

**MINUTES
of the
FIFTH MEETING
of the
LAND GRANT COMMITTEE**

**November 22, 2022
State Capitol, Room 322
Santa Fe**

The fifth meeting of the Land Grant Committee was called to order by Senator Leo Jaramillo, chair, on Tuesday, November 22, 2022, at 10:25 a.m. in Room 322 of the State Capitol in Santa Fe.

Present

Sen. Leo Jaramillo, Chair
Rep. Susan K. Herrera, Vice Chair
Rep. Linda Garcia Benavides
Rep. Miguel P. Garcia
Rep. Matthew McQueen
Sen. Gerald Ortiz y Pino
Rep. Christine Trujillo

Absent

Rep. Rachel A. Black
Sen. Bill B. O'Neill
Sen. Michael Padilla
Sen. Cliff R. Pirtle
Sen. Joshua A. Sanchez

Advisory Members

Sen. Linda M. Lopez
Sen. Elizabeth "Liz" Stefanics

Rep. Eliseo Lee Alcon
Sen. David M. Gallegos
Rep. Harry Garcia
Rep. D. Wonda Johnson
Sen. Shannon D. Pinto

Staff

Mark Edwards, Bill Drafter, Legislative Council Service (LCS)
D. Martin Fischer, Staff Attorney, LCS
Michelle Jaschke, Researcher, LCS
Anthony Montoya, Staff Attorney, LCS

Minutes Approval

Because the committee will not meet again this year, the minutes for this meeting have not been officially approved by the committee.

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.

Tuesday, November 22

Welcome and Introductions (10:25 a.m.)

Senator Jaramillo welcomed the committee and asked members, staff and attendees to introduce themselves.

Concerns Regarding a Partitioned Land Grant Bill (10:35 a.m.)

Ralph Laumbach, vice president, Santa Gertrudis de lo de Mora Land Grant-Merced; Ernesto Lujan, president, Las Vegas Land Grant-Merced; and L. Ortiz, heir, Arroyo Hondo Land Grant-Merced, expressed their opposition to a proposed partitioned land grant bill. Novela Salazar, Office of the Attorney General, addressed the panel's questions.

Land Grant Council: Budget Update (11:16 a.m.)

Juan Sanchez, chair, Land Grant Council, and Arturo Archuleta, program manager, Land Grant Council, presented an overview of current land grant programs and an update on the Land Grant Council budget for fiscal year 2024. Mr. Archuleta outlined the land grant capital outlay priorities for 2023. The presentation materials can be found here:

<https://www.nmlegis.gov/Committee/Handouts?CommitteeCode=LGC&Date=11/22/2022&ItemNumber=2>.

Legislative Issues Concerning Acequias (12:19 p.m.)

Ralph Vigil, chair, Acequia Commission, and Paula Garcia, executive director, New Mexico Acequia Association, addressed the importance of the Acequia and Community Ditch Infrastructure Fund and the need for more disaster recovery funding following the catastrophic wildfire damage to acequias in 2022. Ms. Garcia also highlighted the significance of retaining acequia water protections under the Cannabis Regulation Act. Mr. Vigil reviewed the Acequia Commission's initiatives for widespread watershed protection for New Mexico communities. The presentation materials can be found here:

<https://www.nmlegis.gov/Committee/Handouts?CommitteeCode=LGC&Date=11/22/2022&ItemNumber=3>.

Review of Potential 2023 Legislation (2:03 p.m.)

Mr. Edwards discussed potential 2023 legislation, including eligibility criteria for land grant partitions to be land grant-mercedes political subdivisions. Mr. Archuleta addressed some of the committee members' questions concerning the proposed bills. The presentation materials can be found here:

<https://www.nmlegis.gov/Committee/Handouts?CommitteeCode=LGC&Date=11/22/2022&ItemNumber=5>.

Adjournment

There being no further business before the committee, the meeting adjourned at 3:11 p.m.