

**Northern New Mexico Citizens' Advisory Board**



**Joint Committee Meeting**  
**February 16, 2022**  
**1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.**  
**WebEx**

**Minutes**

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**Meeting Attendees (Via WebEx)**

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**Department of Energy**

1. Lee Bishop, DDFO, Environmental Management Los Alamos
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**NNMCAB Members**

1. Cherylin Atcitty, Chair
  2. Elena Fernandez, Vice-Chair
  3. Mark Hayden, Consent Order Committee Chair
  4. Bob Hull, Risk Evaluation and Management Committee Chair
  5. Ubaldo Gallegos
  6. Sterling Grogan
  7. Angelica Gurulé
  8. Roger Life
  9. David Neal
  10. Patricio Pacheco
  11. Stanley Riveles
  12. Jenelle Roybal
  13. Miguel Vigil
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**NNMCAB Excused Members**

1. Beverly Martin
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**NNMCAB Staff**

1. Menice Santistevan, Executive Director
  2. Bridget Maestas, Executive Assistant
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**Guests**

1. Erich Evered, N3B
2. Maire O'Neill, Los Alamos Reporter
3. Thomas McCrory, EM-LA
4. James Murphy, Public
5. Donovan Robinson, OMB
6. Mark Turnbough, Environmental Consultant
7. Kelsey Shank, theEdge
8. Angela Edwards, Los Alamos National Laboratory
9. Joe Ritchey, Environmental Management Los Alamos
10. Matt Miller, US Representative Teresa Leger-Fernandez's Office

- 1 11. Cynthia Weehler, 285 All
- 2 12. Catherine Juarez, Los Alamos National Laboratory
- 3 13. Felicia Aguilar, N3B
- 4 14. Anne Laurent, Los Alamos County
- 5 15. Kristen Van Horn, NMED
- 6 16. LRVH
- 7 17. Michael Erickson, N3B
- 8 18. Wayne Barber, Exchange Monitor Publications
- 9 19. Stephanie Gallagher, Environmental Management Los Alamos
- 10 20. Levi Dean, New Mexico Environment Department - Surface Water Quality Bureau
- 11 21. Kathy Walker, N3B
- 12 22. Gail Mattson, Longenecker & Associates

13 \* The written minutes are intended as a synopsis of the meeting

1 **Minutes**

2 **I. Call to Order**

3 The meeting of the Northern New Mexico Citizens' Advisory Board (NNMCAB) Consent  
4 Order and Risk Management and Evaluation Committee was held on February 16, 2022, via  
5 WebEx. Ms. Cherylin Atcitty, NNMCAB Chair, called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m.

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6  
7 **II. Introductions**

8 Mr. Bishop gave a brief introduction on what would be discussed at the meeting and what  
9 could be included in each committee work plan.

10  
11 Mr. Mark Turnbough asked how the NNMCAB interfaces with the Energy Communities  
12 Alliance (ECA).

13  
14 Mr. Bishop stated that the only time the NNMCAB has done that was when they were  
15 redefining some of the radioactive waste definitions at Headquarters and the ECA had come  
16 out with a recommendation. He noted that the NNMCAB looked at the ECA  
17 recommendations and used them to facilitate a recommendation to EM in general on their  
18 endorsement or concerns on the redefinition of radioactive waste.

19  
20 Ms. Santistevan stated that the NNMCAB shares some of the information on the ECA  
21 newsletters, but not more than that.

22  
23 Ms. Atcitty welcomed everyone to the meeting, she noted that there was a diverse group of  
24 people attending the meeting. Ms. Atcitty asked the committee Chairs to give a brief  
25 summary on each committee

26  
27 Mr. Hayden, Chair, Consent Order Committee – Mr. Hayden stated that there is a Draft of  
28 the Work Plan that is in place and would be worked on at this meeting. The committee is  
29 waiting on the litigation itself before they look at what is on there to do in terms of cleanup  
30 and how they will incorporate that in the updates to the Work Plan.

31  
32 Mr. Hull, Chair, Risk Evaluation and Management Committee – Mr. Hull stated that the Risk  
33 Committee over the last year or so has not been doing anything specific to Risk. They have  
34 been coordinating their efforts with the Consent Order Committee. Prior to that, they were  
35 working over prioritization of risks and developed Excel spreadsheets identifying what the  
36 risks were from the various campaigns. The Risk Evaluation and Management Committee  
37 was developed about four years ago and the initial Work Plan was written and has been  
38 updated a few times. Mr. Hull noted that he would not be participating in the breakout  
39 session because as of November he is not an official member.

40  
41 Ms. Fernandez, Interim Chair, Public Outreach Committee – Ms. Fernandez stated that the  
42 committee had been discussed the last few years and was finally able to formalize. The  
43 mission of the Outreach Committee is to involve stakeholders more directly in EM cleanup  
44 decisions, by reaching out to them to share their opinions by becoming involved in cleanup  
45 discussions and federal decision-making regarding clean-up. This effort includes several  
46 educational forums. Ms. Fernandez thanked Mr. Hull for his excellent outreach efforts and  
47 Mr. Hayden for his efforts also. Ms. Fernandez stated that the committee is newly formed  
48 and if any members would like to join to please let Ms. Santistevan know.

1  
2 Ms. Santistevan asked for introductions from the members and guests on the WebEx. At the  
3 call to order, 8 members were present.

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5 **III. Approval of Agenda**

6 The board reviewed the agenda for the February 16, 2022 meeting. Ms. Atcitty opened the  
7 floor to entertain a motion.

8 Mr. Hayden made a motion to approve the agenda; Ms. Angelica Gurulé seconded the  
9 motion. The motion to approve the agenda passed.

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10  
11 **IV. Approval of Minutes**

12 The board reviewed the minutes for the October 13, 2021 meeting. Ms. Atcitty opened the  
13 floor to entertain a motion.

14 Mr. Hayden made a motion to approve the minutes; Ms. Angelica Gurulé seconded the  
15 motion. The motion to approve the minutes as presented passed.

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16  
17 **V. Update on Executive Committee Meeting with Ike White (EM-1)**

18 Ms. Atcitty stated that she, Mr. Hull, Ms. Fernandez and Mr. Hayden had the opportunity to  
19 meet with Mr. Ike White the Wednesday prior to this meeting. She noted that he was  
20 thankful to hear from the NNM CAB Executive Committee. Ms. Atcitty stated that Mr. White  
21 gave them information on DOE, budgets and an overview of what is going on at the other  
22 sites.

23 Mr. Hull stated that they discussed the Waste Isolation Pilot Plant (WIPP) allocation and the  
24 fact that perhaps New Mexico doesn't get as much opportunity to ship to WIPP as possible  
25 and if there is anything to be done to change the allocation. Mr. White responded by stating  
26 that the material has to be ready to ship and it all has to be planned in advance and many of  
27 the sites like Hanford, Idaho and Savannah River really have a lot more material to ship. The  
28 second issue discussed was the NNM CAB membership and how it is limited to certain  
29 counties in northern New Mexico. Mr. Mikolanis responded noting that there are 21 tribal  
30 groups within a 50-mile radius of the site and Mr. Hull believes and Mr. Mikolanis and Mr.  
31 White both believe that the NNM CAB should expand the area of membership.

32 Ms. Fernandez stated that Mr. White and Mr. Mikolanis both mentioned that more  
33 interaction with the public is needed and the Environmental Justice 40 pilot program in Los  
34 Alamos would like more public involvement especially in listening sessions. She noted that  
35 this is the NNM CAB's chance to also do more outreach across the state including the  
36 Pueblos and other tribes. It also increases the NNM CAB's equity values and objectives as far  
37 as what the NNM CAB is doing and what DOE would like to see.

38 Mr. Hayden stated that he was encouraged by Mr. White's comments in the portion of the  
39 meeting he was able to attend. He apologized for joining late due to a conflict. Mr. Hayden  
40 stated that he has a point of order and Ms. Santistevan may be able to answer, in the  
41 breakout sessions, he understands Mr. Hull is still waiting for final approval, he believes Mr.  
42 Hull could participate as a subject matter expert and would welcome his participation if he is  
43 available.

1 Ms. Santistevan stated that Mr. Hull is certainly welcome and invited. She encouraged  
2 members of the public to also join the breakout sessions.

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3  
4 **VI. Update from DDFO**

5 **a. Overview of NNM CAB Mission and Focus**

6 Mr. Bishop stated that the meeting with the Executive Committee and Mr. White went  
7 very well. Mr. Bishop stated that he and Ms. Santistevan decided on the areas for  
8 recruitment being Albuquerque up to Las Vegas and Taos based on people that were  
9 coming to the meetings. Mr. Bishop stated that the meetings would be more hybrid  
10 going forward and now that there are less limitations on the areas for recruitment. He  
11 also noted that the COVID-19 numbers are going down allowing more in-person and  
12 hybrid meetings. Mr. Hull stated that membership would need to be discussed with the  
13 Executive Committee and they would have to propose a revision to the NNM CAB By-  
14 Laws to broaden the membership.

15 Mr. Bishop stated that on the question about getting more shipments from Los Alamos  
16 to WIPP, Los Alamos does get every shipment they want based on their reproduction  
17 rates on repackaging and characterization. He noted that they do one shipment a week.  
18 Mr. Bishop stated that they have two readiness reviews coming online to open two TRU  
19 processing lines. He noted that one is called drill and drain where if there are any liquids  
20 in a drum or container they will selectively go in after they have used real time  
21 radiography and x-ray it, target those pockets of liquid and drill in to the container and  
22 take the liquid out to make it WIPP compliant. The drill and drain readiness would be  
23 coming up in March. The second readiness is to start another processing line for the  
24 corrugated metal pipes (CMPs) that are currently below grade at Area G. DOE will dig  
25 them up in Phase 1 then take it to one of their containment buildings and a shear will  
26 size the CMPs to fit in a solid waste box and shipped to WIPP.

27 Mr. Bishop stated that March 28<sup>th</sup> DOE will begin re-entry into the workplace. It is the  
28 third wave of re-entry to the workspace. The DOE employees will be coming off  
29 telework and going back into the office.

30 Mr. Bishop stated that the other update he is providing is on the Justice40 Initiative. He  
31 noted that the NNM CAB was given a teaser at the last Board Meeting. He noted that  
32 they would be giving more presentations on Justice40 and that EM-LA would be  
33 presenting on it at the Waste Management Conference in March. Mr. Bishop also noted  
34 that Los Alamos is the only EM pilot program for Justice40.

35 Mr. Hull asked if the Executive Committee meeting with EM-1, Mr. Ike White, was  
36 recorded or if notes were available to share with the NNM CAB members. Mr. Bishop  
37 stated that he would get the meeting highlights and notes from the communications  
38 group at EM-LA.

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39  
40 **VII. Presentation**

41 **a. Overview of Organizational Chart for LANL Entities**

42 Mr. Erich Evered, N3B, gave a presentation on "Organizational Chart for LANL Entities."  
43 An electronic copy of the presentation may be obtained from the NNM CAB Staff

1 [menice.santistevan@em.doe.gov](mailto:menice.santistevan@em.doe.gov) or [bridget.maestas@em.doe.gov](mailto:bridget.maestas@em.doe.gov) or by calling (505)  
2 989-1662.

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3  
4 **VIII. Presentation**

5 **a. Suggested Priority Topics for NNM CAB Review During FY'2022**

6 Mr. Erich Evered, N3B, gave a presentation on "Priority Topics for NNM CAB Review  
7 During CY2022." An electronic copy of the presentation may be obtained from the  
8 NNM CAB Staff ([menice.santistevan@em.doe.gov](mailto:menice.santistevan@em.doe.gov) or [bridget.maestas@em.doe.gov](mailto:bridget.maestas@em.doe.gov) or by  
9 calling (505) 989-1662.

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11 **IX. Public Comment**

12 Ms. Atcitty opened the floor for public comment at 2:32 p.m.

13 Ms. Cynthia Weehler , Co-Chair of a community organization called 285 All – They monitor  
14 issues that affect the 23 communities along Highway 285, which also happens to be the  
15 designated route for radioactive waste from LANL to WIPP. She would like to ask if she could  
16 make a presentation to the NNM CAB if and when it is convenient. The presentation is about  
17 the DOE plans to completely change the mission of WIPP. She got this information from the  
18 Federal Register with help from some local NGOs like Concerned Citizens for Nuclear Safety,  
19 Nuclear Watch New Mexico, and Southwest Research and Information Center. Her  
20 understanding of the plan is that it puts her neighbor at unnecessary risk. Nobody seems to  
21 know about his new plan. She has asked her neighbors, her State Representative, her State  
22 Senator, the County Commissioners, staffers, her Congressional Delegation, and none of  
23 them knew about this new mission. She noted that one of the hardest things she has had to  
24 do is convince people that it actually is a thing. County Commissioner Hansen and Ms.  
25 Weehler presented to the Legislator's Radioactive and Hazardous Materials Committee,  
26 who did not know. She stated that the last straw for her was when she found out that the  
27 Emergency Manager of the Santa Fe County Fire Department had not heard about it and he  
28 couldn't prepare for the changing conditions that this will bring about. He will be the one  
29 that will have to determine if an accident had occurred and mitigate it. She stated that the  
30 first cross country shipments are scheduled to start this summer. She realized it is not her  
31 neighborhood at risk, it is hundreds of thousands of neighborhoods because this new  
32 mission will cross at least eleven states and probably last for the rest of the Century. She  
33 would like to explain it in a brief presentation to the NNM CAB, if possible. It seems to be  
34 that the DOE and NNSA don't want people to know, they are refusing to speak to the public.  
35 She is thinking that they simply hope to have the program in place before the public realizes  
36 the risk that they are being put at. She noted that they have been talking to everyone, they  
37 are trying to talk to the farmers, the pueblos, and have been asked to talk to ranchers along  
38 Interstate 40, which will be part of that route. They are talking to people and neighborhoods  
39 along 599 and 502 and the main thing is that they are finding that there is a lot of interest to  
40 the public and they want to make sure that communities aren't put at risk and silenced. She  
41 is asking the NNM CAB if they would like to hear that presentation.

42 Maire O'Neil, Los Alamos Reporter – Ms. O'Neil stated that she enjoyed her interview with  
43 EM-1, Mr. Ike White, his answers to her questions were great, very succinct and honest  
44 answers. She suggested that the NNM CAB members might want to read the stories that she  
45 put up on the Los Alamos Reporter. She stated that the second thing is, she read the EM-LA  
46 coverage of Mr. White's visit and she was very happy to see Mr. Danny Katzman still alive

1 and kicking and still on the project. She noted that she always looks forward to Mr.  
2 Katzman's presentations, he is great to talk to any reporter, he is very thorough, and she has  
3 missed seeing him at the NNMCAB meetings and other forums. Ms. O'Neil thanked Mr.  
4 Evered for his presentation on the topics for next year, it was very interesting.

5 With no further public comment, Ms. Atcitty closed public comment at 2:37 p.m.

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6  
7 **X. Members Break into Committees to Prepare Work Plans for FY '2022**

8 **a. Committee Summaries**

9 Mr. Hayden, Consent Order Committee

- 10 • They are going to work with the 10 sites that were shared with the group earlier  
11 plus they are doing to add in Waste Control Specialists and WIPP as a  
12 recommendation for Risk to oversee and include in their plan. To the extent that  
13 waste is sent to WIPP, if this is something they want to push, they will change  
14 their scope in the Charter to include that.
- 15 • Regarding membership, they thought maybe opening it up to other Citizen  
16 Advisory Boards since the meetings are in a hybrid environment, to include such  
17 things as interns or areas in the state which are not in the current boundaries.  
18 The other alternative is to get alternates for somebody that can't attend or  
19 must step out for personal reasons. Have statistics for representation for that  
20 portfolio.
- 21 • Training that would be good for a tour, Waste Management experience, and  
22 Environmental Justice.
- 23 • (Lee) Campaigns for this year, Middle DP Road, CMEs, MDAs, Townsite Update.
- 24 • (Lee) Non-Consent Order Committee items were WCS waste, WIPP, how to  
25 work with membership in the future and workforce planning.

26  
27 Mr. Hull, Risk Committee

- 28 • Work Plan was from 2020 and wasn't updated in 2021 because the Risk  
29 Committee did not do anything in 2021, they combined meetings with the  
30 Consent Order Committee.
  - 31 • Updated the Work Plan but are still led by the Consent Order Committee  
32 priorities in the committee meetings.
  - 33 • Mission Statement was left the same as it was.
  - 34 • Editorial changes were made.
  - 35 • Item #5 – things that they would focus on this year, those identified by Erich in  
36 his list plus 3 added by Elena and maybe one other. Maybe 10 items in total will  
37 be listed and will address what they can during the year.
  - 38 • Already had WCS but will include WIPP.
  - 39 • Things members would participate in – Waste Management Symposium and EM  
40 Cleanup Forum
  - 41 • Ongoing priorities for the Risk Committee are to: Review potential corrective  
42 measure technical options for Material Disposal Areas (MDAs); Review human  
43 and ecological health exposure pathways; Review waste categorization, waste  
44 packaging and shipment, and waste disposition issues.
- 45



1 Mr. Bishop asked Ms. Santistevan to have something on topical meetings as they come  
2 up like the Environmental Justice Forum if they re-start it, have a placeholder in the  
3 Work Plan for general topical meetings at a National or Regional level.  
4

5 Mr. Hull added that Mr. Grogan asked to have a presentation on risk and how it is  
6 evaluated at the sites.  
7

8 Ms. Fernandez, Public Outreach Committee

- 9 • This is the first time they have met formally; the full committee will be able to  
10 meet as they go along.
- 11 • Core component of the committee is equity, diversity, and inclusion to reach  
12 out to as many members or people affected by activities at LANL and how they  
13 can reach all these communities. The Justice40 Initiative is also a big part of  
14 that.
- 15 • Stakeholder Engagement Plan
- 16 • Social Media – what would be appropriate and having more engagement with  
17 youth.
- 18 • Would like to see fact sheets, newsletters, both in print and online. Repository  
19 in information to give stakeholders.
- 20 • Public engagement forums – libraries, speakers bureau presentations, reach out  
21 to higher education and grade school because students are a pipeline and the  
22 committee wants to make sure they have the information they need about their  
23 state and could possibly be future members.
- 24 • Ms. Fernandez and Mr. Miguel Vigil will serve as the Interim Executive  
25 Committee.

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26  
27 **XI. Adjournment**

28 Mr. Bishop stated that the meeting was very productive. He noted that Ms. Elicia Williams is  
29 a tech editor on staff and can look over the Work Plans to help pull them together. He  
30 stated that membership is a general discussion that would have to be visited in the next  
31 couple of meetings on how it might look like including student members. Mr. Bishop  
32 adjourned the meeting at 4:00 p.m.

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33  
34 **Respectfully Submitted,**

35 **Bridget Maestas,**  
36 **Executive Assistant**

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37  
38 **Attachments:**

- 39 1. Final Joint Committee Meeting Agenda for 02/16/2022
- 40 2. Final Minutes for the October 13, 2021 Meeting
- 41 3. Handout, Organizational Chart for LANL Entities
- 42 4. Biography, Erich Evered, N3B
- 43 5. Presentation, Priority Topics for NNMCAB Review During CY2022
- 44 6. Draft Work Plan, Risk Evaluation and Management Committee
- 45 7. Draft Work Plan, Consent Order Committee
- 46 8. Draft Work Plan, Public Outreach Committee

47 **\* The written minutes are intended as a synopsis of the meeting.**