**Meeting Minutes [DRAFT]**

Northern Pueblos Regional Transportation Planning Organization (NPRTPO)

Regular meeting hosted at: Red River Conference Center 101 W. River St. Red River, NM 87558

January 8, 2025

**NPRTPO Voting Members and Alternates**

Name Entity Title Present/Absent

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Eric Ulibarri | Los Alamos County | Voting Member | Present |
| Keith Wilson | Los Alamos County | Alternate | Absent |
| Dennis Gallegos | Rio Arriba County | Voting Member | Absent |
| Christine Bustos | Rio Arriba County | Alternate | Present |
| Gary Brett Clavio | Santa Fe County | Voting Member | Present |
| Jason Silva | Taos County | Alternate | Joined Late |
| Elijah Mares | City of Española | Voting Member | Present |
| Daniel Fresquez | City of Española | Alternate | Present |
| Ann Woolridge | Village of Taos Ski Valley | Alternate | Absent |
| Robert Woolridge | Village of Taos Ski Valley | Alternate | Present |
| Sharon Voight | Town of Taos | Voting Member | Present |
| Anthony Martinez | Town of Red River | Voting Member | Present |
| Georgiana Rael | Town of Red River | Alternate | Present |
| Maggie Valdez | Village of Chama | Voting Member | Absent |
| Will Donohoe | Village of Chama | Alternate | Absent |
| Jacob LaFore | Village of Questa | Voting Member | Present |
| Valerie Vigil | Village of Questa | Alternate | Absent |
| Kathryn Valdez | Jicarilla Apache Nation | Alternate | Present |
| John Vigil | Pueblo of Nambé | Voting Member | Absent |
| Governor Porter | Pueblo of Nambé | Alternate | Absent |
| Sylvia Armijo | Picuris Pueblo | Voting Member | Present |
| Raymond Martinez | Pueblo of San Ildefonso | Voting Member | Present |
| Adam Martinez | Pueblo of San Ildefonso | Alternate | Absent |
| Benny Lujan | Ohkay Owingeh | Voting Member | Absent |
| Lucia Sanchez | Ohkay Owingeh | Alternate | Absent |
| Suzette Shije (Vice Chair) | Pueblo of Santa Clara | Voting Member | Present |
| Vernon Lujan (Chair) | Pueblo of Taos | Voting Member | Absent |
| Reva Suazo | Pueblo of Taos | Alternate | Absent |
| Jacob Viarrial | Pueblo of Pojoaque | Voting Member | Absent |
| Janay Chavarria | Pueblo of Pojoaque | Alternate | Absent |
| Anthony Mortillaro | NCRTD | Voting Member | Absent |
| Bryce Gibson | NCRTD | Alternate | Present |
|  |  |  |  |

**NCNMEDD Staff**

Felicity Fonseca Community Development Director

Patrick Million Transportation Planner

Selma Gutierrez Community Planner

**NMDOT Staff and Federal Partners**

Alison Gillette NMDOT Liaison

Angelica Trujillo NMDOT Tribal Liaison

Corwyn Henry Federal BIA Liaison

**Guests**

Anna Brunson NCRTD

Max Khudiakov Town of Red River

**I. Call Meeting to Order**

Vice Chair Shije called the meeting to order at 10:09 AM

**II. Pledge of Allegiance**

Vice Chair Shije led the pledge of allegiance.

**III. Opening Prayer**

Vice Chair Shije provided the opening prayer.

**IV. Welcome and Introductions/Public Comments:**

Vice Chair Shije asked if there were any public comments. None were offered.

**V. Roll Call:**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Name** | **Entity** | **Voting Member or Alternate** |
| Eric Ulibarri | Los Alamos County | Alternate |
| Christine Bustos | Rio Arriba County | Voting Member |
| Gary Brett Clavio | Santa Fe County | Voting Member |
| Elijah Mares | City of Española | Voting Member |
| Robert Woolridge | Village of Taos Ski Valley | Alternate |
| Sharon Voight | Town of Taos | Alternate |
| Anthony Martinez | Town of Red River | Alternate |
| Jacob LaFore | Village of Questa | Voting Member |
| Kathryn Valdez | Jicarilla Apache Nation | Alternate |
| Sylvia Armijo | Picuris Pueblo | Voting Member |
| Raymond Martinez | Pueblo of San Ildefonso | Voting Member |
| Suzette Shije | Pueblo of Santa Clara | Voting Member |
| Bryce Gibson | NCRTD | Alternate |

Patrick Million confirmed that there was a quorum for the meeting.

**VI. Approval of the Agenda:**

Vice Chair Shije opened the meeting for the approval of the agenda.

Georgiana Rael, Red River, motioned for the approval of the agenda. Elijah Mares, City of Española, seconded. Per a roll call vote, the motion passes.

**VII. Approval of the Minutes: December 4 Regular Meeting**

Vice Chair Shije opened the meeting to approval of the December 4, 2024 minutes.

Vice Chair Shije noted that she had never received the minutes prior to the meeting. Other members confirmed this.

Bryce Gibson, NCRTD, suggested an amendment to the minutes: that he was present at the previous meeting but joined late.

Million, NCNMEDD, attempted to give members access to the minutes online.

Christine Bustos, Rio Arriba, motioned to table the minutes until the next meeting.

Brett Clavio, Santa Fe County, Seconded.

It was moved to postpone the approval of the December minutes until the February meeting.

**VIII. Federal Agency Updates**

Corwyn Henry, BIA Transportation, gave 6 updates:

* FFY25 Tribal funds for road maintenance: amounts available have been sent out to each tribe.
* Road inventory field data training is available. Notices were sent out to the tribes.
* FFY24 Official Road inventories have been sent out to tribes. Any changes should be entered into RIFTA system by March 15.
* Federal Hwy FFY25 Program Safety Fund Apps are due January 15.
* Tribal Transportation Funds are still being transferred between Federal Hwys & BIA.
* Bridge inspections for BIA bridges will happen in the spring of 2025.

**IX. State Agency Updates**

Amanda Nino, NMDOT: reminder for new proposals FFY25. Projects within your area (potholes, etc.) Deadline is March 15. Closing out last year’s projects. Please submit projects for closeouts.

Ms. Nino reported that she received a promotion and this should translate into filling vacant positions in her department which will enable her department to address member issues more effectively.

Angelica Trujillo, NMDOT Tribal Liaison, announced her new role at NMDOT is Tribal Liaison.

Alison Gillette, NMDOT, announced that there will be T/LPA training next month (2/11&12 in Albuquerque) and that it is required for an entity to receive funding.

LGRF applications are due on March 15.

Angelica Trujillo shared her screen: inquiries regarding TAP and RTP should be directed to Samuel Jensen, [Samuel.Jensen@dort.nm.gov](mailto:Samuel.Jensen@dort.nm.gov), or Elsa Goossen [Elsa.Goossen@dot.nm.gov](mailto:Elsa.Goossen@dot.nm.gov). Deadline for RTP applications is 3/14.

Tribal Funding opportunities:

* Indian Hwy Safety Tribal Grants/Lifesavers Conference
* Occupant Protection Grant
* Highway Safety Law Enforcement Grants. Many of these can be found on grants.gov. You can search grants/BIA.

There is also the Tribal Transportation Program Safety Fund (1/15/25 deadline).

The Tribal Official Contact List is being updated.

American Indian Day at the legislature will be 2/7/25 9-11AM.

Angelica Trujillo contact: [AngelicaN.Trujillo@dot.nm.gov](mailto:AngelicaN.Trujillo@dot.nm.gov).

**X. NPRTPO Planner/Program Manager Updates and Announcements**

Patrick Million, NCNMEDD, had the following updates:

* National Day of Mourning for President Carter.
* Rural Workforce Resilience Discussion sponsored by LTAP 1/13/25 through 1/24/25
* Paving and Transportation Conference in ABQ January 15-16
* Tribal Transportation Program Safety Fund (January 15 deadline)
* Rural Surface Transportation grant
* Trails + next deadline is 2/28
* TAP/CMAQ-PFFs due 1/22
* PROTECT grant due 2/24
* Trails Capacity Grant-January 30
* NCNMEDD is looking for a Transportation Intern
* NCNMEDD has mini grants to assist entities with grant writing, etc.

Felicity Fonseca, NCNMEDD, pointed out that these could be large projects, such as help with RAISE grants.

**XI. Presentation/Action: RAISE grants Letter of Support for NCRTD**

Anna Brunson, NCRTD, presented on the RAISE project they are pursuing. This project is for $11.4 million for the design and construction of a Santa Fe based operations center. This will involve the acquisition of land and will involve shuttle services. This will also include an increase in service through Española and all the way up to Taos. The land NCRTD is looking at is publicly owned and a land transfer is planned.

Q&A: Alison Gillette, NMDOT, asked how big the lot is. Anna and Bryce Gibson, NCRTD, answered that it was 6 acres.

Million, NCNMEDD, called roll for the support of NCRTDs letter of support. The roll call resulted in the unanimous approval of NCRTD’s letter of support.

**XII. Presentation/Action: RAISE grants Letter of Support for Española.**

Elijah Mares presented on the Fairview Lane Corridor improvement project for Española.

They are seeking $19 Million for the City of Española for the Fairview Corridor. The request will fund pedestrian walkways, lighting, and general safety improvements for this main corridor in the City. They have had a few pedestrian deaths, and the area also serves a low-income community. There is a lack of safety facilities for pedestrians. Three quarters of the roadf is NMDOT right of way. The area also serves the high school and Northern New Mexico College.

Felicity Fonseca, NCNMEDD, added that this started with a corridor study and it is an example of a project that could arise from that kind of foundational work.

Alison Gillette added that it was an NMDOT Corridor Study and if this is something that applies to a member community, please reach out to her.

Anthony Martinez, Red River, asked if there will be pedestrian safety on the bridge itself. Mares answered that in the first phase, the pedestrian path will end at the bridge.

Million, NCNMEDD, called roll for the letter of support. Roll call resulted in a unanimous approval of the letter of support for Española.

**XIII. Discussion NPRTPO Yearly Schedule**

Patrick Million, NCNMEDD, said he wanted to start a discussion about not only topics to be addressed at meetings, but sites. He said he tentatively listed NCRTD for the two rating and ranking meetings and Bryce Gibson, NCRTD, stated he was open to this and would make sure with the administration at NCRTD. Bryce suggested a few more meetings were possible at the NCRTD site.

Alison Gillette added that she encourages members to let NMDOT know about speakers regarding LGRF, ADA, and TPF among other topics. She also added that Transportation Day will be 2/11 at the capital.

Felicity Fonseca recommended that we have an ICIP training when it is relevant.

Alison Gillette also recommended following up with Tyler Fossett and the GIS services through DFA.

**XIII. Presentation: Demonstration Activities via the Safe Street and Roads for All**

Patrick Million, NCNMEDD, presented on the demonstration activity funding that NCNMEDD will be pursuing through the SS4A. Million explained that NCNMEDD was denied demo funding on technicalities. He said this is blessing in disguise as it will give them a chance to involve more entities and submit a better application.

Things that can be included as demonstration activities:

* Supplemental Planning
* Infrastructure
* Behavioral

Anna Brunson, NCRTD, asked about artwork. Million said he’d love to facilitate artwork and suggested the Que Linda grant from NMDOT and funding from AARP.

* Technology
* Data Monitoring and Evaluation

Felicity Fonseca explained that if awarded, the funding would go to the entity in the form of a sub grant award.

Viced Chair Shije asked if these were a priority or first come first served. Fonseca suggested NCNMEDD could share a project list and asked if anyone had a suggestion on how to proceed.

Vice Chair Shije suggested a monthly update at each meeting. She also asked if they had to be listed on the STIP, etc.

Million answered that to his understanding projects did not need to be on the STIP.

Felicity Fonseca added that there is an 80/20 match. NCNMEDD used the State Match Grant for the initial SS4A application. For this upcoming application we haven’t yet determined source of match.

**XIV. Other Business**

Next meeting locations:

* February 5, NM Municipal League Santa Fe
* March 5, NCRTD, Española

**XV. Adjournment**

Christine Bustos, Rio Arriba motioned to adjourn. Elijah Mares, Española, seconded. The meeting was adjourned at 11:35 PM.