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**NEW MEXICO
LAND GRANT
COUNCIL**

Annual Report

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New Mexico Land Grant Council

Annual Report

FY 2022



Council Members:

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Andrea C. Padilla, Vice-Chair
Leonard T. Martínez, Member
Steve J. Polaco, Member
Rebecca Correa-Skartwed, Member

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The mission of New Mexico Land Grant Council is to establish and maintain a land grant support program, which provides advice and assistance to land grants, and to serve as a liaison between land grants and other federal, state and local governments (49-11-3 (A), NMSA 1978). In fiscal year 2022 the New Mexico Land Grant Council received a \$497,696 General Fund appropriation from the New Mexico Legislature. Information about the Council's FY 2022 budget expenditures can be found in the Council's Activities and Expenditures Section starting on page 7. The Council's FY 2023 approved budget can be found on page 23 and the Council's FY 2024 budget request and justification narrative begins on page 24.

The Land Grant Council provided direct services and support to community land grants-mercedes throughout New Mexico in the following areas (detailed descriptions of each can be found starting on the pages noted in parentheses): Technical Assistance and Financial Support to Land Grants-Mercedes (pg 9); Liaison Work (pg 14); and Policy Work (pg 18); and Research (pg 22). This included governance capacity support, legal services, professional surveyor services and direct financial support for small capital purchases. Land grants-mercedes that received services and/or support from the Council in FY 2022 included: Abiquiú, Anton Chico, Cañón de Carnué, Cebolleta, Chililí, Cristóbal de la Serna, Cubero, Don Fernando de Taos, Juan Bautista Baldés, Manzano, San Antonio de Las Huertas, San Joaquín del Río de Chama, San Miguel del Bado, Santa Bárbara, Santo Domingo de Cundiyo, Santo Tomás Apóstol del Río de las Trampas, Tajiique, Tecolote, Tierra Amarilla, Torreón and Tomé. More information about activities for specific land grants-mercedes can be found in the State of Land Grant Section beginning on page 7.

The major policy accomplishment for land grants-mercedes at the state level in Fiscal Year 2022 was the passage of the 2022 Legislative Session House Bill 8 – The Land Grant-Merced Assistance Fund, which created a guaranteed revenue stream for land grants-mercedes. Since passage of the bill the Council has worked diligently with the State Auditor's Office, State Treasurer's Office and the Department of Finance and Administration on the implementation of the Fund. The Council also entered into a Memorandum of Agreement with the State Land Office related to the development of fuelwood reduction forest restoration projects on State Trust Land in conjunction with land grants-mercedes. The Council also provided support to the implementation of a New Mexico Economic Development Department, Outdoor Recreation Division Trails Plus + Grant, which provided funding for projects in seven land grant communities. The Council also invested \$25,000 in funding towards the project which included a youth conservation corps component.

At the federal level the Council continued its work with the New Mexico Congressional Delegation related to the passage of the Land Grant-Merced Traditional Use Recognition and Consultation Act and concluded its years-long work on the Forest Management Plan Revision process with the Carson, Cibola and Santa Fe National Forests. The Council also provided limited support to the U.S. Forest Service and land grant-merced communities affected by the Calf Canyon/Hermit's Peak Fire. This included serving as a liaison between federal agencies and affected communities.

STATE OF LAND GRANTS-MERCEDES

Below is rundown of some of the challenges faced and projects being undertaken in the past year by land grants-mercedes around the State. While the information below is by no means comprehensive and does not cover every single active land grant in the State of New Mexico, it is a good sampling of the types of issues faced and initiatives being pursued by land grants-mercedes.

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La Merced del Pueblo Abiquiú (Abiquiú Land Grant) has completed its Agreed Upon Procedures and audits, allowing them to spend their \$170,000 capital outlay appropriation on the renovation of a community facility located right off of the U.S. Highway 84, a former clinic where they may house a Rio Arriba County Sheriff's Department substation. The merced has also continued to negotiate with the Office of the State Engineer concerning the adjudication of the water rights owned by the land grant. The New Mexico Land Grant Council been providing the land grant support on this matter through its staff and its contract with New Mexico Legal Aid. La Merced del Pueblo Abiquiú continues to support traditional uses of their common land, including grazing, hunting and fuelwood gathering, regulating these uses to protect these precious resources.

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While the ***Anton Chico Land Grant*** continues to struggle to stop illegal rock hauling, the Grant still works to build awareness of the negative impact of unregulated rock quarries. The grant has attempted to assess payments from rock haulers that have not paid for their permits for years but continue to take rock from the common lands. It is estimated that hundreds of thousands of dollars in rock has been removed from the land grant common land in the past ten years without any compensation to the land grant. The grant continues to support traditional uses of the common land, including grazing through permitting and range management. The grant also works with Anton Chico Economic Development to promote economic development for communities within the Anton Chico Land Grant and continues to engage in conversations with several companies on the development of renewable wind energy projects on the common lands of the land grant.

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La Merced de Cañón de Carnué (Cañón de Carnué Land Grant) continues to support local economic development through use of their common lands and facilities, including leases to a landscaping business and a craft brewery taproom. The grant also contended with encroachment issues on their common lands. The land grant has also been actively engaged in several watershed restoration projects to remove invasive plant species from several riparian areas and maintains a camping and picnic area on common lands. Cañón de Carnué participated in the New Mexico Economic Development Department's Outdoor Recreation Division Trails + Grant, which will be created and improved trails and camp pads at their campsite. The dry and windy weather conditions also led to the Sixty-Six Fire, a brush fire that burned two homes and approximately thirty acres in Carnuel. The grant also engaged with an accountant to submit their AUP and get up to date on their audit requirements, which will be completed in FY 2023. Finally, the Cañón de Carnué Land

Grant co-hosted the Land Grants and Acequias CLE (continuing education course) in October 2021.

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La Merced del Pueblo de Chililí (Chililí Land Grant) The land grant has continued its work on the construction of a fire station facility as an addition to their existing multipurpose center. The facility will allow for the housing of a fire truck as well as shower bays for hosting wildlands firefighting crews in the event of any future wildfires. The Chililí Land Grant has joined East Mountain Land Grants (Tajique, Torreón and Manzano) in their mutual concern with the regional water plan proposed by EMWT. La Merced del Pueblo de Chililí also participated in the Merced Regional Outdoor Recreation Project, funded by a New Mexico Economic Development Department, Outdoor Recreation Division, Trails + Grant. YCC crews built a trail from the center of Chililí to the Chililí Community Center, allowing children and families access the community center without having to walk along Highway 337. La Merced del Pueblo de Chililí participated in the NM Department of Transportation's Hardship Auction. La Merced also worked with the New Mexico State Land Office to develop the Bearcat Fuelwood project, which will provide fuelwood to several land grant communities.

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The ***Cristóbal de la Serna Land Grant*** has continued to purchase *liñas* with capital outlay monies awarded to the grant by the New Mexico State Legislature. The grant is still trying to protect what is left of the common lands, including 5,000 acres of lands that were mapped for tax assessment purposes into long narrow strips of land stretching from the valley floor to Picuris Peak. These properties, known as *liñas* have been the cause controversy for the community for several generations. The goal is to return the lands in questions to the status of common lands of the land grant. The grant's primary goal is preserving the mountain from development and abuse for their heirs and the greater community.

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The ***Don Fernando de Taos Land Grant*** purchased an administrative center in Taos on Cruz Alta Road on the former common lands of the Don Fernando de Taos Grant. The grant is using the remainder of their award to furnish and equip the building.

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La Merced Comunitaria Juan Bautista Baldés (Juan Bautista Baldés Land Grant) The Juan Bautista Baldés Land Grant continued its partnership with the San Joaquín del Río de Chama Land Grant and La Merced de los Pueblos de Tierra Amarilla in the renovation of the Piedra Lumbre Visitor's Center (renamed the *Mercedes Unidas Center*) which was purchased from the U.S. Forest Service in FY 2021. The three land grants held a celebration on July 10, 2021. The grant continued to fight encroachments and claims on the common land and has received support from the New Mexico Land Grant Council and New Mexico Legal Aid to fight claims on common lands.

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La Merced del Manzano (Manzano Land Grant) continues to renovate and improve the historic community center purchased in FY 2021. It serves as a land grant administrative office and multipurpose center for use by the community. The land grant communities were never consulted and are concerned about the effect that the system will have on their water supplies. The Merced del Manzano, with other regional land grants, hosted Congresswoman Melanie Stansbury on a tour of land grant communities in October 2021. The Manzano Land Grant also participated in the New Mexico Economic Development Department's Outdoor Recreation Division Trails + Grant, where crews improved the walkability of the trail that surrounds Manzano Lake. The Merced de Manzano received a Land Grant Support Fund award from the Council for the purchase of tables, chairs, and a fireproof safe.

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La Merced de la Comunidad de San Antonio de Las Huertas (San Antonio de Las Huertas Land Grant) created an exhibit about the history of the San Antonio de las Huertas Land Grant at the Placitas Community Library, which culminated in a talk by outgoing land grant president Rebecca Correa Skartwed. The grant continues to work to protect its water from diversion and impoundment by developers and trespass on their communal lands by non-heirs, typically for recreation purposes. The grant continues to develop their outdoor recreational space, El Campo del Oso, which serves as a rental space for community functions and for campers. La Merced de la Comunidad de San Antonio de Las Huertas also participated in the Merced Regional Outdoor Recreation Project, where crews improved trails around the Campo del Oso and fixed areas where trails washed out with spring and summer rains. The San Antonio de las Huertas Land Grant also received a Land Grant Support Fund award for the purchase of a propane tank and the expansion and improvement of their parking lot at their land grant office.

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The *San Joaquín del Río de Chama Land Grant* continued to partner with the State Land Office on a community fuelwood project near Cebolla, NM. The San Joaquín del Río de Chama has continued to work on the renovation of their community facilities, including renovations to their *sala* (land grant hall). The land grant has also been actively involved in the Forest Plan Revision Process for the Carson and Santa Fe National Forests. The grant submitted objections to the forest plans in November 2021 and participated in the objection resolution process in March of 2022. Both the Carson and Santa Fe National Forests plans were finalized and the final land management plan was adopted in June of 2022 when Record of Decision was adopted. The Land Grant is interested in pursuing ownership or easement rights to a historic cemetery in the community of Las Llaves. The San Joaquín del Río De Chama Land Grant also continued partnering with the Merced de los Pueblos de Tierra Amarilla and Juan Bautista Baldés Land Grants on the renovation of the Piedra Lumbre Visitor's Center, which has been renamed the Mercedes Unidas center. The three land grants held a celebration on July 10, 2021. The grant also participated in the NM Department of Transportation's Hardship Auction.

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The *San Miguel del Bado Land Grant* has continued improving their community center building in San Miguel. The center serves as a senior meal site for senior citizens in the valley.

The needed improvements include security upgrades, parking lot improvements and needed kitchen equipment. The Land Grant received an \$18,000 capital outlay appropriation in 2018 and received an additional \$60,000 in the 2020 session. The land grant used this funding to install solar panels on their center in Villanueva, which will reduce energy costs for the Grant. The San Miguel del Bado Grant also received a Land Grant Support Fund award of \$2,000 to aid in the upkeep of their building.

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La Merced de Santa Bárbara (Santa Bárbara Land Grant) continues to actively participate in forest planning, engage the Carson National Forest on a number priority issues for their community especially the desire to engage in forest restoration project work aimed at protecting the watershed and reducing the risk of catastrophic wildfire. The Hermits Peak / Calf Canyon Fire burned some of the historic common lands of Santa Barbara Land Grant and severely damaged the watershed of the Rio Pueblo that feeds land grant communities. The grant has been actively engaged in the Carson National Forest Plan Revision process and submitted objections to the forest plan in November 2021 and participated in the objection resolution process in March of 2022. The grant has also protested the illegal impoundment of waters of the Río Santa Bárbara to the Office of the State Engineer. Finally, the Santa Bárbara Land Grant has worked to provide fuelwood opportunities for their heirs and worked to identify alternative sources to U.S. Forest Service lands and continued working on the Copper Hill Forest Mayordomo Project with the State Land Office and Taos County on State Trust Land near Peñasco. With the Las Trampas Land Grant, the Santa Bárbara Grant hosted staff of the Congresswoman Teresa Leger Fernández on a tour, discussing the importance of traditional use legislation to the Grant.

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With the support of the surveyor service provided by the Council, the ***Santo Tomás Apóstol del Río de Las Trampas Land Grant*** received a survey of the historic Trampas plaza, enabling the grant to prevent further encroachments. The closure of the National Forests during the Hermit's Peak / Calf Canyon fire halted all activities on the Carson National Forest, including the Las Trampas Forest mayordomo project. The Las Trampas Grant has engaged in conversations with the Peñasco Independent School District, seeking the transfer of the historic schoolhouse in Las Trampas to the land grant. With the Santa Bárbara Land Grant, the Las Trampas Grant hosted staff of the Congresswoman Teresa Leger Fernández on a tour, discussing the importance of traditional use legislation to the Grant.

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In FY 2022, ***La Merced de los Pueblos de Tierra Amarilla*** regained 215 acres of former common land, named *La Colonia de José María Martínez* for a civil rights movement era Tierra Amarilla Land Grant leader. La Merced continues to work with the New Mexico State Game Commission and the Department of Game and Fish to transfer the 40-acre parcel and Laguna del Campo to the Tierra Amarilla Grant. Merced de los Pueblos de Tierra Amarilla continued its partnership with the San Joaquín del Río de Chama Land Grant and the Juan Bautista Baldés Land Grant in the renovation of the Piedra Lumbre Visitor's Center (renamed the *Mercedes Unidas Center*) which was purchased from the U.S. Forest Service in FY 2021. The three land grants held

a celebration on July 10, 2021. La Merced continues to advocate for communities and help locals and heirs obtain fuelwood and participated in the Cebolla fuelwood project with the San Joaquín del Río de Chama Land Grant and the New Mexico State Land Office.

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The ***Town of Tomé Land Grant*** continued to serve the people of the Tomé area, providing a community gathering space that hosts a variety of activities throughout the year including farmers markets, arts and crafts fairs, community meetings, and youth activities, as well as a history museum and genealogical library. The grant continued its renovation of jail site on the historic Tomé Plaza. The Council digitized 19 microfilm reels of marriage, baptismal and other records for the Tomé Grant. The Grant also participated in the Merced Regional Outdoor Recreation Project, where improvements were made to the Tomé Hill Park, including drainages that flooded the walking path. The grant still maintains and protects the sacred Tomé Hill, an annual pilgrimage site during Holy Week. The Tomé Grant also implemented a Healthy Soils Grant, improving the soil health at their community center through a pollinator garden and soil improvements. The Town of Tomé Land Grant also received a \$9,000 Land Grant Support Fund award from the Council for the purchase of an ATV/UTV, storage shed, and/or desktop or laptop computer and necessary accessories.

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La Merced del Pueblo de Tajique (Tajique Land Grant) was the lead applicant in the New Mexico Economic Development Department’s Outdoor Recreation Division Trails + program, which ultimately funded the Merced Regional Outdoor Recreation Project with a \$25,000 award. The project, which served six regional land grants, continued through the end of FY 2022 and into FY 2023, improved recreation opportunities at all participating grants through improvements to outdoor recreation sites and facilities. At Tajique, the Grant supplemented project funding with their own capital outlay funding to improve drainage at the community center and park, improving the playground and park while protecting the community center from runoff. With the diminishing severity of the COVID-19 pandemic, the community center was once again served as a community rental facility for weddings, graduations, showers and funeral receptions.

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The ***Torreón Land Grant*** participated in the Merced Regional Outdoor Recreation Project, where improvements were made to the community park and playground. To support this effort, the New Mexico Land Grant Council granted the Torreón \$6,000.00 for playground mulch through the Land Grant Support Fund. The grant, with other regional land grant communities, also hosted Congresswoman Melanie Stansbury on a tour of land grant communities in October 2021.

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FISCAL YEAR 2022 ACTIVITIES AND EXPENDITURES OVERVIEW

FY 2022 APPROVED BUDGET AND ACTUAL EXPENDITURES

In fiscal year 2022 the New Mexico Land Grant Council received a \$497,969 General Fund appropriation from the New Mexico Legislature. Expenditures for FY 2022 totaled \$431,966. The funds were utilized by the Council in a variety of ways to support land grant-merced communities. This included: \$59,994 for a contract with New Mexico Legal Aid to provide legal services for land grants-mercedes; \$30,505 in direct financial support to land grants-mercedes for small capital and administrative expenses through the Land Grant Support Fund; \$7,216 in in-state travel expenses for the Council members to attend monthly meetings; \$1,449.74 in administrative fees to the Department of Finance and Administration; \$3,968 in the printing costs for the publication of a doctoral dissertation, "*Somos Indígena: Ethnic Politics and Land Tenure in New Mexico*" for distribution to land grants-mercedes; \$321,199.58 for an Intergovernmental Services Agreement (IGSA) with the University of New Mexico to provide staffing and program support to the Land Grant Council. The UNM-IGSA funds were used to cover personnel costs, contracted professional surveyor for services to land grants-mercedes, contracted youth conservation corps program services to land grants-mercedes, law student externships; to cover UNM Natural Resources and Environmental Law Clinic fees for land grants-mercedes receiving services from the clinic and for UNM's negotiated 20% facility and administration fee.

The Council concluded the 2022 fiscal year under budget by \$66,003. These unspent funds reverted to the State's General Fund. The largest area that was underspent was the surveyor contracts line item under the UNM-IGSA. This line item had an unexpended balance of \$37,300. The reason the Council was unable to expend the full balance was because of the lack of availability of professional surveyors. This appears to have been a statewide issue, where New Mexico is experiencing a shortage on professional surveyors. In addition, the real estate market created a high demand for professional surveyors that further limited the supply of surveyor services. The Council made numerous attempts to procure multiple surveyor contracts but was only able to secure one surveyor during the fiscal year. No other surveyors were able to commit to completing any jobs prior to the end of the fiscal year and therefore could not be contracted. This \$37,300 balance directly impacted the UNM Finance & Administration (F&A) fees charged during the fiscal year, resulting in \$8,274 being left unspent in that budgetary line item as well. Therefore, the total impact of not being able to procure additional surveyor contracts accounted for \$45,574 or 69% of the total unexpended funds for FY 2022. Another major area left unspent was out-of-state travel for the Council with an unexpended balance of \$5,600. These funds were intended for travel to Washington D.C. however, due to Covid-19 concerns no trips were planned in FY 2022. The other major area where funds did not get expended was \$5,000 that were intended for a small legal services contract.

Table 1 – FY 2022 Budget vs. Actual Expenditures

FY 2022 Budget Line Items	FY 2022 Budgeted Expenditures	FY 2022 Actual Expenditures	Ending Unexpended Balances
DFA Admin Fee	\$3,300	\$1,449.74	\$1,850
Support Fund	\$31,069	\$30,505.52	\$563
Legal Service Contract	\$60,000	\$59,993.47	\$7
Publishing	\$4,000	\$3,967.66	\$32
In State Travel	\$9,000	\$7,216.34	\$1,784
Out of State Travel	\$5,600	\$0.00	\$5,600
Unbudgeted	\$14,154	\$9,083.08	\$5,071
UNM Contract*	\$370,846	\$321,199.58	\$49,647
F&A	\$61,808	\$53,533.32	\$8,274
Staff Salary & Fringe	\$172,227	\$173,729.23	-\$1,502
Personnel In State Travel	\$5,000	\$4,548.43	\$452
Personnel Out of State-Travel	\$3,500	\$0.00	\$3,500
Non-Capital Equipment & Software	\$10,728	\$10,629.53	\$98
Law Clinic Fee Waiver LG	\$500	\$500.00	\$0
Copies, Printer Maintenance	\$2,200	\$1,299.90	\$900
Supplies & Miscellaneous	\$864	\$869.36	-\$6
Postage	\$300	\$379.81	-\$80
Meeting Expense	\$1,500	\$790.00	\$710
YCC Contract	\$25,000	\$25,000.00	\$0
Surveyor Contract(s)	\$77,300	\$40,000.00	\$37,300
Externs	\$9,920	\$9,920.00	\$0
Totals	\$497,969	\$433,415.39	\$64,554

** Line items below the UNM IGSA are the Inter-Governmental Services Agreement budget line items specific to Council contract with UNM. All these line items roll up into the total shown for UNM IGSA.*

FY 2022 COUNCIL ACCOMPLISHMENTS

In Fiscal Year 2022 the Council held twelve regular monthly meetings and one special meeting. The majority of the Council meetings were held as hybrid meetings with both in-person and virtual attendance via Zoom. Ten of the meetings were held at the University of New Mexico, one meeting was held at the Cañón de Carnué Land Grant and two meetings were held virtually via Zoom. The meetings of the Council in FY 2022 were held on July, 12, 2021; August 11, 2021; August 23, 2021; September 15, 2021; October 20, 2021; November 10, 2021; December 8, 2021; January 27, 2022; February 16, 2022; March 18, 2022; April 20, 2022; May 17, 2022; June 15, 2022.

Council meeting agendas have standing updates from the United States Forest Service, Bureau of Land Management, State Land Office, New Mexico Congressional Delegation, and Office of the New Mexico Attorney General Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo Division. In FY 2022 the Council hosted guest presentations from the U.S. Forest Service Regional Forester Michiko Martin, Carson National Forest Supervisor James Durán, Congresswoman Teresa Ledger-Fernández; Congresswoman Melanie Stansbury; New Mexico Attorney General Hector Balderas, and State Land Commissioner Stephanie García Richard.

The Council utilizes its meetings to not only interface with federal and state partners, but also to consider issues facing land grants-mercedes, develop policy solutions and set work priorities. As per NMSA 1978, § 49-1-23 the New Mexico Land Grant Council oversees and maintains the official Land Grant Registry. The Council utilizes its meetings to formally recognize items that have been submitted by land grants-mercedes to the Registry. In Fiscal Year 2022 the Council processed materials submitted to the Registry for thirteen different land grants. This included the following land grants: Manzano, Tajique, Tomé, Chililí, Santo Domingo de Cundiyo, Cebolleta, Torreón, San Joaquín del Río de Chama, Tierra Amarilla, San Antonio de las Huertas, Santo Tomás Apóstol del Río de Las Trampas, Santa Bárbara, and Abiquiú. Material submitted included election results, updating members of the board of trustees, bylaw updates, meeting minutes, budgets, copies of financial reports and annual reports.

Throughout the fiscal year the Council provided a program of support through work on a variety of areas. These areas included: direct technical and financial assistance to land grants-mercedes; serving as a liaison for land grants-mercedes with other government entities and dissemination of information; policy review and development at both the state and federal level; and research and related work. Additional information about work completed within each category can be found below.

TECHNICAL & FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE TO LAND GRANTS-MERCEDES

The Council provides direct technical assistance to land grants in a variety of areas. The goal of this technical assistance is to help land grants-mercedes to better serve their communities and build their governance capacity. In addition, the Council provided direct financial support to land grants-mercedes for small capital purchases through the Land Grant Support Fund. Below are specific details about direct technical and financial assistance work conducted by the Council in FY 2022.

Grant Funding Application and Implementation Support

In FY 2022 the Council provided assistance to seven land grants with funding applications and implementation after award. This included assisting the Tajique, Torreon, Manzano, Chililí, Cañón de Carnué, Tomé, and San Antonio de Las Huertas Land Grants with successfully apply for and receive a New Mexico Economic Development Department Outdoor Recreation Grant. The purpose of the funding was for outdoor recreation enhancement projects in each community completed in partnership with the Ancestral Lands Conservation Corps' youth conservation corps program. The Tomé Land Grant focused on trail clean up and erosion mitigation for a community park; the Manzano Land Grant completed trail improvements around their community lake; the Torreón Land Grant refreshed the mulch bedding in their community playground; the Tajique Land Grant worked on flood mitigation for their community park and multipurpose center; the Chililí Land Grant cut a trail from the center of the community to their community park and multipurpose center; the Cañón de Carnué Land Grant did improvements and trails work at their community campground; and the San Antonio del Las Huertas Land Grant also did improvements and fixed trails at their community campgrounds. The project work began in FY 2022 and continued into FY 2023. The Council has not only provided ongoing administrative support for the implementation of the project, but it also provided \$25,000 in matching funds. The Council also worked with the Ancestral Lands Program for recruitment of youth for the work crews and coordinated with each land grant for the implementation of these projects.

The Council also worked with the Town of Tomé Land Grant on the successful application and implementation of a New Mexico Department of Agriculture Healthy Soils Grant. The purpose of the grant was to increase soil health and pollinator habitat at the Tomé Dominguez Community Center property. The project also included expanding the sprinkler irrigation system to allow for community gardening.

Financial Management and Reporting

In FY 2022 the Council provided support and assistance to eight land grants with financial reporting compliance with the State Audit Act. This included the either assistance with filing their tier certifications if they had less than \$50,000 in revenue for the fiscal year or assistance with procuring an Agreed Upon Procedures Financial Review if they had over \$50,000 or spent more than 50% of a legislative capital outlay award. Land grants that received assistance included: Tajique, Manzano, Chililí, San Joaquin del Río de Chama, Cristóbal de la Serna, Tierra Amarilla, Torreón, San Antonio de Las Huertas. The Council also provided assistance to the Cañón de Carnué Land Grant with compiling their financial records and improving their financial management system.

Infrastructure Capital Improvement Planning (ICIP)

In fiscal year 2022 the Council assisted 20 land grants-mercedes with the completion of their 2023 ICIP. This included: assistance with inputting information about capital projects and priorities into the online database; ensuring all required documentation was completed and submitted to DFA by the deadline; and providing assistance with making any corrections to the ICIP requested by DFA. The land grants-mercedes that received assistance included: Abiquiú, Anton Chico, Cañón de Carnué, Chililí, Cristóbal de la Serna, Cubero, Don Fernando de Taos, Juan Bautista Baldés, Manzano, San Antonio de Las Huertas, San Joaquín del Río de Chama, San Miguel del Bado, Santa Bárbara, Santo Domingo de Cundiyo, Santo Tomás Apóstol del Río de las Trampas, Tajique, Tecolote, Tierra Amarilla, Torreón and Tomé.

Capital Outlay Assistance

The Council assisted eleven land grants with their legislative capital outlay awards. This included providing assistance with completion of bonds questionnaires, execution of grant agreements, procurement of goods and services, submittal of notices of obligation and disbursement/reimbursement pay requests, and updating the Capital Projects Monitoring System. Specific land grants and capital outlay projects included: San Joaquín del Río de Chama community center improvements; Town of Tomé historic jail renovation; Tajique Land Grant community center renovations; Santa Bárbara Land Grant property acquisition; Don Fernando de Taos building acquisition; Manzano Land Grant community center renovation; Cristóbal de la Serna property acquisition; San Miguel del Bado Land Grant community center renovation; Tierra Amarilla Land Grant property acquisition; Anton Chico Land Grant community center renovations; Abiquiú Land Grant administrative building renovations; Chililí Land Grant fire station construction.

Election Support

The Council provided support to seven different land grants with their elections in FY 2022. This included assistance with drafting the election proclamation and resolution, and providing guidance on election procedures. The land grants that received assistance included the Torreón Land Grants, Tierra Amarilla Land Grant, Santa Bárbara Land Grant, Santo Tomás Apóstol del Río de Las Trampas Land Grant, San Antonio de Las Huertas Land Grant, Abiquiú Land Grant, and the Cristóbal de La Serna Land Grant.

Legal Assistance

The Council continued to provide legal assistance to land grants in variety of ways. First, the Council provided direct legal support to land grants through a service contract with New Mexico Legal Aid. Second, the Council provided support to New Mexico Legal Aid, through research and assistance with coordination of meetings with land grants. Third, the Council provided additional support by funding four law school externs to work directly with New Mexico Legal Aid on land grant legal issues. Fourth, the Council provided funding to the UNM School of Law Natural Resources and Environmental Law Clinic to cover the intake fees for land grants seeking services from the clinic. The Council also provided assisted land grants with the intake process for the Clinic. In total the Council provided legal assistance and support to eight land

grants, including San Antonio de Las Huertas, Manzano, Tecolote, Don Fernando de Taos, Juan Bautista Baldés, Santa Bárbara, Tierra Amarilla, and Chililí.

Professional Land Surveyor Services

During the fiscal year the Council contracted with a professional licensed land surveyor, Territorial Land Survey, to provide direct services to land grants-mercedes. The surveyor provided direct services to five land grants. These included the Anton Chico Land Grant, Town of Tomé Land Grant, Tajique Land Grant, Juan Bautista Baldés Land Grant and Santa Bárbara Land Grant and Santo Tomás Apóstol del Río de Trampas Land Grant.

Land Grant Support Fund

The Council provided direct financial support to six land grants through the Land Grant Support Fund. This included funding to the following land grants for the following projects. \$3,500 to the San Antonio de Las Huertas Land Grant for the purchase of a propane tank for their community camp grounds and gravel for their community parking lot. \$3,500 to the San Miguel del Bado Land Grant for the purchase of a storage shed for their community center. \$6,000 to the Tajique Land Grant for a riding lawn mower for their community center property. \$9,000 for the Town of Tomé Land Grant for the purchase of an ATV to use to patrol the common lands and computers for their administrative office. \$6,000 to the Torreón Land Grant for the purchase of playground mulch as part of the match for the NM Economic Development Department Outdoor Recreation Award. \$3,068.75 to the Manzano Land Grant to cover the cost of an Agreed Upon Procedures financial report, required under the State Audit Act. Additionally, this award was used to purchase a fireproof cabinet, tables and chairs for the community center.

Mercedes Unidas Property (Formerly Piedra Lumbre Visitors Center)

In FY 2022 the Council continued to provide support to the San Joaquín del Río de Chama, Juan Bautista Baldés and Tierra Amarilla Land Grants relating to the development of the Mercedes Unidas property formerly known as the Piedra Lumbre Visitor's Center (PLVC). This included helping coordinate the initial meeting of the land grants and the New Mexico Economic Development Department - Frontier and Native American Communities Initiative project lead for the technical assistance award received by the land grants. In addition, the Council has continued to help liaison between the land grants-mercedes and the pro-bono legal assistance providers that are assisting them with the development of land ownership and operations agreements. The Council also provided capital outlay project information to the North Central New Mexico Economic Development District relating to the project as part of the prioritization of tourism projects for Northern New Mexico. The Council also reached out to the US Forest Service on behalf of the San Joaquín del Río de Chama, Juan Bautista Baldés and Tierra Amarilla land grants to obtain a copy of the Phase 1 Environmental Assessment completed for the PLVC property.

Laguna del Campo

The Council continued to provide support to the Tierra Amarilla Land Grant with the transfer of the Laguna del Campo property from the New Mexico Game Commission. This included reviewing and providing input to the land grant on proposed transfer documentation

provided by the New Mexico Department of Game and Fish. In addition, Council staff attended meetings held between the Land Grant, the Commission and the Department to discuss the transfer.

Other Governance Support

The Council also provided technical assistance and support to land grants-mercedes on a variety of other matters related to their governance. These included: assisting the Cubero Land Grant with process and procedures for responding to an IPRA request; assisting the Santa Bárbara Land Grant with the renewal of their Tort Liability coverage from the State's Risk Management Division and with a property acquisition; assistance to the San Antonio de Las Huertas Land Grant regarding bonding and tort liability coverage and with bylaw revisions and Open Meetings Act compliance; assisting the Chililí Land Grant with communications between the land grant and an emergency services communication tower contractor for a tower being built on the land grant; drafting of sample Open Meetings Act resolutions; assisting the Town of Tomé and Torreón Land Grants with obtaining CRS numbers from the New Mexico Department of Taxation and Revenue; assisting the Juan Bautista Baldés land grant with necessary documentation for opening a bank account and obtaining a federal tax I.D. number; providing information to the Bartolomé Sánchez and Arroyo Hondo Arriba Land Grants concerning requirements for land grant organized as political sub-divisions of the state. The Council also researched and provided sample cemetery regulations to the Santo Domingo de Cundiyo Land Grant.

Land Grant Youth Work

In FY 2022 the Council begin supporting the development of a land grant youth leadership development program. It did this through the partnership with the UNM Land Grant Studies Program, the Conservation Legacy Ancestral Lands Youth Conservation Corps Program and various land grants. The primary contribution of the Council was the investment of \$25,000 towards the development of a land grant-merced youth conservation corps pilot project in the East Mountains. The program was matched with the Outdoor Recreation Division Trails + grant received by the Tajique Land Grant for work in seven land grant communities. In addition, the Council also helped coordinate project design and implementation with Ancestral Lands and the participating land grants of San Antonio de Las Huertas, Cañón de Carnué, Chililí, Tajique, Torreón, Manzano and Town of Tomé. This included several meetings via zoom as well as site visits to each land grant to help plan out and scope projects. Work also included reaching out to land grant community leaders to find potential youth participants for the program. The program employed youth from the Albuquerque and East Mountain area. Youth participants were also able to earn AmeriCorps credit towards future scholarships.

LIAISON SUPPORT TO LAND GRANTS MERCEDES

Throughout the fiscal year the Council served as a liaison between land grants and a wide array of federal and state agencies. Below is a breakdown of liaison services provided among the different entities.

Office of the Governor

During the year the Council provided information to the Governor's Office concerning land grant affairs and activities. This included in person and phone conversations with Governor's staff. In addition, the Council sent a two formal letters to the Governor's office. One official correspondence outlined challenges faced by land grants-mercedes and provided the Council's policy recommendations for address the challenges. These included: revenue challenges for land grants-mercedes; equitable treatment and access for land grant-merced communities on former common lands now owned by the State; role of Land Grants-Mercedes in land and water conservation initiatives; NM Department of Transportation hardship auction; community and economic development; recognition of partition land grants as political subdivisions of the state; funding for the New Mexico Land Grant Council; and appointment of a land grant liaison from the Governor's staff. The second letter was concerning the passage of the Land Grant-Merced Assistance Fund.

Office of the New Mexico Attorney General

Throughout the fiscal year the Council's program manager served on the Office of the New Mexico Attorney General's Natural Resources Equity Advisory Committee. This has included attendance at all scheduled Advisory Committee meetings in addition to working with Attorney General staff on development of letters relating to land grant-merced issues sent out on behalf of the Committee. In addition, the Council provided requested information concerning the Anton Chico Land Grant's historic loss of their common lands to the Office of the Attorney General Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo Division. The Council also began working with the NM Attorney General's Office on the development of a land grant and acequia digital repository and gallery at their Santa Fe headquarters. This included providing materials for display in the as well as providing contacts for land grant elected officials.

State Land Office

During the report period the Council worked with the State Land Office to set up meetings with the San Miguel del Bado Land Grant and the Tajique, Chilili and Manzano Land Grant concerning fuelwood projects on State Trust Lands adjacent to those land grants-mercedes. This resulted in site visits in Villanueva and the East Mountains to evaluate the sites and determine next steps for accomplishing the projects. The East Mountains projects included a follow up meeting in Chilili to further strategize on how to most effectively accomplish the project. In addition to liaison work with specific land grants the Council also worked with the State Land Office to develop a Memoranda of Understanding for future fuelwood reduction projects between the SLO and other land grant-merced communities. This work culminated in the signing of the MOU between the Council and the State Land Office in May of 2022.

Office of the State Auditor

In FY 2022 the Council reached out to the State Auditor's Office in order to plan an Audit Act compliance training for land grants. This training expanded to include coverage of State Procurement Code requirements by the General Service Department and procedures for Capital Outlay expenditure by the Department of Finance and Administration. The training took place in the Spring of 2022. In addition to the training working the Council also interfaced with the State Auditor's Office to assist land grants with financial reporting requirements.

Department of Game & Fish

The Council continued its liaison support to the Tierra Amarilla Land Grant concerning the negotiation with the New Mexico Game Commission and Department of Game and Fish concerning the Laguna del Campo transfer. This has included attending Game Commission Hearing in support of the land grant-merced, interfacing with individual Commission members and Department staff as well as providing information concerning the transfer negotiations to the Governor's Office.

Department of Information Technology

During the period the Council engaged the Department of Information Technology (DOIT) concerning the need for broadband services in land grant-merced communities. This included providing information about each land grant that is a political subdivision of the State concerning their infrastructure, pertinent capital assets, population and capacity for developing a broadband project. The Council also forwarded a request for information about potential projects from the DOIT to out to land grants.

Department of Finance and Administration

The Council worked with the Department of Finance and Administration to coordinate a capital outlay training for land grants which was held in September of 2021. The Council also met with DFA's rural ombudsman to provide more background information on land grants as well as provide a current list of land grant contacts. The Council also began working with DFA relating to the implementation of House Bill 8, the Land Grant Merced-Assistance fund. This has included coordinating meetings with the DFA and the State Auditor's Office. Council staff also joined DFA staff at an open house event hosted by Rep. Susan Herrera in Hernandez to discuss the implementation of the Land Grant Merced Assistant Fund.

Energy Minerals and Natural Resources Department - State Parks Division

In FY 2022 the Council staff attended a meeting between the State Parks Division and the Manzano Land Grant concerning developing partnerships with the Manzano State Park. The meeting was set up by the Representative Matthew McQueen at the request of the Manzano Land Grant. The Manzano State Park is within the exterior boundaries of the land grant and was established on former common lands of the land grant obtained through adverse possession.

New Mexico Congressional Delegation

The Council served as liaison with members of the New Mexico Delegation on a variety of issues. This included working with the San Joaquín del Río de Chama, Tierra Amarilla, Juan Bautista Baldés Land Grants, the U.S. Forest Service, and Congresswoman Teresa Ledger Fernández’s Office to coordinate the Piedra Lumbre Visitor’s Center acquisition celebration held on July 10, 2021. The Council also assisted the office of Congresswoman Teresa Ledger Fernández with coordination of a site visit with the Santo Tomás Aposotól del Río de las Trampas and Santa Bárbara Land Grants. The site visit took place on April 13, 2022. In addition, the Council help coordinate and participated in a phone conference call with the San Joaquín del Río de Chama Land Grant. Finally, the Council also worked with the Office of Congresswoman Stansbury to set up a tour of the Tajique, Torreón, Manzano and Tomé Land Grants which took place on October 18, 2021.

U.S. Forest Service

In fiscal year 2022 the Council interfaced with the United States Forest Service as liaison in several ways. The Council attended a meeting with the Carson National Forest at the Camino Real Ranger District regarding fires, acequia access, and fuelwood and work with the Carson National Forest to schedule a “Land Grant 101” training for new USFS employees. During the Hermit’s Peak / Calf Canyon Fire the Council received regular updates from the U.S. Forest Service and disseminated all information received to the relevant land grant communities. The Council also participated in the interagency Post Fire Recovery Response meetings held during and after the fire. The Council also corresponded and conversed with local land grant officials to help connect them with resources made available as a result of the fire recovery efforts. The Council also assisted the Santa Bárbara Land Grant president Bonifacio Vásquez with coordinating a meeting with NM State Forestry, the USFS and the Congressional Delegation regarding a fuelwood transportation option concept utilizing the New Mexico National Guard. This meeting resulted in a use of a NM National Guard Transportation Unit for moving firewood from the contingency lines to local communities in need. During the period staff and Council member Andrea Padilla traveled to Las Vegas to attend a meeting with the USDA Undersecretary of Natural Resources and Environment concerning the impact of the Hermit’s Peak / Calf Canyon Fire on the traditional communities and their dependence on natural resources. The Council served a panel to provide input to the Undersecretary on needed agency considerations in implementation of federal relief efforts. Finally, in addition to direct liaison work with the U.S. Forest Service and local land grant communities concerning the Hermit’s Peak / Calf Canyon fires the Council also provided information to both print and radio media regarding land grant communities impacted by the New Mexico wildfires.

Other Liaison Work

During FY 2022, the Council also assisted the Town of Tomé Land Grant with coordination and facilitation of a meeting with the Middle Rio Grande Conservancy District, Isleta Pueblo, Valencia County Fire Department, the New Mexico Attorney General’s Office and the Office of Congresswoman Melanie Stansbury to discuss fuelwood reduction and collection opportunities/projects in the bosque.

Council staff also made a presentation in Tomé to a UNM education doctoral seminar on the work of the Council and land grants in general. The Council also worked with the Santa Bárbara Land Grant to prepare a letter of support for the transfer of a building from the Peñasco Independent School District to the Santa Bárbara Land Grant. Council staff also joined in a meeting with the Cristóbal de La Serna Land Grant and the Taos County Assessor to discuss tax evaluation on the common lands of the land grant. Council staff also attended the quarterly meeting of the New Mexico Land Grant Consejo to provide updates on the work of the Council and gather input on land grant needs.

Finally, throughout the year the Council disseminated information to land grants via email. There was a total of 98 separate emails send out to land grants concerning: press releases from federal and state agencies (US Forest Service, BLM, USDA, Congressional Delegation, NM Legislature, Office of the Governor, NM Economic Development Department, NMDOIT, NM Environment Department, NM Acequia Association); solicitations for public comments to inform policy decisions; public land closures; decision notices; job announcements; event notices; trainings; workshops; reporting and submission deadlines; grant funding opportunities; periodic newsletters; and wildfire updates.

POLICY WORK

In Fiscal Year 2022 the Council worked on a variety of policy issues at both the federal and state level. This included both administrative and legislative policy work. Below is a breakdown of the policy work completed by the Council organized by the level (state/federal), and type (administrative/legislative) of policy work. It is further categorized by entity/agency or policy topic area.

State Administrative Policy work

Community Governance Attorney Commission - Higher Education Department - UNM School of Law

In FY 2022 the Council continued to work with the Community Governance Attorney Commission, UNM School of Law and the Higher Education Department on the development of the Community Governance Attorney Program. This included attending meeting of the Commission to provide input and help with development of the Program. Council staff also met with the Legislative Finance Committee analysis for the Higher Education Department to ensure that the funding for the program will be placed in the correct funding category for FY 2023. The Council also coordinated calls with representatives of the Colonias communities and New Mexico Legal Aid to provide more background and information on the intent of the Program and how legal services have developed for land grant communities.

New Mexico Department of Agriculture Healthy Soils Program

In this fiscal year report period Council staff served on the New Mexico Department of Agriculture Healthy Soils Program application review committee. This required review and individual scoring of all funding applications submitted to the Program and attendance at review committee ranking meeting. In addition, the Council through its staff representative was able to provide feedback to the Department for making improvements to overall application and funding and process.

Secretary of State

In FY 2022 the Council responded to a request by the Secretary of State regarding statutes concerning the redistricting of Soil and Water Conservation District boundaries. The request was seeking input from the Council about what role if any land grants within a Soil and Water Conservation District would play with regard to the redistricting of the SWCD boundaries. The Council reviewed and analyzed the relevant statute and provide input to the Secretary of State's Office concerning the request.

Cannabis

The Council did researched and submitted comments relating to the new cannabis regulations developed by the Regulation and Licensing Department. In addition to written comments the Council also provided oral testimony during a public input hearing. The Council's

comments centered around the concerns over the protection of ground and surface water resources in rural communities, rulemaking procures and the participation of small and local producers.

30 by 30 Natural Resource Conservation

In Fiscal Year 2022 the Council began working on developing a policy position on the State's 30 by 30 natural resource conservation initiative. This included consultation with the New Mexico Acequia Association to identify common areas of interest. The Council is concerned with ensuring that land grants-mercedes and acequias, as political subdivisions, of the state are included in land and natural resource conservation discussions and policy initiatives. This includes ensuring that both land grants and acequia governing bodies are eligible.

Tort Liability Coverage for Land Grants

Towards the end of Fiscal Year 2022 the Council began conversations with the State Risk Management Division to coordinate the purchase of Tort Liability coverage, surety bonds and other insurance coverage for land grants in FY 2023.

State Legislative Policy Work

During the 2021 Legislative Interim Session the Council staff attended the Land Grant Interim Committee hearings held in Española in July, in Anton Chico in September, in Tomé in October and Santa Fe in November. The Council provided input to the Committee as requested and also provided support to the Legislative Council Service in helping develop meeting agendas and provide contact information for potential presenters. Council staff also assisted land grants with preparation of capital outlay and junior funding request presentations before the Interim Committee during their final meeting in November of 2021. The Council also began providing input to legislators concerning junior money appropriations for land grant communities.

Following the 2021 Interim Session but prior to the start of the 2022 Legislative Session the Council began conversations with House leadership regarding concerns related to the dissolution of the Local Government, Land Grants and Cultural Affairs Standing Committee. The Council provided input on the importance of the standing committee as well as on the overall policy needs for land grants-mercedes. This work included: scheduling a tour for legislators of the Chilili and San Antonio de las Huertas land grants; meeting with the House Speaker and other key legislators at the Capitol to discuss legislative policy options for meeting land grant-merced unmet needs. This work resulted in the introduction of House Bill 8 - the Land Grant-Merced Assistance Fund. The Council provided input on the bill and staff served as an expert witness, at the request of the sponsor, for the bill before House Rural Development, Land Grants and Cultural Affairs Committee and House Taxation and Revenue Committee, on the House Floor, Senate Indian, Rural & Cultural Affairs Committee, Senate Finance Committee and on the Senate Floor. The Council also helped coordinate attendance of land grants leadership for the passage of the bill on the House Floor. After passed by the Legislature the Council provided direct input to the Governor's Office and the Department of Finance and Administration during their review of the legislation. The Council worked with the Governor's Office to coordinate a bill signing ceremony on March 3, 2022 in Tierra Amarilla. The Council recorded the event and conducted interviews of land grant-merced attendees. After the bill was signed into law the Council worked on establishing regular

implementation team meetings with the Department of Finance and Administration and the Office of the State Auditor. Council staff worked with DFA and the Auditor's Office to determine which land grants need to file substitute W-9's with the State and which land grants need to come into compliance with financial reporting requirements under the State Audit Act.

During the 2022 Legislative Session the Council also reviewed and analyzed and provided input on HB 36, a bill aimed at providing funding for conservation projects. The Council also provided input as requested to DFA for SB 87, a funding bill for land grant youth development program funding. Staff also provided input to individual legislators regarding junior fund appropriations for land grants. The Council also provided information to DFA regarding junior money requests for land grant projects.

Council staff attended the Land Grant Interim Committee organizing meeting for the FY 2022 Interim Session that took place in Santa Fe in June of 2022. The Council again worked with Legislative Council Service staff to provide input for the interim land grant committee 2022 interim session work plan for 2022.

Federal Administrative Policy Work

United States Forest Service Forest Plans

In Fiscal Year 2022 the Council completed its work on the National Forest Management Plan Revisions for the Carson, Cibola and Santa Fe National Forests. This was the culmination of over ten years of work. The specific work this fiscal year included the review of the final versions of the respective plans and the official responses to comments submitted on the draft plans. Based on the review the Council submitted official objections to the final versions relating to concerns over the traditional use sections of the plans and the need for land grants to be recognized in a separate section of each plan. The Council also assisted the San Joaquín del Río de Chama and Santa Bárbara Land Grants in submitting their own objections to the plan. The Council followed up on the objection process by reviewing third party objects submitted to the Carson, Cibola and Santa Fe in order to determine for which objections the Council should serve as an interested party. The Council then submit interested party letters concerning third party objections potentially averse to land grants-merged interests. Submittal of interested party letters was an official part of the objection process that allowed the Council to participate in discussions with the agency concerning objections submitted by third parties. The Council also assisted land grants in submitting interested party letters as well. Finally, the Council participated in the three-day objection hearing hosted virtually by the Region 3 Office of the U.S. Forest Service. During the three-day hearing the Council provided comments and answered agency questions related to the Council's objections.

Bureau of Land Management

In FY 2022 the Council's Research Historian Dr. Jacobo Baca, was appointed to the BLM's Northern New Mexico Resource Advisory Council (RAC). The role of the RAC is to provide input to the BLM regarding management decision being considered by the Agency. Dr. Baca was appointed to a position representing historical and archaeological concerns and will represent the

interest of land grants on the RAC. Council staff also provided input to the BLM concerning potential locations for in-the-field wood permit sales.

Federal Legislative Policy Work

During the fiscal year 2022 the Council continued its work on the Land Grant-Merced Traditional Use Recognition and Consultation Act. The Council worked with the New Mexico Congressional Delegation offices of Senator Ben R. Luján, Congresswoman Teresa Leger Fernández and Congresswoman Melanie Stansbury on the reintroduction of the proposed legislation in the 117th Congress. This work included providing input on drafts for introduction, developing quotes from the Council and other materials for use in press releases and introduction announcements. The legislation was introduced to both United State House of Representatives as H.R. 5493 and in the United States Senate as S. 2708. The Council also provided input to Senator Luján regarding a letter to the President concerning consultation with traditional communities as part of the America the Beautiful initiative. In preparation for Congressional committee hearings the Council developed materials for submittal to the United States Congressional House Natural Resources Committee Subcommittee on National Parks, Forests and Public Lands. The Council's Program Director, Arturo Archuleta, testified before the Committee on March 1. In addition to providing virtual testimony before the committee the Council also prepared written testimony for submittal to the Committee as well as follow up written materials based on questions raised by the Committee. The Senate version of the bill, S. 2708, was heard and passed by the Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee in the Summer of 2022.

In addition to the H.R. 5493 and S. 2708, the Council also provided feedback on other legislation potentially affecting land grants-mercedes. This included legislation relating to the Continental Divide Trial as well as discussions with Congressional Delegation staffers on the 30 by 30 land conservation initiative.

Research and Related Work

Historical Research

During the fiscal year the Council also provided research assistance to the Legislative Council Service concerning the Bartolomé Sánchez and Santa Cruz de La Cañada Land Grants. In addition, Council did historical and genealogical research relating to the Juan Bautista Baldés Land Grant. The Council also conducted research relating to historical common water use on the Abiquiú and Santa Bárbara Land Grants. Council staff also researched and sent out the patent for the Don Fernando de Taos Land Grant to the Land Grant. The Council also provided the San Joaquín del Río de Chama Land Grant with copies of historical documents from the Renehan-Gilbert and Napoleon B. Laughlin Collections at the New Mexico State Records Center and Archives, including copies of eviction notices sent by attorney Napoleon Laughlin evicting heirs from the Cañón de Chama. The Council also provided the Santo Tomás Apóstol del Río de las Trampas Land Grant with copies of historical documents from the Renehan-Gilbert Collection at the New Mexico State Records Center and Archives and from the Myra Ellen Jenkins Collection from the Center for Southwest Studies at Fort Lewis College (Durango, CO), including information regarding water rights. The Council also provided research support to the Manzano Land Grant in obtaining a copy of their land patent from the Bureau of Land Management. The Council also researched and provided information concerning the original petitioners of the Torreón Land Grant. Finally, the Council also conducted research relating to the Court of Private Land Claims and the *United States v. Sandoval* (1891) U.S. Supreme Court case.

Mapping

The Council worked on updating and finalizing traditional use boundary maps for land grants throughout the fiscal year. Maps worked on during the period included maps for San Joaquín del Río de Chama, Juan Bautista Baldés, Abiquiú, Tierra Amarilla, Don Fernando de Taos, Santo Domingo de Cundiyo, and Cristóbal de La Serna. In addition, to developing the GIS maps the also began compiling supporting historical documentation tied to the traditional use boundaries for each land grant, including original and transcriptions of Spanish and Mexican granting documents, patents and other historical and archival materials.

Digitization of Records

In FY 2023 the Council partnered with the UNM Land Grant Studies Program to digitize 165 rolls of microfilm materials from the Spanish and Mexican Archives of New Mexico as well as court records specific to the Town of Tomé Land Grant. In total the project resulted in the digitization of approximately 30,000 documents.

In addition, the Council scanned a series of large maps for the Manzano Land Grant and the Anton Chico Land Grant at the UNM Mapping and Graphic Information Center. The maps for Manzano related to their common land allotments and the acequia infrastructure and water rights distribution. The Anton Chico maps delineated via GIS the current boundaries of the common land still owned by the Land Grant.

FY 2023 APPROVED BUDGET

In FY 2023 the Council received a \$496,900 legislative general fund appropriation, as well as \$330,000 in Senate Bill 1 junior appropriations, for a total budget of \$826,900.00. The junior appropriations were targeted toward expanding land grant youth development as well as assisting land grants with financial management and operating costs. The Council is requesting a budget of \$880,000 in FY 2024, which represents a 6% increase from the Council’s combined FY 23 base budget and junior appropriations. The purpose of the increase is to allow the Council to continue to provide for the expanded level of services it can provide to ensure high quality, direct, technical assistance and support to land grants-mercedes in fulfillment of its statutory mission.

Table 2 – FY 2023 Approved Budget

Budget Line Item	Budget
DFA Admin Fee	\$3,300
Operating Funds to LGs	\$80,000
Legal Service Contract – NMLA	\$60,000
Legal Service Contract - Litigation Specific	\$30,000
Legal Service Contract – PLVC	\$6,000
Publishing	\$5,000
In State Travel	\$9,800
Out of State Travel	\$5,600
UNM IGSA*	\$627,200
F&A	\$104,533
Staff Salary & Fringe	\$288,696
Personnel In State Travel	\$8,000
Personnel Out of State Travel	\$4,000
Office Supplies (General)	\$1,301
General Media Supplies	\$500
Computer Software	\$1,500
Computer Supplies	\$600
Non Capital Equipment <\$5,001	\$1,000
Tagged Non-Capital Equipment (Computers)	\$3,500
Postage	\$350
Law School Externs	\$9,920
Surveyor Contract	\$50,000
Law Clinic Fee Waiver LG	\$500
Copies, Printer Maintenance	\$1,600
Youth Development and Land Grant Education	\$150,000
Facility Rental (meetings)	\$1,200
Totals	\$826,900

**Line items below UNM Intergovernmental Services Agreement all roll up into the \$627,200 contract total.*

FY 2024 BUDGET REQUEST & JUSTIFICATION

Currently there are 23 community land grants-mercedes that are political subdivisions of the state, spread across 12 counties in New Mexico. The Council is tasked with providing land grants-mercedes with support and assistance. Community land grant-merced boards of trustees are responsible for managing land grant common lands for the benefit of their heirs as well as for looking out for the health, safety and general welfare of their communities. In addition, boards of trustees are responsible for meeting all statutory requirements delegated to units of government in New Mexico. In 2022, the Land Grant-Merced Assistance Fund was signed into law which will provide land grants-mercedes with a guaranteed revenue stream beginning in FY 2023. Land grants-mercedes will need assistance properly budgeting, expending and reporting on these new revenues. In total, community land grant boards of trustees manage more than 200,000 acres of common land across the state. The boards of trustees must also protect the interests of the heirs on millions of additional acres of former common lands now considered public land managed by various federal and state agencies. Protecting those interests includes ensuring that heirs continue to have access to those public lands for traditional uses such as, timber harvesting, fuelwood and herb gathering, grazing and religious and cultural purposes.

Increasing the Council's budget will ensure that the necessary staffing and professional service contracts are in place to assist community land grants-mercedes with: management and protection of their common lands, community and economic development, expenditure of capital outlay; legal assistance; professional surveying; and compliance with laws and regulations pertaining to units of local government; and development of youth programming for land grants.

Table 3. Detailed FY 2024 Budget Request Breakdown

Budgeted Line Items	
DFA Admin Fee	\$3,300
Legal Service Contract - New Mexico Legal Aid	\$60,000
Publishing	\$5,000
In State Travel	\$10,000
Out of State Travel	\$6,000
UNM Inter-Governmental Services Agreement*	\$795,700
Staff Salary & Fringe	\$464,846
Personnel In State Travel	\$10,500
Personnel Out of State Travel	\$4,800
Office Supplies (General)	\$1,109
Parking Permits	\$300
Computer Software	\$1,500
Computer Supplies	\$600
Non Capital Equipment <\$5,001	\$1,500
Tagged Non-Capital Equipment (Computers)	\$5,000
Postage	\$350
Law School Externs	\$10,912
Surveyor Contract	\$30,000
Law Clinic Fee Waiver LG	\$500
Copies, Printer Maintenance	\$2,000
Youth Development and Land Grant Education	\$100,000
Facility Rental	\$35,000
F&A	\$126,783
Total Budgeted Expenditures	\$880,000

**Line items below UNM Intergovernmental Services Agreement all roll up into the \$627,200 contract total.*

FY 2024 BUDGET JUSTIFICATION NARRATIVE

DFA Administrative Fee - \$3,300

Purpose: To provide Department of Finance and Administration Local Government Division an opportunity to recuperate costs associated with financial administration and oversight of the New Mexico Land Grant Council activities conducted by DFA-LGD in accordance with the Council being administratively attached to DFA.

Benefit: Administrative fees provides the Council with administrative support to handle indirect administrative overhead costs such as process financial expenditures.

Deliverable: Processing of: per diem and mileage for Council members; Payments to third party contractors and vendors as requested by the Council.

Legal Services Contract - \$60,000

Purpose: Provide legal support and assistance to land grants-mercedes.

Benefit: To provide legal services to land grants-mercedes necessary to properly utilize and protect the common lands of the land grant-merced. This includes issues relating to real property disputes, contracts and negotiations, legal research and advice, compliance with federal and state law, and policy formulation. Funds would be utilized to contract legal services for land grants-mercedes.

Deliverable: On-call legal services contract for support to the Council and land grants-mercedes as designated by the Council.

Publishing/Book Purchases - \$5,000

Purpose: To publish/purchase books/materials for distribution to land grants-mercedes, elected officials, federal and state agencies and to the general public.

Benefit: Publication/purchase of books/materials that increase capacity of land grants-mercedes and provide information about land grants-mercedes to other relevant entities.

Deliverables: Publication/purchase of book/materials relating to land grants-mercedes during the fiscal year.

In-State Travel Mileage & Per Diem for Council - \$10,000

Purpose: Provides funding for the Land Grant Council members to receive mileage and per diem for meetings.

Benefit: Funding will allow the Council to meet at least monthly in order set policy and provide direction to Council staff in the fulfillment of the Council's statutory requirements under 49-11-1 through 49-11-5, NMSA 1978. This includes:

- (1) facilitate the exchange of experience and advice among land grants;
- (2) serve as a liaison between land grants and federal, state and local agencies;
- (3) promote cooperation between land grants and, by consultation and advice, assist in the coordination of land grant programs;
- (4) provide board development opportunities and technical assistance to the governing boards of land grants;
- (5) provide short- and long-range planning assistance to land grants;
- (6) conduct training sessions for land grants on topics of interest, such as: (a) local, state and national zoning trends and concerns and other land - use issues; (b) state requirements for political subdivisions on such topics as open meetings, public records, procurement, risk management, tort claims and financial account ability; and conservation; (c) techniques of historical research; (d) grant writing; (e) economic development strategies; (f) rangeland management and water;
- (7) disseminate information to relevant federal, state and local agencies on land grant issues and activities and, when requested, on the status of individual land grants;
- (8) review state and federal policies, plans and legislation affecting land grants in New Mexico;

Deliverable: 12 regular meetings and any necessary special meetings of the New Mexico Land Grant Council.

Out-of-State Travel & Per Diem for the Council - \$6,000

Purpose: Provides funding for the Land Grant Council members to travel to Washington D.C. to meet with congressional offices, federal executive branch agencies and to provide testimony before congressional committees on issues and legislation pertaining to land grants-mercedes.

Benefit: Funding will allow the Council to meet its statutory mission, as found in §49-11-4-C-8, which is to develop and promote federal legislation for an

appropriate congressional response to longstanding community land grant claims in New Mexico.

Deliverable: At least one trip to Washington D.C. during the fiscal year.

University of New Mexico Intergovernmental Service Agreement - \$795,700

Purpose: Provide staffing and other administrative support to the New Mexico Land Grant Council.

Benefit: Allows the Council to fulfill its statutory mission through contracted services.

Deliverables: Details about specific deliverable will be broken down below by Intergovernmental Services Agreement budget line items.

Staff Salary & Fringe - \$464,846

To provide staff positions to support the Council in fulfillment of its mission to provide a program of support to land grants-mercedes. The positions would consist of: principal investigator, program director, research historian/archivist; land grant community based research specialist; unit administrator; conservation specialist, community development planner; Graduate internship. Several positions (program manager, research historian, youth and land grant support coordinator, administrative assistant) will be shared positions with the University of New Mexico Land Grant Studies Program. Therefore, only a portion of the salary for these positions will be covered by the Council. Below are additional details about the positions, including amount needed for each position, purpose, benefit and deliverable for each. All staff will also provide general administrative support to the Land Grant Council as needed in the areas of drafting agendas, securing meeting locations, posting meetings notices, development of meeting minutes, coordinating activities with the Department of Finance and Administration (DFA), programmatic administration of Land Grant Support Fund, oversee and administer contracts awarded by the Council, develop correspondence on behalf of the Council and disseminate information to land grants and to other entities as needed.

A. Principal Investigator - \$1,068

Purpose: UNM requires at least 1% effort by a Principal Investigator to serve as main point of contact between UNM and Council regarding Intergovernmental Services Agreement.

Benefit: Ensure compliance with Intergovernmental Services Agreement terms and conditions.

Deliverables: Ensure all administrative steps necessary at UNM are completed to allow for execution of all Intergovernmental Services Agreement objectives.

B. Program Director (.90 FTE)- \$72,673

Purpose: The program director oversees day to day operations, supervises all Council employees, works on policy analysis and development of federal and state policies relating to land grants and represents the Council in meetings with state and federal agencies. The program manager also ensures that Council resources are fully utilized, and that the Council's mission is fulfilled.

Benefit: Provide oversight of day-to-day operations of the Council to ensure accomplishment of statutory mission; provide policy analysis, development and recommendations that will have positive impacts on land grants-mercedes; serve as main point of contact for Council with state and federal agencies.

Deliverables: Ensure completion of annual report to Governor and Legislature; ensure the proper expenditure of New Mexico Land Grant Council annual budget; ensure needed services are being provided land grants-mercedes statewide; Ensure that state and federal policies affecting land grants are reviewed and that the Council provides official responses; Ensure that the Council and land grants-mercedes are represented at relevant meetings and during official government required processes.

C. Research Historian (.6 FTE) - \$42,840

Purpose: The research historian will oversee the New Mexico Land Grant Registry, conduct historical research on land grants as it pertains to policy analysis or legal services as well as provide direct support to land grants-mercedes with archiving their grant documentation. The research historian will serve as the custodian of records for the Council and will be in charge of keeping minutes of the Council meetings. The research historian also represents the Council in meetings with state and federal agencies.

Benefit: Provide accurate record keeping for the New Mexico Land Grant Registry and New Mexico Land Grant Council. Provide historical research to support policy initiatives of the Council. Provide support to land grants-mercedes with historical research and archiving their records. Serves as a point of contact for Council with state and federal agencies.

Deliverables: Maintain and update the New Mexico Land Grant Registry records and issue letters of receipt to land grants-mercedes for documents received by the registry; completion of monthly New Mexico Land Grant Council meeting minutes in timely manner; Ensure compliance with the Inspection of Public Records Act; assist at least 2 land grants-mercedes with historical research or archiving services. Helps to ensure that state and federal policies affecting land grants are reviewed and that the Council provides official responses; Helps to ensure that the Council and land grants-mercedes are represented at relevant meetings and during official government required processes.

D. Unit Administrator (.25 FTE)- \$13,934

Purpose: The Administrative assist will provide administrative support to the Council and staff throughout the fiscal year.

Benefit: To assist with the processing of council related expenditures including payroll and equipment and supply purchases, etc.

Deliverable: Administrative support during the fiscal year.

E. Land Grant Community Based Research Specialist (.7 FTE) - \$35,700

Purpose: To coordinate direct technical assistance to land grants with: completion of ICIP's; expenditure of capital outlay; and assistance to Land Grant Support Fund award recipients.

Benefit: To help land grants more effectively and efficiently plan and complete capital projects.

Deliverables: Provide assistance to at least: 10 land grants with completion of ICIP; 5 land grants with expenditure of Capital Outlay appropriations; 4 land grants with Land Grant Support Fund sponsored projects.

F. Land Grant Accounting Specialist (1.0 FTE) - \$68,250

Purpose: To provide assistance to land grants with financial management including budgeting and financial reporting requirements.

Benefit: Ensure land grants comply with state budgeting and financial reporting requirements and have sound financial management procedures.

Deliverables: Provide assistance to at least: 15 land grants with completion of annual budgets, quarterly budget reports, and Audit Act Tiered-System financial reporting requirements.

G. Conservationist Specialist (1.0 FTE) - \$50,000

Purpose: To direct technical assistance to land grants with management of natural resources including: planning and implementation of projects, applying for and administering natural resources management funding and developing GIS mapping for land grants.

Benefit: To help land grants more effectively and efficiently manage their common lands and natural resources.

Deliverables: Provide assistance to at least: 5 land grants with natural resources management concerns and projects and develop GIS maps as needed for distribution to land grants and the general public.

H. Community Development Planner (1.0 FTE) – \$50,000

Purpose: To provide community and economic develop planning and implementation services to land grants-mercedes.

Benefit: To help land grants develop and implement community and economic development projects that will benefit the local community and region.

Deliverables: Provide community and economic planning and development services to at least 4 land grants throughout the fiscal year.

I. Graduate Internship — \$15,300

Purpose: To provide support for land grant youth development activities.

Benefit: To provide support to on-site land grant youth projects geared toward leadership development programing for youth.

Deliverables: Provide at support to at least 1 on-site land grant youth leadership program and coordinate youth YCC projects.

J. Fringe Benefits - \$115,081

Purpose: To cover employer portion of federal and state payroll salary deductions, employee health insurance and other employee benefits.

Benefit: Provide employee benefits as required by law.

Deliverables: Ensure compliance with federal and state deduction requirements.

Personnel Travel In-State – \$10,500

Purpose: Travel throughout New Mexico to provide direct technical assistance to eligible community land grants and to attend meetings with state and federal agencies, legislative hearings and other land grant council related business.

Benefit: Ability for Council staff to provide direct assistance to land grants in their communities. Also provides Council staff the ability to attend land grant related meetings around the state.

Deliverables: Attend meetings of: land grant boards of trustees; federal and state agency partners; attend meetings of the Legislative Land Grant Interim

Committee and other legislative hearings; provide in the field direct assistance to at least 8 eligible community land grants; attend NM Land Grant Council meetings located outside of Albuquerque;

Out-of-State Travel – Personnel - \$4,800

Purpose: Provides funding for the Land Grant Council staff to travel to Washington D.C. to meet with congressional offices, federal executive branch agencies and to provide testimony before congressional committees on issues and legislation pertaining to land grants-mercedes.

Benefit: Funding will allow the Council to meet its statutory mission, as found in §49-11-4-C-8, which is to develop and promote federal legislation for an appropriate congressional response to longstanding community land grant claims in New Mexico.

Deliverable: At least 1 trip to Washington D.C. during the fiscal year.

Office Supplies General - \$1,109

Purpose: To purchase necessary office supplies, office keys and security codes.

Benefit: Provide materials necessary such as copy paper, staples, paper clips, office equipment, etc., related to supporting the Council and land grants-mercedes throughout New Mexico.

Deliverables: Ability to produce work products by the Council directly to land grants-mercedes or for distribution to land grants-mercedes, federal and state agencies and the general public.

Parking Permits - \$300

Purpose: To acquire parking passes for UNM main campus.

Benefit: To allow for parking for official council business including for visitors to the Council offices at UNM.

Deliverables: Provide free parking for all visitors to the Council offices.

Computer software and supplies - \$1,500 & \$600

Purpose: To purchase computer software, computer supplies relating to the conduct of Council business.

Benefit: Provide software and equipment necessary related to supporting the Council and land grants-mercedes throughout New Mexico.

Deliverables: Ability to conduct work by the Council staff.

Non-Capital Equipment - \$1,500

Purpose: To purchase necessary office equipment.

Benefit: Provide necessary office equipment related to supporting the Council and land grants-mercedes throughout New Mexico.

Deliverables: Ability to conduct work by the Council staff.

Tagged Non-Capital Equipment (Computers) - \$5,000

Purpose: To purchase computers.

Benefit: Provide computers for staff necessary to supporting the Council and land grants-mercedes throughout New Mexico.

Deliverables: Ability to conduct work by the Council staff.

Postage - \$350

Purpose: To purchase necessary postage relating to the conduct of Council business.

Benefit: Provide for mailing of materials such as Land Grant Registry receipt letters and materials distributed to land grants-mercedes throughout the year.

Deliverables: Disseminate information to community land grants, federal and state agencies and the general public via mail.

Graduate Interns – Law Student(s) - \$10,912 for 2 - 4 students (2 year-long or 2 per semester for total of 4)

Purpose: To provide additional legal support to land grants through internship with students from UNM School of Law, while at the same time providing exposure of law students to land grant-mercedes.

Benefit: Low-cost legal assistance to land grants while utilizing internships to vet students for placement in the Community Governance Attorney Program, which provides loan forgiveness for 3rd year law students that commit to serve as a community governance attorney for two years after passing the BAR exam.

Deliverables: Provide at least 2 law student interns to work directly with the Council's legal services provider, there-by increasing amount of legal assistance to land grants-mercedes.

Surveyor Contract - \$30,000.00

Purpose: To provide professional surveying services to land grants-mercedes to properly locate boundaries of existing common lands in order to decrease illegal encroachments and to review surveys conducted by private parties within or adjacent to exterior boundaries of land grants-mercedes.

Benefit: Since the original patent boundary surveys were completed of the exterior boundaries of land grants in the late 19th and early 20th centuries, few land grants have had the means to conduct boundary surveys for lands within the exterior boundaries. As a result, most surveys within the exterior boundaries have been conducted by private individuals, often times to the detriment of the common lands.

Deliverables: Provide surveying services to at least 2 land grants throughout the fiscal year.

UNM Natural Resources and Environmental Law Clinic (NRELC) Fees - \$500

Purpose: To cover minimal client and materials fee for land grants-mercedes receiving assistance from UNM Natural Resources and Environmental Law Clinic.

Benefit: Give land grants-mercedes access to free legal services from UNM Law School students while providing law students an opportunity to practice law and learn about land grants-mercedes.

Deliverables: Cover the client and materials fee for land grants-mercedes receiving services from the NRELC throughout the fiscal year.

Printing and Copy Maintenance - \$2,000

Purpose: To maintain copy machine through a maintenance service contract.

Benefit: Allow for coping of materials related to conducting business of the Council and for providing land grants with copies of materials as requested.

Deliverables: In house production of small-scale materials produced by the Council for use in daily operations and distribution to land grants and general public. Provide copying services to at least 4 land grants-mercedes throughout the fiscal year.

Youth Development & Land Grant Education - \$100,000

Purpose: To provide funding for on-site land grant youth leadership development programs, Land Grant Youth Conservation Corps opportunities and a teacher's/student summer institute.

Benefit: Provide opportunities for land grant youth to engage in culturally relevant educational opportunities that develop leadership skills; provide opportunities for land grant youth to participate in conservation projects in land grant communities that help protect and preserve land grant-merced natural resources and community assets; provide education enrichment, professional development and curriculum development opportunities for practicing educators and students.

Deliverables: 2 on site year long youth development programs in two land grant-merced communities; 5 weeks of work from a 5-person youth work crew; 1 teacher/student 3 day institute.

Facility Rental - \$35,000

Purpose: Allows the Council to pay for rental of office space and for monthly Council meetings.

Benefit: Provides adequate office and meeting space for council staff and monthly meetings of the Council..

Deliverable: One year of office rental space for staff and hold 12 regular monthly meetings of the Council as well as any necessary special meetings throughout FY 2024.

Facilities and Administration Fee to University of New Mexico -\$126,783

Purpose: To allow the Council to enter into an agreement with the University of New Mexico for administrative and support services related to fulfilling the Council's mission. Approved F & A rate for contracts between the University of New Mexico and the Department of Finance and Administration is 20%.

Benefit: F & A provides the Council with general administrative support from UNM.

Deliverable: Hosting of Council website; administrative support for Council, staff and Council approved contracts; e-mail and internet access for Council and staff; general accounting and grants management services, purchasing and procurement services, access to legal services related to IGSA.

APPENDIX 1
FY 2022 MEETING AGENDAS



New Mexico Land Grant Council

Mailing: MSC02 1680, 1 University of New Mexico, Albuquerque, NM 87131

Physical: 1829 Sigma Chi Rd NE ♦ Albuquerque, New Mexico 87106

Email: nmlandgrantcouncil@unm.edu ♦ **Website:** www.lgc.unm.edu

COUNCIL MEETING

In-Person + Virtual Meeting,

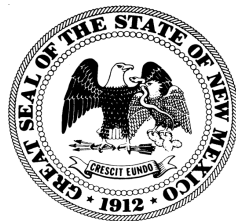
Cañón de Carnué Land Grant Hall, Carnuel

Zoom – Meeting I.D. – 954 3449 6661

July 12, 2021 - 9:00 am

Agenda

1. Call to Order - Roll Call
2. Introduction of Guests
3. Approval of Agenda
4. Approval of Meeting Minutes from June 24, 2021 Council meeting
5. Discussion and Possible Action on Federal and State Legislative Update – Guest Congresswoman Melanie Stansbury
6. Discussion and Possible Action on U.S. Forest Service Update – Including Guest Regional Forester Michiko Martin & MSO update
7. Discussion and Possible Action on Bureau of Land Management Update
8. Discussion and Possible Action on State Land Office Projects
9. Discussion and Possible Action on Office of the Attorney General Equity Advisory Council – Ricardo Dow y Anaya & Jennie Lusk
10. Discussion and Possible Action on Treaty Division Update
11. Discussion and Possible Action on FY 2022 Open Meetings Act Resolution
12. Discussion and Possible Action on Natural Resource Issues & Concerns - Local, State and Federal
13. Discussion and Possible Action on Council FY 2021 & FY 2022 Budget
14. Discussion and Possible Action UNM Intergovernmental Services Agreement - FY21 & FY22
15. Discussion and Possible Action on Legal Services for Land Grants Update & Requests
16. Discussion and Possible Action on Professional Surveyor Services Contract Update & Requests
17. Discussion and Possible Action on Piedra Lumbre Visitors Center Update
18. Discussion and Possible Action on Laguna del Campo Update
19. Discussion and Possible Action on Land Grant Registry Update
20. Discussion and Possible Action on Land Grant Institute/Land Grant Studies Program Update
21. Discussion and Possible Action on Correspondence
22. Discussion and Possible Action on Staff Assignments
23. Public Comments – discussion only
24. Miscellaneous Announcements
25. Date and Location for August 2021 Council Meeting
26. Adjournment



New Mexico Land Grant Council

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COUNCIL MEETING

In-Person + Virtual Meeting,

UNM Science and Technology Park Center, Conference Room

851 University Blvd SE

Zoom – Meeting I.D. – 955 8913 9774

August 11, 2021 - 10:00 am

Agenda

1. Call to Order - Roll Call
2. Introduction of Guests
3. Approval of Agenda
4. Approval of Meeting Minutes from July 12, 2021 Council meeting
5. Discussion and Possible Action on U.S. Forest Service
6. Discussion and Possible Action on Bureau of Land Management Update
7. Discussion and Possible Action on State Land Office Projects
8. Discussion and Possible Action on Federal and State Legislative Update
9. Discussion and Possible Action on Natural Resource Issues & Concerns - Local, State and Federal –
10. Discussion and Possible Action on Cannabis Control Division Regulations
11. Discussion and Possible Action on Office of the Attorney General Equity Advisory Council & Treaty Division
12. Discussion and Possible Action on Council FY 2021 & FY 2022 Budget
13. Discussion and Possible Action UNM Intergovernmental Services Agreement - FY21 & FY22 – Including Ancestral Lands Conservation Corps Partnership Approval
14. Discussion and Possible Action on Legal Services for Land Grants Update & Requests
15. Discussion and Possible Action on Professional Surveyor Services Contract Update & Requests
16. Discussion and Possible Action on Piedra Lumbre Visitors Center Update
17. Discussion and Possible Action on Laguna del Campo Update
18. Discussion and Possible Action on Land Grant Registry Update
19. Discussion and Possible Action on Land Grant Institute/Land Grant Studies Program Update
20. Discussion and Possible Action on Correspondence
21. Discussion and Possible Action on Staff Assignments
22. Public Comments – discussion only
23. Miscellaneous Announcements – ICIP Due September 3rd
24. Date and Location for September 2021 Council Meeting
25. Adjournment

MICHELLE LUJÁN GRISHAM
GOVERNOR



JUAN SÁNCHEZ
CHAIRMAN
REBECCA CORREA-SKARTWED
VICE-CHAIRWOMAN

New Mexico Land Grant Council

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****SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING****

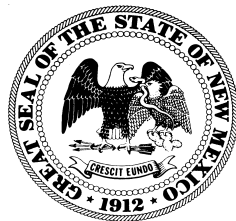
Virtual Meeting

Zoom – Meeting I.D. – 934 0714 3127

August 23, 2021 - 1:00 pm

Agenda

1. Call to Order - Roll Call
2. Introduction of Guests
3. Approval of Agenda
4. Discussion and Possible Action on Council FY 2021, FY 2022 & FY 2023 Budgets
5. Adjournment



New Mexico Land Grant Council

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COUNCIL MEETING

**In-Person + Virtual Meeting,
UNM Science and Technology Park Center, Conference Room
851 University Blvd SE
Zoom – Meeting I.D. – 993 8763 0116
September 15, 2021 - 10:00 am**

Agenda

1. Call to Order - Roll Call
2. Introduction of Guests
3. Approval of Agenda
4. Approval of Meeting Minutes from August 11 Regular & August 23 Special Council meeting
5. Discussion and Possible Action on Office of the Attorney General & Treaty Division – AG Balderas
6. Discussion and Possible Action on Bureau of Land Management Update
7. Discussion and Possible Action on State Land Office Projects
8. Discussion and Possible Action on Federal and State Legislative Update
9. Discussion and Possible Action on U.S. Forest Service
10. Discussion and Possible Action on Natural Resource Issues & Concerns - Local, State and Federal
11. Discussion and Possible Action on Council FY 2021, FY 2022 & FY 2023 Budget
12. Discussion and Possible Action UNM Intergovernmental Services Agreement - FY21 & FY22
13. Discussion and Possible Action on Legal Services for Land Grants Update & Requests
14. Discussion and Possible Action on Professional Surveyor Services Contract Update & Requests
15. Discussion and Possible Action on Piedra Lumbre Visitors Center Update
16. Discussion and Possible Action on Laguna del Campo Update
17. Discussion and Possible Action on Land Grant Registry Update
18. Discussion and Possible Action on Land Grant Institute/Land Grant Studies Program Update
19. Discussion and Possible Action on Correspondence
20. Discussion and Possible Action on Staff Assignments
21. Public Comments – discussion only
22. Miscellaneous Announcements
23. Date and Location for October, November & December 2021 Council Meeting
24. Adjournment



New Mexico Land Grant Council

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COUNCIL MEETING
In-Person + Virtual Meeting,
UNM Science and Technology Park Center, Conference Room
851 University Blvd SE
Zoom – Meeting I.D. – 938 6565 7642
October 20, 2021 - 10:00 am

Agenda

1. Call to Order - Roll Call
2. Introduction of Guests
3. Approval of Agenda
4. Approval of Meeting Minutes from September 15, 2021 meeting
5. Discussion and Possible Action on Federal and State Legislative Update – Guest Congresswoman Ledger Fernandez
6. Discussion and Possible Action on Bureau of Land Management Update
7. Discussion and Possible Action on State Land Office Projects
8. Discussion and Possible Action on U.S. Forest Service
9. Discussion and Possible Action on Office of the Attorney General & Treaty Division
10. Discussion and Possible Action on Natural Resource Issues & Concerns - Local, State and Federal - 30 x 30 Campaign
11. Discussion and Possible Action on Land Grant Support Fund
12. Discussion and Possible Action on Council FY 2022 Budget
13. Discussion and Possible Action UNM Intergovernmental Services Agreement - FY22
14. Discussion and Possible Action on Legal Services for Land Grants Update & Requests -Santa Barbara Request
15. Discussion and Possible Action on Professional Surveyor Services Contract Update & Requests
16. Discussion and Possible Action on Piedra Lumbre Visitors Center Update
17. Discussion and Possible Action on Laguna del Campo Update
18. Discussion and Possible Action on Land Grant Registry Update
19. Discussion and Possible Action on Land Grant Institute/Land Grant Studies Program Update
20. Discussion and Possible Action on Correspondence
21. Discussion and Possible Action on Staff Assignments
22. Public Comments – discussion only
23. Miscellaneous Announcements
24. Date and Location for November & December 2021 Council Meeting
25. Adjournment



New Mexico Land Grant Council

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COUNCIL MEETING

In-Person + Virtual Meeting,

UNM Science and Technology Park Center, Conference Room

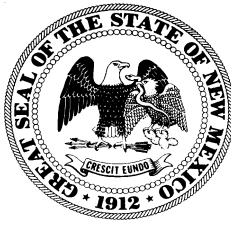
851 University Blvd SE

Zoom – Meeting I.D. – 948 6530 7081

November 10, 2021 - 10:00 am

Agenda

1. Call to Order - Roll Call
2. Introduction of Guests
3. Approval of Agenda
4. Approval of Meeting Minutes from October 20, 2021 meeting
5. Discussion and Possible Action on Bureau of Land Management Update
6. Discussion and Possible Action on State Land Office Projects
7. Discussion and Possible Action on U.S. Forest Service
8. Discussion and Possible Action on Federal and State Legislative Update
9. Discussion and Possible Action on Office of the Attorney General & Treaty Division
10. Discussion and Possible Action on Natural Resource Issues & Concerns - Local, State and Federal
-
11. Discussion and Possible Action on Land Grant Support Fund
12. Discussion and Possible Action on Council FY 2022 Budget
13. Discussion and Possible Action UNM Intergovernmental Services Agreement - FY22
14. Discussion and Possible Action on Legal Services for Land Grants Update & Requests
15. Discussion and Possible Action on Professional Surveyor Services Contract Update & Requests –
Tierra Amarilla
16. Discussion and Possible Action on Piedra Lumbre Visitors Center Update
17. Discussion and Possible Action on Laguna del Campo Update
18. Discussion and Possible Action on Land Grant Registry Update
19. Discussion and Possible Action on Land Grant Institute/Land Grant Studies Program Update
20. Discussion and Possible Action on Correspondence
21. Discussion and Possible Action on Staff Assignments
22. Public Comments – discussion only
23. Miscellaneous Announcements
24. Date and Location for December 2021 Council Meeting
25. Adjournment



New Mexico Land Grant Council

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COUNCIL MEETING

In-Person + Virtual Meeting,

UNM Science and Technology Park Center, Conference Room

851 University Blvd SE

Zoom – Meeting I.D. – 967 5346 8396

December 8, 2021 - 10:00 am

Agenda

1. Call to Order - Roll Call
2. Introduction of Guests
3. Approval of Agenda
4. Approval of Meeting Minutes from November 10, 2021 meeting
5. Discussion and Possible Action on Council FY 2022 Budget - BAR
6. Discussion and Possible Action on Presentation by Rita Padilla-Gutierrez
7. Discussion and Possible Action on U.S. Forest Service
8. Discussion and Possible Action on Office of the Attorney General & Treaty Division
9. Discussion and Possible Action on State Land Office Projects
10. Discussion and Possible Action on Federal and State Legislative Update
11. Discussion and Possible Action on Bureau of Land Management Update
12. Discussion and Possible Action on Natural Resource Issues & Concerns - Local, State and Federal
13. Discussion and Possible Action on Land Grant Support Fund
14. Discussion and Possible Action UNM Intergovernmental Services Agreement - FY22
15. Discussion and Possible Action on Legal Services for Land Grants Update & Requests
16. Discussion and Possible Action on Professional Surveyor Services Contract Update & Requests
17. Discussion and Possible Action on Piedra Lumbre Visitors Center Update
18. Discussion and Possible Action on Laguna del Campo Update
19. Discussion and Possible Action on Land Grant Registry Update
20. Discussion and Possible Action on Land Grant Institute/Land Grant Studies Program Update
21. Discussion and Possible Action on Correspondence
22. Discussion and Possible Action on Staff Assignments
23. Public Comments – discussion only
24. Miscellaneous Announcements
25. Date and Location for January & February 2022 Council Meetings
26. Adjournment



New Mexico Land Grant Council

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Email: nmlandgrantcouncil@unm.edu ♦ **Website:** www.lgc.unm.edu

COUNCIL MEETING

Virtual Meeting,

Zoom – Meeting I.D. – 978 6180 5948

January 27, 2022 - 2:00 pm

Agenda

1. Call to Order - Roll Call
2. Introduction of Guests
3. Approval of Agenda
4. Approval of Meeting Minutes from December 8, 2021 meeting
5. Discussion and Possible Action on Federal and State Legislative Update
6. Discussion and Possible Action on FY 2022 & FY 2023 Budgets
7. Discussion and Possible Action UNM Intergovernmental Services Agreement
8. Discussion and Possible Action on Legal Services for Land Grants Update & Requests
9. Discussion and Possible Action on Professional Surveyor Services Contract Update & Requests
10. Discussion and Possible Action on Land Grant Support Fund
11. Discussion and Possible Action on Correspondence
12. Discussion and Possible Action on Staff Assignments
13. Public Comments – discussion only
14. Miscellaneous Announcements
15. Date and Location for February 2022 Council Meetings
16. Adjournment



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COUNCIL MEETING

In-Person + Virtual Meeting,

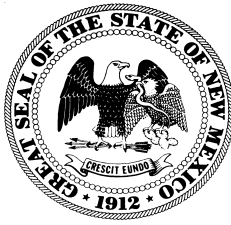
UNM Science and Technology Park Center, Conference Room, 851 University Blvd SE

Zoom – Meeting I.D. – 928 9352 6283

February 16, 2022 - 12:00 PM

Agenda

1. Call to Order - Roll Call
2. Introduction of Guests
3. Approval of Agenda
4. Approval of Meeting Minutes from January 27, 2022 meeting
5. Discussion and Possible Action on Council FY 2022 & FY 2023 Budget
6. Discussion and Possible Action on Presentation on Health Security Campaign – Ester Griego
7. Discussion and Possible Action on Presentation on USDA Programs – Patricia Dominguez
8. Discussion and Possible Action on State Land Office Projects - MOU
9. Discussion and Possible Action on Federal and State Legislative Update
10. Discussion and Possible Action on Bureau of Land Management Update
11. Discussion and Possible Action on U.S. Forest Service
12. Discussion and Possible Action on Office of the Attorney General & Treaty Division
13. Discussion and Possible Action on Natural Resource Issues & Concerns - Local, State and Federal
14. Discussion and Possible Action on Land Grant Support Fund
15. Discussion and Possible Action UNM Intergovernmental Services Agreement
16. Discussion and Possible Action on Legal Services for Land Grants Update & Requests
17. Discussion and Possible Action on Professional Surveyor Services Contract Update & Requests
18. Discussion and Possible Action on Piedra Lumbre Visitors Center Update
19. Discussion and Possible Action on Laguna del Campo Update
20. Discussion and Possible Action on Land Grant Registry Update
21. Discussion and Possible Action on Land Grant Institute/Land Grant Studies Program Update
22. Discussion and Possible Action on Correspondence
23. Discussion and Possible Action on Staff Assignments
24. Public Comments – discussion only
25. Miscellaneous Announcements
26. Date and Location for March & April 2022 Council Meetings
27. Adjournment



New Mexico Land Grant Council

Mailing: MSC02 1680, 1 University of New Mexico, Albuquerque, NM 87131

Physical: 1829 Sigma Chi Rd NE ♦ Albuquerque, New Mexico 87106

Email: nmlandgrantcouncil@unm.edu ♦ Website: www.lgc.unm.edu

COUNCIL MEETING

In-Person + Virtual Meeting,

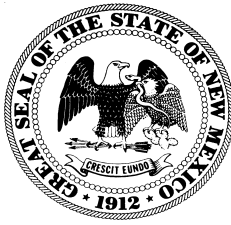
UNM Science and Technology Park Center, Conference Room, 851 University Blvd SE

Zoom – Meeting I.D. – 918 9337 3579

March 18, 2022 - 12:00 PM

Agenda

1. Call to Order - Roll Call
2. Introduction of Guests
3. Approval of Agenda
4. Approval of Meeting Minutes from February 16, 2022 meeting
5. Discussion and Possible Action on Council FY 2022 & FY 2023 Budget
6. Discussion and Possible Action on State Land Office Projects
7. Discussion and Possible Action on Federal and State Legislative Update
8. Discussion and Possible Action on Bureau of Land Management Update
9. Discussion and Possible Action on U.S. Forest Service
10. Discussion and Possible Action on USDA Programs
11. Discussion and Possible Action on Office of the Attorney General & Treaty Division
12. Discussion and Possible Action on Natural Resource Issues & Concerns - Local, State and Federal
13. Discussion and Possible Action on Manzano AUP
14. Discussion and Possible Action on Land Grant Road Easements
15. Discussion and Possible Action on Land Grant Support Fund
16. Discussion and Possible Action UNM Intergovernmental Services Agreement
17. Discussion and Possible Action on Legal Services for Land Grants Update & Requests
18. Discussion and Possible Action on Professional Surveyor Services Contract Update & Requests
19. Discussion and Possible Action on Piedra Lumbre Visitors Center Update
20. Discussion and Possible Action on Laguna del Campo Update
21. Discussion and Possible Action on Land Grant Registry Update
22. Discussion and Possible Action on Land Grant Institute/Land Grant Studies Program Update
23. Discussion and Possible Action on Correspondence
24. Discussion and Possible Action on Staff Assignments
25. Public Comments – discussion only
26. Miscellaneous Announcements
27. Date and Location for April and May Council Meeting
28. Adjournment



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COUNCIL MEETING

In-Person + Virtual Meeting,

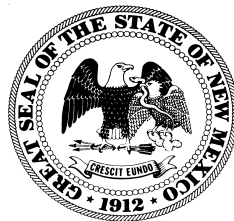
UNM Science and Technology Park Center, Conference Room, 851 University Blvd SE

Zoom – Meeting I.D. – 929 0939 8808

April 20, 2022 - 12:00 PM

Agenda

1. Call to Order - Roll Call
2. Introduction of Guests
3. Approval of Agenda
4. Approval of Meeting Minutes from March 18, 2022 meeting
5. Discussion and Possible Action on Federal and State Legislative Update
6. Discussion and Possible Action on Bureau of Land Management Update
7. Discussion and Possible Action on U.S. Forest Service
8. Discussion and Possible Action on Office of the Attorney General & Treaty Division
9. Discussion and Possible Action on State Land Office Update
10. Discussion and Possible Action on Natural Resource Issues & Concerns - Local, State and Federal
11. Discussion and Possible Action on Council FY 2022 & FY 2023 Budget
12. Discussion and Possible Action on Land Grant Support Fund
13. Discussion and Possible Action UNM Intergovernmental Services Agreement
14. Discussion and Possible Action on Professional Surveyor Services Contract Update & Requests
15. Discussion and Possible Action on Legal Services for Land Grants Update & Requests
16. Discussion and Possible Action on United States v. Sandoval
17. Discussion and Possible Action on Mercedes Unidas Center Update
18. Discussion and Possible Action on Laguna del Campo Update
19. Discussion and Possible Action on Land Grant Registry Update
20. Discussion and Possible Action on Land Grant Institute/Land Grant Studies Program Update
21. Discussion and Possible Action on Correspondence
22. Discussion and Possible Action on Staff Assignments
23. Public Comments – discussion only
24. Miscellaneous Announcements
25. Date and Location for May and June Council Meetings
26. Adjournment



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COUNCIL MEETING

In-Person + Virtual Meeting,

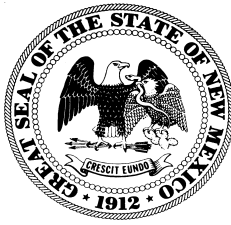
UNM Science and Technology Park Center, Conference Room, 851 University Blvd SE

Zoom – Meeting I.D. – 941 8256 7965

May 17 2022 – 10:00 AM

Agenda

1. Call to Order - Roll Call
2. Introduction of Guests
3. Approval of Agenda
4. Approval of Meeting Minutes from April 20, 2022 meeting
5. Discussion and Signing of State Land Office MOA – Land Commissioner Garcia Richards
6. Discussion and Possible Action on U.S. Forest Service – Including Fire Updates
7. Discussion and Possible Action on Bureau of Land Management Update
8. Discussion and Possible Action on Federal and State Legislative Update
9. Discussion and Possible Action on Natural Resource Issues & Concerns - Local, State and Federal
10. Discussion and Possible Action on Office of the Attorney General & Treaty Division
11. Discussion and Possible Action on Land Grant-Merced Assistance Fund
12. Discussion and Possible Action on Council FY 2022 & FY 2023 Budget
13. Discussion and Possible Action on Land Grant Support Fund
14. Discussion and Possible Action UNM Intergovernmental Services Agreement
15. Discussion and Possible Action on Professional Surveyor Services Contract Update & Requests
16. Discussion and Possible Action on Legal Services for Land Grants Update & Requests
17. Discussion and Possible Action on United States v. Sandoval
18. Discussion and Possible Action on Mercedes Unidas Center Update
19. Discussion and Possible Action on Laguna del Campo Update
20. Discussion and Possible Action on Land Grant Registry Update
21. Discussion and Possible Action on Land Grant Institute/Land Grant Studies Program Update
22. Discussion and Possible Action on Correspondence
23. Discussion and Possible Action on Staff Assignments
24. Public Comments – discussion only
25. Miscellaneous Announcements
26. Date and Location for June Council Meeting
27. Adjournment



New Mexico Land Grant Council

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COUNCIL MEETING

In-Person + Virtual Meeting,

UNM Science and Technology Park Center, Conference Room, 851 University Blvd SE

Zoom – Meeting I.D. – 960 8191 0445

June 15, 2022 – 10:00 AM

Agenda

1. Call to Order - Roll Call
2. Introduction of Guests
3. Approval of Agenda
4. Approval of Meeting Minutes from May 17, 2022 meeting
5. Discussion and Possible Action on Bureau of Land Management Update
6. Discussion and Possible Action on Federal and State Legislative Update
7. Discussion and Possible Action on U.S. Forest Service Update
8. Discussion and Possible Action State Land Office Update
9. Discussion and Possible Action on Natural Resource Issues & Concerns - Local, State and Federal – Including presentation & request by Town of Tomé.
10. Discussion and Possible Action on Office of the Attorney General & Treaty Division
11. Discussion and Possible Action on Land Grant-Merced Assistance Fund
12. Discussion and Possible Action on Council FY 2022 & FY 2023 Budget
13. Discussion and Possible Action on Land Grant Support Fund
14. Discussion and Possible Action UNM Intergovernmental Services Agreement
15. Discussion and Possible Action on Professional Surveyor Services Contract Update & Requests
16. Discussion and Possible Action on Legal Services for Land Grants Update & Requests
17. Discussion and Possible Action on United States v. Sandoval
18. Discussion and Possible Action on Mercedes Unidas Center Update
19. Discussion and Possible Action on Laguna del Campo Update
20. Discussion and Possible Action on Land Grant Registry Update
21. Discussion and Possible Action on Land Grant Institute/Land Grant Studies Program Update
22. Discussion and Possible Action on Correspondence
23. Discussion and Possible Action on Staff Assignments
24. Public Comments – discussion only
25. Miscellaneous Announcements
26. Date and Location for July Council Meeting
27. Adjournment

APPENDIX 2
FY 2022 MEETING MINUTES

New Mexico Land Grant Council (NMLGC)
July 12, 2021 – 9:00am
In Person and Virtual Meeting (Hybrid)
Cañón de Carnué Land Grant, Carnuel, NM
Zoom ID: 954 3449 6661

Final

Regular Council Meeting

1. Call to Order - Roll Call

Chairman Juan Sánchez called the meeting to order at 9:12 am MDT. Roll call of the Council members: Andrea Padilla, Steve Polaco, Juan Sánchez, Rebecca Correa-Skartwed and Leonard T. Martínez were present.

2. Introduction of Guests

Juan Sánchez (NMLGC); Andrea Padilla (NMLGC); Steve Polaco (NMLGC); Rebecca Correa Skartwed (NMLGC); Leonard T. Martínez (NMLGC); Arturo Archuleta (NMLGC/LGSP); Jacobo Baca (NMLGC/LGSP); Venessa Chavez (NMLGC/LGSP); Camilla Romero (NM State Land Office); Michiko Martin (USFS – Regional Forester, Region 3); Ashley Wright (USFS); Ian Fox (USFS); LM García y Griego (LGSP); Ricardo Dow y Anaya (NM Attorney General’s Office); Xochitl Campos Biggs (Office of Congresswoman Teresa Leger Fernández); Novela Salazar (NM Attorney General’s Office); Eric Chávez (Office of Sen. Ben Ray Luján); Congresswoman Melanie Stansbury; Sofia Sanchez (Office of Congresswoman Melanie Stansbury); Rita Padilla Gutiérrez (Town of Tomé Land Grant); Moises Gonzales (Cañón de Carnué Land Grant); Cathy Lopez (Cañón de Carnué Land Grant).

3. Approval of Agenda

Councilor Steve Polaco made a motion to approve the agenda; Councilor Rebecca Correa Skartwed seconded the motion.

Roll call vote:

Councilor Polaco - aye
Councilor Correa Skartwed - aye
Councilor Padilla - aye
Chairman Sánchez – aye

The motion was passed.

4. Approval of Meeting Minutes from June 24, 2021 Council meeting

Councilor Correa Skartwed made a motion to approve the meeting minutes of the June 24, 2021 Council meeting; Councilor Andrea Padilla seconded the motion.

Roll call vote:

Councilor Polaco - aye
Councilor Correa Skartwed - aye
Councilor Padilla - aye
Chairman Sánchez – aye

The motion was passed.

6. Discussion and Possible Action on U.S. Forest Service Update – Including Guest Regional Forester Michiko Martin & MSO Update

Michiko Martin introduced herself as the new regional forester for USFS Region 3, which includes New Mexico and Arizona. She commented that the NMLGC had a good relationship with her predecessor Cal Joiner, which she looks forward to continuing. Ian Fox (USFS) provided an update on the USFS actions regarding the Mexican Spotted Owl (MSO) agreement. The MSO leaders forum is a group that was established as an outcome of the MSO injunction. They met on March 3 and moving forward their meetings will be open to public and the NMLGC will be invited. Since March 3, six points and a checklist were created to create consistent compliance for MSO recovery plan. These were rolled out to region and workshops were delivered in the field for areas with MSO habitat. Meetings will continue as needed, especially if members of the leaders forum have issues with ongoing projects or if there are general updates. Once checklist is updated they will host another meeting. There will also be a field trip to MSO habitat. Elaine Kohrman shares her commitment to this effort. Mr. Fox commented that he will transition out of his role with the MSO group but will continue to be associated with it. Mr. Arturo Archuleta (NMLGC staff) stated that Councilor Leonard Martínez was interested in the effects of the MSO measures on fuelwood. Mr. Fox responded that MSO habitat is not found in piñón-juniper, nor in ponderosa pine stands. Mixed conifer is the primary MSO habitat. Each forest will be in contact with locals and contractors to let people know about projects that are effected by MSO habitat, but impact has been minimal thus far.

Councilor Polaco commented that the Tierra Amarilla Land Grant extends into Colorado and asked if Region 3 collaborates with national forests in Colorado and asked for guidance on fuelwood programs. Councilor Martínez asked for information on the Moya Project; Ashely Wright (USFS) responded that the USFS sent an e-mail response and letter on Friday (July 9). The Moya Project was an IDIQ (Indefinite Duration, Indefinite Quantity) project, which is different that a standard solicitation. Applicants need to be registered on SAM.gov and can receive updates on these projects. Councilor Martínez responded that many contractors in the area do not have internet and cannot compete. Where internet is available, it is unaffordable (\$85 per month). Most local contractors do not have a SAMS number. Mr. Fox clarified that IDIQ projects identify a scope of work for 5 year projects and the initial applicant pool gets 5 years of eligibility and receive project specific task orders. The scope of work is made and general locations are identified. The use of these projects is determined by project leads and an IDIQ has 5-6 different scopes of work. They are not used exclusively and forests can use stewardship agreements, master good neighbor agreements, etc. Mr. Archuleta commented that what is most important is that there is room for projects to include local communities to receive wood as supply. Mr. Fox responded that the IDIQ is a service project, not a wood project, so fuelwood is not typically a product taken by the contractor. Regional Forester Martin added that she sees that Councilor Martínez wants better communication and better dialogue. He responded that there is going to be a wood shortage. There is no dead and down available and permits are issued but no resources are in the forest. Councilor Correa Skartwed added that until you live in rural community, you do not understand the importance of wood, as there is no natural gas and propane too expensive. There needs to be a sensitivity to economic conditions. Councilor Padilla added that there is tons of dead and down wood in bosque near Tomé creating fire danger and that managers need to be sure that projects near communities benefit local community and this is where land grants can help. Councilor Martínez stated that there is a cell tower near Capulín on USFS property that needs to be activated as internet is needed to keep families and kids in the community. Mr. Fox and Mr. Archuleta

discussed exploring the Master Stewardship Agreement and how local communities can be included in it. The Council and the USFS Region 3 also need to extend their MOU, which expired in 2016. It previously worked with Ericka Luna on it, but it was forwarded to Washington DC under the last administration, where it died.

5. Discussion and Possible Action on Federal and State Legislative Update - Guest Congresswoman Melanie Stansbury

Federal

Congresswoman Melanie Stansbury introduced herself and thanked the Council for having her. She was elected on June 1 to the seat vacated by Sec. of Interior Deb Haaland. She was sworn in 4 weeks ago and is honored to represent the district. She is here to listen and discuss partnerships and collaborations to help protect traditional ways of life. She was born and raised in New Mexico and her parents are transplants that first lived in Placitas. She worked as a water science educator and obtained her sociology degree, researching water rights in the Pojoaque, Tesuque area. When she was sworn into Congress, she placed her hand on an original copy of the Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo, which was provided by the Library of Congress. Congresswoman Stansbury stated that she will support HR 3682, the traditional use and consultation bill. Council members thanked Congresswoman Stansbury for attending the meeting and looked forward to collaboration. The Council provided a packet to Congresswoman Stansbury on recent federal legislation, including a copy of the traditional use bill, which passed the House in 2020. Congresswoman Teresa Leger Fernández has offered to take the lead on the bill and would like to add provisions that allow for more fluid property transfers from government to government. The transfer of historic and active cemeteries from federal control, perhaps using or referencing the Small Tracts Act, might be another addition to the bill. The Council offered to organize and be a liaison on a tour of land grants in Congressional District 1 for Congresswoman Stansbury. The Council will work with the Congressional offices to resume the quarterly conference calls with congressional staff in Washington DC and New Mexico offices in September.

As we deal with climate change and look to conserving land from development through programs like “30 by 30,” members commented that we must see that more public land is not the only answer as local land bases fall under large bureaucracies and national control with a national, not a local, agenda. Land grants need to be part of the conversation in the same way that tribal lands are and lands acquired and traditionally managed will help. Congresswoman Stansbury stated that Sofía Sánchez will be her new district director and that she has a strong commitment to hire New Mexicans. Her office will also have a full time federal grants manager. The Council has also inquired about getting access to Land and Water Conservation Fund, which is funded by monies from offshore drilling. In New Mexico the money is used to fund New Mexico State Parks and the Council would like to explore if there are ways for local communities to use the program to acquire lands for conservation. Councilor Martínez stated that 40 acres of property behind their San Joaquín del Río de Chama Land Grant’s sala were recently listed for sale for \$275,000 and though they would like to have had it to maintain for traditional uses and not develop it, they cannot afford the price. Councilor Polaco agreed that prices have skyrocketed and Councilor Padilla added that the Town of Tomé Land Grant’s goal is to purchase farm land to support young farmers to keep farm land in production and stop land from being developed.

Mr. Archuleta reported that the NMLGC put in Direct Congressional Spending request with Senator Luján’s office for \$5 million for land acquisition. The Council received word that Congressional

Direct Spending Requests need to go to existing programs and are not going to be like earmarks. We have heard nothing from Senator Martin Heinrich regarding our request to his office. Councilor Martínez stated that the San Joaquín Grant is working on the cemetery and wants to be able to do some work on the Cañón de Chama LG property when the traditional use legislation passes. Eric Chávez (Office of Sen. Ben Ray Luján) apologized that he did not attend the PLVC event and stated that he wants to work with the NMLGC on how we can identify Congressional direct spending for next year.

State

The Interim Land Grant Committee meeting will take place on July 14-15, in Espanola at Northern New Mexico College and has a very full agenda.

7. Discussion and Possible Action on Bureau of Land Management Update

Lisa Morrison was unavailable, but she sent the following update:

Farmington: BLM is working on tribal consultation at this time.

Rio Puerco: BLM is continuing our review of the Final Environmental Impact Statement. .

Rio Grande Del Norte: We continue to work on the Monument Plan and hope to start scoping late this year or early next year.

8. Discussion and Possible Action on State Land Office Projects

Camila Romero (NM SLO) reported that she would join Mr. Archuleta and local land grants on site visits tomorrow, July 13, for possible projects near Chililí and Villanueva. She also reminded that the SLO has a community fuelwood area near Ocaté, New Mexico with ponderosa pine and some wood still available near Nutrias, NM.

9. Discussion and Possible Action on Office of Attorney General Equity Advisory Council – Ricardo Dow y Anaya and Jennie Lusk

Ricardo Dow y Anaya introduced himself as an heir of the Atrisco and Chililí Land Grants. He has worked with New Mexico Attorney General Hector Balderas on the Equity Advisory Council, which aims at addressing systemic racism. Mr. Dow y Anaya stated that he has always been passionate about land grants and, with the Equity Council, spends his time on the road, hearing concerns. In his personal experience in the East Mountains, his family did dry farming and saw farm properties sold away when the rains stopped and crops did not grow. There has been theft and corruption. Water rights are sold out of basins but still used. When the Council met and discussed topics, out of 16 different topics, 11 were related to land and water. The New Mexico Economic Development Department presented to the Equity Council recently as did the natural resources trustees, which stated that they are receiving monies from the mine disaster in Silverton. Councilor Polaco discussed the diversion water rights transfer issues that the grant has been having with the New Mexico Department of Game and Fish and wondered if the NMAG equity council could help. Jennie Lusk could not attend, but is an attorney with the NMAG's office who assists the equity council along with Novela Salazar and Jennifer Saavedra.

10. Discussion and Possible Action on Treaty Division Update

Mr. Archuleta and Ms. Novela Salazar (NMAG – Treaty Division) reported that the order of dismissal for the case against Frente de Lucha was signed on July 6. This was a great case and an opportunity to regain land. Councilor Polaco offered his appreciation and stated that the property has been purchased, the deed recorded and that a celebration is being planned.

11. Discussion and Possible Action on FY 2022 Open Meetings Act Resolution

In packet copy of a proposed FY 2022 Open Meetings Act Resolution for the Council. Added are item 8, which allows Council members to participate via phone or video conference, and item 9, which discusses compliance with public health executive orders and guidance from the New Mexico Attorney General's office.

Councilor Polaco made a motion to approve the FY 2022 Open Meetings Act Resolution (Resolution No. 2022-01); Councilor Correa Skartwed seconded the motion.

Roll call vote:

- Councilor Padilla - aye
- Councilor Martínez- aye
- Councilor Correa Skartwed - aye
- Councilor Polaco - aye
- Chairman Sánchez – aye

The motion was passed.

12. Discussion and Possible Action on Natural Resources Issues & Concerns – Local, State and Federal

Mr. Archuleta reported that a past fuelwood project near Manzano State Park with the local soil and water conservation district required community members to go to Mountainair to get a permit for wood in their backyard. The project continues and while all land grants in East Mountains should be getting wood from this project, the SWCD is not communicating. The Council will follow up with the Energy, Minerals and Natural Resources Department and Mr. Dow y Anaya to discuss and Chairman Sánchez will find out more in a watershed meeting.

Councilor Martínez made a motion for the NMLGC to write a letter to the NM Attorney General's office to inquire with Energy, Minerals and Natural Resources Department about the distribution of wood by these projects; Councilor Polaco seconded the motion.

Roll call vote:

- Councilor Padilla - aye
- Councilor Martínez- aye
- Councilor Correa Skartwed - aye
- Councilor Polaco - aye
- Chairman Sánchez – aye

The motion was passed.

Dr. Baca reported that the NMLGC helped the Town of Tomé submit an application to the Healthy Soils Program for a project on their community center property. The Tierra Amarilla Land Grant may do some groundwork to position them to apply for a grant next year. New Mexico State Forestry grant deadlines come up in January and NRCS grants are due in April. Interested land grants will need a farm number and meet other federal compliance guidelines to apply. NRCS has technical assistance monies that land grants can apply for now that they are eligible. Chairman Sánchez also urged land grants to inquire with their counties on CARES Act and ARP monies for infrastructure. Councilor Martínez commented that there have been 4 earthquakes in the Capulín, Gallina area, including a 4.1 quake this morning and they are probably related to fracking. Land

grant communities get no benefit from the resource extraction, but deal with water pollution and now earthquakes.

13. Discussion and Possible Action on Council FY 2021 & FY 2022 Budget

FY 2021

The final budget update for FY 2021 is in the meeting packet. Under the DFA administrative fee, they will revert \$2,446.19 of \$4,454.00 budgeted. \$3,186.14 will be reverted from the Land Grant Support Fund, mostly from the Abiquiú Land Grant, which failed to spend their grant. \$11,791.17 will be reverted from the legal services contract and \$1,124.89 from in state travel. The UNM contract was drawn down 100% and there will be no reversions. Of the total budget, \$18,548.39 in total will revert and 93.8% will be spent.

FY 2022

In the packet is a worksheet for the FY 2022 budget as adopted with options for a budget adjustment request (BAR) and a division of HB2 and one-time, junior monies. Staff and students salaries total \$182,147 total, including \$111,297 from HB 2 and \$70,850 in junior monies. Fringe benefits total \$60,329, including \$37,473 from HB 2 and \$22,856 from junior monies. Travel totals \$18,500, including \$11,500 from HB 2 and \$7,000 from junior monies. Other expenses total \$47,065, including \$31,104 from HB 2 and \$15,961 from junior monies. Facilities and administrative costs total \$61,808 total, including \$38,474 from HB 2 and \$23,333 from junior monies. The total budget of the IGSA with UNM is \$370,847, including \$230,846 from HB 2 and \$140,000 from junior monies. The budget at DFA is \$126,054 total, with \$66,054 in HB 2 and \$60,000 in junior monies. \$14,154 remains unbudgeted, \$4,154 taken from the DFA admin fee (DFA will not take an admin fee from junior monies) and \$10,000 taken from legal services contract. Options on where to spend this include research on the *US. v. Sandoval* decision. A law student could do research but may lack the knowledge and experience necessary. A contract attorney through a sole source contract managed by DFA is also an option, but no firm or attorney with significant land grant experience or knowledge stands out. We can also hire an additional law student for a fellowship (2 semesters). The total FY 2022 budget us \$496,900, with \$370,846 at UNM, and \$126,054 at DFA. Chairman Sánchez asked Council staff to look into the costs of an attorney and costs of extending the YCC funding for another one or two weeks.

Councilor Correa-Skartwed made a motion to do a BAR to reduce the DFA administrative fee by \$4,154 and reduce the legal services contract by \$10,000 and move the total of \$14,154 to an unbudgeted line item; Councilor Polaco seconded the motion.

Roll call vote:

- Councilor Martínez- aye
- Councilor Correa Skartwed - aye
- Councilor Polaco - aye
- Councilor Padilla - aye
- Chairman Sánchez – aye

The motion was passed.

Councilor Polaco made a motion to adopt proposed NMLGC budget, including the split between the UNM-IGSA and DFA budgets, as presented; Councilor Padilla seconded the motion.

Roll call vote:

- Councilor Martínez- aye

Councilor Correa Skartwed - aye
Councilor Polaco - aye
Councilor Padilla - aye
Chairman Sánchez – aye

The motion was passed.

14. Discussion and Possible Action on UNM Intergovernmental Agreement – FY 21 & 22

FY 2021

Pay Request #11 was presented, for \$30,212.57. This includes \$16,007.09 in personnel expenses, \$8,277.93 in the surveyor contract and \$5,035.43 in the 20% Facility and Administration Fees. Included in packet is narrative associated with Pay Request #11, as well as the UNM invoice. Total IGSA contract amount of \$215,146 was spent, 100%.

Councilor Correa Skartwed made a motion to approve Pay Request #11 for \$30,212.57; Councilor Polaco seconded the motion.

Roll call vote:

Councilor Correa Skartwed - aye
Councilor Polaco - aye
Councilor Padilla – break
Councilor Martínez– aye
Chairman Sánchez – aye

The motion was passed.

FY 2022

A new scope of work and IGSA were presented (in packet).

Councilor Polaco made a motion to approve the FY 2022 Inter Governmental Services Agreement and Scope of Work as presented; Councilor Correa Skartwed seconded the motion.

Roll call vote:

Councilor Correa Skartwed - aye
Councilor Polaco - aye
Councilor Padilla – aye
Councilor Martínez– aye
Chairman Sánchez – aye

The motion was passed.

15. Discussion and Possible Action on Legal Services for Land Grants – Update and Requests

Councilor Padilla made a motion to approve pay request #10 from New Mexico Legal Aid for \$2,300.00; Councilor Martínez seconded the motion.

Roll call vote:

Councilor Polaco - aye
Councilor Correa Skartwed - aye
Councilor Padilla - aye
Councilor Martínez– aye
Chairman Sánchez – aye

The motion was passed.

Councilor Padilla made a motion to approve invoice #1 from Joe Lennihan for \$1,572.23; Councilor Correa-Skartwed seconded the motion.

Roll call vote:

Councilor Polaco - aye
Councilor Correa Skartwed - aye
Councilor Padilla - aye
Councilor Martínez- aye
Chairman Sánchez – aye

The motion was passed.

Councilor Correa Skartwed mad a motion to approve invoice #2 from Joe Lennihan for \$2,181.60; Councilor Padilla seconded the motion.

Roll call vote:

Councilor Polaco - aye
Councilor Correa Skartwed - aye
Councilor Padilla - aye
Councilor Martínez- aye
Chairman Sánchez – aye

The motion was passed.

Councilor Padilla approved the request from the Manzano Land Grant to investigate a Punta de Agua land encroachment with possible legal and/or surveyor services; Councilor Polaco seconded the motion.

Roll call vote:

Councilor Polaco - aye
Councilor Correa Skartwed - aye
Councilor Padilla - aye
Councilor Martínez- aye
Chairman Sánchez – aye

The motion was passed.

16. Discussion and Possible Action on Professional Surveyor Services Contract - Update and Requests

None. Surveyor will be hired as UNM staff under the FY 2022 IGSA.

17. Discussion & Action on Piedra Lumbre Visitors Center Update

The PLVC celebration was well attended (more than 120 attendees). Congresswoman Teresa Leger Fernández spoke, as did USFS R-3 Regional Forester Michiko Martin, Rep. Susan Herrera, Sen. Leo Jaramillo, Rio Arriba County Clerk Moises Morales, and presidents of the three land grants, Higinia Gallegos, Leonard Martínez and Steve Polaco, as well as some of their fellow board members. Other attendees included representatives from various land grants, former Sen. Richard Martínez, former Rep. Debbie Rodella, James Durán of the Carson National Forest, with many of his staff members and many others.

18. Discussion and Possible Action on Laguna del Campo Update

In packet is a letter from the New Mexico Department of Game and Fish (NMG&F) to the Tierra Amarilla Land Grant offering 2 CFS (cubic feet per second) of diversion rights to the Grant. The

Lagna del Campo came with a storage right; at issue is the diversion right, which NMG&F wants to retain. This diversion right was included in the appraisal and the appraisal was used in the legislation, which establishes that it was the intention that the diversion right be transferred with the lake. NMG&F's offer for splitting the diversion right has constantly changed, from 3 CFS, to 1 CFS, now to 2 CFS. Councilor Polaco commented that the Tierra Amarilla LG will accept no less than 5 CFS and stated that the Tierra Amarilla Land Grant will write a letter to the Governor. For NMG&F, their fish hatchery is tied to some springs and they will not have the ability to pull water from ditch if all 10 CFS is transferred to the Tierra Amarilla LG. The Grant recognizes this and therefore proposed that the 10 CFS is split evenly. Councilor Polaco stated that the TALG is trying to get a meeting with the Governor. Mr. Archuleta stated that at one time, the NMG&F was considering water rights as a transferable or sellable right. Representative Miguel García showed that the legislation references appraisal and the appraisal discusses the diversion right. NMG&F has proved willing to work with the community at the Manzano Lake, but has not done the same with the Tierra Amarilla LG.

19. Discussion and Possible Action on Land Grant Registry Update

Dr. Baca reported that the Town of Tomé LG just handed them their FY 2021 annual report this morning; a letter will be drafted and issued to the grant at the August 2021 meeting.

20. Discussion and Possible Action on Land Grant Institute / Land Grant Studies Program Update

Dr. LM Garcia y Griego reported that he and Dr. Baca and Mr. Archuleta met with new VPR Ellen Fisher and Assistant VPR Mary Jo Daniels, who were both impressed by and appreciated the Council's and Studies Program's work. VPR Fisher commented that the work of NMLGC does not fit the traditional Category 3 center definition and that others seeking this status are in the same predicament. There might be a need for a new or different category. The NMLGC should continue to explore options if this does not work out and something similar to IPEAR might be an option with other similar non research, service centered centers on campus. Dr. Baca reported that the ALGE project report has been issued and is included in the packet. The report consists of the white paper and an addendum. The white paper was produced independently of the stakeholder meetings, which the addendum summarizes. A byproduct is both a white paper that does not match its addendum in tone and content and a report that does not fully reflect the collaborative and respectful tone of the meetings. The policymaker stakeholder meeting never took place.

21. Discussion and Possible Action on Correspondence

None.

22. Discussion and Possible Action on Staff Assignments

None.

23. Public Comments – Discussion only

None.

24. Miscellaneous Announcements

None.

25. Date and Location for August 2021 Council Meeting

The August 2021 Council meeting will take place on Wednesday, August 11, 2021 at 10:00am in Albuquerque, site to be determined.

26. Adjournment

Councilor Polaco made a motion to adjourn; Councilor Padilla seconded the motion.

Roll call vote:

Councilor Martínez- aye

Councilor Polaco - aye

Councilor Padilla - aye

Chairman Sánchez – aye

The motion was passed. The meeting adjourned at 1:48pm MDT.

Approved:

Chair

Date

New Mexico Land Grant Council (NMLGC)
August 11, 2021 – 10:00am
In Person and Virtual Meeting (Hybrid)
UNM Science and Technology Park
851 University Blvd SE, Suite 202
Albuquerque, NM 87106
Zoom ID: 955 8913 9774

Final

Regular Council Meeting

1. Call to Order - Roll Call

Chairman Juan Sánchez called the meeting to order at 10:00am MDT. Roll call of the Council members: Steve Polaco, Juan Sánchez, Rebecca Correa-Skartwed and Andrea Padilla were present. Leonard T. Martínez joined virtually.

2. Introduction of Guests

Juan Sánchez (NMLGC); Andrea Padilla (NMLGC); Steve Polaco (NMLGC); Rebecca Correa Skartwed (NMLGC); Leonard T. Martínez (NMLGC); Arturo Archuleta (NMLGC/LGSP); Jacobo Baca (NMLGC/LGSP); Venessa Chávez (NMLGC/LGSP); Camilla Romero (NM State Land Office); Ashley Wright (USFS); LM García y Griego (LGSP); A.J. Pacheco (Office of Congresswoman Teresa Leger Fernández); Ricardo Dow y Anaya (NM Attorney General's Office); Eric Chávez (Office of Sen. Ben Ray Luján); Tim Hagaman (NM EDD); Lisa Morrison (BLM); Patricia Domínguez (Office of Sen. Martin Heinrich).

3. Approval of Agenda

Councilor Steve Polaco made a motion to approve the agenda; Councilor Rebecca Correa Skartwed seconded the motion.

Roll call vote:

Councilor Correa Skartwed - aye
Councilor Padilla - aye
Councilor Polaco - aye
Councilor Martínez - aye
Chairman Sánchez - aye

The motion was passed.

4. Approval of Meeting Minutes from July 12, 2021 Council meeting

Councilor Polaco asked that the minutes be amended to properly reflect Moises Morales' position as County Commissioner, not County Clerk.

Councilor Correa Skartwed made a motion to approve the meeting minutes of the July 12, 2021 Council meeting, as amended; Councilor Polaco seconded the motion.

Roll call vote:

Councilor Padilla - aye
Councilor Correa Skartwed - aye
Councilor Polaco - aye
Councilor Martínez - aye

Chairman Sánchez – aye
The motion was passed.

5. Discussion and Possible Action on U.S. Forest Service Update

Ashley Wright (USFS) reported that the northern New Mexico Forests (Cíbola, Carson, Santa Fe) signed a Record of Decision on riparian restoration. Ricardo Dow y Anaya (office of NM Attorney General) asked if the Forest Service can still allow people to thin the riparian area like they used to under this plan. Ms. Wright responded that she would check and report back. Councilor Leonard Martínez commented that the upcoming Coyote project sale will go to larger operators. Some of the smaller scale sales are for 100 – 200 acre treatments; will these be implemented? People cannot afford the \$58,000 to start up a large project. Councilor Polaco added that locals in Tierra Amarilla, Canjilón, and Cebolla are complaining about wood being hauled out by destructive people, like wood poachers that are cutting without a permit in areas not designated for fuelwood harvesting. Is there law enforcement to stop this practice? Ms. Wright stated that she will reach out to special agent in charge of the area. Councilor Martínez stated that poaching is common because contractors are not leaving any wood behind and people are going more than 30 feet off of roads to get wood. There is very little dead and down and people are making roads to access. Councilor Polaco added that much of the destructive practices are happening in the Mesa de las Viejas area, which Councilor Martínez stated is within the former common lands of the San Joaquín del Río de Chama Land Grant and added that these actions speak to desperation. Councilor Andrea Padilla commented that the USFS should work with land grants to manage their former common lands and stated that firewood was mentioned at the most recent Consejo executive board meeting.

6. Discussion and Possible Action on Bureau of Land Management Update

Lisa Morrison (BLM) reported that she shared a few recent news releases with the Council. This includes the Taos Field Office's sale of permits for a wood harvest at the Gorham Scout Ranch near Cundiyo on September 10-12 and September 17-19. Alyssa Durán is the contact for this sale. There is also a lottery for wood permits near the Cerro River in the Wild Rivers Recreation Area on September 8. Scoping from the public runs through August 20 for the sale of forest products in Sandoval County. The virtual meeting will be on from 11:00am to 6:00pm. Jack River is the contact and the news release that was shared has the link for the meeting. The Northern New Mexico Resource Advisory Council virtual meeting will take place on August 19. The Malpais, Joe Skeen Campground and Tent Rocks plans will be updated from the Farmington, Taos and Rio Puerco Field offices. Mrs. Morrison also reported that she checked with Alison Sandoval and has no updates on RAC positions.

7. Discussion and Possible Action on State Land Office Projects

Camila Romero reported that the State Land Office visited project sites with local land grants and NMLGC staff in Villanueva for the San Miguel del Bado Land Grant and at a project site near the east mountains for area land grants. These land grants may look to the Edgewood SWCD and Council may support the project with youth conservation corps funding. Cords are sold at \$15 per cord. A fee is assessed because state trust land monies go to schools. The project will seek a party to cut and haul wood. Ms. Romero reported that she is working with Brenda Smythe from the ESWCD. Councilor Polaco commented that he visited the site near Nutrias and walked most of area. It was very rugged, sparse fuelwood remains, and was hard to access. The Tierra Amarilla got permits and will meet Sunday to discuss plans as people are hesitant to risk vehicles for what

seems to be 5 cords on 40 acres. Councilor Martínez added that the Cebolla project is ongoing and may need assistance from the YCC to use a tree mulcher. The project has been successful but has been a heavy lift, working with the contractor, obtaining liability insurance, which GSD paid late and the insurance was cancelled, but later reinstated.

8. Discussion and Possible Action on Federal and State Legislative Update

Federal

Mr. Archuleta reported that he has a conversation with Levi Patterson of Senator Ben R. Luján's Washington DC office. The Traditional Use Rights legislation will be filed and dropped very soon. Senator Luján's office examined splitting the bill into two separate bills, one for acequias and one for land grants. Acequias have had some success with agencies, for instance, getting the USFS R3 to release a guidance document for districts working with acequias. The idea was to introduce the bills separately so that they don't hold each other up. The Senator Luján's office decided to introduce the bill as it was passed in the House. Congresswoman Teresa Leger Fernández is interested in making some changes but may be challenged by House Natural Resources Committee Chair Raul Grijalva (D – AZ), who would prefer the bill stay the same. Sponsors may introduce the bill as is in House and make changes in Senate version and other changes will be made in conference after the bill passes both chambers. Progress is delayed because of August recess was delayed because of infrastructure package. There may be a virtual event for the bill's introduction. Eric Chávez (Office of Senator Ben R. Luján) commented that the bill is a priority for Senator Luján and the Senator wants to keep momentum from all that accomplished in the House last Congress. The Senator's office will be issuing press releases and is looking into ways to highlight the bill. In the past as a member of the House, Senator Luján toured land grant and acequia communities in the CD 1. The Senator hopes a tour and event might be possible this time as well. The infrastructure bill was passed and budget framework passed (on party lines) 50-49.

Councilor Polaco asked if the legislation would be applicable to former common lands. He offered the example of the Jicarilla Apache Reservation, which includes portions of the Tierra Amarilla Land Grant that were lost and privately owned because of the chicanery of Thomas B. Catron. In 1995, the Jicarilla filed lawsuit for 60,000 acre-feet of water on former Tierra Amarilla Land Grant commons. The suit claimed that acequias did not have authority on lands that the Jicarilla bought within former Tierra Amarilla Land Grant. A 1996 decision held that since land grant was assigned in 1832 and Jicarilla did not arrive until 1880s, the water rights were valid. The Jicarilla now recognize the jurisdiction of mayordomos to manage acequias and work to ensure private owners and the Jicarilla do not block their access to streams and riparian areas. Mr. Chávez replied that he wasn't sure if these lands would be eligible as it seems that there is some nuance to the situation. Mr. Archuleta added that they are not BLM lands but as reservation lands, they do fall under the Department of Interior lands. We will have to have additional conversations and are not sure that this bill can deal with this level of specificity. It is important to note that direct U.S. action caused these conflicting claims when the U.S. federal government relocated the Jicarilla from their traditional homeland in northeastern New Mexico (including the Maxwell land grant) to the former Tierra Amarilla Land Grant commons.

A. J. Pacheco (Office of Congresswoman Teresa Leger Fernández) stated that main goal of Congresswoman Teresa Leger Fernández is to get feedback from local land grants on the legislation. She has discussed land transfer and purchase options. Mr. Archuleta commented that these are great concepts but the House Natural Resources Committee's approach to the bill will

require us to be strategic. Changes may be introduced in the Senate version to keep momentum for passage in the House. If the legislation passes and is signed into law, the land grants and the Council will have to be diligent and in conversation with federal agencies to implementation and shape enforcement. Land grants have laid ground through participation in USFS and BLM plan revision processes. The NRCS took some time to get guidance on funding for land grants under 2018 farm bill, but we've found that land grants need to work with local land management offices and the same will likely go to the implementation of the bill. The NMLGC has role at the larger level. This bill is not the end all be all bill and is not the comprehensive bill land grants wanted and are still working toward.

Chairman Sánchez commented that this is part of the growth process and working with Congress. The New Mexico Congressional Delegation recommended creating the Consejo, land grants achieving recognition as subdivisions of the State and advised us to get the rest of Congress to understand what land grants are. From the 1998 Redmond Bill to the now with Ben Ray Luján traditional use bill, land grants have grown. Patricia Domínguez (Office of Senator Martin Heinrich) stated that she would like to see the updated Senate version of the bill. She recommended doing the delegation call in late September or October. Congresswoman Herrell's office has not replied whether or not they will participate. Regarding cemetery legislation, Ms. Domínguez reached out to James Durán of the Carson National Forest and Debbie Cross of the Santa Fe National Forest who she will meet with jointly at the ends of the month. Mr. Archuleta commented that the Council needs to schedule a time to meet with Senator Heinrich to discuss cemeteries and the traditional use bill. The Council has yet to see the latest Senate version of the bill. It might be identical with House version – perhaps we can begin conversation there and we can discuss land transfers. Land grants need an equitable process. In the case of the PLVC it was a one sided transaction; there was no wiggle room in the law.

State

In the packet is the meeting agenda from the Interim Land Grant Committee meeting in Española. The Bartolomé Sánchez Land Grant is organized as a private land holding association and have done very community minded work. The want to discuss with NMLGC staff the pros and cons of becoming a unit of government and was unaware of the work of interim committee. The next ILGC hearing will be on September 23-24 in Anton Chico and will focus on natural resources and youth development and leadership programs. It is important to continue to engage legislators, especially the new House majority floor leader, Rep. Javier Martínez of Albuquerque.

9. Discussion and Action on Natural Resources Issues & Concerns – Local, State and Federal

Mr. Archuleta reported that the Healthy Soils Program met and reviewed applications. There was funding available than requested: \$350,000 in available funding, \$340,000 requested, and \$320,000 was ultimately funded. The Town of Tomé Land Grant project was approved. There are two types of applicants: individuals and entities (LGs, acequias, SWCDs). Land grants can do various projects, including soil sample testing for heirs and helping plan and implement treatments on common lands. All projects have to be centered on soil health and include some of the 5 principles: keeping the soil covered; minimizing soil disturbance on cropland and minimizing external inputs; maximizing biodiversity; maintaining a living root; and integrating animals into land management, including grazing animals, birds, beneficial insects or keystone species, such as earthworms. No till and minimal till are encouraged as deep till releases carbon into the atmosphere. SWCDs are considered eligible entities but don't always have good working

relationships with land grant communities. They have in the past sold wood meant to go to local communities and it remains questionable to sell products from projects on state land. Projects are often on former common land that is state land, but land grants are purchase the wood at \$80 per cord because the SWCD wants to gain operating costs.

10. Discussion and Possible Action on Cannabis Control Regulations

Jacobo Baca (NMLGC) reported that the New Mexico Acequia Association contacted the Council regarding the Regulation and Licensing Department’s Cannabis Control Division creation of rules, including the opportunity for public comment and a hearing on August 6, 2021. Dr. Baca drafted a comments in the form of a letter (in packet) and delivered oral comments at the hearing. The issues identified in the letter and provided in the oral comments are the following. First, the Cannabis Control Division has proceeded with rulemaking without the Cannabis Regulation Advisory Committee, which, at the time of the hearing had yet to be named. Second, the proposed rules fall short of furthering the participation growers from economically disadvantaged communities, particularly those that have been disproportionately affected by the overzealous enforcement of cannabis prohibitions in the past. Finally, the Cannabis Regulation Act contains water protection and social equity mandates and plant count limits that will help ensure the participation of small, local producers can compete. The Cannabis Control Division has included a variance rule in its proposed revised rules which circumvents these protective provisions of the Cannabis Regulation Act by allowing applicants to evade statutory and/or regulatory requirements of the Act, including water protection provisions. The letter states that the Council agrees with the New Mexico Acequia Association’s assessment that if the Legislature had intended for the creation of a variance mechanism, it would have explicitly done so in the Act.

Councilors discussed the letter and the threats to water by the growing cannabis industry. Big timers selling their water rights and continue to use it and communities are running out of water to drink. The OSE doesn’t care about running wells day and night all week. Communities were told during adjudication of water rights that they could not use well water for adjudication. Under Sections 3,5 and 7 of the Acequia Act, acequias commissions can stop water transfers from out of the area.

Councilor Polaco made a motion to approve NMLGC comments to the Cannabis Control Division and Regulation and Licensing Department; Councilor Padilla seconded the motion.

Roll call vote:

- Councilor Padilla - aye
- Councilor Correa Skartwed - aye
- Councilor Polaco - aye
- Chairman Sánchez - aye

The motion was passed.

11. Discussion and Possible Action on Office of the Attorney General Equity Advisory Committee & Treaty Division

Ricardo Dow y Anaya commented that Attorney General Balderas is busy with big cases. He suggested forwarding the cannabis letter to the NMAG’s office as water is a constant issue that he hears about. He reported that the Office of the Natural Resource Trustee has \$10 million from the Gold King Mine Spill. The NMAG’s office was awarded \$5 million. The NMAG’s office and the ALGE project can work together. The Office of the Natural Resource Trustee has a more

environmentalist view and the NMAG's office might be able to work with traditional communities, including Native American tribes and pueblos, land grants and acequias.

12. Discussion and Possible Action in Council FY 2021 & FY 2022 Budgets

FY 2021 - none

FY 2022

Mr. Archuleta reported that no contract in place. There remains \$14,154 unbudgeted (see packet). The Council previously discussed using monies for a *US. v. Sandoval* report. We consulted with David Benavides of New Mexico Legal Aid, who stated that there are not many people who could do this. Malcolm Ebright is one of the few and though he is not a practicing attorney and semi-retired, but could do additional analysis work on precedence setting cases that predate *US. v. Sandoval* (1897). Dr. Baca and Mr. Archuleta also discussed possibly considering retired UNM law professor Em Hall. David Benavides can help set parameters. Another option is purchasing laptops or computers for Council members, especially if we go virtual again. Two councilors, Martínez and Correa Skartwed, are seated on expired terms, which ended in August 2020. They are seated until they are replaced. The three other terms (those of Correa-Skartwed, Sanchez and Polaco) will go through August 2022. The last option is a student intern or two interns starting in Spring 2022. Dr. Baca opined that investing in Mr. Ebright's and Professor Hall's expertise would be a worthy investment. Councilor Polaco commented that he has worked with J. Richard Salazar and Malcolm Ebright and both were very good. Councilor Padilla added that the Town of Tomé Land Grant in research on Isleta and made inroads with pueblo brothers. Councilor Correa Skartwed suggested that Chairman Sánchez may need a wifi booster to allow stronger connections. Verizon sells a tower with a service for \$250-300. Councilor Padilla needs a laptop and does virtual meetings on her phone.

Councilor Correa-Skartwed made a motion that staff investigate options for *US v. Sandoval* research and tech purchases for Council members; Councilor Polaco seconded the motion.

Roll call vote:

- Councilor Padilla - aye
- Councilor Correa Skartwed - aye
- Councilor Polaco - aye
- Chairman Sánchez - aye

The motion was passed.

The NMLGC also needs to set a deadline for the Land Grant Support Fund, which has \$30,000 for FY 2022. While there is still no contact in place with UNM, the LGSP is managed by DFA and can go forward.

Councilor Polaco made a motion to set FY 2022 Land Grant Support Fund deadline for Oct. 8, 2021; Councilor Padilla seconded the motion.

Roll call vote:

- Councilor Padilla - aye
- Councilor Correa Skartwed - aye
- Councilor Polaco - aye
- Chairman Sánchez - aye

The motion was passed.

13. Discussion and Possible Action on UNM Intergovernmental Agreement – FY 21 & 22 – Including Ancestral Land Conservation Corps Partnership Approval

FY 2021 - None.

FY 2022

The UNM Office for Sponsored Projects flagged the contract with Ancestral Lands as a subcontract and need a letter of commitment from Ancestral Lands and approval by the Council. Ancestral Lands Conservation Corps is the only YCC working with indigenous and Hispano communities. The cost is \$5,000 per week for a five person crew. There is a small window as the crew doesn't start until summer and continues through June 30th. ALCC also has a partnership with Americorps and students can get college credit. Youth are those 16-20 years old; older students are needed for crew chiefs. Five students will be a crew of five and if NMLGC partners on future applications with ALCC or land grants, they can use their admin work as a match. NMLGC staff will work with ALCC's Chas Robles on Friday and can then identify projects, get letters of support and go after grant monies. Partners work helps to match in kind contributions. YCC funding is \$3 million through the State of New Mexico, funded with gross receipts taxes.

Councilor Correa Skartwed made a motion to approve the subaward contract with Ancestral Lands Conservation Corps; Councilor Padilla seconded the motion.

Roll call vote:

Councilor Padilla
Councilor Correa Skartwed - aye
Councilor Polaco - aye
Chairman Sánchez – aye

The motion was passed.

15. Discussion and Possible Action on Legal Services for Land Grants – Update and Requests

There is no contract in place, but the NMLGC has received a request, with maps, from the Cañón de Carnué Land Grant regarding an encroachment. NMLGC will propose the issue to the UNM Law Clinic, but they do not always take these cases.

Councilor Padilla made a motion to approve the request from the Cañón de Carnué Land Grant's request for legal assistance; Councilor Correa Skartwed seconded the motion.

Roll call vote:

Councilor Padilla
Councilor Correa Skartwed - aye
Councilor Polaco - aye
Chairman Sánchez – aye

The motion was passed.

16. Discussion and Possible Action on Professional Surveyor Services Contract - Update and Requests

None. Surveyor will be hired as UNM staff under the FY 2022 IGSA. Working to identify hire, but no contract in place and no index. Councilor Polaco requested the surveyor survey to recognize the boundary of Frente de Lucha property (aka colonia), especially the southern border to build fence. The Chair and Vice Chair asked that the request be made in writing.

17. Discussion & Action on Piedra Lumbre Visitors Center Update

The PLVC received a NM EDD frontier communities award, with will provide technical assistance to the PLVC. Rhea Serna is the staff member assigned to the PLVC and an architect can tour on September 23 to assist with design. NM EDD can also get economic data and socioeconomic data on surrounding and participating communities, which could be helpful for future applications.

18. Discussion and Possible Action on Laguna del Campo Update

Councilor Polaco reported that the Tierra Amarilla Land Grant has submitted a request to Governor's office requesting a meeting to discuss the Laguna del Campo.

19. Discussion and Possible Action on Land Grant Registry Update

Dr. Baca reported that the Town of Tomé Land Grant submitted its FY 2021 Annual Report. The Chililí Land Grant submitted the results of its 2021 election. Chairman Sánchez asked that a registry requirement be added to the Land Grant Support Fund solicitation.

20. Discussion and Possible Action on Land Grant Institute / Land Grant Studies Program Update

The LGSP will be hiring a student to primarily work with Venessa Chávez on the youth program. There is nothing to report regarding the Land Grant Institute; the OVPR is still reviewing. Dr. Baca reported that the ALGE project continues and that LGSP continues to participate in the project. The group met with Deputy Secretary of Public Education Gwen Perea Warniment to discuss the project and present the white paper. The Land Grants and Acequias CLE is tentatively set for October 15 & 16 at the Cañón de Carnué Land Grant Hall, in person if the public health and COVID situation allows.

21. Discussion and Possible Action on Correspondence

A draft letter to Governor Michelle Luján Grisham, requesting a meeting, with an attached briefing, was presented. Mr. Archuleta asked that Councilors provide input ASAP. The Council will need to figure out who attends or how the NMLGC will give notice. The NMLGC also received a letter regarding wood permit distribution on the Chililí Land Grant. Chairman Sánchez, president of the Chililí Land Grant, provided background to issue, practice and policy. Staff will draft a response from the Council, signed by Vice Chairwoman Correa Skartwed, and attached the standing resolution. Mr. Archuleta reached out to DFA regarding federal funds received by the state through the ARP (American Recovery Plan). Counties and municipalities have received monies. Donnie Quintana from DFA stated that DFA was appropriated \$1.75 billion and asked that land grants put in requests. The monies are to fund infrastructure - buildings, water, electrical, broadband, etc. NMLGC asked for more details and parameters. Sen Liz Stefanics reached out to Debbie Romero at DFA asking the same and stated that Mr. Archuleta would coordinate on behalf of land grants. He has reached out to both Donnie Quintana and Debbie Romero for more information but still hasn't heard back. Councilor Correa Skartwed stated that the Sandoval County Manager has discretionary funds and allotted \$15,000 to the San Antonio de las Huertas Land Grant for water and broadband. Funds need to be spent by 2024. Mr. Archuleta stated that there are some socioeconomic characteristics that applicants must meet, including 60% must be disadvantaged.

22. Discussion and Possible Action on Staff Assignments

NMLGC staff will send out notice regarding the Land Grant Support Fund applications, to include a requirement that applying land grants need to be up to date in the Land Grant Registry.

23. Public Comments – Discussion only

Councilor Correa Skartwed commented that the San Antonio de las Huertas Land Grant successfully completed a conveyance and sold some insignificant properties from the land grant. Documentation suggested in the Land Grant Guidebook was not sufficient and they had to rewrite their resolution. Two properties are deeded and heirs receiving the properties paid for land, one an encroachment and another a landlocked parcel. Councilor Padilla asked for Mr. Archuleta’s help to set up a meeting with the MRGCD. Members discussed responding to IPRA requests. Councilor Polaco reported that NORA is billing for electricity use at the PLVC. He questioned why they are we being billed when nothing works and there is no copper in most of the buildings. NORA said that they would send a crew / electrician, but we are unsure who will be charged.

24. Miscellaneous Announcements

ICIPs are due Sept. 3rd at 5:00pm. Let Council staff know if you need help and we’ll work hard to get them in. Boards need to adopt resolutions approving priorities, including their top priority, which will be forwarded to the legislature for support. Getting these resolutions in is the biggest challenge given the time frame. Carmen Morin at DFA used to allow us to submit resolutions after. Also need permission to access signed and sent from each individual land grant. Chairman Sánchez commented that redistricting is taking place, both state House, state Senate and Congressional. Participants can comment whether you want changes or if you want it to remain the same. The next round of meetings is in late September or early October. CPMS updates on ICIPs and capital outlay projects are always before 25th of each month and audit compliance is due annually.

25. Date and Location for September 2021 Council Meeting

The September 2021 Council meeting will take place on Wednesday, September 15, 2021 at 10:00am in Albuquerque, at UNM STC.

The October 2021 Council meeting will take place on Wednesday, October 20, 2021 at 10:00am in Albuquerque, at UNM STC.

26. Adjournment

Councilor Polaco made a motion to adjourn; Councilor Correa Skartwed seconded the motion.

Roll call vote:

- Councilor Padilla – aye
- Councilor Correa Skartwed - aye
- Councilor Polaco - aye
- Chairman Sánchez – aye

The motion was passed. The meeting adjourned at 2:01pm MDT.

Approved:

 Chair

 Date

New Mexico Land Grant Council (NMLGC)
August 23, 2021 – 1:00pm
Virtual Meeting
Zoom ID: 934 0714 3127

Final
Special Council Meeting

1. Call to Order - Roll Call

Chairman Juan Sánchez called the meeting to order at 1:08pm MDT. Roll call of the Council members: Steve Polaco, Juan Sánchez, Rebecca Correa-Skartwed Andrea Padilla and Leonard T. Martínez.

2. Introduction of Guests

Juan Sánchez (NMLGC); Andrea Padilla (NMLGC); Steve Polaco (NMLGC); Rebecca Correa Skartwed (NMLGC); Leonard Martínez (NMLGC); Arturo Archuleta (NMLGC/LGSP); Jacobo Baca (NMLGC/LGSP); Venessa Chavez (NMLGC/LGSP); Eric Chavez (Office of Senator Ben Ray Luján); A.J. Pacheco (Office of Congresswoman Teresa Leger Fernández).

3. Approval of Agenda

Councilor Steve Polaco made a motion to approve the agenda; Councilor Rebecca Correa Skartwed seconded the motion.

Roll call vote:

Councilor Padilla - aye
Councilor Correa Skartwed - aye
Councilor Martínez
Councilor Polaco - aye
Chairman Sánchez – aye

The motion was passed.

4. Discussion and Possible Action in Council FY 2021, FY 2022 & FY 2023 Budgets

Council staff presented the staff budget recommendation for the Fiscal Year 2023 New Mexico Land Grant Council budget request (in packet). The request is for an increased budget. For the budget that is managed by DFA, the DFA fee remains \$3,300, the Land Grant Support Fund remains \$30,000, publishing at \$4,000, in state travel at \$10,000, out of state travel at \$5,600, and the legal services contract at \$60,000, which is the maximum amount allowable as a sole source and does not have to go to bid. The Intergovernmental Service Agreement portion of the budget that is managed at UNM is \$507,100, including \$354,359 in salaries and fringe, \$15,000 in in state travel, \$4,000 for out of state travel, \$4,424 for supplies and non capital equipment, \$4,000 for computers, software, and supplies, \$300 for postage, \$2,500 for copying and printing, which cover the copier service contract, \$25,000 for natural resource conservation, including youth conservation corps, \$500 for the Natural Resources and Environmental Law Clinic fee waiver, \$1,500 for facility rental for meetings, \$10,000 for equipment rental, \$1,000 for governmental fee expenses related to surveying and \$84,517 in the 20% facilities and administration fee.

Other items not presented in this budget include insurance and bookkeeping software. Councilor Martínez stated that a line item for insurance is very important; the San Joaquín del Río de Chama

Land Grant paid \$1,500 for tort liability for one year of coverage. If the liability insurance fund was managed by DFA, it would not be subject to the 20% F&A fee at UNM. Mr. Arturo Archuleta also mentioned the Council purchasing bookkeeping software like Quickbooks as an enterprise license and licensing land grants as users. Cost would be as low as \$2,500-3,000 per year for a few land grants and as high \$25,000 per year for 30 land grants. Councilor Correa Skartwed suggested Zoho, a cloudbased software that us more affordable (\$19 per month) and easier to navigate than Quickbooks. Councilor Martínez agreed that Quickbooks is difficult and stated that the reports it produces are complicated. Councilor Padilla added that the Town of Tomé Land Grant bought Quickbooks and agreed that assisting land grants with insurance costs is a bigger priority. The Town of Tomé Grant pays \$3,200 per year in insurance. Mr. Archuleta clarified that difference between property and general liability insurance and tort liability insurance. Tort liability coverage covers a land grant for civil lawsuits and cases where an injury has been incurred. Most units of government cannot be sued for tort. But, for instance, if a land grant vehicle is involved in an accident, immunity is waived and they can be sued under tort. State government attorneys would litigate suit on your behalf in a tort claim, and the state would pay out any damages. By statute, all units of government need to have tort liability coverage. Property insurance is good to have, but is not necessary by law. Councilor Martínez suggested creating a \$30,000 fund which all land grants can apply, which would offer tort liability insurance and allow all land grants to get them all in compliance. Councilors Padilla and Correa Skartwed agreed.

Councilor Martínez made a motion to approve staff recommended budget for FY 2023, with the inclusion of \$30,000 for liability insurance for land grants, for a total FY 2023 request of \$650,000; Councilor Correa Skartwed seconded the motion.

Roll call vote:

Councilor Correa Skartwed - aye
Councilor Padilla - aye
Councilor Martínez
Councilor Polaco - aye
Chairman Sánchez – aye

The motion was passed.

5. Adjournment

Councilor Martínez made a motion to adjourn; Councilor Padilla seconded the motion.

Roll call vote:

Councilor Padilla - aye
Councilor Correa Skartwed - aye
Councilor Martínez
Councilor Polaco - aye
Chairman Sánchez – aye

The motion was passed. The meeting adjourned at 1:52pm MDT.

Approved:

Chair

Date

New Mexico Land Grant Council (NMLGC)
September 15, 2021 – 10:00am
In Person and Virtual Meeting (Hybrid)
UNM Science and Technology Park
851 University Blvd SE, Suite 202
Albuquerque, NM 87106
Zoom ID: 993 8763 0116

Final

Regular Council Meeting

1. Call to Order - Roll Call

Chairman Juan Sánchez called the meeting to order at 10:00am MDT. Roll call of the Council members: Steve Polaco, Juan Sánchez, and Andrea Padilla were physically present. Rebecca Correa Skartwed and Leonard Martínez joined via Zoom.

2. Introduction of Guests

Juan Sánchez (NMLGC); Andrea Padilla (NMLGC); Steve Polaco (NMLGC); Rebecca Correa Skartwed (NMLGC); Leonard T. Martínez (NMLGC); New Mexico Attorney General Hector Balderas; Arturo Archuleta (NMLGC/LGSP); Jacobo Baca (NMLGC/LGSP); Venessa Chavez (NMLGC/LGSP); Anissa Baca (LGSP); Vidal Gonzales (NMLGC); Camilla Romero (NM State Land Office); Shaya Martin (USFS); Peter Rich (Carson National Forest); LM García y Griego (LGSP); Sofía Sánchez (Office of Rep. Melanie Stansbury); Novela Salazar (NM Attorney General's Office); Ricardo Dow y Anaya (NM Attorney General's Office); Eric Chávez (Office of Sen. Ben Ray Luján); Lisa Morrison (BLM); Kris Graham Chávez (NRCS).

3. Approval of Agenda

Councilor Steve Polaco made a motion to approve the agenda; Councilor Andrea Padilla seconded the motion.

Roll call vote:

Councilor Correa Skartwed - aye
Councilor Martínez - aye
Councilor Padilla - aye
Councilor Polaco - aye
Chairman Sánchez – aye

The motion was passed.

4. Approval of Meeting Minutes from August 11 Regular & August 23 Special Council meeting

Ricardo Dow y Anaya (NM Attorney General's Office) offered a correction on item 11 on page 5; the amounts received from the Gold King Mine spill are as follows: Office of the Natural Resources Trustee - \$1 million; Environment Department - \$5 million; New Mexico Attorney General's Office - \$5 million.

Councilor Andrea Padilla made a motion to approve the meeting minutes of the August 11, 2021 Council meeting, as amended; Councilor Rebecca Correa Skartwed seconded the motion.

Roll call vote:

Councilor Correa Skartwed - aye
Councilor Martínez - aye
Councilor Padilla - aye
Councilor Polaco - aye
Chairman Sánchez – aye

The motion was passed.

Councilor Martínez made a motion to approve the meeting minutes of the August 23, 2021 Special Council meeting; Councilor Polaco seconded the motion.

Roll call vote:

Councilor Correa Skartwed - aye
Councilor Martínez - aye
Councilor Padilla - aye
Councilor Polaco - aye
Chairman Sánchez – aye

The motion was passed.

5. Discussion and Possible Action on Office of the Attorney General & Treaty Division – AG Balderas

New Mexico Attorney General Hector Balderas reported that the New Mexico Attorney General's office was busy during the 2021 interim legislative session. The NMAG's office has been supportive of the NMLGC's and land grant legislative and fiscal requests. AG Balderas stated that land grants should be at the forefront of the new monies, along with public safety and the need for more infrastructure funding. He expressed his willingness to write letters of support and work with law makers to pass legislation. He commented that Mr. Ricardo Dow y Anaya and Ms. Novela Salazar of his office are a strong team and do a great job keeping him informed of important issues, from capacity building in cannabis industry to concerns over water. AG Balderas added that he considered it a privilege to serve for 17 years as a legislator, state auditor and attorney general and feels lucky to have championed rural perspectives in his career, which came from being the first attorney out of Wagon Mound.

Land grant are central in his push for environmental equity and understand the effects of implicit bias. Arturo Archuleta serves on the Natural Resources Equity panel and in the next year, with guidance from the panel, his office will take stronger positions with communities not enjoying equity. Mr. Arturo Archuleta (NMLGC staff) mentioned that with new state revenues, land grants are interested in a fund to acquire historic lands. Rep. Kristina Ortez sponsored a bill for recreation and Rep. Miguel García worked to add the perspective of land grants, tribes and acequias and their traditional uses in natural resources management and traditional uses as a way to protect natural resources. AG Balderas commented that land grants managing land was good public policy. His focus in the end of his term will be on public safety, economics and community health. Land grant communities have unfortunately had their share of loss of their population to addiction and land grants are an important voice in treating this population. Mr. Archuleta thanked Attorney General Balderas for his support of guaranteed revenue streams for land grants. The bill most recently proposed would set a side a small fraction of gross receipts tax revenues to create an approximately \$1.5 million fund that will provide about \$40,000 to qualified land grants. The Land Grant Council also seeks to increase it budget to expand services to land grants,

including to natural resource management, youth programming, legal services and surveyor services.

On October 15, the Land Grant and Acequia CLE will feature a keynote presentation by AG Balderas. Attorney General Balderas also reported that his office created an exhibit on former attorneys general and plans to dedicate a wing of the historical legal library to a collection and exhibit on land grant history and the Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo. He will work with the land grant Council to obtain content to display at the NMAG's office. Chairman Sánchez thanked AG Balderas and the Office of the New Mexico Attorney General for their work for and assistance to land grants. Councilor Polaco thanked AG Balderas on behalf of the Merced de los Pueblos de Tierra Amarilla. AG Balderas thanked the community of Tierra Amarilla for allowing his office to litigate this case on their behalf. Councilor Padilla thanked the Attorney General for championing land grants. She added that some are afraid of land grants acquiring land and that they need to understand that land grants are buying back what was stolen from them. Land grants are seeking to obtain agricultural land and provide opportunities to youth who want to farm.

Novela Salazar (NMAG Treaty Division) stated that the planned exhibit and collection will be based on items that she and the office have accumulated and assembled at their legal library. Ricardo Dow y Anaya (NMAG's office) added that he is ready to help and is currently working with the La Mesilla Irrigation Council, who is fighting an individual that cut a riser for an irrigation valve, capped it and poured cement. There have been threats by this individual toward the Irrigation Council, but the New Mexico State Police wrote it up as a civil, not a criminal offense. The local district attorney reviewed the case and commented that it should have been considered a criminal offense, but the new district attorney decided not to pursue the case. This is proof that the State Police, the Sheriff's office, and the district attorney does not understand water law. Paula García and Enrique Romero of the New Mexico Acequia Association became involved, as did state Senator Leo Jaramillo. AG Balderas sent information to the district attorney, which offered to settle out of court. They now hope that the individual signs an affidavit that he will not harass or intimidate the areas farmers.

6. Discussion and Possible Action on Bureau of Land Management Update

Lisa Morrison reported that the Rio Puerco district is working on their resource management plan. The Farmington RMP is undergoing Section 106 consultations, which includes an ethnographic study of Chaco Canyon. The Taos Field Office expects to issue the EIS on the Rio Grande del Norte in January 2022, but the Biden administration is redoing the work done under the Trump administration. The plan for Horse Thief Mesa near Arroyo Hondo is nearly complete. The BLM is generally looking on how to better engage the community and field offices are looking into how they can communicate better and work with land grants. Jacobo Baca (NMLGC/LGSP) asked about progress with the Southern and Northern New Mexico RACs. Ms. Morrison responded that his application has been received but no decisions have yet been made.

7. Discussion and Possible Action on State Land Office Projects

Camila Romero reported that a good amount of wood came out of the Cebolla Project. Councilor Martínez commented that the San Joaquín del Río de Chama Grant will allow heirs to gather felled wood in October now that the contractor portion of the project is complete. Forty cords of wood are on the ground and will also be shared with the Tierra Amarilla Land Grant. Work will continue to complete the project in the Spring of 2022. Chairman Sánchez added that he was on a call with

Land Commissioner Stephanie García Richard who is supportive of land grants and of the east mountain project.

8. Discussion and Possible Action on Federal and State Legislative Update

Federal

Eric Chávez (Office of Senator Ben Ray Luján) reported that Congress is busy working on infrastructure and budget reconciliation which will bring federal funds and assistance to communities. Senator Luján travelled to communities in northern New Mexico and discussed wells, water, and wastewater infrastructure and broadband. The infrastructure bill also includes charging stations for electric vehicles. The Senator met with acequia leader (and past Santa Cruz de la Cañada Land Grant board member) Don Bustos, who discussed agricultural needs and programs in the upcoming Farm Bill. Budget Reconciliation will also dominate the work of Congress in the next few weeks. The Senator will move forward with the traditional use bill and is looking for improvements. Sofía Sánchez (Office of Rep. Melanie Stansbury) reported that Rep. Melanie Stansbury is fully staffed in both her New Mexico and Washington D. C. offices. Rep. Stansbury will sign on to co-sponsor the Traditional Use Bill. On October 18th, Rep. Stansbury will tour East Mountain land grant communities, who have many needs, including broadband.

Councilor Correa Skartwed asked if infrastructure funding would run through the counties or if land grants, as political subdivisions, could be directly funded. Mr. Chávez responded that it depended on the funding and that they can discuss further. He added that the American Rescue Plan has helped communities bounce back from COVID 19. The Congressional delegation will also help communities find other grants, look for types of projects for communities/non-profits and look for funding. Congressional Direct Spending Requests for shovel ready projects were offered and land grants can apply next year. Ms. Sánchez commented that the House had a congressional grants coordinator and that the New Mexico delegation coordinates for letters of support. Councilor Martínez asked about service for the cell tower near Gallina. Mr. Chávez responded that they are working with Rio Arriba county to see about where a cell tower can be placed. Councilor Martínez asked if land grants and heirs are the ones who need to get someone to move on this; Mr. Chávez responded that this is an option, but that they are working with county and USFS to see what provider can make a tower.

Mr. Archuleta stated that the office of Congresswoman Teresa Leger Fernández was in communication with the New Mexico Land Grant Council as there is a push to buy land to connect the Continental Divide Trail through privately owned land. Council staff looked at the route of the trail and determined that the trail does not go through the land of organized community land grants. If the route is adjusted and does go through common land than the traditional land use rights will be protected. The Trail meanders near the Piedra Lumbre Visitors Center and perhaps a spur could take hikers closer to the site. The trail does go down to the Echo Amphitheatre area and communities want to protect a sacred site in this area. Rep. Leger Fernández wants to do a walk through. Most of the land that they want to purchase is private land in southern New Mexico. Rep. Leger Fernández will carry the Traditional Use Bill in the House. Her office is in consultation with Senator Luján's office and she wants to improve land transfers from the federal government to land grants. She may offer the bill, as is, in the House and make changes on the Senate side under Senator Luján's bill.

State

The Land Grant Interim Committee will meet in Anton Chico on September 23rd and 24th. Youth education is one of the focuses and Jacobo Baca of the UNM LGSP will join Paula Garcia of the NM Acequia Association and Adrian Sandoval of the Center for the Education and Study of Diverse Populations at NMHU on a panel discussing the ALGE Project. Arturo Archuleta and Venessa Chávez will discuss the UNM LGSP youth development projects.

9. Discussion and Possible Action on U.S. Forest Service

Shayne Martin (USFS R3) reported that the USFS Region 3 is starting riparian area thinning projects that seek to restore riparian areas to their natural state. Bosque riparian areas typically go through tribal, private and municipal lands and communities could probably work with the SLO on projects to access resources in the bosque. At the Ojo Project on the Carson National Forest in the Tierra Amarilla area, people are concerned about others damaging forest and leaving trash behind and have requested additional patrols in the area. Ricardo Dow y Anaya (NMAG) asked the USFS if they are working with land grants and acequias to help thin riparian areas; the Mr. Martin replied in the affirmative, adding that in most o projects such as those in the Cibola they have collaborating groups they work with through the whole process. Councilor Polaco added that he has spoken with Andrea Jones of the Rio Grande National Forest, who spoke with Jack Lewis of the Carson National Forest, and that they would give a presentation about how USFS has been working to make a presentation about getting wood and find out how communities can get wood from the Rio Grande National Forest. Peter Rich (USFS – Carson National Forest) stated that he will follow up with Jack Lewis on this and added that the Carson, Santa Fe and Rio Grande National Forests are collaborating on watershed restoration projects that will result in firewood. Mr. Archuleta added that in the packet is a letter from James Durán of the Carson NF, stating that the final draft of the plan has been released and includes a guide on how to make an objection. Individuals and organizations have standing to object through comments that were made in past drafts. The Council will do our due diligence to make an objection.

10. Discussion and Action on Natural Resources Issues & Concerns – Local, State and Federal

Mr. Archuleta introduced Vidal Gonzales, who is a CRP graduate student and will work on natural resource issues, including helping land grants obtain farm numbers, which they need to receive NCRS monies. The Council will also look into YCC projects and has coordinated with the Tomé Land Grant on their Healthy Soils Grant Program award. Mr. Archuleta introduced Anissa Baca, who is working with Venessa on youth projects at the LGSP. He reported that the NMLGC and LGSP collaborated with the Tajique, Chililí, Cañón de Carnué, Torreón, San Antonio de las Huertas, Town of Tomé and Manzano Land Grants to apply for a New Mexico Outdoor Recreation Trails + Grant through the Outdoor Recreation Division of the Economic Development Department (in packet). We applied last year and did not receive funding. The goal is to increase outdoor recreation activities and the Council and participating grants seek to leverage \$25,000 in Council funding for 4 additional weeks of work for a total of 10 weeks of work. The NMAG's Equity Council helped when NM Outdoor Recreation presented at their meeting. Dr. Baca, Mr. Archuleta and Ms. Chávez collaborated with Chas Robles of Ancestral Lands Conservation Corps and co-created the narrative, budget, obtained letters of support and put together an outstanding application. Councilor Padilla commented that it is a fantastic application and commended the staff on a great job. The grant will provide for economic development at restaurants near Cerro Tomé. Mr. Archuleta commented that it is a great model to go to interim committee and go after other money to get our kids cross pollinating across individual land grant communities.

11. Discussion and Possible Action in Council FY 2021, FY 2022 & FY 2023 Budgets

FY 2021

None.

FY 2022

The UNM comptroller finalized its approval 2 weeks ago but DFA has heard nothing. The Council can still back bill to July 1st, 2021. 32,000 has been expended on personnel and copier costs. The budget update in the packet only has travel for this meeting as well as the virtual meeting per diem. Those charges are included and total \$1,628.06, excluding today's travels. When we created a budget we allotted funds for law school interns to aid with our project, but we have to pay for health care. If offered as externships, monies paid are a stipend and we don't need to provide health care. Rather than 2 interns, we can get 6 externships (3 a semester) which will give David Benavides necessary assistance. The cost will be 124 hours of \$20 an hour = \$2,480 for each individual and \$14,882 total. Assistantships will therefore change from \$20,250 to \$9,000 and fringe benefits change from \$60,210 to \$56,579.

Councilor Martínez made a motion to approve the change in assistantships from \$20,250 to \$9,000 and fringe benefits from \$60,210 to \$56,579. Councilor Correa Skartwed seconded the motion.

Roll call vote:

Councilor Correa Skartwed - aye

Councilor Martínez - aye

Councilor Padilla - aye

Councilor Polaco - aye

Chairman Sánchez - aye

The motion was passed.

FY 2023

The NMLGC did submit a FY 2023 proposed budget to DFA.

12. Discussion and Possible Action on UNM Intergovernmental Service Agreement - FY 21 & 22

FY 2021

None.

FY 2022

None. Not yet in place.

13. Discussion and Possible Action on Legal Services for Land Grants Update and Requests

NM Legal Aids contract was just approved. David Benavides continued to provide work even though he didn't need to and externs will assist him, as will the UNM Law School Natural Resources and Environmental Law Clinic. They will look into three encroachment cases at Tomé, Cañón de Carnué and Manzano.

14. Discussion and Possible Action on Professional Surveyor Services Contract - Update and Requests

No surveyor has been hired as the UNM Intergovernmental Services agreement is not yet in place.

15. Discussion & Action on Piedra Lumbre Visitors Center Update

The land grant representatives did a walk through with the frontier community initiative from the NM Mainstreet Program. Their assistance will help further develop a master plan into an efficient economic development program. Their architect will visit on September 23rd to evaluate the site. Unfortunately, as a frontier community project, it is not eligible for infrastructure funding.

16. Discussion and Possible Action on Laguna del Campo Update

The Game commission met a month ago to transfer of the Laguna del Campo property. Councilor Polaco commented that the Tierra Amarilla Land Grant has not yet heard back of the Governor’s office in their request to meet. The water rights were the main discussion.

17. Discussion and Possible Action on Land Grant Registry Update

Dr. Baca reported that the Chililí Land Grant submitted the results of their June 27 election. The Santo Domingo de Cundiyo Grant reported that they postponed their election due to COVID and sent in old their bylaws and list of board members. The Cebolleta Land Grant send in their bylaws and board membership and organization.

18. Discussion and Possible Action on Land Grant Institute / Land Grant Studies Program Update

Nothing has progressed in the discussion of the Land Grant Institute. Dr. Baca will present on the ALGE program with collaborators at the Interim Committee. Venessa Chávez (NMLGC/LGSP) is working on the Northern Rio Grande National Heritage Area grant, conducting land grant elder interviews with youth and Lisa Martínez of Tierra Amarilla is doing video editing. The Land Grants and Acequias CLE will be on October 15 and 16 at Cañón de Carnué.

19. Discussion and Possible Action on Correspondence

The Council was contacted by Bonifacio Vásquez of the Santa Bárbara Land Grant, which has approached the Peñasco Independent School District school Board to ask for a vacant building that they wish to use as Land Grant offices. The District also owns the historic school in Las Trampas. They are hopeful that the school board will transfer the property to the Grant and have asked for a letter of support addressed to the Board. The draft letter is in the packet.

Councilor Polaco made a motion to approve the letter to the Peñasco Independent School Board meeting supporting the Santa Bárbara’s request for the vacant building; Councilor Padilla seconded the motion.

Roll call vote:

- Councilor Correa Skartwed - aye
- Councilor Padilla - aye
- Councilor Polaco - aye
- Chairman Sánchez – aye

The motion was passed.

The Council received an additional letter form a concerned heir regarding the distribution of wood permits on the Chililí Land Grant. A letter explaining the results of the Council’s inquiry into the matter is in the packet.

Councilor Padilla made a motion to approve the letter regarding the distribution of wood permits by the Chililí Land Grant; Councilor Correa Skartwed seconded the motion.

Roll call vote:

- Councilor Correa Skartwed - aye
- Councilor Padilla - aye
- Councilor Polaco - aye
- Chairman Sánchez – abstain

The motion was passed.

20. Discussion and Possible Action on Staff Assignments

ICIPs have been submitted but many lack ICIP resolutions. ICIPs are important for land grants seeking capital outlay. The Council will now work with the State Auditor to land grants off of the at risk list. There will also be a training with DFA regarding capital outlay on Wednesday September 22, 2021.

21. Public Comments – Discussion only

None.

22. Miscellaneous Announcements

None.

23. Date and Location for October, November & December 2021 Council Meetings

The October 2021 Council meeting will take place on Wednesday, October 20, 2021 at 10:00am in Albuquerque, at UNM STC.

The November 2021 Council meeting will take place on Wednesday, November 10, 2021 at 10:00am in Albuquerque, at UNM STC.

The December 2021 Council meeting will take place on Wednesday, December 8th, 2021 at 10:00am in Albuquerque, at UNM STC.

24. Adjournment

Chairman Sánchez made a motion to adjourn; Councilor Padilla seconded the motion.

Roll call vote:

- Councilor Padilla – aye
- Councilor Correa Skartwed - aye
- Councilor Polaco - aye
- Chairman Sánchez – aye

The motion was passed. The meeting adjourned at 1:21 pm MDT.

Approved:

Chair

Date

New Mexico Land Grant Council (NMLGC)
October 20, 2021 – 10:00am
In Person and Virtual Meeting (Hybrid)
UNM Science and Technology Park
851 University Blvd SE, Suite 202
Albuquerque, NM 87106
Zoom ID: 938 6565 7642

Final Meeting Minutes

Regular Council Meeting

1. Call to Order - Roll Call

Chairman Juan Sánchez called the meeting to order at 10:01am MDT. Roll call of the Council members: Steve Polaco, Juan Sánchez, Andrea Padilla, and Leonard Martínez were present. Rebecca Correa Skartwed joined virtually via Zoom.

2. Introduction of Guests

Juan Sánchez (NMLGC); Andrea Padilla (NMLGC); Steve Polaco (NMLGC); Rebecca Correa Skartwed (NMLGC); Leonard T. Martínez (NMLGC); Congresswoman Teresa Leger Fernández; Arturo Archuleta (NMLGC/LGSP); Jacobo Baca (NMLGC/LGSP); Venessa Chavez (NMLGC/LGSP); Anissa Baca (LGSP); Vidal Gonzales (NMLGC); Camilla Romero (NM State Land Office); Ashley Wright (USFS); LM García y Griego (LGSP); Sofía Sánchez (Office of Rep. Melanie Stansbury); Novela Salazar (Treaty Division - NM Attorney General's Office); Ricardo Dow y Anaya (NM Attorney General's Office); Eric Chávez (Office of Sen. Ben Ray Luján); Lisa Morrison (BLM); Jennifer Sánchez (Office of Rep. Teresa Leger Fernández); Adeline DeYoung (Office of Rep. Teresa Leger Fernández); Eric Castillo (Office of Sen. Martin Heinrich), Abel Sillas (Arroyo Hondo Arriba Land Grant heir).

3. Approval of Agenda

Councilor Steve Polaco made a motion to approve the agenda; Councilor Leonard Martínez seconded the motion.

Roll call vote:

Councilor Correa Skartwed - aye
Councilor Padilla - aye
Councilor Martínez - aye
Councilor Polaco - aye
Chairman Sánchez - aye

The motion was passed.

4. Approval of Meeting Minutes from September 15, 2021 Council meeting

Councilor Polaco made a motion to approve the meeting minutes of the September 15, 2021 Council meeting; Councilor Andrea Padilla seconded the motion.

Roll call vote:

Councilor Correa Skartwed - aye
Councilor Padilla - aye
Councilor Martínez - aye

Councilor Polaco - aye
Chairman Sánchez – aye

The motion was passed.

5. Discussion and Possible Action on Federal and State Legislative Update – Guest Congresswoman Leger Fernández

Federal

Congresswoman Teresa Leger Fernández reported that land grant traditional use rights and consultation bills have been introduced in both the U.S. House of Representatives and the U.S. Senate. She is the lead sponsor on H.R. 5493 and Senator Ben R. Luján is the sponsor on S. 2708. Councilor Padilla asked if the legislation will effect lands managed by the Middle Rio Grande Conservancy District; Congresswoman Leger Fernández responded that it did not, but could serve as a framework for future traditional use and consultation. Councilor Polaco asked how the legislation would effect land grants that had patents that recognized their property but subsequently lost their lands to private individuals and the land largely remains in private hands. Congresswoman Leger Fernández responded that the bill mandates that federal agencies consult on land that is under federal control and managed by federal agencies, but that Congress cannot mandate that private land owners participate. She asked if there was something similar in state statute. Mr. Arturo Archuleta (NMLGC/LGSP) responded that there is not, though the interim Legislative Land Grant Committee has proposed legislation that would give access to land grants on state owned land, using the federal bills as a model. Congresswoman Leger Fernández responded that whichever bill is passed first can serve as the model and that at the state level land grants might achieve at aspirational levels because they are closer to the ground. She offered her assistance to discuss this with state legislators.

Councilor Martínez asked if there will be time to reconcile the two bills in this Congress; Congresswoman Leger Fernández responded that the goal is to do so by December 2022, when this Congress ends. Mr. Archuleta thanked Congresswoman Leger Fernández for introducing and sponsoring the legislation and stated that land grants were concerned with the loss of Rep. Deb Haaland to the Department of Interior as she proved to be a land grant champion. Congresswoman Melanie Stansbury is co-sponsoring H.R. 5493 and Senator Martin Heinrich is co-sponsoring S. 2708 with Senator Luján. Sponsors are trying to move the bill through committees in the House. Mr. Archuleta stated the Council is available to offer expert witness testimony in both the House and Senate. The strategy as the Council understands it is to push the bill through the House as is and introduce and changes (i.e. process for determining boundaries) on the Senate version of legislation, whereafter changes would be discussed in conference committee. Congresswoman Leger Fernández stated that House Natural Resources Committee Chair Raúl Grijalva is also a co-sponsor, as is Rep. Barbara Lee, who represents the Oakland, CA area but was born and raised in El Paso. She also expressed a desire to include provisions for the land purchases, which may go into the Senate version of the legislation.

Chairman Sánchez added that any assistance that is needed from the Council can be requested directly from staff and thanked Congresswoman Leger Fernández for joining the meeting. Congresswoman Leger Fernández responded saying that “Any time you go anywhere in New Mexico, you are on land grant land.” Sofia Sánchez (Office of Congresswoman Melanie Stansbury) stated that Congresswoman Melanie Stansbury had a great time on her tour of Manzano Mountain land grant communities (Tajique, Torreón, Manzano and Tomé) and thanked the Council and the

communities for their time. Her office has a lot of follow up to do with land grants and added that the Town of Tomé Land Grant should be hearing from the MRGCD regarding the bosque shortly. Ms. Sánchez added that she will follow up soon about grant opportunities, especially regarding youth and preservation. Eric Chávez (Office of Senator Ben R. Luján) stated that Senator Luján will work to move S. 2708 through the 116th Congress, but that he had no updates regarding hearings at this time. The two bills are very similar, and nearly identical in some sections. He thanked Chairman Sánchez, Andrea Padilla of the New Mexico Land Grant-Merced Consejo, and Leonard Martínez of the San Joaquín del Río de Chama Land Grant for quotes that they provided for the press release that went out last week. He added that S.2708 does mention patented exterior boundaries near federally managed lands and suggested that the Council look closely at that language.

State

The Land Grant Interim Committee will meet in Tome on October 28th and 29th. Redistricting of state senate, state house, congressional and other districts based on the 2020 census has continued, with the New Mexico Citizens Redistricting Committee holding in person and virtual meetings throughout the state. See <https://www.nmredistricting.org/>.

6. Discussion and Possible Action on Bureau of Land Management Update

Lisa Morrison reported that the B:M is working on the Rio Grande del Norte management plan. The Taos Field Office is also working on the Sombrillo travel management plan including plans in trails in the Nambe badlands. The BLM is also looking at locations of need to sell wood permits.

7. Discussion and Possible Action on State Land Office Projects

Camila Romero reported that the State Land Office is working on Copper Hill wood project with the Santa Bárbara Land Grant. They are working to replace stolen signs near the Cebolla Project. The SLO is in the planning stages of Bear Cat Project in the east mountains. They have created a draft MOU with the Council and submitted it to Mr. Archuleta for review. The SLO will meet present at the interim Land Grant meeting in Tomé next week. Councilor Martínez reported that he escorted heirs to gather wood at the Cebolla Project and signs were stolen and there was an attempt to shoot the locks off of the gate; the locks had to be otherwise removed. He asked if there is another access point that we can use to get into the land and expressed his continued concern that people are stealing wood; Ms. Romero stated that she will work with local and agency law enforcement and see what the SLO can do and was not sure if there is another access point. Councilor Martínez mentioned that BLM law enforcement is in the area. Councilor Polaco reiterated that the Tierra Amarilla Land Grant has examined the proposed fuelwood area near Tierra Amarilla, but heirs felt that the road was too dangerous for a scant amount of wood. Ms. Romero responded that the SLO will continue to look at areas that are easier to access. Ms. Morrison (BLM) stated that she will call her law enforcement to see how they can help out; Ms. Romero expressed her gratitude. Councilor Martínez added that the San Joaquín del Río de Chama Grant want youth (possible YCC) to work on the site and stack load the wood and stretch out the supply until next year.

8. Discussion and Possible Action on U.S. Forest Service

Ashley Wright (USFS) reported that the objection period for the three northern forest plans (Carson, Cibola and Santa Fe) wraps up on November 2, 2021. She also reported that she is now the permanent New Mexico State Liaison for Region 3 and will presenting at the Interim Land

Grant Committee next week in Tomé. Councilor Martínez welcomed Ms. Wright and asked what the status of the timber sales in the Gallina area. Ms. Wright responded that she will check with the Santa Fe National Forest timber folks and report back. Councilor Polaco stated that he has yet to hear from the Carson and Rio Grande National Forests regarding collaboration to aid wood dependent communities in the Tierra Amarilla area. Mr. Archuleta stated that Council staff and graduate interns are reviewing the Carson, Cíbola and Santa Fe National Forests final land management plans and considering where the Council might submit an objection. Vidal Gonzales (NMLGC graduate intern) discussed his review of the Santa Fe and Cíbola National Forest plans and areas where the Council might submit an objection. Anissa Baca (LGSP graduate intern) discussed the Carson National Forest plan and areas where the Council might object. Mr. Archuleta added that forest plan revision is a long and time-consuming process. Councilor Martínez asked what happens after an objection is filed. Mr. Archuleta responded that he believes a meeting is called by the reviewing officer (Michiko Martin, Regional Forester) with the objector and the responsible official (Debbie Cress for the Santa Fe NF; James Durán for the Carson NF; Steve Hattenbach for the Cíbola NF) to discuss potential resolutions.

Councilor Martínez asked how to move forward to get our objections added into the plan; Mr. Archuleta reiterated that objectors must follow the steps outlined by the USFS and have a review conference and that there may be a process for a protest or filing down the road. The Council is now identifying the parts in the plan that were not met and that will help land grants get the things they want into the plan. Councilor Martínez added that this process is so long and that is why we have people fall out and it's all about who falls out at the end and those who have a staff and the resources, that ultimately it is not fair to communities, who are busy getting wood or rounding up cattle. Dr. Jacobo Baca added that there are mutual interest communities, like the acequias, with which the Council and land grants have collaborated with in the past with some success. For instance, land grants and acequias in the Trampas area fought the WSR designation of the Río Trampas and defeated the possible designation. The Santa Bárbara Land Grant is fighting the WSR designation of the Río Santa Bárbara and is joined with other Peñasco area communities against the threefold expansion of the Sipapu Ski Resort. He added that changes in the planning teams for all three northern forests have made the process difficult.

Councilor Padilla asked who makes the final decision on the plan; Mr. Archuleta responded that the respective forest supervisor for each forest. Councilor Padilla stated that it appears that the supervisor is not listening to our communities. We are being given a little bit here and there and it is frustrating and we are working hard but not getting any respect. Land grant communities are important and New Mexico is very different than the rest of the country. The fact is that we can't access these lands to get basic necessities and the forest service is not respecting our rights and volunteers boards are working with Council staff to protect these rights. We want to help our communities, both pueblos and land grants, who are being treated as second class citizens, and pueblos have been here way longer than land grants. Mr. Archuleta added that the plan has been a long and hard process and that it takes 10-15 years to complete this process. The USFS is designed to have people moving in and out, which makes people not understanding our needs common. We will continue to complete our part and need approval to submit objections on behalf of the Council.

Councilor Padilla made a motion to allow staff to submit objections to the USFS on behalf of the Council; Councilor Correa Skartwed seconded the motion.

Roll call vote:

Councilor Correa Skartwed - aye

Councilor Padilla - aye

Councilor Martínez - aye

Councilor Polaco - aye

Chairman Sánchez – aye

The motion was passed.

9. Discussion and Possible Action on Office of the Attorney General & Treaty Division

Dr. Ricardo Dow y Anaya commented that the presentations at the Land Grants and Acequias CLE were fantastic. The NMAG's office is trying to help land grants and acequia associations, drafting letters to present to the NMAG leadership for approval and submission. The key areas are public safety, addiction, acequias and land grants. He added that you are feeling the tensions of cannabis and water as the industry grows. He applauded the work of the interns and supports more internship opportunities.

10. Discussion and Action on Natural Resources Issues & Concerns – Local, State and Federal – 30 x 30 Campaign

Mr. Archuleta discussed the 30 by 30 campaign and the recent executive order by Governor Michelle Luján Grisham to have cabinet look at the plan and how to achieve it. A commission has been named and will meet quarterly. The Council has been approached to present and discuss land grants and Mr. Archuleta reported that he has had good conversations with people staffing the commission about how land grant lands can help achieve this goal of 30% of lands in conservation if we include traditional use concepts and undeveloped land grant lands. He asked if land grants can get land back to our land grants with the money generated by the 30 by 30 campaign. Land grants will work with acequias to push for funding and other things that the committee can see. There are two extremes of conservation, one that advocates for blanket wilderness designations and another that pushes for everything to be in agricultural production. This will affect state lands and land grants need to figure out how we can navigate this plan and acquire these lands back to land grants. Not all land grant lands are in federal hands and we should allow LGs to regain those common lands to conserve them. Dr. Baca added that he heard that the Outdoor Recreation Division application that was submitted was accepted, but a press release has yet to go out.

11. Discussion and Possible Action on Land Grant Support Fund

The Council discussed FY 2022 Land Grant Support Fund applications. The Merced de Manzano, San Miguel del Bado, Tajiue, San Antonio de las Huertas, Torreón and Tomé Land Grants submitted applications totaling \$33,000. The total FY 2022 LGSF budget is \$30,000. The Council chose to reduce the Town of Tomé Land Grant from the requested \$12,000 to \$9,000. The approvals for each award are as follows.

Councilor Padilla made a motion to approve the Merced de Manzano Land Grant's request for \$2,000.00 for the purchase of office furnishings, including tables and chairs; Councilor Correa Skartwed seconded the motion.

Roll call vote:

Councilor Correa Skartwed - aye

Councilor Padilla - aye
Councilor Martínez - aye
Councilor Polaco - aye
Chairman Sánchez – aye

The motion was passed.

Councilor Correa Skartwed made a motion to approve the San Miguel del Bado Land Grant's request for \$3,500.00 for upgrades and maintenance to their senior citizens center; Councilor Padilla seconded the motion.

Roll call vote:

Councilor Correa Skartwed - aye
Councilor Padilla - aye
Councilor Martínez - aye
Councilor Polaco - aye
Chairman Sánchez – aye

The motion was passed.

Councilor Martínez made a motion to approve the Town of Taji que Land Grant's request for \$6,000.00 for a storage shed and riding lawn mower; Councilor Padilla seconded the motion.

Roll call vote:

Councilor Correa Skartwed - aye
Councilor Padilla - aye
Councilor Martínez - aye
Councilor Polaco - aye
Chairman Sánchez – aye

The motion was passed.

Councilor Martínez made a motion to approve the San Antonio de las Huertas Land Grant's request for \$3,500.00 for the purchase of a propane tank and the expansion and improvement of their parking lot at their land grant office; Councilor Polaco seconded the motion.

Roll call vote:

Councilor Correa Skartwed – *abstained from the vote*
Councilor Padilla - aye
Councilor Martínez - aye
Councilor Polaco - aye
Chairman Sánchez – aye

The motion was passed.

Councilor Padilla made a motion to approve the Town of Torreón Land Grant's request for \$6,000.00 for the purchase of playground mulch for their community playground; Councilor Correa Skartwed seconded the motion.

Roll call vote:

Councilor Correa Skartwed - aye
Councilor Padilla - aye
Councilor Martínez - aye
Councilor Polaco - aye
Chairman Sánchez – aye

The motion was passed.

Councilor Martínez made a motion to approve the Town of Tomé Land Grant's request for \$9,000.00 for the purchase of an ATV/UTV, storage shed, and/or desktop or laptop computer and necessary accessories; Councilor Polaco seconded the motion.

Roll call vote:

Councilor Correa Skartwed - aye
Councilor Padilla – *abstained from the vote*
Councilor Martínez - aye
Councilor Polaco - aye
Chairman Sánchez – aye

The motion was passed.

12. Discussion and Possible Action in Council FY 2022 Budget

FY 2022

Mr. Archuleta reported that the contract with UNM is just in place and the Council just received an index that they can charge to. We learned that in FY 2023, we can set up a temporary index that can be charged to and UNM can “float” charges until the contract has been approved and is in place. About \$45,000 in personnel charges of the \$243,474 has been spent; there is a delay in hiring the surveyor until November or December because of the delayed contract. On the DFA managed side, travel up to the September meeting is \$2,056.01 expended with ~ \$6,944 remaining.

13. Discussion and Possible Action on UNM Intergovernmental Service Agreement – FY 22

None.

14. Discussion and Possible Action on Legal Services for Land Grants Update and Requests – Santa Bárbara Request

NM Legal Aid submitted their first billing, payment request #1 for \$2,787.50 for 22.3 hours of work with the Abiquiú, Juan Bautista Baldés, and Tierra Amarilla Land Grants.

Councilor Polaco made a motion to approve Pay Request #1 from New Mexico Legal Aid for \$2,787.50; Councilor Padilla seconded the motion.

Roll call vote:

Councilor Correa Skartwed - aye
Councilor Padilla - aye
Councilor Martínez - aye
Councilor Polaco - aye
Chairman Sánchez – aye

The motion was passed.

The Santa Bárbara Land Grant has made a request to the Council for legal assistance with property acquisition and water issues. Councilor Padilla made a motion to approve the Santa Bárbara Land Grant's request for legal assistance; Councilor Correa Skartwed seconded the motion.

Roll call vote:

Councilor Correa Skartwed - aye
Councilor Padilla - aye

Councilor Martínez - aye
Councilor Polaco - aye
Chairman Sánchez – aye

The motion was passed.

15. Discussion and Possible Action on Professional Surveyor Services Contract - Update and Requests

No surveyor has been hired as the UNM Intergovernmental Services agreement is not yet in place.

16. Discussion & Action on Piedra Lumbre Visitors Center Update

The land grant representatives did a walk through with the frontier community initiative from the NM Mainstreet Program. The architect visited on September 23rd to evaluate the site and recommended preserving buildings rather than demolishing them.

17. Discussion and Possible Action on Laguna del Campo Update

Councilor Polaco reported that the New Mexico Game Commission approved the transfer of the property and water storage rights and negotiations on the water diversion rights continue. The Tierra Amarilla Land Grant met with the Governor's office to discuss and the New Mexico Game and Fish Department continues to offer 2 cfs diversion right. The Grant wants 5 cfs.

18. Discussion and Possible Action on Land Grant Registry Update

Dr. Baca reported that following has been received by the Council for inclusion in the New Mexico Land Grant Registry.

- Bylaws for the Merced de Manzano
- Bylaws for the Town of Tajique Land Grant
- The rules and regulations (bylaws) and results of most recent election and organization of board for the Town of Torreón Land Grant

Registry letters were provided to Chairman Sánchez to sign and will be sent to the above named land grants, recognizing the submission of these documents to the Land Grant Registry.

19. Discussion and Possible Action on Land Grant Institute / Land Grant Studies Program Update

Venessa Chávez (NMLGC/LGSP) reported that she and Anissa Baca (LGSP graduate intern) continue to work on the NRGNHA grant and work with youth to interview elders. Both worked to produce interviews to share with the office of Congresswoman Melanie Stansbury, where youth discussed the importance of access to the forest and traditional uses. Dr. LM García y Griego reported that the Land Grant Acequia CLE was excellent, in no small part due to the work of Utton Transboundary Resource Center staffer Lauren Rust, who coordinated the event and is an heir to the Embudo Land Grant. Land grants and young attorneys and law students were among the attendees.

20. Discussion and Possible Action on Correspondence

Mr. Archuleta reported that the packet includes a notice of requests for proposals from the Department of Information Technology, which will be sent out to land grants via e-mail. Land grants might work with DoIT, which undercounted students in rural area when assessing needs because they did not count households with P.O. boxes, which are common in rural areas.

21. Discussion and Possible Action on Staff Assignments

Mr. Gonzales reported that he has worked with MRGCD to set up a meeting regarding the bosque but had difficulty confirming attendance from Isleta Pueblo. Work will continue to set this meeting up with Town of Tomé Land grant and adjacent communities of interest to gain access and thin and clear the bosque in the area.

22. Public Comments – Discussion only

Councilor Padilla suggested that USFS plan objections be sent to the Congressional delegation. Councilor Polaco reported that the Tierra Amarilla Land Grant met with Northern New Mexico College President Richard Bailey regarding an abandoned airstrip in Tierra Amarilla. Chairman Sánchez asked if the NM DOT hardship auction has taken place; Mr. Archuleta responded that he understands that it will take place in November 2021. Chairman Sánchez stated that some redistricting plans look to do away with NM House District 40, held by Rep. Roger Montoya. He added that he put in a request to meet with the Governor regarding a Council update and legislative priorities for the 2022 legislative session.

23. Miscellaneous Announcements

None.

24. Date and Location for November & December 2021 Council Meetings

The November 2021 Council meeting will take place on Wednesday, November 10, 2021 at 10:00am in Albuquerque, at UNM STC.

The December 2021 Council meeting will take place on Wednesday, December 8th, 2021 at 10:00am in Albuquerque, at UNM STC.

24. Adjournment

Councilor Polaco made a motion to adjourn; Councilor Padilla seconded the motion.

Roll call vote:

- Councilor Padilla – aye
- Councilor Correa Skartwed - aye
- Councilor Martínez - aye
- Councilor Polaco - aye
- Chairman Sánchez – aye

The motion was passed. The meeting adjourned at 2:02 pm MDT.

Approved:

 Chair

 Date

New Mexico Land Grant Council (NMLGC)
November 10, 2021 – 10:00am
In Person and Virtual Meeting (Hybrid)
UNM Science and Technology Park
851 University Blvd SE, Suite 202
Albuquerque, NM 87106
Zoom ID: 948 6530 7081

Meeting Minutes - Final

Regular Council Meeting

1. Call to Order - Roll Call

Chairman Juan Sánchez called the meeting to order at 10:06am MST. Roll call of the Council members: Steve Polaco, Juan Sánchez, Andrea Padilla, and Leonard Martínez were present. Rebecca Correa Skartwed was absent.

2. Introduction of Guests

Juan Sánchez (NMLGC); Andrea Padilla (NMLGC); Steve Polaco (NMLGC); Leonard T. Martínez (NMLGC); Arturo Archuleta (NMLGC/LGSP); Jacobo Baca (NMLGC/LGSP); Anissa Baca (LGSP); Vidal Gonzales (NMLGC); Tarin Nix (NM State Land Office); Ashley Wright (USFS); LM García y Griego (LGSP); Novela Salazar (Treaty Division - NM Attorney General's Office); Ricardo Dow y Anaya (NM Attorney General's Office); Eric Chávez (Office of Sen. Ben Ray Luján); Lisa Morrison (BLM); A.J. Pacheco (Office of Rep. Teresa Leger Fernández); Genaro Falco (Santa Fe NF); Eric Castillo (Office of Sen. Martin Heinrich); Julie Ann Overton (Santa Fe NF).

3. Approval of Agenda

Chairman Juan Sánchez stated that the New Mexico Attorney General's office requested to present earlier as they have another conflicting meeting; Meeting agenda Item 9 to was moved to 5. Councilor Steve Polaco made a motion to approve the agenda, as amended; Councilor Leonard Martínez seconded the motion.

Roll call vote:

Councilor Padilla - aye
Councilor Martínez - aye
Councilor Polaco - aye
Chairman Sánchez – aye

The motion was passed.

4. Approval of Meeting Minutes from October 20, 2021 Council meeting

Councilor Martínez made a motion to approve the meeting minutes of the October 20, 2021 Council meeting; Councilor Andrea Padilla seconded the motion.

Roll call vote:

Councilor Padilla - aye
Councilor Martínez - aye
Councilor Polaco - aye
Chairman Sánchez – aye

The motion was passed.

9. Discussion and Possible Action on Office of the Attorney General & Treaty Division

Ricardo Dow y Anaya (NMAG's office) congratulated the Town of Tomé Grant on meeting with the Middle Rio Grande Conservancy District regarding clearing the bosque and harvesting fuelwood. He reported that he is funded through the NMAG's civil rights division and that he has finished his sixth month with NMAG's office and has three goals for the next quarter. They are: coordinate a land-based conference (which was inspired by the Land Grant and Acequia CLE), which will include judges, district attorneys, etc; explore internship opportunities, including a student ambassador succession program; and expand community based partnerships, partially through the environmental equity council, including partnerships with state agencies, to help understand acequias and land grants. Dr. Dow y Anaya reported that he is meeting with the New Mexico Economic Development Department in Silver City today and has Office of Natural Resource Trustee meetings next week, which will discuss consumer settlement funds and a \$1 million settlement for restoration. The Treaty Division and Equity Council, with Novela Salazar and Jennie Lusk are working on statutes, bills, and funding and the NMAG's office offers letters of support for Council and land grant priorities. The Environmental Equity Council is changing its name to the Natural Resources Equity Council. The New Mexico Wildlife Federation is mounting a campaign against the elk licenses and e-plus program and the NMAG's office has received 700 complaints about the licensing and the program.

Councilor Polaco inquired about complaints about the e-plus program. Dr. Dow y Anaya responded that many have challenged the program, alleging that out of state vendors are getting the licenses. The program is characterized as a cash cow for the recipients of the licenses and the state and the NM Wildlife Federation took it to the legislature. They question whether the current system supports local hunters. Councilor Polaco agreed, stating that some landowners get one cow tag while owners of subdivided lands get multiple. Mr. Arturo Archuleta (NMLGC staff) stated that the e-plus program is a source of revenue for land grant communities. Last legislative session, the NM Wildlife Federation stood up against traditional uses for the Tierra Amarilla Land Grant and wrote a blistering op ed against Rep. Miguel Garcia. This opposition suggests that the Federation is using New Mexican communities as a prop, as they in the past have not displayed similar concerns for their rights. Landowners are currently compensated for depredations caused by wildlife, but the program does not apply across the board equally. Some landowners sell their licenses to out of staters as a revenue source and land grants sell some tags and distribute others to their heirs via a lottery. We need to be sure that rehaul of system doesn't hurt these communities. Councilor Polaco added that the Chama Peak Alliance and Women of the Woods are getting involved in getting wood to our community through Rio Grande National Forest and are getting credit and using us for grant programs.

Mr. Archuelta commented that this is the last legislative session for NMAG Balderas and he needs a message from the Governor on policy legislation. It is important for the Council to convey a message to the NMAG to ask the Governor for a message (*see Item 8 below for motion*). The ILGC is meeting on Friday and has no bills to endorse. Traditional use legislation was proposed in the past and it is important for the NMAG to solidify and empower Treaty Division. Vidal Gonzales (NMLGC staff) asked if there was any update to the public access to waters issue. Dr. Dow y Anaya responded that it is a sensitive issue for land based communities and that New Mexico is in negotiations with Texas and Mexico over Rio Grande waters. Councilor Padilla commented that she read that 60% of the applicants for cannabis producers licenses are white males and that

Native Americans and Hispanos are being left out once again. Equity is not happening. Councilor Martínez stated that an Equity Commission is being named by the U.S. Department of Agriculture. Nominations for the commission were due by October 22.

5. Discussion and Possible Action on Bureau of Land Management Update

Lisa Morrison (BLM) reported that the Taos Field Office is holding public mapping sessions for the Sombrillo travel management plan. They will be November 13 and 20. The area is near Nambe, north to Espanola east of the Santa Fe National Forest and includes plans for bike and hiking trails. The meetings will be held outdoors and participants need to register as attendance is limited. The BLM will hold an additional meeting if all interested parties cannot register. The Socorro Field Office is beginning its implementation of the travel management plan, including the Johnson Hill Special Recreation Management Area, northeast of Socorro. The comment period runs through November 28th on an oil lease sale for parcels in Lea County and Chaves County. The Rio Grande del Norte travel management plan is in planning and the BLM hopes to engage cooperating agencies in the new year. The Rio Puerco and Farmington Field Office plans are still being reviewed. The BLM requested guidance to gauge if communities are interested in the BLM selling permits in locations in the northern part of the state. Mr. Archuleta responded that he forwarded the information to Council members, who suggested that they look at areas where these permits were successfully sold last year. Councilor Martínez stated that the BLM sold permits at the Canjilón, Coyote and Cuba Ranger Districts last year. The USFS representative could sell both permits and it was very appreciated by the community. Ms. Morrison responded that she would look into the request and see if it can be done again. Councilor Martínez asked if the RMP webinar was rescheduled; Ms. Morrison stated that she would look into it and respond. Dr. Jacobo Baca (NMLGC staff) asked if there was any movement on the Resource Advisory Councils for northern and southern New Mexico; Ms. Morrison stated that applications are being reviewed by BLM headquarters.

6. Discussion and Possible Action on State Land Office Projects

Tarin Nix (State Land Office) reported that there were no updates since Camila Romero's last update. Mr. Archuleta reported that Ms. Romero will send a draft MOU for SLO and NMLGC collaboration on land grant related projects on State of New Mexico lands.

7. Discussion and Possible Action on U.S. Forest Service

Ashely Wright stated that she spoke with Mr. Archuleta and Dr. Baca to regularly provide a land grant 101 for USFS Region 3 staff. Genaro Falco (Santa Fe National Forest) attended the meeting to respond to questions from Councilor Martínez. Mr. Falco stated that the Santa Fe NF is providing BLM fuelwood permits in the Cuba RD and that he will work with Jack River (Santa Fe NF forester) to extend the process. He was unsure about the Carson NF. The Ojo Timber Sale, within the San Joaquín del Río de Chama Land Grant, are being prepped, trees marked, etc. It is in review for the contract to go out and Mr. Falco stated that he will be sure that Councilor Martínez received it when it goes out this winter. The next sale will be in spring or early summer. Councilor Martínez asked when the contract comes out if only certain contractors are allowed to apply. Mr. Falco responded that bidders only need a tax id number. Councilor Martínez asked what the contract will require and what the price might be. Mr. Falco responded that bidders need to have the technical abilities to perform a logging operation, possessing a skid steer, etc. Councilor Martínez added that if the bids start at \$40,000, it limits the pool for local operators and only bigger operations can handle. Mr. Falco responded that the Santa Fe NF understood this and

with tiered sales, the USFS conducts appraisals and timber products are priced according to the prices of the nearest full service mill, which is in Blanca CO. For fuelwood, the USFS uses Española. What came out are minimums for sawed timber and the same with fuelwood. He does not expect any opening bud to be larger than \$5,000. The NEPA is complete but was held up by the MSO injunction. They split the project into smaller sales in light of this, to be more equitable and are looking at two initial sales and building out. Councilor Martínez expressed his concern that locals will still be squeezed out as the Velasquez and Garcias cannot transport far from the project area. He asked how much fuelwood will be for the local community. Mr. Falco responded that federal policies make all eligible and hope that opportunity remains for local operators that distribute locally. There are more opportunities in Ojo area including Encino east and the extended boundary to Gallina road to serve the San Joaquín del Río de Chama area. Mr. Falco hopes to converse with JR Logan on what they are doing in Carson NF with the mayordomo projects for a model. Councilor Martínez expressed that he wants some wood to remain for the local population and that he has spent months hauling and delivering cords to people who have no other means. Wood prices are high, \$300 for split cord of pine. Councilor Martínez asked to have the Carson National Forest at a future meeting to learn of their plans.

Councilor Polaco stated that the Tierra Amarilla Land Grant has common lands in Colorado and asked the Council to engage with the Rio Grande National Forest to learn their process. He stated that the Council needs to reach out so the Tierra Amarilla Land Grant can be present and inform the Grant. Ms. Wright (USFS) stated that she will reach out to the Carson NF and to get them on the next call and will do so more often. She will also reach out to her Rio Grande National Forest counterpart as well for Tierra Amarilla Land Grant. Mr. Archuleta reported that in the packet are the final objections prepared by NMLGC staff for Carson, Cibola, and Santa Fe National Forest Land and Resource Management Final plans. Most objections relate to the rural historic communities and traditional uses sections, but there are also other concern areas. The Council is doing its due diligence to protect uses of communities. There remains areas of the plan that can be improved and opportunities to engage the USFS. The objections need to be on past comments and this preserved the right for litigation if needed after exhausting administrative steps.

Students Anissa Baca and Vidal Gonzales undertook the initial review and did an excellent job. All three forests had the same 60-day objection period, each with its own documents. The 2019 plan comments were compared with 2021 USFS responses and final plans and EIS. Most forests responded to comments but NMLGC staff had to look at where concerns were addressed elsewhere in plan. The USFS stated that they could not read our format and we are reformatting. The NMLGC has been consistent in the demand that land grants are recognized separately in the traditional use section. All three plans generally lack certain plan components, namely objectives and standards. Only traditional uses were subjected and made subservient to other plan components in other parts of the plan.

Councilor Martínez made a motion to approve NMLGC objections to the Carson, Cibola and Santa Fe National Forests; Councilor Polaco seconded the motion.

Roll call vote:

Councilor Padilla - aye
Councilor Martínez - aye
Councilor Polaco - aye
Chairman Sánchez - aye

The motion was passed.

8. Discussion and Possible Action on Federal and State Legislative Update

Federal

The meeting packet includes the text of S. 2708 and H.R. 5493, the traditional use and consultation bills, which is nearly identical. The strategy remains to fast track the bill through the House and simultaneously move it through senate. Mr. Eric Chávez (Office of Senator Ben R. Luján) stated that Senator Ben R. Luján is working to move it through the Senate, where it has been assigned to the Energy and Natural Resources Committee. The bill includes, in Section 2 – def. (5) (B) – a discussion of “adjacent” patented lands, which clarifies how the bill will affect land grants with little or no federal land in their patented area. Councilor Polaco thanked Mr. Chávez for the clarification. Councilor Padilla asked if there are elk in the Tomé area and asked if this could help with licensing. Chairman Sánchez responded that the State of New Mexico manages the game and permits. Councilor Martínez asked why Congresswoman Yvette Herrell not signed on to support the bill, especially as she supported the concept in the past as a member of the state legislature. Mr. Archuleta responded that he was not sure if she had been asked. Chairman Sánchez asked if Congresswoman Teresa Leger Fernández’s office has contacted Congresswoman Yvette Herrell’s office or received any feedback. Mr. A.J. Pacheco (Office of Congresswoman Teresa Leger Fernández) stated that he was not sure if district office has and did not know if the Washington DC has asked either. Councilor Martínez asked that the Council designate who will go to Washington DC for hearings. Mr. Archuleta, Mr. Chávez and Mr. Pacheco responded that they may still be virtual or hybrid. Chairman Sánchez stated that Councilor Polaco not had the opportunity to go and he was unsure if Councilor Rebecca Correa Skartwed has gone either. Councilor Polaco stated he would be honored to go to advocate for the legislation. Councilor Padilla added that two people should attend each meeting, including staffers Arturo Archuleta and Jacobo Baca and a Consejo representative. Mr. Archuleta stated the he had budgeted for two councilors to travel and for shared rooms, which we might not be able to do because of COVID-19. Advocates usually will meet with the New Mexico delegation offices and committee members offices as well. The Council can consider to travel to DC outside of legislation to visit in April or May. Mr. Chávez also highlighted the House passage of infrastructure bill, which the Senate passed in September. Senator Luján’s website has a breakdown of the monies.

State

The Interim Land Grant Committee will hold its final meeting on Friday November 12 (agenda in packet). Individual Land Grants presenting their capital outlay requests will be first on the agenda. Junior monies can no longer be spend for capital projects, only operations. Acequias will also present and the NMLGC will give an update. There is no new legislation in this session, only the land grant assistance fund (guaranteed revenue streams) bill. Chairman Representative Miguel García is concerned that there is not enough political will to pass this legislation and land grants need to determine which legislator will sponsor and push the bill. All land grants need to need to engage legislators and we do not yet know the official endorsements of the legislation. The Council received an e-mail from ILGC staffer Mark Edwards (in packet) that requires all bills from executive branch agencies need to go through the Governor’s office. The Council subsequently received clarification that agencies only need to provide notice, but that LCS can still open a file, prompted by Council.

Councilor Martínez asked if a file be opened jointly by the Council and a legislator and added that the bill needs support from a member of the Legislative Finance Committee. Rep. Joseph Sánchez was vice chair and moved the bill through the committee in 2019. Mr. Archuleta agreed that the right sponsors are important and added that he did not know until recently that the LCS would open a file for an agency. Councilor Padilla added that land grants need to push forward and pursue the revenue bill, knowing that we may not get what we are looking for, but may get something. She asked for clarification on junior monies only being used for operational costs. Mr. Archuleta responded that in the past, this surplus money could go to anything. Now, they have refined the process and junior money could only go to existing programs and possible only to a government entity. Operations is not bricks and mortar, but consumables. Interestingly, DFA in the past pushed back against operational costs in LGSF awards. The Chair might want to make an argument for guaranteed revenue streams through requests for junior monies. Mr. Archuleta advised land grants to make requests for what they need. The Legislature can decide to fund through capital outlay of junior monies, whichever more appropriate. In the past, Rep. García wanted the NMLGC to coordinate capital outlay; now he wants individual land grants to present requests themselves.

Councilor Martínez asked what the timeline was for spending junior monies; Mr. Archuleta responded that typically general fund monies need to be spent between July 1 – June 30. The issue is that monies go through DFA-Local Government Division and they need to figure out grant agreement and contract. In the case of the Council, with 6 years on contract with UNM, it took until October for the agreement to be approved and executed. The Council will not have 12 months to spend it budget and will have to contract positions rather than hire. Councilor Padilla stated that the Town of Tomé grant planned to suggest their requested junior monies go to the Council which will then distribute and assist. Mr. Archuleta responded that there may be challenges if the NMLGC got junior monies as they are also affected by bureaucratic challenges.

Councilor Padilla made a motion to approach New Mexico Attorney General's office to request a message from the Governor Michelle Luján Grisham to introduce legislation to change Treaty Division Statute and to inform the Land Grant Interim Committee that this change is priority legislation; Councilor Martínez seconded the motion

Roll call vote:

- Councilor Padilla - aye
- Councilor Martínez - aye
- Councilor Polaco - aye
- Chairman Sánchez – aye

The motion was passed.

10. Discussion and Action on Natural Resources Issues & Concerns – Local, State and Federal

Dr. Baca reported that the application for the NM EDD Outdoor Recreation Division's Trails + Grant program was fully funded at \$25,000 and was among 25 organizations receiving over \$500,000 in funding, including multiple county and municipal governments. Councilor Padilla thanked staff and for their work on the application and project and on the Healthy Soils Grant that the Town of Tomé Land Grant was awarded.

11. Discussion and Possible Action on Land Grant Support Fund

Mr. Archuleta reported that Council staff reached out to land grants that were awarded LGSF awards for clarifications on the scope of their projects. Staff will work on getting grant agreements together for the December Council meeting.

12. Discussion and Possible Action in Council FY 2022 Budget

FY 2022

A budget update was included in the meeting packet. \$73,364.65 has been spent, with \$423,535 remaining. Expenditures include \$2,787.50 in legal services and \$2,702.27 in travel. Personnel costs for July through October are \$56,562.39 and facilities and administration (F&A) charges are \$11,312.49. \$14,154 remained unbudgeted. Options previously discussed are a report on US v. Sandoval, perhaps by Malcolm Ebright, in the form of a legal memo, which would be reviewed by a contracted firm, like Holland and Hart. The concept needs further discussion with David Benavides of NMLA to determine framework and legal theories to be pursued. Regarding the surveyor, the intent of the extra funding was for the Council to hire an experienced surveyor but we are afraid that with time lapse will not have enough time to expend monies in a salaried position. Chris Chavez, our past contractor, has had health issues that have incapacitated him and he cannot now and possibly in the future do this work. \$79,160 need to be spent, including salary, benefits, in state travel, supplies, computer software, usage fees for equipment, recording fees. The Council can look to do a few projects with various contractors, including surveying at Anton Chico Land Grant for NORAD exclusions allowing the Grant to move forward on wind energy project and earn monies. This is 30,000 acres of surveying, but is bounded by ranches that have surveys. There are also smaller survey requests, like Tierra Amarilla's colonia survey. The Council can also purchase some supplies, like computers, speakers, and meeting cameras. The Council will need to do a BAR (budget adjustment resolution). \$56,160 is in personnel and will need to be moved to contracts and need to ensure that we do not go through procurement caps when soliciting bids. Councilors expressed concern that the Council can get contracts and expend monies in time and over the priority of surveying and backlog in surveying work. They suggested multiple jobs and contracts and asked if Chris Chávez has any suggestions. Some opined that the Council should buy equipment and hire a surveyor in the future and others expressed concern that the Anton Chico Land Grant survey is too large a project.

13. Discussion and Possible Action on UNM Intergovernmental Service Agreement – FY 22

The Council has accumulated \$30,000-35,000 in F&A return.

Councilor Padilla made a motion to approve pay request #1 for \$67,874.88, including \$56,562.39 in personnel and \$11,312.49 in F&A; Councilor Polaco seconded the motion.

Roll call vote:

- Councilor Padilla - aye
- Councilor Martínez - aye
- Councilor Polaco - aye
- Chairman Sánchez – aye

The motion was passed.

14. Discussion and Possible Action on Legal Services for Land Grants Update and Requests

None.

15. Discussion and Possible Action on Professional Surveyor Services Contract - Update and Requests – Tierra Amarilla

Mr. Archuleta presented a request by the Tierra Amarilla Land Grant for a survey of the southern and western boundary of the Colonia de José María Martínez so it can be fenced. Heirs are interested in putting cattle on the property.

Councilor Padilla made a motion to approve the request for survey services from the Tierra Amarilla Land Grant; Councilor Martínez seconded the motion.

Roll call vote:

Councilor Padilla - aye

Councilor Martínez - aye

Councilor Polaco – abstained from the vote

Chairman Sánchez – aye

The motion was passed.

16. Discussion & Action on Piedra Lumbre Visitors Center Update

Mr. Archuleta reported that the architect from the New Mexico Mainstreet program is scheduled to meet with the land grants on November 13th, but the meeting maybe postponed. The land grants (Tierra Amarilla, San Joaquín del Río de Chama and Juan Bautista Baldés) are working with the Mainstreet staff on a visioning process and attorneys from Holland and Hart will be getting their draft of a ownership and management agreement to the grants soon.

17. Discussion and Possible Action on Laguna del Campo Update

None.

18. Discussion and Possible Action on Land Grant Registry Update

Dr. Baca reported that the Council received updated bylaws for the San Joaquin del Rio de Chama Land Grant for inclusion in the New Mexico Land Grant Registry. Registry letters were provided to Chairman Sánchez to sign and will be sent to the above named land grants, recognizing the submission of these documents to the Land Grant Registry.

19. Discussion and Possible Action on Land Grant Institute / Land Grant Studies Program Update

Dr. Baca reported that the Acequia and Land Grant Education project continues and he was joined by Andrea Padilla and Rita Padilla-Gutiérrez in a virtual forum hosted by New Mexico Highlands University on October 21st. The LGSP continued conducting research, including research at the New Mexico State Archives and Records Center. Anissa Baca has been busy assisting Venessa Chávez with interviews for the Northern Rio Grande National Heritage Area Grant and LGSP staff will submit an application for a YCC grant this December.

20. Discussion and Possible Action on Correspondence

Dr. Baca reported that the Council received and responded to an inquiry related to the cemetery in Petaca.

21. Discussion and Possible Action on Staff Assignments

None.

22. Public Comments – Discussion only

Councilor Padilla thanked Congresswoman Melanie Stansbury and her staff for their visit and tour. The Congresswoman visited their museum and saw the Town of Tomé Land Grant's patent. The Grant also met with the MRGCD on December 2 regarding a fuelwood project and MRGCD staff Yasmeen Naimi stated that there may be money from inmate program to help harvest the wood. Mr. Archuleta added that youth might be able to assist with work in Bosque, especially splitting and stacking wood.

23. Miscellaneous Announcements

Councilor Padilla stated the Town of Tomé Grant will be hosting a crafts fair and yard sale on Dec. 4th from 9:00am-3:00pm, with food trucks. Councilor Polaco reported that the celebration for the repatriation of the Colonia de José María Martínez was excellent and attended by 70-75 people, including Representatives Miguel Garcia and Susan Herrera and Senator Leo Jaramillo.

24. Date and Location for December 2021 Council Meetings

The December 2021 Council meeting will take place on Wednesday, December 8th, 2021 at 10:00am in Albuquerque, at UNM STC.

25. Adjournment

Councilor Padilla made a motion to adjourn; Councilor Polaco seconded the motion.

Roll call vote:

- Councilor Padilla - aye
- Councilor Martínez - aye
- Councilor Polaco - aye
- Chairman Sánchez - aye

The motion was passed. The meeting adjourned at 2:06pm MST.

Approved:

Chair

Date

New Mexico Land Grant Council (NMLGC)
December 8, 2021 – 10:00am
In Person and Virtual Meeting (Hybrid)
UNM Science and Technology Park
851 University Blvd SE, Suite 202
Albuquerque, NM 87106
Zoom ID: 967 5346 8396

**Final Meeting Minutes
Regular Council Meeting**

1. Call to Order - Roll Call

Chairman Juan Sánchez called the meeting to order at 10:05am MST. Roll call of the Council members: Steve Polaco, Juan Sánchez, Andrea Padilla, Rebecca Correa Skartwed and Leonard Martínez were present.

2. Introduction of Guests

Juan Sánchez (NMLGC); Andrea Padilla (NMLGC); Steve Polaco (NMLGC); Rebecca Correa Skartwed (NMLGC); Leonard T. Martínez (NMLGC); Arturo Archuleta (NMLGC/LGSP); Jacobo Baca (NMLGC/LGSP); Venessa Chavez (NMLGC/LGSP); Anissa Baca (LGSP); Vidal Gonzales (NMLGC); Camilla Romero (NM State Land Office); Ashley Wright (USFS); Andrea Jones (Rio Grande National Forest); Novela Salazar (Treaty Division - NM Attorney General's Office); Ricardo Dow y Anaya (NM Attorney General's Office); Eric Chávez (Office of Sen. Ben Ray Luján); Rita Padilla Gutiérrez (Town of Tomé Land Grant); Lisa Morrison (BLM); Elias Espinosa (Arroyo Hondo Arriba Community Land Grant).

3. Approval of Agenda

Chairman Juan Sanchez asked to move item 14 up in the agenda to follow item 5.

Councilor Steve Polaco made a motion to approve the agenda; Councilor Rebecca Correa Skartwed seconded the motion.

Roll call vote:

Councilor Correa Skartwed - aye
Councilor Padilla - aye
Councilor Martínez - aye
Councilor Polaco - aye
Chairman Sánchez – aye

The motion was passed.

4. Approval of Meeting Minutes from November 10, 2021 Council meeting

Councilor Polaco made a motion to approve the meeting minutes of the November 10, 2021 Council meeting; Councilor Padilla seconded the motion.

Roll call vote:

Councilor Correa Skartwed - aye
Councilor Padilla - aye
Councilor Martínez - aye
Councilor Polaco - aye
Chairman Sánchez – aye

The motion was passed.

5. Discussion and Possible Action on Council FY 2022 Budget – BAR

Mr. Arturo Archuleta presented the FY 2022 budget and a Budget Adjustment Resolution (BAR) for the Council's consideration (see meeting packet). Council members discussed the BAR, which moves monies under the budget items within the UNM contract and converting a staff surveyor position to contracted surveyor services. This move, resulting from a viable and qualified candidate being no longer able to perform the duties of a staff surveyor, includes making adjustments to the budget, including: reducing project personnel (salary and fringe) by \$71,248.00, reducing personnel in state travel by \$10,000, reducing office supplies by \$1,100, eliminating general media supplies (\$500.00), eliminating surveyor software (\$2,000), eliminating survey equipment usage fees (\$9,000) and eliminating government fee expenses (\$1,000), for a total of \$94,484. Non-capital equipment is increased by \$700, tagged non-capital equipment increased \$1,968, \$14,880 is budgeted to law school externs and \$77,300 is budgeted got the professional surveyors contract, for a total of \$94,484.

Councilor Correa-Skartwed made a motion to approve the budget adjustment request, as presented; Councilor Polaco seconded the motion.

Roll call vote:

- Councilor Correa Skartwed - aye
- Councilor Padilla - aye
- Councilor Martínez - aye
- Councilor Polaco - aye
- Chairman Sánchez – aye

The motion was passed.

14. Discussion and Possible Action on UNM Intergovernmental Service Agreement – FY 22 (Moved to number 5).

Pay request number two was presented for \$17,477.64, including \$13,118.86 in personnel, \$1,365.84 in staff travel, \$80.00 in facility rental fees, and \$2,912.94 in F&A fees.

Councilor Padilla made a motion to approve pay request number two; Councilor Polaco seconded the motion.

Roll call vote:

- Councilor Correa Skartwed - aye
- Councilor Padilla - aye
- Councilor Martínez - aye
- Councilor Polaco - aye
- Chairman Sánchez – aye

The motion was passed.

6. Discussion and Possible Action on Presentation by Rita Padilla Gutierrez

Rita Padilla Gutierrez (heir, Town of Tomé Grant) discussed three items in her presentation. The first was the recent interim legislative session and the state of guaranteed revenue streams legislation. The Interim Land Grant Committee opted to not endorse this legislation and Chairman Miguel García doubted that there was political will to pass the bill. Mrs. Padilla Gutierrez was angered by the characterization of land grants as dependents of the state, when they are local

governments that provide services for their communities largely through fundraising and volunteer work by their boards. Secondly, Mrs. Padilla Gutierrez discussed her frustration with delays for land grants when receiving monies administered by DFA. The Town of Tomé Grant faced a delay of more than two months for reimbursement on capital outlay projects. This delay was nearly extended five more weeks but funds were released after contacting supervisors at DFA. She expressed frustration that land grants were being treated this way and doubted if other political subdivisions and municipalities were treated with the same disregard. Venessa Chávez (NMLGC/LGSP) commented that she is concerned about the lack of on-time delivery from DFA, their lack of communication, and their lack of accountability. Ms. Chavez said there should be a position in DFA that focuses on land grants and that the DFA process needs to be improved to meet the needs of land grants in a timely manner. Mrs. Padilla Gutierrez also reported that the VIA (Valley Improvement Association) is dissolving. Despite all of the land managed and owned by the VIA deriving from the Town of Tomé Land Grant, the VIA has not offered to give or sell any property back to the Grant.

7. Discussion and Possible Action on U.S. Forest Service

Ashley Wright (USFS R-3) reported on behalf of the USFS. She introduced Andrea Jones of the Rio Grande National Forest. Ms. Jones reported that she has worked with the Chama Peak Alliance to distribute firewood and permits to households in Tierra Amarilla. Councilor Polaco thanked Ms. Jones and mentioned that the Tierra Amarilla Land Grant is working with the local soil conservation district to get wood to the needy. Councilor Martinez asked if the CFRP conference would take place and asked about the Ojo firewood sale; Ms. Wright responded that she did not know but that she would report back. Ms. Wright will also ask the Santa Fe, Carson, and Cibola Forest about the wood permitting process and report back. Councilor Polaco asked if the USFS had plumbing and electrical schematics for the PLVC. Jacobo Baca (NMLGC staff) presented 13 letters submitted to the USFS Region three, expressing the Councils desire to serve as an interested party in the objection resolution process for objections submitted by various groups, largely environmental non-profit organizations. Six letters address the Carson National Forest, four letters address the Santa Fe National Forest and three letters address the Cibola National Forest.

8. Discussion and Possible Action on Office of the Attorney General & Treaty Division

Novela Salazar (NMAG Treaty Division) reported that the NMAG will not ask the governor to put a call on Treaty Division statute changes as it sees the Council or Legislature as the more appropriate party to ask the governor to request the legislation. Ms. Salazar also reported that the NMAG's office is continuing to plan on a space for land grant history in the NMAG's office. Ricardo Dow y Anaya (NMAG) commented that he is excited to open archives in the NMAG's library about land grants. He wants to video tape land grant presidents about the civil abuses that land grants face and other legal issues and to have panel discussions with the NMLGC and the Attorney General. Dr. Dow y Anaya stated that he plans to meet with Mr. Archuleta and Dr. Baca about planning this project.

9. Discussion and Possible Action on State Land Office Projects

Camile Romero (SLO) stated that planning continues on the Bearcat project and that the SLO will not know about funding until January. The SLO has x-mass tree permits and is waiting for the MOU agreement to be ready for the Council to review.

10. Discussion and Possible Action on Federal and State Legislative Update

Mr. Baca reported that Senator Ben R. Luján is working on a letter to send to the Biden administration regarding the 30 x 30 campaign that asks that land grant, tribes and that traditional uses are protected and recognized in plans by the administration. Sofía Sánchez (Office of Rep. Melanie Stansbury) commented that her office is opening up internships and want applicants from rural communities. Councilor Padilla thanked Representative Stansbury for her help contacting UNM archives and reported that UNM has historic Tomé documents that they are evaluating for conservation.

State-

Mr. Baca reported that the legislature is in the special session regarding redistricting. He also reminded land grants that capital outlay requests are due by January 13th, 2022 by 3:00pm. The session is currently open to people with vaccine cards but might go virtual if the recent variant continues to surge. Councilor Martínez asked that Rep. Teresa Leger Fernández's office reach out to the North Central New Mexico Economic Development District regarding funding for the Piedra Lumbre Visitors Center. Mr. Baca suggested reaching out to state legislators as it is a state agency and Ms. Sánchez offered letters of support from Rep. Stansbury's office. Eric Chávez (office of Senator Ben. R. Luján) added that Senator Luján's office can also offer a support letter and suggested reaching out to Senator Leo Jaramillo and Rep. Roger Montoya. He also reported that the U.S. Senate is focusing on the debt ceiling conversation and that the office is looking forward to the Congreso de las Acequia. Mr. Chávez asked if the land grants have sought the support of the regional council of governments; Mr. Baca clarified that the NNMEDD is the council of governments for the region. Councilor Martínez stated that the grant did reach out to the NNMEDD and that they were hesitant in helping them and asked for the Senator's assistance reaching out to the and getting aid to grant write and other assistance.

11. Discussion and Possible Action on Bureau of Land Management Update

Lisa Morrison (BLM) reported that the BLM is taking wood permit requests over the phone for northern New Mexico and will mail them out to communities. Communities should call 575-758-8852 for permits and the BLM will help to issue them for spring and the fall. The BLM is also planning to work with the Coyote Ranger District (USFS) to issue permits. Councilor Polaco asked for direction where Tierra Amarilla Land Grant heirs can get fuel wood in their area. Ms. Morrison offered to send a map out to the Tierra Amarilla Land Grant that show fuelwood areas. She added that BLM managers would like to attend a USFS Land Grant 101 class. Ms. Wright (USFS) added that she can collaborate on the Land Grant 101, which the USFS has also requested from Mr. Archuleta. Ms. Morrison stated that the BLM is working on 6 land management plans and is prioritizing the Rio Puerco land management plan. The Department of the Interior wants the BLM to withdraw land from natural resource production near the Chaco Historic Park.

12. Discussion and Action on Natural Resources Issues & Concerns – Local, State and Federal

Dr. Baca reported that the Council is not likely to pursue a YCC Grant in FY 2022, but will continue to work on their application. The Council will be implementing the New Mexico Outdoor Recreation Division Trails + projects this year (\$25,000) and our chances for receiving the YCC Grant in FY 2023 might improve if we can prove we used successfully used the Trails+ funding and implemented its projects.

13. Discussion and Possible Action on Land Grant Support Fund

Dr. Baca reported that the grant agreements have been forwarded to the NMAG's office for review. DFA is now accepting electronic signatures, which will expedite the processing of the agreements.

15. Discussion and Possible Action on Legal Services for Land Grants Update and Requests

Dr. Baca reported that the Council has not received any new requests for legal services. New Mexico Legal Aid continues to work on the Abiquiú, Juan Bautista Baldes and Río Santa Bárbara cases. The Council has not receive the latest billing from NM Legal Aid. Councilor Correa Skartwed stated that the San Antonio de las Huertas Land Grant wants to put in a request to have attorneys assist with pieces of property that need to be conveyed.

16. Discussion and Possible Action on Professional Surveyor Services Contract - Update and Requests

Dr. Baca reported that the NMLGC is working on the reworked budget that will put out a request for land surveying contractors that can fulfill the need for land grant surveying services. The Council was appropriated junior monies in the 2021 legislative session for surveying assistance. Councilor Polaco commented that the Tierra Amarilla Land Grant's request for a surveyor will be put on hold until a surveyor is on contract. Councilor Martínez asked about the hiring process for the surveyor and how the lands in need of surveying will be prioritized. Dr. Baca responded that the funding needs to be expended and the prioritization will be determined based on urgency of each land grant's situation. In the past, priority was given to land grants that faced the prospect of losing land or the possibility of gaining land. Some of these surveying requests can take years.

17. Discussion & Action on Piedra Lumbre Visitors Center Update

Councilor Polaco reported that there are still some issues with the building. Electrical issues are still a very big concern and there are extensive repairs needed due to missing copper. Some of the other boxes and electrical systems may be outdated. The well may also require some repairs and will be looked at on December 14. The roofs of the buildings may also need major repairs. Councilor Martínez added that the land grants wants to prioritize electric, water and roofing. They also want to ensure the buildings are secure and purchase liability and building insurances. Councilman Polaco has found someone to give a quote on insurance policies. He has also found plans from engineers in the building and will work on contacting those engineers listed.

18. Discussion and Possible Action on Laguna del Campo Update

Councilor Polaco reported that the Tierra Amarilla Land Grant is still negotiating with the NM Department of Game and Fish regarding Laguna del Campo and is concerned that the Department is not cooperating and CC-ing the land grant's attorney n correspondence.

19. Discussion and Possible Action on Land Grant Registry Update

Dr. Baca reported that following has been received by the Council for inclusion in the New Mexico Land Grant Registry.

- Minutes for FY 2020 for the San Joaquin del Rio de Chama Land Grant

Registry letters were provided to Chairman Sánchez to sign and will be sent to the above named land grants, recognizing the submission of these documents to the Land Grant Registry.

20. Discussion and Possible Action on Land Grant Institute / Land Grant Studies Program Update

Anissa Baca (LGSP) stated that the LGSP finished the oral history interviews that were in the Taos and Valdez area, including four interviews conducted by some youth in the area and their elders. The LGSP also collected the essays from those participants and edited videos for those oral histories. The LGSP conducted interviews with Manzano Land Grant youth and leaders that do some work at the community center with the kids. They collected anise that grows wild by the lake with the kids and got a lot of footage of that and of the area. Ms. Baca stated that she will start editing those videos. Dr. Baca reported that there is no new information Dr. LM Garcia y Griego regarding the Land Grant Institute. He added that the LGSP is considering whether to reapply again next year from the Northern Rio Grande National Heritage Area Grant that has thus far funded the youth and land grant oral history engagements. Councilor Martínez asked if the Council has kept up with the social media and website for the council and wants these videos to have a wider audience and presence so the youth have access to it. Dr. Baca responded that the Council website is updated regularly but the Council does not have a social media presence. Vidal Gonzales (NMLGC) stated that the Council could do an Instagram account to share short clips of the videos. Councilor Martínez suggested the Instagram should be on the Council's next agenda.

21. Discussion and Possible Action on Correspondence

Dr. Baca reported that the Council submitted its FY 2021 Annual Report.

22. Discussion and Possible Action on Staff Assignments

None.

23. Public Comments – Discussion only

Councilor Polaco reported that the Tierra Amarilla Land Grant is working with Northern New Mexico College, which seeks to develop an abandoned air force base into a solar energy generating station that will send solar power to Los Alamos. The income can help Grant pay for electrical bills for community members. They need to find out how this piece of property was bought and Councilor Polaco is asking where he can find these records and information. Councilor Padilla stated that she is interested in pursuing options mentioned by Senator Jerry Ortiz y Pino at the November Interim Land Grant Committee meeting in lieu of the guaranteed revenue streams. She thought that the land grants should meet with him to further discuss creating a new "line" to stream the money for insurances. Dr. Dow y Anaya commented that the Attorney General's office released an announcement regarding Opioid Crisis Funds that are available for marginalized communities. These funds can be put towards health centers, equity, counseling, et cetera. Councilor Martínez added that his land grant and others need to change their EIN number with IRS and that he is seeking help from Ms. Chávez and the Council. He added that Geoff Padilla, Film Office Liaison, from Rio Arriba County coordinates with the film industry and filming locations, that he wants land grant lands to be used and this can generate revenue.

24. Miscellaneous Announcements

Dr. Baca reported that Ms. Chávez is working to coordinate a training with the auditor's office. The Consejo and the New Mexico Acequia Association worked together on amendments to cannabis legislation and will continue working together to ensure land grant and acequia input are included on the new HB 265, which is analogous to 30x30 campaign. He also reported that the December Consejo meeting was postponed until January.

25. Date and Location for January and February 2022 Council Meetings

The January 2022 Council meeting will take place on January 12, 2022 at 10:00am and February 2022 Council meeting will take place on February 16, 2022 at 12:00pm.

25. Adjournment

Councilor Padilla made a motion to adjourn; Councilor Correa-Skartwed seconded the motion.

Roll call vote:

Councilor Padilla – aye

Councilor Correa Skartwed - aye

Councilor Martínez - aye

Councilor Polaco - aye

Chairman Sánchez – aye

The motion was passed. The meeting adjourned at 1:10 pm MST.

Approved:

Chair

Date

New Mexico Land Grant Council (NMLGC)
January 27, 2022 – 2:00pm
Virtual Meeting
Zoom ID: 978 6180 5948

**Final Meeting Minutes
Regular Council Meeting**

1. Call to Order - Roll Call

Chairman Juan Sánchez called the meeting to order at 2:03pm MST. Roll call of the Council members: Steve Polaco, Juan Sánchez, Andrea Padilla and Leonard Martínez were present. Rebecca Correa Skartwed was absent.

2. Introduction of Guests

Juan Sánchez (NMLGC); Andrea Padilla (NMLGC); Steve Polaco (NMLGC); Leonard T. Martínez (NMLGC); Arturo Archuleta (NMLGC/LGSP); Jacobo Baca (NMLGC/LGSP); Anissa Baca (LGSP); Sofia Sánchez (Office of Rep. Melanie Stansbury); Novela Salazar (Treaty Division - NM Attorney General's Office); Eric Chávez (Office of Sen. Ben Ray Luján); Kris Graham Chavez (NRCS); Jacob Trujillo (Office of Rep. Melanie Stansbury); Lauren Via (Office of Rep. Melanie Stansbury); Rita Padilla Gutierrez (Town of Tomé Land Grant); Brenda Romero (Office of Rep. Yvette Herrell); Thomas Winter.

3. Approval of Agenda

Councilor Steve Polaco made a motion to approve the agenda; Councilor Leonard Martínez seconded the motion.

Roll call vote:

Councilor Padilla - aye
Councilor Martínez - aye
Councilor Polaco - aye
Chairman Sánchez – aye

The motion was passed.

4. Approval of Meeting Minutes from December 8, 2021 Council meeting

Councilor Polaco made a motion to approve the meeting minutes of the December 8, 2021 Council meeting; Councilor Andrea Padilla seconded the motion.

Roll call vote:

Councilor Padilla - aye
Councilor Martínez - aye
Councilor Polaco - aye
Chairman Sánchez – aye

The motion was passed.

5. Discussion and Possible Action on Federal and State Legislative Update

Federal

Sofía Sánchez (Office of Rep. Melanie Stansbury) reported that Congresswoman Stansbury looks forward to her second land grant tour in April 2022. She will work with NMLGC staff to coordinate.

Arturo Archuleta: no recognition of traditional use bill in the senate. Leger-Fernandez Continental Divide Bill asked for feedback on language.

State

The Council discussed the dissolution of the House Local Government, Land Grants and Cultural Affairs Committee by Speaker of the House Brian Egolf and the resignation of Rep. Miguel García, who chaired the committee. Land grant leaders met with House Majority Leadership and representatives in early January and Speaker of the House Egolf announced the creation of the Rural Development, Land Grants and Cultural Affairs Committee, which will be chaired by Rep. Susan Herrera. House Bill 8, the newest version of the guaranteed revenue streams bill, was introduced by Rep. Matthew McQueen, Speaker Egolf, Rep. Kristina Ortez, Rep. Andrea Romero, Rep. Roger Montoya. Senator Linda López will be the lead sponsor in the Senate. Acequias were added to a standing committee that was renamed the House Agriculture, Acequias And Water Resources Committee. Rep. Miguel Garcia is sponsoring bills for the Anton Chico and Tierra Amarilla Land Grants. Senator Liz Stefanics is sponsoring Senate Bill 87, which appropriates funding to the Council for youth programming, and Senate Bill 88, which offers funding to Torreon/Tajique volunteer fire departments. Several other legislators are giving junior monies to the NMLGC or land grants.

House Bill 36, which was House Bill 265 in the 2021 Legislative session, has been changed and no longer makes changes to the governing council. It simply funds and amends the Natural Heritage Conservation Act, explicitly allowing for the acquisition of land. The Council send language to sponsors Rep. McQueen and Rep. Ortez suggesting amendments to try to include a more specific definition of traditional land uses to be sure that they are eligible for funding under the act. No bills were endorsed by the Land Grant Interim Committee.

Councilor Polaco made a motion to endorse House Bill 8, creating the land grant-merced assistance fund; Councilor Padilla seconded the motion.

Roll call vote:

- Councilor Padilla - aye
- Councilor Martínez - aye
- Councilor Polaco - aye
- Chairman Sánchez – aye

The motion was passed.

Councilor Padilla made a motion to endorse House Bill 19, providing funding for the Anton Chico Senior Center; Councilor Martínez seconded the motion.

Roll call vote:

- Councilor Padilla - aye
- Councilor Martínez - aye
- Councilor Polaco - aye
- Chairman Sánchez – aye

The motion was passed.

Councilor Padilla made a motion to endorse House Bill 20, funding to the Tierra Amarilla Land Grant for the purchase of equipment for office, community center, and other properties; Chairman Sánchez seconded the motion.

Roll call vote:

- Councilor Padilla - aye
- Councilor Martínez - aye
- Councilor Polaco - abstain
- Chairman Sánchez – aye

The motion was passed.

Councilor Martínez made a motion to endorse House Bill 21, providing funding to the Anton Chico Land Grant for youth services; Councilor Polaco seconded the motion.

Roll call vote:

- Councilor Padilla - aye
- Councilor Martínez - aye
- Councilor Polaco - aye
- Chairman Sánchez – aye

The motion was passed.

Councilor Padilla made a motion to endorse Senate Bill 87, providing funding to the NMLGC for youth programs; Councilor Martínez seconded the motion.

Roll call vote:

- Councilor Padilla - aye
- Councilor Martínez - aye
- Councilor Polaco - aye
- Chairman Sánchez – aye

The motion was passed.

Councilor Polaco made a motion to endorse Senate Bill 88, providing funding to the Torreon and Tajiue volunteer fire departments; Councilor Padilla seconded the motion.

Roll call vote:

- Councilor Padilla - aye
- Councilor Martínez - aye
- Councilor Polaco - aye
- Chairman Sánchez – aye

The motion was passed.

Councilor Padilla made a motion to endorse Senate Bill 46 and House Bill 121, which provides funding to the acequia and community ditch fund act; Councilor Martínez seconded the motion.

Roll call vote:

- Councilor Padilla - aye
- Councilor Martínez - aye
- Councilor Polaco - aye
- Chairman Sánchez – aye

The motion was passed.

Councilor Padilla made a motion to approve the Council's endorsement for House Bill 36, the Heritage Conservation Act, with amendments suggested by the Council; Councilor Steve Polaco seconded the motion.

Roll call vote:

Councilor Padilla - aye
Councilor Martínez - aye
Councilor Polaco - aye
Chairman Sánchez – aye

The motion was passed.

Councilor Padilla made a motion that the Council endorse House Bill 98, the General Appropriation Act of 2022, which includes junior monies; Councilor Polaco seconded the motion.

Roll call vote:

Councilor Padilla - aye
Councilor Martínez - aye
Councilor Polaco - aye
Chairman Sánchez – aye

The motion was passed.

6. Discussion and Possible Action on Council FY 2022 & Y 2023 Budgets

FY 2022 Budget update was provided by Mr. Archuleta. Pay requests were received from NM Legal Aid to be approved by the Council. Council travel, UNM contract, etc. are totaling \$118,259.30 in expenditures. \$14,154 of unbudgeted funds may be used for the *US v. Sandoval* analysis.

7. Discussion and Possible Action on UNM Intergovernmental Service Agreement

Pay request number 3 was presented for \$15,569.19, including \$12,894.32 in personnel, \$80.00 in facility rental fees, and \$2,594.87 in F&A charges.

Councilor Martínez made a motion to approve pay request number 3; Councilor Padilla seconded the motion.

Roll call vote:

Councilor Padilla - aye
Councilor Martínez - aye
Councilor Polaco - aye
Chairman Sánchez – aye

The motion was passed.

8. Discussion and Possible Action on Legal Services for Land Grants Update and Requests

Pay request number 2 for New Mexico Legal aid was presented for \$5,387.50 for the month of October 2021.

Councilor Polaco made a motion to approve New Mexico Legal Aid pay request number 2; Councilor Martínez seconded the motion.

Roll call vote:

Councilor Padilla - aye
Councilor Martínez - aye
Councilor Polaco - aye

Chairman Sánchez – aye
The motion was passed.

Pay request number 3 for NM Legal aid was presented for \$2,600.00 for the month of November 2021.

Councilor Padilla made a motion to approve pay request number 3; Councilor Polaco seconded the motion.

Roll call vote:

Councilor Padilla - aye
Councilor Martínez - aye
Councilor Polaco - aye
Chairman Sánchez – aye

The motion was passed.

Pay request number 4 for NM Legal aid was presented for \$2,787.50 for the month of December 2021.

Councilor Leonard Martinez made a motion to approve pay request number 4; Andrea Padilla seconded the motion.

Roll call vote:

Councilor Padilla - aye
Councilor Martínez - aye
Councilor Polaco - aye
Chairman Sánchez – aye

The motion was passed.

9. Discussion and Possible Action on Professional Surveyor Services Contract - Update and Requests

Chris Chavez is quickly recovering and is able to take on some work. He is at UNM on a multiyear contract and we are executing an extension of the contract for an estimated \$40,000. We will still have an estimated \$37,300 to spend on other vendors for survey work. We have a sub-contractor for the Juan Bautista Case. No action is required.

10. Discussion and Possible Action on Land Grant Support Fund

Land Grant Support Fund grant agreements have been executed.

11. Discussion and Possible Action on Correspondence

In the packet is a letter from Congresswoman Melanie Stansbury to Speaker Egolf regarding the dissolution of the land grant committee and importance of land grants and acequias in New Mexico. Councilor Martínez made a motion that the Council send a letter to the House Leadership regarding the dissolution of the House Local Government, Land Grants and Cultural Affairs; Councilor Polaco seconded the motion.

Roll call vote:

Councilor Padilla - aye
Councilor Martínez - aye
Councilor Polaco - aye
Chairman Sánchez – aye

The motion was passed.

In the packet is a draft MOU between the State Land Office and the NMLGC. We will discuss this further in the next meeting.

12. Discussion and Possible Action on Staff Assignments

Mr. Archuleta announced that Venessa Chávez is resigning at the end of March. She has decided to be home her with family and granddaughter. Mr. Archuleta thanked her for her hard work and stated that she will be missed in the office. Councilor Martínez added that he is sad to see her go and expressed his deep admiration for both Venessa and her spouse, Andrew Gutiérrez, and for their work they do for their community. Councilor Padilla will serve as an interviewer when her position is rehired. Mr. Archuleta announced that Vidal Gutierrez is leaving the Council for a fellowship with the Indigenous Planning Institute, where he will help NACA (Native American Community Academy) with planning on a 50-acre site near La Madera. Council members and staff thanked both Venessa and Vidal for their hard work and expressed that they will be missed.

Councilor Polaco made a motion allowing Arturo Archuleta to serve as an expert witness in the case effecting the Truchas Land Grant (Nuestra Señora del Rosario, Santiago y San Fernando del Río de las Truchas Land Grant) case; Councilor Martínez seconded the motion.

Roll call vote:

- Councilor Padilla - aye
- Councilor Martínez - aye
- Councilor Polaco - aye
- Chairman Sánchez – aye

The motion was passed.

Councilor Martínez made a motion allowing Jacobo Baca to serve as an expert witness, including creating a report, for Armando Sanchez case (which involves the Santa Bárbara Land Grant and area acequias); Councilor Padilla seconded the motion.

Roll call vote:

- Councilor Padilla - aye
- Councilor Martínez - aye
- Councilor Polaco - aye
- Chairman Sánchez – aye

The motion was passed.

13. Public Comments – Discussion only

Eric Chávez (Office of Sen. Ben R. Luján) reported that Senator Ben R. Luján met virtually with local leaders in the East Mountains and New Mexico Tech University to discuss infrastructure wins for New Mexico, including broadband and resources for school infrastructure. The Build Back Better bill will be broken into phases and Congress will be looking for feedback on the Farm Bill. Mr. Archuleta reported that the State Auditors Training will probably be in May.

14. Miscellaneous Announcements

The executed grant agreements for the Land Grant support Fund have been signed and will be sent off to DFA. The Council will send Open Meetings Act Resolutions and Letters of Disbursement to the land grants that have received funds.

15. Date and Location for February 2022 Council Meetings

The February 2022 Council meeting will take place on February 16, 2022 at 12:00pm, virtually and in person at the UNM Science and Technology Center.

16. Adjournment

Councilor Martínez made a motion to adjourn; Councilor Padilla seconded the motion.

Roll call vote:

- Councilor Padilla – aye
- Councilor Martínez - aye
- Councilor Polaco - aye
- Chairman Sánchez – aye

The motion was passed. The meeting adjourned at 4:13pm MST.

Approved:

Chair

Date

New Mexico Land Grant Council (NMLGC)
February 16, 2022 – 12:00pm
In Person and Virtual Meeting (Hybrid)
UNM Science and Technology Park
851 University Blvd SE, Suite 202
Albuquerque, NM 87106
Zoom ID: 928 9352 6283

**Final Meeting Minutes
Regular Council Meeting**

1. Call to Order - Roll Call

Chairman Juan Sánchez called the meeting to order at 12:10pm MST. Roll call of the Council members: Steve Polaco, Juan Sánchez, Andrea Padilla, Rebecca Correa Skartwed and Leonard Martínez were present.

2. Introduction of Guests

Juan Sánchez (NMLGC); Andrea Padilla (NMLGC); Steve Polaco (NMLGC); Leonard T. Martínez (NMLGC); Arturo Archuleta (NMLGC/LGSP); Jacobo Baca (NMLGC/LGSP); Anissa Baca (LGSP); Novela Salazar (Treaty Division - NM Attorney General's Office); Adeline DeYoung (Office of Congresswoman Teresa Leger Fernández); Ricardo Dow y Anaya (NM Attorney General's Office); Eric Chávez (Office of Sen. Ben Ray Luján); Kris Graham Chavez (NRCS); Rita Padilla Gutierrez (Town of Tomé Land Grant); Ester Griego Health Security Campaign); A. J. Pacheco (Office of Congresswoman Teresa Leger Fernández); Barbara Romero (Office of Congresswoman Yvette Herrell); Camila Romero (NM State Land Office); Mark Meyers (NM State Land Office); Julie Ann Overton (Santa Fe NF); Lisa Morrison (BLM); Alicia Muenz (NMHU student); RubyAnn Gomez (heir - Anton Chico Land Grant); Tim Hagaman (NM EDD); Jeff Tenorio; Benjamin Medina.

3. Approval of Agenda

Chairman Juan Sánchez asked that item 5 be moved to 12 on the agenda.

Councilor Steve Polaco made a motion to approve the agenda, as modified; Councilor Leonard Martínez seconded the motion.

Roll call vote:

Councilor Padilla – aye
Councilor Martínez - aye
Councilor Polaco - aye
Chairman Sánchez – aye

The motion was passed.

4. Approval of Meeting Minutes from January 27, 2022 Council meeting

Councilor Martínez made a motion to approve the meeting minutes of the January 27, 2022 Council meeting; Councilor Polaco seconded the motion.

Roll call vote:

Councilor Padilla – aye
Councilor Martínez - aye
Councilor Polaco - aye
Chairman Sánchez – aye

The motion was passed.

6. Discussion and Possible Action on Presentation on Health Security Campaign - Ester Griego

Ms. Ester Griego of the New Mexico Health Security Campaign presented on the campaign. The Health Security Campaign is administered by independent, non-governmental commission. It offers healthcare coverage for eligible New Mexicans. More information can be found at www.nm.healthsecurity.org

7. Discussion and Possible Action on USDA Programs - Patricia Domínguez

USDA Rural Development State Director Patricia Domínguez presented on USDA Rural Development programs in New Mexico, including assistance for family housing and broadband infrastructure. Director Domínguez stated that USDA-RD collaborates with COGs to help them compete for federal grants and would like to collaborate with land grant communities and that there are many funding options that rural communities can apply for. Councilor Martinez asked about cell phone towers and coverage in rural areas in northern New Mexico. Director Domínguez responded that she will inquire with the field representative for the area.

8. Discussion and Possible Action on State Land Office Projects - MOU

Camila Romero and Mark Meyers of the NM State Land Office (SLO) discussed the draft MOU between the SLO and NMLGC. Mr. Arturo Archuleta (NMLGC/LGSP staff) presented the MOU to the Council to clarify the Council's and SLO's roles. The SLO would be able to fund projects through the Council and the Council can partner with local land grants to carry out projects. The NMLGC would consult the SLO for their expertise for fuelwood and other projects to create a scope of a project. Council members discussed including DFA on the MOU, sharing responsibility over the projects and cost share, as well as the theft of cords of wood from project sites. Camila Romero responded that law enforcement would be contacted and the land grant would not be held responsible for the stolen fuelwood. Mr. Archuleta added that the MOU might be adjusted to include something like the SPA agreements that are a part of an MOU in discussion between the USFS and the NMLGC.

9. Discussion and Possible Action on Federal and State Legislative Update

Federal

Adeline DeYoung (Office of Congresswoman Teresa Leger Fernández) reported that H.R. 5493, Land Grant-Mercedes Traditional Use Recognition and Consultation Act, may be heard by the House Natural Resources Committee's Subcommittee on National Parks, Forests and Public Lands on March 1st. Eric Chávez (Office of Senator Ben R. Luján) stated that the Senate version of the traditional use bill (S. 2708) is gaining traction and Senator Luján's office is working with Senate colleagues to continue its movement. He added that the Senate passed a continuing resolution (averting federal shutdown) through March 18 and stated that another continuing resolution may be needed. Mr. Chávez also reported that Senator Luján suffered a stroke and is recovering. Several attendees offered their support and prayers to Senator Luján. Councilor Polaco discussed a Northern New Mexico College solar energy project on former Tierra Amarilla Land Grant common lands that was initiated by past NNMC president Richard Bailey and involved federal support. Mr. Chávez responded that federal support was part of a congressional directed spending package that was tied to the appropriations package, which is held up as the Senate is still on a continuing resolution. There has been no agreement on appropriations package, though

conversations continue. He added that he will discuss the project with interim NNMC President Barbara Medina and will send a guidebook (Guidebook for the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law at www.build.gov) to the Council that will discuss infrastructure projects.

State

House Bill 8, the Land Grant-Merced Assistance Act, has the State Legislature and will be on Governor Michelle Luján Grisham's desk soon. She has 20 days to sign or veto the bill. We may have a meeting with DFA to determine how the funds will be distributed. These funds will fluctuate year to year because it is a gross tax receipt. Councilor Padilla commented that the NMLGC needs to set up trainings for the land grants that are eligible to receive funds. Mr. Archuleta responded that \$2 million has been appropriated in HB 2 and would go to DFA, which the NMLGC will need to work with to set up distribution. This might take some time to organize and distributions might not be until May 2023. The Council is awaiting word on a potential signing ceremony.

10. Discussion and Possible Action on Bureau of Land Management Update

Lisa Morrison (BLM) reported that the BLM is holding public and virtual meetings regarding the proposed mineral development around Chaco Canyon. The Farmington Field office is conducting tribal consultation for the Farmington Resource Plan. The Rio Puerto management plan is still in process and a ROD is expected by the end of the year. Taos Field Office is preparing to release a management plan for Rio Grande del Norte National Monument. Melanie Barnes remains the acting State Director of the BLM and the agency has no state forester.

11. Discussion and Possible Action on U.S. Forest Service Update

Julie Ann Overton (USFS – Santa Fe NF) reported that Paul Martinez of the Santa Fe NF met with Councilor Martínez and there is a tentative meeting on February 24 to review a timber wood project. Both the Cuba and Coyote ranger districts will have timber sales in FY 2022 and 2023. The Santa Fe National Forest now has a new Deputy Forest Service Supervisor, Beth Ihle. Mr. Archuleta reported that he had a conversation with Carson National Forest Supervisor James Durán, who wants to restart the land grant quarterly meetings and wants a land grant 101. Jacobo Baca (NMLGC/LGSP staff) added the USFS Region 3 will host objection resolution meetings regarding the forest plans for the Carson, Cíbola and Santa Fe National Forests in March 2022.

12. Discussion and Possible Action on Office of the Attorney General & Treaty Division

Ricardo Dow y Anaya (NMAG's office) reported that SB 141, which addresses propane challenges in rural New Mexico, passed and is waiting for Governor's signature. He added that the NMAG's office has funds available from the Gold King Mine Spill settlement and that land grants may be eligible to send youth groups there for work. He stated that the Wildlife Federation would like to present at a future Council meeting. He thanked the UNM Land Grant Studies Program for materials for the NMAG's archive and gallery.

5. Discussion and Possible Action on FY 2022 & FY 2023 Budget

The NMLGC has expended \$140,738.17 of its \$496,000 budget. It has \$14,154 of unbudgeted funds. Mr. Archuleta will meet with Malcolm Ebright the first week of March to discuss research and writing projects for land grants. The monies can also be spent on digitizing microfilm records, including SANM records and Town of Tomé baptismal records. The junior bill contains funding for projects, including \$50,000 to the Council to provide youth development programs, \$50,000 to

land grant heritage project to Crisobal de la Serna, \$50,000 to provide community support programs to Tierra Amarilla, another \$50,000 to the Council to provide youth development program services to land grants-mercedes. Council members discussed the need to hire finance staff if HB 8 passes and possible youth programs. Mr. Archuleta reported that he will contact Malcolm Ebright in the first week of march to discuss research projects and will report back at the next meeting. The Council can also opt to digitize microfilm with remaining monies. The session ends tomorrow (Feb. 17) at 12:00 noon and the governor has 20 days to sign or veto legislation. The bond sale grant agreements were made in December. Anissa Baca and Venessa Chávez are working with Dawn Webster of DFA to assist land grants. Councilor Padilla asked a question about fundraising to support scholarships and concerns with the anti-donation clause. Treaty Division Attorney Novela Salazar stated that she would look into the issue.

13. Discussion and Action on Natural Resources Issues & Concerns – Local, State and Federal

The Council has partnered on a youth conservation corps project in the East Mountains this summer. The NMAA has shared with the Council their concern that SB 100 is making its way through the Senate with the resource protections portion removed.

14. Discussion and Possible Action on Land Grant Support Fund

Anissa Baca (NMLGC staff) reported that Land Grant Support Fund grant agreements are still being processed. Once P.O's are issued, the Council will let land grants know that they can start spending their awards.

15. Discussion and Possible Action on UNM Intergovernmental Services Agreement

Pay request number 4 was presented for \$22,298.87 including \$12,077.87 in personnel, \$210.00 in facility rental fees, and \$3,716.50 F&A charges.

Councilor Andrea Padilla made a motion to approve pay request number 4; Councilor Steve Polaco seconded the motion.

Roll call vote:

- Councilor Padilla – aye
- Councilor Correa Skartwed - aye
- Councilor Martínez - aye
- Councilor Polaco - aye
- Chairman Sánchez – aye

The motion was passed.

16. Discussion and Possible Action on Legal Services for Land Grants Update and Requests

The Council has not received any new requests for legal services. NMLA continues to work on cases. Work continues with the NREL Clinic at UNM Law School.

17. Discussion and Possible Action on Professional Surveyor Services Contract - Update and Requests

The Council previously had a contract with surveyor Chris Chávez and he will begin survey work again under a \$40,000 contract. An additional \$37,300 remains and may be spent on other

surveying contractors. The NMLGC mapper will assist with coordinates to help the DOT install a sign delineating the Tierra Amarilla Land Grant Boundary on the highway.

18. Discussion and Possible Action on Piedra Lumbre Visitors Center Update

The Tierra Amarilla, San Joaquín and Juan Bautista Baldes Land Grants are working on an operating agreement for the PLVC.

19. Discussion and Possible Action on Laguna del Campo Update

David Benavides has worked on an agreement for the Tierra Amarilla Land Grant to present to the NM Game Commission. Mr. Archuleta and Councilor Polaco will review and added that the intent is to continue the operation agreement with NM Game & Fish as only 5 CFS is being transferred with the lake.

20. Discussion and Possible Action on Land Grant Registry Update

None

21. Discussion and Possible Action on Land Grant Institute / Land Grant Studies Program Update

LGSP staff (LM Garcia y Griego, Arturo Archuleta, Jacobo Baca) met with the Vice President for Research Ellen Fisher and Assoc. VPR Mary Jo Daniels to discuss the LGSP and the Land Grant Institute. The reorganization of the category 3 research centers will be done by the end of the fiscal year and we will have a better understanding of the status of the Land Grant Institute at that time. Anissa Baca reported that the Land Grant Studies Program has completed the oral histories Northern Rio Grande NHA Grant. She and Dr. Baca have been working with the NMAA and NMHU on the ALGE program to develop land grant and acequia curricula. The LGSP continued to work on the next continuing education course (CLE). Dr. Garcia y Griego may have the opportunity to teach a second 8-week course on land grants.

22. Discussion and Possible Action on Correspondence

Councilor Padilla made a motion that a letter be sent to the Senate and House sponsors of House Bill 8 endorsing the legislation and letter to Governor Michelle Luján Grisham encouraging her to sign House Bill 8; Councilor Polaco seconded the motion.

Roll call vote:

- Councilor Padilla – aye
- Councilor Martínez - aye
- Councilor Polaco - aye
- Chairman Sánchez – aye

The motion was passed.

23. Discussion and Possible Action on Staff Assignments

None.

24. Public Comments – Discussion only

Councilor Padilla reported that a requestor asked the Town of Tomé Land Grant for a certified copy of the land grant plat. Councilor Polaco discussed preserving digitized historical documents using technology such as blockchain. RubyAnn Gómez (Anton Chico Land Grant heir) reported that she has requested a history of the Anton Chico Land Grant from the Council.

25. Miscellaneous Announcements

The 2022 New Mexico Legislative Session ends on February 17, 2022 at 12:00pm.

26. Date and Location for March & April 2022 Council Meetings

The March 2022 Council meeting will take place on March 16, 2022 at 12:00pm, virtually and in person at the UNM Science and Technology Center.

The April 2022 Council meeting will take place on April 20, 2022 at 12:00pm, virtually and in person at the UNM Science and Technology Center.

27. Adjournment

Councilor Polaco made a motion to adjourn; Councilor Padilla seconded the motion.

Roll call vote:

- Councilor Padilla – aye
- Councilor Martínez - aye
- Councilor Polaco - aye
- Chairman Sánchez – aye

The motion was passed. The meeting adjourned at 3:06pm MST.

Approved:

Chair

Date

New Mexico Land Grant Council (NMLGC)
March 18, 2022 – 12:00pm
In Person and Virtual Meeting (Hybrid)
UNM Science and Technology Park
851 University Blvd SE, Suite 202
Albuquerque, NM 87106
Zoom ID: 918 9337 3579

**Final Meeting Minutes
Regular Council Meeting**

1. Call to Order - Roll Call

Chairman Juan Sánchez called the meeting to order at 12:11pm MDT. Roll call of the Council members: Steve Polaco, Juan Sánchez, Andrea Padilla, Rebecca Correa Skartwed and Leonard Martínez were present.

2. Introduction of Guests

Juan Sánchez (NMLGC); Andrea Padilla (NMLGC); Steve Polaco (NMLGC); Leonard T. Martínez (NMLGC); Rebecca Correa Skartwed (NMLGC); Arturo Archuleta (NMLGC/LGSP); Jacobo Baca (NMLGC/LGSP); Anissa Baca (NMLGC/LGSP); Ricardo Dow y Anaya (NM Attorney General's Office); Ashley Beyer (Office of Senator Martin Heinrich); A. J. Pacheco (Office of Congresswoman Teresa Leger Fernández); Eric Chávez (Office of Sen. Ben Ray Luján); Ashley Wright (USFS); Pat Johnson (Cíbola National Forest); Jacob Trujillo (Office of Congresswoman Melanie Stansbury); Priscilla Ybarra (University of North Texas); Sandy Escarcida (San Antonio de las Huertas Land Grant); Henrietta Romero

3. Approval of Agenda

Chairman Juan Sánchez asked to move item 5 of the agenda to item 14, and move item 14 to item 27.

Councilor Andrea Padilla made a motion to approve the agenda, as amended; Councilor Rebecca Correa Skartwed seconded the motion.

Roll call vote:

Councilor Padilla – aye
Councilor Correa Skartwed - aye
Councilor Martínez - aye
Councilor Polaco - aye
Chairman Sánchez – aye

The motion was passed.

4. Approval of Meeting Minutes from February 16, 2022 Council meeting

Councilor Correa Skartwed made a motion to approve the meeting minutes of the February 16, 2022 Council meeting; Councilor Steve Polaco seconded the motion.

Roll call vote:

Councilor Padilla – aye
Councilor Correa Skartwed - aye
Councilor Martínez - aye
Councilor Polaco - aye

Chairman Sánchez – aye
The motion was passed.

6. Discussion and Possible Action on State Land Office Projects

Camila Romero could not attend this meeting today. She left updates with Mr. Archuleta. The SLO is continuing work with the Bearcat Project. Also, there are no community fuelwood areas available at the time as they have been cleared.

7. Discussion and Possible Action on Federal and State Legislative Update

Federal

Ashley Beyer (Office of Senator Martin Heinrich) reported that the Congressional Direct Spending requests are available on their website. A. J. Pacheco (Office of Congresswoman Teresa Leger Fernández) stated that his office is continuing to watch H.R. 5493 but that there is no movement on the bill right now. Eric Chávez (Office of Sen. Ben Ray Luján) stated that last week the Senate passed the appropriation budget and that his office has opened up the appropriation request process. He reported to Councilor Polaco that the solar energy project has not been approved with the Northern New Mexico College. Jacob Trujillo (Office of Congresswoman Melanie Stansbury) added that his office is continuing to watch H.R. 5493 and that they will open their Congressional Direct Spending portal soon. They are also looking forward to their second land grant tour and will be in contact with the Council to arrange.

Mr. Archuleta reported that on March 1st, H.R. 5493 was heard by the Subcommittee on National Parks, Forests and Public Lands of the House Committee on Natural Resources. Rep. Leger Fernández and Mr. Archuleta (who served as the expert witness) fielded question from officials from federal agencies, who expressed concern that the bill's consultation requirements were too similar to tribal consultation. Council staff drafted a response (in packet) additional information in an attempt to clarify the term "consultation" and distinguish it from tribal consultation. Also in the packet are letters supporting the legislation from the Council and the New Mexico Land Grant Merced-Consejo.

State

HB 8 was passed and signed on March 2, 2022. HB 2, the General Appropriation Bill, included \$2 million dollars from the general fund for land grant. Distributions may have to wait until the end of the fiscal year to ensure we can get more land grants approved at the State Auditor's office. SB 48, the junior money bill, was vetoed, but it looks like it is on track to be revived through a special session or extraordinary session. The State Board of Finance has issued STB (Severance Tax Bond) questionnaires, which are due on the March 25th. Land grants may contact the Council for help completing their questionnaires. Councilor Padilla thanked Council staff (Anissa Baca & Venessa Chavez) for their work supporting land grants in submitting these items to DFA. DFA would like land grants to provide timely CMPS updates and NMLGC staff can provide support/training. The Council is working with DFA, the State Auditors office, and the General Services Department on a May 11th training on CPMS, procurement and other important requirements.

8. Discussion and Possible Action on Bureau of Land Management Update

No BLM representative was available with updates. Councilor Martinez inquired about Farmington-Mancos Land Management plan.

9. Discussion and Possible Action on U.S. Forest Service Update

Ashley Wright (USFS) reported that the Carson National Forest has a new permanent Public Affairs Officer, Zach Berks. The Santa Fe National Forest had a meeting with local loggers, including discussions on firewood areas for land grants. The Cibola National Forest has a new acting Public Affairs Officer, Pat Johnson, and a new acting Forest Ranger for Magdalena District. Councilor Martinez has requested personnel from the Carson and Santa Fe National Forest offices to answer questions about fuelwood areas and bidding. From March 15-17 the USFS Region 3 held objection resolution meetings. NMLGC staff attended all three days of meetings and offered comments. Chairman Juan Sánchez attended some of the sessions, as did representatives from the Councilor Martínez (representing the San Joaquin del Río de Chama LG) and Santa Bárbara LG president Bonifacio Vásquez.

10. Discussion and Possible Action on USDA Programs

Included in the packet is the letter provided by Patricia Dominguez regarding additional information on the USDA Rural Development federal funds that are available.

11. Discussion and Possible Action on Office of the Attorney General & Treaty Division

Staff from the AG's office were not able to attend today's meeting.

12. Discussion and Action on Natural Resources Issues & Concerns – Local, State and Federal

Tome received a Healthy Soils Grant and soil samples have been gathered. Council staff have started a YCC pilot project and have been in contact with the Ancestral Lands Conservation Corps to begin planning these projects. The Council is co-coordinating the project with the Tajique Land Grant and all collaborators are trying to fill the YCC crew positions and will send out job descriptions.

13. Discussion and Possible Action on Manzano AUP

Manzano requested assistance with their AUP (agreed upon procedures). Manzano has asked about possibly using NMLGC funding or use funds from their LG Support Fund money to pay for their AUP.

Councilor Correa Skartwad made a motion to approve amending Manzano's LG Support Fund for to allow for the payment of their AUP; Councilor Padilla seconded the motion.

Roll call vote:

- Councilor Padilla – aye
- Councilor Correa Skartwed - aye
- Councilor Martínez - aye
- Councilor Polaco - aye
- Chairman Sánchez – aye

The motion was passed.

Councilor Skartwed made a motion to approve to give the Council staff permission to use their discretion to use other funds for Manzano's AUP; Councilor Polaco seconded the motion.

Roll call vote:

Councilor Padilla – aye
Councilor Correa Skartwed - aye
Councilor Martínez - aye
Councilor Polaco - aye
Chairman Sánchez – aye

The motion was passed.

5. Discussion and Possible Action on FY 2022 & FY 2023 Budget

Mr. Archuleta reported that the Council may have leftover funds for travel as we haven't expended any out-of-state travel funds. The UNM contract budget has a large balance left in personnel salaries, but it will be spent. Staff are in need of computer upgrades as their laptops are more than five years old and are losing function. Staff are also using their personal laptops. All but one of the support funds have been approved. We have a large budget leftover for externs – we budgeted for six externs, and four applied.

The Council discussed different options to use leftover funds that is outside of the UNM IGSA, including using funding to purchase microfilm equipment, paying to have microfilm digitized, and paying a researcher/attorney to write a legal analysis on U.S. v Sandoval. The projected amount that may be reverted is \$25,254.

Councilor Correa Skartwed made a motion to direct the extra \$25,254.00 to microfilming and to fund legal expenses associated with the Piedra Lumbre Visitors Center; Councilor Padilla seconded the motion.

Roll call vote:

Councilor Padilla – aye
Councilor Correa Skartwed - aye
Councilor Polaco - aye
Councilor Martínez - nay
Chairman Sánchez – aye

The motion was passed.

15. Discussion and Possible Action on Land Grant Support Fund

Anissa Baca (NMLGC/LGSP) reported that been all grant agreements have been approved and the Council is only just waiting on the P.O. for the Torreón Land Grant.

16. Discussion and Possible Action on UNM Intergovernmental Services Agreement

Pay request number 5 was presented for \$16,174.80 including \$13,479.00 in personnel and \$2,695.80 F&A charges.

Councilor Polaco made a motion to approve pay request number 5 for \$16,174.80; Councilor Padilla seconded the motion.

Roll call vote:

Councilor Padilla – aye
Councilor Correa Skartwed - aye
Councilor Martínez - aye

Councilor Polaco - aye
Chairman Sánchez – aye

The motion was passed.

17. Discussion and Possible Action on Legal Services for Land Grants Update and Requests

Pay Request number 5 from New Mexico Legal Aid was presented for \$5,625.00 for work completed in January 2022, including work with the Tierra Amarilla, San Antonio de las Huertas and Juan Bautista Baldes Land Grants.

Councilor Padilla made a motion to approve NMLA pay request number 5 for \$5,625.00; Councilor Martinez seconded the motion.

Roll call vote:

Councilor Padilla – aye
Councilor Correa Skartwed - abstain
Councilor Martínez - aye
Councilor Polaco - abstain
Chairman Sánchez – aye

The motion was passed.

Pay request number 6 from NM Legal Aid was presented for \$6,650.00 for work completed in February 2022, including work with the Juan Bautista Baldes, Tierra Amarilla and San Antonio de las Huertas Land Grants.

Councilor Padilla made a motion to approve NMLA pay request number 6 for \$6,650.00; Councilor Martinez seconded the motion.

Roll call vote:

Councilor Padilla – aye
Councilor Correa Skartwed - abstain
Councilor Martínez - aye
Councilor Polaco - abstain
Chairman Sánchez – aye

The motion was passed.

Pay request number 7 from NM Legal Aid was presented for \$10,554.34 for work completed by subcontractor Joe Lennihan from November-December 2021 related to the Juan Bautista Baldes Land Grant.

Councilor Correa Skartwed made a motion to approve pay request number 7 for \$10,554.34; Councilor Polaco seconded the motion.

Roll call vote:

Councilor Padilla – aye
Councilor Correa Skartwed - aye
Councilor Martínez - aye
Councilor Polaco - aye
Chairman Sánchez – aye

The motion was passed.

18. Discussion and Possible Action on Professional Surveyor Services Contract - Update and Requests

Mr. Archuleta reported that Chris Chavez of Territorial Land Surveying has started doing some work. Ongoing projects include Santa Barbara, Anton Chico, Tierra Amarilla, and Trampas land grant requests. Mr. Archuleta has contacted other surveyors as well. The Tajique common land, Tomé Hill, and the morada property of the San Joaquin del Rio del Chama can be easily worked on before the end of this fiscal year. Mr. Chavez will need the deed for the morada property from San Joaquin del Rio del Chama Land Grant to complete the project.

Councilor Correa Skartwed made a motion to request for quotes for surveyor services for the Tomé, Tajique, and San Joaquín del Rio de Chama projects; Councilor Polaco seconded the motion.

Roll call vote:

Councilor Padilla – abstain

Councilor Correa Skartwed - aye

Councilor Martínez - abstain

Councilor Polaco - aye

Chairman Sánchez – aye

The motion was passed.

19. Discussion and Possible Action on Piedra Lumbre Visitors Center Update

Councilor Martínez attended the last PLVC meeting and gave an update. Phase one assessment was discussed, where many materials will be removed. There will need to be a second assessment later. Councilor Polaco added that the three land grants will have to find a grant writer. Cook has visited for a well and water assessment – there was an obstruction found in one of the wells. There was an inspection for the roof, and the roof will have to be brought up to code, along with other things. They are still working on getting a facilitator for the retreat.

20. Discussion and Possible Action on Laguna del Campo Update

The Council has received no new updates. There is no word whether the Game Commission agreed to give the land grant property.

21. Discussion and Possible Action on Land Grant Registry Update

None

22. Discussion and Possible Action on Land Grant Institute / Land Grant Studies Program Update

Anissa Baca (LGSP) and Jacobo Baca (LGSP) reported that the ALGE project is ongoing. The LGSP is recruiting teachers for our mini-institute and will set a date soon. Councilor Padilla is a retired teacher and among the teachers that will participate. Councilor Polaco suggested contacting Dawn Salazar and Lisa Martinez as potential teachers. Dr. Baca reported that he presented to Dr. Eric Romero's land grant, acequias and tribal communities class at NMHU.

23. Discussion and Possible Action on Correspondence

None.

24. Discussion and Possible Action on Staff Assignments

None.

25. Public Comments – Discussion only

Councilor Martínez announced that the meeting PLVC will not happen next weekend. Councilor Padilla added that Rep. Stansbury will be in Tomé next Friday at the Community Center, and that the Tomé Land Grant is continuing with the renovations of the jail site and may organize an official open house, and are looking for other options of property purchases.

26. Miscellaneous Announcements

The next New Mexico Land Grant -Merced Consejo meeting is March 26, 2022 10:00 AM in Cañón de Carnué. Councilor Martínez discussed insurance and registration for vehicles bought by land grants.

27. Date and Location for April & May Council Meetings

The April 2022 Council meeting will take place on April 20, 2022 at 12:00pm, virtually and in person at the UNM Science and Technology Center.

The May 2022 Council meeting will take place on May 17, 2022 at 10:00am, virtually and in person at the UNM Science and Technology Center.

The June 2022 Council meeting will take place on June 15, 2022 time TBD, virtually and in person in Las Vegas (tentatively).

14. Discussion and Possible Action on Land Grant Road Easements

Chairman Juan Sanchez has stepped back from his role as Chair, which is to be filled by Councilor Rebecca Correa-Skartwed (Vice-Chair).

There is an ongoing lawsuit from Chililí Land Grant. The private parcel owner has tried to restrict heirs use of that easement. The grant has a need for continued access to this road. Decision was made by district court in the property owner's favor, this decision was partly overturned, leaning in favor of the grant. Case has still been ongoing, and the grant is trying to get the NM Supreme Court to take on the case. Filing an amicus requires other land grants that have been involved in similar situations to be involved. The Council discussed submitting an amicus to the NM Supreme Court.

Councilor Padilla made a motion to pursue an amicus brief to the New Mexico Supreme Court; Councilor Polaco seconded the motion.

Roll call vote:

- Councilor Padilla – aye
- Councilor Correa Skartwed - aye
- Councilor Martínez - aye
- Councilor Polaco - aye
- Chairman Sánchez – abstained

The motion was passed.

28. Adjournment

Councilor Correa Skartwed made a motion to adjourn; Councilor Padilla seconded the motion.
Roll call vote:

- Councilor Padilla – aye
- Councilor Correa Skartwed - aye
- Councilor Martínez - aye
- Councilor Polaco - aye
- Chairman Sánchez – aye

The motion was passed. The meeting adjourned at 4:22 pm MDT.

Approved:

Chair

Date

New Mexico Land Grant Council (NMLGC)
April 20, 2022 – 12:00pm
In Person and Virtual Meeting (Hybrid)
UNM Science and Technology Park
851 University Blvd SE, Suite 202
Albuquerque, NM 87106
Zoom ID: 929 0939 8808

**Final Meeting Minutes
Regular Council Meeting**

1. Call to Order - Roll Call

Chairman Juan Sánchez called the meeting to order at 12:07pm MDT. Roll call of the Council members: Steve Polaco, Juan Sánchez, Andrea Padilla, Rebecca Correa Skartwed and Leonard Martínez were present.

2. Introduction of Guests

Juan Sánchez (NMLGC); Andrea Padilla (NMLGC); Steve Polaco (NMLGC); Leonard T. Martínez (NMLGC); Rebecca Correa Skartwed (NMLGC); Arturo Archuleta (NMLGC/LGSP); Jacobo Baca (NMLGC/LGSP); Anissa Baca (NMLGC/LGSP); Ricardo Dow y Anaya (NM Attorney General's Office); Ashley Beyer (Office of Senator Martin Heinrich); A. J. Pacheco (Office of Congresswoman Teresa Leger Fernández); Eric Chávez (Office of Sen. Ben Ray Luján); Ashley Wright (USFS); Jacob Trujillo (Office of Congresswoman Melanie Stansbury) -Phillip Clark, Camila Romero (NM State Land Office), Manuel Garcia y Griego (LGSP), Jack Lewis (Carson National Forest), Novela Salazar (NM Attorney General's Office), Leann Murphy (Carson National Forest), Chris Griffith (Carson National Forest), Jeremy Marshall (Rio Chama Coordinator), Lisa Morrison (BLM), Augustine Lucero (President of San Antonio de las Huertas Land Grant)

3. Approval of Agenda

Councilor Rebecca Correa Skartwed made a motion to approve the agenda; Councilor Andrea Padilla seconded the motion.

Roll call vote:

Councilor Padilla – aye
Councilor Correa Skartwed - aye
Councilor Martínez - aye
Councilor Polaco - aye
Chairman Sánchez – aye

The motion was passed.

4. Approval of Meeting Minutes from March 18, 2022 Council meeting

Councilor Correa Skartwed made a motion to approve the meeting minutes of the March 18, 2022 Council meeting; Councilor Padilla seconded the motion.

Roll call vote:

Councilor Padilla – aye
Councilor Correa Skartwed - aye
Councilor Martínez - aye
Councilor Polaco - aye

Chairman Sánchez – aye
The motion was passed.

5. Discussion and Possible Action on Federal and State Legislative Update

Federal

A.J. Pacheco (Congresswoman Teresa Ledger Fernández) reported that staff from Congresswoman Teresa Ledger Fernández's Washington D.C. office toured the Trampas and Santa Barbara Land Grants and area acequias on April 13. (a representative from the Arroyo Hondo Arriba Grant was also present). He added that the Congressional Directed Spending deadline to apply for funds was Friday, April 15, 2022 and it appears that no land grants applied.

State

Senate Bill 1 has been amended. This Junior Money includes: \$50,000 for youth programming, \$135,000 to Anton Chico for youth education services, and \$50,000 to Cristobal de la Serna Land Grant youth programming, \$50,000 to Tajique Land Grant, and \$50,000 to Tierra Amarilla Land Grant. There are funds that may be reoccurring which are \$80,000 going directly to the Council that has to be spent on grants, \$50,000 for youth program developmental services.

6. Discussion and Possible Action on Bureau of Land Management Update

Lisa Morrison: Jacobo Baca has been appointed to the Northern New Mexico Resource Advisory Council. New acting state forester out of Wyoming. Farmington, Rio Puerto, Socorro, and Cuba Field Offices are offering permits at their front desks. The Taos Field Office will begin offering permits online May 1st.

7. Discussion and Possible Action on U.S. Forest Service Update

Paul Martinez has been appointed as the point of contact for the Ojo timber sale. He has been in contact with Councilor Martinez. Paul Martinez will give a presentation to the Council regarding timber sale.

Leann Murphy representing Carson National Forest: the offices will be opening back up in June. Objection resolution meetings took place one month ago, the resolution letter is currently being written. A Land Grant 101 course will be offered to forest rangers this summer.

Councilor Martinez: Are the permits currently available for wood from Carson, Santa Fe and Cibola? Permits are currently available, and accessible by mail and people can call into the offices to receive permits. Santa Fe National Forest permits will go on sale May 2 over the phone. Is it possible to touch base with Rio Grande Office on fuelwood permits? Leann will check.

Jeremy Marshall: Powerpoint presentation on Rio Chama Restoration CLFRP, which includes participation from Santa Fe, Cuba and Espanola Districts.

A Forest Service meeting will be held on May 4th at the Abiquiu Rural Events Center to discuss fuelwood opportunities.

Ski Resort Expansions: Sipapu and Taos Ski Valley have proposed expansions. This has raised concerns for Santa Barbara and Arroyo Hondo Arriba Land Grants.

8. Discussion and Possible Action on Office of the Attorney General & Treaty Division

The NMAG's Office plan to open their Land Grant and Acequia Repository June 9th.

9. Discussion and Possible Action on State Land Office Update

Camila Romero reported that one of the SLO's community fuelwood project areas is currently in the Hermit's Peak fire area. The draft MOA between the SLO and the NMLGC has been updated to include language regarding fuelwood harvesting, thinning, cost estimates, natural resource authorization, etc.

Councilor Correa Skartwed made a motion to approve the MOA between the State Land Office and the Council; Councilor Polaco seconded the motion.

Councilor Martinez had a question concerning the cost estimate determination: work with a contractor to receive estimates and bids, the cost will change depending on the project and objectives.

Roll call vote:

- Councilor Padilla – aye
- Councilor Correa Skartwed - aye
- Councilor Martínez - aye
- Councilor Polaco - aye
- Chairman Sánchez – aye

The motion was passed.

10. Discussion and Action on Natural Resources Issues & Concerns – Local, State and Federal

Kris Graham Chavez (NRCS) discussed various federal grant programs, including EQIP, RCPP, and will send the Council a draft of guidance for comment.

11. Discussion and Possible Action on FY 2022 & FY 2023 Budget

FY 2022 Budget Update: no new invoices for Legal Services Contract; \$36,391.84 has been expended to date. In state travel amounts to \$5,067.04, YTD. Out of State Travel has not been spent. The UNM Contract total, YTD, is \$155,849.64, including staff salary and fringe amounting to \$121,327.33. Total NMLGC budget expended to date is \$197,309.22. The Council discussed an IBR Revision: Moving budget for externs to computers for Council staff.

Councilor Padilla made a motion to approve IBR, moving \$5,310.00, combined from computer software and law school extern costs, to allow the purchase of computers for staff; Councilor Polaco seconded the motion.

Roll call vote:

- Councilor Padilla – aye
- Councilor Correa Skartwed - aye
- Councilor Martínez - aye
- Councilor Polaco - aye
- Chairman Sánchez – aye

The motion was passed.

DFA funds: We have received a quote to digitize microfilm including Spanish, Mexican and perhaps some Territorial period archives, and Tomé archives.

Publishing costs could be spent publishing Dr. Jacobo Baca's dissertation, which is about land grant history, at the State Printing office.

Councilor Correa Skartwed made a motion to print Dr. Jacobo Baca's dissertation to distribute to land grants; Councilor Padilla seconded the motion.

Roll call vote:

- Councilor Padilla – aye
- Councilor Correa Skartwed - aye
- Councilor Martínez - aye
- Councilor Polaco - aye
- Chairman Sánchez – aye

The motion was passed.

Mr. Archuleta reported that he is attempting to get a quote from the law firm Holland and Hart to complete some legal research. The governance guidebook printing is a priority for the near future. We will not be able to before the end of the fiscal year.

FY 2023 Budget recommendations from NMLGC Office staff:

We are trying to find a way to use Junior Monies and other state funds. We need to plan for a financial employee. We can also put Junior Monies towards Bonding and Insuring costs.

NMLGC staff reported that DFA wanted input from the Council on land grant related Junior Monies, including: the \$100,000 to develop a grant process for grants for operations of land grants; the \$50,000 to provide youth development program services to land grants-mercedes; and the \$50,000 to develop a cultural and educational program on the land grant-merced heritage of the Cristobal de la Serna land grant-merced. Staff mentioned the potential idea of utilizing the \$100,000 for hiring a position that focuses on helping land grant to understand and comply with financial budgeting and reporting. Staff also suggested utilizing the money targeted towards youth development in conjunction with the \$50,000 appropriation to the Council for youth programing.

Councilor Correa Skartwed made a motion to recommend to DFA that the \$100,000 should be used for an accountant position, and that the two \$50,000 appropriations for youth programing to be partnered with other NMLGC youth program funds; Councilor Polaco seconded the motion.

Roll call vote:

- Councilor Padilla – aye
- Councilor Correa Skartwed – out of the meeting
- Councilor Martínez - aye
- Councilor Polaco - aye
- Chairman Sánchez – aye

The motion was passed

12. Discussion and Possible Action on Land Grant Support Fund

Anissa Baca gave an update on Land Grant Support Fund recipient's status.

13. Discussion and Possible Action on UNM Intergovernmental Services Agreement

Pay request number 6 was presented for \$16,454.26 including \$13,194.89 in personnel and \$2,742.37 in F&A charges.

Councilor Padilla made a motion to approve pay request number 6 for \$16,454.26; Councilor Polaco seconded the motion.

Roll call vote:

- Councilor Padilla – aye
- Councilor Correa Skartwed - aye
- Councilor Martínez - aye
- Councilor Polaco - aye
- Chairman Sánchez – aye

The motion was passed.

14. Discussion and Possible Action on Professional Surveyor Services Contract - Update and Requests

Invoice 1 from Territorial Land Surveying, LLC, for \$5,088.44 in work completed from Territorial Land Surveying services.

Councilor Correa Skartwed made a motion to approve the invoice from Territorial Land Surveying for \$5,088.44; Councilor Padilla seconded the motion.

Roll call vote:

- Councilor Padilla – aye
- Councilor Correa Skartwed - aye
- Councilor Martínez - aye
- Councilor Polaco - aye
- Chairman Sánchez – aye

The motion was passed.

15. Discussion and Possible Action on Legal Services for Land Grants Update and Requests

No new requests or invoices for Legal Services. They have been working on Laguna del Campo, San Antonio de las Huertas easement, Abiquiu water, and Juan Bautista Baldes cases.

16. Discussion and Possible Action on *United States v. Sandoval*

Additional research on Court of Private Land Claims is needed. Dr. Jacobo Baca has begun some research on the Court of Private Land Claims, which may require extensive work. Councilor Martínez stated that he was under the impression that LGSP Director LM García y Griego conducted research in the CPLC archives in Washington D.C. NMLGC / LGSP staff shared other *U.S. v. Sandoval* research with the Council. Councilor Martínez proposed a legal brief on the case rather than historical research. He proposed spending some of the Junior Monies for the legal brief.

17. Discussion and Possible Action on Mercedes Unidas Center Update

Councilor Polaco and Councilor Martínez reported that he spoke with the electrical engineer and asked another electrician to look at the center. The wells, electrical system and roof have also been assessed. The land grants will meet on Saturday April 23, 2022.

18. Discussion and Possible Action on Laguna del Campo Update

Councilor Polaco reported that the NM State Game Commission agreed to let the lake go with 5cfs granted to the Merced de los Pueblos de Tierra Amarilla. The deed had issues, was inspected by David Benavides and is reworking the deed.

19. Discussion and Possible Action on Land Grant Registry Update

Mr. Baca reported that the Tierra Amarilla Land Grant submitted their election update.

20. Discussion and Possible Action on Land Grant Institute / Land Grant Studies Program Update

Mr. Archuleta reported that the work continues on the proposed Land Grant Institute. He reported that LM Garcia y Griego is working on a LGSP advisory committee meeting. The LGSP is involved in planning the another seminar with the UNM Law School. Jacobo Baca reported that he and Anissa Baca are continuing work on the ALGE project and will host the 2022 teachers institute, April 23rd, half day virtual and May 7th full day in person at Santa Fe Community College. The LGSP and NMHU have taken the lead in putting this together, with input from the New Mexico Acequia Association and Georgia Roybal. 12 teachers and administrators, both retired and active, will participate and evaluation will be completed by UNM College of Education professors. Mr. Baca reported that he will present on land grants and acequias for Earth Day on April 23, 2022. He added that he, Prof. LM García y Griego and Prof. Moises Gonzales met with the director of the archives at UNM to discuss land grant records and archives and that assistance with the NMAG's gallery and archive is ongoing.

21. Discussion and Possible Action on Correspondence

New Mexico Rural Summit will take place on May 12 and 13.

22. Discussion and Possible Action on Staff Assignments

None.

23. Public Comments – Discussion only

Councilor Padilla brought up EIN numbers and issues for vehicle registration. Mr. Archuleta and Councilor Martínez discussed their work arounds and possible need for intercession by the Congressional delegation. Monica Rodríguez of KUNM will contact the LGSP/NMLGC for participation in a radio program.

24. Miscellaneous Announcements

25. Date and Location for May and June Council Meetings

The May 2022 Council meeting will take place on May 17, 2022 at 10:00am, virtually and in person at the UNM Science and Technology Center.

The June 2022 Council meeting will take place on June 15, 2022 time TBD, virtually and in person in Las Vegas (tentatively).

26. Adjournment

Councilor Polaco made a motion to adjourn; Councilor Correa Skartwed seconded the motion. Roll call vote:

Councilor Padilla – aye
Councilor Correa Skartwed - aye
Councilor Martínez - aye
Councilor Polaco - aye
Chairman Sánchez – aye

The motion was passed. The meeting adjourned at 4:15pm MDT.

Approved:

Chair

Date

New Mexico Land Grant Council (NMLGC)
May 17, 2022 – 10:00am
In Person and Virtual Meeting (Hybrid)
UNM Science and Technology Park
851 University Blvd SE, Suite 202
Albuquerque, NM 87106
Zoom ID: 941 8256 7965

**Final Meeting Minutes
Regular Council Meeting**

1. Call to Order - Roll Call

Chairman Juan Sánchez called the meeting to order at 10:06am MDT. Roll call of the Council members: Andrea Padilla, Rebecca Correa Skartwed, Leonard Martínez, Steve Polaco, and Juan Sánchez were present.

2. Introduction of Guests

Juan Sánchez (NMLGC); Andrea Padilla (NMLGC); Steve Polaco (NMLGC); Leonard T. Martínez (NMLGC); Rebecca Correa Skartwed (NMLGC); Arturo Archuleta (NMLGC/LGSP); Jacobo Baca (NMLGC/LGSP); Anissa Baca (NMLGC/LGSP); Stephanie Garcia-Richard (New Mexico State Land Commissioner); Joey Keefe (NM State Land Office); Ricardo Dow y Anaya (NM Attorney General's Office); A. J. Pacheco (Office of Congresswoman Teresa Leger Fernández); Eric Chávez (Office of Sen. Ben Ray Luján); Ashley Wright (USFS); Jacob Trujillo (Office of Congresswoman Melanie Stansbury) Phillip Clark (San Antonio de las Huertas LG); Camila Romero (NM State Land Office); Novela Salazar (NM Attorney General's Office); Lisa Morrison (BLM); Tim Hagaman (NM EDD); Michiko Martin (USFS – Regional Forester); Sherry Schmenke (USFS - Dep. Reg. Forester); Punky Moore (Fire Communication Specialist – USFS - R3); Lia Stefanovich (Rep. Melanie Stansbury); Eric Romero (NMHU); James Durán (Forest Sup. - Carson NF); Michael Lujan (Camino Real RD – Dist. Ranger); Kristen Graham-Chávez (NRCS); Jennifer Ruyle (USFS - Burned Area Coord. Response); Julie Anne Overton (PAO, Santa Fe NF).

3. Approval of Agenda

Councilor Steve Polaco made a motion to approve the agenda; Councilor Rebecca Correa Skartwed seconded the motion.

Roll call vote:

Councilor Padilla – aye
Councilor Correa Skartwed - aye
Councilor Martínez - aye
Councilor Polaco - aye
Chairman Sánchez – aye

The motion was passed.

4. Approval of Meeting Minutes from April 20, 2022 Council meeting

Councilor Polaco made a motion to approve the meeting minutes of the April 20, 2022 Council meeting; Councilor Correa Skartwed seconded the motion.

Roll call vote:

Councilor Padilla – aye

Councilor Correa Skartwed - aye
Councilor Martínez - aye
Councilor Polaco - aye
Chairman Sánchez – aye

The motion was passed.

5. Discussion and Signing of State Land Office MOA – Land Commissioner Garcia Richards

New Mexico State Land Commissioner Stephanie Garcia Richards (NM SLO) the meeting to sign a Memoranda of Agreement between the State Land Office and the NMLGC for fuelwood harvesting projects in collaboration with land grants near and/or on land grant properties. The MOA expires in 2026. Commissioner Garcia Richards and Council members discussed expanding the fuelwood program, especially in light of the fires across the state and the coming need for fuelwood. Council members and staffed thanked Commissioner Garcia Richards and the SLO for stepping up after the MSO injunction and for wood projects with the San Joaquín and Santa Bárbara Land Grants. The SLO reported that the Bearcat Project will be delayed because of the dry weather and high fire danger. Commissioner Garcia Richards added that the state land office is opening leased land to evacuated livestock. Commissioner Garcia Richards and Chairman Juan Sánchez signed the MOA between the NMLGC and the NM SLO.

6. Discussion and Possible Action on U.S. Forest Service – Including Fire Updates

Ashley Wright (USFS) introduced Michiko Martin, Regional Forester, USFS Region 3, who introduced Sherry Schwenke, the Region 3 Depute Regional Forester. Punky Moore (USFS) provided fire update: in New Mexico there are 12 incident mgmt. teams, 48 aircraft, 107 crews, 253 engines and about 4,000 personnel working the fire. The Hermit's Peak / Calf Canyon Fire is at 299,565 acres and many villages around Mora have repopulated. Peñasco was on ready status. The Black Fire, north of Silver City in the Gila and Aldo Leopold Wildernesses, exhibits extreme fire behavior and is at 56,132 acres and is 0% contained. The Cerro Pelado is at 62% containment and the Bear Trap fire on the on Cibola NF outside of Magdalena 15,205 acres and is 28% containment.

James Durán (Carson NF supervisor) reported that the Carson NF was moving from stage 2 to stage 3 fire restrictions, meaning full closure by Thursday (May 19). Closures typically happen in June for 15-30 days but the dry conditions mean that the only relief from the fire will come with monsoon rain. Each forest will go through process to help permit holders and provide exemptions. The Hermit's Peak / Calf Canyon Fire effects many traditional communities and is a unique situation for the incident management teams. The weather is challenging with 25 of 30 days being red flag and periods where the red flag days are extreme, with 48 hours straight of 60mph winds. Mr. Durán stated that the Carson NF is working to protect traditional communities and values at risk, including sacred spaces and acequias. They will work with the Santa Barbara, Trampas, and Mora LGs to see where they can help the USFS to understand values to protect these areas and try to minimally impact these areas. The chief focus is currently on protecting homes and structures in Holman, Guadalupita, Chacón and Angostura. The Camino Real Ranger District will host a meeting in Peñasco on Thursday, May 19: the goal is to give land grants and acequias impacted briefing on incident.

Jennifer Ruyle (USFS) commented that the USFS is dealing with fire right now, then will deal with the post fire season. She co-chairs the Burned Area Coordinated Response team with Colin

Haggerty of NM State Forestry, which meets on Mondays at 1:00pm. Participating agencies share info and look for areas to coordinate, look to get resources on ground. (The NMLGC attends through its staff). Active BARE teams are on all incidences. Identifying the values at risk is important and the team looks forward to coordinating with land grants and acequias. Councilor Padilla commented that this fire has hit her personally and its been hard. Her 72 year old sister lives in Rociada with her 85 year old husband and has spent 20 days away from home. His family is one of the families that has maintained Maestas canyon for hundreds of years. He is devastated. Their mountains have burned and they lost corrals and hundreds of bales of hay. She added that she hopes USFS will listen to communities when to burn and not burn. Traditional communities have hundreds of years of experience and maintained the forests, taking out dead and down trees and grazing animals. DO NOT do a controlled burn in March and April. At Rociada, the cemetery is burned, their canyon is gone. Sometimes people don't realize herederos connection and love of this land and when we rebuild, let's do this right. For those lucky enough not to lose home, where are they getting firewood this year?

Councilor Polaco applauded Councilor Padilla for her comments and added that grazing animals to thin forest should be allowed. Partially burned wood should go to the people, not millionaires and the USFS appears thoughtless when issuing prescribed burns. He added that with Native Americans communities, land grants are stewards. Grazing and wood hauling are important to land grant communities. Councilor Martínez asked that the USFS answer the question about fuelwood. Ms. Martin stated that the USFS hears land grant concerns and values your traditional knowledge and commits to continuing movement in that direction. The USFS seriously considers our best available science in their assessments. The US southwest is the direst its been in 1,000 years is amidst a 22 year drought. Fuel loads are extreme and the moisture content of the forest is extremely low, with the 1,000 hour moisture index between 4-5. As a comparison, kiln dried wood bought from a lumberyard has a moisture index of 10. The winds are extreme and a NOA scientist commented that the conditions were the worst he has seen in 30 years.

Regarding fuelwood, Ms. Martin commented that the USFS is committed to trying to increase delivery of fuelwood to communities. They would like to use the infrastructure bill to get this wood to communities and hope the funding could be used at least for transportation. Councilor Martínez commented that most of these rural homes average between \$17,000 and \$24,000 in income and rely on the mountains for traditional uses. All of this is being threatened. He asked of the southwest regional office has 30, 60 and 90 day plans, who decided to light the fire in March or April? When people come to New Mexico on a USFS detail and leave the state for other opportunities, we stay here with problems. Ms. Martin responded that the USFS is sitting on a firebomb and if the USFS does not take drastic action how to reduce fuel loads, the USFS won't have anything to manage. Criteria, including the "best available science," is used to determine when to burn. Mr. Durán added that the USFS takes land stewardship seriously and prescribed fire is part of that. The USFS has invested a lot in watershed health and restoration work. The agency agrees that "agua es vida" and that catastrophic wildfires effect the watershed and argue that a lot of planning and coordination happened before a prescribed wildfire is started. According to Mr. Durán, the Hermit's Peak is adjacent to communities and the prescribed fire was started to reduce the risk of wildfire. Some fires need wind to complete fire and prescribed fires are not a risk free environment and the USFS works to bring local land owners, permittees, grazers, to look at impacts to allotments, water resources, cultural values, etc.

Councilor Martínez responded that he understands the utility of prescribed burns. Land grant communities do this when they backburn, but do so in the fall, when the moisture content is up, and it is not as windy. He added that the planning and execution are his issues with these incidents. The NMLGC understands the planning and manpower that it takes to execute a prescribed burn, but there needs to be some accountability. Everyone needs to learn from these fires and know how to do this the right way so we don't get this wrong again. Ms. Martin responded that Randy Moore, Chief of USFS, has ordered an independent review of the Las Dispensas prescribed burn that turned into Hermits Peak Fire, which should be completed within 14 days. It was, at one point, 90% contained. Councilors clarified that they are not against controlled burns but are concerned about their timing in the spring when the dryness of wood is so high. Dead and down wood is too dry to allow people to get firewood but not too dry for prescribed burn? Where is the logic? Councilors asked what were the conditions on April 6 and what the changes from April 6 to the present. Was their considerable change? Did numbers change that much in a month that it made sense to start the burn?

Ms. Martin responded that there is a risk tradeoff in the fall, when Region 3 is not allowed to do prescribed burns because the nation as a whole is in preparedness level 5. In the Southwest, monsoons end fire season, whereas in Oregon and Califas, the fall is their fire season, so USFS assets are there, not here. Jacob Nuttall (USFS) added that he could not dive into specifics regarding the moisture content of the forest on April 6 because he does not have the data. Live and dead and down levels are considered. A snowstorm at end of March in Las Dispensas area made favorable fire conditions and it was not as dry as it is now. Mr. Archuleta added that this is a difficult topic and these are unprecedented fire occurrences. He stated that it is unfortunate that we have decisions made at national agency level and this has been a struggle that our communities that have fought for more than a century, especially dealing with national trend and national priorities. In "Land Grant 101" education sessions that the Council provides to the USFS, we talk about the frustrations of local community and the fact that we are not going away. The prioritization of the fire season in the Pacific Northwest is the product of imperialism in west and public lands reality for centuries and sours our view of public lands. Where does best available science meet local knowledge? The fire goes into wilderness and the USFS cannot get in there with mechanized and motorized. Does the Wilderness Act of 1964 reflect the best available science for 2022? The entirety of the national forest system lands in New Mexico were effectively closed and all activity was halted because of the injunction protecting the Mexican Spotted Owl, even though a small percentage of the lands were actually MSO habitat.

The Santa Bárbara Land Grant is frustrated because they have been asking the Camino Real Ranger District for a fuel reduction treatment at Bear Mountain. They even applied for a CFRP but were not awarded because a larger scale NEPA was not completed. Now, fire is dropping onto Bear Mountain, threatening the watershed and communities. Our question to the USFS and policy makers is *when is this going to happen? When will we be included in the management of our forests?* In the forest planning rule in 2010, the USFS stated that the ponderosa pine would be gone by 2030 due to climate change. We are asking for accountability. The 2016 Dog Head Fire is another example of a treatment that reduced fuel load and the Chililí Land Grant lost 10,000 acres of forest and *got nothing* in return, even though the USFS told people that they were going to be made whole. For the subgrants of Lower Gallinas and Los Vigiles, they lost 50-66% of common lands, which were an important part of the Gallinas watershed that feeds the reservoir that provides water to the City of Las Vegas.

Mr. Archuleta asked Carson NF supervisor James Durán about access for the acequias during the forest closures. Additionally, will the USFS work with Trampas to access their cemetery when the forest is closed. Ms. Martin responded that she does recognize conflict regarding how USFS lands came into federal management and that the USFS is committed to stewarding them to the best of our abilities. She accepts criticisms of the USFS and commented that while the infrastructure bill is great, they need six times that amount of money to just take care of highest priority firesheds. Fire suppression funding dwarfs restoration and reduction funding. Mr. Durán added that the Carson NF will work to provide access to land grants through exemptions. We will have conversations on how to mitigate that risk and want the continuation of operations, including an exemption granted to acequia commissions. The exemption and mitigation order is no guarantee but will take an in depth conversation. They will meet with Peñasco area land grants and acequias on Thursday, May 19 to discuss. Councilor Martínez advised that in light of the early fire season, the USFS should start issuing permits on April 1 rather than May 1. Councilor Polaco added that the USFS should allow communities to take the partially burned wood to meet the fuelload reduction and firewood needs. Chairman Sánchez thanked the USFS for their presentation.

7. Discussion and Possible Action on Bureau of Land Management Update

Lisa Morrison offered her prayers, listened very closely to what was said and the effect communities and will talk to BLM managers about earlier access to the fuelwood. All BLM offices are selling fuelwood permits. The fire restrictions are on their website. Sabrina Flores has been named as the new BLM Albuquerque District Manager. She is from Santa Rosa and is a NMHU graduate. The Farmington Mancos Gallup plans is still working with Navajo and Pueblos to do ethnographic studies related to the plan. The Rio Puerco RMP is in process and the Rio Grande del Norte remains in preplanning. Ms. Morrison closed by announcing that Melanie Barnes has been named the permanent state director for the BLM for New Mexico (and Oklahoma, Texas and Kansas).

8. Discussion and Possible Action on Federal and State Legislative Update

Federal

AJ Pacheco (Office of Congresswoman Teresa Leger Fernández) stated that there are no updates on the Traditional Use Bill. They are meeting with locals to offer their assistance with the fire damages from the Hermits Peak fore through the Hermits Peak Assistance Act. Congresswoman Leger Fernández plans to meet with the All Pueblo Council of Governors to discuss the Land Grant-Merced Traditional Use Act. Eric Chavez (Office of Senator Ben R. Luján's Office) added that the is looking for funding and resources to fully compensate those who have had their properties destroyed in the fires. Mr. Archuleta asked if there would be an opportunity to change some of the language of the bill.; Mr. Chávez responded that he would look into it. Both Congresswoman Leger Fernández and Senator Luján attended the signing of disaster area designation with President Biden and Vice-President Harris.

State

The Interim Land Grant Committee held its organizing meeting June 13 and created the following schedule. August 18-19 in Taos (hosted by Arroyo Hondo Arriba Land Grant); September 22-23 in Chililí, October 20-21 in Abiquiú and November 22 in Santa Fe. The Council reached out to the Governor's office regarding subgrants and political subdivision status, which would make the

subgrants eligible for much needed restoration funding from the state. Future legislation might mention that the status does not affect or extinguish rights of mother grant.

9. Discussion and Action on Natural Resources Issues & Concerns – Local, State and Federal

Mr. Archuleta commented that Kris Graham Chávez did send info and guidance on USDA programs.

10. Discussion and Possible Action on Office of the Attorney General & Treaty Division

Ricardo presented the most recent developments of the AG’s Treaty Division’s depository and his ideas for the collection.

11. Discussion and Possible Action on Land Grant-Merced Assistance Fund

Arturo provided an update and different qualifications for the Land Grant-Merced Assistance Fund. He discussed the possibility of providing funding for land grants’ bonding insurance.

12. Discussion and Possible Action on FY 2022 & FY 2023 Budget

FY 2022 Budget Update: new invoices for Legal Services Contract have come in, \$55,739.26 has been expended to date. In state travel amounts to \$5,783.94, YTD. Out of State Travel has not been spent. The UNM Contract total, YTD, is \$183,809.93, including staff salary and fringe amounting to \$137,128.83 and \$30,650.02 in F&A. Total NMLGC budget expended to date is \$245,333.13.

13. Discussion and Possible Action on Land Grant Support Fund

Anissa Baca (NMLGC/LGSP) gave an update on Land Grant Support Fund recipient’s status.

14. Discussion and Possible Action on UNM Intergovernmental Services Agreement

Pay request number 7 was presented for \$28,050.29 including \$15,801.50 in project personnel, \$5,088.44 in the surveyors contract and \$4,675.05 in F&A charges.

Councilor L. Mtz made a motion to approve pay request number 7 for \$28,050.29; Councilor AP seconded the motion.

Roll call vote:

- Councilor Padilla – aye
- Councilor Correa Skartwed - out
- Councilor Martínez - aye
- Councilor Polaco - aye
- Chairman Sánchez – aye

The motion was passed.

15. Discussion and Possible Action on Professional Surveyor Services Contract - Update and Requests

Invoice number 2 for Chris Chavez’s work on Anton Chico and other land grants. Chris Chavez gave the Council a presentation on his work.

Councilor Martinez made a motion to approve invoice 2 from Territorial Land Surveying for \$12,721.09; Councilor Polaco seconded the motion.

Roll call vote:

Councilor Padilla – aye
Councilor Correa Skartwed - aye
Councilor Martínez - aye
Councilor Polaco - aye
Chairman Sánchez – aye

The motion was passed.

16. Discussion and Possible Action on Legal Services for Land Grants Update and Requests

Three pay requests were presented by Mr. Archuleta.

Councilor Padilla made a motion to approve Pay Request number 8 was for \$7,500.00; Councilor Polaco seconded the motion.

Roll call vote:

Councilor Padilla – aye
Councilor Correa Skartwed - aye
Councilor Martínez - aye
Councilor Polaco - aye
Chairman Sánchez – aye

The motion was passed.

Councilor Polaco made a motion to approve Pay Request number 9 for \$1,662.50; Councilor Padilla seconded the motion.

Roll call vote:

Councilor Padilla – aye
Councilor Correa Skartwed - aye
Councilor Martínez - aye
Councilor Polaco - aye
Chairman Sánchez – aye

The motion was passed.

Councilor Polaco made a motion to approve pay request number 10 for 10,184.92; Councilor Padilla seconded the motion.

Roll call vote:

Councilor Padilla – aye
Councilor Correa Skartwed - aye
Councilor Martínez - aye
Councilor Polaco - aye
Chairman Sánchez – aye

The motion was passed.

17. Discussion and Possible Action on *United States v. Sandoval*

Dr. Garcia y Griego was going to give an update, but he was unable to attend.

18. Discussion and Possible Action on Mercedes Unidas Center Update

Councilor Martinez and Councilor Polaco updated the Council on the final report for the Mercedes Unidas Center.

19. Discussion and Possible Action on Laguna del Campo Update

Councilor Polaco gave an update on the Laguna del Campo site.

20. Discussion and Possible Action on Land Grant Registry Update

The following items were sent to the New Mexico Community Land Grant Registry.

- San Antonio de las Huertas - election results of April 4, 2022 election
- Merced de Manzano - results of election of April 18, 2022
- San Joaquin del Rio de Chama Land Grant - agreed upon procedures, year ending June 30, 2021.

21. Discussion and Possible Action on Land Grant Institute / Land Grant Studies Program Update

Anissa Baca reported that the Land Grant Studies Program led the May 7 convening of the 2022 ALGE Teacher’s Institute. The event was very successful and well attended. She reported that Jacobo Baca presented with Councilor Correa-Skartwed at the Placitas Community Library on May 15 and at UNM on April 22 as a part of Earth Day at UNM.

22. Discussion and Possible Action on Correspondence

None.

23. Discussion and Possible Action on Staff Assignments

None.

24. Public Comments – Discussion only

None.

25. Miscellaneous Announcements

None.

26. Date and Location for June Council Meeting

The June 2022 Council meeting will take place on June 15, 2022 time at 10:00am virtually and in person in Albuquerque.

27. Adjournment

Councilor Padilla made a motion to adjourn; Councilor Polaco seconded the motion.

Roll call vote:

- Councilor Padilla – aye
- Councilor Correa Skartwed - aye
- Councilor Martínez - aye
- Councilor Polaco - aye
- Chairman Sánchez – aye

The motion was passed. The meeting adjourned at 2:58pm MDT.

Approved:

Chair

Date

New Mexico Land Grant Council (NMLGC)
June 15, 2022 – 10:00am
In Person and Virtual Meeting (Hybrid)
UNM Science and Technology Park
851 University Blvd SE, Suite 202
Albuquerque, NM 87106
Zoom ID: 960 8191 0445

**FINAL - Meeting Minutes
Regular Council Meeting**

1. Call to Order - Roll Call

Chairman Juan Sánchez called the meeting to order at 10:13am MDT. Roll call of the Council members: Andrea Padilla, Rebecca Correa Skartwed, Leonard Martínez, Steve Polaco, and Juan Sánchez were present.

2. Introduction of Guests

Juan Sánchez (NMLGC); Rebecca Correa Skartwed (NMLGC); Andrea Padilla (NMLGC); Steve Polaco (NMLGC); Leonard T. Martínez (NMLGC); Arturo Archuleta (NMLGC/LGSP); Jacobo Baca (NMLGC/LGSP); Anissa Baca (NMLGC/LGSP); Ricardo Dow y Anaya (NM Attorney General's Office); Novela Salazar (NM Attorney General's Office); Eric Chávez (Office of Sen. Ben R. Luján); Ashley Wright (USFS); Jacob Trujillo (Office of Congresswoman Melanie Stansbury); Camila Romero (NM State Land Office); Lisa Morrison (BLM); Tim Hagaman (NM EDD); Julie Anne Overton (PAO, Santa Fe NF); Barbara Romero (Herrell); Anna Jaramillo Scarborough (USFS – Regional BAER Coordinator); Melinda Evans (heir, San Antonio de las Huertas Land Grant); Alfonso Duran.

3. Approval of Agenda

Councilor Rebecca Correa Skartwed made a motion to approve the agenda; Councilor Andrea Padilla seconded the motion.

Roll call vote:

- Councilor Padilla – aye
- Councilor Correa Skartwed - aye
- Councilor Martínez - aye
- Councilor Polaco - aye
- Chairman Sánchez – aye

The motion was passed.

4. Approval of Meeting Minutes from May 17, 2022 Council meeting

Councilor Steve Polaco made a motion to approve the meeting minutes of the May 17, 2022 Council meeting; Councilor Correa Skartwed seconded the motion.

Roll call vote:

- Councilor Padilla – aye
- Councilor Correa Skartwed - aye
- Councilor Martínez - aye
- Councilor Polaco - aye
- Chairman Sánchez – aye

The motion was passed.

6. Discussion and Possible Action on Bureau of Land Management Update

Lisa Morrison (BLM) reported that the BLM will be selling permits in Canjilón on June 28 from 10:00 am – 2:00 pm. Councilor Polaco asked Ms. Morrison about access to the Mesa de las Viejas as a private landowner in the area does not allow access. Ms. Morrison stated that she would report back.

7. Discussion and Possible Action on Federal and State Legislative Update

Federal

S. 2708 – (in packet)

The Traditional Uses Bill was heard in front of the Natural Resources Committee. The NMLGC provided additional materials to Ben Ray Lujan’s Office. The bill will be sent back for a markup on June 23. It will soon be ready for a vote.

Mr. Archuleta asked if there are any local governmental entities (land grants and acequias) who are eligible to receive compensation for fire damages.

Eric Chavez (Office of Sen. Ben R. Luján) answered that Senator Ben Ray Lujan has raised these concerns to federal agencies, and the office staff has continued to raise these concerns to the US Forest Service and the NRCS. Delegation requested 100% “cost waiver,” with the cost being covered by the federal government.

Councilor Andrea Padilla asked who is eligible for full coverage for fire damages. Her sister’s property was affected by the wildfires, and she was told she would receive financial assistance for 75% of the damage costs and she would need to cover the remaining 25% of the costs.

Eric Chavez (The Office of Sen. Ben R. Luján) Bidens commitment was very recent, trying to implement higher cost coverage for fire damages.

State

The Interim Land Grant Committee held its organizing meeting on Monday, June 13, 2022 and a presentation was given by Susan Sasser, the newly appointed ombudsman for Rural Development. The Committee created the following schedule for upcoming meetings:

August 18-19 in Taos (hosted by Arroyo Hondo Arriba Land Grant); September 22-23 in Chililí, October 20-21 in Abiquiú and November 22 in Santa Fe.

8. Discussion and Possible Action on U.S. Forest Service

Ashley Wright (USFS)- Following the President’s visit on Saturday, an additional visit by USDA and Forest Service Staff was agreed upon to focus on traditional uses communities and fire recovery. The meeting will be held on Thursday, June 16, 2022.

Anna Jaramillo Scarborough (USFS) gave an update on the post fire recovery efforts. The Hermit’s Peak / Calf Canyon fire recovery plan has been broken into phases. The team is currently assessing the northern area, which includes Mora and further north.

Councilor Martínez asked for an update on the Midnight Fire.

Anna Jaramillo Scarborough (USFS) shared the following: 4,905 acres, about 12% contained, 382 personnel on the fire.

Councilor Martinez raised the following questions: What amount of land grant properties bordering the Forest Service were damaged and what is the plan for getting fuelwood to these areas?

Councilor Padilla asked what work has been done in Mora for the flood control? And what do grazing permit holders do with their animals that need to be grazed?

Anna Jaramillo Scarborough (USFS) responded the assessment is still being developed.

Eric Chavez (Office of Sen. Ben R. Luján) gave an update on the different precautions and work currently underway for flood and fire control, such as volunteers filling sandbags. And placed a link for livestock grazers to use. His office has reached out to the NM Livestock Board to find feed for displaced animals.

Chairman Juan Sanchez raised his concerns for the damages and destruction the fires have caused for the fencing used to contain the cattle. The NEPA process often delays the repair of fencing.

Councilor Polaco also raised his concerns regarding the process for the distribution of fuelwood for the affected communities.

Dr. Jacobo Baca gave an update on with the most recent developments on the Forest Service Management Plans. The NMLGC staff is continuing the objection process.

9. Discussion and Action on Natural Resources Issues & Concerns – Local, State and Federal – Including presentation & request by Town of Tomé

Camila Romero (State Lands Office) updated the Council on current projects. The State Land Office is placing many of their projects on hold at this time due to fire concerns. The Santa Barbara Land Grant's project is currently on hold, but they are hopeful the project will start up again. The San Joaquin del Rio de Chama Land Grant has continued with their fuelwood project.

Councilor Andrea Padilla expressed her concern for an overlay zone Harvey Yates is seeking approval for drilling, fracking and resource extraction. The county has had two meetings and the many constituents are against the overly zone. The Tome Land Grant would like to take action. The drilling could take place on many former common lands. The land grant is requesting the Council send someone to the hearing on July 14, 2022 and send a letter of objection.

10. Discussion and Possible Action on Office of the Attorney General & Treaty Division

Ricardo Dow y Anaya gave an update on the New Mexico Land Grant-Merced y Acequia Historical Gallery and Repository. The Council and Council Staff has been invited to the Grand Opening on July 15, 2022.

11. Discussion and Possible Action on Land Grant-Merced Assistance Fund

Mr. Archuleta reported the NMLGC staff has been meeting regularly with the Auditor's Office and DFA to determine exactly how the Assistance Fund and HB 8 will be distributed.

12. Discussion and Possible Action on FY 2022 & FY 2023 Budget

FY 2022 Budget Update: NM Legal Services has been expended to date \$55,739.26; the remainder is \$4,261.00 and will be spent in a new invoice just receive today. Publishing will be spent to near \$4,000.00 budgeted. In state travel amounts to \$6,500.14, YTD. Out of State Travel has not been spent. The UNM Contract total, YTD, is \$225,217.56, including staff salary and fringe amounting to \$152,566.88 and \$37,536.30 in F&A. Total NMLGC budget expended to date is \$311,605.89. Total reversions, including UNM IGSA, is \$63,063.86. 86% expended – 14% reverted

Councilor Polaco made a motion to approve invoice 3573 from Portable Micrographocs for \$9,083.08; Councilor RCS seconded the motion.

Roll call vote:

- Councilor Padilla – abstain
- Councilor Correa Skartwed -aye
- Councilor Martínez - aye
- Councilor Polaco - aye
- Chairman Sánchez – aye

The motion was passed.

Mr. Archuleta presented the staff budget recommendation for FY 2023.

Councilor Correa Skartwed made a motion to staff budget recommendation; Councilor AP seconded the motion.

Roll call vote:

- Councilor Padilla – aye
- Councilor Correa Skartwed -aye
- Councilor Martínez - aye
- Councilor Polaco - aye
- Chairman Sánchez – aye

The motion was passed.

13. Discussion and Possible Action on Land Grant Support Fund

Anissa Baca (NMLGC/LGSP) gave an update on Land Grant Support Fund recipient's status.

- Manzano Land Grant had their AUP executed and spent \$1,068 spent and have approximately \$1,500 to spend on a fireproof cabinet and \$500 tables and chairs.
- San Antonio de las Huertas Land Grant purchased their propane tank and gravel and expended \$3,500.
- San Miguel del Bado Land Grant spent their \$3,500 award on a shed for their equipment.
- Tajique Land Grant purchased a lawnmower and expended \$5,575.18 of their award for \$6,000, they will revert \$424.82
- Town of Tomé is on track to spend their award for \$9,000 on computers and an ATV for the land grant
- Torreón Land Grant has identified a vendor and will likely spend their entire award for \$6,000

14. Discussion and Possible Action on UNM Intergovernmental Services Agreement

Pay request number 8 was presented for \$41,317.63, including \$15,438.05 in project personnel, \$12,721.09 in the surveyor's contract and \$6,886.28 in F&A charges.

Councilor Padilla made a motion to approve pay request number 8 for \$41,317.63; Councilor Correa Skartwed seconded the motion.

Roll call vote:

Councilor Padilla – aye
Councilor Correa Skartwed - aye
Councilor Martínez - aye
Councilor Polaco - aye
Chairman Sánchez – aye

The motion was passed.

Mr. Archuleta presented the Scope of Work for the IGSA for FY 2023. The only changes are to those areas highlighted, including:

- Provide assistance with implementation of Land Grant-Merced Assistance Fund
- Provide support and assistance to Council and individual land grants with expenditure of SB 1 appropriations from 2022 special session related to land grants-mercedes, including but not limited to: youth development and educational cultural programming for Cristobal de la Serna Land Grant and other land grants-mercedes.

Councilor Polaco made a motion to approve Scope of Work FY 2023 IGSA; Councilor Padilla seconded the motion.

Roll call vote:

Councilor Padilla – aye
Councilor Correa Skartwed - aye
Councilor Martínez - aye
Councilor Polaco - aye
Chairman Sánchez – aye

The motion was passed.

15. Discussion and Possible Action on Professional Surveyor Services Contract - Update and Requests

Invoice number 3 for Chris Chavez’s research work in Taos County, survey of Trampas Plaza for So tomas del Rio de las Trampas LG drafting time, and fieldwork.

- Mr. Chavez will give final report during the next Council meeting

Councilor Correa Skartwed made a motion to approve invoice 3 from Territorial Land Surveying for \$14,974.04 Councilor AP seconded the motion.

Roll call vote:

Councilor Padilla – aye
Councilor Correa Skartwed - aye
Councilor Martínez - aye
Councilor Polaco - aye
Chairman Sánchez – aye

The motion was passed.

16. Discussion and Possible Action on Legal Services for Land Grants Update and Requests

One pay request was presented by Mr. Archuleta.

Councilor Correa Skartwed made a motion to approve Invoice #3 from Joe Lennihan for \$4,254.21; Councilor Padilla seconded the motion.

Roll call vote:

- Councilor Padilla – aye
- Councilor Correa Skartwed - aye
- Councilor Polaco - aye
- Councilor Martínez - aye
- Chairman Sánchez – aye

The motion was passed.

17. Discussion and Possible Action on *United States v. Sandoval*

No updates.

18. Discussion and Possible Action on Mercedes Unidas Center Update

Councilor Martinez and Councilor Polaco updated the Council on the final report for the Mercedes Unidas Center.

- Councilor Steve Polaco updated the Council on the roofing repairs currently underway at the Mercedes Unidas Center.

19. Discussion and Possible Action on Laguna del Campo Update

Councilor Polaco gave an update on the Laguna del Campo site.

20. Discussion and Possible Action on Land Grant Registry Update

The following items were sent to the New Mexico Community Land Grant Registry.

- election and organization of board for Las Trampas Land Grant
- election for organization of board Santa Bárbara Land Grant

21. Discussion and Possible Action on Land Grant Institute / Land Grant Studies Program Update

Mr. Archuleta updated the Council on UNM’s new RPSP process. The deadline was extended until June 15, 2022.

Anissa Baca reported she presented to La Mesa Presbyterian Church on June 5, 2022. She also reported that Dr. Diane Torres-Velasquez, a UNM faculty member, is currently writing the report for the 2022 ALGE Institute which took place in April and May.

22. Discussion and Possible Action on Correspondence

Al Durán attended the meeting and reported on behalf of Santa Cruz de la Cañada. He expressed his concerns about the land grant’s property and boundaries.

23. Discussion and Possible Action on Staff Assignments

None.

24. Public Comments – Discussion only

Al Duran made a comment regarding the Santa Cruz de la Cañada Land Grant property.

25. Miscellaneous Announcements

Mr. Archuleta reported he presented at the Natural Resources Law Clinic.

Mr. Archuleta was invited to be a guest on TJ Trout’s show with guest host Gene Grant.

Mr. Archuleta gave an update on the Summer Youth Projects this year. There have been some changes because the Bearcat Project was placed on hold due to the wildfires.

The next Consejo meeting will be held on June 25th at 9:00 am via Zoom.

Tim Hagamann (NM EDD) reported he received an application from the Anton Chico Land Grant. The land grant will be awarded for a commercial kitchen.

26. Date and Location for June Council Meeting

The July 2022 Council meeting will take place on July 13, 2022 at 10:00am virtually and in person in Albuquerque.

27. Adjournment

Councilor Polaco made a motion to adjourn; Councilor Correa Skartwed seconded the motion.

Roll call vote:

- Councilor Padilla – aye
- Councilor Correa Skartwed - aye
- Councilor Polaco - aye
- Councilor Martínez - aye
- Chairman Sánchez – aye

The motion was passed. The meeting adjourned at 2:03pm MDT.

Approved:

Chair

Date