

New Mexico Land Grant Council (NMLGC)
Regular Council Meeting
December 9th, 2012 - 10:00 am
Southwest Hispanic Research Institute
University of New Mexico
1829 Sigma Chi Road, N.E.
Albuquerque, NM

Minutes

REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING

Call to order Roll Call

Council Chair Juan Sánchez called the meeting to order at approximately 10:14am. Roll of the Council was taken: Council Members Leonard Martinez, Rita Padilla-Gutierrez, Juan Sánchez, Lee Maestas and Macario Griego were present.

Approval of Agenda

Council Member Rita Padilla-Gutierrez moved to approve the meeting agenda. Council Member Lee Maestas seconded the motion.

Approval of Meeting Minutes from the November 11, 2011 Regular Council Meeting

Council Member Leonard Martinez made a motion to approve November 11th minutes. Council Member Rita Padilla-Gutierrez seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Introduction of Attendees

Jacobo D. Baca (UNM Land Grant Studies Program), Anna Rael Delay (Senator Tom Udall's Office) Gilbert Ferrán (President of New Mexico Land Grant Consejo and of Abiquiú Land Grant) Dr. Manuel Garcia y Griego (Director, UNM Land Grants Studies Program), Daniel Antonio Herrera (Member of Board of Manzano Land Grant)

Discussion and Action on State and Federal Legislation

Economic Development Administration Grant – Chairman Sánchez led a discussion of the EDA grant application by the New Mexico Land Grant Council. The Council discussed the need to solicit resolutions and letters of support by land grant boards of trustees and community members / private partners. A timeline for application submission, the amount requested (<200,000, >100,000), the necessity of a cash in-kind match and the plan for a December 12, 2011 meeting with representatives from land grants and Mariana Padilla of Parametrix were discussed. It was also clarified that the EDA grant is planning grant that will enable the Council to hire an outside firm to create economic development plans based on 5-6 economic development clusters. The Council also agreed that services provided by the Council and land grants as the in-kind match would demonstrate public commitment more than a cash match.

Federal Legislation

The New Mexico Congressional delegation continues to explore USDA programs which land grants / land grant boards of trustees may qualify for as units of government rather than private land owners. The precedence of programs aiding Pueblos was discussed. It was also clarified that traditional uses has been and continues to be the legislative priority, not legislation on right of first refusal. Legislation pertaining to the return of a cemetery to the San Joaquín del Río de Chama Land Grant Association by the US Forest Service was also discussed, as well as legislation involving both the New Mexico Land Grant Council and the New Mexico Acequia Association. Council members also discussed the need to find or create funding for staff support for the New Mexico Land Grant Council.

State Legislation

Council Chair Juan Sánchez discussed a November 16th Legislative Finance Committee (LFC) meeting in which he presented a condensed budget request for the New Mexico Land Grant Council. LFC member Patricia Lundstrom requested more information including maps; LM García y Griego stated that the Land Grant Studies Program would provide copies to the LFC staff. DFA Deputy Director Samuel Ojinaga requested a detailed budget outlining use and intent and also requested that the Interim Land Grant Committee produce a letter supporting the NM Land Grant Council budget request. Representative Miguel P. Garcia (Chair, Interim Land Grant Committee) provided a letter (addressed to Senator John Arthur Smith, Chair, LFC, dated December 1, 2011) supporting the New Mexico Land Grant Council budget request. The Council discussed the desirability of a recurring budget and expressed its willingness to maintain its budget within DFA or separately from DFA.

The Council discussed several 2012 legislative session bills relating to or effecting land grants. Seven bills were circulated including:

- Senate Joint Memorial 27 (Sen. Linda M. López, sponsor) – Requesting the federal government to negotiate with New Mexico and representatives of displaced land grant heirs for the return of land grants (previously introduced during 2011 legislative session)
- House Joint Resolution –Proposing the Sale of Real Property in Cibola County (relating to the Cebolleta Land Grant)
- Bill – (discussion draft) – Granting Political Subdivision Status to the San Antonio del Río Colorado Land Grant-Merced
- Bill – (discussion draft) – Relating to Land Grants; Allowing the Land Grant Council to use private and federal funds to assist community land grants that are not political subdivisions of the state; clarifying council authority to determine the status of a community land grant
- Bill – (discussion draft) – Relating to land grants; transferring the New Mexico Community Land Grant registry to the Land Grant Council; providing for the storage of historical documents; declaring an emergency
- Bill – (discussion draft) – Relating to land grants; amending Ch. 49, Article 1, NMSA 1978 to include the Tecolote Land Grant-Merced; amending and repealing sections of the NMSA 1978
- House Joint Memorial – (discussion draft) – Requesting the US Forest Service to conduct a survey of its boundaries with the Merced del Pueblo de Abiquiu and to

return real property to the Merced del Pueblo de Abiquiu according to the finding of the survey

The Council discussed the necessity to extend the Abiquiu bill to the Truchas (Nuestra Señora del Rosario, San Fernando y Santiago del Rio de las Truchas) land grant as well. The Interim Land Grant Committee endorsed; the SJM encouraging the federal government to negotiate with land grants; the expanding the responsibilities of the NM Land Grant Council to maintain the Community Land Grant registry and empowering the NM Land Grant Council to aid grants that are not political subdivisions; and the bill granting political subdivision status to San Antonio del Río Colorado. Council Chair Juan Sánchez entertained a motion to endorse the 7 discussed bills. Council member Leonard Martínez made a motion to endorse the legislation; Council member Lee Maestas seconded the motion.

Discussion and Action on UNMLGSP

Arturo Archulta presented on behalf of the UNM Land Grant Studies Program at the last Interim Land Grant Committee meeting in November 2011. Printed maps of units of government were distributed. LM Garcia y Griego commented that the UNM LGSP will provide copies of shape files used to create maps. It is also the wish of the LGSP to expand the project to land grants that are not units of government. Continued work of the LGSP includes significant archival work in addition to mapping, including digitizing portions of the Spanish Archives of New Mexico that contain land grant documents. This research will be shared with land grants, empowering land grants by making more accessible their own digital records.

The LGSP will also make GPS/GIS a priority to grants with ongoing legislation, like Truchas, Abiquiu, and San Joaquin del Río de Chama. The numerous errors of late 19th and early 20th surveys necessitate the conducting of surveys as a final stage. The LGSP will also continue to provide staff support for the NM Land Grant Council through June, as funding allows. The University of New Mexico has made the Land Grant Studies Program one of about fifteen priority projects for the 2012 legislative session, and is requesting \$90,000 in funding. The Council discussed the importance of recruiting land grant heirs into the LGSP, to return expertise to land grants.

A motion supporting the UNM Land Grant Studies Program 2012 funding request was made by Council Member Macario Griego and was seconded by Rita Padilla-Gutierrez.

The Interim Land Grant Committee also requested that the LGSP create classes to draw interest and encourage students to pursue law school. LM García y Griego reminded that the LGSP does not have a teaching component.

Public Comments

Daniel Antonio Herrera announced he has been elected to the Board of the Manzano Land Grant. The American Bar Association adopted a resolution recognizing the New Mexico Land Grant Council.

Other Business

To increase public awareness of land grants, the UNM LGSP is planning an exhibit in conjunction with the 2012 State Centennial. The Farm Bill was also discussed, as well as a White House Latino Summit held at the National Hispanic Cultural Center in November.

Date for next Council meeting

Next Meeting will be scheduled for January 13, 2012, 10:00am-2:00pm at the University of New Mexico's Southwest Hispanic Research Institute, 1829 Sigma Chi Road NE, Albuquerque, NM 87106.

Adjournment

Council member Leonard Martinez moved to adjourn; Council member Rita Padilla-Gutierrez seconded motion to adjourn. Motion passed unanimously. The NMLGC adjourned at approximately 12:30 pm.

Chair

Date