

New Mexico Land Grant Council (NMLGC)
January 11, 2019 – 10:00am
UNM Science and Technology Park
851 University Blvd SE, Suite 202
Albuquerque, NM 87106

Minutes – Final
Regular Council Meeting

1. Call to Order - Roll Call

Chairman Juan Sánchez called the meeting to order at 10:11am. Roll call of the Council members: Rita Padilla-Gutiérrez, Juan Sánchez, Macario Griego and Leonard Martínez were present.

2. Introduction of Guests

Juan Sánchez (NMLGC); Leonard Martínez (NMLGC); Rita Padilla-Gutiérrez (NMLGC); Macario Griego (NMLGC); Arturo Archuleta (NMLGC/LGSP); Jacobo Baca (NMLGC/LGSP); Cheyenne Trujillo (NMLGC/LGSP); Eric Castillo (Office of Senator Martin Heinrich); Andrew Gutiérrez (Tajique Land Grant / Chililí Land Grant); Sofia Sánchez (Office of Congresswoman Deb Haaland); Michele Jácquez-Ortiz (Office of Senator Tom Udall); Rebecca Skartwed (San Antonio de las Huertas LG).

3. Approval of Agenda

Councilor Leonard Martínez made a motion to approve the agenda; Councilor Rita Padilla-Gutiérrez seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously.

4. Approval of Meeting Minutes from Regular Council Meeting of December 15, 2018

Councilor Padilla-Gutiérrez made a motion to approve the meeting minutes of the December 15, 2018 Council meeting; Councilor Martínez seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously.

5. Discussion and Possible Action on BLM Update

None. No representative from the BLM was in attendance due to the federal government shutdown.

6. Discussion and Possible Action on Forest Service Update

No representative from the BLM was in attendance due to the federal government shutdown. Mr. Jacobo Baca reported that he spoke with James Durán of the Carson National Forest during the break. Mr. Durán was requesting previous MOUs between the Carson National Forest and the MLECT (Merced Land Education and Conservation Trust) and asked for any contacts that might have cemetery by-laws that they could share.

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

Federal

Eric Castillo (Office of Sen. Martin Heinrich) reported that Patricia Dominguez (Office of Sen. Martin Heinrich) is working on the quarterly Congressional call. Rep. Xochitl Torres Small has no staff as of yet and is still setting up her filed offices. Mr. Arturo Archuleta reported that Council staff will visit with Stephanie Harding of Senator Tom Udall's Washington DC office between January 21-23 to discuss H.R. 6487. Michele Jácquez-Ortiz (Office of Sen Tom Udall) also stated that Ms. Harding wants to make herself available for questions regarding EQIP.

State

Chairman Sánchez stated that the legislative session opens January 16, 2019. The bill number relating to land grants are: HB 32 – Legal services for land grants, acequias, colonias (sponsored by Rep. M. García); HB 33 – expanded authority for Treaty Division (sponsored by Rep. M. García); HB 36 – Land Grant Merced Assistance Fund – (sponsored by Rep. M. García, Rep. T. Salazar, Sen. Liz Stefanics); HB 94 – Land Grant Merced Partitions (sponsored by Rep. T. Salazar); SB 17 – land grant board comprehensive plans (sponsored by Sen. Candelaria); SB 44 – Equipment purchases for Land Grants (sponsored by Sen. R. Martínez and Rep. T. Salazar); SB 12 – Water rights notifications online (sponsored by Sen. C. Cisneros and Rep. T. Salazar); SB 13 – Lineas issue in Taos area land grants (sponsored by Sen. C. Cisneros); SJR 2 - Laguna del Campo transfer (sponsored by Sen. R. Martinez).

8. Discussion and Possible Action on PLVC - San Joaquín del Río de Chama Request and Council Involvement

Mr. Archuleta reported that the NMLGC has received a request from Gerald Chacón (Sec. of Land and Water) of the San Joaquín del Río de Chama LG requesting the assistance of David Benavides assistance in creating legal entity to manage the PLVC (letter in packet). Mr. Archuleta added that Councilor Martínez previously requested the NMLGC partner with the area land grants era in acquiring and developing the PLVC. Councilor Martínez commented that this needs to be straightened out immediately and management comes second and stated that there is a land owning entity near Abiquiu dam that wants to partner with land grants. Mr. Archuleta commented that the land grants need to notify the U.S. Forest Service of their intent to pursue funding to purchase the PLVC by February 8th. There are undoubtedly pros / cons to an NMLGC ownership stake / partnership, as well as questions whether the NMLGC can own property. Nothing explicitly prohibits the NMLGC from owning property in its statute, but nothing specifically allows either. We can pose the question to Stephen Vigil of the New Mexico Attorney General's office. Ms. Jácquez-Ortiz commented that Sen. Udall's office will assist asking for extension on deadline in light of government shutdown. Chairman Sánchez stated that the New Mexico Land Grant Council will offer technical assistance regardless of the results of the NMAG's analysis.

9. Discussion and Possible on Social Media Policy

Councilor Padilla-Gutiérrez asked if the social media policy required a new staff position that would be in charge of social media and other communications strategies. Councilor Martínez and Mr. Archuleta suggested that the language be amended to change it from position to a role or duty. They also suggested other minor changes like spelling out

acronyms. Rebecca Correa Skartwed (San Antonio de las Huertas) suggested that the Council consider text alerts and text apps. Councilor Griego commented that Facebook can be positive and negative. Councilor Martínez made a motion to wait adopt the NMLGC Social Media Policy; Councilor Padilla-Gutiérrez seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

10. Discussion and Possible Action on Council's Website

Cheyenne Trujillo (NMLGC staff) presented the new NMLGC website. Mr. Archuleta commented that we need to reconsider how we list "other land grants" when it is undetermined whether they are political subdivisions. Councilor Griego asked if land grants should have a letter from the Council that testifies that they are political subdivisions of the State of New Mexico to have on file. Mr. Archuleta commented that the Council does issue these on a case by case basis.

11. Discussion and Possible Action on Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo Day 2019

Treaty Day will be on February 2, 2019 (Saturday) at the New Mexico State Capitol (Roundhouse). Linda Gutiérrez of the Cañón de Carnué and Chililí Land Grants will give the keynote. Entertainment will be provided by the Dolores Gonzales Elementary School folklorico club and guitar club. The recipient of the lifetime service award has yet to be determined. We are still not sure if the legislature will be in session on the floor on that day since it is a Saturday. The Land Grant Studies Program has assisted the Cañón de Carnué, San Joaquín del Río de Chama, Town of Tomé, San Antonio del Las Huertas and San Miguel del Bado Land Grants in creating posters. Councilor Martínez reminded land grants to bring their flags.

Councilor Padilla-Gutiérrez made a motion that the New Mexico Land Grant Council be an official partner for the 2019 Treaty Day celebration; Councilor Martínez seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

12. Discussion and Possible Action on Council FY 2019 Budget

Mr. Archuleta provided a budget update. \$71,401.79 has been expended up to date, leaving a \$150,498.21 balance.

13. Discussion and Possible Action on UNM Contract FY 2019

Mr. Archuleta discussed UNM pay request 5 for \$15,110.60. Councilor Martínez made a motion to approve Pay Request 5; Councilor Padilla-Gutiérrez seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously.

14. Discussion and Possible Action on Legal Services Contract and Request Update

Mr. Archuleta reported that the Tajique Land Grant has submitted a request for legal services. The Grant opposed the proposed location of a cell phone tower in the middle of the Tajique village but not the installation of the tower itself. The Torrance County Planning and Zoning voted to delay issuance of the permit and applicant (Jason Milks) appealed the decision to the Torrance County Commission. The Commission approved the tower in its proposed location, negating the Tajique Land Grant's request that it be moved to an alternative site. The Tajique LG has 30 days to appeal decision via a district court

filing. This case could be precedence setting in that entities should reach out to land grants in this type of action. Land grants could also explore creating legislation regarding extra-territorial land use boundaries, where Tajique has a voice regarding adjacent land use decisions taking into consideration the impact that it has on Tajique. Andrew Gutierrez (Tajique Land Grant) commented that the Tajique Land Grant Board would like to speak to David Benavides of New Mexico Legal Aid to see if pursuing action would be worth while.

Councilor Griego made a motion to approve legal services for the Tajique Land Grant; Councilor Padilla-Gutiérrez seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

15. Discussion and Possible Action on Land Grant Support Fund

Mr. Archuleta reported that the Land Grant Support Fund agreements have been sent to NMAG's office (Stephen Vigil) for review and we are awaiting finalized versions. Once they are received and signature are obtained from the recipient land grants and NMLGC Chairman, the agreements will be finalized.

16. Discussion and Possible Action on Land Grant Registry

Jacobo Baca (NMLGC staff) reported that the Chililí land grant submitted a Copy of Declaration of the rights of the Merced de Pueblo de Chililí under the Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo.

17. Discussion and Possible Action on Correspondence Received by Council

None.

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

Augustine Montoya and Vidal Gonzales have yet to return from the winter break. They are both scanning land grant files in SANM I and Vidal is working on the Tomé reels as well. Mr. Baca stated that while Ancestry.com does have some SANM I digitized, his review has yet to turn up land grant digital copies of the land records for land grants in question. but looking into digital copies on Ancestry.com.

19. Discussion and Possible Action on Staff Assignments

Mr. Archuleta was contacted by Governor Michelle Luján Grisham's office and offered a cabinet level position which he turned down. He made a proposal to expand the executive branch relationship with land grants and acequias within DFA LG and acequias within DFA. Chairman Sánchez thanked Mr. Archuleta for his hard work and Councilor Martínez added that he hopes there is a smooth transition in the event that Mr. Archuleta does leave.

20. Public Comments – discussion only

None.

21. Miscellaneous Announcements

None.

22. Date and Location for February Council Meeting

The next meeting will be held on February 15, 2019 at 10:00am at the UNM Science and Technology Center.

23. Adjournment

Councilor Padilla-Gutiérrez made a motion to adjourn; Councilor Martínez seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 12:00pm.

Approved:

Chair

Date