

Gerard Saiz, Chair, District I □ Jhonathan Aragon, Vice-Chair, District V □
Troy Richardson, District II □ David A. Hyder, District III □ Joseph Bizzell, District IV
Danny Monette, County Manager



Board of
County Commissioners
Celebrating Valencia County's
170th Anniversary
1852-2022

January 12, 2022

**Agenda
5:00 P.M.**

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "D. Saiz".

Special Business Meeting
Valencia County Commission Chambers
444 Luna Ave.
Los Lunas, NM 87031

Please Silence all Electronic Devices

Masks required in all County Buildings

- 1) Call Meeting to Order
- 2) Pledge of Allegiance
- 3) Approval of Agenda

Sponsorship does not indicate endorsement of a given topic

DISCUSSION (non-action item(s))

- 4) Commissioners, Committees and Reports

ACTION ITEM

- 5) Appointment of State Representative for House District 8. Presenter: **County Attorney, David Pato**;
Sponsor: **County Manager for Regular County Business**

NEXT COMMISSION MEETINGS

February 2, 2022 –Business Meeting @ 5:00 P.M. via Facebook Live
Valencia County Commission Chambers, 444 Luna Ave., Los Lunas, NM 87031

March 2, 2022 – Public Hearing/Business Meeting @ 5:00 P.M. via Facebook Live
Valencia County Commission Chambers, 444 Luna Ave., Los Lunas, NM 87031

ADJOURN

If you are an individual with a disability who is in need of a reader, amplifier, qualified sign language interpreter, or any other form of auxiliary aid or service to attend or participate in the hearing or meeting, please contact the Valencia County Manager's Office at the Valencia County Administration Building, Los Lunas, New Mexico, (505) 866-2014 at least one week prior to the meeting or as soon as possible. Public documents, including the agenda and minutes, can be provided in various accessible formats. Please contact the Valencia County Manager's Office if a summary or other type of accessible format is needed.

DAVID J. CARTER
1621 Mesita Lane, Belen, NM 87002
505-710-5994, E-mail: dave73carer@aol.com

Letter of Interest

Mr. Monette:

This Communication is penned in response to the advertisement for the position of State Representative House District 8. As a resident and product of Valencia County, I am attracted by the prospect to give back more to my origins. Although I am enjoying my current position as Retired, I believe I can better serve the County and State in a larger capacity. Due to the attractiveness of the Representative position and the opportunity to work with all citizens of District 8 and the State of New Mexico, I am posting this writing to advise you of my interest in the State Representative House District 8.

My experience includes, but is not limited to, business management, terminal operations, Human Resources, OSHA/safety, training, business to business sales, sales management, cost control, budgeting/forecasting, contract negotiations and leadership.

I have a wide background that would serve the constituents of House District 8. I served as a City Councilor for the City of Belen from 2012 to 2020; thus providing me with operational knowledge of government in the State of New Mexico. My background also includes 11 years working for the Belen Consolidated School District... a key component of the purpose of State Government, Education of our Kids.

In addition, I have been a manager for a large international corporation and managed small operation in the Transportation Industry. This provided a background in large and small business needs. I was also a faculty member at the University of Phoenix where I instructed/facilitated classes in Business Ethics and Business Management. Ethics and Management, I believe they needed repeating.

Finally, I have substantial knowledge of business operations, finance, safety training, federal regulations and state statutes concerning education. I have also interacted with several federal and state agencies such as IRS, PED, DOT, OSHA, EPA and Worker's Comp. Administration. And lastly, I am familiar with union contractual issues, ADA, and EEOC.

If after review of this Letter of Interest you would like for me to expand on my background and learn more my vision and position on issues concerning Valencia County and New Mexico, I am open at any time for in depth discussion. Thank you for your time, and I look forward to your comments.

Sincerely,

David

David J. Carter

Ruth Romero
975 Sandia Drive
Bosque Farms, NM 87068
mrc975@mrc975.digitalspacemail8.net

January 4, 2022

danny.monette@co.valencia.nm.us
Valencia County, Attention County Manager
PO Box 1119
Los Lunas. NM 87031

Dear County Manager,

I was motivated to contact you upon learning there is an opening for the vacant seat in the New Mexico House, District 8. For years, my focus was on my academic and career path as I pursued my childhood dream of becoming a teacher. I graduated from Western New Mexico University with my bachelor's and master's degrees in Education/Special Education. I lived out my dream from 1974 to 2009—beginning in Silver City, moving to Albuquerque, and then to Bosque Farms (where I closed out my teaching career at the UNM-Valencia Campus). I actually believe I would have continued teaching longer, but my husband became quite ill from effects of Agent Orange which sadly morphed into Alzheimer's Disease, and he became my entire focus. He subsequently passed away in 2019, and, in his honor, I thought I would toss my *proverbial hat* into the ring.

The *only* skills I have pertaining to government/law-making, other than paying taxes, voting in every election (local and national) since I became a registered Republican and eligible voter in the last century, and teaching history and government, would be reading 800+ pages of the *Obama Care bill*, writing many, many letters over the years to members of Congress as well as to many US Presidents, and participating in the 2021 New Mexico Legislative session as a member of the New Mexico Association of Educational Retirees' Adopt-a-Legislator program. I am motivated to put my *money where my mouth is* now and just get inside the Round House to learn why things get bogged down and try to be a voice that is heard while representing our community.

I have decades of experience in dealing with very diverse populations, and I believe my understandings and awareness of differences in both individuals and organizations would provide a solid basis for me to become a representative. If you would like to see my transcripts or my resume, I could dust off and dig through a few boxes but probably not before the January 10 deadline.

I am confident I can contribute positively to our state's legislature as a member of the House, representing District 8.

Thank you for this opportunity.

Respectfully,

Ruth Romero

1/10/2022

From: Sharalaina Piro-Rael

505-550-4507 | shar.pr@hotmail.com | 2214 Los Lentos Rd NE | Los Lunas | NM | 87031

Dear Valencia County Commissioners:

My name is Sharalaina Piro-Rael and I'm writing to ask you to consider appointing me to the House of Representatives seat for District 8.

I am very invested in this community and the state of New Mexico and I'd like to help the people who live here thrive. Valencia County is where I was raised. I graduated from Los Lunas High School as Valedictorian before getting my degree with honors from the University of New Mexico. After that I returned to Valencia County to start a small business.

I'm a big supporter of the arts and education. I co-founded a music organization, the New Mexico Adrena-line, that brought together local high school musicians from multiple schools to perform and compete together with students who would normally be their rivals. I've assisted with multiple mariachi concert fundraisers for the LLHS band. In addition, I've spent countless hours over the past 13 years volunteering at schools teaching music to kids and doing pro bono repair work on musical instruments.

This is a funding year and we have a lot of important issues right now, growing the local economy, a medical care facility, the new I-25 off-ramp and many more. As a house representative, I will work to ensure the people of Valencia County are taken care of and that we get the funds we need.

Even more than that, as a legislator I will work to be a voice of unity. The growing divisions in our country are a threat to our democracy. Now more than ever, we need someone in office who understands that our similarities as neighbors are far more important and substantial than our differences.

I am that person.

I have close friends and family from across the political spectrum. The most important thing I've learned from them is that, at the end of the day, we all want the same things: freedom to live our lives as we please, good jobs so we can care for our families, safety in our communities, happiness. We may disagree on the methods to get there, but through honest communication and compromise we WILL get there. Together with logic, we can accomplish far more as a unified team than we can as bitter rivals.

Thank you for your consideration,

Sharalaina Piro-Rael

BRIAN BACA

1301 Carrizo St NW Los Lunas NM 87031
505-910-9997 lobo58baca@icloud.com

January 7, 2022

Valencia County Commission
Attn: Danny Monette, County Manager
PO Box 1119
Los Lunas, NM 87031
Emailed: danny.monette@co.valencia.nm.us

SUBJECT: Letter of Interest for NM State Representative Position – District #8

Dear Commissioners Saiz, Richardson, Hyder, Bizzell, and Aragon:

It is with deep humility and respect that I submit this letter of interest to fill the position of NM State Representative for District #8. I do not make this decision lightly, as I understand the huge responsibility that I am undertaking if given the opportunity to represent our community and its citizens. When I learned about the open seat, I spent a great deal of time in prayer, contemplation, and had extensive discussions with my family. They have given me their full support and they are ready to take this journey with me.

My detailed resume will outline my experiences, both personal and professional, and how I have used them to serve my community in several different ways. My education and commitment to learning has given me the knowledge and skills to understand the very complex issues, opportunities, and challenges that we all face. My varied work experience at the local, state, and national level has allowed me to hone my skills in multiple areas. I have worked with, and collaborated with, groups for a common cause and positive outcomes. I understand the importance of being an active listener. I subscribe to the mantra of “*seek first to understand before being understood*”, and will make sound decisions based on all the facts. I will draw upon these experiences to be a strong advocate and supporter of our community. I will work hard to put forth and support policy and legislation that will help improve our infrastructure, support local businesses, and stimulate economic growth.

People serve in public offices for many reasons: some seek power or personal advancement, and unfortunately, some run for other hidden agendas and/or self-serving purposes. As a fourth generation member of this community, it has been instilled in me all my life that we are here to serve rather than to be served. I want it known that I run for this office solely to serve this community and its citizens and will put the needs of my constituents at the forefront of everything I do in this office. I am a dedicated and hardworking individual who does not shy away from a tough challenge. I will draw from my background and experiences, and through determination, perseverance, and communication will address the issues at hand.

I want to thank the Valencia County Commissioners for their consideration of my appointment. If given the opportunity, I will uphold the duties and responsibilities of the Office of State Representative for District #8, and will serve this community and its citizens to the best of my ability.

Please let me know if I may provide additional information.

Respectfully Submitted,



Brian Baca

BRIAN BACA

1301 CARRIZO ST NW LOS LUNAS NM 87031

505-910-9997

LOBO58BACA@ICLOUD.COM

Mr. Baca is a results-driven change agent with more than two decades of leadership experience. He brings a proven track record of leading large-scale initiatives focused on community achievement, financial management, human capital strategies, facilities master-planning, accountability, policy and governance.

OPERATIONAL LEADERSHIP - Mr. Baca oversees and supports the personnel, athletics, safety and security, and transportation departments for the Los Lunas Schools. Mr. Baca has been a district administrator since 2007 and has served at the cabinet level for over ten years.

FINANCIAL LEADERSHIP - Mr. Baca has helped prepare and manage state and federal grants as part of his duties with the Los Lunas Schools. The total budget for the Los Lunas Schools is over 120 million dollars and Mr. Baca has helped create the budget that is submitted to the State, and makes staffing recommendations for the various schools and departments district-wide, which accounts for over 85% of the total operational budget.

STATE LEADERSHIP - Mr. Baca has been a part of several committees and focus groups throughout his 16 years as an administrator, during which time has been asked to present at numerous conferences at the state and national level on special education, personnel, and school safety. He is currently the president of the New Mexico School Personnel Association (NMSPA) and works to set up trainings, professional development, and the state conferences for the 89 school districts in New Mexico.

COVID RESPONSE - Mr. Baca is currently a member of the Valencia County Covid Vaccine Team. He works alongside members of the LLFD, VCFD, LLPD, VCSO, Los Lunas Schools Health Staff, and the Department of Health to plan for and run the large vaccine clinics that began in early 2020. He works with the Valencia County Emergency Manager to pick up and distribute PPE to all Valencia county schools and departments, as well as, assist with responses to county emergencies.

HUMAN CAPITAL - Mr. Baca is responsible for the marketing, recruiting, hiring and processing of employees as one of his primary duties for the Los Lunas Schools. As an educator of 29 years, he works to support and mentor classroom teachers, department/school leaders, and works with, and supports, the superintendent to make the Los Lunas School District one of the premier districts in the state.

RELATIONSHIP BUILDING - Mr. Baca has built strong relationships with our local fire and police departments and other government agencies as part of the "Protecting And Preserving Our Future" initiative that focuses on school safety. This group meets monthly at the Los Lunas Schools District Office to share information, resources, and training.

PERSONAL AND COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

- Fourth generation resident of Valencia County
- Product of Los Lunas School District
- Spouse has 21-years' experience with the Los Lunas School District
- Parent of three children – all of whom attend Los Lunas Schools
- Lifelong member of San Clemente Parish
- UNM Alumni Veteran (Football)
- Registered Republican

PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS AND SERVICE ORGANIZATIONS

- American Association of School Personnel Administrators
- President of New Mexico School Personnel Association
- Knights of Columbus Council 9340
- Los Lunas Rotary Club
- Partnership with Road Runner Food Bank
- San Clemente Parish Council
- UNM Alumni Letterman Club
- Village of Los Lunas COVID Response Team
- Valencia County Covid Vaccine Team
- LLS Point Person for County Emergency Response Team

EDUCATION AND TRAINING

University of New Mexico Albuquerque, NM

Degree Conferred: 2005

Masters of Arts in Educational Leadership

University of New Mexico. Albuquerque NM

Degree Conferred: 1993

Bachelor's Degree General Studies

Darden Curry Executive Leadership Program for Educators/University of Virginia

2009/2010

Los Lunas High School

Diploma

1988

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Deputy Superintendent Los Lunas Schools April 2018 - Present

Responsible for the supervision and oversight of Personnel, Athletics, Transportation, Safety and Security. Provides oversight to the hiring, processing, evaluation, recruitment and retention of the 1300 employees of the LLSD. Provides support to all 15 school sites and departments in the form of mentoring and conducting investigations. Works with the local NEA teacher association on union contract and serves as the chief bargaining agent for the school district. Successful creation of community partnerships with our state and local fire and police departments. Played an integral part in applying and receiving 6 million dollars in grant monies to increase school security at each of the 15 school sites. Involved with HR and personnel at the state and national level and currently the president elect for the New Mexico School Personnel Association - term will run from 2021-2023. At the national level, serves as a member of AASPA and serve on several committees including membership and nomination committee. Serve as the custodian of records for the Los Lunas School District and processes request for information under IPRA. Serves as the compliance officer and investigates issues with Title IX, EEOC, and grievances.

Assistant Superintendent Los Lunas Schools March 2012-April 2018

Responsible for supervision and oversight of Personnel, Athletics, Transportation, Safety and Security, Special Education, Federal Programs, Alternative Education, and Early Childhood programs. Directly supervise five director level administrators. Work directly with all District departments and 15 school sites to support the staff with all activities that my departments oversee. Manage federal grants to ensure compliance and implementation. Work in the areas of fiscal budgets at the department and district level. Serves on the district guiding coalition and implemented PLCs in multiple departments. Possess experience with implementation of curriculums and monitoring of its effectiveness. Supports and helps in all aspects of personnel including evaluation, investigations, disciplinary action and staffing at the school and district level. Responsible for recruiting teachers and ancillary staff. Work directly with all stakeholders to support the needs of our families, school district and community. Organized and implemented golf and bowling tournaments to benefit district staff and student recognition. Oversaw Roadrunner Food Bank distributions for more than 150 families.

Director of Personnel Los Lunas Schools June 2011 - March 2012

Responsible for staff allocations, recruitment of highly qualified staff, conduct background checks, review of transcripts and verification of employment, maintains and audits personnel files, prepares personnel actions, reports to outside agencies i.e.: EEOC, OCR, Labor Board, unemployment hearings. Works directly with site supervisors to ensure that procedures, policies and processes are followed with evaluations, reprimands, interviews; development of procedures to follow regarding hiring and termination of employees. Served as project manager for implementation of the District Renaissance Program through the balanced scorecard process.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE (Continued)

Director of Special Education Los Lunas Schools September 2007 - May 2011

Responsible for implementation and training of Tier III curriculum for reading and math. Trained ancillary staff, special education staff, and administrators on policies and procedures, federal guidelines, and IDEA regulations. Supports schools and families with the IEP process, 504 plans, and Student Assistance Teams. Reports to the NMPED Special Education Bureau on State Performance Plan indicators, STARS reporting, state level complaints and due process complaints. Serves as project manager for the change of the high school schedule from a block schedule to a six-period day through the balanced scorecard process. Worked with other departments at Central Office to make recommendations for district-wide staffing and budgets.

Dean of Students/Assistant Principal Los Lunas High School Los Lunas Schools July 2006 - September 2007

Responsible for student discipline, supervision of staff, evaluation of staff, development of master schedule for LLHS, teacher observation, discipline reports, etc., supervision of athletic events and other extracurricular activities, NMAA rules and regulations, supervision of special education science and counseling department; served as site testing coordinator, Advance Placement Coordinator, and involved with implementation of Project Lead the Way at LLHS.

Assistant Principal Manzano Vista Middle School Los Lunas Schools October 2005 - June 2006

Responsible for student discipline, supervision of staff, evaluation of staff, teacher observation, completion of District documents such as the EPSS Plan, discipline reports, supervision of Special Education, Social Studies and Math Departments; created master schedule, supervised athletic events and extracurricular activities. Ensured that articulation was productive between parents, staff and students.

Summer School Site Coordinator VE Los Lunas Schools Summers 2004 and 2005

Responsible for hiring of teaching and support staff, staff evaluations, classroom observation. Worked with Special Services Department in budget creation, data collection, and curriculum selection and implementation, handled and reported on student discipline, communicated with parents on student progress. Coordinated with Student Nutrition Services and the Transportation Department for the six-week long summer program.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE (Continued)

**Teacher of the Gifted Daniel Fernandez Intermediate
Los Lunas Schools
October 2001 - October 2005**

Responsible for specialized instruction, classroom management and supervision, parent and community relations. Served on various school and district committees regarding Special Education and Gifted Services. Developed and implemented IEP goals and objectives conducted and facilitated IEP meetings. Reported on student progress and worked to ensure student goals relating to their area of need were met.

**Special Education Teacher
White Mountain Intermediate
Ruidoso Schools
August 1994 - October 2001**

Responsible for instruction, classroom management and supervision, parent and community relations. Developed and implemented IEP goals and objectives conducted and facilitated IEP meetings. Reported on student progress and worked to ensure student goals relating to their area of need were met.

**Special Education Teacher
Los Lunas High School
Los Lunas Schools
January 1994-May 1994**

Taught Night School for a behavior disordered, self- contained classroom of students who had been long-termed for disciplinary reasons and could not attend school during the regular school day. Responsible for instruction, classroom management and supervision, parent and community relations.

Developed and implemented IEP goals and objectives conducted and facilitated IEP meetings. Reported on student progress and worked to ensure student goals relating to their area of need were met. Worked with students with very challenging behavior and IEP considerations.

REFERENCES

| | |
|----------------|-----------------------------------|
| Naithan Gurule | Village of Los Lunas Police Chief |
| John Gabaldon | Village of Los Lunas Fire Chief |
| John R. Chavez | Community Member |

January 7, 2022

John Chavez
1702 Plunkett Ct.
Rio Communities, NM 87002

Valencia County
Board of County Commissioners
P.O. Box 1119
Los Lunas, NM 87031

Dear Honorable Commissioners,

It is my pleasure to offer my fullest recommendation on behalf of Brian Baca for selection and appointment as the district 8 State Representative to the New Mexico Legislature. I have known Brian for over six years in a professional, personal, and volunteer capacity.

During multiple legislative sessions, I witnessed Brian as he worked for the interests of the Los Lunas Schools. His knowledge of the legislative processes will go a long way to ensuring he is ready to work on day one of the upcoming legislative session.

Through volunteer opportunities with the Rotary Club of Los Lunas, he acts as a liaison to the Los Lunas Schools. Over the last several years, our Rotary Club has established a youth club in Los Lunas High School, continued to provide dictionaries to third-graders throughout the district, conducted writing contests, provided leadership opportunities and college scholarships. The accomplishment of this work is a direct result of having Brian in his liaison and leadership capacity.

I have also worked with Brian through volunteerism in our faith community. Working very closely with Brian on numerous projects, I have always been impressed with his keen self-awareness. He brings incredible talent to the table and executes with a humility that is truly of a servant leader. As our State Representatives are, by all intents and purposes, a volunteer position, this demonstrated servant leadership will serve our county well.

In summation, and without caveat or reservation, please accept this recommendation on behalf of Brian Baca. Should you require any additional information, please call me directly at 505-453-7125.

Respectfully Submitted



John Chavez



Small Community • Big Possibilities

VILLAGE OF LOS LUNAS FIRE DEPARTMENT

January 6, 2022

To Whom It May Concern,

I am pleased to recommend Brian Baca for New Mexico State Representative District 8. I met Brian as Deputy Superintendent of the Los Lunas Schools in Valencia County. His office is within our municipal boundaries, where I am the current Fire Chief, and we meet regularly. Brian first contacted me to attend a meeting regarding school safety. To my surprise, he had representatives from Los Lunas Police, Los Lunas Fire, New Mexico State Police, Valencia County Fire, and the Sheriff's office in attendance. The group often meets and shares a common goal to protect the district's children.

Brian has shown his commitment to our community through leadership, collaboration, and family values. He has recently been part of our response to the COVID 19 pandemic serving in several roles at COVID test sites and vaccine clinics while providing staffing and facilities. I have enjoyed attending incident command classes with him, where he practiced running large-scale incident scenes. It was comforting as a parent whose children attended school in the district, knowing our kids were safe even with an active threat.

Mr. Baca has the qualities of a leader that start with being a great listener. He understands the needs of our community and has a passion for doing what is right. In several meetings, Brian brought ideas to reach out to underserved residents in our COVID response. Not once did he single out groups because of a geographic area. The Commission has an excellent opportunity to appoint the next great leader and representative of Valencia County. I hope you can meet with Mr. Baca to see what I have seen.

If you have any questions or need more information, I will be happy to talk to you.

Sincerely,

John Gabaldon
Village of Los Lunas Fire Chief
C: 505-991-2343

CHARLES GRIEGO
MAYOR

GINO ROMERO
COUNCILOR

JAMES T. RUNYON
COUNCILOR

CRUZ MUÑOZ
COUNCILOR

CHRISTOPHER S. ORTIZ
COUNCILOR

GREGORY D. MARTIN
VILLAGE ADMINISTRATOR



Chief Naithan Gurule

Building Relationships Solving Problems & Making a Difference

Village of Los Lunas Police Department

Chief Naithan Gurule
660 Main St. Los Lunas
Los Lunas, NM 87031

To Whom It May Concern,

Please accept this letter of recommendation to appoint Mr. Brian Baca for the Valencia County District 8 State Representative Seat. I have served as the Chief of Police for the Los Lunas Police Department for eight years. In that time, I have had the honor of working closely with Mr. Baca in all aspects of public safety for the Village of Los Lunas and the Los Lunas Public Schools. When I started my career as Chief of Police, the relationship between the police department and school district was strained. When Mr. Baca was placed in charge of school safety and security, he immediately began to organize quarterly meetings with our department and other agencies to discuss school safety. These meetings have created a close working relationship between the Los Lunas Schools and the Los Lunas Police Department. As the relationship has continued to evolve, officers regularly attend school functions and interact with the students.

On several occasions, we have requested Mr. Baca take part in the hiring and promotional processes for the Los Lunas Police Department due to his level of leadership experience and integrity. The Los Lunas Schools and Los Lunas Police Department also worked together to complete a grant application that resulted in the Los Lunas Schools receiving a six million dollar grant for school safety. Mr. Baca's strong leadership and the relationship he has created with our department played an instrumental role in securing this grant.

In my experience working with Mr. Baca, he always has the community's best interests at the top of his priorities. I am honored to recommend Mr. Baca for the Valencia County District 8 State Representative Seat and have no doubt he will honorably represent the residents of Valencia County.

Sincerely,

Chief Naithan Gurule