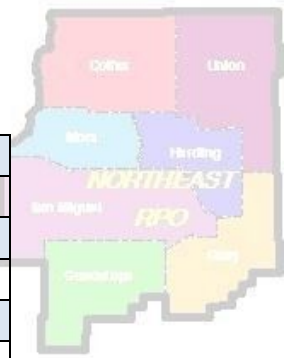


Regular Meeting Minutes
 Northeast Regional Transportation Planning Organization (NERTPO)
 Hosted by the Eastern Plains Council of Governments and North
 Central New Mexico Economic Development District
 ONLINE
 August 25th, 2021
 10:00 a.m.



Meeting Attendees

Present	Jason Phillips	City of Raton	Alternate
Present	Heather Dostie	City of Santa Rosa	Voting Member
Present	Bret E. Wier	Colfax County	Voting Member
Present	Robert Thompson	Colfax County	Alternate
Present	Jennifer Baca	Harding County	Voting Member
Present	Larry Moore	Quay County	Voting Member
Present	Gerald Garcia	San Miguel County	Alternate
Present	Ernest Sanchez	Town of Clayton	Alternate
Present	Ferron Lucero	Town of Clayton	Voting Member
Present	Samuel Blea	Town of Springer	Voting Member
Present	Clay Kiesling	Union County	Voting Member
Present	Shawn Jeffrey - Vice-Chair	Village of Cimarron	Voting Member
Present	Richard Cordova-Chair	Village of Eagle Nest	Voting Member
Present	Cynthia Lee	Village of San Jon	Voting Member
Present	Ralph Lopez	City of Tucumcari	Alternate
Present	Ken Flores	Guadalupe County	Alternate
Present	Terry Martinez	Mora County	Voting Member
Present	Karen Gates	Village of Maxwell	Voting Member
Present	Mary Berglund	Village of Eagle Nest	Alternate
Present	Sandy Garcia	Village of Angel Fire	Alternate
Absent	Pedro Laumbach	Harding County	Alternate
Absent	Monica Abeyta	Guadalupe County	Voting Member
Absent	Matthew Baca	Village of Roy	Alternate
Absent	Arnold Lopez	San Miguel County	Voting Member
Absent	Danny Laumbach	Village of Roy	Voting Member
Absent	Scott Berry	City of Raton	Voting Member
Absent	Daniel Gurule	City of Las Vegas	Voting Member
Absent	Daniel Zamora	Quay County	Alternate
Absent	Sarah Arias	Town of Springer	Alternate
Absent	Vacant	City of Las Vegas	Alternate
Absent	Vacant	City of Santa Rosa	Alternate
Absent	Vicki Strand	City of Tucumcari	Voting Member



Absent	Vacant	Mora County	Alternate
Absent	Angie Gonzales	Union County	Alternate
Absent	Jay Mitchell	Village of Angel Fire	Voting Member
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 Sadoris	Village of Grenville	Voting Member
Absent	Shannon Aikman	Village of House	Voting Member
Absent	Sherwin W. Martin	Village of House	Alternate
Absent	Russell Feerer	Village of Logan	Alternate
Absent	Scott Parnell	Village of Logan	Voting Member
Absent	Joanna Taylor	Village of Maxwell	Alternate
Absent	Connie Cook	Village of Mosquero	Alternate
Absent	Daniela Johnson	Village of Mosquero	Voting Member
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

Planners, NMDOT, and State Agencies

- Raul Rodriguez III – Eastern Plains Council of Governments (EPCOG)
- Vincent Soule – Eastern Plains Council of Governments (EPCOG)
- Paul Sittig– North Central NM Economic Development District (NCNMEDD)
- Chris Madrid – North Central NM Economic Development District (NCNMEDD)
- Samantha Sandoval – NMDOT LGRF Program Planner
- John Herrera – NMDOT District 4 Assistant Engineer
- Rosa Kozub – NMDOT Government to Government Unit Supervisor
- Jason Coffey – NMDOT HSIP Manager
- Rebecca Martinez – City of Las Vegas
- Karen Stearns – Engineering Analytics



I. Call to Order

The Meeting was called to order at 10:05 AM by Vice-Chairwoman Jeffrey.

II. Pledge of Allegiance/New Mexico State Flag

The Pledge of Allegiance and salute to the New Mexico State Flag were led by Vice-Chairwoman Jeffrey.

III. Welcome

Chairman Cordova welcomed everyone to the virtual meeting and allowed for introductions.

Individual introductions were conducted by all in attendance.

IV. Approval of Agenda

Chairman Cordova opened the review and approval of the agenda.
 Motion to approve the agenda as presented: Bret E. Wier, Colfax County
 Second: Cynthia Lee, Village of San Jon

Roll call:

Entity	Representative	Vote
Colfax County	Bret E. Wier	Yes
Guadalupe County	Ken Flores	Yes
Harding County	Jennifer Baca	Yes
Mora County	Terry Martinez	Yes
Quay County	Larry Moore	Yes
San Miguel County	Gerald Garcia	Yes
Union County	Clay Kiesling	Yes
Village of Angel Fire	Richard Cordova	Yes
Village of Cimarron	Shawn Jeffrey	Yes
Town of Clayton	Ernest Sanchez	Yes
Village of Eagle Nest	Mary Berglund	Yes
Village of Maxwell	Karen Gates	Yes
City of Raton	Jason Phillips	Yes
Village of San Jon	Cynthia Lee	Yes
City of Santa Rosa	Heather Dostie	Yes
Town of Springer	Samuel Blea	Yes
City of Tucumcari	Ralph Lopez	Yes

Villages of House, Des Moines, Mosquero, Pecos, Folsom, Grenville, Logan, City of Las Vegas, Village of Roy, and the Village of Wagon Mound were absent. Motion carries.

V. Approval of Minutes (July Meeting–EPCOG and NCNMEDD hybrid)



Chairman Cordova opened the review and approval of the agenda. With no comments provided, the Chairman moved for a motion.

Motion to approve the minutes as presented by Karen Gates, Village of Maxwell
 Second: Samuel Blea, Town of Springer

Roll call:

Entity	Representative	Vote
Colfax County	Bret E. Wier	Yes
Guadalupe County	Ken Flores	Yes
Harding County	Jennifer Baca	Yes
Mora County	Terry Martinez	Yes
Quay County	Larry Moore	Yes
San Miguel County	Gerald Garcia	Yes
Union County	Clay Kiesling	Yes
Village of Angel Fire	Sandy Garcia	Yes
Village of Cimarron	Shawn Jeffrey	Yes
Town of Clayton	Ernest Sanchez	Yes
Village of Eagle Nest	Mary Berglund	Yes
Village of Maxwell	Karen Gates	Yes
City of Raton	Jason Phillips	Yes
Village of San Jon	Cynthia Lee	Yes
City of Santa Rosa	Heather Dostie	Yes
Town of Springer	Samuel Blea	Yes
City of Tucumcari	Ralph Lopez	Yes

Villages of House, Des Moines, Mosquero, Pecos, Folsom, Grenville, Logan, City of Las Vegas, Village of Roy, and the Village of Wagon Mound were absent. Motion carries.

With all present voting in the affirmative, motion carries.

VI. Action/approval: NCNMEDD NERTPO RWP Amendment – (Paul Sittig, NCNMEDD)

Paul Sittig presented the North Central New Mexico Economic Development District (NCNMEDD) Regional Work Program (RWP) Amendment to membership for review, discussion, and approval. The largest change to the NCNMEDD RWP would be the revision to the budget pertaining to office staffing and support with addition of a Transportation Intern position. With this there will only be shifting of the budget between existing tasks and functions, and hours decreasing to reflect available hours for NCNMEDD staff to support two RTPOs (NERTPO and Northern Pueblos RTPO). Mr. Sittig noted that he distributed the RWP with proposed amendments via email and posted it to the RTPO NM “meetings” webpage as a supporting document for this meeting. He also noted that NMDOT had reviewed the proposed changes and showed support of the Amendment to the RWP.

With no discussion, Chairman Cordova moved for a motion.

Motion to approve NCNMEDD RWP Amendment as presented: Shawn Jeffrey, Village of Cimarron
 Second: Karen Gates, Village of Maxwell



Roll Call:

Entity	Representative	Vote
Colfax County	Bret E. Wier	Yes
Guadalupe County	Ken Flores	Yes
Harding County	Jennifer Baca	Yes
Mora County	Terry Martinez	Yes
Quay County	Larry Moore	Yes
San Miguel County	Gerald Garcia	Yes
Union County	Clay Kiesling	Yes
Village of Angel Fire	Sandy Garcia	Yes
Village of Cimarron	Shawn Jeffrey	Yes
Town of Clayton	Ernest Sanchez	Yes
Village of Eagle Nest	Mary Berglund	Yes
Village of Maxwell	Karen Gates	Yes
City of Raton	Jason Phillips	Yes
Village of San Jon	Cynthia Lee	Yes
City of Santa Rosa	Heather Dostie	Yes
Town of Springer	Samuel Blea	Yes
City of Tucumcari	Ralph Lopez	Yes

Villages of House, Des Moines, Mosquero, Pecos, Folsom, Grenville, Logan, City of Las Vegas, Village of Roy, and the Village of Wagon Mound were absent. Motion carries.

With all present voting in the affirmative, motion carries.

VII. Action/approval: EPCOG NERTPO RWP Amendment – (Raul Rodriguez III, EPCOG)

Raul Rodriguez III presented the Eastern Plains Council of Governments (EPCOG) RWP Amendment to membership for review. Mr. Rodriguez noted that the narrative is not being changed. Budgeted hours were decreased and financials concerning travel were changed because of the effects of the COVID-19 Pandemic stunting travel throughout the region.

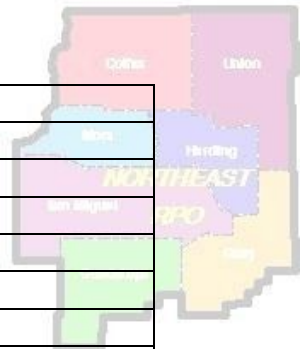
With no discussion, Chairman Cordova moved for a motion.

Motion to approve EPCOG RWP Amendment as presented: Jason Phillips, City of Raton
 Second: Cynthia Lee, Village of San Jon

Roll call:

Entity	Representative	Vote
Colfax County	Bret E. Wier	Yes
Guadalupe County	Ken Flores	Yes

Harding County	Jennifer Baca	Yes
Mora County	Terry Martinez	Yes
Quay County	Larry Moore	Yes
San Miguel County	Gerald Garcia	Yes
Union County	Clay Kiesling	Yes
Village of Angel Fire	Sandy Garcia	Yes
Village of Cimarron	Shawn Jeffrey	Yes
Town of Clayton	Ernest Sanchez	Yes
Village of Eagle Nest	Mary Berglund	Yes
Village of Maxwell	Karen Gates	Yes
City of Raton	Jason Phillips	Yes
Village of San Jon	Cynthia Lee	Yes
City of Santa Rosa	Heather Dostie	Yes
Town of Springer	Samuel Blea	Yes
City of Tucumcari	Ralph Lopez	Yes



Villages of House, Des Moines, Mosquero, Pecos, Folsom, Grenville, Logan, City of Las Vegas, Village of Roy, and the Village of Wagon Mound were absent. Motion carries.

With all present voting in the affirmative, motion carries.

VIII. Action: Election of Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson

Chairman Cordova noted that he spoke with Vice-Chairwoman Jeffrey about staying in the same elected positions for the new term if supported by NERTPO membership.

Motion for approval for officers Chairman and Vice-Chairwoman to remain seated: Jason Phillips, City of Raton

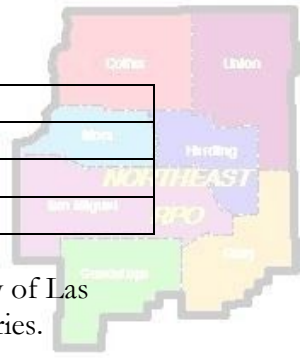
Second: Ernest Sanchez, Town of Clayton

With no additional discussion or nomination of candidates, Chairman Cordova called for a vote.

Roll call:

Entity	Representative	Vote
Colfax County	Bret E. Wier	Yes
Guadalupe County	Ken Flores	Yes
Harding County	Jennifer Baca	Yes
Mora County	Terry Martinez	Yes
Quay County	Larry Moore	Yes
San Miguel County	Gerald Garcia	Yes
Union County	Clay Kiesling	Yes
Village of Angel Fire	Sandy Garcia	Yes
Village of Cimarron	Shawn Jeffrey	Yes
Town of Clayton	Ernest Sanchez	Yes
Village of Eagle Nest	Mary Berglund	Yes
Village of Maxwell	Karen Gates	Yes
City of Raton	Jason Phillips	Yes

Village of San Jon	Cynthia Lee	Yes
City of Santa Rosa	Heather Dostie	Yes
Town of Springer	Samuel Blea	Yes
City of Tucumcari	Ralph Lopez	Yes



Villages of House, Des Moines, Mosquero, Pecos, Folsom, Grenville, Logan, City of Las Vegas, Village of Roy, and the Village of Wagon Mound were absent. Motion carries.

With all present voting in the affirmative, motion carries, and members thanked the Chair and the Vice Chair for their continued support and leadership of NERTPO.

IX. Discussion: TAP, RTP and CMAQ timelines and updates – (NERTPO Planners)

Paul Sittig, NCNMEDD, reminded the membership that the call for project for the federally funded programs is closed but action is ongoing. Raul Rodriguez III, EPCOG, and Mr. Sittig have had site visits and the membership was reminded of federal funding timeline:

Month	Year	Activity
Aug 25	2021	Regular NERTPO meeting, review and approve rating and ranking structure
Sept 16	2021	Deadline for District 4 to return signed PFFs to RTPO staff
Sept 22	2021	Regular NERTPO meeting, review rating and ranking process
Oct 4	2021	Complete applications due to RTPO planner , RTPO planners vet for completeness
Oct 27	2021	Regular NERTPO meeting, rating and ranking TAP, RTP, CMAQ applications
Oct 29	2021	Deadline for RTPO planners to upload complete applications to NMDOT's FTP site <i>Late or incomplete applications will not be accepted</i>
Nov-Dec	2021	CMAQ/TAP/RTP Program Coordinators reviews applications for completeness and prepares packages for rating and ranking by Selection Committee (CMAQ & TAP) and Recreational Trails Advisory Board (RTAB) (RTP)
Jan-Feb	2022	CMAQ and TAP Selection Committees rate, rans, and select projects; RTAB rates and ranks RTP projects and makes recommendations to NMDOT
March	2022	NMDOT sends award letters and award forms Entities must sign and return the form to confirm acceptance of federal funding and commitment to the required local match Projects added to STIP Preview (out for public review concurrently)

Mr. Sittig continued and noted that the RTPO members can now discuss or consider the rating and ranking criteria used by the RTPO board to rate and rank projects to include on the Northeast RTPO Regional Transportation Improvement Program Recommendations (RTIPR).

Mr. Rodriguez reminded membership that federally funded programs are highly competitive and should be bolstered by having traffic counts, pictures, and inclusion of mentioning within entity's Comprehensive Plans, ICIPs or any other plans. He also noted that these programs

are reimbursement only and entity must pay for projects up front, the federal portion of eligible expenses to be reimbursed by NMDOT.



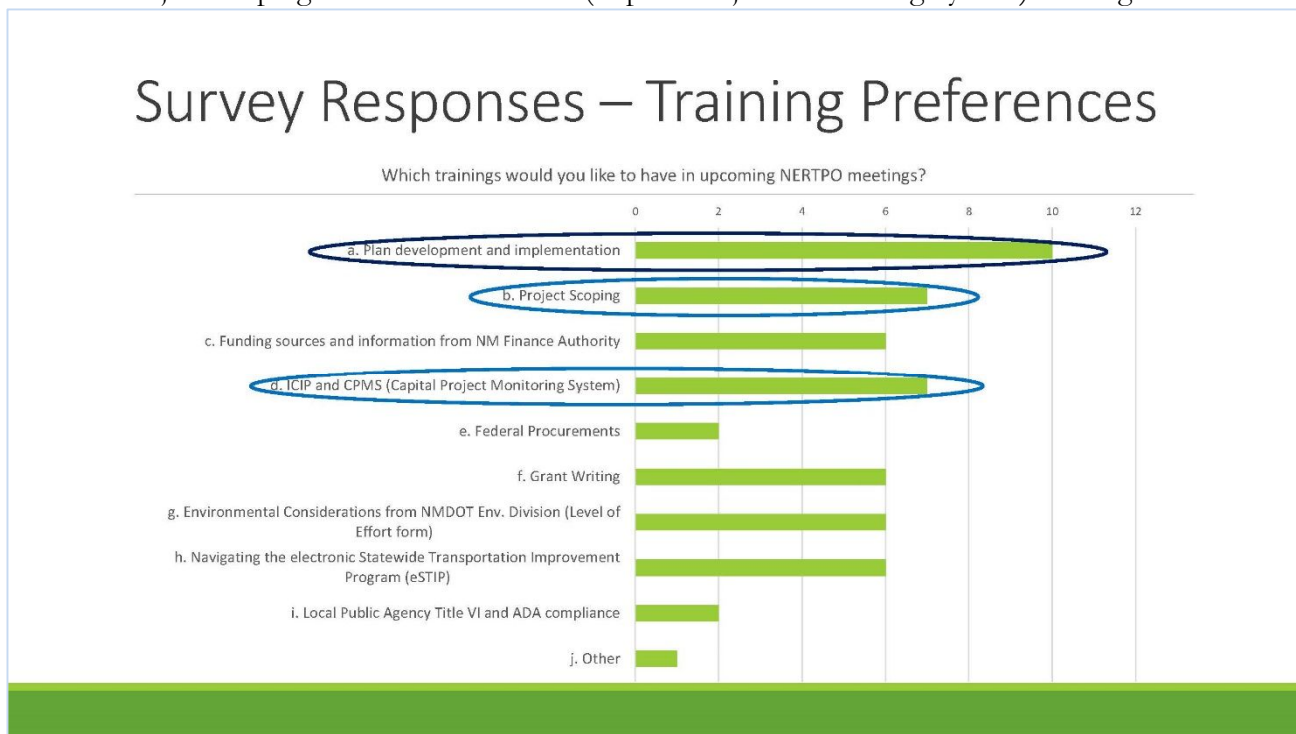
Gerald Garcia, San Miguel County, asked about the amount of reimbursement and planners made it clear that reimbursement is the 85.44% federal share. The local entity's share is 14.56%. There is no match waiver for federal funding but in-kind match or soft match may be approved by the District. The entity must coordinate with District 4 about proposed soft matches in advance and document all expenses to be used as soft match in sufficient detail.

Rosa Kozub, NMDOT, reiterated that the reimbursement is only 85.44%.

Samantha Sandoval, NMDOT, spoke of a conflict with the September 22nd rating and ranking NERTPO regular meeting and the Association of Counties meeting. NMDOT representatives Samantha Sandoval and John Herrera will not be able to attend the NERTPO meeting.

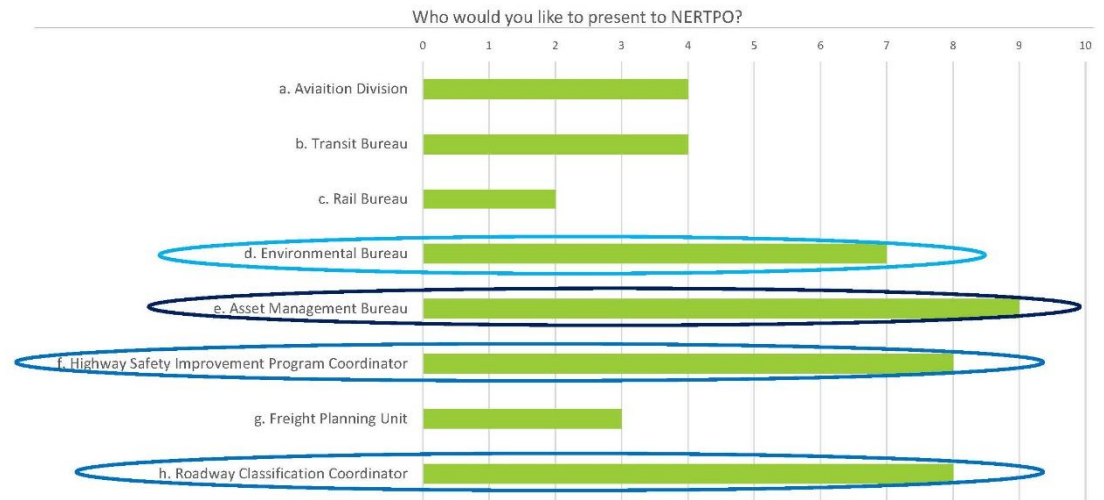
X. Discussion: NERTPO Training Plan – (NERTPO Planners)

NERTPO Planners presented the results of the training and presentation preferences survey sent to members. The training category with the most votes in support was Plan Development and Implementation. Planners will coordinate and develop plans with NMDOT and other partners to present regarding this topic. Next highest ranked categories were for Project Scoping and ICIP and CPMS (Capital Project Monitoring System) trainings.



The highest ranked presentation from NMDOT was the from the Asset Management Bureau, followed by the Highway Safety Improvement Program Coordinator and Roadway Classification Coordinator, and then the Environmental Bureau.

Survey Responses – Presentation Priorities



Mr. Sittig presented a suggested tentative training timeline for the upcoming year. Vice-Chairwoman Jeffrey Suggest the ICIP trainings be moved up on the calendar closer to springtime because the deadline to submit your updated ICIP plan is in September. Samantha asked to be included in January for LGRF training. Revisions to this calendar of events will be made. Bolded items on the calendar of events are suggested to be attended in person as per the Attorney General's guidance with supplementary virtual components to upcoming meetings. Chairman Cordova asked if we could include ADA trainings as well and NERTPO Planners agreed that this would be a great training opportunity.

Proposed Calendar of Events

Date	Event	Contact(s)	Notes
Wed., Oct. 27, 2021	Asset Management; Northeast RTP Update	NMDOT; RTPO Staff	
Tues., Nov. 30, 2021	Public Transit Rating & Ranking; Roadway Classifications Presentation	NMDOT Transit; NMDOT/ RTPO	
Dec. 22, 2021	<i>Canceled</i>		
Wed., Jan. 26, 2022	RTPO 101; LGRF training and traffic	RTPO Staff; NMDOT D4	Location: SF Business Incubator
Wed., Feb. 23, 2022	Legislative Session, Capital Outlay Updates; NMDOT Env. Bureau	RTPO Staff; NMDOT Env. Staff	
Wed., March 23, 2022	Plan Development, Implementation; TPF Scope and Process Review	NMDOT Planning; RTPO Staff	
Wed., April 27, 2022	Project Scoping; ADA training	(LTAP?)	
Wed., May 25, 2022	TPF Rating and Ranking	RTPO Staff	Assuming June 15 application deadline
Wed., June 22, 2022	Review Bylaws and Open Meetings Act resolution	RTPO Staff	
Wed., July 27, 2022	ICIP and CPMS training; HSIP Update	RTPO; NMDOT HSIP	
Wed., Aug. 24, 2022	RTPO Chair & Vice Chair election	RTPO staff	Chair, Vice Chair serve 9/1–8/30
Wed., Sept. 28, 2022	eSTIP Tutorial; Safety	NMDOT POD; HSIP	

(Amended with updated meeting dates and presentation topics, per discussion on Aug. 25, 2021)



XI. Discussion: NERTPO Planners/Program Managers Reports- (NERTPO Planners)

Paul Sittig, NCNMEDD, reminded members about the ICIP timelines for trainings offered by DFA and deadlines for updated ICIP Plans. A New Mexico Transportation Commission meeting will be held online August 26th, 2021, to appropriate Transportation Project Fund (TPF) funding and the link can be shared if any entity is interested in participating. He also noted that the Outdoor Recreation Trails program is still open and will end August 31st.

Raul Rodriguez III, EPCOG, updated membership about the \$3.5 trillion-dollar federal budget legislation passing in the U.S. House of Representatives moving onto the U.S. Senate. Mr. Rodriguez stated he had discussed with the State Commissioner of Land Management updated that there is a piece of legislation called the Community Wind and Solar Act that may have a great affect on the eastern side of New Mexico and may impact the region economically if utilized by local communities. Mr. Rodriguez is learning more and branching out into economic development. He updated membership that road classification deadlines have been extended to September 2021. Traffic counts and maps clearly defining beginning and ending termini and road classification change form. NMDOT has tentatively changed this due to staffing changes and will keep NERTPO Planners updated with as much information regarding this issue.

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

Samantha Sandoval, NMDOT, confirmed that the New Mexico Transportation Commission meeting is the next day, August 26th, 2021, to discuss and confirm the state’s Transportation Project Fund (TPF) awards. Award letters and agreements will be sent out to entities who receive funding. Ms. Sandoval asked entities to put the TPF award acceptance and match waiver resolutions on their local agendas to obtain approval for agreements and match waivers. She noted that they must be separate resolutions because some entities will not receive match waivers. She also asked that entities ensure that resolutions are broken into local and state matches. Ms. Sandoval noted that she and NERTPO Planners will send out an example resolution that has been updated with these specifications.

Ms. Sandoval also asked for time extensions must be submitted as soon as possible with resolutions and agreements if entity is requesting them due to deadline being December 31st, 2021. She also noted that the NMDOT Project Oversight Division (POD) is changing protocol for how things such as resolutions are being administered, so she might be asking for revisions in how information is presented.

Rosa Kozub, NMDOT, updated membership about NMDOT approving their Long-Range Transportation Plan titled “The New Mexico 2045 Plan” that is [available on the Planning Division of the NMDOT website](#). NMDOT also adopted a [Pedestrian Safety Action Plan](#) for the next five years for NMDOT.

XIII. Discussion: Project Status Update (Local Government Members)

Sandy Garcia, Village of Angel Fire, spoke about three (3) G.O. Bond projects that are completely designed. Their 2019 TPF project has gone out for bid and construction started August 24th, 2021. NMDOT is still working on the Highway 44 passing through Angel Fire.



XIV. New Business

A. General Comments and Announcements from NERTPO members and Public Comment

One comment from Raymond Mondragon, EPCOG, regarding the Ports-to-Plains Corridor. The New Mexico House included legislation proposing that Highway 87 be designated an Interstate in both Texas and New Mexico. However, there were 400+ amendments to the bill and the designation of Highway 87 was taken out of the language of the bill. This puts the Ports-to-Plains Corridor designation back to where it began. Eastern Plains Council of Governments developed a corridor study with funding from NMDOT. Joe Kiely went into brain surgery concerning multiple strokes. He is home now and resting well.

Chairman Cordova asked if there is anything that the counties and municipalities can do beside lobbying for this. Mr. Mondragon replied that this sounds to be back to square one, and he will be back to NERTPO to discuss a new strategy, following a Ports-to-Plains meeting to be held.

B. Suggested Agenda items for upcoming meetings – nothing presented by members.

C. Meeting Location Amendments – to be virtual, until the health advisory status changes.

Chairman Cordova asked whether members wanted to see the September meeting move to the week before or after Sept. 22, 2021, due to the conflict with the Association of Counties meeting on the 22nd. Gerald Garcia, San Miguel County, spoke in favor of the week after, for September 29. Chairman Cordova asked members if the 29th worked for them for an online meeting. Representatives of Clayton, Guadalupe County, and San Jon spoke in favor of the date change. Vice Chair Jeffrey noted that Raton has a dam conference on September 29. Hearing no comments against the 29th, the date stands.

November 24th was noted as being the day before Thanksgiving. Commissioner Weir suggested that the November meeting be moved to the week after Thanksgiving, and cancel the December meeting. Chairman Cordova noted that the December meeting is generally cancelled, and suggested meeting on Tuesday, November 30th, if that works for members. Colfax County confirmed that Nov. 30th worked for them.

- ❖ **September 29th, 2021** – Virtual
- ❖ **October 27th, 2021** – Virtual
- ❖ **November 30th, 2021** – Virtual (tentative)

XV. Adjournment

With there being no further business to discuss, the meeting adjourned at 11:15 AM.