



MINUTES

Planning and Zoning Commission

Tuesday, May 5th, 2026
Grant County Administrative Building
1400 US Hwy 180 E.
Silver City, New Mexico

Commissioners Present:

Susan Moody, Chair
Dave Stone, Vice Chair
John Balas
Dale Lane
Laura Schoen

Commissioners Absent:

Staff Present:

Susan Mittelstadt, Community Development Director
Emily Hickle, Mapping and Planning Technician

The regular meeting of the Planning and Zoning Commission was called to order at 6:00 pm. The Pledge of Allegiance and the State Pledge were recited. A roll call from commissioners was taken, and a quorum was present.

Approval of Agenda:

Commissioner Stone made a motion to approve the agenda, and Commissioner Schoen seconded. The motion passed with a unanimous voice vote, 5/0.

Approval of Minutes:

Commissioner Balas made a motion to approve the amended April 7th regular meeting minutes to include the excused absences. Commissioner Lane seconded, and the motion passed by a unanimous voice vote of 5/0.

Community Input:

None

Continued Business:

The Community Development Department reported that recent public engagement efforts, including a joint meeting with the Town Council and outreach at "Trail Days" and "Give Grandly," were highly successful. The department is meeting with contractors this week to review public feedback and expects a preliminary draft of the updated Comprehensive Plan for the Commission's consideration by early June. The project remains on schedule for completion by the end of June.

The Commission discussed the draft process, clarifying that the document serves as a five-year strategic snapshot rather than a permanent mandate. Infrastructure goals and housing initiatives were identified as primary focus areas for the next cycle. Members were encouraged to submit any additional suggestions or comments regarding long-term community goals to the department for inclusion in the upcoming draft.

New Business:

None.

Reports from Staff:

Ms. Susan Mittelstadt provided an update on the "Cornerstone Project," a 31-unit apartment complex for vulnerable populations scheduled to break ground this month. The Community Development Department is also continuing to coordinate with New Mexico Main Street to develop a vacant-building program. A potential variance hearing related to a local property may be added to the June agenda depending on the landowner's final submission.

Reports from Commission:

The Commission discussed the ongoing need for aggressive collection of back taxes on properties within the county to bolster the town's financial standing. Members also reviewed a submitted list of local manufactured home parks and discussed the potential for implementing an "Opportunity to Purchase" ordinance. Concerns were raised regarding the legality of such a program, its impact on existing park owners, and the potential for delaying real estate transactions such as 1031 exchanges. The Commission agreed to revisit these issues after the current Comprehensive Plan deadlines are met.

Adjournment:

Commissioner Balas moved to adjourn the meeting. Madam Chair Moody seconded the motion, and it passed by a unanimous voice vote of 5/0. The meeting was adjourned at 6:25 pm.

Susan Moody, Chair
Planning & Zoning Commission

Date