

City of Tucumcari
Special City Commission Meeting Minutes
April 7, 2016

The Tucumcari City Commission met in a Special Commission meeting on Monday, April 7, 2016 at 12:00 p.m. in the City Commission Chambers, Members present constituting a quorum were: John Mihm, Ruth Ann Litchfield, Robert Lumpkin, and Amy Gutierrez. Ralph Moya was absent.

City Staff members present were: Jared Langenegger, City Manager; Doug Powers, Assistant City Manager; and Angelica Gray, City Clerk.

Consideration of Changes or Deletions to Agenda

Commissioner Mihm made the motion to approve the agenda as is and Mayor Pro Tem Lumpkin seconded the motion. Roll call:

Mihm	Litchfield	Lumpkin	Gutierrez
Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes

Resolutions

Resolution 2016-08, Regarding the Stronger Economy Together (SET) Program- Mr. Langenegger presented this item to the Commission. He stated that USDA and New Mexico State University have a program called Stronger Economies Together which is a program that works on regional economic development and working on developing a regional economic development plan. We participated in this previously through NEEDO which was started through the SET program. They are opening the program up again for communities to submit an application and participate. We had discussions with Mr. Vanderpool and Tim Dodge from Santa Rosa, some folks out of Torrance County and De Baca County and we felt that we would be better off if we developed a regional economic development team for our four counties: Quay, De Baca, Guadalupe and Torrance. We have a lot of similarities between the four counties. We have agriculture, wind energy, renewable energies, tourism, recreation, and Route 66. We seem to have a lot more in common with these three counties than any other counties. This doesn't mean we will stop participating in NEEDO, it's still valuable for us to go to the meetings but we will get a better economic development plan going with counties that are more similar to us. Some of the things we've found in the past when going through NEEDO and EPCOG and other organizations is when you have counties that aren't aligned with what we're doing, sometimes the focus can shift from what we're doing. For example San Miguel County is the big NEEDO player; they have the biggest population and a lot of the focus is on San Miguel County. EPCOG is kind of similar because Clovis is involved in that, they are a lot larger of a community and a lot of different priorities. This resolution is saying we are going to participate in what we're calling the East Central New Mexico Cooperative and submit an application to SET program and work on developing a regional economic development strategy for those four counties. We also have a letter of support for the Mayor to sign, we're not required to do a resolution but it will show our support and give a stronger emphasis that we're interested in participating. The only thing that we're required to do is the letter, however; he feels it's good to do a resolution as well.

Mayor Litchfield stated that the meeting they had went very well, everyone who came was enthusiastic about it.

Mr. Powers asked if Mr. Langenegger spoke to Faren Lucero, he stated that Tucumcari had a lot in common with Clayton as well. He stated that they might not be interested but he thought it was a good idea. Mr. Langenegger stated they didn't discuss it with them; Tim Dodge was pushing to put this together. One of the thoughts was the I-40 corridor and then also the railroad goes through all those counties so those are two big economic drivers that tie us all together so it makes sense for us to participate. We have a lot of similarities with Clayton being small, rural and agricultural but those economic drivers like the railroad and I-40 aren't tying us together. Mayor Litchfield commented even though Fort Sumner isn't on I-40 it is on 54 and they have lakes so that's why they were included. Mr. Langenegger stated that it was something that he could bring up at the next meeting. Mr. Powers stated that over the years he has seen a lot of connections between Tucumcari and Clayton, but he sees the point where they are concentrating more on the railroad and the interstate. Mr. Langenegger commented that if too many communities get involved then we'll be back to where we are now. Mayor Pro Tem Lumpkin stated that they did work with Clayton quite a lot through the Landowner's Association. The Clayton area does have natural gas and high wind resources so we are working with Clayton on a few other things. Mr. Langenegger stated that the City would not step back from NEEDO, and Union County is involved also so we will be tied together there.

Mayor Pro Tem Lumpkin made the motion to approve Resolution 2016-08 and Commissioner Mihm seconded the motion. Roll call:

Litchfield	Gutierrez	Mihm	Lumpkin
Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes

Adjournment

Mayor Litchfield asked for a motion to Adjourn. Mayor Pro Tem Lumpkin made the motion to adjourn and Commissioner Mihm seconded the motion. Roll Call:

Lumpkin	Gutierrez	Litchfield	Mihm
Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes

Meeting adjourned at 12:08 p.m.

Ruth Ann Litchfield, Mayor

ATTEST:

Angelica M. Gray, City Clerk