

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

**October 27-28, 2022
Henderson Fine Arts Center
San Juan College
4601 College Boulevard
Farmington**

The fifth meeting of the Science, Technology and Telecommunications Committee was called to order by Senator Michael Padilla, chair, on October 27, 2022 at 10:10 a.m. at the Henderson Fine Arts Center at San Juan College in Farmington.

Present

Sen. Michael Padilla, Chair
Rep. Debra M. Sariñana, Vice Chair
Rep. Eliseo Lee Alcon*
Sen. Shannon D. Pinto
Sen. Harold Pope
Sen. William P. Soules

Absent

Rep. Linda Garcia Benavides
Sen. William F. Burt
Rep. Joy Garratt
Rep. Jason C. Harper
Sen. Mark Moores
Rep. Larry R. Scott

Advisory Members

Sen. Craig W. Brandt
Rep. Kelly K. Fajardo (10/28)
Rep. Randall T. Pettigrew
Rep. Jane E. Powdrell-Culbert
Sen. Nancy Rodriguez (10/28)

Rep. Christine Chandler
Rep. Gail Chasey
Sen. Leo Jaramillo
Sen. Bill B. O'Neill
Rep. Andrea Romero
Rep. Linda Serrato

Guest Legislators

Rep. Anthony Allison
Rep. T. Ryan Lane (10/28)
Rep. Rod Montoya
Sen. William E. Sharer
Rep. James R.J. Strickler

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

*Appointed by the speaker of the house of representatives as a voting member for this meeting only.

Staff

Mark Edwards, Bill Drafter, Legislative Council Service (LCS)
Erin Bond, Researcher, LCS
Ralph Vincent, Systems Consultant, LCS

Guests

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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, under the "Webcast" tab. The presentations made and committee discussions for agenda items can be found on the recorded webcast for this meeting.

Thursday, October 27**Welcome and Introductions (10:10 a.m.)**

Senator Padilla welcomed the committee, and members of the committee and staff introduced themselves.

Welcome and San Juan College Update (10:16 a.m.)

Edward M. DesPlas, executive vice president, San Juan College, welcomed the committee to the campus and provided a brief overview of the activities of the college, including technical growth in the past few years. The presentation can be found here:

<https://www.nmlegis.gov/handouts/STTC%20102722%20Item%201%20San%20Juan%20College%20Update.pdf>.

Approval of Minutes (11:10 a.m.)

Upon a motion made and seconded, and without any objections, the committee approved the minutes of the August 8-9, 2022 meeting and the minutes of the September 1-2, 2022 meeting.

Children, Youth and Families Comprehensive Child Welfare Information System Project Status Update (11:12 a.m.)

Barbara J. Vigil, secretary, Children, Youth and Families Department (CYFD), and Hilari Lipton, senior advisor, office of the secretary, CYFD, provided an overview of the department, CYFD goals and an update of the CYFD project to modernize the Comprehensive Child Welfare Information System. Shannon Barnes, CSG Government Solutions, initially served in the independent verification and validation role and will subsequently serve in the project management role. The presentation materials can be found here:

<https://www.nmlegis.gov/Committee/Handouts?CommitteeCode=STTC&Date=10/27/2022&ItemNumber=2>.

Medicaid Management Information System Replacement Project Status Update (1:21 p.m.)

Kari Armijo, deputy secretary, Human Services Department (HSD); Sean Pearson, chief information officer, Information Technology Division, HSD; and Joseph Tighe, enterprise business manager, HSD, discussed the mission and goals of the HSD and provided a status update for the Medicaid Management Information System Replacement project. The presenters emphasized that the system supports HSD efforts to support over one-half of New Mexico's population through the Medicaid program.

Glidden Martinez, chief information officer, Department of Health; Tim Struck, chief information officer, Aging and Long-Term Services Department; and Sandeep Patel, chief information officer, Early Childhood Education and Care Department, described the coordinated efforts of the departments to integrate data among all health and human services offered by the state of New Mexico. The presentation can be found here:

<https://www.nmlegis.gov/handouts/STTC%20102722%20Item%203%20Medicaid%20Management%20Information%20System%20Replacement%20Project.pdf>.

Department of Information Technology (DoIT) Status Update and Discussion of Effective Approaches for Information Technology Project Oversight (3:10 p.m.)

Peter Mantos, secretary-designate, DoIT, discussed the DoIT's plans for revising the Department of Information Technology Act and the DoIT's hiring and retention challenges and planning in the areas of broadband expansion and cybersecurity. Jessica Hitzman, fiscal analyst, Legislative Finance Committee, discussed strategies of information technology oversight and management and how those strategies are implemented in state government. Ms. Hitzman also included options to implement more legislative oversight of information technology projects. The presentation materials can be found here:

<https://www.nmlegis.gov/Committee/Handouts?CommitteeCode=STTC&Date=10/27/2022&ItemNumber=4>.

Recess

The meeting recessed at 4:04 p.m.

Friday, October 28

Parity of Telecommunications Regulation (9:03 a.m.)

Senator Padilla; Leo Baca, director, Government and Regulatory Affairs, Lumen Technologies, Inc.; and Timothy Kunkleman, public policy director, Government and Regulatory Affairs, Lumen Technologies, Inc., discussed the importance of broadband in the state and proposed amendments to the New Mexico Telecommunications Act. The presentation materials can be found here:

<https://www.nmlegis.gov/Committee/Handouts?CommitteeCode=STTC&Date=10/27/2022&ItemNumber=5>.

Robot Security Technology (9:47 a.m.)

Andy Sanchez, channel partner manager, Team 1st Technologies, LLC (T1T); Dave Dworsky, chief executive officer, T1T; and Rob Salsman, director of business and product development, T1T, demonstrated T1T's security robot and discussed the emerging technology of artificial intelligence-powered robotics. The group discussed the possibilities that these robots could provide security workforce augmentation.

The New Mexico Technology Council and NM IDEA (10:59 a.m.)

Mia Petersen, executive director, New Mexico Technology Council; Leo Baca, president, Board of Directors, NM IDEA; and Jason Espinoza, co-owner, KW Consulting LLC, discussed the work of the New Mexico Technology Council and NM IDEA in their efforts to boost economic development in the state. The group provided recommendations for the state to enhance economic development in the areas of workforce development, access to venture capital funds and other investments that support economic development activities. The presentation can be found here:

<https://www.nmlegis.gov/handouts/STTC%20102722%20Item%207%20New%20Mexico%20Id%20and%20New%20Mexico%20Tech%20Council%20Presentation%20.pdf>.

New Mexico Reforestation Center Status Update (11:35 a.m.)

Collin Haffey, coordinator, Forest and Watershed Health Office, Forestry Division, Energy, Minerals and Natural Resources Department, and Leslie Edgar, associate dean and director, Agricultural Experiment Station, College of Agricultural, Consumer and Environmental Sciences, New Mexico State University, discussed the issues posed this past summer due to forest fires and the resultant threats to the seeds and seedlings that are maintained for the reforestation efforts of the New Mexico Reforestation Center. Mr. Haffey explained that the need for seedlings is more than five million annually and noted that the New Mexico Reforestation Center only has a capacity to replace 300,000 trees per year. The presentation can be found here:

https://www.nmlegis.gov/handouts/STTC%20102722%20Item%208%20Ag%20Experiment%20Station%20and%20EMNRD%20Reforestation%20Center_.pdf.

Public Comment

There was no public comment.

Adjournment

There being no further business before the committee, the meeting adjourned at 12:30 p.m.