

**MINUTES  
of the  
SECOND MEETING  
of the  
TRANSPORTATION INFRASTRUCTURE REVENUE SUBCOMMITTEE**

**July 24-25, 2023  
Center of Recreational Excellence (CORE) Banquet Room  
4827 N. Lovington Highway  
Hobbs**

The second meeting of the Transportation Infrastructure Revenue Subcommittee was called to order by Representative Dayan Hochman-Vigil, Vice Chair, on July 24, 2023 at 8:55 a.m. at the CORE Banquet Room in Hobbs.

**Present**

Rep. Dayan Hochman-Vigil, Vice Chair  
Rep. Anthony Allison  
Rep. Cathrynn N. Brown  
Rep. Art De La Cruz  
Rep. Joy Garratt  
Rep. Jenifer Jones  
Rep. Randall T. Pettigrew

**Absent**

Sen. Bill Tallman, Chair  
Rep. Harry Garcia  
Sen. Roberto "Bobby" J. Gonzales  
Sen. Ron Griggs  
Sen. George K. Muñoz  
Sen. Pat Woods

**Advisory Members**

Rep. Gail Armstrong  
Rep. Kathleen Cates  
Sen. David M. Gallegos  
Rep. Pamelya Herndon  
Sen. Shannon D. Pinto (7/24)

Sen. Craig W. Brandt  
Rep. Patricia A. Lundstrom  
Rep. Willie D. Madrid  
Rep. Rod Montoya  
Rep. G. Andrés Romero

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

**Staff**

D. Martin Fisher, Staff Attorney, Legislative Council Service (LCS)  
Sara Wiedmaier, Researcher, LCS  
Cecilia Martinez, Committee Coordinator, 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 subcommittee meeting, which can be found at [www.nmlegis.gov](http://www.nmlegis.gov), under the "Webcast" tab. The presentations made and subcommittee discussions for agenda items can be found on the recorded webcast for this meeting.

## **Monday, July 24**

### **Welcome and Introductions (8:55 a.m.)**

Representative Hochman-Vigil welcomed members of the subcommittee and the public, and members introduced themselves.

### **Department of Transportation (DOT) District 2 Engineer Report (9:02 a.m.)**

Michael Smelker, P.E., assistant District 2 engineer, DOT, gave an overview of the infrastructure improvement projects and their financial status within District 2. Mr. Smelker also provided information on planned projects within District 2. The presentation can be found here:

[https://www.nmlegis.gov/handouts/TIRS%20072423%20Item%201%2007-24-23\\_TIRS%20Meeting%20-%20DISTRICT%202%20PRESENTATION\\_FSanchez\\_MSmelker.pdf](https://www.nmlegis.gov/handouts/TIRS%20072423%20Item%201%2007-24-23_TIRS%20Meeting%20-%20DISTRICT%202%20PRESENTATION_FSanchez_MSmelker.pdf)

### **DOT District 5 Report (10:34 a.m.)**

Paul Brasher, P.E., District 5 engineer, DOT, presented an overview of infrastructure improvement projects and their financial status within District 5. Mr. Brasher also provided information on the planned projects within District 5. The presentation can be found here:

[https://www.nmlegis.gov/handouts/TIRS%20072423%20Item%202%2007-24-23\\_TIRS%20Meeting%20-%20DISTRICT%205%20PRESENTATION\\_PBrasher.pdf](https://www.nmlegis.gov/handouts/TIRS%20072423%20Item%202%2007-24-23_TIRS%20Meeting%20-%20DISTRICT%205%20PRESENTATION_PBrasher.pdf)

### **Broadband Incorporation into Roads, Interfacing with the DOT and Rights of Way (11:34 a.m.)**

Kelly Schlegel, director, Office of Broadband Access and Expansion (OBAE), Department of Information Technology, relayed information on funding and the OBAE's collaboration with the DOT. Ms. Schlegel described proposed legislation that the OBAE endorses. The presentation can be found here:

<https://www.nmlegis.gov/handouts/TIRS%20072423%20Item%203%20Broadband%20pres%20-%20Transportation%20Subcommittee.pdf>

### **Atlas Energy Solutions' Dune Express Sand Conveyor and Other Potential Applications of Its Technology (1:19 p.m.)**

John Turner, president and chief financial officer, Atlas Energy Solutions, and Chris Scholla, chief supply chain officer, Atlas Energy Solutions, presented the history and current status of Atlas Energy Solutions' construction of the Dune Express. The presentation can be found here:

<https://www.nmlegis.gov/handouts/TIRS%20072423%20Item%204%20Atlas%20Public%20Presentation%20PDF.pdf>

**Waste Isolation Pilot Plant — Safely Disposing of the Nation's Defense-Generated Transuranic Waste (2:19 p.m.)**

James Mason, institutional affairs manager, National TRU Program, United States Department of Energy, discussed the safety requirements and precautions that the Waste Isolation Pilot Plant employs while transporting defense transuranic waste. The presentation can be found here:

<https://www.nmlegis.gov/handouts/TIRS%20072423%20Item%205%20Mason%20Transportation%20Final.pdf>.

**Ports-to-Plains Corridor (3:22 p.m.)**

Lauren Garduno, president and chief executive officer, Ports-to-Plains Alliance, presented on the Ports-to-Plains Corridor relationship and history within Texas and New Mexico. Mr. Garduno also covered the recent financial impact of the Ports-to-Plains system as well as infrastructure spending information. The presentation materials can be found here:

<https://www.nmlegis.gov/Committee/Handouts?CommitteeCode=TIRS&Date=7/24/2023&ItemNumber=6>.

**The Future of Road Safety in Southeast New Mexico (4:30 p.m.)**

Michael Smith, managing director, Permian Road Safety Coalition, discussed road safety concerns in southern New Mexico and the role of first responders in preventing fatal accidents. Mr. Smith presented information about several infrastructure projects and funding opportunities to address road safety issues. The presentation can be found here:

<https://www.nmlegis.gov/handouts/TIRS%20072423%20Item%204%20PRSC%20NM%20Testimony.pdf>.

**Approval of Minutes (5:10 p.m.)**

Upon a motion made by Representative Pettigrew and seconded by Representative De La Cruz, and without any objections, the subcommittee approved the minutes of the June 12, 2023 meeting.

**Public Comment (5:11 p.m.)**

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

**Recess**

The committee recessed at 5:17 p.m.

**Tuesday, July 25**

**Tour of Jal's Dangerous Roads, New Mexico Highway 128 and Permian Trucking Traffic**

Stephen Aldridge, mayor, city of Jal, gave a tour of roads in Jal for subcommittee members and staff.

**Tour of Urenco USA**

Members of the subcommittee and staff toured the Urenco USA uranium processing facility.

**Adjournment**

There being no further business before the subcommittee, the meeting adjourned at 3:00 p.m.