

MINUTES OF THE NEW MEXICO LIVESTOCK  
BOARD (NMLB) MEETING  
WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 13, 2023  
1:00 P.M.

JOIN IN-PERSON:  
IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE NMCGA ANNUAL MEETING  
HOTEL ALBUQUERQUE -BALLROOM C  
800 RIO GRANDE BLVD NE  
ALBUQUERQUE, NM 87104

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**CALL TO ORDER:** Chair Molly Manzanares at 1:00 p.m.

**ROLL CALL:**

Molly Manzanares, Chair –Present  
Toby Dolan, Vice Chair – Not Present  
John Conniff, Secretary – Present  
Tony Casados, Board Member – Not Present  
Milford Denetclaw, Board Member - Present  
Michael Perez, Board Member – Not Present  
Victor Reyes – Present  
Morgan Switzer-McGinley, Board Member – Not Present  
Anthony Gilbert Tafoya, Board Member - Present

Quorum Established

**NMLB STAFF PRESENT**

Belinda Garland, Executive Director	Stephanie Lujan, HR Manager
Shawn Davis, Deputy Director	Andrew Silva, CFO
Samantha Uhrig, State Vet	Chris Machin, Legal Counsel
Julie Gauman, Admin Operations Manager	Dennis Alarid, SA Supervisor
Bobby Hernandez, IT	Barry Allen, Area 1 ROM
Alex Echhoff, Assistant State Vet	Matthew Romero, Area 2 ROM
Cody Mathews, Brand Inspector	Justin Gray, Area 3 ROM
Tracey Kitts, Fleet Coordinator	Troy Patterson, Area 4 ROM

**OTHER ATTENDEES**

Larry Smyth	Vincent Vigil
Troy Sauble	Jeff Bilberry
Tommy Spindle	Denny Burnett
Chaz Pilley	Antonio Manzanares
Nancy Henry	Loren Patterson
Patience O'Dowd	

Director Garland announced Public Comment will be allowed only for certain agenda items and introduced the two new Board Members, Mr. Victor Reyes, and Mr. Anthony Gilbert Tafoya.

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Board Member Reyes moves to approve the agenda for the December 13, 2023, Board Meeting.  
Secretary Conniff seconds the motion.

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**ROLL CALL:**

Board Member Denetclaw - Yes  
Board Member Tafoya – Yes  
Vice Chair Dolan – Not Present

Board Member Casados – Not Present  
Board Member Perez – Not Present  
Board Member Switzer-McGinley – Not Present

Motion to approve the December 13, 2023, Agenda passes 4-0.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Minutes from the June 5, 2023, Board Meeting presented.

Secretary Conniff moves to approve the June 5, 2023, Board Meeting Minutes.  
Board Member Denetclaw seconds the motion.

**ROLL CALL:**

Board Member Reyes – Abstain  
Board Member Tafoya – Yes  
Vice Chair Dolan – Not Present

Board Member Casados – Not Present  
Board Member Perez – Not Present  
Board Member Switzer-McGinley – Not Present

Motion to approve the June 5, 2023, Board Meeting Minutes passes 4-0.

**APPEAL OF ESTRAY VINCENT VIGIL 181-8-02281**

Mr. Cody Matthews presented the findings of Estray 181-8-02281.  
Mr. Vigil presented his case.

\*\*A full copy of the info presented may be requested by contacting the NMLB.

Board Member Tafoya moves to uphold the inspectors finding and deny payment.  
Board Member Denetclaw seconds the motion.

**ROLL CALL:**

Secretary Conniff - Yes  
Board Member Reyes – Yes  
Vice Chair – Dolan – Not Present

Board Member Casados – Not Present  
Board Member Perez – Not Present  
Board Member Switzer-McGinley – Not Present

Motion to deny payment to Mr. Vigil for Estray 181-8-02281 passes 4-0

**DISBURSEMENT OF HORSE RESCUE SPECIAL APPROPRIATIONS FUNDS**

Deputy Director Shawn Davis presented the proposal on how to disburse the funds.

Public Comments taken on this agenda item.

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Board Member Reyes moves to approve the disbursement of the Horse Rescue Special Appropriation Funds. Secretary Conniff seconds the motion.

**ROLL CALL:**

Board Member Denetclaw - Yes  
Board Member Tafoya – Yes  
Vice Chair – Dolan – Not Present

Board Member Casados – Not Present  
Board Member Perez – Not Present  
Board Member Switzer-McGinley – Not Present

Motion to disburse the Horse Rescue Appropriations Funds passes 4-0.

\*\*Copies of the information presented, and public comment may be requested by contacting the NMLB.

**RATIFICATION OF MOU WITH THE NEW MEXICO EXPO**

Dr. Samantha Uhrig presented the MOU, between the NMLB and NM Expo, for the Ratification.

Board Member Reyes moves to approve the ratification of the MOU with the NM Expo.  
Boad Member Tafoya seconds the motion.

**ROLL CALL:**

Secretary Conniff - Yes  
Board Member Denetclaw – Yes  
Vice Chair Dolan – Not Present

Board Member Casados – Not Present  
Board Member Perez – Not Present  
Board Member Switzer-McGinley – Not Present

Motion to approve the Ratification of the MOU with NM Expo passes 4-0.

\*\*Copies of the information presented, and public comment may be requested by contacting the NMLB.

**2024 LEGISLATIVE MATTERS**

- A. **MPI Program:** Director Garland presented information on the Bill for the MPI Program and status of positions.

Public Comment taken on this agenda item.

- B. **2024 Possible Legislative Proposals:** Director Garland asked for any proposals or discussion for the legislative session.

Public Comment taken on this agenda item.



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**FINANCIAL UPDATE**

CFO Silva presented the following items:

**A. Overview of the FY23 Audit:**

CFO Silva presented the results and findings of the FY23 Audit.

\*\*Copies of the information presented may be requested by contacting the NMLB.

**B. FY25 Proposed Budget:**

CFO Silva presented the proposed FY25 budget.

\*\*Copies of the information presented may be requested by contacting the NMLB.

**RESOLUTION 01-2023 -OPEN MEETINGS ACT**

Director Garland presented Resolution 01-2023 – Open Meetings Act 2024.

Secretary John Conniff moves to approve the adoption of Resolution 01-2023 - Open Meetings Act 2024.  
Boad Member Reyes seconds the motion.

**ROLL CALL:**

Board Member Denetclaw - Yes

Board Member Casados – Not Present

Board Member Tafoya – Yes

Board Member Perez – Not Present

Vice Chair – Dolan – Not Present

Board Member Switzer-McGinley – Not Present

Motion to approve the adoption of the open meetings act passes 4-0.

\*\*Copies of the information presented may be requested by contacting the NMLB.

**MEETING DATES FOR YEAR 2024**

Director Garland stated that the NMLB has been directed by a District Couty Judge to conduct a “J Hearing” regarding a cruelty case in the southeast part of the state. Director Garland explained what a J hearing is. Director Garland stated that the court order states the “J Hearing” shall be held on March 1, 2024. The next Board meeting will be in alignment with the “J Hearing”. Time and Place to be determined.

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Board Member Reyes moves to approve the date for the next meeting on March 1, 2024.  
Boad Member Tafoya seconds the motion.

**ROLL CALL:**

Secretary Conniff - Yes

Board Member Casados – Not Present

Board Member Denetclaw – Yes

Board Member Perez – Not Present

Vice Chair Dolan – Not Present

Board Member Switzer-McGinley – Not Present

Motion to approve the next NMLB meeting be held on March 1, 2024, passes 4-0.

\*\*Copies of the information presented may be requested by contacting the NMLB.

**GILA CATTLE**

Updates on the status of the Gila Cattle operation presented by Shawn Davis. There is still discussion on what to be done.

Public Comment taken on this agenda item.

\*\*Copies of the information presented, and public comment may be requested by contacting the NMLB.

**SONORA CATTLE CROSSING**

Dr. Uhrig presented the USDA will now allow sexually intact feeder cattle under the age of 18 months to enter at Sonora port with a TB test at herd of origin and not be tested at the port.

Public Comment taken on this agenda item.

\*\*Copies of the information presented, and public comment may be requested by contacting the NMLB.

**OVERVIEW OF 2023 GOVERNOR'S REPORT**

**Executive Director Update (Verbal):**

Items reported on: Acknowledgement of Staff, MPI Program Update, HR Updates, Legislative Matters.

\*\*Full comments are available in the recording for the December 13, 2023, NMLB Meeting, which may be obtained by contacting the NMLB.

**CIO Update (Verbal):**

Items reported on: Status of Brand Renewals, IT Updates, Inspection Applications, IPRA, PCI Audit

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**Deputy Director Update (Verbal):**

Items Reported On: Total Inspections, Total Road Stops from 2023, Fleet Status, Special Investigators.

\*\*Copies of the information presented may be requested by contacting the NMLB.

**CFO Update (Verbal):**

Items reported on: Financial Summary

\*\*Full comments are available in the recording for the December 13, 2023, NMLB Meeting, which may be obtained by contacting the NMLB.

**State Veterinarian Update (Verbal):**

Items reported on: TB, Trich, Scrapie, Emergency Plans

\*\*Full comments are available in the recording for the December 13, 2023, NMLB Meeting, which may be obtained by contacting the NMLB.

Director Garland introduced all staff attending the meeting.

**CLOSED EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Board Member Reyes moves to go into Closed Executive Session at 2:26 pm.  
Secretary Conniff seconds the motion.

**ROLL CALL:**

Board Member Denetclaw - Yes	Board Member Casados – Not Present
Board Member Tafoya – Yes	Board Member Perez – Not Present
Vice Chair – Dolan – Not Present	Board Member Switzer-McGinley – Not Present

Motion to go into Executive Session passes 4-0.

\*\*Copies of the information presented may be requested by contacting the NMLB.

**RETURN FROM EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Board Member Reyes moves to leave Closed Executive Session and confirm that nothing else was discussed in Closed Executive Session other than items listed on agenda.  
Secretary Conniff seconds the motion.

**ROLL CALL:**

Board Member Denetclaw - Yes	Board Member Casados – Not Present
Board Member Tafoya – Yes	Board Member Perez – Not Present
Vice Chair – Dolan – Not Present	Board Member Switzer-McGinley – Not Present



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Motion to leave Closed Executive Session and confirm that nothing else was discussed in Closed Executive Session other than items listed on agenda passes 4-0.

Meeting re-opens at 2:57 p.m.

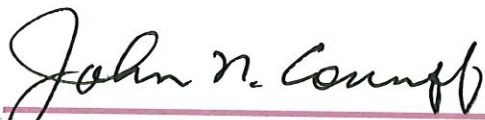
**BOARD CONCERNS**

No Board Concerns

**ADJOURNMENT**

Chair Manzanares adjourned the meeting at 2:57 p.m.

APPROVAL:



John Conniff, Secretary



Molly Manzanares, Chair