

**MINUTES  
of the  
SIXTH MEETING  
of the  
SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY AND TELECOMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE**

**November 12, 2025  
State Capitol, Room 307  
Santa Fe**

The sixth meeting of the Science, Technology and Telecommunications Committee was called to order on Wednesday, November 12, 2025, by Senator Heather Berghmans, vice chair, at 9:47 a.m. in Room 307 of the State Capitol in Santa Fe.

**Present**

Sen. Heather Berghmans, Vice Chair  
Rep. Joy Garratt  
Rep. Anita Gonzales  
Rep. Tara L. Lujan  
Rep. Alan T. Martinez  
Sen. Harold Pope  
Sen. Anthony L. Thornton

**Absent**

Rep. Debra M. Sariñana, Chair  
Rep. Joshua N. Hernandez  
Sen. Michael Padilla  
Sen. William P. Soules  
Sen. Nicole Tobiassen

**Advisory Members**

Rep. Janelle Anyanonu  
Sen. Jay C. Block  
Rep. Charlotte Little  
Sen. Linda M. Trujillo

Rep. Gail Armstrong  
Rep. Christine Chandler  
Rep. Meredith A. Dixon  
Rep. Yanira Gurrola  
Sen. Larry R. Scott  
Rep. Sarah Silva  
Sen. James G. Townsend

**Staff**

Mark Edwards, Bill Drafter, Legislative Council Service (LCS)  
William Mason, Staff, LCS  
Joanne Montague, Senior Legislative Librarian, LCS

**Minutes Approval**

Because the committee will not meet again this year, the minutes for this meeting have not been officially approved by the committee.

**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](http://www.nmlegis.gov), under the "Webcast" tab. The presentations made and committee discussions for agenda items can be found under the recorded webcast for this meeting.

## **Wednesday, November 12**

### **Welcome and Introductions (9:47 a.m.)**

Senator Berghmans welcomed everyone to the meeting. Committee members and staff introduced themselves.

### **Department of Information Technology (DoIT) Update and Reporting Tool (9:50 a.m.)**

Manny Barreras, secretary, DoIT, and Jason Habedank, deputy secretary, DoIT, discussed how management of information technology projects is changing to incorporate modern management practices known as "agile management" and some of the expected benefits of that change. The presentation materials can be found here:

<https://www.nmlegis.gov/Committee/Handouts?CommitteeCode=STTC&Date=11/12/2025&ItemNumber=2>.

### **Information Technology Best Practices (11:31 a.m.)**

Waldo Jaquith, government delivery manager, U.S. Digital Response, gave a presentation on the benefits of using agile management practices for information technology projects and how agile management compares to the traditional "waterfall" management approach in achieving project success for government procurement of software and gave policy recommendations to implement those practices. The presentation materials can be found here:

<https://www.nmlegis.gov/Committee/Handouts?CommitteeCode=STTC&Date=11/12/2025&ItemNumber=3>.

### **Approval of Minutes (12:18 p.m.)**

On a motion duly made and seconded, the minutes of the October 23-24, 2025 meeting were approved without changes.

### **Impacts of Federal Budgeting on Research Programs at State Institutions (1:04 p.m.)**

Lique Coolen, Ph.D., vice president for research, New Mexico Institute of Mining and Technology, outlined the effects of recent changes to the federal budget on research at New Mexico's state research institutions. The presentation materials can be found here:

<https://www.nmlegis.gov/Committee/Handouts?CommitteeCode=STTC&Date=11/12/2025&ItemNumber=4>.

**Effects of 2025 Federal Budget Reconciliation on New Mexico and Prospects for Reducing Electricity Costs (2:00 p.m.)**

Rebecca "Puck" Stair, director, Energy Conservation and Management Division, Energy, Minerals and Natural Resources Department, presented on the energy impacts of the 2025 federal budget reconciliation, discussed other energy cost drivers and presented policy recommendations to counteract possible rising costs. The presentation materials can be found here:

<https://www.nmlegis.gov/Committee/Handouts?CommitteeCode=STTC&Date=11/12/2025&ItemNumber=5>.

**Adjournment**

There being no further business before the committee, the meeting adjourned at 2:58 p.m.