

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

**September 1-2, 2022  
Career and Technical Education Center of Hobbs  
801 North Marland Boulevard  
Hobbs**

The fourth meeting of the Science, Technology and Telecommunications Committee was called to order by Representative Debra M. Sariñana, vice chair, on September 1, 2022 at 10:08 a.m. at the Career and Technical Education Center at Hobbs (CTECH).

**Present**

Rep. Debra M. Sariñana, Vice Chair  
Sen. Shannon D. Pinto  
Sen. Harold Pope  
Rep. Larry R. Scott  
Sen. William P. Soules (9/1)

**Absent**

Sen. Michael Padilla, Chair  
Sen. William F. Burt  
Rep. Joy Garratt  
Rep. Jason C. Harper  
Sen. Mark Moores

**Advisory Members**

Rep. Kelly K. Fajardo  
Rep. Randall T. Pettigrew  
Rep. Jane E. Powdrell-Culbert  
Sen. Nancy Rodriguez

Rep. Eliseo Lee Alcon  
Sen. Craig W. Brandt  
Rep. Christine Chandler  
Rep. Gail Chasey  
Sen. Leo Jaramillo  
Sen. Bill B. O'Neill  
Rep. Andrea Romero  
Rep. Linda Serrato

**Guest Legislators**

Rep. Cathrynn N. Brown  
Sen. Crystal R. Diamond (9/1)  
Sen. Gay G. Kernan

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

**Staff**

Mark Edwards, Bill Drafter, Legislative Council Service (LCS)  
Sabina Gaynor, Staff Attorney, LCS  
Ralph Vincent, Systems Consultant, 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 committee meeting, which can be found at [www.nmlegis.gov](http://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, September 1**

### **Welcome and Introductions (10:08 a.m.)**

Representative Sariñana welcomed the committee, and members of the committee and staff introduced themselves.

### **Welcome to Hobbs and Lea County (10:44 a.m.)**

Sam Cobb, mayor, City of Hobbs, and Michael Gallagher, manager, Lea County, welcomed the committee to the campus and provided a brief overview of the regional activities of the city and county.

### **Holtech International — Interim Storage Facility for Spent Nuclear Fuel (10:24 a.m.)**

Ed Mayer, project director, Holtec International, provided an overview of the interim storage facility that Holtec International has created in Lea County. Mr. Mayer went on to explain the national requirements for interim storage of spent nuclear fuel and the technology that Holtec International is developing in the area. The presentation can be found here:

<https://www.nmlegis.gov/handouts/STTC%20090122%20Item%202%20-%20Holtech%20presentation.pdf>.

### **CTECH: Building a Can-Do Workforce for New Mexico (12:04 p.m.)**

Zeke Kaney, director, CTECH; Efren Hernandez, construction student, CTECH; and Natalie Orosco, digital media student, CTECH, described the six clusters of education provided at CTECH: construction and architecture, transportation, manufacturing, culinary and hospitality, energy and information technology. Ms. Orosco and Mr. Hernandez introduced themselves and provided more information about their involvement in the CTECH program.

### **Power in Partnership: The Permian Strategic Partnership's (PSP's) Collaboration with Local Communities to Support Education and Workforce Development (1:51 p.m.)**

Heather Brewer, consultant, PSP, discussed the focus areas of the PSP and how the investments in the partnership have provided significant economic development in the Permian Basin. The presentation can be found here:

[https://www.nmlegis.gov/handouts/STTC%20090122%20Item%204%20Power%20in%20Partnership%20-%20Permian%20Strategic%20Partnership%20\(PSP\).pdf](https://www.nmlegis.gov/handouts/STTC%20090122%20Item%204%20Power%20in%20Partnership%20-%20Permian%20Strategic%20Partnership%20(PSP).pdf).

**Fitting Ongoing Rural Broadband Development into the State's Emerging Broadband Deployment Plan: Lea County Case Model (2:29 p.m.)**

David Jimenez, chief executive officer, Leaco Rural Telephone Cooperative, Inc., described the progress to bridge the digital divide in Lea County. The presentation materials can be found here:

<https://www.nmlegis.gov/Committee/Handouts?CommitteeCode=STTC&Date=9/1/2022&ItemNumber=5>.

**Deployment of New Mexico NextGen 911 in the Public Safety Community (3:06 p.m.)**

Angela Martinez, executive director, Lea County Communication Authority (LCCA), and Mitchell Tuckness, information technology administrator, LCCA, described the deployment of the NextGen 911 to enhance the emergency communications systems in Lea County. The presentation can be found here:

<https://www.nmlegis.gov/handouts/STTC%20090122%20Item%206%20Deployment%20of%20New%20Mexico%20NextGen%209-1-1.pdf>.

**Public Comment (3:51 p.m.)**

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

**Recess**

The meeting recessed at 3:54 p.m.

**Friday, September 2**

**Tour of Urenco (8:25 a.m.)**

Committee members met at and toured the Urenco facility.

**State Broadband Plan: Middle Mile and Right-of-Way Updates (10:25 a.m.)**

Kelly Schlegel, director, Office of Broadband Access and Expansion (OB AE), Department of Information Technology, provided an update of the projects undertaken by the OB AE and expounded upon the goals and directions of the new office. The presentation can be found here:

<https://www.nmlegis.gov/handouts/STTC%20090122%20Item%207%20OB AE%20Middle%20Mile%20and%20Right%20of%20Way%20Updates.pdf>.

**Law Enforcement Technologies: Sifting Data, Investigation Tools and Identifying Potential Issues Before an Incident Happens (12:05 p.m.)**

Corporal Travis Hobbs, Training and Recruiting Division, Lea County Sheriff's Office, provided a presentation regarding the technology that would assist law enforcement in investigating cases.

**Public Comment (12:23 p.m.)**

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

**Adjournment**

There being no further business before the committee, the meeting adjourned at 12:29 p.m.