

# The Land Grant Forum

Quarterly Newsletter of the  
New Mexico Land Grant-  
Merced Movement



Consejo Executive Board members at 2019 Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo Day celebration with Lifetime Service recipients Belarmino Archuleta and Beronice Archuleta (widow of the late Pedro Archuleta) of Tierra Amarilla and keynote speaker Linda Gutiérrez (Cañón de Carnué & Chilili)

## In this Issue

- [P.2-3] Consejo Update - Annual meeting, bylaw revisions and elections
- [P.4] Treaty Day Recap
- [P.4] UNM Land Grant Studies Program Update
- [P.5-6] 2019 Legislative Update
- [P.7] 2019 Capital Outlay
- [P.8] Land Grant Spotlight: Town of Tomé Land Grant



## Continuing the Forum

On behalf of the New Mexico Land Grant Consejo, the New Mexico Land Grant Council and the UNM Land Grant Studies Program, *thank you* to everyone who reached out and commented on our first issue of *The Land Grant Forum* Newsletter! In this issue, we will discuss the upcoming **Consejo Annual Meeting on June 8, 2019 in Abiquiú**. The Consejo will vote to amend its by-laws and will elect a new executive board for 2019-2021. Each member land grant-merced *must* pay their 2019 dues to participate. This issue will also recap the 2019 New Mexico State Legislative Session and discuss the outcome of introduced land grant legislation. This 60-day session was a fruitful one as land grants-mercedes were funded \$2.3 million in capital outlay, supporting long needed community projects in land grant communities. Finally, the *Land Grant Forum* will spotlight the Town of Tomé Land Grant, which is positioned to recover hundreds of acres of subdivided former common land in Valencia County. As always if you have news you would like to share on the July 2019 issue, contact Cheyenne Trujillo at [ctrujillo23@unm.edu](mailto:ctrujillo23@unm.edu) or Jacobo Baca at [jacobobaca@unm.edu](mailto:jacobobaca@unm.edu).



# New Mexico Land Grant Consejo Update

*Thank you to the Cubero Land Grant for hosting the March 2019 for the Consejo Quarterly meeting.*

(images above, l to r, Youth activities outside Cubero Land Grant Hall; Cubero common lands; Consejo members touring ruins of morada.)



## Next Meeting

The Merced del Pueblo Abiquiú will host the 2019 Consejo Annual Meeting on **June 8<sup>th</sup>, 2019** (10am) at the **Ferrán Gymnasium** in the Abiquiú Plaza. The agenda includes updates on federal and state legislation, including federal traditional use rights legislation and the upcoming Interim Land Grant Committee session beginning in June.

If you would like more information and the agenda of the meeting contact the Consejo email at [nmlgconsejo@gmail.com](mailto:nmlgconsejo@gmail.com).



## Youth Programming!

Venessa Chávez will provide programming for land grant youth through the UNM Land Grant Studies Program, so please be sure to please bring children from your community to participate in these activities. Ms. Chávez can be reached at [vchavez78@unm.edu](mailto:vchavez78@unm.edu).

## Annual Dues, Bylaw Revisions & Elections!

The 2019 Consejo Annual Meeting will also include potential **bylaw revisions** on the election of officers and the organization of the executive board, aligning its procedures with typical land grant election practices. The Consejo will also hold **elections** for the **new executive board** for 2019-2021.

**Annual dues** are \$200.00 per member land grant and **must be paid** for land grants to **vote** on proposed bylaw changes and in the election of the executive board at this Annual Meeting.

Annual dues can be paid at the meeting or can be sent to:

New Mexico Land Grant Consejo  
P.O. Box 51865  
Albuquerque, NM 87181

If you have any questions about paying dues and voting status contact the Consejo's current President, Leonard Martínez at [lenmtznm@gmail.com](mailto:lenmtznm@gmail.com).



# Consejo Executive Committee Positions

## Eligibility to serve on the Consejo Executive Committee:

The Executive Committee of the Consejo Board of Directors is comprised of five officers (president, vice-president, secretary, treasurer, parliamentarian/sergeant at arms, all detailed below) and two at-large members. The Committee has the sole authority to set meeting agendas, adopt policies, and endorse legislation. The Executive Committee also serves as the Board of Directors for the nonprofit organization, the Merced Land Education and Conservation Trust.

1. Each officer must be an elected official or the appointed representative of a land grant/merced in good standing.
2. There shall be only one (1) officer from any one member land grant/merced.
3. Officers assume office immediately upon election.

For those interested in serving on the Board of Directors for the 2019-2021 term, please find position descriptions and duties below.

## President

Presides at all meetings of the Consejo and Executive Committee. The president shall have other duties as are incumbent upon the office.

## Vice-President

In the absence of the President the Vice- President shall perform all the duties and have all the powers of the President.

## Secretary

Ensures that the Consejo meeting minutes are recorded, approved and stored appropriately.

## Treasurer

Sees that all membership dues are paid and accounts for all money collected, deposited and spent on behalf of the Consejo. The treasurer will produce a detailed report at every Consejo meeting.

## Parliamentarian/Sergeant at Arms

Keeps order at all meetings and ensures that proceedings are conducted in accordance with the Consejo bylaws and Robert's Rules of Order.

## Members At Large

Serve on the Executive Committee of the Consejo Board of Directors.



# Treaty Day 2019 Recap

Land grants-mercedes commemorated the 171<sup>st</sup> anniversary of the signing of the Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo on Saturday, February 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2019 at the New Mexico State Capitol (Roundhouse) in Santa Fe. Our keynote speaker was Linda Gutiérrez, heir to Chililí and Cañón de Carnué Land Grants, where she currently serves as Vice President. She is also a retired Petty Officer First Class of the U.S. Navy. This year's Lifetime Service Awardees were the late Pedro Archuleta (1946-2019) and Belarmino Archuleta of the Tierra Amarilla Land Grant. Entertainment was provided by the Dolores Gonzales Elementary School Folklorico and Guitar Clubs.



## UNM Land Grant Studies Program Update

The UNM Land Grant Studies Program has continued supporting land grants through research and technical support. Ongoing work includes digitizing the microfilmed records of the Office of the Surveyor General of New Mexico and the Court of Private Land Claims, which are collectively known as the Spanish Archives of New Mexico series I. Program staff are also digitizing microfilm records of the Town of Tomé Land Grant and organizing and digitizing the records of the San Antonio del Río Colorado Land Grant while also assisting the Grant with



### *Land Grant Studies Program*

genealogical research. LGSP director Dr. LM García y Griego continues to conduct research at local, regional and national archives and program staff are working to organize, catalog, and disseminate LGSP research. Staff have also made presentations for the UNM Law School in January 2019, at the Population and Public Policy Conference in February 2019, the NACCS

Conference in April 2019, and has consulted with local scholars and documentarians on land grant related research. Land Grant Studies Program staff also created posters for eight land grants, the LGSP, the Consejo and the New Mexico Land Grant Council in preparation for the annual Treaty Day celebration.



## 2019 Legislative Update

In total Governor Michelle Luján Grisham signed into law 5 out of 6 land grant-merced related pieces of legislation that made it to her desk from the 2019 Legislative Session. These include Senate Bill 244, Senate Bill 17, Senate Bill 44, Senate Bill 223, and House Bill 592. In addition, the Governor also signed capital outlay bill (Senate Bill 280) that included approximately \$2.3 million dollars in funding for 13 land grants-mercedes. The only bill that was not sign prior to the April 5th deadline was House Bill 94, which was pocket veto as a result of not being signed into law. Overall this was a very successful legislative session for land grants-mercedes and although not all of the bills concerning land grants made it through to final passage the profile of land grants-mercedes has definitely been raised under this new administration. More details about each of the bills acted on by the Governor can be found below.

### **Senate Bill 244 (SB244) – Legal Services for Land Grants/Community Governance**

**Attorney Act** –sponsored by Senator Ortiz y Pino. The purpose of the bill is to increase the amount of free and/or low cost legal services for land grants, acequias and colonias. The bill will create an opportunity for recent law school graduates to have their 3rd year of law school paid for by the state provided that upon graduation they work for at least 2 years with a non-profit that provides free or reduced cost legal services to land grants, acequias, and colonias. This will increase the number of attorneys available to provide assistance land grant communities throughout the state.

**SB244 made it passed the Senate by a vote of 39-0 on 1/24/19. SB244 passed the House of Representatives by a vote of 66-1 on 1/31/19. It was signed into law by the Governor on 2/4/19.**

**Senate Bill 17 (SB17) – Land Grant Board Comprehensive Plans** – SB17 was endorsed by the Land Grant Interim Committee and is being sponsored by Senator Jacob Candelaria. The purpose of the bill is to remove the requirement for land grant board of trustees to have to get their comprehensive management plans approved by the Department of Finance and Administration. It would provide boards of trustees to sole authority to approve their own comprehensive plans.

**SB17 passed the Senate on 2/5/19 by a vote of 33 – 0. It passed the House Floor on 3/15/19 by a vote of 63-0. It was signed into law by the governor on 4/3/19.**

**2019 Legislative Update** *(continued)*

**House Bill 592 (HB592)** - was introduced by Rep. Matthew McQueen and was co-sponsored by Senator Liz Stefanics. The purpose of the bill is to recognize the Merced del Manzano as a Political Subdivision of the State.

**HB592 passed the House of Representatives on 3/10/19 by a vote of 58-0. HB592 passed Senate Floor on 3/15/19 by a vote of 34-0. HB592 was signed into law by the Governor on 4/4/19.**

**Senate Bill 44 (SB44) – Equipment Purchases for Land Grants** – SB44 was endorsed by the Land Grant Interim Committee and is being sponsored by Sen. Richard Martinez and Rep. Tomás Salazar. The purpose of the bill is to make land grants-mercedes eligible for participation in the Department of Transportation’s annual Local Government Road Fund Hardship Equipment Auction. **SB44 passed the Senate on 2/21/19 by a vote of 31-0. SB44 passed the House of Representatives on 3/12/19 by a vote of 58-5. SB44 was signed into law by the Governor on 4/2/19**

**Senate Bill 223 (SB223) – Land Grant Elections and Definitions** – SB223 was endorsed by the Land Grant Interim Committee and is being sponsored by Senator Linda Lopez. The purpose of the bill is to amend the Land Grant General Provisions found in §49 NMSA 1978 to provide clearer direction for the conduct of land grant elections. Proposed changes include: new definitions for child, parent and sibling as they are used for determining eligibility for appoint of service as an election judge or clerk and a new definition of “precinct” as it is used to establish geographic boundaries for voting; setting the requirement for the board of trustees to finalize the registration books for an election by resolution at least 5 days prior to election day; the authority to use provisional ballots; provides guidance for resolving an election that results in a tie between candidates; provides guidance for contesting an election and provides a role for the Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo Division in reviewing contested elections; amends the language relating to appointment of vacancies so that appointees serve the remainder of the unexpired term of the trustee being replaced.

**SB223 passed the Senate by a vote of 41-0 on 3/8/19. SB223 passed the House of Representatives by a vote of 60-0 on 3/13/19. SB223 was signed into law by the Governor on 4/4/19.**

**House Bill 94 (HB94) – Land Grant-Mercedes Partitions** – HB94 was endorsed by the Land Grant Interim Committee and is being sponsored by Rep. Tomás Salazar. The purpose of the bill is to recognize certain existing sub-grants as political subdivision of the state. The bill would allow for six specific sub-land grant entities that have existed with governing boards of trustees apart from their mother grant for over 60 years to be recognized as local government entities. This bill will only affect those sub-land grants already in existence and does not create the opportunity for the further partition of any existing land grant.

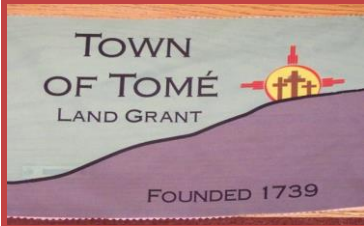
**HB94 was passed the House of Representatives on 2/12/19 by a vote of 61-0. It passed the Senate on 3/16/19 by a vote of 38-1. HB94 was not signed prior to the April 5th deadline and was therefore pocket vetoed.**

### 2019 Capital Outlay

**Senate Bill 280 - Capital Outlay** – In the 2019 Legislative Session the following land grant-merced projects were included in the capital outlay projects approved by both the House and the Senate and signed into law by the Governor on April 4, 2019

- \$170,000.00 to the Abiquiú Land Grant for the renovation of community facility.
- \$68,000.00 to the Cañón de Carnué Land Grant for the construction of an RV Park.
- \$50,000.00 to the Cristóbal de la Serna Land Grant for the acquisition of land.
- \$50,000.00 to the Don Fernando de Taos Land Grant for the construction of a land grant administrative facility.
- \$300,000.00 to the Merced del Manzano for purchase and renovation of historic community center building.
- \$120,000.00 to the San Antonio de Las Huertas Land Grant for the purchase of community emergency sirens.
- \$905,000.00 to the San Joaquín del Río de Chama, Juan Bautista Baldés and Tierra Amarilla Land Grants for the purchase of the Piedra Lumbre Visitor's Center.
- \$250,000.00 to the Tajique Land Grant for the renovation of the community center building and property.
- \$250,000.00 to the Town of Tomé Land Grant for the acquisition of tax abandoned property.
- \$150,000.00 to the Merced del Pueblo de Chililí for the purchase of a bulldozer.
- \$50,000.00 to the Tecolote Land Grant for Community Center Renovations and Repairs.





## TOWN OF TOMÉ LAND GRANT– Background

The Town of Tomé Land Grant was issued by the King of Spain in 1739. The original application makes it clear that the early settlers intended to build and cultivate an agricultural community that afforded them a way of life that is still a part of the rich and lasting history of the area. On April 5, 1871 a patent was issued to the Town of Tomé Land Grant. The original boundaries were described as follows; “the west boundary being the Rio del Norte (The Rio Grande). On the South by the stopping place commonly called (Los Tres Alamos) the three cottonwoods; on the east at the point of sunrise within the Sierra Madre called Sandia and on the north by the Punta de Los Esteros del llano called Thomé Domínguez.” The Town of Tomé Land Grant, a unit of government, was reconstituted in 2001 and became a member of the New Mexico Land Consejo and participates in the New Mexico Land Grant Council.

### Board of Directors:

Andrea C. Padilla, President

Lillie Sanchez-Chacon,  
Vice-President

Steven Baca, Secretary

Rosemarie Romero, Treasurer

Tony Moya, Member

### Contact Information:

P.O. Box 55, Tomé, NM 87060.

Physical Address: 2933 Highway  
47, Tome. Nm 87060

(505) 565-0015. (505) 514-1797.

<http://townoftomelandgrant.com>

### Recent Activity

The Tome Land Grant was awarded \$250,000.00 in capital outlay to purchase tax delinquent properties on their former common lands with the assistance of Valencia County and the New Mexico Department of Taxation and Revenue.

They also sponsor community events, including:

- Hosted a fundraiser concert with Romano Enrique and Reynaldo Maestas, musicians who are heirs. (Picture below to the right)
- In mid-July to end of September they will be holding farmer's markets at the Thome Dominguez Hall on Thursday from 4pm-7pm
- In November they have the Craft Fair at the Thome Dominguez Hall.
- On December 14<sup>th</sup> at 5:30pm they will have their Annual Balloon Glow.

They also just held elections at the end of April; please congratulate all new and returning board members!

