



RESOLUTION № 2022- 51

RECOGNIZING 911 TELECOMMUNICATORS OF THE VALENCIA REGIONAL COMMUNICATIONS CENTER AS FIRST RESPONDERS

WHEREAS, the Valencia County Board of Commissioners met upon notice of a Business Meeting, duly published, at the Valencia County Administration Building, 444 Luna Avenue, Los Lunas, New Mexico 87031 on Wednesday, May 18, 2022, at 5:00 PM as required by law; and,

WHEREAS, NMSA, 1978, Section 4-38-18 (1976) provides that a Board of County Commissioner has the duty and authority “[t]o represent the county and have the care of the county property and the management of the interest of the county in all cases where no other provision is made by law; and,

WHEREAS, the Board of County Commissioners of Valencia County recognizes that Public Safety Telecommunicators are the foundation of the public safety framework, and recognize that these selfless individuals make life saving split second decisions and those decisions greatly influence the outcome of the call; and,

WHEREAS, the Board of County Commissioners of Valencia County recognizes that 911 Telecommunicators provide care and compassion to our citizens often in their worst and most horrific moments. PTSD and vicarious trauma are real issues in the 911 profession; and,

WHEREAS, the Board of County Commissioners of Valencia County recognizes that Public Safety Telecommunicators serve as the community’s public safety intelligence resource, collecting, analyzing and distributing data to those public safety officials who otherwise would not have access to the data; and,

WHEREAS, the Board of County Commissioners of Valencia County recognizes that the Valencia Regional Communications Center (VRCC) Public Safety Telecommunicators go through an extensive training, background check to include a drug test; and,

WHEREAS, the Board of County Commissioners of Valencia County recognizes that our Public Safety Telecommunicators perform their duty with no formal protections or offers of individual sovereign immunity and that in the course of their good faith efforts, their public safety response that the communities rely on so heavily is not recognized by the Federal Government as a protected classification. Despite all these requirements, stress, education and training in Public Safety, the Federal Office of Management and Budget classifies this group of individuals as clerical staff; and,

WHEREAS, the Board of County Commissioners of Valencia County supports the national movement to re-classify telecommunicators as first responders and truly recognize the work they do. Additionally, the Board supports the 911 Saves Act to properly classify the profession of 911 Telecommunicators.

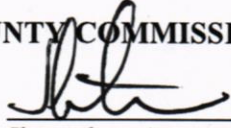
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED by the Board of County Commissioners of Valencia County that it declare its support of this special group of dedicated individuals to be recognized officially as first responders.

APPROVED, ADOPTED AND RESOLVED this 18 day of May 2022.

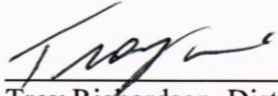
BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS



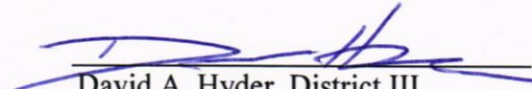
Gerard Saiz, Chair, District I



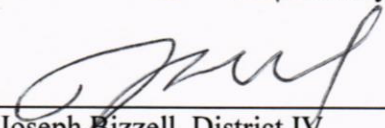
Jhonathan Aragon, Vice-Chair, District V



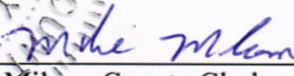
Troy Richardson, District II



David A. Hyder, District III



Joseph Bizzell, District IV

Attest:


Mike Milam, County Clerk

