulnerable to attacks from within: It is a pernicious enabler of minority rule, allowing partisan minorities to consistently thwart and even rule over popular majorities.</p>



LCPS BOARD OF EDUCATION • Regular Meeting

Oct. 3, 2023 • 4:00 pm

Observer: Eileen VanWie

Members Present: President Teresa Tenorio, VP Pam Cort, Secretary Robert Wofford, and Members Carol Cooper and Patrick Nolan

Public Comment came from a Doña Ana Community College (DACC) employee asking for public support and voting for the DACC Bond issue that will be on the ballot in November. It will provide needed funding for capital improvements and infrastructure at DACC. Another person repeated comments about some students feeling uncomfortable using restrooms in schools.

The Superintendent's report included reports from the Presidents of the NEA-LC and CSEC-LC. He has continued on his visitation with school and community groups.

President Tenorio attended the NMSA Legislative Resolutions Update meeting in Albuquerque. Funding for transportation was discussed, including electric buses.

HR Director Cynthia Donnelly presented the second reading of the Policy ACA-Sexual Harassment confirming the need to maintain language that follows Title IX language. Dr. Wendi Miller-Tomlinson, deputy superintendent, presented a second reading of policies IHCZ-K-12 Plus and GBK-Grievance. Policy KE-Public Concerns and Complaints also came up for the second reading with minor changes. Pronouns changed from his/her to "their." No additional changes were suggested.

Director Donnelly, with focus on teacher vacancies as of September 24, 2023, reported the District is now at a 98% fill rate. Highest vacancy is with Special Education Teachers. In June, 25 teachers left LCPS, three retired, and 22 moved to other locations. On June 1st, 40 SPED positions were filled. Board requested monthly summaries of absences by job title.

Naomi Chavez Lopez works with Community Schools; she reported their goal is student achievement. The four pillars have been upgraded to six key practices (1. Powerful student and family engagement, 2. Collaborative leadership, shared power, and voice, 3. Expanded and culturally enriched learning opportunities, 4. Integrated systems of support, 5. Rigorous community-connected classroom instruction, 6. Culture of belonging, safety, and care.) There are robust after school programs taking place in the Community Schools. A variety of partners host family engagement events. Time is spent training for collaborative leadership. Many grants have been received to help accomplish the six key practices and an accountability structure. Lynn Community School has significantly fewer absences than the other middle schools. There are now seven LCPS community schools, each with their own coordinator. The schools decide and apply to become a community school.

LAS CRUCES CITY COUNCIL • Regular Meeting

Oct. 3, 2023 • 4:00 pm

Observer: Jennifer Kreie

The City Council approved a change in zoning for a property near the intersection of Idaho and El Paseo. The zone code was changed from C-2 and R-3 (commercial medium and multi-dwelling medium) to C-3 commercial high intensity). It is anticipated that a credit union branch will be built at this site.

The Council also approved a resolution to designate Gregory Z Smith as Gregory Z Smith, Mayor Pro Tempore Emeritus. Plus, the Council approved a resolution authorizing the City to accept grant awards for various city departments.



LAS CRUCES CITY COUNCIL • Work Session

Oct. 10, 2023

Observer: Kathy Brook

The work session focused on an award of ARPA funds that was initially made through the Las Cruces Community Foundation to support work force training to be offered by Bitwise. Since Bitwise is in bankruptcy, the city will be repurposing the funds previously awarded. City staff proposed five projects including transitional job training, support for apprenticeship and pre-apprenticeship programs, manufacturing and advanced manufacturing training, microgrants for childcare providers, and a childcare business accelerator program. Partners who will be working with the city are Doña Ana Community College, the Las Cruces Public Schools, NM Workforce Connections, Doña Ana County Early Childhood Coalition, WESST, and the Small Business Development Center.

LAS CRUCES CITY COUNCIL • Regular Session

October 16, 2023

Early in the meeting there was a presentation by Care Solace, an organization which connects people to behavioral health and social support services. Mayor Miyagishima became aware of this organization at a recent meeting of the US Conference of Mayors. The Care Solace representative described the organization as accessing providers nationwide and combining high touch with high tech.

Public participation included comments on the republic v. democracy issue. The consent agenda included an amendment to the contract with Godfrey’s Associates, which is working on the master plan for the library. The amendment provides an additional \$27,000 to add additional building, space, and branch planning.

In other actions the Council approved loan agreements related to building affordable housing for seniors at Farney and El Paseo – with construction to begin in late January 2024.

LAS CRUCES CITY COUNCIL • Special Work Session

October 23, 2023

The topic of the work session was a non-binding Memorandum of Understanding between the City of Las Cruces and NMSU. The agreement would involve collaboration in exploring the possibility of establishing a Tax Increment Development District in areas around the NMSU campus, including perhaps some of the south side of University Avenue, the athletics area, Arrowhead Park, and Aggie Uptown (adjacent to the golf course). A consultant for NMSU estimated that the tax revenue generated over the period of 25 years could be \$200 million, much of which could finance public infrastructure.

SOUTH CENTRAL SOLID WASTE AUTHORITY • Regular Quarterly Meeting

October 19, 2023. 9:00 a.m. • Amador Facility Board Room

Observer: Johnnie R. Aldrich

One of the earliest items on the agenda always is the recognition of at least one of the dozens of employees for superior levels of service. This quarter, the award went to Freddy Aquirre, Supervisor of Northern Community Collections. A second surprise award for Outstanding Achievement was presented by the Authority members to SCSWA Director Patrick Peck for his having received two different “Outstanding” awards from the New Mexico Department of the Environment. He now has one more feather in his cap.

—continued



SCSWA cont.

Considerable discussion was given to the major problem of illegal dumping, especially in desert areas of the county. Director Peck noted that contractors and developers are just as guilty of this “crime” as private residents. They want to avoid the fees that they must pay when they take trash to the established dumping facilities.

An Illegal Dumping Task Force is meeting regularly again and working on an education program for the public. One of the serious problems identified by the Task Force is the failure to enforce the county policy requiring that trucks or trailers with loads of trash be “tarpred” or covered in some way, to prevent the trash trails on the approaches to the pay stations. A second problem is the accumulation of uncollected trash from the “camp-out” sites used by the unhoused population. Addressing these problems is a work-in-progress.

Director Peck further reported that the recycling program collected 2,592 tons this year, a record volume, mostly because of extensive demolition of buildings on the NMSU campus.

As the county population grows, so does the need for more dumping space. Authority plans for the future include construction of Cell 5 at the landfill site off of I-10. The \$3+million- dollar hole in the ground will give the Authority another 2.7 million square yards of air space to use for the next 10 years of collected trash. Construction, financed by a low-rate, 10-year loan from the New Mexico Finance Authority, is to begin at next year.

Another construction project, of a Vehicle Maintenance Facility, will begin on property located at 2344 Hadley Drive.

Residents who have questions about any concerns regarding trash collection in their neighborhoods or wanting more details about items mentioned in this report, should call Authority headquarters at 575-528-3800 from whence your call will be directed to the proper department. They DO listen to customers!

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS • Regular Meeting

Oct. 24, 2023 • 9am

Observer: Jo Galván Nash

Present: Susana Chaparro, Manuel Sanchez, Shannon Reynolds, Diana Murrillo, Christopher Schaljo-Hernandez; and County Manager Fernando Macias.

Eric Rodriguez, County Treasurer, reported on the status of taxes for this tax cycle and compared the net income to 2022 and 2021. Total taxes, primarily collected from property (ad valorem) taxes throughout the entire county is \$171,984,713. Of that total, approximately \$52.2 million is projected as revenue to the county with the rest generated for the school districts (which receive the largest share), the cities, debt services for bond issues, and other taxing entities. The projected amount for the county was originally estimated to be \$51.7 million, so the county will realize slightly more revenue than expected.

In comparison, the net totals were \$161,253,494 in 2022 and \$151,113,304 in 2021. He said the growth, approximately 6-7%, is attributed to the increase in value of property. And, there have been about 2,000 additional parcels of taxable property (such as homes, property, sheds, etc.) added to the tax rolls since 2021.