

NEW MEXICO STATE TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

MEETING

**Roswell Convention and Civic Center
912 N. Main Street
Roswell, NM 88201
March 24, 2022**

The New Mexico State Transportation Commission (STC or Commission) held a regular meeting on March 24, 2022, at the Roswell Convention and Civic Center, Roswell, New Mexico. Chairman Adams called the meeting to order at 8:32 a.m. He asked for a roll call to establish a quorum. Mershawn Griego, Office of the Secretary, New Mexico Department of Transportation (NMDOT), proceeded to call the roll. Commissioners Walter G. Adams, Bruce Ellis, Hilma E. Chynoweth, Tomas C. Taylor, and Charles Lundstrom were present.

Approval of the STC Meeting Agenda

Chairman Adams asked for a motion to approve the STC meeting agenda; Commissioner Taylor made a motion to approve the agenda; Commissioner Chynoweth seconded; motion carried unanimously.

Approval of the STC Minutes

Chairman Adams asked for a motion to approve the March 3, 2022 STC special meeting minutes; Commissioner Lundstrom made a motion to approve the minutes; Commissioner Ellis seconded; motion carried unanimously.

State Transportation Commissioners Present:

Jennifer Sandoval, Vice-Chair, District One (absent with notice)
Bruce Ellis, Commissioner, District Two
Hilma E. Chynoweth, Commissioner, District Three
Walter G. Adams, Chairman, District Four
Thomas C. Taylor, Commissioner, District Five
Charles Lundstrom, Secretary, District Six

NMDOT Staff Present:

Michael Sandoval, Cabinet Secretary
Justin Reese, Deputy Secretary, Business Support
Rick Padilla, P.E., Executive Director of Highway Operations
Jerry Valdez, Executive Projects Director
Kenneth B. Baca, General Counsel
NMDOT Staff

Elected Officials and Delegations Present:

The Honorable Cliff R. Pirtle, New Mexico State Senator, District 32
The Honorable Greg Nibert, New Mexico State Representative, District 59
The Honorable Martin R. Zamora, New Mexico State Representative, District 63
The Honorable Randal S. Crowder, New Mexico State Representative, District 64
The Honorable Phelps Anderson, New Mexico State Representative, District 66
The Honorable Timothy Z. Jennings, Mayor-Elect, City of Roswell
The Honorable Roman Garcia, Mayor, Town of Vaughn
The Honorable Ray Dean, Mayor, Town of Carrizozo
The Honorable Lynn D. Crawford, Mayor, Village of Ruidoso
Karla Hamel Niemeier, City Councilor, Ward 3, City of Carlsbad
Judy Stubbs, City Councilor, Ward 3, City of Roswell
Helen Casaus, City Commissioner, District 3, City of Clovis
Fidel Madrid, Former Commissioner, District 3, City of Clovis
Jon Crunk, Lincoln County Commissioner, District 3
Susan Crockett, Former County Commissioner, District 5, Eddy County
Ira Pearson, County Manager, Lincoln County
Alan P. Morel, County Attorney, Lincoln County
Michael Wood, Sheriff, Lincoln County

Introductions

Chairman Adams and Michael Sandoval, Cabinet Secretary, NMDOT, welcomed STC meeting attendees and acknowledged the elected officials in attendance, some of whom rose to make introductory comments. Secretary Sandoval acknowledged representatives of three organizations NMDOT works with, Jim Garcia, Executive Director, Associated Contractors of New Mexico (ACNM); Brian Jones, Executive Director, Asphalt Pavement Association of New Mexico (APANM); and Albert “Bert” Thomas, American Council of Engineering Companies New Mexico (ACEC). The STC Commissioners then introduced themselves and the Secretary introduced NMDOT Executive Staff and District Engineers, and Cindy Vigue, New Mexico Division Administrator, FHWA.

Welcoming Remarks

Chairman Adams acknowledged and thanked NMDOT employees for their work and meeting participants for attending the meeting.

Public Comment

Alan Morel, Lincoln County Attorney, discussed Lincoln County’s request to designate certain portions of NM 37 and NM 48 for recreational off-highway vehicle (ROV) use. He identified numerous Lincoln County (County) and Village of Ruidoso (Ruidoso) representatives present at the meeting, including Jon Crunk, Lincoln County Commissioner; Ira Pearson, Lincoln County Manager; Michael Wood, Sheriff, Lincoln County; Lance Roe, owner, Backcountry Attitudes; and Lynn Crawford, Mayor, Village of Ruidoso (all of whom spoke later in the meeting in support the designation request). The County has been working on this matter with Francisco Sanchez, P.E., NMDOT District Two Engineer since June 2021. The requested designation would

allow Ruidoso to connect with the County all the way to Bonita Lake. Ruidoso already has authorization to operate ROVs within the Village limits. This designation would extend that designation. It would open up tens of thousands of acres for public to use, including the White Mountain Wilderness area in the Lincoln National Forest and allow the operation of ROVS at 40 mph or less. The County hopes the STC will support the requested ROV designation. Mr. Morel has not received any calls in opposition to the request.

Michael Wood, Sheriff, Lincoln County, expressed his support and approval of the ROV designation request. In October 2018, the County adopted Ordinance 2018-2, authorizing operation of ROVs on paved streets or highways owned and controlled by the County. Since the adoption of the ordinance, and to date, there have been no known or reported incidents involving the operation ROVs on streets or highways owned or controlled by the County. The County both relies on and supports the tourism industry. Approval of the ROV designation request will benefit and enhance the recreational economy of the County. He added that his agency enforces all State of New Mexico traffic laws. He believes ROVs can be operated as safely as motorcycles and mini-cars and reiterated that the Sheriff's Office supports the ROV designation.

Commissioner Ellis commented regarding certain concerns expressed about Ruidoso's original (August 2019) designation request and asked for clarification on the limits of this designation request. Sheriff Wood responded that he believes there is a stipulation regarding speed limits on paved roads, traveling from a particular destination to another. Presently, the County is only interested in designating that segment of NM 48 from the Village limits to Bonita Lake, all of which is designated a 45 mph zone.

The Honorable Timothy Z. Jennings, Mayor-Elect, City of Roswell, thanked everyone for coming to Roswell and stated that it is a pleasure to have Francisco Sanchez as the District

Two Engineer. He extended an invitation to meeting attendees to see Roswell's museums while they are visiting the City. He mentioned the pedestrian traffic problem in Roswell due to the number of visitors the UFO Museum receives daily and asked for help in figuring out how to address the problem. He also stated that four-laning US 380 would benefit the entire area, especially Roswell, Ruidoso and Mescalero.

Matt White, City Manager, City of Jal, introduced himself and extended apologies on behalf of Mayor Aldridge, who was unable to attend the meeting. He also expressed his appreciation to the STC and especially to Francisco Sanchez, District Two Engineer, for help with NM 128 and everything else he has done for Jal.

Christopher Little, Public Works Director, Mescalero Apache Tribe, on behalf of the Tribe, expressed gratitude, to Francisco Sanchez, District Two Engineer, and his staff for all the work they have done with the Tribe. He also thanked NMDOT and the STC for the funding provided to the Tribe. He extended an open invitation to come and see the projects the Tribe is doing. They would be happy to host the visit.

Approval of STC Resolution No. 2022-04 (MAR) Authorizing the New Mexico Finance Authority (NMFA) to Issue Series 2022 Refunding Bonds

Justin Reese, NMDOT Deputy Secretary, Business Support, NMDOT, introduced and requested the STC's authorization and approval of proposed Resolution No. 2022-04 (MAR) Authorizing the NMFA to Issue Series 2022 Refunding Bonds. He then introduced NMDOT's financial advisor, Peter Shellenberger, Managing Director, PFM Financial Advisors LLC. Mr. Shellenberger explained that the proposed resolution directs and authorizes NMFA to issue refunding bonds to replace or refund the Series 2012 bonds that are currently outstanding. The

purpose of the transaction is to take advantage of lower interest rates and produce about \$2.9 million of savings through 2026. He presented an analysis regarding current market conditions relative to the proposed bond transaction. The current interest rate on the bonds to be issued will be approximately 2% - 2.2%. The bonds are tax exempt because NMDOT is a governmental agency. He and NMDOT staff met with rating agencies that rate the bonds, and the bonds received a AAA rating from Kroll, the highest possible rating, and AA+ by Standard & Poor's (S&P) and Moody's. With very high ratings, very strong investors will be attracted to purchase the bonds.

Mr. Shellenberger also provided an overview of NMDOT's debt portfolio, which is presently \$998.2 million. NMDOT's 2012 bonds are currently outstanding in the amount of \$154 million, approximately \$100 million of which comes due in a principal payment on June 15, 2022. That amount is not being refunded, only about \$50 million of the remaining 2012 bonds will be refunded in the subject transaction. This portion of NMDOT's debt portfolio is 100% fixed rate, with no variable rate debt. The debt will be repaid very quickly compared to other state DOTs and issuers. It will be entirely repaid in 10 years, and about five years from now, approximately 60% will be repaid, meaning less dollars going toward debt and more dollars going to projects. About \$47 million in bonds will be reissued in this transaction to retire the remaining portion of about \$50 million of the 2012 bonds. Accordingly, about \$47 million to be issued at a lower interest rate, resulting in a savings of about \$2.9 million, or about \$640,000 a year through 2026, representing dollars that will go back to projects. In the resolution, there is a minimum threshold of 3% debt service savings, a ratio of about 2.7% over the amount of bonds being refunded. After the STC approves the proposed resolution, NMFA will take action to approve its resolution to authorize the issuance of the refunding bonds; the offering documents will then be posted so investors can start looking at them; pricing will occur on April 5, 2022; closing on the bonds will

occur on April 28, 2022; and the call date on the underlying bonds will be June 15, 2022.

Chairman Adams asked Secretary Sandoval for his recommendation. The Secretary recommended approval and added that this transaction will save NMDOT and state taxpayers some money and reduce NMDOT's debt going forward.

Chairman Adams asked for a motion to approve Resolution No. 2022-04 (MAR) Authorizing the NMFA to Issue Series 2022 Refunding Bonds; Commissioner Taylor made a motion to so approve; Commissioner Chynoweth seconded; motion carried unanimously.

Presentation of the ENVISION Award

Jerry B. Paz, P.E., Chief Operations Officer, Molzen Corbin, and Region 6 Director, American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE), presented an Institute for Sustainable Infrastructure (ISI) Envision Silver Award to NMDOT for the I-25 University Avenue Interchange Improvements project in Las Cruces. This project is the first in the state of New Mexico to earn a prestigious Envision award for sustainable infrastructure. Mr. Paz explained what Envision is, outlined the ISI/Envision framework and rating system for horizontal infrastructure – utilities, highways and roads – and discussed the particulars of the of the project. He then showed a video of Melissa Peneycad, Managing Director of ISI, congratulating NMDOT on earning the award. Secretary Sandoval received the award on behalf of the General Office and Trent Doolittle, P.E., District One Engineer, NMDOT, on behalf of the District One Office.

“Best of New Mexico” Paving Awards

Brian Jones, Executive Director, Asphalt Pavement Association of New Mexico (APANM), presented the 2021 Best of New Mexico Paving Awards. Districts 1, 2, 3, and 4 received awards.

District Two Update

Francisco Sanchez, P.E., District Two Engineer, NMDOT, recognized certain District Two staff members in attendance at the meeting and thereafter provided an update (via video recording) regarding District Two, during which he discussed the District’s construction, maintenance and pavement preservation projects and other activities. He also reported on the District’s Employee Recognition Program, acknowledged recent award winners and thanked all District Two staff members for their work. In closing, District Engineer Sanchez discussed the sad loss of District Two employee, Mittie Runyon, who was killed in a work zone crash in December. He and numerous other District Two employees paid tribute to her and expressed what her loss means to them both personally and professionally, and to the entire NMDOT family.

Staff Briefings

Secretary’s Report

Michael Sandoval, Cabinet Secretary, NMDOT, reported regarding the 2022 Legislative Session. When he began his tenure as Cabinet Secretary, he had a legislative agenda of 15 bills he wanted to get passed. The last of those bills, Construction Manager General Contractor (CMGC), was finally passed in the 2022 Session and signed into law by the Governor in February.

He explained that Design/ Bid/Build is the procurement option most used by NMDOT. Another option is the Design/Build process; however, the threshold for that process was statutorily set at \$50 million or above, so NMDOT was only able to use it for larger projects. Now there is a third procurement option, CMGC, a process whereby the designer and construction contractor begin working together from the beginning of the project and move forward. The CMGC bill also removed the \$50 million threshold from the Design/Build process.

NMDOT's budget this year is approximately \$1.5 billion. It is the highest budget NMDOT has ever had. \$1.1 billion derives from regular revenue: Gasoline Tax and other taxes and fees. NMDOT also received just over \$370 million of General Fund money. NMDOT was given a list of projects and suggestions for the money but has the autonomy to use it as needed. The list included \$5 million for airports; up to \$20 million for cost overruns; discretionary funding for maintenance, to be divided among the Districts; \$25 million to help with materials supply chain issues, mainly for I-40 and I-10 projects; up to \$10 million for bridges, etc. Due to inflation, project costs are now 20% to 50% higher than originally estimated because of materials costs and high gasoline prices. The remainder of the funding will be used for major investment projects, 10 to 12 of which were identified in House Bill 2. Within 30 days, NMDOT will have a plan for how the money will be spent.

Regarding the new federal infrastructure law, this year through formula funding, NMDOT will receive approximately \$84 million in additional funds, which will increase about \$10 - \$15 million per year over the 5-year life of the bill. The money is divided among several different programs, including new programs, e.g., NMDOT will receive \$13 million for the new carbon reduction program. New Mexico received \$45 million in federal funds for bridges this year and will receive that funding over the next four years as well. Some of the money will be used for

major projects; 15% must be used at the local level. \$5.38 million has also been released for electric vehicle charging stations. NMDOT's implementation plan for installing charging stations throughout the state is almost complete. Charging will be fee based.

Secretary Sandoval also reported that due to NMDOT's present critical need to hire employees more quickly than usually possible through the State Personnel Office (SPO) process, the Governor granted NMDOT an exemption. Accordingly, NMDOT is now – in compliance with SPO rules – processing all personnel transactions internally.

Commissioner Taylor commented regarding giving consideration to the recovery of some of the costs of installing electric vehicle charging stations and developing a process for taxing electric vehicles given that they do not use fuel and thus do not pay any highway tax. It is important to realize there will be a lot of costs involved in transitioning to electric vehicle use, including the need to increase electricity production and replace transformers and transmission lines. Secretary Sandoval responded that NMDOT is currently working with electric companies to determine where there is capacity to place charging stations. Regarding NMDOT recovering costs, he stated that the last few years, bills to raise electric vehicle registration fees have been introduced, but they have also included tax credits.

In closing, Secretary Sandoval mentioned that the Legislature approved salary increases for all employees: a 3% raise in April and then at least a 4% raise in July, or a total of 7%. Some employees may receive more based on a formula calculation.

Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) Report

Cindy Vigue, New Mexico Division Administrator, FHWA, reported that on March 15, 2022, the President of the United States signed the Consolidated Appropriations Act, that provided

FHWA, New Mexico with the full year apportionment funding it has been waiting for, including \$7.6 million for the Carbon Reduction Program and \$13.4 million for the Protect Formula Program. FHWA needs to develop the guidance for these funds over the next 60 days. FHWA will also receive additional appropriative funding, the remainder of the \$84 million Secretary Sandoval mentioned earlier in the meeting. There are also 11 proposed earmarks, including: \$3.5 million proposed by Senators Heinrich and Lujan for a downtown Clovis construction project and \$1.5 million, also proposed by Senators Heinrich and Lujan, for NM 31 and NM 128 for preliminary engineering. In addition, three programs are being released at the same time: (1) Mega (for larger projects); (2) Infra (continuation of the existing program); and (3) Rural, a new program in which \$300 million will be available for rural projects. Information can be found at: www.transportation.gov/grants, or entities may contact Ms. Vigue directly. The deadline to apply for grants is May 23, 2022.

Finance Reports

New Mexico Finance Authority (NMFA) Report

Mark Lovato, Managing Director, Investments, NMFA, provided an update regarding NMDOT's investment portfolio funds under NMFA management and NMDOT/NMFA's outstanding bond debt service as of February 28, 2022. During the month of February, NMFA received a total of \$31 million toward NMDOT's debt service (for January and February). Accordingly, NMFA is presently holding approximately \$100.8 million in debt service funds. It is also holding \$309.1 million in project funds: \$302.4 million in NMDOT's 2021A project account and \$6.7 million in NMDOT's 2014A project account. NMDOT has a \$50 million line of credit at Wells Fargo pursuant to certain agreements with BNSF. It was just renewed for an

additional three years. It will now expire on June 30, 2025. The terms were not changed except that LIBOR has been replaced with the secured overnight financing rate, due to LIBOR being phased out. The draw portion will now be +.77%, and the unused portion, which is the Commitment Fee, is 19 basis points. Therefore, it costs approximately \$100,000 per year to keep the line of credit in place. NMDOT has had a line of credit in place since July 2013 and has paid \$808,389 in Commitment Fees since that date. NMDOT's outstanding bond debt currently totals \$998.2 million. A payment in the amount of \$145,688,325 (\$121,170,000 plus interest in the amount of \$24,518,325) is due on June 15, 2022. Including NMDOT's December 15, 2021, interest only debt service payment in the amount of \$22,693,658, NMDOT's total debt service for the fiscal year was approximately \$168,381,983.

NMDOT Financial Status Update

Mallery Manzanares, Administrative Services Director, NMDOT, presented the NMDOT financial status update as of March 1, 2022. NMDOT's FY22 budget as of that date was \$903.3 million. State Road Fund: To date, NMDOT has received a total of \$580.6 million in revenue and spent \$590.5 million. Restricted Funds: To date, NMDOT has received \$65.6 million in revenue and spent \$39.6 million. Mrs. Manzanares also discussed NMDOT's FY22 cash balances for operating budget funds: Road Fund: \$368.7 million; Restricted Funds: \$97.6 million; and Total Cash Balance: \$466.3 million. At present, NMDOT's projected FY22 year end fund balances ("savings account" amounts) are: Road Fund: \$24.8 million; Restricted Funds: \$47.6 million; and Operating Fund (agency total): \$72.4 million.

Approval of FY22 Budget Adjustment Request (BAR) No. 14 - FHWA Apportionment and Releases

Mallery Manzanares, Administrative Services Director, NMDOT, presented and requested approval of FY22 BAR No. 14 - P562 – PDC – FHWA Apportionment and Releases. The BAR is required to establish budget authority for the FHWA program. It will increase Contractual Services (Category 300) by \$137.3 million, \$117.4 of which are federal funds, and \$19.9 million is state match. The BAR will accommodate the increase in the federal apportionment NMDOT received as a result of the federal Infrastructure Investment and Job Act (IIJA), signed into law by President Biden on November 15, 2021. State Road Fund balance will support the state match.

Chairman Adams asked for a motion to approve FY22 BAR No. 14 - FHWA Apportionment and Releases; Commissioner Taylor made a motion to so approve; Commissioner Ellis seconded; motion carried unanimously.

Policy Reports

Proposed Amendments to Commission Policy No. 1, New Mexico State Transportation Commission Organization and Meetings (“CP 1”)

Ken Baca, General Counsel, NMDOT, briefed the STC regarding certain proposed amendments to CP 1 that were made to follow up on an issue Chairman Adams mentioned at the January 6, 2022 STC meeting regarding whether or not the current law allows STC Commissioners to participate in commission meetings via Zoom, Microsoft Teams, or other similar technology. The Open Meetings Act includes a provision that allows for participation by telephone conference or other similar communications equipment, as long the agency that is affected adopts or

promulgates a rule allowing such participation. NMDOT does have such a rule, 18.1.5.9 NMAC, *State Transportation Commission Meetings*, and also a Commission Policy that adopts the Open Meetings Act language. CP 1 is similar but it adds the word “television”, so it allows participation by telephone conference, television or other similar communications equipment. Although current law allows that sort of participation, it may be best to amend CP 1 to clarify (1) that the Commissioners may participate remotely; and (2) to add that the participation, either remote or virtual, can be via a live streaming technology, including but not limited to Zoom or Microsoft Teams. Accordingly, this item will be presented to the STC for consideration and approval at the next STC meeting.

Chairman Adams asked for clarification that (1) Commissioners may participate and vote via Zoom; and (2) the Commissioner’s participation via such means may be to establish a quorum. Mr. Baca confirmed that is correct.

Initial Rulemaking Action for the Repeal and Replacement of NMDOT Rules 18.20.3 NMAC, *Driver Education Schools*; 18.20.8 NMAC, *Driving Safety Schools*; 18.20.10 NMAC, *New Mexico’s Motorcycle Training Program*; 18.20.11 NMAC, *Ignition Interlock Devices*; and 7.32.20 NMAC, *Driving While Impaired (DWI) Schools*

Leann Adams, Staff Manager, Traffic Safety Division, NMDOT, presented and requested the STC’s approval to initiate rulemaking action for the repeal and replacement of NMDOT rules 18.20.3 NMAC, *Driver Education Schools*; 18.20.8 NMAC, *Driving Safety Schools*; 18.20.10 NMAC, *New Mexico’s Motorcycle Training Program*; 18.20.11 NMAC, *Ignition Interlock Devices*; and 7.32.20 NMAC, *Driving While Impaired (DWI) Schools*. Ms. Adams outlined certain proposed revisions to the subject rules.

Commissioner Lundstrom asked if NMDOT provides driving simulators in driver education classrooms. Ms. Adams stated that presently there is no funding for the devices.

Chairman Adams asked for a motion to approve the initiation of rulemaking action for the repeal and replacement of NMDOT rules 18.20.3 NMAC, *Driver Education Schools*; 18.20.8 NMAC, *Driving Safety Schools*; 18.20.10 NMAC, *New Mexico's Motorcycle Training Program*; 18.20.11 NMAC, *Ignition Interlock Devices*; and 7.32.20 NMAC, *Driving While Impaired (DWI) Schools*; Commissioner Chynoweth made a motion to so approve; Commissioner Lundstrom seconded; motion carried unanimously.

Proposal to Transfer Roads Pursuant to Cooperative Agreement with the Town of Bernalillo

Justin Gibson, P.E., District Three Engineer, NMDOT, discussed the US 550 corridor project that commenced in 2012. The project will be completed this year. He briefed the STC on the details of the proposed road transfer, which involves transferring jurisdiction and perpetual maintenance responsibilities of the subject roads to the Town of Bernalillo. If the STC approves the proposed transfer, NMDOT's maintenance responsibilities will be reduced. District Three is in the process of drafting a related maintenance agreement. This matter will be presented to the STC for approval at its next meeting.

Final Rulemaking Action Regarding Proposed New NMDOT Rule, 18.24.1 NMAC, *Autonomous Motor Vehicle Testing*

Charles Remkes, P.E., ITS Operations Manager, NMDOT, presented and requested the STC's approval to conclude rulemaking action for proposed new NMDOT rule, 18.24.1 NMAC,

Autonomous Motor Vehicle Testing. In May 2021, the STC approved initiation of the rulemaking process. Over the last six months, NMDOT held two public hearings, one on November 16, 2021, and one on March 10, 2022. During the hearings, NMDOT received oral and written comments on the proposed rule. He discussed the comments and stated they resulted in only minor technical changes to the final rule.

Chairman Adams asked for a motion to approve final rulemaking action regarding proposed new NMDOT Rule, 18.24.1 NMAC, *Autonomous Motor Vehicle Testing*; Commissioner Chynoweth made a motion to so approve; Commissioner Lundstrom seconded; motion carried unanimously.

Briefing Regarding Proposed Lincoln County Request to Designate Certain Segments of NM 37 and NM 48 for the Operation of Recreational Off-Highway Vehicles (ROVs)

Francisco Sanchez, P.E., District Two Engineer, NMDOT, briefed the STC regarding Lincoln County's proposed request to designate certain segments of NM 37 and NM 48 for the operation of ROVs. The designation would extend the existing ROV route on NM 48 within the Village of Ruidoso. The specific state highway segments that Lincoln County has requested to be designated are more particularly described as: from a point at the northern Village of Ruidoso city limits, mile marker 7.8 on NM 48 north to the intersection of NM 37, thence west on NM 37 to the turnoff to Bonito Lake. District Engineer Sanchez feels confident in recommending the proposed designation to the STC since the subject highway segments have safety features, including guard rails. He also stated the proposed route meets all of the conditions set forth in Commission Policy 71.

Briefing Regarding Proposed Eddy County Request to Designate a Certain Segment of NM 137 for the Operation of Recreational Off-Highway Vehicles (ROVs)

Francisco Sanchez, P.E., District Two Engineer, NMDOT, briefed the STC regarding Eddy County's proposed request to designate a certain segment of NM 137 for the operation of ROVs. The specific state highway segment that Eddy County has requested to be designated is more particularly described as: NM 137 from approximately mile marker 14.7 to approximately mile marker 21.5. The proposed designation would complement the community and surrounding area. The area is heavily used by hunters, who are presently unable to use ROVs on the subject highway segment. The proposed designation, if approved, would allow them, as well as other members of the public, to do so. District Two will recommend the STC's approval of the proposed designation at its next meeting.

Adjournment

Chairman Adams asked for a motion to adjourn the regular meeting at 12:16 p.m.; Commissioner Lundstrom made a motion to adjourn the regular meeting; Commissioner Ellis seconded. Motion carried unanimously.



Chairman

Walter G. Adams



Secretary

Charles Lundstrom

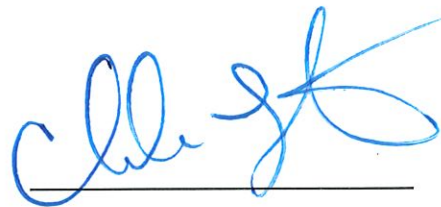
Briefing Regarding Proposed Eddy County Request to Designate a Certain Segment of NM 137 for the Operation of Recreational Off-Highway Vehicles (ROVs)

Francisco Sanchez, P.E., District Two Engineer, NMDOT, briefed the STC regarding Eddy County’s proposed request to designate a certain segment of NM 137 for the operation of ROVs. The specific state highway segment that Eddy County has requested to be designated is more particularly described as: NM 137 from approximately mile marker 14.7 to approximately mile marker 21.5. The proposed designation would complement the community and surrounding area. The area is heavily used by hunters, who are presently unable to use ROVs on the subject highway segment. The proposed designation, if approved, would allow them, as well as other members of the public, to do so. District Two will recommend the STC’s approval of the proposed designation at its next meeting.

Adjournment

Chairman Adams asked for a motion to adjourn the regular meeting at 12:16 p.m.; Commissioner Lundstrom made a motion to adjourn the regular meeting; Commissioner Ellis seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Chairman
Walter G. Adams



Secretary
Charles Lundstrom