**Town of Estancia**

**Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees**

**Monday, September 20, 2021 6:15pm**

**Estancia Town Library- Southwest Room, 601 S. 10th St. Estancia, NM 87016**

**Minutes**

**Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance**

**The meeting was called to order at 6:19 pm and Roll Call was taken:**

**Trustee Lovato – Present**

**Trustee Sedillo – Present**

**Trustee Chavez – Present**

**Trustee Hall – Present**

**Mayor Dial – Present**

1. **Approval/Disapproval of Agenda – Action Item**

**ACTION TAKEN:** Trustee Hall made a motion to approve the September 20, 2021 Regular Meeting agenda as written. Trustee Chavez seconded the motion. All in favor. **MOTION CARRIED**

1. **Discussion/Approval of the September 7, 2021 Regular Meeting Minutes – Action Item**

Some of the Board members disagreed with a sentence in the minutes. The Board requested that the following sentence be removed from the minutes:

Agenda item 12. ‘While all strongly agree that a forensic audit from an outside entity is an absolute necessity at this time, they do not agree that it needs to be the State Auditor yet.’

Clerk Michelle Jones will remove the sentence from the minutes.

**ACTION TAKEN:** Trustee Hall made a motion to approve the minutes as amended above. Trustee Lovato seconded the motion. All in favor. **MOTION CARRIED**

1. **Discussion/Approval of the September 20, 2021 Bill List – Action Item**

Some information on the bill list that was presented to the Board did not print correctly. There were two payments listed that did not have a check number or a name for who the check was written to. Also, there were two checks written to our Cleaning person. There was a question about whether this person is paid twice a month. Clerk Jones will bring a corrected bill list to the next meeting. **ACTION TAKEN:** Trustee Sedillo made a motion to TABLE the September 20, 2021 Bill List. Trustee Hall seconded the motion. All in favor. **ITEM TABLED**

**Public Comment –**

Resident Santiago Garcia addressed the Board. He is a Torrance County representative on the EVSWA Board. He asked about the Town’s agenda item 6 *Approval to join in a Request from the City of Moriarty to the Office of the State Auditor for a forensic audit for deficiencies or fraudulent activity at the Estancia Valley Solid Waste Authority- Action Item.* Mr. Garcia questioned the wording of the agenda item and requested a copy of the original letter given to the Mayor from the Mayor of Moriarty. Ms. Jones will provide Mr. Garcia with a copy of the letter.

Resident Ms. Tracey Master addressed the Board. She thanked the Town for their assistance in helping her team put on this years Suicide Prevention and Awareness 5k; it was a great success. They had 44 registered participants people donated blood, they had a car show and music at the event. They had teal and purple ribbons posted honoring those in our community who were lost to suicide. The Board thanked Ms. Master for hosting such a great event.

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**4.0 Approve of Proclamation declaring September Suicide Awareness and Prevention Month- Action Item ACTION TAKEN:** Trustee Hall made a motion to approve the Proclamation declaring September Suicide Awareness and Prevention Month. Trustee Lovato seconded the motion. All in favor. **MOTION CARRIED**

**Old Business**

1. **Discussion/Possible Action of Cannabis Ordinance- Possible Action Item**

Mayor Dial shared information he learned at the recent MOLI training about the creation of a Cannabis Ordinance for our town. More time is needed to gather more information. **ACTION TAKEN:** Trustee Hall made a motion to TABLE this item. Trustee Lovato seconded the motion. All in favor. **ITEM TABLED**

**6.0 Approval to join in a Request from the City of Moriarty to the Office of the State Auditor for a forensic audit for deficiencies or fraudulent activity at the Estancia Valley Solid Waste Authority- Action Item NO ACTION**

**New Business**

1. **Approval of Resolution 2021-26 Amendment to the Personnel Ordinance concerning annual vacation accrual- Action Item** Trustee Sedillo asked for more information before moving forward to make a decision about this item. Ms. Jones will gather the requested information for the next regular meeting. **ACTION TAKEN:** Trustee Hall made a motion to TABLE this item pending more information. Trustee Lovato seconded the motion. **ITEM TABLED**
2. **Approval of the Mayor’s hiring of a Police Sergeant- Action Item**

**ACTION TAKEN:** Trustee Hall made a motion to TABLE this item. Trustee Lovato seconded the motion. All in favor. **ITEM TABLED**

1. **Executive Session Executive Session- As per motion and Roll Call Vote-** **Pursuant to NMSA 1978-10-15-1 Section (H) (7) concerning pending and threatened litigation – Action Item**

**ACTION TAKEN:** Trustee Sedillo made a motion to move into Executive Session, pursuant to NMSA 1978-10-15-1 Section (H) (7) concerning pending and threatened litigation. Trustee Hall seconded the motion. Roll Call Vote: Trustee Lovato – Yes, Trustee Sedillo – Yes, Trustee Chavez – Yes, Trustee Hall – Yes. **MOTION CARRIED**

**Executive Session began at 7:01pm.**

**Return to Regular Session-**

**ACTION TAKEN:** Trustee Hall made a motion to return to Regular Session and stated that the only item discussed in Executive Session was the item listed on the agenda and no action was taken. Trustee Chavez seconded the motion. All in favor. **MOTION CARRIED**

**Regular Session resumed at 7:17pm.**

**10.0** **Mayor/Council:**

**Trustee Hall** said that his beloved dog had passed away in January and he just got a new one yesterday! His name is Owsley! Welcome to Estancia Owsley!

**Trustee Chavez** said that the Rotary Club is moving forward with Punkin Chunkin! It will be held on October 9.

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**Trustee Sedillo** asked Trustee Lovato how things were going at the school. Trustee Lovato said that, all things considered, things were going very well. Trustee Sedillo said that we need to make sure that our employee benefits package is competitive as we look to hire in our Police Department.

**Trustee Lovato** said that he will either try to get on the Torrance County Commission agenda or set up a meeting with Torrance County Manager Ms. Janice Barela to address the proposed sale of the Fairgrounds.

He also said that the school is planning on holding a Flag Ceremony at the October 8 game to honor the 13 Marines who died recently in Afghanistan.

**Mayor Dial** told the Board that the State Fire Inspector had come to Estancia to talk with our Fire Chief about our PRC certification. In summary, he said that the current wording of the PRC certificate is too broad and could leave the Town vulnerable to possible litigation in the future. He suggested either narrowing the scope of the PRC or not being PRC certified. The Mayor will update the Board about this topic at a later date.

**Adjournment**

Trustee Lovato made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Trustee Hall seconded the motion. All in favor. **MOTION CARRIED.**

The meeting adjourned at 8:01 pm.

**Approved: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Attest: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

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