

**MINUTES
of the
FIFTH MEETING
of the
INDIAN AFFAIRS COMMITTEE**

**October 3, 2022
Sandia Resort and Casino
Ballroom A
30 Rainbow Road
Pueblo of Sandia**

**October 4, 2022
State Capitol, Room 307
Santa Fe**

**October 5, 2022
Santa Fe Indian School
1501 Cerrillos Road
Santa Fe**

The fifth meeting of the Indian Affairs Committee was called to order by Representative D. Wonda Johnson, co-chair, on October 3, 2022 at 10:33 a.m. in Ballroom A of Sandia Resort and Casino at the Pueblo of Sandia.

Present

Rep. D. Wonda Johnson, Co-Chair
Sen. Shannon D. Pinto, Co-Chair
Rep. Eliseo Lee Alcon
Rep. Anthony Allison
Rep. Kelly K. Fajardo (10/4)
Sen. Nancy Rodriguez
Rep. Patricia Roybal Caballero
Sen. Joshua A. Sanchez
Sen. William E. Sharer
Sen. Benny Shendo, Jr.
Rep. Martin R. Zamora

Advisory Members

Rep. Gail Chasey (10/4)
Sen. Linda M. Lopez (10/3)
Sen. Bill B. O'Neill (10/4, 10/5)
Sen. Michael Padilla (10/3, 10/5)

Absent

Rep. Zachary J. Cook
Sen. Leo Jaramillo
Rep. Derrick J. Lente
Rep. Georgene Louis
Sen. Brenda G. McKenna
Sen. Cliff R. Pirtle

Rep. Doreen Y. Gallegos
Rep. Harry Garcia
Sen. Stuart Ingle
Rep. Patricia A. Lundstrom
Sen. William P. Soules
Rep. Elizabeth "Liz" Thomson

Guest Legislator

Rep. Linda Garcia Benavides (10/3)

(Attendance dates are noted for members not present for the entire meeting.)

Staff

Lenaya Montoya, Staff Attorney, Legislative Council Service (LCS)

Sara Wiedmaier, Research Assistant, LCS

Sheila Keleher, Research Assistant, LCS

Guests

The guest list is in the meeting file.

Handouts

Handouts and other written testimony are in the meeting file and posted on the legislature's website.

References to Webcast

The time reference noted next to each agenda item in this document is cross-referenced to the webcast of the committee meeting, which can be found at www.nmlegis.gov, under the "Webcast" tab. The presentations made and committee discussions for agenda items can be found on the recorded webcast for this meeting.

Monday, October 3 — Pueblo of Sandia

Welcome and Introductions (10:33 a.m.)

Representative Johnson welcomed everyone and invited members of the committee and staff to introduce themselves.

Welcome and Status Update (10:38 a.m.)

Stuart Paisano, governor, Pueblo of Sandia, welcomed the committee to the Pueblo of Sandia and Sandia Resort and Casino. Governor Paisano discussed infrastructure development and funding; state-tribal relations; emergency services and health measures; education initiatives; and water rights for the Pueblo of Sandia. He highlighted jurisdictional issues regarding law enforcement and potential legislative solutions.

Update on Tribal Gaming (11:36 a.m.)

Tunté Vigil, state gaming representative, Gaming Control Board, provided an update on tribal gaming revenue, health measures and future goals. She discussed the role of the Gaming Control Board; staffing issues; and revenue sharing between the tribes and the state. The presentation can be found here:

<https://www.nmlegis.gov/handouts/IAC%20100322%20Item%202%20Tribal%20Gaming%20Presentation.pdf>.

Public Comment (12:24 p.m.)

A list of individuals making public comment is available in the meeting file.

Wild Horse Management Legislation (1:41 p.m.)

Senator Pat Woods and Jessica Johnson, chief government affairs officer, Animal Protection Voters, discussed proposed legislation that would address wild horse management and safety concerns on state lands as well as jurisdictional issues on state and federal lands, potential strategies and best practices.

Update on the Gold King Mine Settlement (2:52 p.m.)

Cholla Khoury, chief deputy attorney general, Civil Affairs, Office of the Attorney General, and William Grantham, assistant attorney general, Consumer and Environmental Protection Division, Office of the Attorney General, updated the committee on settlements, legal and cleanup costs, community compensation and ongoing litigation regarding the Gold King Mine spill.

Recess

The committee recessed at 3:17 p.m.

Tuesday, October 4 — State Capitol, Santa Fe**Reconvene**

Senator Pinto reconvened the meeting at 10:34 a.m. and invited members of the committee, staff and audience to introduce themselves.

Update from the Indian Affairs Department (IAD) on the State-Tribal Collaboration Act, the Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Relatives Task Force and the Tribal Infrastructure Project Fund (10:44 a.m.)

Lynn Trujillo, secretary, IAD; Melody Delmar, special projects coordinator, IAD/ Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Relatives Task Force; and Lawrence John, tribal infrastructure fund/capital outlay administrator, IAD, provided a comprehensive overview of the department and highlighted various Tribal Infrastructure Fund projects; hiring and training initiatives; funding sources; and state-tribal collaboration. They also discussed the work being done by the Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Relatives Task Force and the "Missing in New Mexico" event. The presentation can be found here:

<https://www.nmlegis.gov/handouts/IAC%20100322%20Item%205%20IAD%20presentation.pdf>.

Motion to Send a Letter in Support of Hiring Additional Full-Time Employees for the IAD (12:35 p.m.)

On a motion made by Representative Johnson and seconded by Representative Roybal Caballero, the committee voted to send a letter to the Legislative Finance Committee in support of the IAD hiring additional full-time employees to focus on education and outreach to tribes regarding the Tribal Infrastructure Fund application process and coordination of the Tribal Infrastructure Fund and capital outlay projects and funding.

Approval of Minutes (12:36 p.m.)

On a motion made by Senator Rodriguez, seconded by Senator Sharer, and without objection, the minutes of the September 7-9, 2022 joint meeting with the Legislative Education Study Committee were approved.

Public Comment

There was no public comment.

Building Regenerative Communities (1:51 p.m.)

Percy Anderson, secretary/treasurer, Manuelito Chapter, Navajo Nation, and Stephen Silversmith, secretary/treasurer, Iyanbito Chapter, Navajo Nation, discussed priorities and challenges for Navajo chapter projects and emphasized the importance of chapter certification for local input, planning and community development. The presentation materials can be found here:

<https://www.nmlegis.gov/Committee/Handouts?CommitteeCode=IAC&Date=10/3/2022&ItemNumber=6>.

Presentation on Human Trafficking in New Mexico (2:51 p.m.)

Michael DeBernardi, Psy.D., M.S., chief executive officer and clinical psychologist, The Life Link; Maureen Lomahaptewa, victim advocate, The Life Link; and Frank Zubia, director, Crime Victims Reparation Commission, discussed funding, partnerships and initiatives to assist victims of human trafficking. The presentation can be found here:

<https://www.nmlegis.gov/handouts/IAC%20100322%20Item%207%20TLL%20&%20CVRC%20presentation.pdf>.

Recess

The meeting recessed at 3:52 p.m.

Wednesday, October 5 — Santa Fe Indian School, Santa Fe**Reconvene**

Representative Johnson reconvened the meeting at 10:15 a.m.

Welcome and Status Update (10:15 a.m.)

Gary Lujan, director, Trust Land Management, Santa Fe Indian School, welcomed the committee and opened with a prayer. Mr. Lujan provided a brief overview of student statistics and housing on campus; COVID-19 protocols; school programs; broadband initiatives; and future goals for the Santa Fe Indian School. The presentation can be found here:

<https://www.nmlegis.gov/handouts/IAC%20100322%20Item%208%20SFIS%20-%20Promotional%20Brochure.pdf>.

Update on Broadband Issues in New Mexico (11:13 a.m.)

Kelly Schlegel, director, Office of Broadband Access and Expansion, Department of Information Technology, discussed state goals; department staffing; current initiatives; grant opportunities and awards; middle and last mile strategies; and the importance of digital equity. She provided a time line for future broadband and equity access deployment.

Teresa Hopkins, director, Government Affairs and Public Policy, Sacred Wind Communications; Guy Turley, vice president, Smith Bagley, Inc.; Godfrey Enjady, general manager and founder, Mescalero Apache Telecom, Inc., Mescalero Apache Tribe; Matejka Santillanes, New Mexico Exchange Carrier Group; and Jay Santillanes, New Mexico Exchange Carrier Group, provided a brief history of their companies and highlighted current projects, funding sources and the need to educate consumers on cybersecurity and digital literacy. They discussed the work being done in coordination with the state to expand broadband access and provide affordable service to rural New Mexico and native communities. The presentation materials can be found here:

<https://www.nmlegis.gov/Committee/Handouts?CommitteeCode=IAC&Date=10/3/2022&ItemNumber=9>.

Public Comment

There was no public comment.

Tour of the Santa Fe Indian School (1:43 p.m.)

Adjournment

There being no further business before the committee, the meeting adjourned at 3:30 p.m.