

AGENDA ITEM SUBMITTAL

Otero County Commission

Submitted by: RB Nichols, County Attorney

Meeting date: Thursday, May 11, 2023

Subject:	Request approval of Resolution #05-11-23/111-56 establishing the salaries for incoming Otero County elected officials.
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Research/Background:

In 2018, the NM State Legislature raised the annual salaries of elected officials, for a Class B counties over three hundred million valuation. Currently, Otero County elected officials are paid at the 2013 statutory maximum. This resolution will set the pay for elected officials taking office on January 1, 2025.

Currently, the salary authorized by Otero County for elected officials is below the average salary of all other Class B high valuation counties for which data could be gathered.

A dollar in 2023 buys over twenty five percent (25%) less than a dollar in 2013. A salary of \$85,044.96 is needed in 2023 to match the buying power of a 2013 salary of \$65,855. Adopting the maximum salaries authorized by the State Legislature in 2018 would result in a fourteen percent (14%) increase for incoming elected officials.

Implementing a salary increase for elected officials in Otero County will set a payrate eleven percent (11%) below the net decrease in buying power of the dollar over the last decade.

Fiscal Impact/Funding Sources:

Staff/Department Recommended Actions:

County Attorney Review (*if needed*):

Supporting Documents/Attachments/Links

RESOLUTION NO. 5-11-23/111-56