



**MINUTES**

**Annual Meeting**  
**Silver City Town Annex**  
**1203 N. Hudson, Silver City, NM 88061**  
**August 24, 2023**  
**10:30 am**

**Members Present**

Alex Brown  
Johnny Coburn  
Lori Ortiz  
Alan Berg  
Gabriel Ramos  
William Hawkins  
Carlos Romero

Town of Silver City  
Casas Adobes MDWCA  
Town of Hurley  
Tyrone WWA  
City of Bayard  
Silver Consolidated Schools  
NM Tech/Playas Training Center

Silver City, NM  
Mimbres, NM  
Hurley, NM  
Tyrone, NM  
Bayard, NM  
Silver City, NM  
Socorro, NM

**Others Present**

Priscilla Lucero  
Chon Fierro  
Gabriel Ortega

SWNMCOG  
City of Bayard  
SWNMCOG

Silver City, NM  
Bayard, NM  
Silver City, NM

**Members Not Present**

Agatha King  
Hilda Keller  
Major Salas  
Hollis Vaughn  
George Peru  
Vacant  
Joseph Shepard  
Gilbert Cruz  
Ron Belanger  
Lynn Jones  
Gerald Moss  
Diana Jiron  
JoAnn Holguin  
Dora Gonzales  
Shelia Hudman  
Aaron Sera  
Marlena Valenzuela  
Loren Cushman  
Chris Brice

Quemado Lake Assoc.  
Village of Reserve  
Village of Columbus  
Hidalgo SWCD  
El Grito Head Start  
Cobre Schools  
WNMU  
Hanover MDWCA  
Arenas Valley MDWCA  
Rosedale MDWCA  
Rancho Grande MDWCA  
Lake Roberts MDWCA  
GRMC  
SW Solid Waste Authority  
Village of Santa Clara  
City of Deming  
City of Bayard  
Catron County  
Luna County

Quemado, NM  
Reserve, NM  
Columbus, NM  
Lordsburg, NM  
Silver City, NM  
Bayard, NM  
Silver City, NM  
Hanover, NM  
Arenas Valley, NM  
Silver City, NM  
Reserve, NM  
Lake Roberts, NM  
Silver City, NM  
Silver City, NM  
Santa Clara, NM  
Deming, NM  
Bayard, NM  
Reserve, NM  
Deming, NM

Southwest  
New Mexico  
Council of Governments

Strengthening Those We Serve  
Hidalgo • Catron • Luna • Grant



Tisha Green  
Randy Hernandez  
Armando Aguilera  
Linda Farnsworth  
Jacob Bigler  
Art Malott  
Jessica Etcheverry  
Howard Hutchinson

Hidalgo County  
Grant County  
Grant County SWCD  
City of Lordsburg  
Village of Virden  
Hidalgo County  
Deming Schools  
San Francisco SWCD

Lordsburg, NM  
Silver City, NM  
Silver City, NM  
Lordsburg, NM  
Virden, NM  
Lordsburg, NM  
Deming, NM  
Glenwood, NM

- I. Vice-Chairman Alex Brown called the Regular Board Meeting of the Southwest New Mexico Council of Governments to order on Thursday, August 24, 2023 at 10:30 A.M.
- II. All stood for the Pledge of Allegiance.
- III. Gabriel Ortega roll called members; quorum was present.
- IV. Vice-Chairman Brown asked for the approval of the agenda, Will Hawkins made the motion to approve the agenda, Alan Berg seconded the motion; all in favor, motion carried.
- V. Vice-Chairman Brown asked for the approval of Consent Agenda items, Johnny Coburn made the motion to approve the Consent Agenda items, Will Hawkins seconded the motion; all in favor, motion carried.
- VI. New Business
  - A. Approval/Disapproval Agreement with Upper Gila Watershed Alliance for HB2JR funds \$100,000. Priscilla explained that it is a one-year agreement, and will expire in June 30, 2024. Vice-Chairman Brown asked for a motion to approve, Gabriel Ramos made the motion to approve, Alan Berg seconded; all in favor, motion carried.
  - B. Approval/Disapproval Agreement for Fiscal Services with Columbus-CIF-6110-26,790. Priscilla explained this is for Columbus's new Colonias Grant which is in an excess of \$1,000,000, and the SWNMCOG will get a Fiscal Service dollar amount of \$26,790. Vice-Chairman Brown asked for a motion to approve agreement with Columbus-CIF-6110-26,790, Will Hawkins made the motion to approve, Gabriel Ramos seconded; all in favor, motion carried.
  - C. Approval/Disapproval Agreement with Better City for Grant Writing (\$10,000). Priscilla explained that the SWNMCOG received an award from the Capacity grant in the amount of \$200,000, and a portion of that grant is going to Better City for grant writing which will be available for all members of the SWNMCOG. Vice-Chairman Brown asked for a motion to approve Agreement with Better City for Grant Writing, Alan Berg made the motion to approve, Will Hawkins seconded; all in favor, motion carried.



- D. Approval/Disapproval Resolution #COG 2023-2024-1 Establishing a Public Participation Plan. Priscilla explained that this was a requirement for the DOT contract, and had to be renewed. Vice-Chairman Brown asked for a motion to approve, Gabriel Ramos made the motion to approve Resolution #COG 2023-2024-1 Establishing a Public Participation Plan, Will Hawkins seconded; all in favor, motion carried.
- E. Approval/Disapproval Resolution #COG 2023-2024-2 Establishing Title VI Civil Rights Act Compliance. Priscilla explained that this was another federal compliance the SWNMCOG had to meet in order to receive federal dollars. Vice-Chairman Brown asked for a motion to approve Resolution #COG 2023-2024-2 Establishing Title VI Civil Rights Act Compliance, Alan Berg made the motion to approve Resolution #COG 2023-2024-2 Establishing Title VI Civil Rights Act Compliance, Johnny Coburn seconded; all in favor, motion carried.
- F. Approval/Disapproval Out of State Travel for Cerisse to American Planning Association National Conference in Minneapolis, MN on April 12, 2024. Priscilla explained that this is a conference that has been authorized by DOT for Cerisse to attend. Priscilla further explained that Cerisse will be representing New Mexico at this conference. Vice-Chairman Brown asked for a motion to approve the Out of State Travel for Cerisse to American Planning Association National Conference in Minneapolis, Alan Berg made the motion to approve, Gabriel Ramos seconded; all in favor, motion carried.
- G. Approval/Disapproval Resolution #COG 2023-2024-3. Priscilla explained that the SWNMCOG brings that final budget for that fiscal year, and aligns it with the actual expenditures for June 30, 2023. Vice-Chairman Brown asked for the approval of the Resolution 2023-2024-3 Budget Amendment FY 2022-2023, Gabriel Ramos made the motion to approve, Will Hawkins seconded; all in favor, motion carried.
- H. Approval/Disapproval Resolution 2023-2024-4 Amendment to the FY 2023-2024 Budget. Priscilla explained that allocating the funds to the cost allocation based on the different funding sources. Priscilla further explained that the budget had to include the \$200,000 that came from the capacity grant, the \$100,000 for the sustainability project, and the \$67,000 from Grant County for the purpose of doing CO. STARTERS in Grant County. Vice-Chairman Brown asked for a motion to approve the Resolution 2023-2024-4 Amendment to the FY 2023-2024, Johnny Coburn made the motion to approve, Gabriel Ramos seconded; all in favor, motion carried

## VII. Old Business:

Receive Transportation Report- Priscilla asked if everyone was aware of the funds that were being allocated based on the TPF funds, which passed for \$10.9 million for the Southwest region.

Receive Executive Director's Report- Priscilla explained that on September 29<sup>th</sup> at the Grant County conference center at 9 A.M., the Biden infrastructure fund is bringing staff down from Santa Fe to give a report on what dollars are available for the local governments. Priscilla also



explained that the SWNMCOG received the capacity grant to be able to hire a grant specialist to be able to do some of the work around the New Mexico unit, funds also utilize them to do other grant opportunities. Priscilla further explained the difficulty of the capacity grant is that it expires June 30, 2024. Infrastructure conference is coming to Las Cruces in October 18<sup>th</sup>, and will be sending out notices when that comes up.

Receive Reports from Members- Johnny Coburn explained that the Casas Adobes MDWCA got the notice of award for their water project. Alan Berg explained that Tyrone selected a contractor for their 1.9-million-dollar contract which was helped to get by the SWNMCOG. Alex Brown explained that the Town of Silver City has 23 million dollars' worth of projects. Carlos Romero explained that Playas has selected a contractor for a road paving job at 2.1 million dollars.

VIII. Next Regular Board Meeting to be held October 26, 2023

IX. Will Hawkins made the motion to adjourn, Gabriel Ramos seconded; all in favor, motion carried.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Aaron Sera", written over a horizontal line.

Aaron Sera, Chairman

**Attest:**

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Priscilla C. Lucero", written over a horizontal line.

Priscilla Lucero, Secretary