



## **Northern New Mexico Citizens' Advisory Board Meeting**

### **Public Outreach Subcommittee Meeting**

**October 02, 2024**

**8:30 a.m. to 9:30 a.m.**

**WebEx Meeting**

**Draft Minutes**

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#### **Meeting Attendees (Via WebEx)**

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##### **Department of Energy**

1. Keith Grindstaff, DDFO, Environmental Management Los Alamos

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##### **NNMCAB Members**

1. Patricio Pacheco, NNMCAB Chair
2. Eleanor Bravo
3. Danielle Duran
4. Abbey Hayward
5. Joseph Villegas

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##### **NNMCAB Staff/Support**

1. Bridget Maestas, Executive Director
2. Menice Santistevan, Senior Advisor
3. Yolanda Valdez, Executive Assistant

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##### **Guests**

1. Scott Kovac, Nuclear Watch New Mexico

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

**Minutes**

**I. Call to Order**

The meeting of the Northern New Mexico Citizens' Advisory Board (NNMCAB) Public Outreach Subcommittee was held on October 2, 2024, via Webex. Mr. Keith Grindstaff, NNMCAB DDFO, called the meeting to order at 8:34 a.m.

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**II. Welcome and Introductions**

Mr. Villegas welcomed everyone to the meeting and gave an introduction. Mr. Villegas then allowed the members to introduce themselves.

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**III. Approval of Agenda**

The board reviewed the agenda for the October 2, 2024, meeting. Mr. Villegas asked for a motion to approve the agenda as presented.

Ms. Danielle Duran made a motion to approve the agenda; Ms. Abbey Hayward seconded the motion. The agenda was approved, as presented.

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**IV. Old Business**

**a. Update from Chair**

There was no update from the Chair.

**b. Other items**

Mr. Grindstaff stated that he would be reading the scope and objectives of the EM SSAB.

***Objectives and Scope of Activities.** The EM SSAB is made up of local site chapters (also known as "local boards") at EM sites throughout the country that operate under this charter and provide the Assistant Secretary for Environmental Management (EM), or the appropriate DOE EM official, with advice and recommendations concerning issues affecting the EM program. At the request of the Assistant Secretary or the Field Managers, the Board may provide advice and recommendations concerning the following EM site-specific issues: clean-up activities and environmental restoration; waste and nuclear materials management and disposition; excess facilities; future land use and long-term stewardship. The Board may also be asked to provide advice and recommendations on any EM program components, such as risk assessments, communications, and funding priorities.*

***Description of Duties.** The duties of the Board are solely advisory in nature.*

Mr. Pacheco read the Public Outreach Mission statement. Please see attachment.

**c. Questions**

Mr. Villegas asked if the Work Plan required updating.

Ms. Maestas stated that the Department of Energy is creating an overall NNMCAB Work Plan that will serve each of the subcommittees.

Mr. Pacheco recommended that the members review the Work Plan and visit the DOE National website. The website contains videos concerning the NNMCAB. [EM Site-Specific Advisory Board | Department of Energy](#)

Ms. Maestas stated that the NNMCAB website has been updated.  
<https://www.energy.gov/em/nnmcab/northern-new-mexico-citizens-advisory-board>

Ms. Santistevan stated that the second paragraph of the mission statement is the subcommittee's focus. The subcommittee aims to reach out to the public and educate them about the cleanup project at the laboratory. The information will include educational forums, speaker's bureau presentations, and fact sheets.

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**V. Nominations for Chair and Vice-Chair**

**a. Election of Officers**

Mr. Villegas was elected Chair.

Ms. Duran was elected Vice-Chair.

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**VI. Public Comment Period**

Mr. Pacheco opened the floor for public comment at 8:56 a.m.

With no public comment, Mr. Pacheco closed public comment at 8:57 a.m.

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**VII. Look Ahead**

**• Ideas for Public Outreach Action Items Going Forward**

Ms. Bravo stated that in her county there are organizations that hold monthly meetings that welcome presenters. The NNMCAB should present to bring awareness of the cleanup and of the NNMCAB.

Mr. Villegas stated that the Risk and Evaluation and Management Subcommittee and Public Outreach Subcommittee work coincide.

Mr. Grindstaff asked if there are rules of engagement when the Chair and Vice Chair meet.

Ms. Maestas stated that there are no rules against members collaborating offline. The Chair and Vice-Chair can collaborate and bring the information back to the subcommittee members.

Ms. Hayward stated that she would like to develop an onboarding guide for new members.

Ms. Bravo stated that presentations at interim committees would keep legislators informed of the cleanup process and of the NNMCAB. Ms. Bravo offered to provide

support by scheduling a presenter on the agenda and accompanying them to the presentation.

Mr. Villegas stated that in the past he has attended the Radioactive and Hazardous Materials Committee (RHMC) meetings, and it reaches the entire state.

Ms. Santistevan stated that in the past the NNMCAB Chair has presented to the RHMC. Future presentations should include the board's mission, recruitment, and the makeup of the board. Presentations on the cleanup should be provided by Environmental Management Los Alamos (EM-LA).

Ms. Duran stated that in 2023 EM-LA and Los Alamos County presented to the RHMC. A joint presentation with EM-LA will assist in promoting the NNMCAB.

Mr. Pacheco asked if the NNMCAB Facebook page was still active.

Ms. Maestas stated that the account is not active, and the account needs to be updated.

Mr. Kovac stated that the RHMC will be meeting in Santa Fe on November 15, 2024.

Ms. Duran stated that the RHMC 2024 agenda may be full. June or July of 2025 is an opportune time to get on the agenda.

Mr. Pacheco recommended outreach to forums such as Kiwanis, Eagles, churches, and Santa Fe and Los Alamos Councils

The subcommittee discussed different social media platforms and a presentation that can be utilized for outreach.

- **Scheduling Future Meetings**

The Subcommittee discussed a schedule for future meetings. The next meeting will be November 6<sup>th</sup> from 8:30 a.m. to 9:30 a.m. Future meetings will be held on the first Wednesday of each month from 8:30 a.m. to 9:30 a.m.

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## **VIII. Adjournment**

With no additional business to discuss, Mr. Grindstaff adjourned the meeting at 9:28 a.m.

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**Respectfully Submitted,**

**Yolanda Valdez,  
Executive Assistant**

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## **Attachments**

1. Public Outreach Subcommittee Meeting Agenda for 10/02/2024
2. Public Outreach Subcommittee Mission Statement

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