

Public Comment for Upcoming Commission Meeting

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Comments:

I am very concerned about the record keeping approach used to document commissioner meetings and public comment (written, electronically submitted, emailed, and verbal) as the recording of meetings without transcription and publication on the website does not provide your county constituents a transparent record of concerns and decision making. The meetings addressing the wild horse ordinances are a case in point. It does not seem to us, the attendees at these meetings, that public comments are heard, understood and treated seriously. The meeting at the Senior Center on 1 August, 2023 was a great example of the problems. Speakers were not taken seriously. There were no times stated for public commenters and speakers were told their two minutes or five minutes or whatever had been exceeded when John Garcia decided he did not like what the speaker was saying. Comments about the speakers themselves [one woman's weight (!), the number of times they spoke when the meetings stated purpose was so Sandoval County residents could ask questions, and so on] were made by John Garcia. He is not the right person to be conducting these meetings.

How do the meeting participants even know that the comments and concerns were conveyed to the commissioners to whom John Garcia was presumably reporting?
How do I know that this website comment is even part of the record or even was read by any commissioners much less made part of the documented meeting minutes/record?

Why are there Sheriff's Deputies attending the meeting? It always makes me apprehensive when I see them tapping their guns whenever anything impassioned is brought up and I do not feel safe when they are in the room. The vendetta against Gary Miles is another atrocious abuse of his Freedom of Speech rights. I have attended County Commissioner meetings in several other States and Counties and have never seen the meetings conducted so poorly nor the rights of the people represented by the ELECTED officials so ignored. A time of 1.5 or 2 minutes to speak is not adequate to present concerns. Electronic concerns should be made into slide decks and read and presented at the meetings and then made part of the public, published minutes of monthly and special meetings. This might provide more accountability by the commissioners to those that elected them.