# Regional Coalition of LANL Communities

City of Española – Los Alamos County – Rio Arriba County – Santa Fe County
City of Santa Fe – Taos County – Town of Taos – Pueblo of Ohkay – Pueblo of Jemez

Los Alamos Municipal Building
Boards & Commissions Conference Room #110
1000 Central Avenue, Los Alamos, NM
July 10, 2015
9:00a-11:00a

## Meeting Minutes

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### Attendance
Chair, Mayor Alice Lucero, City of Española; Vice-Chair, Councilor Andrew Gonzales, Town of Taos; Secretary/Treasurer, Mayor Javier Gonzales, City of Santa Fe; Commissioner Henry Roybal, Santa Fe County; Commissioner Barney Trujillo, Rio Arriba County, Councilor Kristin Henderson, Los Alamos County, Commissioner Mark Gallegos, Taos County.

### A. Call to Order – Chair Lucero
Chair Lucero called the meeting to order at 9:00.

### B. Confirmation of Quorum – Chair Lucero
Chair Lucero confirmed there was a quorum.

C. Approval of Agenda – Chair Lucero
Chair Lucero asked the Board to review and approve the agenda as presented.
Commissioner Barney Trujillo moved to approve the agenda.
Councilor Andrew Gonzales seconded the motion to approve the agenda.
Chair Lucero called for a vote to approve the agenda.
The Board voted unanimously in favor of approving the agenda.

D. Approval of Meeting Minutes – Chair Lucero
Chair Lucero asked the board to review and approve the meeting minutes as presented for the RCLC Board meeting that was held on June 12th.
Mayor Javier Gonzales moved to approve the meeting minutes.
Commissioner Henry Roybal seconded the motion to approve the meeting minutes.
Chair Lucero called for a vote to approve the minutes.
The Board voted unanimously in favor of approving the meeting minutes.

E. Discussion/Action Items
1. Chair Lucero stated that the next item on the agenda was the election of officers.
Officers are elected every July and serve for one year. Chair Lucero began the election with the Chair position, and stated that she was interested in remaining as the Chair of the Coalition. Chair Lucero opened the floor for nominations for the position of Chair.

Andrew Gonzales nominated Chair Lucero to continue serving as the Coalition Chair.

Commissioner Henry Roybal nominated Commissioner Barney Trujillo for the position of Chair.

Mayor Javier Gonzales (JG): Mayor Lucero, is it possible that since the position of Chair is contested, both nominees could take a minute and tell the Board why they wish to be Chair before we vote? I think that would be helpful.

Chair Alice Lucero (AL): Thank you, Mayor. Sure, I’ll let Barney go ahead and go first, if he’d like.

Commissioner Barney Trujillo (BT): Thank you Mayor. Thank you everyone for being here this morning. My name is Barney Trujillo, and I am a County Commissioner from Rio Arriba County. This has been my first year serving on the Coalition, and Rio Arriba County is really involved with Los Alamos County and with the Laboratory and its mission. I believe that the role of the Coalition is not only to protect our natural resources, but also to optimize and maximize our relationship with the Laboratory. I think it’s very important that we build relationships with our constituents and build better relationships with those who provide the services for cleanup of the environmental management sites at Los Alamos. I think it’s very important for us to go to Washington, DC and have a clear message. I want to thank the Mayor for the time she has served as the Chair. I believe she’s done an excellent job in terms of trying to be a voice for the Coalition and these communities. I ask for your vote today, fellow Board members, because I feel like I can do a very good job in terms of coordination and leadership and building the gap that I believe exists between our
I think that LANL has done a good job, but there are also a lot of voices that need to be heard from our communities. I believe that I can be that voice that can help, with all of your help, to lead our communities in our relationship with LANL going forward. Thank you.

AL: Thank you Commissioner Trujillo. I’ve been the Chair of this Coalition for a little over a year now, and prior to that I was the Vice-Chair, and I think that we’ve come a long way. We have gained the respect of our colleagues from other states who are also members of Energy Communities and are supporting their National Laboratories. In addition, for all the times we’ve gone to Washington, while many of us have attended we’ve been able to speak with one voice because we understand that it’s important that we represent our communities as best we can. I have developed a strong relationship with the NNSA and DOE, with Environmental Management and I feel that at this time we need continuity for this Board. I’d like to remain as chair for the next year if I may and continue the work that we’ve been doing with LANL and with each of the communities and represent you all to the best of my ability. Thank you.

Chair Lucero asked if the Board wanted to have a private vote, or vote by a show of hands. Councilor Kristin Henderson recommended that they should go down the table and have each Board members state who they vote for.

Mayor Gonzales stated that he believed it was important to offer various members the opportunity for leadership, and cast his vote for Commissioner Trujillo.

Commissioner Roybal stated that he believed either candidate would be great in the position of Chair, and cast his vote for Commissioner Trujillo.

Commissioner Trujillo stated that like Mayor Gonzales, he believed that everyone should have a turn at leadership, and cast his vote for himself.

Councilor Gonzales stated that he believed continuity would best move the Board forward and cast his vote for Mayor Lucero.

Councilor Henderson stated that she believed it was important for the overall strength of the organization to allow others to have leadership positions, and she cast her vote for Commissioner Trujillo.

Commissioner Mark Gallegos stated that a change in leadership would exhibit the increased diversity of the Board and cast his vote for Commissioner Trujillo.

With five votes Commissioner Trujillo was elected the new Chair of the Coalition. Mayor Lucero thanked the Board for the opportunity to serve and handed the meeting over to Commissioner Trujillo.

Chair Trujillo opened the floor for nominations for the Vice-Chair position.

Mayor Lucero nominated Councilor Gonzales to be Vice-Chair.
Chair Trujillo nominated Mayor Gonzales to be Vice-Chair.

Councilor Gonzales nominated Governor Raymond Loretto for the position of Vice-Chair.

AG: I can also that I’ve been extremely busy over the course of the last six months and haven’t been able to give 100% of my attention to this Executive position. Although I’m certainly engaged with the Regional Coalition as a Board member, I believe Andrea mentioned that Governor Loretto had inquired about serving on the Executive Committee in some capacity so I would like to nominate Governor Loretto.

Chair Trujillo noted that Governor Loretto was not present at the meeting and offered Mayor Gonzales the opportunity to inform the Board about why he was interested in the Vice-Chair position.

JG: Thank you, Chairman, and thank you Councilor Gonzales for your service. I, like Councilor Gonzales, have been strapped for time over the last year, but I do feel that participation at the Executive Committee level for the people of Santa Fe is a critical obligation that I need to fulfill. If elected by the Board to serve in this position I will work to make sure that certain that participation that is required as a committee members is there and so I ask for the Board to allow me to be able to continue to serve on the Executive Committee in the position of Vice-Chair for the Coalition. Thank you.

Commissioner Trujillo opened the vote for the Vice-Chair position.

Commissioner Roybal commented that all three were great candidates for the position and cast his vote for Mayor Javier Gonzales.

Chair Trujillo cast his vote for Mayor Javier Gonzales.

Mayor Lucero voted for Councilor Andrew Gonzales.

Councilor Andrew Gonzales cast his vote for Governor Loretto.

Councilor Henderson cast her vote for Mayor Javier Gonzales.

Commissioner Gallegos cast his vote for Mayor Javier Gonzales.

With five votes Mayor Javier Gonzales was elected the new Vice-Chair of the Coalition.

Chair Trujillo then opened the floor for nominations for the position of Secretary/Treasurer.

JG: Thank you, Chair Trujillo. One thing I’ve come to recognize having served in this position is that the closer you are to Los Alamos, the better you can serve in this position, particularly when it comes to reviewing and approving invoices. I would like to say that I’ve enjoyed meeting and getting to know Kristin over the past year and I think it would certainly be appropriate for the County to hold membership on the Executive Committee. Taking into consideration the ease of staff getting invoices approved, I would like to nominate Councilor Kristin Henderson to be the Secretary/Treasurer of the Coalition.
Chair Trujillo asked if there were any other nominations for the position of Secretary/Treasurer, and there were none. Chair Trujillo named Councilor Henderson the new Secretary/Treasurer of the Coalition.

Kristin Henderson (KH): Thank you for trusting me, and I appreciate being nominated. I think this is a really important organization for northern New Mexico and so I look forward to continuing to work with it. Thank you.

2. Chair Trujillo stated that the next item on the agenda was updates from the Congressional delegations.

BT: Hello. Please state your name for the record.

Michele Jacquez-Ortiz, representative from Senator Tom Udall’s office (MJ): Michele thanked Mayor Lucero and the previous Executive Committee officers on behalf of Senator Udall for their service during the previous year. She stated that they all put an incredible about of time, effort, and heart into their work and did a great job. She welcomed the new officers and stated that Senator Udall’s office was truly looking forward to working with them. Michele updated the Board about how Senator Udall and nine of his Congressional colleagues called on Congressional leadership, both Democratic and Republican, House and Senate, as well as the President, urging them to sit down together to hash out a deal in order to avoid a budget cliff. The Senator has been saying for the past few months how concerned he is. He doesn’t want to head into another situation where the federal government reverts back to sequestration levels. They sent a letter to Pelosi and McConnell and folks on both sides of the House and Michele read a couple of excerpts from that letter in order to give the Board an idea of what is going on. She stated that while it may not be on everyone’s radar, the issue of sequestration is going to be felt by all. They are trying to mitigate something before summer recess and they’re hoping that over the next two and a half weeks Congress can reach a resolution. If they don’t, the fall will be very interesting.

An excerpt from the letter:

“We are deeply concerned that a failure to reach on budget cap relief this summer will threaten our national security and undermine our economy. It’s critical that you begin negotiations now in order to avoid another manufactured crisis this fall. Sequestration caps have already proven to be unworkable, and make it impossible to responsibly invest in bipartisan priorities. Nobody wins if Congress fails to craft a bipartisan plan or if Congress simply gives up and allows all federal agencies to operate for another year without any direction or oversight from Congress. Instead of relying on budget gimmicks and trying to score cheap political points, we urge everyone to focus on the fact that the American people are understandably sick and tired of these games. They expect us to find a responsible bipartisan path forward to properly invest in our economy without increasing the deficit just as Senator Patty Murray and Congressman Paul Ryan did in 2013. While Republicans and Democrats on the Senate Appropriations committee are doing their best to report bills to move our country forward, their efforts are significantly hampered by the sequestration level budget caps in place for FY2016. Sequestration caps make it nearly impossible to responsibly invest in critical programs even when there is clear bipartisan support. We are confident that Congress and the White House can develop a common-sense solution to replace sequestration and we stand ready to work with all of you.”
The issue of the budget cap relief will be played out in Washington over the next two or three weeks. If they go into the summer recess and nothing positive happens, this will be the issue that all of you will be hearing about. Michele offered the members of the Board a copy of the letter she read from, and stated that anyone who desired a meeting with Senator Udall’s office would be able to get a more detailed briefing. She reiterated that this is an issue that affects every level of funding from towns and county funding, city funding and veterans, and particularly national security and LANL.

Councilor Gonzales asked Michele at what time during the fall the sequestration would go into effect. He expressed concerns about the timing of the Coalition’s scheduled trip to Washington, DC in September and asked Michele for information on that schedule.

Michele urged the Coalition to stay the course with their messaging and urge their elected officials to put pressure on those in power to reach a resolution. She strongly advised that the Board do all they could in terms of pressuring their elected officials to work to avoid a government shutdown similar to what happened a couple of years ago.

Councilor Gonzales stated that the Board might consider drafting a resolution urging their leadership to stay the course with Senator Udall’s message and asked the Executive Director to look into said resolution. She mentioned partnering with the Coalition’s contacts at the Energy Communities Alliance (ECA) to get them on board, stating that the more voices of reason trying to get Congress to come together, the better.

Kristin Henderson stated that as the Treasurer of the ECA she could bring up this issue with the ECA and let them know that the Coalition is drafting a resolution to their Congressional delegates.

Michele thanked the Board on behalf of the Senator and stated that this type of support is exactly what galvanizes Senator Udall and is helpful to his cause.

Patrick Graham, representative from Congressman Ben Ray Luján’s office: Patrick echoed Michele’s remarks and thanks Mayor Lucero for her service to the Coalition for the previous year. He welcomed Commissioner Trujillo as the new Chair and stated that he looked forward to working the the rest of the new Executive Committee. Patrick said that Congressman Luján’s office had been working on input for the upcoming Sandia M&O as well as the EM-LA M&O contracts that are coming up. He said that the delegation from Congressman Luján’s office as well as representatives from Senator Heinrich’s and Senator Udall’s office met with Christine Gelles and she answered their questions about the upcoming M&O contracts. He said that they reaffirmed their strong desire to move forward with community development programs that focus on workforce and STEM education and other similar programs that LANL had in the previous contract. That was all Patrick had to report this morning.

3. Commissioner Trujillo thanked the representatives from the Congressional delegation and stated that the next item on the agenda was the presentation from Rebecca Estrada, the Executive Director of the Santa Fe Higher Education Center (HEC) and Randy Griscom, the President of Santa Fe Community College (SFCC).
Randy Griscom gave a brief history of the HEC. He stated that SFCC had always had a relationship with four-year universities throughout the state, but the citizens of Santa Fe needed a program that would allow them to complete four-year degrees in the city of Santa Fe. He introduced Rebecca Estrada.

Rebecca Estrada highlighted the official mission of the HEC and discussed how they expand higher education opportunities to the citizens of Santa Fe. The HEC partners with the Institute of American Indian Arts, New Mexico Highlands University, New Mexico State University, the University of New Mexico, the Santa Fe Small Business Development Center, and other organizations to bring affordable and accessible bachelor’s and graduate programs to the communities in and around Santa Fe.

The HEC building has 15 classrooms, a collaborative learning lab, and two flexible instructional spaces. The universities with which the HEC partners are able to use this space. The building is a sustainable project that is environmentally friendly with an approximately 175 kWa rooftop photovoltaic array that provides over 80% of the power, 72 geothermal wells, LED lighting, light sensors and more. The space is also used by the community for events and community meetings. The facility operates at close to net zero, and has earned LEED Gold Certification.

The Institute of American Indian Arts that is located in Santa Fe partners with the HEC to offer programs for Indigenous Liberal Studies, Studio Arts, Cinematic Arts and Technology, and Museum Studies.

The HEC’s largest partnership in terms of student numbers is with New Mexico Highlands University. NMHU’s partnership with the HEC offers Bachelor’s degrees in Business Administration with concentrations in Finance, Marketing, Management, and Accounting, as well as BAs in Criminal Justice, Early Childhood and Elementary Education, and Social Work. They also offer Master’s degrees in Business Administration, School Counseling and Professional Counseling, Rehabilitation Counseling, Educational Leadership and Special Education.

The HEC also partners with New Mexico State University to offer degrees in Nursing, Electronics and Computer Engineering Technology, and starting in Spring 2016 will begin its program for Hotel, Restaurant, and Tourism Management.

The University of New Mexico is currently the only university partnered with the HEC that offers a PhD program, and that is currently for Organization, Information and Learning Sciences. It offers Bachelor’s programs for Business Administration, Communications, Dental Hygiene, Medical Laboratory Sciences, Nursing (an RN to BSN completion track), Liberal Arts and Integrative Studies, and Radiologic Sciences. The Master’s programs include Dental Hygiene, Educational Leadership, Electrical and Computer Engineering, and Public Administration.

The HEC also works in conjunction with the Santa Fe Small Business Development Center and maintains a multitude of partners around the community through SBDC. They manage
the procurement assistance for small businesses so they can get more contracts with LANL. They help the small businesses get geared up for LANL contracts.

A large value of the existence of the HEC is that students can complete an Associate's degree in two years, and upon completion of that Associate's degree the credits will transfer over and place the student a Junior level in a four-year Bachelor's program. The degrees. The HEC and SFCC have also partnered with the Community Program's office at LANL to organize internship opportunities.

Randy Griscom noted that the HEC is also able to partner with universities outside the state to offer programs that otherwise would be unavailable in New Mexico. He stated that they hope to partner with major universities that may bring in intensive summer programs or other longer-term partnerships.

Carol Rutten from the LANL Community Programs Office stated that there is a team at LANL working on trying to get workforce development information to address the workforce issue. Director McMillan is aware of this workforce issue and the CPO is continuing to feed information back to him, and the CPO will also report information to the Coalition as it develops.

Councilor Henderson inquired whether or not the upper level degrees that are awarded come from the HEC or from another institution, like Santa Fe Community College. Rebecca stated that the degrees are awarded from the accredited institutions that partner with the HEC.

4. Chair Trujillo thanked Rebecca Estrada and Randy Griscom for their presentation and welcomed the presenter for the next item on the agenda, Duncan Sill, the General Manager of REDI Net.

Duncan Sill thanked the Board for allowing him to present about the REDI Net project, an Open Access Community Broadband Network serving Northern New Mexico. REDI Net is publicly owned and operated. The current setup is a culmination of many years of hard work and coordination between multiple jurisdictions, partners, and tribes in the region that came together to address a critical production gap in telecommunication affecting communities and economic development.

In 2007 a regional economic development plan was developed for Northern New Mexico that identified high-speed broadband as a priority. The next year federal funding for broadband became available through the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act. In 2009 – 2010 local and tribal governments in Northern New Mexico worked together to submit applications for broadband funding. A $10.6 million grant to construct REDI Net, a broadband network for Northern New Mexico. The leverage for the construction of this project came from community partnerships and local resources. Construction began on the REDI Net project in June of 2011 and concluded in September 2013. Over 140 miles of fiber with Point Of Presence facilities (major interconnects) was implemented, and a Joint Powers Agreement (JPA) was adopted.
The coverage area includes a wide geographic span over northern New Mexico and the system interconnects with the Kit Carson Electric loop. The federal funding for REDI Net was limited to the middle-mile provider, and it needs last-mile service providers to connect the system directly to the residences and local businesses in other communities. Any qualified Internet Service Provider (ISP) can sell services on the network, and they currently work with nine approved ISPs.

They are trying to dedicate time and attention to communities and economic development and achieving long-term sustainability. All profits are reinvested in maintaining and improving the network utility. Partnering with last-mile service providers offers a huge economic and job creating opportunity for the communities that REDI Net connects.

Vice-Chair Gonzales directed a question toward Councilor Gonzales of the Town of Taos. He stated that he knew about Taos’ great method of offering broadband at a pretty significant speed to its citizens and local businesses, and he wonders why, if REDI Net exists and is building the key components of broadband infrastructure, are the communities of Santa Fe and Española, etc., still dealing with disparate speeds?

Councilor Gonzales remarked that the Kit Carson Electric is essentially redundant. REDI Net has created the backbone for interconnectivity throughout northern New Mexico, and all that is left is the last-mile providers. The issue, at least through the educational aspect, is finding the qualified individuals to be able to operate those last-mile services. He stressed the importance of urging our higher education institutions to start offering the appropriate certificate programs to fill this need, either in fiber-splicing or information technology because these are all areas where there currently is and will continue to be a sustainable opportunity for expansion and workforce solutions.

Vice-Chair Gonzales recommended that the Board setup a strategic planning session to look at developing ideas to address some of the higher education, workforce, and regional economic development opportunities that the REDI Net project is associated with.

Chair Trujillo recommended creating subcommittees to address a variety of topics and thanked Duncan Sill for his presentation.

5. Chair Trujillo stated that the next item on the agenda was a budget update from Brian Bosshardt.

Brian Bosshardt (BB) remarked that there were two transactions from the Coalition’s budget since the last month’s update. The first was the monthly Executive Director services invoice, and the second was the FY16 dues to the Energy Communities Alliance. He also mentioned that he and the Executive Director would be getting the FY16 invoices out to Board members for their respective communities.

Chair Trujillo thanked Brian for his budget update and stated that the next item on the agenda was the update from the Executive Director.

The Executive Director, Andrea Romero (AR), informed the Board that the Coalition’s DOE grant funds were on the way, and she was essentially just waiting for those to hit their bank.
account. The following week would see the ECA Peer Exchange on the implementation of the Manhattan Project National Historical Park. National partners will be coming in to speak about the designation of the park and how that will take place. She strongly encouraged Board members to sign up to attend the event or even as many sessions as possible if unable to attend the entire conference. She reminded Board members that the Coalition would reimburse their attendance fees. Andrea thanked the outgoing Executive Committee, in particular Mayor Lucero. She stated that she learned so much while working with the Mayor and grew to understand the Coalition better as a result of their collaboration. She stated that during the previous Executive Committee meeting the dates for travel to Washington, DC were decided. The dates are September 8-11, and Andrea asked that everyone mark their calendars and make that trip with the Coalition. In preparation for the trip special sessions will likely be held to coordinate talking points. Also, because of the travel to Washington, the Coalition’s monthly meeting for September will be cancelled.

Andrea stated that she hoped all of the Board members had received a packet in the mail containing the Coalition’s new brochure. She stated that it was a short print in case the current meeting saw a change in the Executive committee, which it did, and so updated brochures would be printed to reflect those changes.

Executive Director Romero is working with Congressman Luján’s office to arrange a special meeting to discuss the Washington trip, tech transfer, and workforce issues. This meeting will take place sometime in August as Congressman Luján is unable to attend the August 14th Coalition meeting.

She continued, while on the topics of technology and the future of the Coalition, and informed the Board that staff had recently launched a Twitter account for the Coalition. The account handle is @CoalitionInfo, and the account will be tweeting information relevant to LANL, LANL stakeholders, and the communities of the Coalition. She encouraged anyone who is on Twitter to get in touch with the Coalition account.

Andrea also touched on her conversation with Liddie Martinez of the LANL Major Subcontractors Consortium and LANL and DOE’s increased use of a centralized single-source procurement system. Moving toward this kind of system will inevitably result in fewer procurement dollars staying in New Mexico and lead to fewer local contractors keeping their jobs with the Laboratory. This is an issue that affects energy communities across the nation and the Coalition will be kept informed of developments as they take place.

Andrea concluded her update by informing the board of her attendance to a Northern New Mexico Citizen’s Advisory Board Meeting and the risk presented by the RDX explosion and its ongoing investigation. A decrease in cleanup funding would inhibit EM’s ability to address this situation.

F. Meetings at a Glance – Chair Trujillo

Chair Trujillo stated that the next item on the agenda was to review the upcoming Board meetings. The meeting for the month of August will take place on August 14th at the Santa Fe County Chambers. Agenda items will include approving the travel to Washington, DC,
LANL workforce, and an update on the tech transfer bills. The meeting for September will be postponed due to the Coalition’s travel to Washington, DC. The meeting for October will take place on October 9th in the Taos County Chambers and will focus on a LANL procurement update, the Community Commitment Plan funding decision, and an update from EM on the Consent Order Agreement for post-2015. The November meeting will take place on November 13th at Ohkay Owingeh Pueblo and will feature an in depth presentation from Danny Katzman on the Chromium Plume on LANL property.

Vice-Chair Javier Gonzales inquired about the status of the Lifecycle Base Line Cost report from LANL, and Brian Bosshardt remarked that EM was close to having it finished and should have it delivered to the Coalition before their trip to Washington, DC. Andrea assured the Board that she continued to request that information.

G. Public Comment
Chair Trujillo stated that the next item on the agenda was a period for public comment, and opened the floor to anyone from the public who wanted to speak directly to the Board. There was no one present who desired to speak to the Board, and so Chair Trujillo called for an adjournment to the meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:07 a.m.

Attest:

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Commissioner Barney Trujillo, Chair

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Andrea Romero, Executive Director