

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

Meeting Attendees

NERPO Voting Members and Alternates:

Name	County	Title	Present/Absent
Les Montoya	San Miguel County	Voting Member	Present
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	Present
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	Present
Robert Casados	Harding County	Voting Member	Absent
Jerry Porterfield	Harding County	Alternate	Present
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	Present
Richard Primrose	Quay County	Alternate	Present
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	Absent
Jack Chosvig	Town of Clayton	Voting Member	Present
Mike Running	Town of Clayton	Alternate	Absent

Richard Arguello	Union County	Voting Member	Present
Russel Kear	Union County	Alternate	Absent
Michelle Morrow	Village of Des Moines	Voting Member	Absent
Jesse Yeargain	Village of Des Moines	Alternate	Present
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 Sadoris	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	Absent
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	Absent

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

Guests

Barbara Deaux Executive Director of NCNMEDD
Arturo Archuleta Director of Planning NCNMEDD
Donzil Worthington Wilson & Company

I. Call Meeting to Order

The Meeting was called to order by Acting Chairman Richard Arguello. He passed on regrets from Chairman Casados for not being able to attend the meeting. However, he will be here tomorrow to attend the NMDOT Transportation Commission Meeting.

II. Pledge of Allegiance

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Chairman Richard Arguello.

III. Welcome and Introductions:

The welcome was presented by Chairman Richard Arguello. Chairman Arguello thanked everyone for coming to the meeting and hopes that we have a good turn out for the NMDOT Transportation Meeting tomorrow. Ms. Sedillo prepared a thank you letters addressed to the Chairman and members of the NMDOT Transportation Commission. Ms. Sedillo provided a copy of the agenda for the NMDOT Transportation Meeting by e-mail and in the meeting packets today.

Jennifer Sparaco welcomed everyone to the City of Raton and introduced Ms. Shelly Wood from the Raton MainStreet Program. They will be providing lunch for the meeting today. A Special Thank you to the City of Raton and Ms. Shelly Wood, Raton Main Street Program. Individual introductions were conducted by each member.

IV. Approval of the Agenda:

Mr. Hoot Gibson of the Village of Angel Fire made the motion to approve the agenda as submitted. Mr. Bill Conley of Colfax County seconded the motion. The motion carried and all voted in favor.

V. Approval of the Minutes: (Clayton-July 26, 2007)

Ms. Sedillo requested clarification from the members regarding a previously discussed issue with the minutes. Mr. Les Montoya asked about the process of recording the members in the minutes. Ms. Sedillo explained to everyone that it is extremely important for everyone to respond annually with their voting members and alternates. However, in some of the past minutes other guests from government entities were also being recognized as being absent.

After some discussion, Chairman Arguello asked that we insert a table with the voting members and alternates and mark them absent or present at each meeting. Any other members will be listed as guests.

Mayor Linda Pavletich of the Village of Cimarron made the motion to approve the minutes with various grammatical corrections provided by Mrs. Maxine Rivera, City of Santa Rosa. (Corrections to the minutes will be sent out by Chris Pacheco or Denise Robertson) The motion was seconded by Mrs. Renee Hayoz from the Village of Roy. The motion carried and all voted in favor.

VI. Discussion and Approval of the amendments to the NERPO By-Laws:

The two items for discussion were placed in bold print for review by members. The first item is the issue of the regularly scheduled monthly meeting time. The second is, the language regarding the attendance for the mandatory meeting held in February for project presentation. This also included the change in the acceptance of only one project per year, per entity, per category.

Mr. Hoot Gibson, from Angel Fire felt that they had two very important projects to submit this year. He would like to leave the option for submitting multiple projects.

Mr. Bill Conley from Colfax County stated that since there were limited amounts of funding available that he would like to see it limited to just one project.

After a long deliberation, Chairman Arguello called for a vote regarding the recommended changes to the NERPO By-Laws.

A motion was made by Shawn Jeffrey, Village of Mosquero to approve the amendments to the NERPO By-Laws as submitted. The motion was seconded by Renee Hayoz, Village of Roy. The motion carried and all voted in favor.

VII. Discussion and Approval of changes to the Rating/Ranking Form:

The members discussed the form provided by Chris Pacheco in great detail. The simplified version and recommendations to follow the PIF were provided by Mr. Harold Garcia. After a lengthy discussion, Mr. Les Montoya offered his suggestion for the main topics of the form and the percentages for each category. The percentages would alleviate problems with ties for placement as discussed by many of the members.

Ms. Sedillo clarified the categories and percentages for the members:

- **Project Description/Type/Scope 25%**
- **Justification 25%**
- **Project Readiness 40%**
- **Viability 10%**

The motion was made by Mr. Les Montoya to approve the specified categories and percentages for the PIF Ranking Form. The motion was seconded by Mayor Linda Pavletich. The motion carried and all voted in favor.

VIII. Election of 2007-2008 Chairperson (Commissioner Robert Casados) and Vice-Chairperson (Commissioner Richard Arguello):

The nomination for Chairman was Commissioner Robert Casados and Vice-Chairman was Commissioner Richard Arguello.

Mr. Bill Conley, Colfax County made a motion to accept the position of Chairman as nominated-Commissioner Robert Casados and Vice-Chairman as Commissioner Richard Arguello by acclamation. The motion was seconded by Mr. Hoot Gibson, Village of Angel Fire. The motion carried and all voted in favor.

For the record Acting Chairman Richard Arguello did abstain from the vote.

IX. District 4 Update, Paul Gray, District 4 Engineer and Heather Sandoval, Assistant District Engineer, and Christina Romero, Public Information Officer:

Mr. Paul Gray, District 4 Engineer informed everyone about the immediate issues concerning transportation. 1) The Highway Trust Fund which my become insolvent by FY 2009 or FY 2010 and a drastic cut in Federal Highway and Transit Funding. 2) Between 2003 and 2007, there has been a significant increase in commodity prices for petroleum, concrete, asphalt, steel, and construction machinery. This has badly reduced the improvements state and local transportation agencies will be able to fund, unless the purchasing power of federal, state, and local programs can be restored. He explained that House Memorial 35 was created in order to look at providing a sustainable Transportation System in New Mexico. They are conducting public meetings in Albuquerque, Santa Fe, and Las Cruces.

Mr. Harold Garcia, San Miguel County inquired as to the progress regarding negotiations for the Railroads. District 4 explained that they feel that the negotiations would be final within a year for the purchase.

Ms. Barbara Deaux, Executive Director of North Central Economic Development District explained to everyone that the American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials (AASHTO) conducted an analysis on these issues. They found that the “need to find alternatives to replace or supplement the fuel tax as the principal revenue source to support the Highway Trust Fund,” has turned out to be less of an immediate concern than expected. However, the two issues brought up by District Engineer Paul Gray are now the more immediate concerns. For additional information go the web-site for (AASHTO) which is www.transportation.org.

X. Updates from NERPO Planners (Lesah R. Sedillo and Chris Pacheco):

Ms. Lesah Sedillo reminded everyone about the call for the Second Round of GRIP 2 applications. The deadline for applications is October 12, 2007. Applicants for the second round must specify the need for LTIF funds in the GRIP 2 application.

Ms. Sedillo also met with Mark Valenzuela to confirm the following awards of LTIF for the June and December 2007 projects:

City of Santa Rosa	\$200,000.00
Quay County	\$200,000.00
City of Tucumcari	\$139,425.00
Village of Mosquero	\$200,000.00
Village of Roy	\$200,000.00
Colfax County	\$150,000.00

These entities are currently being reviewed for a final dollar amount:

**City of Raton
Village of Cimarron
Village of Angel Fire**

The following entities eligible under the GRIP 2 Bill to submit an application for the second round are as follows:

**Village of Eagle Nest
Town of Springer
Town of Clayton
Harding County
Village of Pecos
City of Las Vegas
Village of House**

Anyone interested in receiving assistance please contact your planners.

The Citizen Participation Conferences have been placed on hold for the Long Range Transportation Plan. A special thank you to our expert witness for the Las Vegas meeting is Mr. Harold Garcia, San Miguel County and Pete Mileta, Jr. for the City of Raton. We will keep you posted with any new information.

Reminder we will have Jessica Frost the NMDOT Safe Routes to School Coordinator at our September 27, 2007, at the UU Bar/Express Ranch. The new funding cycles will be announced very soon. The presentation will give everyone the information and opportunity to apply for funding for a project in your community.

There have been two meetings to discuss the possibility of the Enchanted Circle Regional Transit District. The entities include Taos, Taos County, Questa, Red River, Colfax County, Angel Fire, and Eagle Nest.

Special Thank you to the NERPO members Mr. Bill Conley, Colfax County; Mr. Richard Cordova, Village of Eagle Nest; and Jan Schyberg from Village of Angel Fire for their participation. This includes the cooperation and assistance of the North East Regional Planning Organization (NERPO) and the Northern Pueblos Regional Planning Organization (NPRPO).

Thank you to Paul Gray District Engineer for his informative and discussion on House Memorial 35. There is a public meeting which will be held in Albuquerque on Tuesday, August 21, 2007, and the MPO's and RPO's will give an estimated cost to the committee on the local needs in our respective areas throughout New Mexico. As soon as an agenda is available the information will be sent out to all NERPO members.

One final reminder about the importance of designation of the Voting Members and Alternates for the NERPO.

Chris Pacheco added that the Scenic By-Ways and the new Transit call for applications will be coming out soon.

XI. Lunch was provided by the City of Raton and the Raton MainStreet Program.

XII. Infrastructure Capital Improvements Plan Training (ICIP)-Due Aug. 31, 2007
(Mr. Arturo Archuleta, Director of Planning for North Central New Mexico Economic Development District:

Mr. Arturo Archuleta gave each member a packet and had the members follow along with a power point presentation. He gave details about the ICIP web-based program, contact information, and deadline of August 31, 2007, for submission. www.state.nm.us/capitalprojects/ The submission of the document must include an approved Resolution by your governing body. The current plan is based on a State Fiscal Year 2009-2013 plan. This means that the 5 year cycle of the current plan should be from July 1, 2008 to June 30, 2013. (5 year plan) Projects should be only those that still require partial or total funding. Projects ranking within any given year must be consecutive. This plan also gives you the opportunity to review and log your inventory. He also explained the importance of the long term planning document and that this is being utilized by our New Mexico delegation for priorities at the legislature.

XIII. New Business:

A. General Comments and Announcements from NERPO Members.

Chairman Arguello thanked everyone again for their participation in the NERPO and reminded them about the NMDOT Transportation Commission Meeting tomorrow at 8:30 am. There is a BBQ and Shoot Out this evening at the NRA which will start around 4:00 pm.

B. Suggested agenda items for upcoming meetings:

Mr. Les Montoya suggested that we invite our New Mexico Legislators to our next meeting. This would give us the opportunity to thank them for past legislative funding. Our legislators would also have the opportunity to address a large forum of government entities at one time. We could discuss the HM 35 and the loss of funding for the transportation needs in New Mexico and our legislative priorities. The planners will prepare letters to our legislators inviting them to attend our September 27, 2007, NERPO meeting.

Mr. Les Montoya, San Miguel County thanked Ms. Sedillo for providing important information by e-mail and for keeping the members so well informed.

Chairman Arguello stated that it may be appropriate for the members to brainstorm on some ideas for the shortfall in funding. We could possibly send out a letter including those ideas.

C. Meeting Location Amendments

The next NERPO meeting will be hosted by Colfax County at the UU Bar/Express Ranch on September 27, 2007. Mr. Bill Conley asked that we have a head count for lunch by the 15th of September.

Ms. Sedillo reminded everyone that we need to secure locations for the next two meetings for October 25th and November 29th.

XIV. Adjournment:

Mr. William Conley, Colfax County made the motion to Adjourn. The motion was seconded by Mr. Hoot Gibson, Village of Angel Fire . The motion carried and all voted in favor.

The meeting adjourned at 3:20 p.m.