

VALENCIA COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

SPECIAL PUBLIC HEARING

JULY 14, 2022

Los Lunas Transportation Center, 101 Courthouse Road, Los Lunas, NM 87031

PRESENT	ABSENT
Gerard Saiz, Chairman	
Jhonathan Aragon, Vice-Chair	
David A. Hyder, Member	
Troy Richardson, Member	
Joseph Bizzell, Member	
Danny Monette, County Manager	
Dave Pato, County Attorney	Adren Nance, County Attorney
Mike Milam, County Clerk	
Press and Public	

- 1) The meeting was called to order by Chairman Saiz at 5:00 p.m.
- 2) A member of the public led the Pledge of Allegiance.

There was a delay in the meeting to address sound issues with the microphones.

3) Approval of Agenda

Commissioner Aragon moved for approval. Seconded by Commissioner Bizzell. Roll call vote. Commissioner Richardson voted yes. Commissioner Bizzell voted yes. Commissioner Hyder voted yes. Commissioner Aragon voted yes. Chairman Saiz voted yes. Motion carried 5-0.

DISCUSSION (NON- ACTION ITEM):

4) Commissioners, Committees and Reports

None

PRESENTATION:

5) EMNRD Regulation of Oil and Gas in New Mexico. Presenter: *EMNRD Director, Adrienne Sandoval*; Sponsor: *Commissioner Troy Richardson*

New Mexico Oil Conservation Division Director Adrienne Sandoval and Dylan Fuge, general counsel for the Energy Mineral Natural Resources Department, joined the meeting via Zoom. Ms. Sandoval gave a presentation explaining the role of the Oil Conservation Division, the regulations and criteria that are in place for wells, and the increase in bonding requirements approved by the legislature. She also mentioned an increase in seismic activity in several locations across the state and what precautions have been put in place. (See Exhibit A)

PUBLIC HEARING:

6) Ordinance Amending the Zoning Code to allow for a Natural Resource Overlay Zone. Presenter: *Community Development Director Nancy Jo Gonzales*; Sponsor: *Commissioner Joseph Bizzell*

Chairman Saiz stated that this public hearing is not a Q&A session, he requested that members of the public be respectful of others and refrain from duplicating comments that have already been made by previous speakers. Ms. Gonzales stated that the NROZ is intended as a holding overlay zone to allow for future development of property to occur in an organized and sustainable pattern. Natural Resource Overlay Zones should

1. Promote the use of underutilized land
2. Further economic development
3. Promote employment opportunities within Valencia County
4. Help diversify energy production and diversify the local economy

Chairman Saiz opened the floor for public comment.

Members of the public that spoke in opposition to the NROZ included Yang, Sophia Jenkins-Nieto, Norm Gaume, Brian Romero, Clara Simms, Nicole Maestas, Ann Ward,