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7 **REGIONAL COALITION OF LANL COMMUNITIES**
8 **City of Espanola – Los Alamos County – Rio Arriba County – Santa Fe County –**
9 **City of Santa Fe – Taos County – Town of Taos – Pueblo of Ohkay Owingeh – Pueblo of Jemez**

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11 **City of Santa Fe Chambers**
12 **Friday, January 16, 2015**

13
14 **Attendance**

15 Alice Lucero (Chair RCLC); Los Alamos County Councilor Steve Girrens; Town of Taos Councilor
16 Andrew Gonzales (Vice Chair RCLC), City of Santa Fe Mayor Javier Gonzales (Secy./Treasurer);
17 Santa Fe County Councilor Henry Roybal; Ron Lovato, Ohkay Owingeh; David Trujillo, Rio Arriba
18 County.

19
20 JLH Media team member Alexandra Pratt.

21
22 **Welcome and Introductions**

23 Mayor Lucero called the meeting to order at 9:10 a.m. The public in attendance introduced
24 themselves. All the attending coalition members introduced themselves along with JLH Staff.

25
26 **Confirmation of Quorum**

27 Mayor Lucero confirms quorum.

28
29 **Approval of Minutes**

30 **Motion:** To approve the November minutes.

31
32 Moved by Javier Gonzales and Seconded by Ron Lovato

33
34 **Vote:** Motion passed (**summary:** Yes = unanimous).

35
36 **Financial Information**

37 LA County representative Brian Bosshardt presented the financial information. There are two
38 charges from the previous month, both of them related to the payouts for executive director
39 services. They were a little bit larger this time due to the meetings in Louisiana.

40
41 **Congressional Delegations**

42 **Report from Senator Udall's Office**

43 Michele Jaquez-Ortiz indicated much has happened since the last meeting. Congress passed a
44 hybrid bill, both good and bad aspects for NM. Senator Udall supported it and without
45 supporting it there was a risk for government shutdown. There is quite a bit of money for both
46 the labs and military bases. This would fund the government through September. Cleanup
47 money that was allotted was \$185 million for LANL. WIPP numbers were much better; \$324
48 million came out in the bill of which \$104 million was added. The National Defense

1 Authorization Act was passed. The RCLC sent a letter asking the Senators to get the Manhattan
2 Project recognized as a historic site.

3
4 **Report from Senator Heinrich's Office**

5 Katie Richardson added a few items. LANS is considering giving \$3 million in support to local
6 projects. The 5th year of the community college program funding will continue. Senator Heinrich
7 was appointed to the Armed Forces Committee.

8
9 **Report from Congressman Ben Ray Lujan's Office**

10 Patrick Duran of Congressman Ben Ray Lujan's office reported that the Congressman will remain
11 on Energy and Commerce. He has been assigned to Health and Communication/Technology sub-
12 committees. He is now on the DCCC.

13
14 **Presentation from State of New Mexico Environment Department:**

15 Secretary Ryan Flynn wants to talk about the budget for environmental cleanup. The \$185
16 million for cleanup is well below of what it should be at \$255 million. LANL is the only site in
17 which cleanup funds were cut. There was a belief that because the transuranic waste campaign
18 was put on hold, there was justification for a downward adjustment in the budget. There is
19 more than enough work and important projects to justify the \$255 million. There is a chromium
20 plume, high explosive groundwater plume and a variety of solid waste areas needing work. The
21 work that needs to be done is not going to be completed. The consent order is not being met
22 and this is not the time to reduce funding as the deadline approaches. This is an NM issue, not a
23 Democratic or Republican issue. President Obama has requested \$225 million, but even that
24 was cut. A few compliance orders have been issued to LANL, the goal is not to make a political
25 splash, but get the lab back on track.

26
27 Javier Gonzales asked about all the environmental issues that make up the \$255 million request.
28 He wants to see where we are to date on each of the issues. Is there a way to offer some type of
29 threat assessment, or see the projects that are ranked by priority?

30
31 Flynn indicated that there is a document that details the scope of work that remains. The risk
32 analysis always involves a difference of opinion. There are other members and certainly the
33 public may have different ideas.

34
35 Javier Gonzales asked about LANL self-reporting environmental issues. Is there an annual report
36 they have to file to DOE?

37
38 Flynn indicated that every year there is a set of deliverables and scope of work. That plan
39 process forms the basis for the work that will occur next year. There are different issues, some
40 of which are related to the consent order and others through the permit and compliance
41 process.

42
43 Javier Gonzales asked that staff work with NMED to get this list of environmental issues.

44
45 Councilor Girrens spoke about being in DC last year and when they are armed with the list of
46 projects we can explain what will be done with the extra money. Can we show what we are
47 attacking legacy waste wise? There needs to be the understanding that current operations are
48 all licensed. Also, the other list is all legacy remediation and that kind of split would be valuable.

1
2 Flynn indicated that it is important to convince the other Senators that funding is important.
3 When talking with DOE the chromium plume is a top priority. We are willing to listen to
4 everyone.

5
6 Mayor Gonzales spoke about understanding the issues and wants the people to offer a point of
7 view that really understand the threats. He also wants to know what fines were levied.

8
9 Flynn says about \$54 million in fines were issued to LANL and WIPP, one against DOE and WIPP
10 and the other DOE and LANL. This was extremely conservative and not all violations were fined.
11 They attempted to divide up the work that made sense logically. There may be an additional
12 compliance order for violations in the future.

13
14 That money gets spent in a variety of ways; any penalties go toward the hazardous waste
15 administration fund. There is a defined scope of projects that the money can be used for. There
16 are supplemental environmental projects, work that is beneficial, and that work has a cost and
17 value to NM. He is not sure where that money comes from. There are different opinions on that,
18 but it should not come out of money for cleanup projects. Both Senators support that position,
19 and DOE should be punished, not New Mexicans. DOE has made some decisions with respect to
20 their contractor. Perhaps some of that liability can come from that.

21
22 RCLC member Girrens said that if penalties are pulled out of the cleanup fund and then spread
23 around the state, this would take the funds away from Northern NM. We lose twice on this
24 issue. Are you given any authority to assess fines in a manner to keep the money from going into
25 the general coffers?

26
27 Flynn indicated that there is a method for doing this. It is his job to hold people accountable,
28 although DOE and their contractor put the NMED in that position. This has not been something
29 that the State created, it is a DOE problem.

30
31 Mayor Gonzales wants a future calendar item to discuss or formalize a request to the Secretary
32 to make sure the fines keep the money in Los Alamos. Possibly modifying statutes to make sure
33 there is clear direction as to how these fines should be used.

34
35 Mayor Lucero said this does hurt NM and each of our communities. Lobbying in Washington is
36 crucial for additional funding.

37
38 **Presentation from Major Subcontractors Consortium**

39 Liddie Martinez talked about two specific issues; 1) the supply chain management issues 2) the
40 transition to DOE-EM. The supply change management center is a vehicle for all sites to do
41 purchasing. It is no longer an optional tool. It has expanded to include services for a larger
42 impact. It also includes all of the DOE-EM sites. The purchasing that was done in 2012 shows
43 \$2.3 billion in spending. Sandia (35%) and LANL (25%), so that is why the 60% in 2012 is so
44 important, the impact is significant to the local economy. The shift from the local providers to
45 national means the impact is going to be great. EM also utilized the SCMC system.

46
47 The transition issues are that the contracts have been underutilized. The companies that went
48 through the initial bidding process have not yet had a chance to recoup their money. Over the

1 course of the last few years the companies have had to lay a few people off, but now they are at
2 risk. When the contracts are re-bid, the current companies may not get selected.

3
4 What's the risk? There are 35 major subcontractors that make up our organization of 2,000
5 employees and \$110 million in payroll annually. They are required to re-invest in the community
6 with contracts over \$5 million. If the community commitment dollars go away it will hollow out
7 what we have for our communities. During the past 5 years there has been about \$14 million in
8 investment and 15,000 hours of volunteer service.

9
10 The solutions will involve preparing our local companies to bid on these types of contracts. The
11 model needs to be replicable anywhere in this nation. The collaboration on this issue is
12 important and there is a process to shift the current contracts. There is no need to pay for this
13 process twice. We would like for the Coalition to support the pilot program proposal. The effort
14 by both LANL and Sandia is moving forward to create a regionalized approach, rather than a
15 national approach. This would mean a greater opportunity for the local businesses to hold the
16 contracts.

17
18 Mayor Lucero encouraged each community to consider adopting the resolution supporting the
19 EM transition. The City of Espanola will be voting on the resolution in January. Losing
20 contractors in NM will impact GRT statewide and at the local level. If a contractor is approved,
21 will they have to have an office in NM?

22
23 (RCLC member) Is there information broken down by county?

24
25 Martinez indicated the majority is in Los Alamos, but they are spread out in other counties as
26 well. It has become difficult to get the data though.

27
28 Martinez indicated SCMC doesn't disclose numbers based on site. LANL should also be able to
29 tell us what the small business dollars are.

30
31 Councilor Girrens: Are we asking for resolutions that go against statutes? What needs to
32 happen at the Federal level? At a meeting in December, Martinez had an opportunity to meet
33 with the lead person on the transition; prior to the distribution of the executive summary, the
34 draft was sent to him. He responded, but did not get any indication that we are asking for
35 anything that is outside the lines.

36
37 (RCLC member) There is a light at the end of the tunnel and the logical way to deal with these
38 things is regionally.

39
40 **Motion:** To Adopt Environmental Management Transition Resolution – as amended (last
41 whereas)

42
43 Moved by Javier Gonzales and Seconded by Henry Roybal

44
45 **Vote:** Motion passed (**summary:** Yes = unanimous).

46
47 **Federal Legislative Priorities**

1 Tab D includes a memorandum from Brian Bosshardt. The priorities are very similar to last year.
2 The only change is the last bullet with respect to DOE working with the communities about the
3 decisions they have made with respect to the contracting issues.

4
5 Mayor Lucero indicated that the fees that fund the community commitment plan should also be
6 brought up. They need to know what the commitments are to the communities and how the
7 cuts will affect them. Under LANL it seems like we could also bring up the fees that were cut.

8
9 Bosshardt said that can be added as a bullet and how it is beneficial to the region.

10
11 Mayor Gonzales added the concern or view that DOE will not pony up the cost of the penalties.
12 Would it be appropriate to indicate that any fees or fines would not be covered by existing
13 appropriations?

14
15 Bosshardt indicated that could be included.

16
17 Mayor Gonzales spoke about the second part, the technology program. How is the
18 determination made to release more technology in the communities? Hopefully over a period
19 of time the technology that is not classified will be released.

20
21 Ron Lovato wanted to be careful talking about the fees and in some respects the penalties are
22 due to cleanup issues. The award fee and penalties are two different things.

23
24 Bosshardt would add a specific bullet about the plan.

25
26 Mayor Lucero said there were a lot of successes and maybe those need to be emphasized. There
27 was a hard hit, but a lot of positive items.

28 29 **Strategic Plan 2014 – 2015**

30 Mayor Lucero asked that this be included in the packet for review, perhaps in February we can
31 revisit the plan and discuss changes/bylaws. We need to be thinking about these in the very
32 near future.

33 34 **Executive Director / JLH Update**

35 Alexandra Pratt indicated that since the December meeting JLH has been working quickly to
36 transition from the former director. They developed a job description and put out notices over
37 the past few weeks. They have three people present in the closed session. Thanked the Mayor
38 for bringing up the DC arrangements.

39
40 She indicated she has been contacting the various Member government bodies about
41 participating and who the representatives to the Coalition will be this year.

42
43 Finally, on behalf of Kathy Keith, thanks. The Accelerate program had funding for four years and
44 has been awarded funding for the 5th year. They are happy with this and appreciate the Board's
45 support.

46
47 Mayor Lucero indicated they will be interviewing for the executive director position. The Mayor
48 thanked Darien Cabral for his service to the Coalition.

1
2 **Meetings at a glance:**

3 Tab F in the packet, next meeting is in LA County. We will report in the Washington trip at that
4 time. This will take place Feb. 20th. Following meetings will be March 20th, Town of Taos and
5 April 17th, City of Espanola.
6

7 **Public Comment:**

- 8 1. Rivera Sun of Taos spoke about inspiring the Coalition to consider how public input is
9 processed. It would be very beneficial for all the communities to consider how input is
10 received. Before action items, how you present us to the Federal government. Also, the
11 strategic plan could benefit from citizen ideas. How do we make this process happen as
12 a whole community? Can this Coalition embrace this diversity and say to our Federal
13 delegation that we represent all of this and agree on this much? That is my invitation to
14 inspiration. There are decisions to be made in the next few months.
- 15 2. Nuclear Watch NM thanked the Coalition for all the hard word they do. Also, thanked
16 Mayor Gonzales for requesting the list of environmental work with the budgets. He
17 respectfully states that the field office may have those as well. NMED might have to get
18 that from the field office. Wanted to remind everyone that the LANL budget is 65%
19 nuclear weapons. There has been a real effort to focus on the cleanup.
- 20 3. Jeanne Green – requested that her exact statement be included, so that has been
21 attached for review.
- 22 4. Interfaith Worker Justice NM representative – she has been tracking LANL since she was
23 the legislative advocate for the NM churches. The more research she has done, the
24 more concerned she has become. She will leave articles detailing the mismanagement,
25 Iraqi projects left unfinished, etc. The concern is that LANL has changed to a for profit
26 organization. This may have been the worst choice by Bush to grant a contract to. We
27 know that one of the ways in which corporations create dependency, is by providing just
28 enough charitable support. Once that happens we are more inclined to the turn the
29 other way. Northern NM has been held hostage by the military complex.
- 30 5. Second woman from Taos spoke – Asked about RCLC and RCLC-EM. What is SCMC?
31 Asked about many items on the slide show. She was trying to clarify what revenue was
32 received. She will meet with Liddie Martinez afterward.
33
34

35 **Executive Session**

36 **Motion:** To move into executive session.
37

38 Moved by Ron Lovato and Seconded by Javier Gonzales
39

40 **Vote:** Roll call vote of all members; Motion passed (**summary:** Yes = unanimous).
41

42 **OPEN MEETING ADJOURNED AT 10:50.**
43
44

Alexandra Pratt, JLH Media

45 **ATTEST:**
46
47

48 Mayor Alice Lucero, Chair