

**Meeting Minutes  
 Northeast Regional Planning Organization (NERPO)  
 Raton Civic Center  
 Hosted by the City of Raton  
 901 South 3<sup>rd</sup> Street  
 Raton, New Mexico 87740  
 August 15, 2007  
 11:20 a.m.**

**Meeting Attendees**

**NERPO Voting Members and Alternates:**

<b>Name</b>	<b>County</b>	<b>Title</b>	<b>Present/Absent</b>
Les Montoya	San Miguel County	Voting Member	Absent
Harold Garcia	San Miguel County	Alternate	Present
Carlos A. Ortiz, Jr.	City of Las Vegas	Voting Member	Absent
Elmer Martinez	City of Las Vegas	Alternate	Absent
Miguel Martinez	Mora County	Voting Member	Absent
Peter Martinez	Mora County	Alternate	Absent
Bill Conley	Colfax County	Voting Member	Present
Leo Parker	Colfax County	Alternate	Present
Jennifer Sparaco	City of Raton	Voting Member	Absent
Pete Mileta, Jr.	City of Raton	Alternate	Absent
Linda Pavletich	Village of Cimarron	Voting Member	Present
Mindy Cahill	Village of Cimarron	Alternate	Absent
William (Hoot) Gibson	Village of Angel Fire	Voting Member	Present
Chuck Howe	Village of Angel Fire	Alternate	Absent
Robert Casados	Harding County	Voting Member	Present
Jerry Porterfield	Harding County	Alternate	Absent
Shawn Jeffery	Village of Mosquero	Voting Member	Present
Ray Vigil	Village of Mosquero	Alternate	Absent
Renee Hayoz	Village of Roy	Voting Member	Present
None	Village of Roy	Alternate	
Linda Lavender	Village of House	Voting Member	Absent
None	Village of House	Alternate	
Larry Moore	Quay County	Voting Member	Absent
Richard Primrose	Quay County	Alternate	Absent
Leo Pacheco	Village of San Jon	Voting Member	Absent
Wade Lane	Village of San Jon	Alternate	Absent
Doug Powers	City of Tucumcari	Voting Member	Present
John Sutherland	City of Tucumcari	Alternate	Present
Jack Chosvig	Town of Clayton	Voting Member	Absent
Mike Running	Town of Clayton	Alternate	Absent

Richard Arguello	Union County	Voting Member	Absent
Russel Kear	Union County	Alternate	Absent
Michelle Morrow	Village of Des Moines	Voting Member	Absent
Jesse Yeargain	Village of Des Moines	Alternate	Absent
None	Village of Pecos	Voting Member	
None	Village of Pecos	Alternate	
Diane Brown	Village of Folsom	Voting Member	Absent
None	Village of Folsom	Alternate	
Mignon Saddoris	Village of Grenville	Voting Member	Absent
Lynn Wiseman	Village of Grenville	Alternate	Absent
Rose Kelly	Village of Logan	Voting Member	Absent
Larry Wallin	Village of Logan	Alternate	Absent
Joseph Campos	City of Santa Rosa	Voting Member	Absent
Maxine Rivera	City of Santa Rosa	Alternate	Present
Manuel Baca	Guadalupe County	Voting Member	Absent
Yolanda Chavez	Guadalupe County	Alternate	Absent
Leticia Torres	Town of Springer	Voting Member	Present
Johnny L. Chavez	Town of Springer	Alternate	Absent
Billie Odum	Village of Eagle Nest	Voting Member	Present
Richard Cordova	Village of Eagle Nest	Alternate	Present
Anthony Mitchell	Village of Maxwell	Voting Member	Absent
None	Village of Maxwell	Alternate	
Benito Armijo	Village of Wagon Mound	Voting Member	Absent
Betty Medina	Village of Wagon Mound	Alternate	Present

### NERPO Planners

Lesah R. Sedillo                      NCNMEDD  
Chris Pacheco                         EPCOG

### NMDOT Staff

Paul Gray                                NMDOT D-4 District Engineer  
Heather Sandoval                      NMDOT D-4 Assistant District Engineer  
Christina Romero                        NMDOT D-4, Public Information Officer  
Janet Spivey                              NMDOT, Transportation Planner  
Rick Chavez                                NMDOT, GRIP II Coordinator

### Guests

Clint Harden                             NM State Senator District 7 (from Clovis)

# I. MEETING MINUTES

Northeast Regional Planning Organization (NERPO)  
Hosted by Colfax County  
UU Bar/Express Ranch  
11 miles South of Cimarron on Hwy 21 at Rayado  
Rayado, New Mexico

September 27, 2007

10:00 a.m.

I. Call to Order (Chairman Robert Casados)

*Conducted at 10:18 AM*

II. Pledge of Allegiance/New Mexico State Flag (Chairman Casados)

*US Pledge was conducted.*

*NM State Flag Pledge was not Conducted due to no flag*

*Present of NM.*

III. Welcome and Introductions (Chairman Robert Casados)

*Conducted by membership with NM Senator Clint Harden of Clovis in attendance.*

IV. Approval of Agenda

*Approved*

*Motion for approval by Renee Hayoz and seconded by Linda Pavletich.*

V. Approval of Minutes –August 15, 2007

*Approved with the Correction on page 2 (spelling for Billie Odom) on the Membership and Alternates Roster List for NERPO*

*Motion made by Doug Powers*

*Second by Harold Garcia*

VI. Legislative discussions with our New Mexico State Senators and our New Mexico State Representatives

*Special Guest Speaker District 7NM State Senator Clint Harden of Clovis discussed the legislative funding process for the upcoming NM State Legislative Session. Among Items discussed and presented by Senator Harden were:*

*Ruidoso: at a combined Water and Corrections Committee Meeting the FHWA discussed the funding situation. The FHWA is not able to meet any funding needs. The matching funds at the State level are also not as available as in the past. NM expects \$400 Million Dollars for this upcoming year. The issue is where to spend the money. The term is reoccurring funds. This is annual funding and was used to expand existing funds. Medicaid is one of the biggest users of this funding. The Public Schools are also a large user. This leaves the rest for Transportation and Infrastructure Projects and other State Government Agencies.*

*One time money comes primarily from oil and gas and is used for infrastructure projects. This is where GRIP I and GRIP II came from. Discussion involved the setting aside of reoccurring money and setting it aside to combine with one time money for Highway Projects. Bonding can be higher and make for bigger projects. Bonding is now considered a good idea. 1 Mile of road costs approximately 2 Million Dollars. Example is the setting aside of \$60 M for NM 39 and the remaining 30 miles to rehabilitate. Senator Harden would like to see the same type of process for Wastewater and Water Treatment Projects. He cited some problems in locations that face large problems with funding for these types of projects. Senator Harden's district is large in area and small in population in comparison to the areas represented by some Senate and Legislative Districts in Albuquerque and Santa Fe. The challenge faced is not a lot of votes per mile in the rural areas of NM.*

*Bill Conley brought up water projects during the "year of water:" As declared at the State Legislature a few years ago. Senator Harden stated that what legislation did go through was vetoed by the Governor. (pocket veto) Among the projects mentioned was the Ute Pipeline Project.*

*The discussion then centered on the NM Gas Tax. The amount will be on the table this time. This is an election year and so most lawmakers will not be for tax increases on a public level. Senator Harden then discussed the Trucking Industry and their taxes and charges in NM. The discussion then brought up that taxing them too much could affect Rural Economic Development and Tourism Revenues. Another issue is that Trucks are vital to us and to the nation. John Southerland brought up examples in Colorado and Arizona that was centered on Registration Fees and Personal Property Tax. Maybe we could increase our fees based on Income Level. Ports of Entry assist Highway Longevity due to paying for road deterioration caused by heavy trucks.*

*DE Paul Gray discussed the issue of Gas Tax at the Rack. Senator Harden explained the process of the fuel at the Reservations and the funding for Tribal Land Projects. Paul Gray discussed the price differences on fuel on tribal lands and the effect on state Highway Funds. Senator Harden explained the process of the division of this fund and the efforts that go into maximum efficiency in allocating to local governments. Hoot Gibson talked about the problems from folks who come from other states and stay here only for a season and use local infrastructure but don't pay their fair share of taxes to pay for them due to being non resident. Senator Harden asked for possible fixes to this situation. There haven't been any real solutions to this problem and the primary problem of raising gross receipts taxes on a seasonal basis as a way to counter or compensate for this problem. Bill Conley brought up the issue is widespread due to NM having many attractive areas for seasonal residence and tourism. Richard Cordova asked about the Property Tax Structure in these communities. Bill Conley brought up the issue of DFA telling counties how much they can tax. Hoot Gibson suggested that the RPO make a subcommittee to go to the HB 35 meetings to look at actual increments to motor vehicle registration that will be discussed then.*

*Senator Harden then went into explaining the Capital Outlay Process. The example used was the one time funds from oil and gas. (Senator Harden has over 7000 miles of county roads):*

*Governor takes one half of the total funds collected from the oil and gas industry. Example (\$600 M) then the Governor gets \$300 M*

*Of the remaining half, the governor gets 1/3 of this. The legislature then gets the remainder (\$200 M) from the example. Each Senator gets roughly (\$4M) house members get approximately (\$1 2/3 M) from example and based roughly on last years amount. The Senate has 43 members and the House has 60. This money is divided among them. The funds are then distributed in bills throughout the State. Senators in rural areas are at a disadvantage due to the large area covered and the many infrastructure needs in the area. Senator asked that we get the Capital Outlay Projects in EPCOG and NCNMEDD areas as soon as possible. Chris Pacheco had turned in EPCOG's area Capital Outlay Projects to Senator Harden's office last year. This year, Senator Harden has asked for an earlier start this time. Chris and Lesah will address to the area membership and start collecting the information to send to Senator Harden's office. Renee Hayoz asked about any limits to projects. Chris Pacheco stated that last year there was no limit but Communities were asked to send in their priorities due to the limited funding to assist Senator Harden in the process. Senator Harden asked for the communities in the area to get their projects together and sent in so he and other area legislators can work through the process.*

## **VII. Lunch**

*Conducted ---- the menu included BBQ*

VIII. Safe Routes to School (Jessica Frost)

*Presentation by Jessica Frost. The presentation included the projects that are up for 1<sup>st</sup> round consideration and the process to enter the next round. Also discussed was the progress to this point at SRTS is a relatively new program designed for kids health. The main idea is to improve traffic safety so kids will be encouraged to walk or bike to school and thus clear up congestion from traffic at schools and get the children some exercise. She also discussed upcoming training for the program. This presentation on the Safe Routes to School program can be available by emailing [www.nm.saferoutes.com](http://www.nm.saferoutes.com)*

*Phase I training will be Nov 5-8 in Santa Fe*

*Applications for Phase II will be due on December 7, 2007. The new funding cycle will open on October 3, 2007.*

IX. District Four Update-Paul W. Gray, District Four Engineer and Heather Sandoval, Assistant District Engineer-Engineering

*Paul Gray reported on the District 4 Winter Coordination Meeting in Tucumcari and strategy devised to combat inclement weather in the future such as the winter storms and tornados from last year. He also discussed the priority routes in District 4. (I-40 and I-25). He reported on the NM 402 Bridge repair south of Clayton. The bridge is traversable and will be fully operational in 10 days. He brought up the Federal Fiscal year that is up coming and the shortfall situation for Transportation Projects. He stated that States will have to pick up the extra amount if they want to keep up with increased costs and less Federal funds due to the War on Terrorism and exports of construction materials to Asia. There could be some roads that the NMDOT will not have the resources to maintain. This will be the less traveled roads.*

*Heather Sandoval reported on the status of District 4 LGRF Projects. Agreements are ready and the MAP Projects (Municipal Arterial Projects) are being processed. The Severance Tax projects are also being processed in Santa Fe. The upcoming deadline for LGRF (Local Government Road Fund) Projects is March 1, 2008.*

*Rick Chavez reported on the GRIP II projects status and upcoming October 12, 2007 deadline for next round of applications. The targeted amount of project funding for 2008 was originally (\$20 M) but some of this could slip to 2009. He urged applicants to request match funding from MFA through the LTIF program.*

X. Update from NERPO Planners-Lesah R. Sedillo and Chris Pacheco

*Lesah reported on the Citizen Conference in Las Vegas on November 13, 2007. She gave statuses on GRIP 2 Assistance and the October 3, 2007 HM 35 meeting at the State Legislature Committee. NERPO will have 3 transit projects for review and prioritize,, they are Angel Fire, Meadow City Express, and Golden Spread Coalition. She also asked the group about the call for projects.*

*Chris reported on the Great Plains Conference for the Ports to Plains program in Denver. 2 areas of interest for NE New Mexico could be the trucking security business and parts stocks to support this aspect of security. Chris also restated the project application process from the last 2 years. The GRIP II program influenced the schedule last year as it coincided with almost all the types of projects from the RPO process.*

XI. New Business

A. General Comments and Announcements from NERPO members

*Harold Garcia asked for a hand to recognize Janet Spivey for all her work.*

B. Suggested agenda items for upcoming meetings-HB Memorial 35.

C. Meeting Location Amendments

*Next meeting – Tucumcari on Oct 31 2007*

*November meeting tentatively set for Eagle Nest on November 29.*

XII. Adjournment

*Approved*

*Motion made by Harold Garcia and Seconded by Bill Conley.*