

**Meeting Minutes**  
**Northeast Regional Planning Organization (NERPO)**  
**National Guard Armory**  
**Old Highway 85**  
**Hosted by the Town of Springer**  
**January 31, 2008**  
**10:12 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	Absent
Carlos A. Ortiz, Jr.	City of Las Vegas	Voting Member	Present
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	Absent
Mindy Cahill	Village of Cimarron	Alternate	Absent
William (Hoot) Gibson	Village of Angel Fire	Voting Member	Absent
Chuck Howe	Village of Angel Fire	Alternate	Present
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	Absent
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	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 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	Present
Yolanda Chavez	Guadalupe County	Alternate	Present
Leticia Torres	Town of Springer	Voting Member	Present
Johnny L. Chavez	Town of Springer	Alternate	Present
Billie Odum	Village of Eagle Nest	Voting Member	Absent
Richard Cordova	Village of Eagle Nest	Alternate	Absent
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
Steven Henthorn	EPCOG
Denise Robertson, Assistant	EPCOG

**NMDOT Staff**

Paul Gray	NMDOT D-4 District Engineer
Heather Sandoval	NMDOT D-4 Assistant District Engineer
Janet Spivey	NMDOT, Transportation Planner
Rick Chavez	NMDOT, G.O. North Region Design Center

## **Guests**

Kelly Beagle, Union County  
Stuart Hamilton, Village of Angel Fire  
Glenn Boone, Village of Angel Fire  
Johnny Chavez, Town of Springer

### **I. Call Meeting to Order**

**The Meeting was called to order at 10:12 a.m. by Chairman Robert Casados.**

### **II. Pledge of Allegiance**

**The Pledge of Allegiance and the Official Salute to the Flag of New Mexico was led by Chairman Robert Casados.**

### **III. Welcome and Introductions:**

**The welcome was presented by Chairman Robert Casados. Chairman Casados thanked everyone for coming and introduced Mayor Johnny Chavez with the Town of Springer the host for this months meeting.**

**Mayor Johnny Chavez thanked and welcomed everyone to the Town of Springer. Mayor has been involved with NERPO on his term as Mayor and he wanted to thank NERPO for all the help. Mayor Chavez also works with the NMDOT, he has a great boss who allows him to be able to do both roles and he wanted to thank them. Springer has not hosted a meeting before due to not having the facilities to host a meeting. A community center can be something to request at the legislature's next meeting. Mayor Chavez announced that Leticia has put this meeting together on her own and the wanted to thank her for a great job. Springer a small community with a lot of hospitality and the Mayor hopes the members enjoy there stay here in the Town of Springer. Lunch will be at Elidas Café by the Town of Springer.**

**Individual introductions were conducted by each NERPO member and guest.**

### **IV. Approval of the Agenda:**

**Mr. Chuck Howe from the Village of Angel Fire made the motion to approve the agenda as submitted. Mr. Larry Moore from Quay County seconded the motion. The motion carried and all voted in favor.**

V. Approval of the Minutes: (November 29, 2007 Eagle Nest City Hall)

**Mr. Larry Moore from Quay County requested a change of spelling from exited to excited on page 5. Mr. Chuck Howe from the Village of Angel Fire requested changes from Sky to Ski on page 5, the roman numeral XI was in the minuets twice also the comment was made by Hoot Gibson not Chuck Howe on page 6. Bill Conley from Colfax County made the motion to approve the minutes with corrections. Mr. Larry Moore from Quay County seconded the motion. The motion carried and all voted in favor.**

VI. State Scenic Byways Coordinator-(Janet Spivey)

The presentation went over the facts on Scenic Byways for Laurie Frantz of the New Mexico Tourism Department. For questions on State Scenic Byways, you may contact Laurie Frantz by phone 827-8428 or you can email her at [laurie.frantz@state.nm.us](mailto:laurie.frantz@state.nm.us) or use there web site [www.newmexico.org](http://www.newmexico.org). Janet also went over the awards in New Mexico under the National Scenic Byways Program for fiscal year 2007. New Mexico had 11 projects out of the 276 in the 41 States that have been selected.

Normal schedule for the grant application process are as follows;

- Beginning of September, notices are sent requesting letters of intent to apply for funds, due in mid-October
- The application deadline is the beginning of January- online @ [www.byways.org](http://www.byways.org)
- The applications are reviewed by the RPO or MPO whichever the project falls in February and March.
- Scenic and Historic Byways Council meets in May to prioritize the applications.
- The prioritized list is submitted to the State Transportation Commission for their approval in June.
- The prioritized list is submitted to Federal Highway Administration for their review the end of June.
- Funding is generally announced in December and funds are available in about six weeks as soon as contracts are executed.

During the creation of a new transportation bill, or when Congress is on a continuing resolution the schedule will vary.

Chairman Robert Casados of Harding County asked if the Scenic Byways monies can be used to help build up a road or highway. Paul Gray of NMDOT D-4 commented that to his understanding the funds are to be used for informational such as signs and flyers not for roadway improvements.

Larry Moore of Quay County asked about county roads like old route 66 due to tourist. Paul Gray of NMDOT D-4 commented that he doesn't think that there are any rules in the legislature that preclude county roads but, it is not likely the transportation commission will fund county roads but they can submit.

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

Mr. Paul Gray, District Engineer thanked the Town of Springer and the National Guard for the great hospitality and having the meeting. Mr. Gray went over the operational issues with the budgets, routine maintenance, and GRIP projects currently underway and the shortfall of the funds to complete the last corridor that will be addressed to the legislature. Mr. Gray also went over bills that are going through the legislature.

Ms. Heather Sandoval, Assistant District Engineer announced the Local Government Road Fund deadline is in March 15<sup>th</sup> with the letter of intent. The deadline for the 2007 MAPS is June 30 and if you need an extension a letter of extension must be submitted no later than March 31, 2008. We cannot extend an expired contract. The 2008 COOP, School bus routes and caps that deadline is December 31. Thirty days after you complete a project you must submit all project completion forms to us for reimbursement. Severance tax and general funds deadlines varies you need to read your agreements. Those agreements need to go to legislature for change or extensions.

Letting projects ;

GRIP I40 in March.

I40 4 miles in May

Bridge rehabilitation in January should start in spring.

NM3 widening and pavement rehab in September

Tucumcari turning lane to the land fill for April, City and County are doing dirt work now

NM39 overlay of widening in September

Vermejo Creek bridge in September of this year.

The TPE project in Village of Cimarron, Village of Angel Fire and San Miguel County agreements are in draft and will see them in the next thirty days or so. Chairman Casados asked if used grader blades can be bought. Mr. Gray suggested to talk to the equipment manager it may be covered over miscellaneous materials.

Ms. Sandoval wanted to remind GRIP II projects the Village of Cimarron, Village of Mosquero, Village of Angel Fire and Town of Roy have agreements out and want to remind them to turn them in.

Ms. Sandoval passed out the price list for Salvageable Materials Standardized. This is a State wide list and cannot insure that these items are in stock. Also if your able to demonstrate financial hard ship in you local government there are opportunities NMDOT can waive the cost of some of these materials.

Chairman Casados asked if the October 17, 2008 letting list has NM39 as high in not making letting is NM39 going to make letting. Mr. Gray and Mrs. Sandoval replied that the project is going to make letting.

Mr. Larry Moore wanted Mr. Gray to let everyone know about the visitor center on the New Mexico Texas boarder. Mr. Moore commented that the facility is impressive and it does the state good to see it compared to what was there before it is an eye opener and if you get a chance to see it they have done a good job. Mr. Gray added that the center is almost complete. The center is for west bound I40 traffic to inform the tourist of New Mexico. NMDOT did not have enough money to install picnic arbors and all that we wanted to but, the facility will still be functional. It is a state of the art rest area that we can be proud of for this area. Mr. Gray hopes that we can get the facility open in the end February and hopes to have a ribbon ceremony and will be sending out invitations. Mrs Gray added that they have some contractual issues that are being worked out and hopes that doesn't delay the opening. We are also working on building a similar visitor/rest area on the west side of the state for east side traffic on I40 west of Gallup.

Mr. Rick Chavez NMDOT, commented on the 2008 Bond Sale in January has 3 million more to sale in June because they didn't know the actual bonding capacity until the sale in January. Due to the certification of your reimbursements all on going projects have been asked to submit information after each reimbursement of monthly. District 5 came up with a reporting form that has all information on each project. This form has all information on your project including expenditures and your match. If you cannot identify your match the project will have to be decertified and the monies will have to be assigned to another project. If you have questions on the form or questions on you match do not hesitate to call.

Mrs. Sedillo suggested to let District 4 review the forms and will send it out to the members and also have hard copies at the next meeting.

#### VIII. Update from NERPO Planners, Lesah R. Sedillo and Steve Henthorn

Ms. Sedillo went over the Transportation Day that was held on January 16, 2008. All Planners were present and held a table. PIF deadline ended on January 25 Heather is working on cost estimates and to be patient she has a lot of them. NERPO mandatory meeting will be held on February 28, 2008 in Santa Rosa. Presentations will be conducted and will be ranked and rated.

The Safe Routes to School applications. The Phase I applications that were submitted were Carlsbad, Alamogordo, Silver City, Truth or Consequence, San Miguel County, Las Vegas City Schools, Mesilla, Espanola, Hobbs, Deming, Las Cruces and Demoins. Phase II was Las Cruces and the Town of Silver City.

Ms. Sedillo also wanted to bring up The Proposed Enchanted Circle Regional Transit District. If anyone else is interested in the Region Transit District The next meeting will be held in the Town of Red River February 7, 2008 at 11:00 A.M. and will be providing lunch and will need everyone to R.S.V.P. for a lunch count.

Capital Outlay there is only about 400 million that is State and local government that is  $\frac{3}{4}$

less than last it was last year. Legislature suggests choosing one project as your priority.

Legislative Session ends February 14, 2008. Ms. Sedillo passed out the bill and the sponsors for review to follow with the session.

Ms. Sedillo met with Mark Valenzuela and he wanted to remind everyone that when you receive your December Grip II contracts make sure you send a copy to New Mexico Mortgage Finance Authority. If they do not have those agreements you will not be able to access your LTIF funds. Mrs. Sedillo would be happy to hand deliver them to Santa Fe to speed the process up.

Citizen Conference will be held on February 6, 2008, in Raton. Mr. P. J. Mileta will be the expert witness in Raton.

A Public Hearing is on February 18, 2008. Mrs. Sedillo passed out a copy of budget issues from the Department of Finance and Administration. DFA are working with Local Governments who have not completed audits, or turned in budgets that will prevent them from getting funded. If you need more information Mrs. Sedillo will be happy to talk to you about it and she is also trying to set DFA up to present at one of our meetings in the future.

Mr. Henthorn wanted to let everyone know that the PIF deadline went out fine, there was a lot of cooperation from the entities and everyone was mindful of the budget and made things easy.

## IX. New Business:

### A. General Comments and Announcements from NERPO Members.

Chuck Howe wanted to announce that the next meeting will be Hoot Gibson's last meeting and these meetings have been a big part of Hoot's life.

Bill Conley also wanted to announce that Clint Harden is definitely running this year. There has been a rumor that he was not running and wanted to clarify that he was running again.

Renewable Energy Conference April 2, 2008 at the Civic Center in Tucumcari.

### B. Suggested agenda items for upcoming meetings:

We need a host for March 27, April 24, May 29, 2008 NERPO meeting. Anyone who wants to host a meeting please see Mrs. Sedillo. Chuck Howe of the Village of Angel Fire volunteered for the April meeting.

### C. Meeting Location Amendments

Next meeting in February 28, in Santa Rosa. This is a mandatory meeting.

X. Adjournment:

**Larry Moore of Quay County made the motion to Adjourn. The motion was seconded by Chuck Howe, Village of Angel Fire. The motion carried and all voted in favor.**

**The meeting adjourned at 11:30 p.m.**