

# MINUTES OF THE NEW MEXICO LIVESTOCK BOARD (NMLB) MEETING

RUIDOSO CONVENTION CENTER  
MONDAY, JUNE 02, 2025  
9:00A.M.

IN PERSON:  
RUIDOSO CONVENTION CENTER  
111 SIERRA BLANCA DRIVE  
RUIDOSO, NM 88345

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**CALL TO ORDER:** Chair Toby Dolan at 9:00 a.m.

**ROLL CALL:**

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

Quorum Established

**NMLB STAFF PRESENT**

Belinda Garland, Executive Director	Chris Machin, Legal Counsel
Shawn Davis, Deputy Director	Julie Gauman, Administrative Programs Manager
Samantha Uhrig, State Veterinarian	Stephanie Lujan, HR Manager
Matthew Romero, Area 2 ROM	Troy Patterson, Area 4 ROM
Gladys Santana, NMLB CFO	Barry Allen, Area 1 ROM
Eddie Behrends, MPI Director	Dennis Alarid, Special Agent Supervisor
Kayla Sjoberg, MPI Deputy Director	Ashley Martinez, Special Agent

**OTHER ATTENDEES**

Chris Chavez	Tom Bruhn
Laura Conniff	Cole Gardner
Loren Patterson	Carollann Romo
Ethan Wright	Beverly Idsinga
Audrey Dolan	Jack Chatfield
	Verlin Posey

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Member Reyes moves to approve the agenda for the June 02, 2025, Board Meeting.  
Member Perez seconds the motion.

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## **ROLL CALL:**

Secretary Conniff – Yes

Board Member Casados – Not Present

Vice Chair Tafoya – Yes

Board Member Denetclaw – Yes

Board Member Switzer-McGinley – Yes

Board Member Dr. Clark - Yes

Motion to approve June 02, 2025, Agenda passes by majority vote of the quorum 7-0.

## **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Member Denetclaw moves to approve the Minutes from March 26, 2025, meeting. Vice Chair Tafoya seconds the motion.

## **ROLL CALL:**

Secretary Conniff -Yes

Board Member Reyes- Yes

Board Member Casados – Not Present

Board Member Switzer-McGinley – Yes

Board Member Perez - Yes

Board Member Dr. Clark - Yes

Motion to approve March 26, 2025, minutes passes by majority vote of the quorum 7-0.

## **FINANCE:**

### **Mill Levy Rates**

CFO Gladys Santana presented the Mill Levy Comparison from FY2018 to the end of April 2025. Director Garland explained the Board must adopt the Mill Levy Rates every year. Director Garland recommends no changes be made to the Mill Levy.

Member Reyes moves to approve of keeping the Mill Levy Rates at the current rate. Member Switzer-McGinley seconds the motion.

## **ROLL CALL:**

Secretary Conniff -Yes

Vice Chair Tafoya- Yes

Board Member Casados – Not Present

Board Member Switzer-McGinley – Yes

Board Member Perez - Yes

Board Member Dr. Clark - Yes

Motion to approve keeping Mill Levy Rates at the current rate passes by majority vote of the quorum 7-0.

NOTE: \*\*Copies of the information presented, and a recording of June 2, 2025, Board Meeting may be requested by contacting the NMLB.

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**Clothing Allowance – Field Staff**

CFO Gladys Santana presented the amount needed for the FY26 Clothing Allowance.

Member Reyes moves to approve the FY26 Clothing Allowance. Secretary Conniff seconds the motion

**ROLL CALL:**

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

Board Member Denetclaw – Yes  
Board Member Perez - Yes  
Board Member Dr. Clark – Yes

Motion to approve the FY26 clothing allowance passes by majority vote of the quorum 7-0.

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**Collection of Beef Council Dollars at the US/Mexican Import Crossings**

Deputy Director Shawn Davis presented the collection of Beef Council Dollars at the US/Mexican Import Crossings as requested by the NM Cattle Growers in December 2024. \$2.00 a head, \$1.00 for State of NM, \$1.00 for the Federal Beef Council of which NM receives \$.50.

Public Comments from Loren Patterson, Caroliann Romo and Cole Gardner.

Member Reyes moves to support the collection of Beef Council Dollars at the at the US/Mexican Import Crossings. Secretary Conniff seconds the motion.

**ROLL CALL:**

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

Board Member Denetclaw – Yes  
Board Member Perez - Yes  
Board Member Dr. Clark – Yes

The motion to support the collection of Beef Council Dollars at the US/Mexican Import Crossings passes by majority quorum vote 7-0.

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## **LEGISLATIVE AND RULE CHANGE MATTERS:**

### **Inspection and Brand Fee Increases**

#### **a. 2025 NMAC Rule Change Proposals**

- i. **Director Garland presented the amounts suggested to change for Inspection Fees**
- ii. **Director Garland presented the amounts suggested to change for Brand Fees.**

Secretary Conniff moves to approve the entire spreadsheet of fee increases for Inspection and Brand Fees. Member Switzer-McGinley seconds the motion.

### **ROLL CALL:**

Member Casados – Not Present	Board Member Reyes – Yes
Board Member Reyes- Yes	Board Member Perez - Yes
Vice Chair Tafoya – Yes	Board Member Dr. Clark – Yes

Motion to approve the entire spreadsheet of fee increases for Inspection and Brand Fees passes by majority quorum vote 7-0.

NOTE: \*\*Copies of the information presented, and a recording of June 2, 2025, Board Meeting may be requested by contacting the NMLB.

#### **iii. Meat & Poultry Inspection Program Update and Rule Adoption**

MPI Director Eddie Behrends presented updates and rule adoptions for the MPI Program.

Member Reyes moves for approval to create necessary rules and/or changes related to the Meat & Poultry Inspection Program. Secretary Conniff seconds the motion.

### **ROLL CALL:**

Member Casados – Not Present	Vice Chair Tafoya – Yes
Board Member Switzer-McGinley- Yes	Board Member Perez - Yes
Board Member Denetclaw – Yes	Board Member Dr. Clark – Yes

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Motion for approval to create necessary rules and/or changes related to the Meat & Poultry Inspection Program passes by majority quorum vote 7-0.

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- iv. **Director Garland presented a list of animal diseases that need to be added to Reportable Diseases under 21.30.4 NMAC.**

Vice Chair Tafoya moves to approve the promulgation of rules to update reportable diseases under 21.30.4 NMAC. Secretary Conniff seconds the motion.

### **ROLL CALL:**

Member Casados – Not Present

Vice Chair Tafoya – Yes

Board Member Switzer-McGinley- Yes

Board Member Perez - Yes

Board Member Denetclaw – Yes

Board Member Dr. Clark – Yes

Motion to approve the promulgation of rules to update reportable diseases passes by majority quorum vote 7-0.

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### **B. LEGISLATIVE FINANCE COMMITTEE UPDATE**

Director Garland presented an update on a meeting with the Legislative Finance Committees.

### **APPOINTMENT OF COMMITTEE – DISBURSEMENT OF HORSE RESCUE SPECIAL APPROPRIATION FUND**

Deputy Director Davis suggested replacing previous NMLB CFO Andrew Silva with new NMLB CFO Gladys Santana to Horse Rescue Committee for the reimbursement process.

Member Reyes moves to accept the committee Deputy Director Davis recommended. Member Perez seconds the motion.

### **ROLL CALL:**

Member Casados – Not Present

Vice Chair Tafoya – Yes

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Board Member Switzer-McGinley- Yes  
Board Member Denetclaw – Abstained

Secretary Conniff - Yes  
Board Member Dr. Clark – Yes

Motion to accept the committee Deputy Director Davis recommended passes by majority quorum vote 6-0.

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**RATIFY LETTER TO: HONARABLE JAMES C. KENNEY, SECRETARY-NM ENVIRONMENT DEPARTMENT**

Chief Legal Counsel and Director Garland explained the information in the letter being sent to the environmental department regarding issues that may arise for the NMLB.

Member Switzer-McGinley moves to ratify the letter sent to Secretary Kenney at the NM Environmental Department. Member Dr. Clark seconds the motion.

**ROLL CALL:**

Member Casados – Not Present  
Board Member Perez- Yes  
Board Member Denetclaw – Yes

Vice Chair Tafoya – Yes  
Secretary Conniff - Yes  
Board Member Reyes – Yes

Motion to ratify the letter sent to the Secretary NM Environmental Department passes by majority quorum vote 7-0.

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**VERBAL STATE VETERINARIAN TOPIC UPDATES**

Director Garland presented veterinarian updates. Topics discussed: Screwworm, H5N1 in Dairy Cattle, Avian Influenza in poultry, EIA, Trichomoniasis, USDA update.

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Rulemaking Hearing for proposed rule amendment is to make permanent rule changes for Equine Infectious Anemia to 21.30.4 NMAC AGRICULTURE AND RANCHING; ANIMALS AND ANIMAL INDUSTRY GENERAL PROVISIONS to include the testing, disposition and compliance of EIA, and grammatical/stylistic changes.

Chief Legal Counsel and Director Garland presented the exact changes to rule 21.30.4 NMAC.

Director Garland presented Public Comment sent in by email and Dr. Holeck's recommendations for amendments based off the comments.

Member Reyes moves to adopt the rules as publicized with the proposed amendments. Member Switzer-McGinley seconds the motion.

## ROLL CALL:

Member Casados – Not Present  
Board Member Perez- Yes  
Board Member Denetclaw – Yes

Vice Chair Tafoya – Yes  
Secretary Conniff - Yes  
Board Member Dr. Clark – Yes

Motion to adopt the rules as publicized with the proposed amendments passes by majority quorum vote 7-0.

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## NEXT BOARD MEETING

Chair Dolan mentioned moving the board meetings around the state. Next meeting will be in Farmington or Aztec and be held the end of September 2025 or Early October 2025.

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## CLOSED EXECUTIVE SESSION

Member Reyes moves into Closed Executive Session pursuant to 10-15-1 (H) (7) Threatened and Pending Litigation at 10:51 a.m.

Member Switzer McGinley seconds the motion.

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**ROLL CALL:**

Vice Chair Tafoya - Yes	Secretary Conniff – Yes
Board Member Casados – Not Present	Board Member Perez - Yes
Board Member Denetclaw – Yes	Board Member Dr. Clark – Yes

Motion to go into Executive Session at 10:51 a.m. passes by the majority vote of the quorum 7-0.

**RETURN FROM EXECUTIVE SESSION**

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

**ROLL CALL:**

Vice Chair Tafoya - Yes	Secretary Conniff – Yes
Board Member Casados – Not Present	Board Member Perez - Yes
Board Member Switzer-McGinley – Yes	Board Member Dr. Clark – Yes

Meeting re-convened at 11:15 a.m.

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**BOARD CONCERNS**

Member Denetclaw complimented the field inspectors in his area; they seem to pay more attention to inspections.

Chair Dolan thanked everyone for everything they do daily.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Member Switzer-McGinley moves to adjourn the NMLB Board Meeting. Secretary Conniff seconds the motion.

**ROLL CALL:**

Vice Chair Tafoya - Yes	Member Reyes – Yes
Board Member Casados – Not Present	Board Member Perez - Yes
Board Member Denetclaw – Yes	Board Member Dr. Clark – Yes

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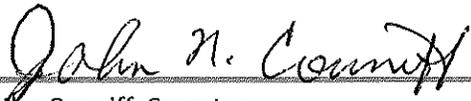
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Chair Dolan adjourned the meeting at 11:17 a.m.

APPROVAL:

  
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John Conniff, Secretary

  
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Toby Dolan, Chair