



**MINUTES
of the
FOUR-HUNDRED-ELEVENTH MEETING
of the
LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL**

**May 1, 2023
State Capitol, Room 307
Santa Fe**

The four-hundred-eleventh meeting of the Legislative Council was called to order by Senator Mimi Stewart, co-chair, on May 1, 2023 at 1:35 p.m. in Room 307 of the State Capitol in Santa Fe.

Present

Rep. Javier Martínez, Co-Chair
Sen. Mimi Stewart, Co-Chair
Rep. Gail Armstrong
Sen. Gregory A. Baca
Rep. Gail Chasey
Sen. Steven P. Neville
Rep. Greg Nibert
Sen. Michael Padilla
Rep. Andrea Romero
Sen. Benny Shendo, Jr.
Rep. Reena Szczepanski
Sen. Peter Wirth

Special Advisory Members Present

Rep. Eliseo Lee Alcon
Sen. Stuart Ingle

Absent

Sen. Craig W. Brandt
Sen. Katy M. Duhigg
Rep. T. Ryan Lane
Rep. Patricia Roybal Caballero

Special Advisory Members Absent

Rep. Cathrynn N. Brown
Sen. Pete Campos
Rep. Christine Chandler
Rep. Joanne J. Ferrary
Rep. Doreen Y. Gallegos
Rep. Joy Garratt
Rep. Susan K. Herrera
Rep. Dayan Hochman-Vigil
Rep. D. Wonda Johnson
Rep. Alan T. Martinez
Rep. Matthew McQueen
Rep. Randall T. Pettigrew
Rep. William "Bill" R. Rehm
Sen. Antoinette Sedillo Lopez
Rep. Nathan P. Small
Rep. Elizabeth "Liz" Thomson
Rep. Christine Trujillo

Staff

Raúl E. Burciaga, Director, Legislative Council Service (LCS)
Amy Chavez-Romero, Assistant Director for Legislative Affairs, LCS
Shawna Casebier, Assistant Director for Drafting Services, LCS
Anesa Serna-Espinoza, Assistant Director for Administration, LCS
Jeret Fleetwood, Project Coordinator, LCS
Erin Bond, Researcher, LCS
Nancy Martinez, Research Assistant, LCS
Sara Wiedmaier, Research Assistant, LCS

Monday, May 1**Approval of Minutes**

On a motion made, seconded and passed, the council approved the minutes of the January 16, 2023 meeting as submitted.

Interim Committee Appointments

The speaker, president pro tempore and the council (as appropriate) announced appointments to statutory and council-created committees. As an addendum, a revised list of 2023 interim committee appointments is attached to these minutes.

The council authorized the speaker and president pro tempore to make any necessary adjustments to interim committee memberships.

Mr. Burciaga discussed the various categories of interim committee membership. He explained that:

- voting members may make motions to the committee, vote on motions and are used to establish a quorum;
- designees are unique to the Legislative Finance Committee (LFC) and Revenue Stabilization and Tax Policy Committee (RSTP) and are not permitted to vote unless doing so in place of a voting member;
- advisory members are also nonvoting members of committees;
- special advisory members are nonvoting members of the Legislative Council who are authorized to receive per diem and mileage reimbursement; and
- standing advisory members are members of the House Appropriations and Finance Committee and Senate Finance Committee not appointed as voting members or designees to the LFC, or members of the House Taxation and Revenue Committee and Senate Tax, Business and Transportation Committee not appointed as voting members or designees of the RSTP, and they are authorized to receive per diem and mileage reimbursement for attendance at meetings of the LFC or RSTP to which they have been appointed as standing advisory members.

Mr. Burciaga also noted that, per a change to statute, voting members of the Legislative Council could serve as voting members on council-created or council-appointed committees.

The council emphasized the importance of members informing staff of their intention to attend meetings by using one of their five extra days and responding to staff about meeting attendance.

Interim Orientation and Training

Mr. Burciaga discussed a planned orientation for all legislators that would be focused on interim activities and issues. For example, he noted that new members tend not to know how to fill out vouchers for per diem and mileage reimbursement. He said that in- and out-of-state travel for conferences, constituent services by the chief clerks' offices and LCS research capabilities would also be discussed.

Use of State Capitol

Mr. Burciaga explained that a number of organizations, including several associated with schools, are regular users of the State Capitol for events such as model legislature and Model United Nations. He also noted that the audio/visual equipment in each committee room will be upgraded over the next several months. As such, several interim committees might not be able to use their normal meeting rooms for several months. Mr. Burciaga also explained that staff was receiving an increasing number of requests for use of State Capitol facilities, which was in turn creating additional overtime work for Legislative Building Services staff. He indicated that staff would return to the council with a proposed revision to the use-of-chambers policy that might include some type of nominal fee for the use of State Capitol facilities.

In response to questions from the council, Mr. Burciaga explained that organizations associated with all three branches of government, as well as several other organizations, typically use the State Capitol.

Request for Proposals

Mr. Burciaga explained that House Bill 1 (2023) contained funding to hire a consulting entity to consider the feasibility of and make recommendations to the Legislative Council on the logistics and resources needed for district staff offices and operations of the legislature. He explained that while direction from the council was necessary on requirements to be included in the request for proposals (RFP) to be approved by the council, RFPs are kept confidential by LCS staff until they are issued.

The speaker and president pro tempore suggested that staff working with a small group of legislators, to be appointed by the speaker and president pro tempore, develop recommendations for approval of the RFP by the council at a later meeting.

Staff Reports

Mr. Burciaga explained that proponents of House Joint Memorial 2 (2023), regarding installation of a plaque in the rotunda recognizing the one hundredth anniversary of the passage of the Nineteenth Amendment to the United States Constitution, would like to unveil the plaque at an event on June 2. He noted that while this is normally handled by a capitol recognition subcommittee, council approval would allow him to work with those proponents.

On a motion made, seconded and passed, the council directed Mr. Burciaga to work with groups associated with House Joint Memorial 2.

Mr. Burciaga also noted that former Governor Jerry Apodaca had recently passed away and would be lying in state in the rotunda on June 15.

Mr. Burciaga also explained that work was in process on a state-of-the-art, fully integrated bill drafting, committee and chamber system, called the Roundhouse Legislation and Publication System (RLPS).

Mr. Burciaga noted that increased funding would allow the LCS to hire more interim committee staff in order to shift the workload from bill drafters, allowing them to focus more on bill drafting.

Finally, Mr. Burciaga noted his intention to hold an additional orientation in late fall for members to better understand the various parts of legislation.

The council noted the retirement of longtime LFC Director David Abbey.

Adjournment

There being no further business before the council, the meeting adjourned at 2:57 p.m.