

# **REGIONAL COALITION OF LANL COMMUNITIES**

City of Espanola – Los Alamos County- Ohkay Owingeh- Pueblo of Jemez – Rio Arriba County –  
Santa Fe County – City of Santa Fe – Taos County – Town of Taos

## **DRAFT Meeting Minutes**

October 19, 2018

Los Alamos County Municipal Building

1:30 pm

**A. Call to order** – Chair Henry Roybal called meeting to order at 1:43 p.m.

**B. Confirmation of Quorum**

Attendees: Chair Henry Roybal, Vice-chair Barney Trujillo, Treasurer Peter Ives;  
Secretary (alternate) David Izraelevitz, Board member Javier Sanchez; Board  
member Darien Fernandez.

**C. Approval of Agenda**

1. Action: Executive Director Vasquez asked the board to amend the agenda to include action items obtaining 3 or more bids for an auditor and an accountant. Also a discussion item and possible vote on resolution supporting continued funding of NCRTD through RTGRT in upcoming election GRT.
2. Motion by Treasurer Ives, Second by Vice-Chair Trujillo. Motion carried.

**D. Approval of Minutes**

1. Approval of minutes from August 17, 2018 RCLC meeting
2. Approved: Motion made by Vice-Chair Trujillo, Second by alternate Secretary Izraelevitz.

**E. Public Comment**

1. Mr. Devin Bent, retired, requested a criminal investigation to collect money owed to the RCLC in the amount of \$6,000.00. He also requested additional information from CPLC, New Mexico, Inc.'s free rent contract for an Ostrich farm in exchange for site/land improvements on the farm.
2. Mr. Scott Kovac, with Nuclear Watch NM, inquired about RCLC lobbying strategies and policies; how are they followed and should lobbying efforts be made directly to Congress rather than going through the RCLC. Also asked if the local citizens have a say in the strategies.

Action: With no other comments from the public, Chair Roybal, closed public comments.

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## **F. Treasurers Report**

Treasurer Ives stated two invoices had been paid as approved by the Board. One to the state auditor in the amount of \$10,000 and one to the Energy Communities Alliance (ECA) in the amount of \$950.00 for dues for participation. He mentioned that they will be diligent in implementing procedures as recommended by the State Auditor and will work closely with the Fiscal Agent as well. No action required. Chair introduced next item.

## **G. Discussion/Action Items**

Director Vasquez requested that item “b” (Briefing from Dr. Terry C. Wallace, Jr. Director of Los Alamos National Laboratory and current president of Las Alamos National Security, LLC be heard prior to the election of officers item “a.”. Chair Roybal agreed.

Dr. Wallace reviewed highlights of the last year at LANL, including moving to an independent EM contractor and also said that the lab would be continuing to hire directly and through subcontractors, with a large portion of all employees being native New Mexicans.

Dr. Wallace stated that the Los Alamos National Laboratory employees over 9,000 individuals directly and over 3,500 individuals work at the site through subcontractors. This is a larger number of subcontractors than any other site.

Dr. Wallace stated that the RCLC helped the lab to be more transparent by ensuring local communities had a voice and ability to question what was happening at LANL, and that he welcomed that.

Dr. Wallace stated that he would be leaving the role of Director on November 1, 2018, with the new prime contractor taking over on that day.

Chair Roybal, thanked Dr. Wallace for his presentation and called for questions from the Board. Vice-Chair Trujillo thanked him for keeping our nation safe and helping to provide for our communities. Treasurer Ives thanked him for working through

challenges and advancing science research. Chair Roybal thanked him as well. Dr. Wallace stated he was proud to serve and to represent Los Alamos.

**a. Election of Officers**

Action: Vice-chair Trujillo motioned to nominate Chair Henry Roybal, once again as Chair. Hearing no other nominations. Second by Treasurer Ives. Motion carried 6-0.

Vice-chair Trujillo motioned to nominate Board member Fernandez as Vice-chair. Hearing no other nominations. Second by Treasurer Ives. Motion carried 6-0.

Vice-chair Trujillo motioned to nominate Treasurer Ives once again as Treasurer. Hearing no other nominations. Second by Board member Fernandez. Motion carried 6-0.

Vice-chair Trujillo motioned to nominate Secretary Pongratz once again as Secretary. Hearing no other nominations. Second by Treasurer Ives. Motion carried 6-0.

Vice-chair Trujillo thanked the Board for their service and stated he was proud to have served with them, noting it is his second to last meeting.

**c. Briefing from the NM Congressional Delegation**

Presentation by Mr. Eric Castillo. Mr. Castillo introduced himself as a new field representative for Senator Martin Heinrich. Mr. Castillo highlighted recent actions in Congress, with a specific focus on DOE budget approval that included \$220 million for cleanup activities at and around LANL. This amount was above the administration request of \$180 million. Mr. Castillo thanked the RCLC and their member communities for their efforts to secure these funds.

**Action item:** delegating the RCLC Executive Director, Treasurer and Chair to solicit 3 or more bids from OSA approved auditors, with Board approving in final vote. Executive Director Vasquez met with the State Auditor's office and they provided to him a preapproved list of auditors and the accountants. Motion carried 6-0

- d. **Action item: delegating** the RCLC Executive Director, Treasurer and Chair to solicit 3 or more bids for accountant services, with Board approving in final vote. **Motion carried 6-0**
  
- e. **Action item:** delegating the RCLC Executive Director, Treasurer and Chair to pursue opening two separate bank account to meet OSA recommendations.

Treasurer Ives stated the board accepted this from the State auditor's report. This again, is to ensure proper accounting of expenditures are separated. Los Alamos County, as the fiscal agent, would be a signer on the account.

Action:

Motion carried 6-0

- f. **Discussion and possible vote on resolution supporting continued funding of NCRTD through the RTGRT in upcoming selection GRT.**

Treasurer Ives stated the importance of the Blue bus routes supported by GRT to continue the routes for people to be able to get to work, appointments and school. Public in rural areas use this transportation and chair would like to support this to continue. Chair Roybal acknowledged that there are many constituents that utilize this service and has had a great impact.

Secretary (alternate Izraelevitz) stated that Los Alamos County has always supported this program. Executive Director Vasquez stated that the resolution, if approved, will be published.

Action: Vice-President Trujillo motioned to approve. Councilor Fernandez Second. Motion passed.

Board member Fernandez stated he would notify the NCRTD of the approval of the resolution,

- g. **Schedule strategic planning session/retreat for review of RCLC work plan and strategic planning for organization.**

Discussion: Treasurer Ives stated it would be an extremely valuable exercise to validate goals. Vice-chair Trujillo stated that previous work sessions primary mission was Los Alamos cleanup. He wanted to advocate economic development in all the northern communities. Vice-chair Trujillo suggested that the Executive Director to request public comment/input. Possibly public comments through a webbed-based service such as survey monkey. Executive Director, Vasquez stated he would rather have face to face comments. Chair Roybal agreed. Executive Director Vasquez asked about the venue and asked Board member Sanchez if he would be willing to host the retreat in Espanola Council Chambers for a full day session 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. December 12, 2018 is the agreed tentative date for the session.

#### **h. Executive Director Update**

Also two hearings are scheduled this winter regarding the FY2019 Energy and Water Appropriation bill.

MOX Program Terminated: Mixed Oxide Fuel Fabrication Facility is being terminated in South Carolina which was a method of converting weapons grade plutonium into fuel for nuclear reactors. May have indirect connections to New Mexico and will continue to monitor.

Director Vasquez reported that the RCLC submitted to DOE-EM a paper summarizing the RCLC response to OSA audit findings. The request was made by EM that the RCLC demonstrate the concrete steps being taken to address each finding, to give them a framework for assessing the RCLC's ability to ensure that grant funds will not be inappropriately used

As an ongoing process of sorting out the roles that all parties will play in this partnership going forward, Los Alamos County delivered a letter to the RCLC clarifying their role as fiscal agent. This letter clarifies that the County will serve as the fiscal agent, but some of the unofficial roles that the County has played in the past will be curtailed.

Director Vasquez reported that on October 11 the LANL Major Subcontractors' Consortium held their annual banquet where they awarded grants to local non-

profit organizations to promote economic development in the region. To thank the RCLC for past work in support of local businesses who do work with DOE the MSC generously provided the RCLC executive committee with tickets to the event.

Director Vasquez reported that RCLC staff will be attending the Intergovernmental State and Tribal Working group in November, a collaborative event that allows governmental officials from a number of states and levels to interact learn about these issues from each other and collaborate on strategies to address our similar problems.

Director Vasquez gave an update on cleanup activities. In a follow-up from the August meeting in which N3B presented, on Tuesday, October 16 N3B announced the awarding a contract to local subcontractor TeranearPMC/Encirocon for initial cleanup work to remove materials, clear the property and install perimeter fencing as part of the final cleanup effort of TA 21 gets underway.

In other News, the DOE's efforts to weaken the Defense Nuclear Facilities Safety Board has garnered direct attention of New Mexico's Senators resulting in a hearing being scheduled in our state sometime this winter. Two hearings are to be scheduled, one in Washington and the second in New Mexico sometime this winter. This is a hearing our organization and communities should be a part of. Also published by ECA was a news story that on October 9 the NNSA formally notified the contractor in Savannah River, South Carolina that the MOX program was being terminated.

The Mixed Oxide Fuel Fabrication Facility (MOX Facility) was originally intended to be a method of converting weapons grade plutonium into fuel for nuclear reactors.

- H. Adjournment. Chair called for adjournment. Motioned by Vice-Chair Trujillo and Second by Secretary (alternate) David Izraelevitz. Motion carried. Adjournment at 3:45 p.m.

**END OF DRAFT MINUTES**

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