

Work Session of the City Council, City of Farmington, New Mexico, held Tuesday, April 16, 2019 at 9:00 a.m. in the Executive Conference Room at City Hall, 800 Municipal Drive, Farmington, New Mexico, in full conformity with the rules, regulations and ordinances of the municipality.

At such meeting the following were present, constituting a quorum:

MAYOR	Nate Duckett
COUNCILORS	Linda G. Rodgers Sean E. Sharer Jeanine Bingham-Kelly Janis Jakino

constituting all the members of the Governing Body.

Also present were:

ASSISTANT CITY MANAGER	Julie Baird
CITY ATTORNEY	Jennifer Breakell
CITY CLERK	Dianne Smylie

PRESENTATION/REGIONAL BROADBAND SERVICES PLAN

Former Mayor Tom Taylor introduced Miriam Gillow-Wiles, Executive Director for the Southwest Colorado Council of Governments ("COG"), noting that he met her at a Four Corners Future Forum where broadband issues were being discussed. He stated that she will be providing a brief overview of the work being done by her office and then asking the Council to consider financial participation in a regional broadband project.

Ms. Gillow-Wiles reported that she is based out of Durango, Colorado and assists the five counties located in the southwest part of the state by focusing on aging, the environment, housing, telecommunications, transportation and tourism. She explained that her office is working to develop a regional broadband plan that will stretch from Cortez to Shiprock to Farmington to Aztec and back to Durango for the purpose of creating redundancy which will improve reliability and increase opportunities for economic development (such as data centers). She reported that she has requested \$15,000 from San Juan County and is seeking an additional \$15,000 from the City of Farmington to assist with the engineering costs, noting that the entire project is slated to cost \$74,000 with the State of Colorado contributing \$38,000 and the local internet providers contributing \$6,000. She advised the Council that she will submit a formal request for consideration at a later date.

Councilor Sharer expressed his support for the proposed project.

In response to inquiry from Councilor Jakino, Ms. Gillow-Wiles reported that she has been discussing this project with the Ute Mountain Ute and the Southern Ute Indian tribes and both seem interested in the project but noted that she has not yet made contact with the Navajo Nation.

In closing, Mayor Duckett expressed his support for engaging in regional projects with the State of Colorado for economic development purposes.

SAN JUAN WATER COMMISSION UPDATE

Jay Burnham, the City's representative to the San Juan Water Commission, provided a historical overview of the Animas-La Plata ("A-LP") project that was initially started in 1908 with the idea of diverting water from the Animas river valley to the La Plata river valley. He stated that nothing happened with this project until 1968 when Congress passed the original legislation authoring the A-LP project which included storage on the Animas River with diversion to the La Plata River through canals, aqueducts and tunnels. In 1979, the definite plan report was created which identified numerous environmental concerns and resulted in the project being halted. During this time, he pointed out that changes in legislation prohibited federal water projects from being