REGIONAL COALITION of LANL COMMUNITIES
City of Española – Pueblo of Jemez – Los Alamos County – Ohkay Owingeh
Rio Arriba County – Santa Fe County – City of Santa Fe – Taos County – Town of Taos

REGIONAL COALITION MEETING MINUTES
May 12, 2017 | 9:00a—11:00a
Town of Taos Council Chambers, 120 Civic Plaza Drive, Taos, NM 87571

A. Call to Order – Chair Barney Trujillo | 9:19a-
   a. 19 total audience members

B. Confirmation of Quorum – Chair Barney Trujillo – Approved
   Attendees: Commissioner Barney Trujillo, Commissioner Henry Roybal, Councilor Chris Chandler, Councilor Darien Fernández, Proxy: Fabian Trujillo (Mayor Javier Gonzales); Excused: Lt. Governor Ward Yeppa, Mayor Alice Lucero, Commissioner Mark Gallegos, Representative Ron Lovato

C. Approval of Agenda – Chair Barney Trujillo | 9:20a-
   a. Approved - Motioned by: Commissioner Roybal, Santa Fe County; Second: Councilor Chandler, County of Los Alamos

D. Approval of Meeting Minutes - Chair Barney Trujillo
   a. Approved - Motioned by: Fabian Trujillo, City of Santa Fe; Second: Commissioner Roybal, County of Santa Fe

E. Discussion/Action Items (1hr 25 min) | 9:21a–
   a. Briefing from NM Congressional Delegation
      i. Michele Jacquez-Ortiz, Senator Udall’s office
         i. Congress passed the FY17 spending bill which included funding for a number of New Mexico programs. It fully funded Pell Grants and $465M for payment in lieu of taxes (PILT) programs, a statewide water conservation program, and wildfire suppression. For NM National Labs, the bill provides funding for operations, facility maintenance and improvements, and environmental cleanup. The Cleanup Bill came in at $194M, which was a $9M increase from FY16. WIPP is funded at $324M, which includes $27M toward supplementary environmental projects earmarked for northern New Mexico. There is also support for tech transfer due to more flexibility on federal matching funds for tech transfer entrepreneurs. $700,000 has been designated to expand upon efforts to set up the Manhattan Project National Historic Park, which is $350,000 more than FY16.
         ii. In March, both Senators sent a letter to DOE Cabinet Secretary Perry to invite him to visit Los Alamos National Labs and Sandia Labs. Secretary Perry visited LANL for first time as DOE Secretary on May 10, 2017.
      b. Katie Richardson, Senator Heinrich’s office
         i. Sandia National Laboratory (SNL) M&O contract was awarded to National Technology and Engineering Solutions of Sandia (NTESS), a subsidiary of Honeywell Corporation
            I. Much of the new leadership at SNL, have had experience working at LANL, includes Dr. Stephen Younger, Susan Seestrom, and former RCLC board member, Steve Girrens, now the new Nuclear Deterrence Associate Lab Director.
            II. About 48% of procurement dollars allocated to small businesses. NTSS will increase 2% each year to reach 60% in 5 years. There will also be a statewide 5% pricing preference for NM businesses.
         ii. LANL M&O contract expires October 1, 2018. Still anticipating a Draft RFI for LANL to come out this summer.
   b. Executive Director Update | 9:27a-
      a. RCLC Calendar – Timeline of Activities
         i. Calendar has been updated to reflect timeline for M&O contract transition. In May/June, Draft RFP will be open for comment for potential M&O contractors to direct their questions and concerns to NNSA regarding parameters of contract. Sandia M&O contract gave 30 days for comment period, and we anticipate LANL M&O contract will have the same timeframe. It may be possible to extend that timeline beyond 30 days if necessary.
         ii. Will prepare a formal summary of intel from Strategic Deterrence Symposium for next meeting.
         iii. Will have draft of Regional Attraction Guide at next meeting on June 9th.
c. Presentation and Discussion on LANL Foundation, Executive Director Jenny Parks | 9:39a-
   a. Endowed funds are used solely for Foundation’s purpose to “…fund programs to support the educational needs of children in public schools in the vicinity of Los Alamos National Laboratory.” Funding for scholarships and early childhood education funds are 100% fundraised from the community.
   b. Programming of the LANL Foundation takes place within seven counties surrounding LANL. Since districts vary in size, resources are not equally distributed across all seven counties, however, scholarships and grants are awarded throughout seven counties based on need and merit, without restraint. Due to size and need, much of the Foundation’s investments goes to Santa Fe and Rio Arriba, because they comprise the largest school districts in the region.
   c. LANL Foundation is not an advocacy organization and is non-partisan. However, LANL Foundation does advocate on behalf of education for the state.
      i. Overall they seek to leverage resources from the region and around the country though providing matching grants and other incentives.
   d. 2017-2019 LANL Foundation Strategic Plan
      i. Leadership & Advocacy: Seeking to serve as an education resource and example of best practices. Educating NM legislature on the importance of early childhood services and home visiting. Hosting education/teacher summits to support growth opportunities for school leadership.
         I. Building a STEM coalition of passionate individuals in collaboration with LANL, to boost STEM capacity within NM business and education sectors.
         II. They are now pursuing the possibility of creating a statewide strategic plan for education.
      ii. Increased Home Visiting (HV): Strengthening non-profit sector that provides HV services through training and quarterly coordination meetings with New Mexico Children, Youth, and Families Department (NMCYFD).
         I. Foundation was awarded a Kellogg grant to do early childhood work with Eight Northern Pueblos.
      iii. Talent Development: Collaboration with LANL security contractor, Centerra Los Alamos, to fund ‘Excellence in Teaching’ awards to increase teacher retention, support training for teachers, and encourage deeper relationships between teachers and students.
         I. Applications open in September and award given out in November.
      iv. Scholarships: Increasing scholarship opportunities through the ‘Regional College-Returning Students’, Tribal Business, Mesa Vista High School, and Climate Change scholarships.
         I. Working with Northern New Mexico College to raise funds for GED students who want to attend college. Looking to reduce costs and expand alumni association.
   e. Two new LANL Foundation Board members: Andrea Romero & Patricia Trujillo

   d. Presentation and Discussion of LANL Community Partnerships Office, Director Kathy Keith | 10:09a-
   a. With many LANL employees close to retirement, our challenge as a region is to train and support Northern New Mexicans to fill these jobs as they become available.
   b. LANL Internships for have scaled back on high school interns due to lack of workforce skills and needs to build soft skills. LANL CPO intends to focus on connecting with students who are more educationally equipped to work with the Labs.
   c. Los Alamos County has been proactive in addressing housing shortage for interns and summer students. Colleges and universities have been willing to offer dorm rooms for summer interns in Los Alamos. Call to all those communities surrounding LANL to become host to summer LANL students.
   d. Current partnerships with colleges and universities include programs at UNM-LA, Santa Fe Community College, NNM College, and Highlands University.
      i. There is a need for more NM workforce training so students of all education levels are ready for work environment.
   e. 2017 Super Computing Challenge
      i. first prize winners, Santa Fe High School, researched what areas of New Mexico have highest smog levels and determined best locations / mechanics to decrease smog levels.
   f. Over 200 LANL employees will be in Taos for 4 consecutive Fridays in August for a Habitat for Humanity construction project.
   g. Q&A
      i. Councilor Chandler – Are the upcoming 1,000 positions at LANL considered replacement positions or new positions? Is the average age of employees expected to go down with these new positions?
I. Keith: these positions are replacements because this number is the estimate of eligible retirees. 99.9% of new employees will be replacing retirees. It is estimated that by 2022, the majority of LANL workforce will be millennials.

e. National Laboratory Gross Receipts Tax Preservation effort update, Eric Martinez, Rio Arriba County | 10:36a-
   a. HB412 changes language from “GRT” to “state sales tax”.
      i. Due to differing tax structures around NM, Coalition Board should discuss with legislative representatives to understand how it will affect their respective municipalities.
   b. Q&A
      i. Fabian Trujillo – Is this Bill intended to be revenue neutral or will it generate revenue for the state? Does the Bill affect property taxes or just gross receipts taxes? Martinez responded that the Bill intends to stimulate business development by lowering taxes. It is hard to say if HB412 will be revenue positive or revenue negative because each municipality’s tax structure is different. So, it is necessary for each municipality to consult with legislative representatives, legal council, and accountants to determine the implications of this law. The Bill is over 400 pages and will affect property taxes, GRT, state sales tax, and more.
      ii. Andrea Romero – As per the Coalition Work Plan and Strategic Plan endorses Section 78 of HB412, which ensures the Laboratory taxation status remains the current status quo. The Coalition is not taking a position on any other negotiations and/or changes that affect our respective communities. If the Board would like to take a stance on other issues besides Section 78, such as overall structure of the bill or tax reform, the Board would have to re-adopt a position.
      iii. Councilor Chandler – As a Coalition, we should understand the impact of the anti-pyramiding provisions because it has potential for taking revenues off the table. Martinez responded that this language can be tailored through working with Senator Carlos Cisneros due to his jurisdiction in Northern New Mexico and was also a late co-sponsor of HB412.
      iv. What is the likelihood of this bill passing with such short timeframe? This is the third year that the bill has been introduced, and thus, this should be sufficient time to deliberate.

f. Briefing on TA-55 permit modification for NewGen waste storage, Tammy Diaz, Environmental Compliance Group | 10:46a-
   a. LANL is considered a Hazardous Waste Facility. It is among 2,200 Hazardous Waste Facilities in New Mexico. It is one of ten treatment and storage facilities in NM. LANL is also considered a large quantity generator because LANL does not dispose of waste at the facility, but does handle the treatment and storage of waste.
   b. 2010 LANL Hazardous Waste Facility Permit
      i. Follows strict requirements, which includes the occasional permit modifications, adding new treatment processes, etc.
      ii. The LANL Environmental Compliance Group (ECG) reports to New Mexico Environment Department (NMED)
         I. Requirements are set forth by EPA and then adopted by NMED
         II. With any permit modifications, added storage, and/or treatment, the ECG is required to submit a Class 1, 2, or 3 Permit Modification.
         III. The difference between modification classes is dependent upon public input and engagement as well as NMED timeline to review and approve modifications.
      iii. January 31, 2017 - LANL submitted Class 2 Permit Modification for TA-55
         I. Modification needed due to TA-55 reaching its current capacity limit for storage of hazardous waste.
         II. Includes addition of two hazardous waste container storage units (rooms), in Building 4.
         III. Also includes expansion of outdoor storage pad
            a. Constructed in 2005 and currently being used for programmatic work at TA-55.
         IV. 40 CFR Appendix I 270.42 Item F(1)(b) “Modification or addition of container units: Resulting in up to 25% increase in the facility’s container storage capacity”.
            a. Overall, this permit modification is only 2% increase to facility’s storage capacity.
         V. Public input period lasted for 60 days from February 5– April 5, 2017.
         VI. NMED has until May 31, 2017 to respond to application.
         VII. All modification permits are available for review at LANL Electronic Public Reading Room and Hardcopy Public Reading Room.
         VIII. Environmental Compliance Group supports mission for DOE and DOD and focuses on environmental compliance work, ensuring new hazardous waste is stored and managed properly.
IX. With WIPP’s 3-year closure, LANL has had difficulty with off-site shipments due to being a low priority for resumed waste shipments to WIPP. LANL is reaching capacity at several other existing permitted units and may need to request additional storage capacity going forward.

c. Q&A
i. Andrea Romero – With a likely increase in permit modifications due to limited shipments to WIPP, it is up for discussion to decide if newly generated waste is within the Board’s interests and want to continue to receive updates on NNSA NewGen waste.
ii. Councilor Chandler – When does newly generated waste become legacy waste? Does the definition drive who is responsible? It would be good for us to discuss this at an upcoming Board meeting because, as a Board, shouldn’t we care about all types of waste? Diaz responded that NewGen waste does not become legacy waste. EM-LA Communications Specialist, Steven Horak, responded that legacy waste is defined as nuclear waste generated pre-1999 (Cold War era). Romero commented that it would have to be reclassified under the confines of the DOE as to who is managing NewGen waste. Currently, it is NNSA’s responsibility to manage NewGen waste, and EM’s duty to manage Legacy waste. NNSA Deputy Assistant Manager, Pete Maggorie, offered to co-present with EM-LA at a future RCLC Board meeting to explain the difference between NewGen and Legacy waste in more detail.

g. Action Items | 10:57a-
  a. Action: Approval of Regional Attraction Guide Project Manager, Sara Magaletta
     i. Approved - Motioned by: Fabian Trujillo, City of Santa Fe; Second: Councilor Fernández, Town of Taos
  b. Action: Approval of ED travel to Washington, DC for Strategic Deterrent Conference and Congressional Meetings
     i. Approved - Motioned by: Councilor Fernández, Town of Taos; Second: Fabian Trujillo, City of Santa Fe
  c. Action: Approval of edited Work Plan 2017-2018
     i. Approved - Motioned by: Councilor Fernández, Town of Taos; Second: Fabian Trujillo, City of Santa Fe
  d. Action: Approval of Board/ED travel to National Cleanup Workshop and ECA meeting, Sept 12-14
     i. Approved - Motioned by: Fabian Trujillo, City of Santa Fe; Second: Councilor Chandler, County of Los Alamos

F. Budget Update, Harry Burgess | 11:00a-
  a. No new revenues.
  b. Expenditures are reflected in the reimbursements for Executive Director Services and Board member travel to DC in February 2017.
  c. Request for each entity to consider renewing the same financial commitment in each respective entity’s budget process.

G. Public Comment | 11:02a-
  a. Erich Kubeschn – Opposes LANL’s primary mission regarding the maintenance of the nuclear stockpile and other weapons programs. Is disappointed by the Regional Coalition’s priority to advocate on behalf of LANL’s mission to maintain nuclear stockpile. Urged the Coalition to discuss alternatives to nuclear weapons.
  b. Menice Santistevan, NNMCAB – Invited Coalition Board members to attend next CAB meeting on Wednesday, May 17. NNMCAB is still open to receiving applications for new Board members.
  c. Patricia Trujillo, Histórias de Nuevo México – Hosted 2012 conference in response to New Mexico’s Centennial Conference that was perceived to excluded Chicano and Native American voices. This year, Histórias will host another conference with the theme “Querência Interrupted: Hispano and Native American Experiences of the Manhattan Project”. It is co-sponsored by Northern New Mexico College and Northern Rio Grande National Heritage Center. Conference will focus on oral histories from Northern New Mexico citizens who worked around Manhattan Project. Trujillo asked if the Regional Coalition would consider making a $1,500 contribution the conference. Funds would go directly towards hosting, printing, and travel costs for keynote speakers.

H. Meeting Adjourned | -11:14a
  a. Motioned for approval by: Fabian Trujillo, City of Santa Fe; Second: Commissioner Chandler, County of Los Alamos. Approved.