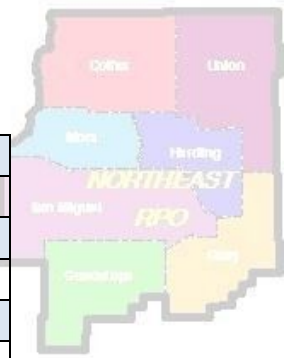


Regular Meeting Minutes
 Northeast Regional Transportation Planning Organization (NERTPO)
 Hosted by the Eastern Plains Council of Governments and
 North Central New Mexico Economic Development District
 ONLINE
 January 26th, 2021
 10:00 a.m.



Meeting Attendees

Present	Jason Phillips	City of Raton	Alternate
Absent	Heather Dostie	City of Santa Rosa	Voting Member
Present	Robert Thompson	Colfax County	Alternate
Present	Gerald Garcia	San Miguel County	Alternate
Present	Samuel Blea	Town of Springer	Voting Member
Present	Shawn Jeffrey - Vice-Chair	Village of Cimarron	Voting Member
Present	Jeff Carr	Village of Eagle Nest	Voting Member
Present	Ralph Lopez	City of Tucumcari	Alternate
Present	Ferron Lucero	Town of Clayton	Voting Member
Present	Mary Berglund	Village of Eagle Nest	Alternate
Absent	Sarah Arias	Town of Springer	Alternate
Present	Ken Flores	Guadalupe County	Alternate
Absent	Karen Gates	Village of Maxwell	Voting Member
Present	Julie Kulhan	Village of Angel Fire	Alternate
Present	Clay Kiesling	Union County	Voting Member
Absent	Pedro Laumbach	Harding County	Alternate
Absent	Scott Parnell	Village of Logan	Voting Member
Absent	Daniela Johnson	Village of Mosquero	Voting Member
Present	Bret E. Wier	Colfax County	Voting Member
Absent	Cynthia Lee	Village of San Jon	Voting Member
Absent	Wanda Martinez	Mora County	Alternate
Present	Ernest Sanchez	Town of Clayton	Alternate
Absent	Monica Abeyta	Guadalupe County	Voting Member
Absent	Arnold Lopez	San Miguel County	Voting Member
Absent	Jennifer Baca	Harding County	Voting Member
Absent	Jay Ruybalid	Village of Angel Fire	Voting Member
Absent	Daniel Gurule	City of Las Vegas	Voting Member
Absent	Larry Moore	Quay County	Voting Member
Present	John N. Romero	Mora County	Voting Member
Absent	Matthew Baca	Village of Roy	Alternate
Present	Danny Laumbach	Village of Roy	Voting Member
Absent	Scott Berry	City of Raton	Voting Member



Absent	Daniel Zamora	Quay County	Alternate
Absent	Vacant	City of Las Vegas	Alternate
Absent	Audrey Caufield	City of Santa Rosa	Alternate
Absent	Vicki Strand	City of Tucumcari	Voting Member
Absent	Angie Gonzales	Union County	Alternate
Absent	Renee Ledoux	Village of Cimarron	Alternate
Absent	Lee Dixon	Village of Des Moines	Voting Member
Absent	Scott Warner	Village of Des Moines	Alternate
Absent	Diane Brown	Village of Folsom	Voting Member
Absent	Mike Schoonover	Village of Folsom	Alternate
Absent	Lynn Wiseman	Village of Grenville	Alternate
Absent	Mignon Saddoris	Village of Grenville	Voting Member
Absent	Shannon Aikman	Village of House	Voting Member
Absent	Sherwin W. Martin	Village of House	Alternate
Absent	Dave Shivers	Village of Logan	Alternate
Absent	Joanna Taylor	Village of Maxwell	Alternate
Absent	Connie Cook	Village of Mosquero	Alternate
Absent	Telesfor Benavidez	Village of Pecos	Voting Member
Absent	Vacant	Village of Pecos	Alternate
Absent	Wade Lane	Village of San Jon	Alternate
Absent	Laudente Quintana	Village of Wagon Mound	Voting Member
Absent	Nora Sanchez	Village of Wagon Mound	Alternate

RTPO Planners, NMDOT Staff, and other attendees

- Richard Cordova, Chair – Eagle Nest
- Vincent Soule – Eastern Plains Council of Governments (EPCOG)
- Monica Abeita - North Central NM Economic Development District (NCNMEDD)
- Christopher Madrid – North Central NM Economic Development District (NCNMEDD)
- Paul Sittig– North Central NM Economic Development District (NCNMEDD)
- Raul Rodriguez III – Eastern Plains Council of Governments (EPCOG)
- Kyla Danforth – North Central NM Economic Development District (NCNMEDD)
- Rosa Kozub – NMDOT Government to Government Planning Division
- Samantha Sandoval – NMDOT LGRF Program Planner
- John Herrera – NMDOT District 4 Assistant Engineer

- Dallas Baker – Village of Mosquero
- Eric Renz-Whitmore – North Central NM Economic Development District (NCNMEDD)
- Richard Runyon



I. Call to Order

The Meeting was called to order at 10:04 AM by Chairman Richard Cordova.

II. Pledge of Allegiance/New Mexico State Flag

The Pledge of Allegiance and salute to the New Mexico State Flag were led by Chairman Richard Cordova.

III. Welcome

Chairman Richard Cordova welcomed everyone to the virtual meeting and allowed for introductions. Chairman Cordova also announced that this would be his last meeting. Members thanked Chairman Cordova for his many years of service.

Individual introductions were conducted by all in attendance.

IV. Approval of Agenda

Chairman Richard Cordova opened the review and approval of the agenda. Motion to approve the agenda as presented: Clay Kiesling, Union County
Second: Robert Thompson, Colfax County

Roll call:

Entity	Representative	Vote
Colfax County	Bret E. Weir	Yes
San Miguel County	Gerald Garcia	Yes
Union County	Clay Kiesling	Yes
City of Raton	Jason Phillips	Yes
Town of Clayton	Ernest Sanchez	Yes
Town of Springer	Samuel Blea	Yes
Village of Angel Fire	Julie Kulhan	Yes
Village of Cimarron	Vice Chair Shawn Jeffrey	Yes
Village of Eagle Nest	Jeff Carr	Yes
Village of Roy	Danny Laumbach	Yes

Guadalupe County did not reply; otherwise, all present voted in the affirmative. Motion carries.

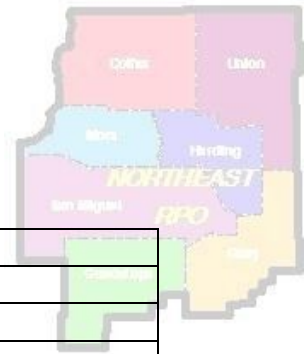
V. Approval of Minutes January 2022 – (EPCOG and NCNMEDD virtual)

Chairman Richard Cordova opened the review and approval of the minutes from the November 30, 2021, monthly meeting. With no comments provided, the Chairman moved for a motion.

Motion to approve the minutes as presented by Jason Phillips, City of Raton

Second: Shawn Jeffrey, Village of Cimarron

Roll call:



Entity	Representative	Vote
Colfax County	Bret E. Weir	Yes
Guadalupe County	Ken Flores	Yes
San Miguel County	Gerald Garcia	Yes
Union County	Clay Kiesling	Yes
City of Raton	Jason Phillips	Yes
City of Tucumcari	Ralph Lopez	Yes
Town of Clayton	Ernest Sanchez	Yes
Town of Springer	Samuel Blea	Yes
Village of Angel Fire	Julie Kulhan	Yes
Village of Cimarron	Vice Chair Shawn Jeffrey	Yes
Village of Eagle Nest	Jeff Carr	Yes
Village of Roy	Danny Laumbach	Yes

Ralph Lopez, City of Tucumcari joined the meeting in time to review and vote on the minutes. All present voted in the affirmative. Motion carries.

VI. Discussion: RTPO 101 Training Presentation, Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) Update and RTIPR Proposal (NERTPO Planners)

Paul Sittig, NCNMEDD, presented membership with an overview of the RTPO’s history and function. Transportation Planning develops policies, legislative action, performance measures, collaborating with regional projects and identifies sources of funding for member entities. Mr. Sittig introduced the legislative language pertaining to RTPOs. The New Mexico NMDOT develops multiple plans to focus on the various aspects of the transportation sector. The NMDOT 2045 plan is a visionary plan developed every five (5) years with a twenty (20) plus year planning horizon. The NMDOT STIP is a fiscally constraining document covering 4 years plus 2 planning years and is a more near-term document prioritizing projects and amended quarterly. There are more NMDOT Planning documents that are used to manage different aspects of the transportation sector in the state. Some of these include, but are not limited to:

- ❖ Transportation Asset Management Plan (TAMP) (2019)
- ❖ Strategic Highway Safety Plan (HSIP) (2021)
- ❖ Planning Work Program (PWP) – Two (2) year planning plan for Planning Division
- ❖ Statewide Transit Asset Management Plan (2019-2022)
- ❖ Pedestrian Safety Action Plan
- ❖ Airport System Plan

The area Councils of Government and Economic Development districts were created through Joint Power Agreements signed by their respective counties and NCNMEDD was recognized by EDA as an economic development district in 1968. The RTPO’s legislative language that establishes an RTPO’s function can be found in the New Mexico Commission Policy 68 (03/15/18). The Northeast RTPO develops a Regional Transportation Plan (RTP), which is the long range plan for the region, the Regional Transportation Improvement Program Recommendations (RTIPR), which is a prioritized list of projects that are

recommended to be funded by the NMDOT, and the Regional Work Plan (RWP), which outlines work products for two (2) years funded by the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) and managed by the NMDOT. The RWP outlines the work product of RTPO staff from both EPCOG and NCNMEDD. The RTPO Board consists of representatives selected by their respective tribal or local agency. Board meetings are open to the public and provide a forum to distribute information and discuss transportation planning and funding opportunities. The RTPO Board rates and ranks transportation and transit project proposals in the region that provides information to the NMDOT and other decision-making agencies.



Clay Kiesling, Union County, asked how to get a project onto the RTIPR and the state STIP. Mr. Sittig answered Mr. Kiesling's question, stating that members present their project at an RTPO rating and ranking meeting, where the members then rate projects, with the RTPO staff compiling a final ranking of the rated projects. With RTPO Board approval, this ranked list becomes the RTIPR. The NMDOT District may fund the projects and add them to the STIP, or the projects on the RTIPR may go through additional review bodies before some are awarded funds and added to the STIP, depending on funding sources. Mr. Kiesling also asked about what a County could do with a state road. Mr. Sittig replied saying the jurisdiction must be identified and the project must be developed in tandem with an entity's respective planner and NMDOT. If the local entity's infrastructure priority is a state-owned structure, there are many ways to approach the issue of development and coordination of project applications and maintenance.

John Romero, Mora County, asked about a project regarding curb and gutter and whether he needed to obtain his own consultant or if NMDOT provided this service. John Herrera, NMDOT, replied that Mora County would need to obtain their own consultant to design the project.

Mr. Romero asked about a project for County Road 16 and a turning lane on State Road 151, which will be joint project between the county and state requiring an action from Mora County by NMDOT and being federally funded. Mr. Herrera responded state road 151 will need an access permit by NMDOT for a turning lane.

Chairman Cordova asked for membership to try to remain within the parameters of the agenda. The time to ask Mr. Herrera and Ms. Sandoval questions will be presented under item ten (X) of the agenda. Chairman Cordova also added when the special call for projects goes out that a project under the design phase is awarded more points than a new project. Mr. Herrera concurred.

Mr. Sittig presented the new RTP proposed schedule to present each section of the RTP to membership for input. Mr. Sittig asked membership for verbal approval to pursue further work with Mr. Rodriguez III and Ms. Danforth.

Vice-Chairwoman Jeffrey voiced her approval in support of the outline of the RTP proposed schedule. Vice-Chairwoman Jeffrey informed membership that Chairman Cordova had to step away from the meeting, asked for questions and there being none, moved onto the next item on the agenda.

Mr. Sittig proposed a rough draft of the RTIPR to include proposed projects on one list rather than split them into separate lists for different funding sources or project types. Mr. Sittig asked for verbal approval for the new format of the updated RTIPR. Ms. Jeffrey suggested that we add a match waiver eligibility column.



VII. Discussion: Legislative Update – (County Development Supervisor NCNMEDD)

Christopher Madrid, NCNMEDD County Development Supervisor, presented information about the Legislative Session that is currently ongoing. Stating there was a special session in December with the State Supreme Court determining that American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funding must pass through the State Legislature. Included was about \$480 million in funding with close to \$142 million for infrastructure and roads. There is a \$1.7 billion surplus general funding plus ARPA funding on top of that. Governor Michelle Lujan-Grisham has recommended a 6.2% increase for transportation design and construction budget for the upcoming fiscal year. Governor Grisham also has pushed for legislation to address predatory loans, developing the hydrogen industry, and increase for teacher pay statewide. Legislative appropriation for Capital Outlay has not been concluded about the amount awarded to each elected representative for spending. Junior bill money has been submitted and is predominantly education, acequias and food insecurity. A new initiative by the tourism department includes identification of prospective projects worthy of funding through review of ICIPs throughout the state concluding with recommendations to Govern Lujan-Grisham. Of the total recommended projects eight (8) are related to bike and pedestrians statewide and a number within the NERTPO region. Mr. Madrid concluded with an expectation for a special session to determine the final amount appropriated for the Transportation Project Fund (TPF) and federal infrastructure funding. Chairman Cordova stressed the need for funding for water infrastructure. Vice-Chairwoman Jeffrey stated that applications are being accepted for the Clean Water Loan Fund and may be issued a one hundred percent 100% grant for wastewater issues.

VIII. Action/ approval: Resolution and Plaque for Chairman Cordova’s Service (NERTPO Planners/ Vice-Chairwoman Jeffrey)

Vice-Chairwoman Shawn Jeffrey presented a resolution and plaque for Chairman Cordova’s years of service to the NERTPO and other areas within the NERTPO region. Members thanked the Chairman for his service. Former Community Development Supervisor for NCNMEDD, Lesah Sedillo, spoke with appreciation for all of Mr. Cordova’s service with gratitude and indication of the impact of his service that will be missed within the NERTPO. Monica Abeita, Executive Director NCNMEDD, presented the plaque for Mr. Cordova’s service. Mr. Ernesto Salazar, President of the Board NCNMEDD, expressed gratitude for Mr. Cordova’s service.

Motion to approve resolution 2022-001 made by Jeff Carr, Eagle Nest.
Second: Robert Thompson, Colfax County

A roll call vote was not taken, instead the motion was supported with general verbal approval.

IX. Discussion: NERTPO Planners/ Program Manager Reports – (NERTPO Planners)

Paul Sittig, NCNMEDD, reported there was no additional items to present or discuss. Raul Rodriguez III, EPCOG, reported about the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law and the

applications for the FY 2023 state Transportation Project Fund (TPF) call for projects.



X. Discussion: NMDOT District IV Update – (Mr. James M. Gallegos, PE – District IV Engineer and NMDOT Staff)

John Herrera, NMDOT District 4 Assistant Engineer, reminded membership about the solicitation letters for upcoming Local Government Road Fund (LGRF) funding have been sent to members and are due to NMDOT on March 15, 2022. Closeout documents must be sent to NMDOT in a timely manner. A presentation by NMDOT about LGRF will be given in the next in-person meeting. LGTPF funding should be in the design phase and moving into construction phase. If an entity is requesting a time extension, please send in the request about 60-90 days in advance.

XI. Discussion: Project Status Updates (Local Government Members)

Vice-Chairwoman Jeffrey stated that the Village of Cimarron is at 30% completion on the FFY21 TPF project. Project status update will be January 30th, 2022.

Chair Cordova updated the membership of Angel Fire’s TPF projects are going out for bid February 15th, 2022. Construction of the third project begins in May 2022.

XII. New Business

- A. General Comments and Announcements from NERTPO members and Public Comment. There being none.
- B. Suggested Agenda items for upcoming meetings – nothing presented by members.
- C. Meeting Location Amendments – to be virtual, until the health advisory status changes.

- ❖ February 23, 2022 – Virtual
- ❖ April 27, 2022 – Virtual
- ❖ May 25, 2022 - Virtual

XIII. Adjournment

With there being no further business to discuss, the meeting adjourned at 11:22 AM.