

Public Comment for Upcoming Commission Meeting

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Comments:

I appreciate your efforts to create a County Library Board to advise on appropriation of bond revenue to support Sandoval County Libraries. The proposed ordinance does not appear to have been prepared with much input or consideration from Sandoval communities outside the city of Rio Rancho however. It directs the proposed board to allocate funds based primarily on population. It does not charge the board to consider equitable needs of all Sandoval libraries including those falling outside the limits of Rio Rancho. Representation on the board of those libraries falling outside Rio Rancho is limited. In fact as currently proposed, residents in another county have a member on the board as long as they reside in Rio Rancho rather than providing another rural seat from Sandoval County. With the weight of the board composed of members representing those wanting allocation based on population, there may be a risk that communities with smaller populations will not have a voice for allocation of needed funds. We should be supporting a means for our county libraries to provide access and support to all Sandoval County residents. I urge you to table this motion until a more equitable solution can be proposed.