

New Mexico Land Grant Council (NMLGC)  
September 17, 2020 – 10:00am  
Virtual Meeting  
Zoom ID: 935 4418 5933

**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: Andrea Padilla, Leonard T. Martínez, Juan Sánchez, Steve Polaco and Rebecca Correa-Skartwed.

**2. Introduction of Guests**

Juan Sánchez (NMLGC); Rebecca Correa Skartwed (NMLGC); Andrea Padilla (NMLGC); Steve Polaco (NMLGC); Leonard T. Martinez (NMLGC); Arturo Archuleta (NMLGC/LGSP); Jacobo Baca (NMLGC/LGSP); Venessa Chávez (NMLGC/LGSP); Eric Chávez (Office of Congressman Ben Ray Luján); Novela Salazar (Office of the New Mexico Attorney General); LM García y Griego (NMLGC/LGSP); Sofía Sánchez (Office of Congresswoman Deb Haaland); Lisa Morrison (BLM); Patricia Domínguez (Office of Sen. Martin Heinrich); Michele Jácquez-Ortiz (Office of Sen. Tom Udall); Chris Chávez (Territorial Land Surveying); K. Graham Chavez (NRCS); Rita Gutierrez (Town of Tomé heir); Dillon Fisher Ives (Deputy counsel, DFA); Tim Hagaman (Econ. Dev. Dept); David Benavides (NMLA)

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

The motion was passed.

**4. Approval of Meeting Minutes from Council Meeting of August 4, 2020**

Councilor Rebecca Correa-Skartwed made a motion to approve the meeting minutes of the August 4, 2020 Council meeting; Councilor Andrea Padilla 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.

Councilor Martínez asked permission to translate the minutes and distribute to heirs.

## **5. Discussion and Possible Action on BLM Update**

Lisa Morrison (BLM) reported that wood permit sales are picking up. In Farmington permits are available online and in person, in Taos they are available online and people can also call front desk and pick them up and in the Rio Puerco Albuquerque area, they are available online. The comment period for the Farmington Mancos Gallup RMPA ends on September 25<sup>th</sup>, 2020. Councilor Martínez commented that he and Gerald Chacón of the San Joaquín del Río de Chama Land Grant are working on comments with the assistance of Dr. Jacobo Baca of the NMLGC/LGSP. They met on Tuesday September 15 and will meet again. Ms. Morrison asked that when comments were submitted that she be CC'd. Councilor Martínez added that the San Joaquín Grant submitted its comprehensive management plan and asked if it has been incorporated into plan. Ms. Morrison responded that she can do a call with the Farmington office to check. Once the comment period ends, the BLM Farmington office will revise the RMPA and the protest period will begin. Those that have commented will be allowed to file a protest. Dr. Jacobo Baca (NMLGC) asked if the Farmington office director can pick and choose from other alternatives, even though Alt. C is the preferred alternative. Ms. Morrison responded that they can do so, as long as it is an item analyzed in the other alternatives. Councilor Correa-Skartwed asked of progress on the Rio Puerco RMP. Ms. Morrison responded that they have not heard from Washington Office. Mr. Arturo Archuleta added that it would be good for the Council to submit similar comments to those developed by San Joaquín del Río de Chama Land Grant with Dr. Baca by the September 25<sup>th</sup> deadline so that the Council has standing for the protest when the final RMPA is released. Council staff can bring the comments to the Council for formal adoption in the October meeting.

Councilor Martínez made a motion that the NMLGC submit comments on Farmington-Mancos-Gallup RMPA; Councilor Padilla second the motion.

Roll call vote:

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

The motion was passed.

## **6. Discussion and Possible Action on U.S. Forest Service Update – Including Master Stewardship Agreement**

Mr. Archuleta reported that he had a brief conversation with DFA Acting Secretary Debbie Romero, who stated DFA legal reviewed the MSA and passed up to the Secretary. He will follow up with Secretary Romero to answer questions. Dillon Fisher-Ives (DFA Deputy Counsel) commented that the legal department does not have concerns, but acting Secretary Romero does have to review and hopefully get the MSA to the council soon. Mr. Archuleta commented that the Council forwards all updates that we receive to land grants. The Council did receive notice from the Cibola National Forest that the comment period for mountain coaster has begun. Land grants in the area can submit comments and NMLGC can assist in developing comments. Mr. Archuleta and Dr. Baca also participated in a "Convo with Colleague" with the Carson National Forest. The theme of equity and access reflects on systemic racism and equity for communities of color. Archuleta and Baca were first presenters from outside of agency and presented at the request of

CNF Forest Supervisor James Durán. In their presentation, they pointed to inequity and access, and commented that this cannot be discussed only in terms of existing uses of forest but need to consider past uses like natural resources extraction in addition to recreation. Uses that matter to our communities that need to be considered, including meaningful access for not just recreation, but also use. Dr. Baca added that this was a good opportunity to discuss that the ethos of Forest Service and the land ethic of land grant communities are not the same.

Councilor Martínez commented that he briefly spoke to Mr. Archuleta and Eric Chávez of Rep. Ben Ray Luján's office regarding the wood shortage and the MSO injunction. Commercial operators also provide wood to users and without commercial cutters, people are relying on piles from last year. People are poaching from decks on forest lands and the injunction is leading to high price for wood that elderly cannot afford. People want to buy all of our 180 cords that we hauled off of the mountain, including the Torreón Chapter of Navajos. This needs to be resolved or shortage will affect us and get worse. Mr. Archuleta added that discussions between the agency and Wild Earth Guardians seems to be stalled. In the spring, Council staff had a conversation with the three northern forest supervisors (Durán, Melonas and Hattenbach) and one problem was that personal use permits are only for dead and down timber, 300 feet from a USFS road. There is a potential for the USFS to do categorical exclusions if NEPA is done for up to 300 acres. The problem is that this can be considered timber management, which falls under the injunction. Congress can only put so much pressure as it is in courts and the NMLGC can request that the USFS send someone from Region 3 to provide update to next council meeting.

Councilor Polaco commented that if the USFS doesn't want fires, by not allowing people to harvest and thin, we will be facing same scenario as western states with big fires. The MSO injunction is stopping our thinning out of forests to prevent catastrophe, especially in areas that we don't have MSO habitat. Councilor Padilla commented that we might approach the environmental group (Wild Earth Guardians) to donate wood because of the problem and hardship they created. Mr. Archuleta commented that land grant representatives did sit down with Wild Earth Guardians and expressed our concern. This is in part why they negotiated personal use, but blamed the USFS for neglecting to monitor. The injunction remains for 11 million acres when 2 million are critical MSO habitat. The lawsuit holds everyone hostage as the WEG want USFS to monitor outside of USFS lands, including lands in Mexico. The USFS does not have the staff to support this, even though the NM State Land Office and State Forester are willing to help and assist and partner in an "All lands, all hands" approach across jurisdictions.

Eric Chávez of Rep. Ben Ray Luján's office added that he had conversations with USFS and in July had a conversation with the acting R3 Regional forester. He expressed the need for more access for logging and timber contractors. Both parties did try and submit stipulation to modify injunction to increase projects outside of MSO critical habitat and the court is still working on that. Councilor Martínez commented that this is stewardship and restoration, not commercial logging, and Ms. Morrison commented that BLM does have stewardship programs and added that she will work with BLM folks to see if there is more that BLM can do. Chairman Sánchez directed staff to contact the R3 regional office and ask that they attend the next meeting to provide and update.

## **7. Discussion and Possible Action on Federal and State Legislative Updates**

*State*

The next interim meeting is on October 14; Tierra Amarilla LG will discuss traditional uses on state owned lands.

### *Federal*

Mr. Archuleta commented that HR 3682 went through the House Natural Resources Committee. Staff from Senator Tom Udall's office sent word that it will not get introduced on Senate side as the Senate Natural Resources committee has already made its priorities and that gridlock with COVID relief bill imperils legislation. There is a small possibility if there is an omnibus lands bill that it could be included. Mr. David Benavides (NM Legal Aid) asked if the measure passed the full house. Mr. Chávez stated that it passed the committee and Rep. Luján is discussing the legislation with leader Rep. Hoyer to secure floor time for the bill, but that it is difficult in September. Rep. Luján hopes to get floor time at least in November.

Mr. Archuleta reported that Council staff was by ABC News *Nightline*, which are doing a story on land grants. The ABC News crew filmed and interviewed around state a few weeks ago and the Council staff put them in front of as many communities as possible. The piece will 15 minutes and will show in September 2020; we have contact information for them and can use this to highlight them. Sofía Sánchez (Office of Congresswoman Haaland) commented that they were able to interview the Congresswoman in Washington DC. Mr. Archuleta added that the New Mexico Attorney General was interviewed as well. Mr. Eric Chávez added that the crew was looking for an interview with Representative Luján as well. There was also included in the House Appropriations bill language for land grants and acequias, though it will not be implemented until early next year as we are likely to get a continuing resolution to get through end of the year.

### **8. Discussion and Possible Action on Stewardship Agreement with State Land Office**

Mr. Archuleta commented that the State Land Office is very interested in projects close to land grant communities. They want to create an umbrella agreement with NMLGC to serve as a liaison for projects. The NMLGC has been in conversation for lands near Cebolla; which would help the Tierra Amarilla and San Joaquín del Río de Chama Land Grants. J.R. Logan, the WUI coordinator for Taos County, has been helping the Santa Bárbara Land grant get their project off the ground. We hope to have a draft for council to review, but it is not yet ready. The State Land Office wants to meet with the San Joaquín and Tierra Amarilla Land Grants and Gerald Chacón to review site for project. On the ridge, the SLO will work on arch surveys to clear area while community members and youth project work to remove slash. Camila Romero of the SLO stated that there may be YCC or SLO youth funds to help this. On Monday Sept. 21<sup>st</sup> or Thursday Sept. 24<sup>th</sup>, they will have a conference call with the SLO and permittee. Councilor Padilla asked if the State Land Office have influence over the MRGCD, as people burn cottonwood, elm, and salt cedar. Mr. Archuleta responded that they do not have control of any bosque lands, to his knowledge. Councilor Padilla asked that the MRGCD be contacted to see what holdup is. Councilor Polaco asked the Natural Resource Conservation Service if there were areas on private lands. Kristen Graham-Chávez commented that they do have programs to assist private land holders with thinning and that the Farm Service Administration has technical and financial assistance. Area contacts are the Hernández field office (505-753-3508) and Norman Vigil in Canjilón. Mr. Archuleta asked Ms. Graham Chávez if the NRCS has issued guidance on land grant eligibility for programs; she responded that she will send information that can be distributed.

## **9. Discussion and Possible Action on Open Meetings Act Resolution**

In packet is the updated Open Meetings Act Resolution for FY 2021. It is standard, but adjustments for COVID adjustments are on page 1. Other items are standard, outlining meetings types and notice, rules for closed meetings.

Councilor Correa-Skartwed made a motion to adopt the OMA Resolution for FY 2021; 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.

## **10. Discussion and Possible Action on Land Grant Capital Outlay Update**

All capital outlay projects are on track to be spent. The Tecolote and Cristóbal de la Serna grant agreements are signed and have been submitted. The Serna Grant met to approve purchase of two parcels; they need approval of purchase and sale agreement. This was signed and submitted to DFA on Monday to encumber funds, which was 5% to save awarded monies. Tecolote submitted their notice of obligation and has received a quote from a contractor. This will save monies from this sweep, but all land grants should be cautious and be sure to spend their awarded monies. They should plan to get as much money as possible spent by January 30<sup>th</sup> as economic downturn may cause further clawbacks. If land grants need assistance, contact council staff. Council staff is also working to get grant agreement issued for PLVC (re-authorization) as well as the Punta de Agua re-authorization, for which Manzano LG serves as the fiscal agent. Councilor Padilla asked is land grants needed to spend their 2020 appropriations by January 2021 as well; Mr. Archuleta responded in the negative, but added that the State of New Mexico looks at older appropriations first but can decide to look at all projects if they need. They can look at all projects without encumbrances and we have seen where they will pull back monies that are not encumbered and pull back partial monies that are not on track to be spent. For FY 2020 monies, the more that you can encumber through contract for services, the safer it is, though it is up to the legislature and their discretion.

## **11. Discussion and Possible Action on Council FY 2021 & FY 2022 Budget**

*FY 2021*

DFA rules have changed to allow for Council member per diem for FY 2021 and retro back to July 2020. The Council did a budget adjustment request last month, however, in a conversation with DFA regarding the BAR, sent to DFA. The admin fee is standard across all agencies and they stated that they will use it as they took a 5% cut and did not pass this onto NMLGC. Jeanette Gallegos asked that the NMLGC wait on budget adjustment as contracts will need to be re-issued and NMLA contract has just been approved and also to allow for changes in per diem allowed, and other budget items that may need adjustment. The BAR approved last month may be submitted in January 2021. Then monies can be allocated to contracts like NMLA later through a BAR at that time. Mr. Archuleta provided a budget update, including adjustment because of travel allowances. \$22,976.21 has been expended to date. Adjustments to budget area under UNM contract do not

need to be approved by DFA. The planned 4% raises are not happening. Jacobo Baca's reclass was part of this. The reclass needs written approval of LM Garcia y Griego to submit exception request to provost office. There is no guarantee that it will happen and we can shift the budget when we know more. He was not sure if we need to make a motion to adopt previous budget and forego BAR discussed in August.

Councilor Martínez made a motion that the Council revert to originally adopted budget for FY 2021; 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.

*FY 2022*

None.

## **12. Discussion and Possible Action on Professional Surveyor Services Contract - Updates and Requests**

Surveyor services contractor Chris Chávez did good work in FY 2020 and continued work on projects that were approved. Larger projects, like surveying the Anton Chico Land Grant, might take several contract years. Mr. Chávez and Mr. Archuleta provided an update on status of current projects (see more in packet). The initial survey work at the Town of Tome and San Joaquín is done and only needs recording. The Santa Bárbara Grant needs additional work to survey the road. Mr. Chávez needs to regroup with legal counsel regarding the Juan Bautista Baldes case as a hearing is scheduled for May 2021. Mr. Benavides stated that we expect that this quiet title suit for 112 acres of common lands will be won and that Mr. Chávez will be key in case. He responded that he will do courthouse research, which has gotten better and plat review and report writing, which is good to do in winter. He reported that he needs to regroup with the Tajique Land Grant. There is no work regarding the Cristóbal de la Serna Land Grant, but a surveyor will help in the return of lineas and if the grant is able to collect enough parcels, they might be good to get a survey and identify which lands the grant is in control of and which descriptions are vague. The Serna board will have to evaluate to see if active surveys need to be challenged. Modern surveys that are completed encompass proper acreage but not proper boundaries. The lineas are long narrow strips, but are converted into lots. Some are done through quiet titles suits, so the Grant may need the assistance of the NMLA as well. There is a role for legal advice to challenge these quiet title suits. The community could not access the assessor's office because of COVID. They may need to survey and may also need to engage NM Taxation and Revenue Department and the NM Attorney General's office as assessments are 'special residential,' some assessed at \$176 an acre, others at \$350 an acre. Assessment may stop the Land Grant from paying these taxes and make them lose land and we may engage the Interim as well to discuss special tax assessment for common lands.

The Abiquiú Land grant needs work done as well. The Anton Chico rock pits are quite extensive and will take a lot of work. They may prioritize the wind energy project as they are working with private landowners and BlueEarth to get this moving. The rock pits may not need full surveys and may be more of a mapping exercise. Mr. Chávez commented that he found a person claiming Town of Tomé Land Grant land and that this needs action. Also, the survey of *all* land grants of what lands are remaining is necessary to defend lands against future challenges. Mr. Archuleta commented that the contract is in action and the Council has not yet issued a call for projects for surveyor services. The Council has nonetheless received 3 new requests. The San Joaquín del Río de Chama Land Grant asked that the historic acequias and croplands that are now USFS lands be surveyed. The Town of Tomé Grant has found potential encroachment and wants to pursue parcels in the area that are unidentified tracts that are common lands that Tome may need to make a claim to and to ensure they retain access to Tomé Hill park. Chairman Sánchez advised that the Chililí Land Grant filed a case against Bernalillo County and Tarrant County that all lands listed as *unknown, unassessed, unlocated* are and revert to land grant common land. Mr. Chávez requested a copy of the case, stating that he can do a survey of the property and create a deed that cites this case. Councilor Correa-Skartwed stated that the San Antonio de las Huertas Land Grant did the same and found all of the “unknowns” and worked with mapper for county assessors and they reassessed. It does increase the tax liability. Mr. Chávez cautioned that county mappers and their system does not represent legal mapping. Councilor Correa-Skartwed responded that they are slowly and gradually surveying them to make legal claim. Rita Padilla-Gutierrez (Town of Tomé Land Grant) posited that perhaps because the Tome property is a sacred site it might not be taxable. Councilor Martínez added that this is how the San Joaquín Land Grant acquired property across from their sala and that they plan to go through 470,000+ acres for unclaimed tracts and survey them. The Town of Tecolote Grant is asking for surveying services relating to the Montoya case where they were asked to sign off on a final stipulated order, but there are issues with the descriptions. They wanted to get on the ground to be sure that they are signing off on order and lands properly and Angela Herrera will check with the judge if and when they will allow for them to examine with a surveyor. Chairman Sánchez commented that land grants may consider suing the state for the plain table surveys and resulting land loss. Mr. Archuleta commented that the Council will send out a reminder to land grants regarding surveyor services.

Councilor Correa-Skartwed made a motion approving the survey request of the San Joaquín del Río de Chama Land Grant; Councilor Padilla seconded the motion.

Roll call vote:

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

The motion was passed.

Councilor Martínez made a motion approving the survey request of the Town of Tecolote Land Grant; 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 Martínez made a motion approving the survey request of the Town of Tomé Land Grant; Councilor Correa-Skartwed seconded the motion.

Roll call vote:

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

The motion was passed.

Councilor Martínez asked how the projects will be prioritized; Mr. Archuleta responded that he will work with Mr. Chávez and assess the urgency and potential for land loss.

### **13. Discussion and Possible Action on Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo Division – Updates and Requests**

Novela Salazar (Office of the NMAG, Treaty Division) reported that there is a possible settlement with the Tierra Amarilla Land Grant in the Frente de Lucha case. This needs to be finalized and the NM Attorney General's office will do a presentation for the Interim Land Grant Committee meeting on October 13<sup>th</sup>. The New Mexico State Auditor is working on the Anton Chico LG. Regarding the Manzano Land Grant, the Grant has had problems getting documents from Mr. Lopez of the Manzano Spring and Ditch and there are questions if the Manzano Spring and Ditch is operating properly and elections are up to date. Ms. Salazar responded to the Grant that they can make an open meetings act complaint to the NMAG's office, but that it cannot interfere with contractual agreement between two parties (the USFS and Manzano Spring and Ditch). She is trying to get into contact with someone from the Office of the State Engineer to understand water rights. She asked Venessa Chávez (NMLGC/LGSP) for a copy of the FOIA that the Manzano Land Grant sent to the USFS. Councilor Polaco stated that he worked with Brian Gallegos with the OSE and that he might be the person to work with in this case. Mr. Archuleta stated that he believed that these discussions regarding Manzano might be outside of the scope of initial complaint. Though Ms. Salazar stated that there was an open meetings act complaint, the original land grant complaint was about the ethics of the Spring and Ditch Board members and elections are a part of this. He asked if it was her recommendation that the Manzano LG file a separate complaint with the Civil Division. She commented that the initial complaint regarding the spring and ditch asked who owned the waters. Mr. Jason Quintana asked later about elections and where an open meetings complaint would go, which might be a separate action.

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

David Benavides of NM Legal Aid presented a request of the NMLGC. He asked that the Council approve subcontracting some of the legal services provided by the legal services contract with the Council. These include important cases approved by council and serviced by himself and others (including UNM Law School). The work load for land grant services is too large, considering how



much of the legal services relate to litigation, and cases are moving more slowly because of COVID. In the midst of the overwhelming situation in the last FY (FY 2020), we were able to retain private attorney, Joe Lennihan, an experienced litigator, with other monies from the NM State Legislature. Mr. Lennihan is willing to work for Mr. Benavides rate and he is up to date on the Juan Bautista Baldes case, which will involve settlement negotiations and is the most active case in terms of litigation. Mr. Benavides would like to subcontract ½ of his \$40,000 contract to Mr. Lennihan, who will take the lead. Mr. Benavides will do everything else that Council has directed and take on new work as well, when able, such as discrete projects. Both Mr. Lennihan and New Mexico Legal Aid approve. Mr. Lennihan has also done considerable pro bono work for acequias and the idea is to subcontract for just this year.

Councilor Polaco made a motion to support David Benavides and NM Legal Aid to subcontract for no more than \$20,000 of the \$40,000 of the Council contract with NM Legal Aid. Chairman Sánchez 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.

#### **15. Discussion and Possible Action on UNM Intergovernmental Agreement – FY 2021**

Pay request #1 was presented, including July and August 2020. This only covers personnel costs and has no other charges. This includes \$17,959.34 in salary plus fringe benefits, \$3,591.87 in F&A for a total of \$21,551.21. Included in packet is narrative associated with PR#1. July and August were very busy as Council staff assisted 16 land grants with their ICIPs.

Councilor Martínez made a motion to approve Pay Request #1 for \$21,551.21; Councilor Polaco seconded the motion.

Roll call vote:

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

The motion was passed.

#### **16. Discussion and Possible Action on Creation of Land Grant Institute at UNM**

All five council members are interested in participating in a workshop discussing the creation of a Land Grant Institute at UNM. Former Council members Rita Padilla Gutiérrez and Macario Griego are interested in participating as well. Mr. Archuleta hopes to have the workshop the week of Sept. 28<sup>th</sup>-Oct. 2<sup>nd</sup>. Councilors discussed and Sept 30<sup>th</sup> in the morning worked best, with Oct. 2<sup>nd</sup> as an alternate. Mr. Archuleta and Dr. García y Griego will work on the agenda.

#### **17. Discussion and Possible Action on Land Grant Support Fund**

Mr. Baca reported that they have received an application from the Town of Tomé LG. Notice has been sent to all land grants three or four times. The deadline is Sept. 30<sup>th</sup>.

### **18. Discussion & Action on Piedra Lumbre Visitors Center Update**

The USFS did its final environmental review on September 16 and final cleanup was supposed to be last week, but was delayed because of the weather. DFA has not issued a grant agreement. Mr. Archuleta stated that he has been in contact with Scott Wright of DFA. The San Joaquín del Río de Chama Land Grant will serve as the fiscal agent. There is a 3 month, 90 day timeline from the time that the environmental assessment is issued and is considered good. Land grants will be named in the environmental assessment so that they can seek funds from the environment department for asbestos abatement and other work. Councilor Martínez stated that the land grants needs to sit down and prioritize and wants Mr. Archuleta and Mr. Baca to set up a meeting with UNM business school to look at marketing plan.

### **19. Discussion and Possible Action on Laguna del Campo Update**

The Tierra Amarilla Land Grant, NMLGC, NM Legal Aid, the Department of Game and Fish and the Office of the State Engineer discussed water rights and the Laguna del Campo. Option 1 is as is, where Laguna del Campo is transferred with water rights as is to the TALG and Option 2, which NM Game and Fish is advocating, would transfer storage right to land grant on 99 year lease, but hold onto diversion right to protect downstream users (the La Puente acequia). This is an administrative and bureaucratic solution as rights (diversion and storage) are codependent. A meeting to discuss will be scheduled.

### **20. Discussion and Possible Action on Land Grant Registry Update**

Mr. Baca stated that update requests have been sent out to all land grants operating as political subdivisions of the State of New Mexico. The following has been submitted to the Registry:

- Anton Chico Land Grant - Results of the election of April 1, 2019; membership and organization of board
- Cubero Land Grant - list of board members of the Cubero Land Grant as of August 2020
- Merced de los Pueblos de Tierra Amarilla - Results of the election of November 10, 2019 and membership and organization of the board

### **21. Discussion and Possible Action on Land Grant Studies Program Update**

LM García y Griego discussed a workshop for the proposed Land Grant Institute. With M. Archuleta, he met with the assistant vice president for research and new associate vice president for research to discuss the proposal for an institute. Mr. Archuleta commented that the LGSP partnered with several land grants and Ancestral Lands and submitted an application to outdoor recreation division of the economic development department for \$25,000. The application opportunity only had \$75,000 in total funds. The LGSP applied for a larger multi-grant project and concentrated on projects with existing capital monies. The collaborating grants included Tajique, Manzano, Tome, and Chililí. Tajique will fund an additional week and LGSP plans to pursue more monies to extend the crew. A 50/50 match is required and was made up with in kind contributions from Ancestral Lands, LGSP, and NMLGC. The applying land grants are matching at with \$900 in snacks, supplies and volunteer hours. Dr. Baca reported that the LGSP also supported work of Nightline crew with access to archives for filming. After pressing archives in

Santa Fe and Albuquerque, access was granted for UNM’s Center for Southwest Research, but was denied for the State Archives and Records Center, which holds the original documents submitted by land grants to the Surveyor General. He also reported that the Ben Lujan Leadership Institute at New Mexico Highlands was awarded \$30-40,000 for HM 31, which provided for acequias and land grants to be included in education.

**22. Discussion and Possible Action on Correspondence**

In the packet is a letter from the NMLGC to LM García y Griego asking for updates on his research. Dr. García y Griego asked when was last time that the Council funded his research. Mr. Archuleta responded that in FY 2020, the NMLGC paid \$1,000 (1% effort) as part of the P.I. salary. Research funding is also offset by summer salary, paid sometimes by LGSP, other times by NMLGC. He committed to pull this together for discussion. Dr. García y Griego stated that there no need to sign and send letter and he is happy to provide the research. While councilors may want a regular update, research and writing does not proceed on this schedule. For today, he has prepared inconsistencies in the adjudication process discussed by surveyors general in annual reports.

**23. Discussion and Possible Action on Staff Assignments**

None.

**24. Public Comments – Discussion only**

None.

**25. Miscellaneous Announcements**

CFRP panel was finally seated and is moving forward with applications.

**26. Date and Location for October 2020 Council Meeting**

The October 2020 Council meeting will take place virtually on October 22, 2020 at 10:00am.

**27. Adjournment**

Councilor Martínez 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 2:01pm MDT.

**Approved:**

\_\_\_\_\_

Chair

\_\_\_\_\_

Date