

**2021 PROPOSED
WORK PLAN AND MEETING SCHEDULE
for the
LAND GRANT COMMITTEE**

Members

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Sen. Bill B. O'Neill

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Sen. Shannon D. Pinto
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Work Plan

The Land Grant Committee was created by the New Mexico Legislative Council on May 3, 2021. As time permits, the committee proposes to review the following topics.

A. Strengthening Governance Capacity

1. the potential to establish recurring revenue streams for land grants-mercedes;
2. the development of programs at the University of New Mexico (UNM) School of Law for land grants-mercedes and acequia associations, including:
 - a) an examination of client governance needs versus potential curriculum development; and
 - b) a status report on the development of the Community Governance Attorney program;
3. the management consultation and intervention caseload for acequias;
4. coordinated capital outlay funding for priority expenditures;
5. development of a training program for land grant-merced board members in areas of governmental finance, contracting, land use planning and economic development;
6. status reports from the Guadalupe Hidalgo Treaty Division of the Office of the Attorney General;

7. reports regarding programs to develop the next generation of leaders for land grant and acequia communities, including the higher education curriculum development work being done at New Mexico Highlands University and the youth training programs instituted by the Land Grant Council and the New Mexico Acequia Association (NMAA); and
8. the potential for land grants to partner with state or county agencies to provide youth activity, drug prevention, library and other community enrichment programs.

B. Land and Water Issues

1. natural resource protection options for land grants-mercedes;
2. continued examination of the land divisions at the Cristobal de la Serna land grant and possible changes to the state's capital outlay voucher process to facilitate current efforts to consolidate those properties;
3. continued dialogue with the Department of Game and Fish (DGF), the State Parks Division of the Energy, Minerals and Natural Resources Department and the State Land Office regarding traditional use issues and stocking lakes, including a report on the status of the DGF's cultural uses initiative;
4. updates on land use access and coordination of activities in regard to national forest lands, including the potential for wood clearing for use by land grants-mercedes;
5. updates from the federal Bureau of Land Management regarding cultural and traditional uses on public lands, including the potential for wood clearing for use by land grants-mercedes;
6. continued monitoring of the transfer of the Laguna del Campo stock pond to the Tierra Amarilla Land Grant-Merced and the management plan for the facility;
7. the potential for land grants-mercedes to acquire historic lands as part of the anticipated divestment of land from the Archdiocese of Santa Fe;
8. the potential and requirements for land grant-merced participation in the federal Natural Resources Conservation Service's Environmental Quality Incentives Program, known as EQIP, and other United States Department of Agriculture programs; and
9. a presentation by the new professional surveyor at the Land Grant Council.

C. Economic Development

1. continued monitoring of the development plans for the Piedra Lumbre Visitor Center project near Abiquiu;
2. presentations on building, or rebuilding, farm-based economies at land grants-mercedes and acequias, including:
 - a) the potential for hemp or cannabis production and marketing and associated licensing requirements; and
 - b) possibilities to leverage current land grant- and acequia-oriented classroom and apprenticeship programs;
3. status updates on business development projects at various land grants-mercedes; and
4. a report on the potential wind and solar energy development at Anton Chico Land Grant-Merced and whether the approach taken at that land grant-merced could be a model for similar economic projects at other land grants-mercedes.

D. Reports from Individual Land Grants-Mercedes and Associated Entities

1. reports from various land grants-mercedes;
2. a review of the Land Grant Council's programs and updates from the New Mexico Land Grant Consejo and the UNM Land Grant Studies Program; and
3. reports from the Acequia Commission and the NMAA.

**Land Grant Committee
2021 Proposed Meeting Schedule**

<u>Date</u>	<u>Location</u>
June 16	Video Conference
July 14-15	Espanola
September 23-24	Anton Chico
October 28-29*	Tome
November 12	Santa Fe

*Meetings outside the State Capitol after September 30 require New Mexico Legislative Council approval.