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Northern New Mexico Citizens' Advisory Board
Combined Committee Meeting
October 14, 2015
2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.
NNMCAB Office
94 Cities of Gold Road
Santa Fe, New Mexico 87506



Minutes

Meeting Attendees

Department of Energy

1. Lee Bishop, Co-Deputy Designated Federal Officer (Co-DDFO)
2. Christine Gelles, Environmental Management Los Alamos Field Office
3. Doug Hintze, Site Manager, Environmental Management Los Alamos Field Office

NNMCAB Members

1. Manuel Pacheco, WM Committee Chair
2. Stephen Schmelling, EM&R Committee Chair
3. Carlos Valdez
4. Joey Tiano
5. Mona Varela
6. Mary Friday
7. Nona Girardi
8. Michael Whiting
9. Douglas Sayre
10. Angelica Gurulé
11. Joshua Madalena
12. Diahann Lopez-Cordova
13. Gerard Martínez y Valencia
14. Tessa Jo Mascareñas (Phone)

NNMCAB Member Excused Absences

1. Max Baca
2. Angel Quintana
3. Carla Abeyta
4. Irene Tse-Pe
5. Michael Valerio
6. Ashley Sanderson
7. Ashlee Herrera

- 1 8. Alyssa Schreiber
- 2 9. James Valerio

3
4 **NNMCAB Member Absences**

- 5 1. Joseph Viarrial
- 6 2. Danny Mayfield
- 7 3. Rod Sanchez
- 8 4. Alex Puglisi

9
10 **NNMCAB Staff**

- 11 1. Menice Santistevan, Executive Director
- 12 2. William Alexander, Technical Programs and Outreach

13
14 **Guests**

- 15 1. Scott Kovac, Nuke Watch New Mexico
- 16 2. Andrea Romero, Regional Coalition of LANL Communities

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18 **office, 94 Cities of Gold Road, Santa Fe, New Mexico, 87506. The written minutes are intended as a**
19 **synopsis of the meeting.**

1 **Minutes**

2 **I. Call to Order**

3 The monthly meeting of the Northern New Mexico Citizens' Advisory Board (NNMCAB)
4 Waste Management (WM) and Environmental Monitoring & Remediation (EM&R)
5 Committees was held on October 14, 2015 at the NNMCAB Office in Pojoaque, New Mexico.

6 Mr. Lee Bishop, Co-DDFO stated that on behalf of the Department of Energy (DOE) the
7 meeting of the NNMCAB was called to order at 2:01 p.m. Mr. Bishop recognized Mr. Manuel
8 Pacheco, WM Committee Chair, Mr. Pacheco presided at the meeting.

9 The meeting of the NNMCAB was open to the public and posted in The Federal Register
10 in accordance with the Federal Advisory Committee Act.

11 **II. Establishment of a Quorum (11 Needed)**

12 **a. Roll Call**

13 Mr. William Alexander conducted roll call as the members arrived. At the call
14 to order 14 members were present.

15 **b. Excused Absences**

16 Mr. Alexander recorded that the following members had an excused absence:
17 Mr. Max Baca, Ms. Angel Quintana, Ms. Carla Abeyta, Ms. Irene Tse-Pe, Mr.
18 Michael Valerio, and Ms. Ashley Sanderson.

19 **c. Absences**

20 Mr. Alexander recorded that the following members were absent: Mr. Joseph
21 Viarrial, Mr. Rod Sanchez, Mr. Alex Puglisi, and Mr. Danny Mayfield.

22 **III. Approval of Agenda**

23 The Combined Committee (CC) reviewed the Agenda for the October, 14 2015 meeting.
24 Mr. Pacheco opened the floor for comments.

25 Due to time constraints it was proposed that the sub-committee breakout session be
26 removed from the agenda and election of officers be held following introductions.

27 Mr. Tiano made a motion to approve the agenda as amended; Mr. Sayre seconded the
28 motion. The motion to approve the agenda as amended passed.

29 **IV. Approval of Minutes**

30 Mr. Pacheco opened the floor for discussion on the minutes from the July 8, 2015 CC
31 meeting.

32 Mr. Valdez made a motion to approve the minutes as presented; Mr. Tiano seconded
33 the motion. The members voted all in favor, the motion to approve the minutes as
34 presented passed.

35 **V. Introductions**

36 Mr. Pacheco asked for introductions from the board members and all attending guests.
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1 **VI. Election of Committee Officers**

2 Mr. Pacheco opened the floor for nominations from the Board.

3
4 Mr. Pacheco nominated Ms. Angelica Gurulé for WM Chair; Mr. Tiano seconded the
5 motion. Mr. Pacheco nominated Mr. Michael Whiting for WM Vice-Chair; Ms. Friday
6 seconded the motion.

7
8 Ms. Gurulé and Mr. Whiting accepted the nominations.

9
10 Mr. Doug Sayre made a motion to approve the waste management committee
11 nominations by acclimation; Mr. Valdez seconded the motion.

12
13 The members voted all in favor, the motion to approve Ms. Gurulé for WM Chair and
14 Mr. Whiting for Vice-Chair passed.

15
16 Mr. Sayre nominated Mr. Steven Schmelling for Chair of the EM&R committee; Mr.
17 Tiano seconded the nomination.

18
19 Mr. Sayre made a motion to accept Mr. Schmelling as EM&R Chair by acclimation; Mr.
20 Tiano seconded the motion.

21
22 The members voted all in favor, the motion to approve Mr. Schmelling as EM&R Chair
23 passed.

24
25 Mr. Sayre nominated Ms. Ashley Sanderson for EM&R Vice-Chair; Mr. Valdez seconded
26 the motion.

27
28 Mr. Tiano nominated Mr. Danny Mayfield for EM&R Vice-Chair; Ms. Gurulé seconded
29 the motion.

30
31 With the nominees unable to attend today's meeting, voting on the Vice-Chair position
32 was postponed to the next CC meeting in January 2016.

33
34 **VII. Old Business**

35 Mr. Pacheco opened the floor for discussion on old business.

36
37 Mr. Sayre noted that the Executive Committee had reviewed the meeting schedule for
38 2016 and were working with staff to determine dates and locations. Mr. Sayre noted that
39 the Executive Committee had discussed having Governor Mountain of San Ildefonso Pueblo
40 speak at the Environmental Justice Conference in either 2016 or 2017. Additionally, noting
41 that the committee had decided to revisit that topic at a later date. Mr. Sayre stated that
42 there were two public forums that had taken place since the last board meeting, noting that
43 the topic at the forums was the chromium plume at LANL.

44 Mr. Sayre noted that the NNMCAB would be hosting a meeting on November 12, 2015
45 at the Cities of Gold Conference Center on the revisions to the 2005 Order on Consent. He
46 also noted that the NNMCAB November 18, 2015 meeting would no longer be at Ohkay
47 Owingeh, but at New Mexico Highlands University in the Student Union Building in Las
48 Vegas New Mexico.

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3 **VIII. New Business**
4 **Presentation**

5 **a. Department of Energy**

6 Ms. Christine Gelles, DOE Los Alamos Field Office, presented on “The Bridge
7 Contract.” Ms. Gelles walked the members through the sections of the contract that
8 Environmental Management Los Alamos Field Office (EM-LA) would be using for the
9 next 18 to 24 months to conduct clean-up work at Los Alamos National Laboratory.
10 Ms. Gelles noted that this contract was a short term contract and would be replaced
11 by the new competitively bid contract that EM-LA is in the process of designing and
12 submitting for selection. Ms. Gelles noted that the Bridge Contract has scope in it for
13 the purposed actions on the chromium project. Additionally, noting that it has scope
14 in it for groundwater and surface water protection and the cleanup of the nitrate salts
15 currently in storage at Material Disposal Area (MDA) G.

16 Ms. Gelles noted that as soon as the Bridge Contract is signed and put in place it will
17 be available to the public, noting that the document that was under review today was
18 a markup version of the contract for information purposes only.

19
20 **b. Questions**

21 Mr. Sayre noted that he appreciated item 7 on page 18, noting that it states
22 communication with the NNMCAB and RCLC is part of the contract.

23
24 Mr. Pacheco asked at what point are you able to make the determination and look
25 back to see what is working.

26
27 Ms. Gelles responded that the option years on the contract allow for looking at how
28 the contractor is performing and a determination of if the option years should be
29 awarded. Additionally, noting that the contract includes incentives such as the award
30 fee which is performance based.

31
32 Ms. Gelles noted that the Bridge Contract is designed to give EM-LA the necessary
33 time to conduct a solid competitive bid for the follow on contract and select the best
34 candidate for clean-up work at LANL.

35
36 Ms. Gurulé asked when the bridge contract came into effect and how the work
37 under it is directed.

38
39 Ms. Gelles responded that the new Bridge Contract allows EM-LA to directly work
40 with its contractor LANS, noting that EM-LA no longer has to issue work through the
41 NNSA Contracting Officer.

42
43 Mr. Schmelling asked if LANS has done any type of reorganization to allow for a
44 point of contact at LANL.

45
46 Ms. Gelles responded that LANS has not adjusted its organizational structure;
47 however, noted that LANS now has two key personnel that work directly with EM-LA
48 as contact points for work.

1
2 Ms. Friday asked if the money for the two year contract had all of the money set
3 aside.

4
5 Mr. Hintze responded that the bridge contract is a federal acquisitions contract and
6 has a defined set of dollars. He stated that if the funding is not available for the
7 contract then the work scope under that contract would have to be renegotiated.

8
9 Mr. Valdez asked if the Bridge Contract had any scope for the below grade
10 Transuranic (TRU) waste.

11
12 Ms. Gelles responded that there was no scope in the Bridge Contract for the
13 removal of below grade TRU waste.

14
15 Mr. Schmelling asked about section 5.1.05 “contractor shall prepare all waste for
16 disposal,” what does that mean?

17
18 Ms. Gelles responded that in this case “all” is referring to treatment of waste to the
19 waste acceptance criteria for the Waste Isolation Pilot Plant, not that the contract
20 needs to process all the TRU waste at MDA G.

21
22 Mr. Pacheco asked about page 41 section C.8.3.02 regulatory interaction and
23 environmental services, interaction protocol.

24
25 Ms. Gelles responded that NNSA is the landlord of the site and are signatory on
26 most of the permits. She noted that EM-LA will be taking over the Individual Permit
27 and the Consent Order. She stated that a regulatory interface protocol is necessary for
28 working together with NNSA to manage the joint permits.

29
30 **IX. Public Comment Period**

31 Mr. Pacheco opened the floor for public comment at 3:00 p.m.; he asked Mr. Scott
32 Kovac of Nuke Watch New Mexico if he would like to address the board.

33
34 Mr. Kovac thanked the board for the opportunity to speak. Mr. Kovac noted that he
35 would like to welcome the new EM-LA site manager, Doug Hintze, to New Mexico. Mr.
36 Kovac stated that he would like to remind everyone that the Chromium EA comments are
37 due next week, and he would encourage the NNM CAB to provide comments. Mr. Kovac
38 noted that he would like to hear the NNM CABs take on the possible revisions to the 2005
39 Consent Order.

40
41 With no additional public comment, Mr. Pacheco closed the public comment period at
42 3:03 p.m.

43
44 **XI Adjournment**

45 Mr. Pacheco noted that the next NNM CAB CC Meeting would be held on January 13,
46 2016 at the NNM CAB office.

1 Mr. Sayre presented Ms. Gelles with a certificate of appreciation for her service to the
2 NNMCAB, during her time as the Acting Manager for EM-LA. He wished her well and
3 thanked her for all of the information she had provided to the members.
4

5 With no additional business to discuss, Mr. Pacheco adjourned the meeting at 3:30 p.m.
6

7 **Respectfully Submitted,**

8 **William Alexander**
9 **Technical Programs and Outreach**

10
11 **Attachments:**

- 12 1. **Final Combined Committee Meeting Agenda for 10/14/2015**
13 2. **Final Combined Committee Meeting Minutes for 07/08/2015**
14 3. **Department of Energy Draft Bridge Contract for Information Purposes Only**
15

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