

**Land Grant Committee**  
August 29, 2017  
San Miguel del Bado Senior Center

San Miguel del Bado Land Grant Update

Presenter: Joe Benito Chavez, President

- 1) Welcome
  - a) Land grant Interim Legislative Committee, LGC, LG Studies
  - b) Attendees from other sister land grants
  - c) Local attendees
- 2) Physical Surroundings
  - a) Three bathroom locations
  - b) No cell reception, but welcome to use the landline in small office
- 3) Introduction SMdBLG Board of Trustees
- 4) Publicly thank LGC, Dr. Garcia Y Griego and Arturo Archuleta- for their help w/ our election problems.
- 5) Background, SMdBLG
  - a) Petition by Lorenzo Marquez (handout)
  - b) Originally SMdBLG consisted of 315,300 (handout, John Shaw 1879 Survey)
  - c) Initial settlement town of San Miguel
    - i) Over decades in 19th century new communities were settled
  - d) Other land grants sprung from San Miguel del Bado Land Grant
    - (1) Los Trigos, 1815
    - (2) Anton Chico 1817
    - (3) Tecolote, 1824
    - (4) Las Vegas, 1835
  - e) U.S. V. Sandoval Supreme Court Decision, May 27, 1897
    - i) Resulted in loss of 310,000 acres
    - ii) Six other land grants also lost approximate one million acres
    - iii) Was not even publicized in newspapers. Obviously this decision was and remains to be very important to us, but back East?
- 6) Challenges for our land Grants
  - a) Complying with the various existing laws
    - i) Open Meetings Act
    - ii) Purchasing Act
    - iii) Audit Act
    - iv) Election laws
  - b) Complying with Chapter 49, our land grant law
    - i) The San Miguel del Bado Land Grant is the “Poster Child” of what can go terribly wrong when land grant elections are not held in accordance with the requirements of the election provisions of Chapter 49

- (1) Litigation in District Court stated with our land grant election of August 21, 2012 and ended with the most recent election of April 8, 2017.
  - (a) The business of our land grant came to a stand-still during almost 5 years of litigation
  - (b) The attorney cost was almost \$22,000 for our attorney
  - (c) El Valle senior citizens have been deprived of services previously provide at this senior citizens center
  - (d) Opportunity costs as a result of ligation include failure to apply for Capital Outlay funding
- (2) I read with great interest this Committee's 2017 Approved Work Plan, specifically:
  - (a) Examine how to structure interim authorities if elections are challenged
  - (b) The potential for election assistance from the LGC or Office of the AG
  - (c) Training opportunities and needs for grant board members
- (3) Heirship issue
  - (a) Heir defined as "...descendent of the original grantees..."
  - (b) Must be an heir to become board member or to vote for candidates running for the board
  - (c) Land grant required to compile voter registration book
  - (d) SMdBLG made some progress to determine "provisional heirs" to get us through this last election
  - (e) In less than two years we will hold another election for two board members
  - (f) We are asking for thoughts, guidance, advice from other land grants, this committee, LGC or anyone else who can tells us how we are to comply with these requirements.
- 7) Title Companies require quitclaim deeds from our land grant on all sales of property within our LG boundaries and may began to require District Court involvement. Are other land grants facing similar issues? How are other land grants handling quit title issues when the land grant is named as possible defendant?
- 8) SMdBLG has three cemeteries on BLM land (Two in San Miguel/Ribera area and one in North San Isidro). All cemeteries three are "managed" by the Church. Local Church official in San Miguel/ Ribera have tentatively given the okay for SMdBLG to take the lead in applying to the BLM to gain ownership of the cemeteries. We are awaiting a committee's decision from North San Isidro. (Discuss)
- 9) Mark Edwards advised me to give this Committee a "Sense of Place"
  - a) Geographic vs sociological
  - b) We, aqui en el valle (here in the valley) and other rural communities pride themselves in being able to solve our own problems, but unless we admit that
  - c) "Houston we have a problem"
  - d) We cannot pretend that this problem only exists in faraway places, Wisconsin, Kentucky or large cities such as Chicago, Los Angeles or Albuquerque
  - e) A drug problem exists in our valley – I don't pretend to have the solution, but we do need to recognize the problem before asking for help and attempting to find a solution.
- 10) Questions,

PETITION.

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To the Lieutenant Colonel and Civil and Military Governor:

I, Lorenzo Marquez, resident of this town of Santa Fe, for myself and in the name of fifty-one men accompanying me, appear before your excellency and state that in consideration of having a very large family, as well myself as those accompanying me, though we have some land in this town, it is not sufficient for our support, on account of its smallness and the great scarcity of water, which, owing to the great number of people, we cannot all enjoy, therefore we have entered a tract of land on the Rio Pecos, vacant and unsettled, at the place commonly called El Vado, and where there is room enough not only for us, the fifty-one who ask it, but also for every one in the province not supplied. And its boundaries are on the north the Rio de la Vaca, from the place called the Rancheria to the Agua Caliente, on the south the Cañon Elanco, on the east the Caesta, with the Little Hills of Bernal, and on the west the place commonly called the Guano-which tract we ask be granted us in the name of our sovereign, whom may God preserve!, and among these fifty-one men petitioning are thirteen Indians, and among them all are twenty-five firearms, and they are the same persons who appear in the subjoined list, which I present in due form; and we unanimously and harmoniously, as one person, do promise to inclose ourselves in a plaza well fortified with bulwarks and towers, and to exert ourselves to supply all the firearms and ammunition that it may be possible for us to procure. And as we trust in a compliance with our petition, we request and pray that your excellency be pleased to direct that we be placed in possession in the name of his Royal Majesty our sovereign, whom may God preserve! And we declare in ~~and~~ full legal form that we do not act with dissimulation, &c.

(signed)

LORENZO MARQUEZ,  
for himself and the petitioners.

*Exhibit "B"*

Peticion.

Gov. Mte. Coronel. Gov. Politico y Militar.  
Donso Marques vesino de esta villa  
de Sta. Fe por si y en voz de cincuenta y un  
hombres qe me acompañan, ante V. frasco,  
y digo señor: que en atencion á hallarme  
con mi familia aquí yo como los  
qe me acompañan, aunque todos tenemos  
en esta villa algunos pedazos de tierra, que  
son suficientes para nuestra manutencion,  
asi por pocas como por la mucha escasez  
de agua qe hay, y la mucha dumbre de gen-  
te, que todos no podemos tener el goze de ella,  
por lo qe: tenemos registrado un sitio en  
el rio de Pecos, el qual se halla yermo y despo-  
llado, en donde comunmente llaman el Vado,  
en donde hay amplitud, no solo para los  
cincuenta y uno qe pedimos, si no es tam-  
bien para todos quantos en la provincia han-  
ga desacomodados; y son sus linderos por  
el norte el rio de la Baca desde donde lla-  
man la Rancheria, hasta el agua caliente,  
por el sur el Cañon Blanco, por el oriente

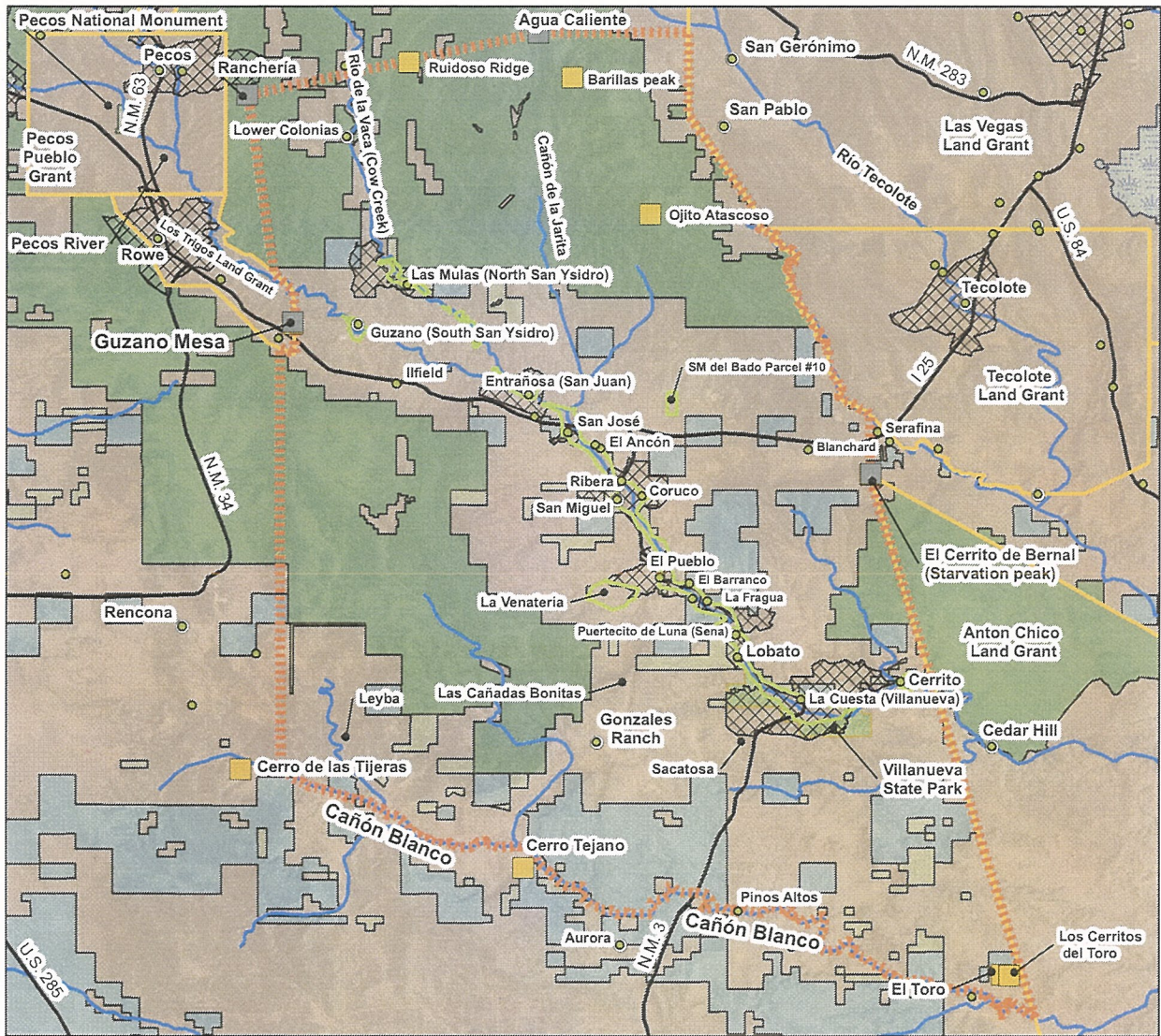
La Buena, con los Territos de Bernal, y por el  
frente el paraje q<sup>o</sup>. comunmente llaman  
el Guisano; cuyo sitio pedimos se nos de  
merced en nombre de Ntra. cmo. qe. D<sup>o</sup>. G<sup>o</sup>. y  
en esto cincuenta y un hombres qe. pedimos  
se incluyeren tres quinientos, y entre todos se  
cuentan veinte y cinco hañnas de fuego, y  
son las personas qe. constan en las adjuntas  
listas qe. dividamente presento, y todos unani-  
mes y conformes as unai prometemos el amu-  
rallarnos en una plaza bien fortificada  
con baluartes, y torreones, y enforzarnos a  
poner todas las hañnas de fuego, y muni-  
ciones, qe. nos sea posible; y por que esperamos  
la consecucion de nuestra solicitud a N<sup>o</sup>. S<sup>o</sup>.  
pedimos y suplicamos sea muy servido de  
mandar seamos posesionados en el nombre  
de la real sacra Magd. de Ntra. soberano qe.  
D<sup>o</sup>. G<sup>o</sup>. y juramos en todas formas de derecho  
no ser de malicia los Comeros de los presen-  
tantes, y por mi Lorisio Marquez  
Auto. Amalavillas de Sta. Fe capiba. de







# San Miguel del Bado Land Grant Traditional Use Boundaries



**Boundaries and Features**

- 1903 Survey Patented Bound. (5,098 ac.)
- Traditional Use Boundaries
- 1879 Survey (315,516 ac.)
- Boundaries of Patented Land Grants
- Census 2010 Designated Place
- Water Channel
- Road
- Historic Landmark
- Populated Place

**Ownership Classes**

- State
- State Park
- Private
- BLM
- Forest Service
- Fish & Wildlife
- Nat'l Park Serv.

UNM LGSP  
11/3/2012



The traditional use boundaries estimated for the San Miguel del Bado (originally San Miguel del Vado) grant, founded in 1794, corresponds to its historic boundaries, following the 1879 survey, minus territory assumed to be transferred to daughter grants Los Trigos (1815), Tecolote (1824) and Las Vegas (1835). All common lands were stripped from this grant by U.S. v. Sandoval 167 U.S.S. 278 (1897) in the final boundaries of the patent.







Boundaries of Tracts 1, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10. San Miguel del Bado Grant

Tract No.	Area	Boundaries	Remarks
Tract No. 1	134.5	...	...
Tract No. 2	125.87	...	...
Tract No. 3	205.24	...	...
Tract No. 4	143	...	...
Tract No. 5	155.26	...	...
Tract No. 6	128	...	...
Tract No. 7	555.26	...	...
Tract No. 8	128	...	...
Tract No. 9	143	...	...
Tract No. 10	125.87	...	...

PLAT  
of the  
San Miguel del Bado Grant

Tracts 1, 3, 4, 5,  
6, 7, 8, 9 & 10

in San Miguel County, New Mexico.

as surveyed by  
Wendell V. Hall  
U.S. Deputy Sur.

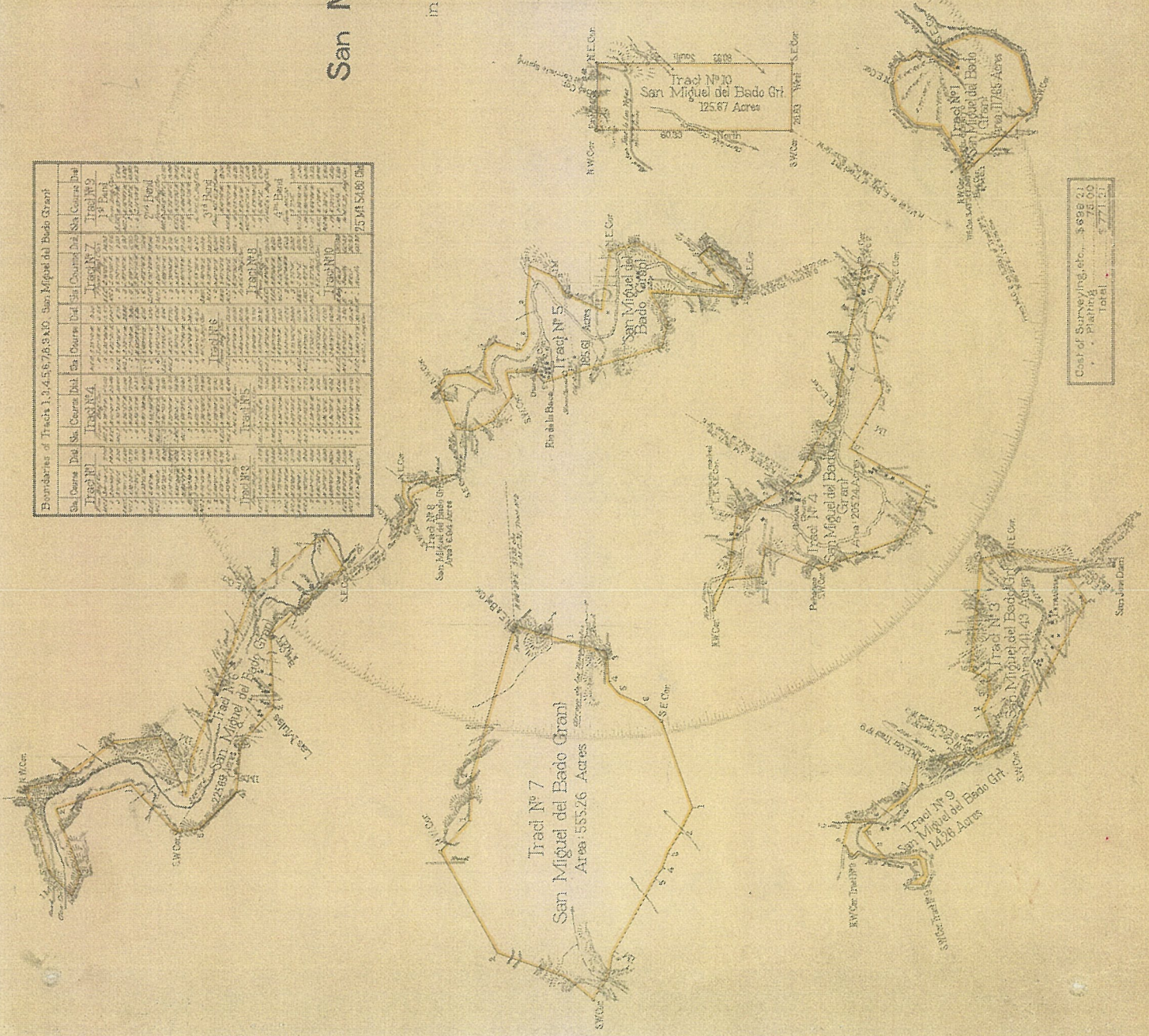
under the Contract No. 382, dated November 5, 1902

Scale: 20 chs. = 1 inch

*Witness my hand and the seal of the U.S. Surveyor General's Office at Santa Fe, N.M., this 14th day of May, 1904.*  
Charles B. ...  
U.S. Surveyor General

Certificate

The field notes of the survey of the San Miguel del Bado Grant, Tracts 1, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10 in which this plat is chiefly conformable, have been examined and approved and the U.S. Surveyor General's Office Santa Fe, N.M., May 14, 1904



Cost of Surveying, etc.,	\$998.71
Platting	75.00
Total	\$1,073.71