



## **Notes**

**Monday, August 1, 2022**

**10:00am – 2:00pm**

**Virtual via Zoom**

## **Attendees**

### **Task Force Executive Committee**

Mike Hamman, State Engineer, Office of State Engineer

Hannah Riseley-White, Deputy Director, Interstate Stream Commission

Rebecca Roose, Deputy Cabinet Secretary of Administration, NM Environment Department

Marquita Russel, CEO, NM Finance Authority (not present)

### **Task Force Members**

AJ Forte, Executive Director, NM Municipal League

Aron Balok, Water Resource Specialist, Pecos Valley Artesian Conservancy District (not present)

Aaron Chavez, Executive Director, San Juan Water Commission

Debbie Romero, Cabinet Secretary, NM Dept. of Finance & Administration

Dr. Ladona Clayton, Executive Director, Ogallala Land and Water Conservancy

Dr. Nelia Dunbar, NM Tech Professor, Leap Ahead Analysis

Elizabeth Anderson, Chief Planning Officer, ABCWUA

Jennifer Bradfute, Senior Counsel, Marathon Oil Company

Joy Esparsen, Deputy Executive Director, New Mexico Association of Counties

Kyle Harwood, Water Rights Attorney, Santa Fe

Norm Gaume, President, MRG Water Advocates

Patrick McCarthy, Water Policy Officer, Thornburg Foundation

Paul Tashjian, Director of Freshwater Conservation, Audubon

Judy Calman, Associate Director of Freshwater Conservation, Audubon

Paula Garcia, Executive Director, NM Acequia Association

Priscilla Lucero, Executive Director, SWNMCOG; Water Trust Board

Ryan Swazo-Hinds, Environmental Biologist, Pueblo of Tesuque Department of Environment & Natural Resources

Debbie Romero, Cabinet Secretary, NM Department of Finance and Administration

Todd Leahy, Tribal Liaison, NM Energy Minerals & Natural Resources; proxy for Secretary Sarah Cottrell Propst (not present)

Lt. Governor Carleton Bowekaty, Zuni Pueblo

Lynn Trujillo, Cabinet Secretary, NM Indian Affairs Dept.; Laurie Weahkee, Proxy

Bill Conner, NM Rural Water Association

Ralph Vigil, President, NM Acequia Commission; William Gonzales, Proxy

Kirk Patten; proxy for Michael Sloane, Director, Department of Game and Fish Director

Daryl Vigil, Water Administrator, Jicarilla Apache Nation  
Dr. Phil King, Retired NMSU Professor and Consultant to EBID  
Jefte Witte, Director/Secretary of Agriculture-NMDA  
Sarah Goldstein

### **Others**

Rolf Schmidt-Petersen, Director, Interstate Stream Commission  
Scott Sanchez, NM Legislative Council  
Danielle Gonzales, Executive Director, NM First  
Theresa Cardenas, Civic Engagement & Policy Manager, NM First  
Valerie Rangel, Civic Engagement Assistant, NM First  
Corina Gomez, Recorder, NM First  
Eleanor Hasenbeck, Recorder, NM First  
Lynne Canning, Facilitator, Task Force Design and Facilitation  
Adrian Oglesby, Executive Director, Utton Center  
John Fleck, Utton Center

### **Agenda**

- **Welcome**
- **Housekeeping**
- **Determining work groups**
- **50YR Water Plan Survey Results**
- **Closing**

### **Housekeeping**

Amendments to New Mexico Water and Infrastructure Task Force Charter

- Small work groups will use a consensus-based process for introducing, vetting, and finalizing ideas/solutions before sharing with the rest of the Task Force
- Small working groups will be referred to as “Workgroups” rather than “Subcommittees”

Model for public involvement in the Task Force:

- General public can submit questions or share comments via public inquiry form on website which will be shared with the members of the Task Force on at least a monthly basis
- New Mexico First will create and manage a notification list for members of the public to receive updates about Task Force activity
- Task Force meetings will be closed to the public, but information will be made available on website
- Requests for information from the media will be responded to in a timely manner with the option for interviews with Task Force members and/or the opportunity to receive briefings on Task Force activity
- Additions for the section on public engagement in the Charter:

Individual Task Force members will inform Executive Community of inquiries that they receive Language for extent of information shared with Task Force members' respective communities

### **Determining work groups**

The Task Force came to consensus on three work group areas and the topics they will address. The three workgroups are: Community Capacity and Finance; Water Resources Management and Planning; River, Aquifer and Watershed Health.

The Task Force considered adding additional work groups to address Agriculture and Integrated Science Technology and Climate Science separately. Agriculture was included as a topic within Water Resources Management and Planning, and in the River, Aquifer and Watershed Health work groups. Integrated planning was included as a topic in the Water Resources Management and Planning workgroup. All workgroups have draft problem statements that include climate science within work group issue areas.

Additional, changes to draft work groups include:

- Each work group will address agency capacity as it interacts with other issue areas specific to that work group.
- Agency mission and organization will be addressed within the within Water Resources Management and Planning work group.
- The Task Force decided to define finance and funding as different terms. Finance, within the financial and community capacity work group, will address water and wastewater finance programs and community capacity to apply for and receive funds. Funding refers to the funding needed to complete projects within Water Resources Management and Planning, and the River, Aquifer and Watershed Health work groups.
- Work groups will also be able to form subcommittees to focus on specific issues.

Task Force members were asked to choose which work group or groups they'd like to serve on by Wednesday, Aug. 3. Once leads or co-leads are identified for each work group, leads will meet with the executive committee to prepare for work group meetings. NM First and the Executive Committee are creating a guide for these meetings, which will outline format of meetings, how to manage conflict and provide a template for recommendations to be submitted.

The Task Force also asked for clarification regarding who can attend work group meetings and the role of technical experts who are not on the task force. This issue will be discussed at a later date to work through the issues brought up in this meeting:

- Some task force members affiliated with agencies expected to serve as technical experts supporting all three work groups but felt they would not have capacity to support each group without bringing in additional staff.
- Some task force members affiliated with organizations that work within all three work group areas were interested in giving feedback in all three work groups using assistance from other staff members in the organization. They also wanted to ensure all stakeholder group's perspectives are represented within all work groups.
- A task force member expressed concern that if well-resourced organizations add workgroup members, this could mute the voices of organizations that don't have as much capacity.
- A person serving as a liaison to the task force from another agency asked for clarification on whether they were expected to contribute to the dialogue as someone who is not a member of the task force.

- An executive committee member suggested amending the charter so that state task force members can send someone they work with in their place at a task force meeting with the purpose of providing technical expertise and keeping the task force member informed, though they would not be allowed to vote.
- A facilitator highlighted that everyone will have opportunity to weigh in and engage meaningfully on all three work group areas when work groups report back to full task force. It will just be at task force level, instead of a work group level.

### **50 Year Water Plan Recommendations Survey and Water Plan Status Update**

- Executive Committee and NM First presented some preliminary results from the recent Task Force survey about 50 Year Water Plan Recommendations.
- The NM Acequia Association helped craft recommendations related to acequia community which will be included as a two-page insert about acequias in the public engagement section of the plan final report.
- The conclusion of the 50 Yr Water Plan is being revised to better address short-term, mid-term, and long-term planning within the state.

### **Closing**

- There will be two full task force meetings on Aug. 15 and 29 and September 19<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup>
- The August 29th meeting could be used as work group time but is planned to be a full task force meeting.
- The executive committee and NM First will also finalize work group membership, leadership and work group meeting dates.
- Eight legislators will have the option to begin engaging with the work group as early as Aug. 15

**Meeting adjourned at 2:02 p.m.**