

New Mexico Land Grant Council (NMLGC)
June 27, 2019 – 10:00am
Tajique Community Center
8636 NM 55, Tajique, NM

Minutes – Final

Regular Council Meeting

1. Call to Order - Roll Call

Chairman Juan Sánchez called the meeting to order at 10:07am. Roll call of the Council members: Rita Padilla-Gutiérrez, Juan Sánchez, and Macario Griego were present. Councilor Leonard Martínez was absent.

2. Introduction of Guests

Juan Sánchez (NMLGC); Macario Griego (NMLGC); Rita Padilla-Gutiérrez (NMLGC); Arturo Archuleta (NMLGC/LGSP); Venessa Chávez (LGSP); Lisa Morrison (BLM); Novela Salazar (NMAG - Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo Division); Jason Quintana (Manzano Land Grant); Daniel Antonio Herrera (Manzano Land Grant); Gloria Zamora (Manzano Land Grant); Augustine Montoya (Tajique Land Grant).

3. Approval of Agenda

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

4. Approval of Meeting Minutes from Regular Council Meeting of May 10, 2019 and Special Meeting of June 20, 2019

Councilor Griego made a motion to approve the meeting minutes of the May 10, 2019 Council meeting; Councilor Padilla-Gutiérrez seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously.

Councilor Padilla-Gutiérrez made a motion to approve the meeting minutes of the June 20, 2019 special Council meeting; Councilor Griego seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously.

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

Federal

Mr. Arturo Archuleta (NMLGC staff) reported that Congresswoman Deb Haaland meet with land grants in Congressional District 1 on May 31 at the Cañón de Carnué Land Grant. Representative Haaland was responsive to land grant concerns and expressed her willingness to assist with federal legislation. NMLGC staff has continued discussion with Senator Tom Udall's staff regarding a Senate version of the traditional use rights bill. Councilor Griego commented that as Congressman Ben Ray Luján runs for Udall's Senate seat in 2020, we must educate Congressional District 3 candidates, including Joseph

Sánchez and Robert Apodaca, about land grants. Councilor Padilla-Gutiérrez added that she is trying to set up a meeting with Congresswoman Xochitl Torres Small.

State

The Interim Committee met on June 17 in Santa Fe and confirmed their 2019 schedule. They will be in Anton Chico on July 1-2, (no August meeting), in Taos, hosted by the Cristobal de la Serna Land Grant, on September 16-17, and at Ghost Ranch on October 31st and Tierra Amarilla on November 1st, and will end its interim session and endorse legislation on November 15 in Santa Fe. Senator Richard Martínez asked that NMLGC staff present at the NMFA Oversight Committee meeting in Española meeting on July 11 and 12th to discuss the rural community funds for non-tribes and non-colonias.

6. Discussion and Possible Action on US Forest Service Update

Mr. Archuleta stated that, per NMLGC staff member Jacobo Baca, forest plans for the Cíbola, Carson and Santa Fe National Forests are due to be released in late July. Baca participated in the Cerro Negro Forest Council Mayordomo project on May 24th. The project will be replicated in the Trampas area in the Camino Real Ranger District. James Melonas (Forest Supervisor, Santa Fe National Forest) and James Durán (Forest Supervisor, Carson National Forest) both identified the NMLGC as a project partner with a MOU to expand cooperative forest restoration projects. Council staff attended cooperative agency meetings for the Carson (June 5) and Santa Fe (June 12) National Forests. Councilor Padilla-Gutiérrez reported that the Town of Tomé Grant has been in preliminary discussions for a joint stewardship plan in the nearby forest and wilderness. Chairman Juan Sánchez reported that there will be no CFRP (Collaborative Forest Stewardship Program) this year because they could not fill positions on the review panel. Jason Quintana (Manzano LG) commented that he has had conversations with the Cíbola Forest Planner about traditional uses. Discussants also reviewed the forest plan objection process.

7. Discussion and Possible Action on BLM Update

Lisa Morrison (BLM) stated that the Secretary of the Interior visited Chaco Canyon at the invitation of Senator Martin Heinrich. Secretary David Bernhardt put a 1-year moratorium on oil and gas leases for within a 10 mile radius of Chaco Canyon. The BLM is still working on Resource Management Plans and four are currently in development. This administration's focus is energy so areas with oil and gas are taking priority. Carlsbad and Farmington will likely finish their RMP's first and the Rio Puerco proposed RMP should come out in the fall. The Tri-County plan, which is a supplemental to the Las Cruces Field office RMP, won't be completed for a while.

8. Discussion and Possible Action on State Forestry Agreement MOU Language

Mr. Archuleta presented the original draft and the revised draft of the MOU from New Mexico State Forester Laura McCarthy with USFS Region 3 (in the packet). The Council reviewed and discussed the significance of the MOU, which includes language referencing land grants. Councilor Griego asked if the MOU needed Congressional approval and Mr. Quintana asked if land grants would get to review the MOU; Mr. Archuleta responded in the negative to both questions. Chairman Sánchez stated that this MOU might help release project funding beneficial to land grants.

Councilor Padilla-Gutiérrez made a motion to endorse the language in draft MOU; Councilor Griego seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

9. Discussion and Possible Action on Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo Division Update

Novela Salazar (NMAG – Treaty Division) reported that the Tierra Amarilla Grant will enter settlement negotiations on July 15th. The letters requested by the Cañón de Carnué Grant (to the NM Environment Department, Construction Industries Division, and Bernalillo County) will be ready by tomorrow. She also followed up with the Taos County Assessor’s Office regarding how surveyors use boundaries based on properties not owned by heirs to complete surveys and aid owners in selling property. Ms. Salazar also mentioned that the Taos County Clerk said the County Commission, in previous years, cleared out the basement and likely got rid of the book that is missing.

10. Discussion and Possible Action on Council FY 2019 & 2020 Budgets

Mr. Archuleta provided a budget update on the FY 2019 budget (in packet). UNM drew down on 100% of the Intergovernmental Agreement (UNM Contract). A budget adjustment is still needed to draw down on funding. Councilor Griego made a motion approving a budget adjustment request to UNM, if possible; Councilor Padilla-Gutiérrez seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

11. Discussion and Possible Legal Services Contract - Update and New Requests

Work is ongoing through NM Legal Aid with new requests from the Tierra Amarilla Land Grant regarding the Laguna del Campo transfer, the Manzano Land Grant regarding a cell tower property, and the Cañón de Carnué Land Grant regarding trespass issue on land grant property.

Councilor Padilla-Gutiérrez made a motion approving legal services for the Tierra Amarilla Land Grant regarding the Laguna del Campo transfer; Councilor Griego seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Councilor Griego made a motion approving legal services for the Manzano Land Grant regarding a cell tower lease agreement and property; Councilor Padilla-Gutiérrez seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Councilor Padilla-Gutiérrez made a motion approving legal services for the Cañón de Carnué Land Grant regarding a property trespass issue; Chairman Sánchez seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

12. Discussion and Possible Action on Land Grant Support Fund

Chairman Sánchez stated that the Council is waiting on awarded land grants to send their information and complete their grants. These include the San Antonio de las Huertas, Town of Tomé and Chililí Land Grants.

13. Discussion and Possible Action on Land Grant Registry

The San Joaquín del Río de Chama Land Grant submitted their Agreed Upon Procedures for their audit (AUP) for inclusion in the New Mexico Land Grant Registry.

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

Venessa Chávez (LGSP) presented regarding the Land Grant Youth Leadership Program. She will present to the Interim Land Grant Committee in Anton Chico on July 2.

15. Discussion and Possible Action on Correspondence Received by Council

None.

16. Discussion and Possible Action on Staff Assignments

None.

17. Public Comments – discussion only

Jason Quintana thanked the Tajiue Land Grant for the refreshments and Venessa Chávez for her work with the youth.

18. Miscellaneous Announcements

None.

19. Date and Location for July Council Meeting

The next Council meeting will be held on July 8th, 2019 at 9:00am in Albuquerque, NM.

20. Adjournment

Councilor Padilla-Gutiérrez made a motion to adjourn; Councilor Griego seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 11:50am.

Approved:

Chair

Date