

1 **VILLAGE OF QUESTA**  
 2 **SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES**  
 3 **TUESDAY, DECEMBER 19, 2017**  
 4 **VILLAGE OF QUESTA COUNCIL CHAMBERS**  
 5 **6:00PM**

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6  
 7 **I. CALL TO ORDER BY MAYOR MARK L. GALLEGOS**

8 Mayor Gallegos called the meeting to order at 6:05 pm.  
 9

10 **II. ROLL CALL**

11  
 12 Mayor Gallegos asked Village Clerk Renee Martinez to take roll.  
 13

14 Present:

15 Councilor Brent Jaramillo  
 16 Councilor John Anthony Ortega  
 17 Councilor Lawrence Ortega  
 18

19 Not Present:

20 Councilor Julian Cisneros  
 21

22 Also Present:

23 Administrator Nicholas Maestas  
 24 Village Clerk Renee Martinez  
 25 Finance Director Karen Shannon  
 26

27 **III. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

28  
 29 Village Clerk, Renee Martinez led the Pledge of Allegiance.  
 30

31 **IV. APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

32  
 33 Mr. Maestas stated that the presentation from Ms. Erin Sanborn will be at the January 23, 2018 meeting and  
 34 asked that it be removed from the agenda. Councilor Lawrence Ortega inquired about item VII B and if there  
 35 would be anything to review, because there was nothing in the packet regarding it. Mr. Maestas stated no, he  
 36 was planning on presenting on the cost. Councilor Lawrence Ortega asked if there is a contract to be signed.  
 37 Mr. Maestas stated that there is a contract that is available to be signed and he will be talking about it. Councilor  
 38 John Ortega requested a discussion regarding the Questa Land and Water Board. This item would become item  
 39 XA.  
 40

41 Motion: Councilor Lawrence Ortega  
 42 Second: Councilor Brent Jaramillo  
 43

44 In Favor: All  
 45 Opposed: None  
 46

47 To approve the agenda as amended with the above change. All voted yes. Motion carried.  
 48

49 **V. PUBLIC COMMENTS** - *(It is the policy of the Governing Body to accept public comment. Because*  
 50 *your particular issue is not on the agenda the Governing Body cannot respond immediately, but may direct*

51 *staff to address issues at a future Council Meeting. Public comments are limited to a maximum of three*  
52 *minutes.)*

53  
54 There were no public comments

55  
56 **VI. PRESENTATIONS**

57 Ms. Erin Sanborn, Business and Organization Development Manager - Kit Carson Electric Cooperative, Inc.

58  
59 Removed from agenda.

60  
61 **VII. ACTION ITEMS**

62 **A) Discussion, Consideration & Decision - Approval of Facility Build Cost Proposal**

63  
64 Mr. Maestas informed the Governing Body that the facility build contract was brought before the council at last  
65 meeting and additional information was requested. He stated that the information before them is the layout of  
66 the concrete footing and the fencing that will go around the facility. The heaters are the electronic baseboards.  
67 The shed will be a 12 x 10 building for the temporary facility that will go over the well. Councilor Lawrence  
68 Ortega asked if these plans are going to be certified by the engineer of record. Mr. Maestas stated that he was  
69 told that once the contract is approved, the plans will then be certified by the engineer; it is not done prior to.  
70 Councilor Lawrence Ortega stated that they will need that to secure a building permit from the county.  
71 Councilor Brent Jaramillo stated that Facility Build will have their in house engineer of architect that will certify  
72 it.

73  
74 Motion: Councilor Brent Jaramillo  
75 Second: Councilor Lawrence Ortega

76  
77 In Favor: All  
78 Opposed: None

79  
80 To approve the Facility Build Cost Proposal. All voted yes. Motion carried.

81  
82 **B) Discussion, Consideration & Decision - Approval of Contract for Pot-Hole Repair Project**

83  
84 Mr. Maestas stated that we will be using the money from Coop project SP-5-16-195; a grant in the amount of  
85 \$55,357.00 with a Village match of \$18,452.00 for a total of \$73,809.00. Of this amount, the engineer was paid  
86 \$18,840.00 for the drafting of plans and for the time it took to get the grant reinstated and recertification of the  
87 plans. This leaves a remaining total of \$54,969.00 for the project. Mr. Maestas stated that we went through the  
88 bidding process, we got the price per square yard calculation, and were able to calculate that we were able to  
89 do 400 square yards of pavement rehabilitation. The quote they agreed to, based on the quantities was  
90 \$58,960.00. RL Leeder is willing to reduce the cost by \$4,000.00 for the traffic control management. He will  
91 ask the Public Works department to monitor that the cones and barrels stay in place. He stated that he has been  
92 in conversations with the state for approval of the extension. He stated that depending on how the Council  
93 chooses to vote this evening, the locations can be marked tomorrow, the hot mix will come from Taos and will  
94 be available until it is shut down sometime between Christmas and the New Year. Mr. Maestas stated that if  
95 this contract is approved today we can possibly complete it by the end of week. Mr. Maestas stood for questions.

96  
97 Councilor Brent Jaramillo stated that the traffic control price is for barrels and signage and they're charging  
98 \$2,000.00 for the flaggers; or are they expecting us to flag? Mr. Maestas stated that the way that he understands  
99 it is that they will provide the barrels and cones and reduce the price if they do not have to provide someone to  
100 watch them. Councilor John Ortega expressed his concern regarding the cold temperatures when laying the  
101 cold mix; he knows we need to get this done but it needs to get done right. Councilor John Ortega asked if  
102 there was some kind of guarantee regarding their work. Mr. Maestas stated that the contract does not have a

103 guarantee and does not recall seeing any guarantee regarding a length of time; the standard is usually one year.  
 104 Councilor Lawrence Ortega stated that he believes that state statute requires a one year guarantee; he asked Mr.  
 105 Maestas to check with the state on this. Mayor Gallegos inquired about the extension request and if it has been  
 106 approved. Mr. Maestas stated that it has not been signed yet. Mayor Gallegos stated that it is good that we  
 107 have the contractor in place which may help us in getting the extension but does not think we should have the  
 108 contractor move forward and break ground until the spring of 2018. He stated that he is not really clear where  
 109 we are sitting right now. Councilor Jaramillo stated that, then the question becomes, if we wait until the spring,  
 110 should we keep Cabresto Road included in this project or let the MAP project take care of it; this has some  
 111 bearing on what we decide tonight. Councilor Lawrence Ortega stated that, realistically, are the contractors  
 112 going to be able to complete this project before the temperature drops. Councilor Brent Jaramillo asked who  
 113 has talked to Mr. Perovich regarding the cold mix. Mr. Maestas stated that he has talked to him as well as Mr.  
 114 John Leeder. They have come to an agreement that if Mr. Leeder buys a certain quantity, Mr. Perovich will  
 115 provide it. Councilor Lawrence Ortega asked Mr. Maestas if they are ready to start tomorrow? Mr. Maestas  
 116 stated that they can get up here tomorrow and possibly mobilize and start on Thursday. Mayor Gallegos stated  
 117 that they need to do a pre-construction utility survey. Mr. Maestas stated yes. Councilor Lawrence Ortega  
 118 asked what that entailed. Mr. Maestas stated that it is part of the process; they have to do line locates and going  
 119 through the area to decide which areas are a priority for the Village. He stated that the areas have already been  
 120 identified and we are looking at about 600 square yards so we need to decide which areas are the most severe.  
 121 Councilor Lawrence Ortega stated to Mr. Maestas that the contractor does not pay for a pre-construction utility  
 122 survey; the utility companies come out to locate their lines if they are called-why are they charging for that  
 123 service. Councilor Lawrence Ortega stated he has an issue with the cost; \$55.00 per square yard for 2" asphalt  
 124 is pricey, should be at about \$30.00; as well as the charge for the pre-construction utility survey. He stated that  
 125 we discussed this briefly before and were informed that the extension was pretty much a done deal. Mr. Maestas  
 126 stated it is pretty close to a done deal. He was informed by Ms. Susan Godina of the NMDOT that she had  
 127 walked the request up to the office of the Deputy Secretary and stated that it is likely that it will be signed before  
 128 the deadline.

129  
 130 It was decided to table this item down to Item IX B so that Mr. Maestas can call Mr. Leeder to get more  
 131 information.

132  
 133 Mr. Maestas stated that he will call Mr. Leeder for clarification on the following:

- 134
- 135 • 1 Year Warranty
  - 136 • Pre-construction utility survey cost
  - 137 • The cost of the 2" asphalt

138  
 139 Motion: Councilor John Ortega

140 Second: Councilor Brent Jaramillo

141  
 142 Roll Call:

143

144 Councilor Brent Jaramillo	YES
145 Councilor John Anthony Ortega	YES
146 Councilor Lawrence Ortega	YES

147  
 148 To table this item to later in the meeting. All voted yes. Motion carried.

149  
 150 VIII. **FINANCIALS** – Ms. Karen Shannon, Finance Director

151  
 152 A) Discussion, Consideration & Decision regarding the approval of Unpaid Vouchers

153 Ms. Shannon stated that at the last meeting there was a question regarding the purchase of the diesel exhaust  
 154 fluid by the EMS Department. The ambulance needs it because it is diesel and it is required. It is being  
 .55 purchased in bulk because it is cheaper and the Fire Department can also use it.

156 Ms. Shannon stated that the Vouchers presented are as of December 15, 2017 and stood for questions.  
 157

158 Councilor John Ortega stated that it would be a good idea for the Village to do an audit at all properties on all  
 159 Kit Carson electric meters, to see if they are being used or not used or damaged.  
 160

161 Councilor Lawrence Ortega asked if the voucher for the Llano Irrigation Ditch can be removed from the unpaid  
 162 voucher list until it has been resolved.  
 163

164 Councilor Jaramillo asked if the billboard lease invoice was for an entire year since we had talked about not  
 165 renewing it. Ms. Shannon stated that she believes that the lease ends in February or March. Monthly payments  
 166 are made for a year-long lease Mayor Gallegos stated that the QEDF thought that this money could be better  
 167 used in marketing and tourism to better benefit the Village since the billboard really does not represent Questa.  
 168

169 Motion: Councilor John Ortega – with the exception of the Llano Community Irrigation Ditch invoice.

170 Second: Councilor Brent Jaramillo  
 171

172 In Favor: All

173 Opposed: None  
 174

175 To approve the vouchers as presented with the exception of the Llano Community Irrigation Ditch invoice. All  
 176 voted yes. Motion carried.  
 177

## 178 X. MATTERS FROM MAYOR AND COUNCIL

79

180 A. Discussion Item - Questa Land & Water – (added to the agenda)  
 181

182 Mayor Gallegos stated that regarding the email from Attorney Lance Hough, to Mr. Maestas which stated that  
 183 he understands that the Questa Land & Water Board members will be as follows:  
 184

185 Chairman Malaquias Rael

186 Councilor Lawrence Ortega

187 Charlie Gonzales

188 Donald Gallegos

189 Louise Gallegos  
 190

191 Mayor Gallegos stated that there were additional recommendations that the Village and QEDF made that were  
 192 not accepted by those who made the final decision. He would like to say for the record, that he and Councilor  
 193 Brent Jaramillo, as members of the QEDF board, participated in a meeting last week where we unanimously  
 194 recommended Mr. Louis Eddie Herrera as representative of the QEDF on the Questa Land & Water Board.  
 195 Legal Counsel is not present tonight to answer why it was changed. Councilor Brent Jaramillo suggested calling  
 196 Attorney Marcus Rael. Councilor John Ortega stated that we ask our attorney how the members were chosen,  
 197 what the criteria was; as well as the family issue. Councilor Lawrence Ortega stated that it looks like the names  
 198 changed quite a bit from one of our recent meetings where we were told that Mr. Hough would be on the board.  
 199 Mayor Gallegos stated that legal representation is needed on that board and hopes that Mr. Gallegos is filling  
 200 that roll. Councilor Lawrence Ortega stated that he has nothing personal against anyone on the board but is  
 201 concerned with having a brother and sister on the board when there is a thousand other residents in Questa.  
 202 Mayor Gallegos agreed. The Mayor stated that the Governing Body has voiced their concerns regarding the  
 03 QLW will not be an economic benefit or driver for us. Councilor Brent Jaramillo suggested calling Attorney  
 204 Marcus Rael to voice our frustration regarding both Donald and Louise Gallegos on the board, if Mr. Herrera

205 will be placed on the Board and Malaquias Rael on the Board and was not selected by the QEDF. Mayor  
206 Gallegos stated that Chevron did not want the Village Council to select the Board originally. They thought it  
.07 was going to be politically driven.

208  
209 Attorney Marcus Rael joined the meeting by phone at 6:51 pm.

210  
211 Mayor Gallegos informed Mr. Rael that the Governing Body was in discussion regarding the QEDF Board. He  
212 stated that there are concerns and frustrations over the process and possible criteria of which the Board members  
213 were selected. Mayor Gallegos stated that his concern is that the QEDF unanimously selected Mr. Louis Herrera  
214 to be on the Board. Mr. Herrera accepted and somewhere along the line in the final selection Malaquias Rael  
215 was selected instead. He does not understand that particular selection and asked Mr. Rael to elaborate on why  
216 Mr. Herrera was not selected or why Malaquias Rael was selected. Mr. Rael stated that his understanding is  
217 that the QEDF put forward Mr. Herrera's name as well as others. Mayor Gallegos stated that the QEDF was to  
218 select a member from their board, correct? Mr. Rael stated yes. Mayor Gallegos stated so as a board, Mr.  
219 Herrera was unanimously selected from the QEDF Board and Councilor Lawrence Ortega was selected by the  
220 Governing Body. Mr. Herrera was not to be in the mix of the at-large positions. Mr. Rael stated that his  
221 understanding is this, after speaking with Kevin Dougherty. Mr. Dougherty was under the impression that  
222 Malaquias Rael was going to be on the board from the beginning. Mr. Dougherty took the other names all as  
223 one group, then he selected Louise Gallegos out of that group. Then out of the names that the Village Council  
224 selected, he selected Donald Gallegos because he is an attorney, and Charlie Gonzales. Mayor Gallegos stated  
225 that the Village Council submitted Juan Cisneros, Donald Gallegos and Charlie Gonzales. Louise Gallegos was  
226 selected as an alternate if Donald Gallegos did not accept the position. Mr. Rael stated that this information  
227 was never passed on to Kevin Dougherty. Mayor Gallegos stated that he was under the impression that Lance  
228 Hough was going to be the legal representation. The QEDF Board selected Mr. Herrera as the QEDF  
229 representative. Christian Isely was present at that meeting. Whether Mr. Dougherty knew that or assumed that  
230 he wanted Malaquias Rael in there, it is wrong. It is wrong that he was pre determining who his board was  
31 going to be without giving everybody a fair chance. Mayor Gallegos stated that the Governing Body was under  
232 the impression that Village Legal Counsel along with Tom Campbell of Chevron would be making the decision  
233 of who the board would be, not Mr. Dougherty. Councilor Brent Jaramillo stated that this was per Christian  
234 Isely, who at a prior Council Meeting and at a prior QEDF meeting, Mr. Isely stated that you, Mr. Rael, and  
235 Tom Campbell were making the decision. Councilor Jaramillo stated that they were always led to believe that  
236 you, Mr. Rael along with Tom Campbell would make the final decision as well as the implication that Lance  
237 Hough would be a part of it also. Mr. Rael stated that he nor Tom Campbell were never involved in the selection  
238 of the board; it was Christian Isely and Kevin Dougherty, mostly Kevin Dougherty. Councilor Jaramillo stated  
239 that it seems that Christian Isely lied to us. Mr. Rael stated that he believes that Kevin Dougherty wanted Lance  
240 Hough on the board as the attorney representative because he had the best understanding of it because he's been  
241 involved in it. Lance's name was not submitted, Mr. Gallegos was the only attorney that was submitted. Mr.  
242 Rael stated that when he expressed these concerns to Mr. Dougherty, he was surprised because he stated that  
243 Mr. Gallegos was the only attorney that was submitted. Ms. Gallegos was selected because they wanted a  
244 woman on the board. Regarding the QEDF recommendation, it sounds to him that Mr. Isely did not make it  
245 clear to Mr. Dougherty that Mr. Herrera was not part of the at-large group of names. Mr. Dougherty stated that  
246 Mr. Herrera is an unknown entity to him. (Mr. Dougherty's words)

247  
248 Councilor Jaramillo stated that if Mr. Dougherty expected Malaquias Rael to be on the board, by that same  
249 logic, he would have expected Lance Hough to be on the board. So, they can't use that same logic.

250  
251 Councilor John Ortega asked Mr. Rael why they even bothered with us; He stated that he asked specifically at  
252 last Tuesday night's meeting if they were even going to give any consideration to the names we submitted or  
253 was it going to be the same board we saw on paper. It basically ended up being that same board. He feels like  
254 the Council has been lied to this whole time; we've never gotten a straight answer. He stated that we should  
55 not have even approved the QEDF in first place; we approved it based off of lies we were told. He stated that  
256 this is how he feels right now.

257 Councilor Lawrence Ortega stated that Mr. Dougherty took Ms. Gallegos's name as one of the selections of the  
 258 Council. It was clear to Lance Hough that night at the meeting and it is recorded in the minutes that she was  
 259 selected only as an alternate in the event that Mr. Gallegos was also nominated by the QEDF board and selected;  
 260 this is not how it came out. Mr. Rael stated that the information regarding the alternate was never passed on to  
 261 Mr. Dougherty by Mr. Isely. Councilor Lawrence Ortega stated that Lance Hough was present at the last  
 262 meeting where it was decided by the Council about the alternate. Mr. Rael stated that Lance Hough did talk to  
 263 him today about it after he had spoken with Mr. Dougherty. It was never passed on to Mr. Dougherty.  
 264

265 Councilor Brent Jaramillo stated that Mr. Isely should have put the brakes on Ms. Gallegos based on the  
 266 brother/sister relationship. If Mr. Gallegos was selected as the attorney, Ms. Gallegos's name should have been  
 267 put aside and another name should have been selected. If they wanted a woman, it should have been Evelyn  
 268 Coggins. Councilor John Ortega stated that an attorney was suggested but they never suggested they wanted a  
 269 woman; this is the first we hear about that. Mr. Rael stated that that was Mr. Dougherty stating that it would  
 270 be good to have a woman; it was not a requirement.  
 271

272 Mr. Rael stated that he is sorry that this is causing so many problems. Mr. Rael stated that after he spoke with  
 273 Mr. Dougherty he placed a call to Mr. Tom Campbell. They will talk tomorrow.  
 274

275 Mayor Gallegos stated that whether Mr. Dougherty knew these people or not, we made the recommendation of  
 276 our own faith and our own relationship with these people. We have to work with them, not Mr. Dougherty.  
 277 Also, Mr. Isely has now tainted his reliability with the Village for the reason that he manipulated this whole  
 278 process by lying to Mr. Dougherty and by lying to the Governing Body. Mayor Gallegos needs to be put on  
 279 that board. We have tried to make this board as quasi-neutral as we could with different groups of people who  
 280 are unbiased. Right now, this board looks biased. It is better that Mr. Dougherty does not know these people,  
 281 it makes it neutral. You know what it is? Chevron doesn't have the thumb on the people they don't know; that  
 282 is why they were not chosen. Mr. Rael stated that he has heard all the comments and concerns and is going to  
 83 go around Mr. Dougherty tomorrow and talk to Mr. Campbell and do everything in his power to fix this  
 284 tomorrow and hopefully be able to send the Governing Body an email saying these problems have been fixed.  
 285 He stated to the Governing Body that he knows they are unhappy with this and he is going to have that hard  
 286 conversation with Mr. Campbell tomorrow to fix this problem.  
 287

288 Councilor John Ortega stated that regarding Mr. Dougherty's comments not knowing these people - his thought  
 289 is that if he was assembling a board like this one he would bring in those eight people that were recommended  
 290 and interview them or at least call them and find a way to get to know them; not just dismiss them because he  
 291 doesn't know them. He still feels like we approved the QLW based off of lies. Councilor Jaramillo agreed;  
 292 it's been nothing but lies, Mr. Isely has manipulated the whole thing and we are tired of it. This isn't the first  
 293 time either, but it is the most serious. Councilor Lawrence Ortega told Mr. Rael that we are depending on him  
 294 to talk to Mr. Campbell tomorrow and get it changed. Mr. Rael stated that he really believes that the QLW is a  
 295 great thing for Questa and does not want Mr. Isely's personal preferences involved in something that is really  
 296 going to be good for Questa. Mr. Rael stated that he will send an email to the Governing Body tomorrow after  
 297 he has spoken with Mr. Campbell to try and make this right. Councilor Jaramillo stated that on top of that, he  
 298 would also like to see in that email the date that they are going to announce the water rights transfer to the  
 299 Village. Mr. Rael stated that he will make every effort to include that information in the email as well.  
 300 Councilor Jaramillo stated that we have been messing with this for 2plus years; it's not the amount we want but  
 301 we need water rights. We are going to be drilling a new well in the next year so we need those water rights in  
 302 place. Mr. Rael stated that he has secured those water rights he is just not sure about the date but will try to get  
 303 a date tomorrow; he has been working really hard on this and has no doubt that he will come through with this  
 304 for the Village.  
 305

306 Mayor Gallegos and the Council thanked Mr. Rael.  
 07

308 B. Discussion, Consideration & Decision - Approval of Contract for Pot-Hole Repair Project

309 Mr. Maestas informed the Governing Body that regarding the warranty, Mr. Leeder will guarantee his work for  
310 the year. Also, if they do cut and the weather turns and we are not able to get the hot mix from Taos, Mr. Leeder  
311 will get it up here from somewhere else. On the pre-construction utility survey, Mr. Leeder stated that because  
312 a lot of the utilities are located under the roads, it sometime entails had digging which is costly and time  
313 consuming sometimes requires bringing extra help in to get it done quickly; however on the second page of the  
314 handout you will see that lined up on item 9, the original cost that was put in was \$4,720.00 that was already  
315 reduced by \$1,000.00 because we were not going to do Abra Road – he is willing to reduce this price again by  
316 another \$1,000.00 which will bring it down to \$3,720.00. Councilor John Ortega state that he does not agree  
317 with this, they are fixing pot holes; there is nothing that is buried more than 3ft. The only utilities under the  
318 road are the Village utilities and those are at least 4ft down; he does not see why this is going to cost anything.  
319 Councilor Lawrence Ortega stated that that is exactly true, they are only going to have to dig a maximum of  
320 only one foot. There are no utilities buried that deep; we are initially giving that money away. Regarding the  
321 cost of two inch asphalt, when it is purchased in small quantities the cost is higher.  
322

323 This would bring our total cost to \$53,960.00 and be able to get it done this week. He can invoice us by end of  
324 year. Once we get the Notice of Award and Notice to Proceed he will have 30 days to complete the work.  
325 Councilor Lawrence Ortega asked if we have specifically identified where these 400 square yards are going to  
326 go or are we going to leave it up to Mr. Leeder to decide. Mr. Maestas stated that they have identified about  
327 600 square yards. We haven't gone back and identified the very specific areas yet because we did not know  
328 how much the cost was going to be prior. He stated that at the pre-construction meeting they can be identified.  
329

330 Councilor Jaramillo stated that it is a lot of what ifs. So if we approve the contract, you are going to call Joe  
331 Moore and Mr. Leeder tonight and have a pre-construction meeting tomorrow, right? Mr. Maestas stated yes.  
332 Then, you are going to rely on John Rael to find you 400 yards of roadway to work on. Mr. Maestas stated that  
333 he has driven the roads with John Rael and he knows them and has marked them. Mayor Gallegos questioned  
334 the numbers. We are looking at about \$42,000.00 correct? We can do more like 600 square yards. Mayor  
335 Gallegos is also concerned about the weather. Do we wait and start in the spring? Councilor John Ortega asked  
336 Mr. Maestas how sure he was that the state will approve the extension. Mr. Maestas stated that until he has the  
337 document in his hand he doesn't know. Councilor Lawrence Ortega stated that last meeting they were told by  
338 Mr. Maestas that it was pretty close to a done deal, now he's saying he has no clue; which is it? Mr. Maestas  
339 stated that that it was hand delivered today to the Deputy Secretary, got a call from Ms. Godina stating that it  
340 should be signed by the 31<sup>st</sup>. Councilor Jaramillo stated that if we can't get them in to do the project this week  
341 then we should look at May or June. Councilor Lawrence Ortega agreed. Councilor John Ortega stated the  
342 utility locates are going to take at least a couple of days.  
343

344 Councilor Brent Jaramillo asked Mr. Maestas, with all the factors involved, and all the discussion that was had,  
345 what his recommendation is. Mr. Maestas stated that his recommendation is that we move forward and try to  
346 complete the work this week and do everything we can to meet the original deadline. Councilor John Ortega  
347 stated Embargo Road needs to get done.  
348

349 Motion: Councilor John Ortega  
350 Second: Councilor Lawrence Ortega - with discussion.  
351

352 Councilor Lawrence Ortega suggested that item 9 be deleted and the contractor be paid for only the utility work  
353 that is done. He is not convinced that any work will be needed under this line item.  
354

355 Councilor Lawrence Ortega stated that our motion will have to include the amount we are awarding. Mr.  
356 Maestas stated we can award the amount of the grant of \$54,969.00. Councilor Lawrence Ortega stated that  
357 we can approve the contact with Item 9 included and change order it out if the work is not needed.  
358

359 There was no other discussion.  
360

361 An amended motion was made by Councilor John Ortega to award the contract with RL Leeder in the amount  
362 of \$54,969.00. Councilor Lawrence Ortega seconded the motion and directed Mr. Maestas to make sure it  
363 states somewhere in the contract that the warranty is included.

364  
365 In Favor: All  
366 Opposed: None  
367

368 To approve the contract for the Pot-Hole Repair Project with the stipulations outlined above in the amended  
369 motion. All voted yes. Motion carried.  
370

371 IX. **MATTERS FROM ADMINISTRATOR** – Mr. Nicholas Maestas  
372

373 Mr. Maestas updated the Council on the following:  
374

- 375 • Alumbra was held this last weekend, there was a great turnout.
- 376 • Workforce Solutions will be here tomorrow. They will hold a community meeting at the Alta Vistas  
377 School auditorium.
- 378 • Waste Water Treatment Plant- There is an issue with a motor that was just purchased. The company is  
379 giving us a difficult time on the warranty. He will update the Council as we go.
- 380 • JCH was here yesterday to look at the pumps and some of the PRV's. Councilor Lawrence Ortega  
381 asked if they will be giving us some recommendations for PRV's. Mr. Maestas state that we are  
382 working on getting a topographic map to make this easier.
- 383 • Streetlights - Double Eagle Electric will be available next week to assess the lights.
- 384 • There will be a QEDF board meeting on December 28<sup>th</sup>.

385  
386 Councilor John Ortega asked if we hired someone for the MVD Clerk position. Mr. Mestas stated that two  
387 interviews were done and an offer was made. Councilor Lawrence Ortega asked who was hired. Mr. Maestas  
388 stated that Ms. Valerie Gurule was hired. Councilor Lawrence Ortega stated that it is important to be transparent.  
389


390 Councilor John Ortega asked if we were short-handed again at the Police Department. Mr. Maestas stated yes.  
391 Councilor Brent Jaramillo asked if Officer Jani Davis resigned her position. Mr. Maestas stated yes, she did.  
392 Councilor Lawrence Ortega stated that these are things we need to know in order to be transparent. Councilor  
393 John Ortega stated that the Police Department needs some new police vehicles. Councilor Lawrence Ortega  
394 asked about the vehicles at the corrals and if they are going to be disposed of. Councilor John Ortega stated  
395 they belong to Felix Gomez and does not know if wants to get rid of them. Councilor Jaramillo stated that the  
396 County is getting complaints about them, they need to be disposed of.  
397

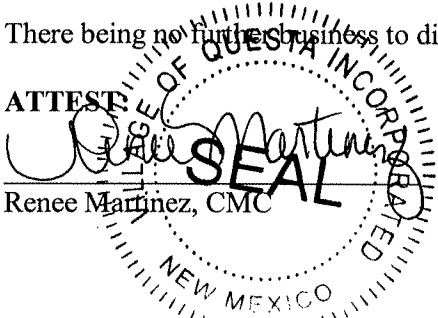
398 XI. **ADJOURNMENT**  
399


400 Motion: Councilor John Ortega  
401 Second: Councilor Lawrence Ortega  
402

403 In Favor: All  
404 Opposed: None  
405

406 There being no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 8:06pm.  
407

408 ATTEST  
409   
410 Renee Martinez, CMC  
411



APPROVED:  
  
Mark Gallegos, Mayor