

REGIONAL COALITION OF LANL COMMUNITIES

City of Española – Los Alamos County – Rio Arriba County
Santa Fe County – City of Santa Fe – Taos County – Town of Taos

Meeting Minutes

August 17, 2012

**Rio Arriba County Annex, Commission Chambers
1122 Industrial Park Road Espanola, NM 87532**

Convene/ Introduction

- Chair Coss called the meeting to order at 9:12am and welcomed everyone.
- DeAnza Sapien, Executive Director (ED) of the Regional Coalition of LANL Communities reviewed the new Regional Coalition (Coalition) Board briefing book. Sapien noted that Yasine Armstrong, also of the MVM Group, will be acting as the Deputy Director of the Coalition.
- ED requested that the Coalition Board members bring the board book to all future meetings, so new agendas and approved meeting minutes may be added. ED noted that the website for the coalition should be completed by the next Board meeting in September.
- Members Stover and Mayfield moved to approve the draft July meeting minutes without edits. Motion passed unanimously.
- A special presentation for Member Stover took place with acknowledgements from Chair Coss and the Board. Chair Coss thanked Chair Sharon Stover for all of her help in forming and sustaining the Coalition and noted that, “We couldn’t have done it without you.” Member Stover gave a special thanks and recognition to former Coalition facilitator David. Abelson. Member Danny Mayfield thanked Chair Stover for her professionalism and friendship. The Los Alamos County staff was also acknowledged for all of their help with the Coalition.
- Chair Coss asked for everyone in the room to introduce themselves, and thanked them for being present.

New Coalition Business

- Approval of Resolution No. 12-01; A Resolution Establishing Bylaws Of The Board Of Directors Of The Regional Coalition of LANL Communities

ED noted the changes in the draft bylaws to accommodate the concerns raised by Ohkay Owingeh Pueblo Governor Ron Lovato related to tribal members’ ability to serve on the board. The draft bylaws included language for both elected and tribal officials in Section D

of the draft resolution. Chair Coss said he was pleased that the tribal officials could join the board.

Member Stover moved to accept the draft bylaws as presented. Motion Passed unanimously.

➤ Approval of Resolution No. 12-02; A Resolution Establishing Standards Of Reasonable Notice To The Public For All Meetings Of The Regional Coalition

The draft resolution incorporated all of the suggested changes topics from the last Coalition meeting concerning open meetings. The resolution states that public business be conducted in full public view, and that the actions of the public bodies be taken openly, and that the deliberations of public bodies be open to the public.

All meetings of the Coalition shall be held at the time and place indicated in the meeting notice. Meetings of the Coalition shall be held on the third Friday of the month unless notice is otherwise provided seventy-two (72) hours in advance of the meeting date.

Meeting agendas are to be available at least 72 hours in advance. All agendas and draft meeting minutes will be posted on the new Coalition website when it is up and running. The website will serve as a portal for all approved meeting agendas and minutes. There will also be an e-mail distribution list of those who want to be included in email notifications.

Chair Coss said emergency meetings should be avoided. Emergency meetings may only be called under unforeseen circumstances. Emergency meetings may be called by the Chair or a majority of the members of the Coalition upon twenty-four (24) hours notice, unless threat of personal injury or property damage require less notice. The notice for all emergency meetings shall include an agenda for the meeting or information on how the public may obtain a copy of the agenda.

Member Chavez had a question about draft minutes, and wanted to see meeting minutes posted before the meetings. The posting of draft meeting minutes were added to the resolution and shall be placed on the Regional Coalition website seventy-two (72) hours in advance of the meeting date.

Member Stover asked for a space in the agenda where Coalition board members may bring up items on the agenda. Member Stover requested clarification for posting agendas.

Member Mayfield asked if section 9-A would allow for executive sessions. It was clarified that executive sessions must be published and what the session is about must be published. Chair Coss asked that executive sessions be “few and far between

Member Stover made a motion to approve the resolution along with the stated changes. Chair Coss seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

➤ Approval of Regional Coalition Fiscal Agent Authority

Brian Bosshardt of Los Alamos County, the Coalition's fiscal agent, requested that the Board authorize an individual/s to authorize expenditures for the Coalition.

The board decided that in the future a long-term financial policy would need to be drafted.

Member Mayfield asked if the fiscal agent was named in the JPA. ED Sapien clarified that the County of Los Alamos was listed as the fiscal agent in the JPA.

Member Chavez asked if a monthly report with the Coalition's revenue and expenditures could be provided.

Member Chavez also requested that the fiscal policy be an item on future agendas.

The Board agreed that payment to the MVM Group would be completed monthly.

Member Mayfield and ED Sapien were appointed by the board the authority to direct Los Alamos County to cut checks on behalf of the Coalition, but only as previously directed by the board. However, neither may authorize payment for themselves.

Member Chavez moved for approval and Member Lucero seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Executive Director's Report

ED Sapien requested that each Board Member submit their alternate in writing with their relevant contact information. ED Sapien also pointed out in the board book where the MVM Group's contact information was located. The new address and phone number for the Coalition is 223 N. Guadalupe #528 Santa Fe, NM 87501 and (505) 819- 3715.

➤ One on One Meetings with Members of the Regional Coalition Board

ED Sapien reported that she is in the process of conducting one on one meetings with all of the Coalition board members. She has already met with Chairman Coss, Chair Stover and plans to meet with all of the other board members.

➤ Energy Communities Alliance Meeting in Los Alamos

David Abelson updated the Board on the recent Energy Communities Alliance meeting in Los Alamos. Mr. Abelson explained that ECA has been working with DOE Communities for over 20 years. Mr. Abelson said that the ECA is a great resource for dialogue with the DOE, Congress, and other DOE Communities similar to Los Alamos. Mr. Abelson explained that there are two different memberships: Full members and Affiliate members. Mr. Abelson recommended that the coalition consider becoming an affiliate member because it provides all the same benefits as a full membership. The cost of the membership is \$950. RC Board will vote to join ECA as an affiliate member at their September meeting.

➤ Coalition Funding Update

\$100,000 in DOE support funding for the Coalition is currently being processed. ED Sapien hopes to report receipt of the new funding by the next Board meeting.

➤ Pueblo Participation Update

ED reported contacting Governor Ron Lovato of Ohkay Owingeh and he noted that they plan to sign the JPA and become the first Pueblo member of the Coalition. Sapien will continue one on one meetings with all of the surrounding pueblos. ED Sapien noted to the Board that a copy of the letter that had been sent to all of the pueblos after their meetings with Chair Stover and Commissioner Mayfield was included in their Board Book. Member Stover noted that the Eight Northern Pueblos have also shown interest in joining the coalition and for the ED to contact Hvtce Miller for more assistance with Pueblo outreach.

➤ Recent Tour of Santa Fe's Buckman Direct Diversion Project

ED Sapien reported on her recent tour of the Santa Fe Buckman Direct Diversion Plant. Other coalition members would like the same tour. It was suggested to hold September's meeting at the facility and not at the Santa Fe City Council Chambers.

➤ Proposed September Meeting Agenda and Location

ED Sapien noted that the September meeting will focus on water quality and will be held in Santa Fe in conjunction with a special tour of the Buckman Direct Diversion Plant. The only issue with the Buckman meeting site would be clearance requirements for members of the public wanting to attend the meeting. Buckman staff will need to have meeting participant names prior to board meeting. Sapien said that she will accept RSVPs for the meeting through e-mails and the Regional Coalition website.

➤ Proposed October Board Retreat and WIPP site tour

Los Alamos County Administrator Harry Burgess is planning a tour of the WIPP facility in conjunction with a retreat for the Members and Staff of the Coalition. Due to conflicting dates with an October ECA meeting, the Carlsbad meeting and retreat will need to be rescheduled. Sapien will e-mail all Board Members to pick a new date for the tour and retreat in Carlsbad, NM.

Community Reports

LANL 101: Environmental Monitoring Update

This report was given in response to a request from Board Member from Taos. Member Stover requested that the report from today be posted on the Coalition website for those not present at the meeting. U.S. Congressman Ben Ray Lujan said that federal funding should be focused on additional cleanup efforts.

Report on Business Coalition/Chamber effort in Washington, DC

Los Alamos County Council Chair, Sharon Stover

Regional Development Corporation Executive Director, Kathy Keith

Santa Fe Chamber President and CEO, Simon Brackley

Member Stover reported that the DC meetings were successful and she is continuing to learn more and recognized the need to make our supportive voices heard.

Kathy Keith, Executive Director of the Regional Development Coalition said that she learned more about the current federal budget and the budget process related to future lab funding. Keith said that the budget relates to jobs and the economy for the Northern New Mexico region. DOE made it clear that they are trying to streamline the process for funding. Keith also reported that it is not a guarantee that the New Mexico's three DOE facilities will get the funding every year. The CMRR finding issue was also raised in their meetings in Washington. Keith noted that it is important to understand the debate on Capitol Hill related to CMRR and DOE funding since the funding is important for clean up as well.

Santa Fe Chamber President and CEO Simon Brackley reported that the meetings emphasized the regional nature of the trip and the economic impacts of funding for LANL. Brackley said that funding for LANL impacts the entire region. Brackley said all of our economies are connected and we need to express that to members of our New Mexico Congressional delegation.

Jeff Lunsford of TIG and Chair of the LANL Subcontractors Consortium reported 30 contractors working for the labs have stopped work recently. He said it is important that the Congressional delegation and the business community in New Mexico value the economic impact of the labs. He said we also need to support funding for environmental clean-up as well. He said that he has seen a 50%-75% decrease in staff and jobs because of recent budget cuts and more budget cuts would make this percentage worse. NNSA is looking for modernized facilities, and losing the CMRR would no longer make LANL unique and would make it more likely for New Mexico to lose the facility. He encouraged the Board to make sure our voices are heard and stay involved.

US, Congressman Ben Ray Lujan added that our work is continuous and we all need to continue working on this issue. Congressmen Lujan said we need to work together and to stay engaged on this issue due to its dramatic impact on our workforce.

Member Coss said it is important to recognize LANL jobs are real jobs and important to our economy.

Public Comment:

Scott Kovac of Nuclear Watch New Mexico reminded the Board that 60% of LANL's budget is based on the nuclear budget, and that this is a dying industry.

Beata Tsosie-Pena of Tewa Women United/H.O,P,E: stated we need to be advocates for our communities, and do community based research on what the communities think about LANL.

She asked for the coalition to keep in your heart what would be best for the communities. She would like to see our communities move away from nuclear dependence because this conflicts with our shared values and beliefs. Beata also said that the reported jobs created from CMRR was misleading because those jobs would end when the construction was done. She also requested for there to be time in the agenda for community members to give presentations because there are many organizations that have different perspectives. She said that the coalition should reach out to community groups.

Mr. Abelson concluded by thanking the board for the tremendous opportunity and he believes in the value of the board.

Meeting Adjourned at 10:56 am.