

**MINUTES
for the
SECOND MEETING
of the
LAND GRANT COMMITTEE**

**July 12-13, 2023
New Mexico Highlands University
Student Union Ballroom
800 National Avenue
Las Vegas**

The second meeting of the Land Grant Committee was called to order by Representative Kristina Ortez, chair, on July 12, 2023 at 10:01 a.m. in the Student Union Ballroom at New Mexico Highlands University (NMHU) in Las Vegas.

Present

Rep. Kristina Ortez, Chair
Rep. Miguel P. García
Rep. Susan K. Herrera
Rep. Stefani Lord (7/12)
Sen. Antonio Maestas
Rep. Matthew McQueen (7/12)
Rep. Tanya Mirabal Moya

Absent

Sen. Leo Jaramillo, Vice Chair
Sen. Crystal R. Diamond
Sen. Gerald Ortiz y Pino
Sen. Shannon D. Pinto
Sen. Joshua A. Sanchez

Advisory Members

Rep. Harry Garcia (7/12)
Sen. Linda M. Lopez (7/12)
Rep. Rod Montoya (7/12)
Sen. Elizabeth "Liz" Stefanics (7/12)

Rep. Eliseo Lee Alcon
Sen. David M. Gallegos
Rep. D. Wonda Johnson
Sen. Bill B. O'Neill
Rep. Luis M. Terrazas

Guest Legislator

Rep. Debra M. Sariñana

(Attendance dates are noted for members not present for the entire meeting.)

Staff

Cecilia Martinez, Legislative Council Service (LCS)
Sara Wiedmaier, LCS
Mark Edwards, LCS
Erika Falance, LCS

Guests

The guest list is in the meeting file.

Handouts

Handouts and other written testimony are in the meeting file and posted on the legislature's website.

References to Webcast

The time reference noted next to each agenda item in this document is cross-referenced to the webcast of the committee meeting, which can be found at www.nmlegis.gov, under the "Webcast" tab. The presentations made and committee discussions for agenda items can be found on the recorded webcast for this meeting.

Wednesday, July 12

Welcome and Introductions (10:01 a.m.)

Representative Ortez welcomed members of the committee and the public. Committee members introduced themselves.

Welcome to NMHU (10:12 a.m.)

Dr. Sam Minner, president, NMHU, welcomed the committee to NMHU. Dr. Minner discussed the role of higher education providers in New Mexico and the future of NMHU.

Los Vigiles Land Grant-Merced Updates (10:37 a.m.)

Eddie Quintana, president, Los Vigiles Land Grant-Merced, and Joseph Padilla, secretary, Los Vigiles Land Grant-Merced, provided an overview of the history of the Los Vigiles Land Grant-Merced, as well as current struggles. The presentation can be found here:

<https://www.nmlegis.gov/handouts/LGC%20071223%20Item%202%20Los%20Vigiles%20Land%20GrantMerced%20Update.pdf>.

Lower Gallinas Land Grant-Merced Updates (1:02 p.m.)

Andrew Ortega, secretary, Lower Gallinas Land Grant Council, discussed the history of the Lower Gallinas Land Grant-Merced, as well as recent organizational changes.

Current Status of Land Grants (1:47 p.m.)

Arturo Archuleta, program manager, Land Grant Council/Land Grant Studies Program, University of New Mexico, provided an update on the Land Grant Council's programs and policies.

New Mexico Acequia Association (NMAA) Updates (2:45 p.m.)

Paula Garcia, executive director, NMAA, provided an update on acequia policy and the status of the NMAA's programs. The presentation can be found here:

<https://www.nmlegis.gov/handouts/LGC%20071223%20Item%205%20New%20Mexico%20Acequia%20Association%20Updates.pdf>.

Approval of Minutes (3:44 p.m.)

Upon a motion made by Senator Maestas, seconded by Representative Mirabal Moya and without any objections, the committee approved the minutes of the June 9, 2023 meeting.

Public Comment (3:45 p.m.)

A list of individuals making public comment is available in the meeting file.

Recess

The meeting recessed at 4:01 p.m.

Thursday, July 13

Tour of Los Vigiles Land Grant-Merced

The members of the committee toured the Los Vigiles Land Grant-Merced.

Adjournment

There being no further business before the committee, the meeting adjourned at 2:00 p.m.