



**New Mexico Clean and Beautiful Advisory Committee – Meeting Minutes**  
Virtual - GoToMeeting

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(312) 757-3121; Access Code: 350-373-077

Friday, April 24, 2020 – 2:00 p.m.

**Call to Order:**

Meeting was called to order at 2:05 P.M. by Chair Debbie Homer.

**Roll Call:**

**Members Present**

Chair Debra Homer

Member Irene Holguin

Member Joe Padilla

Member Judy Cunningham

Member Shawn Jeffrey

Member Mary Garwood

Member Sarah Pierpont

Member Thalia Pantoja

**Members not present**

Not Applicable

**Guests Present**

Suzy Lawrence, NMTD

Lucy Stanus, NMTD

Sara Martinez, Los Alamos County

**Approval of Agenda:**

The motion was made by Member Joe Padilla to approve the agenda as presented, seconded by Member Shawn Jeffrey, and passed unanimously.

**Approval of Minutes:**

The motion was made by Member Sarah Pierpont to approve the minutes from the February 5, 2020 meeting, seconded by Member Mary Garwood, and passed unanimously.

**Litter Control and Beautification Act:**

NMTD announced that the Litter Control and Beautification Act was signed by Governor on March 4, 2020 and reviewed the final amendments of the Act including the funding allocations breakdown, the number of Advisory Committee members (7 – 11 members), as well as the addition of 'sustainable materials management' as eligible experience for committee members. Section 6 of the Litter Control and Beautification Act was reviewed on the roles of the Advisory Committee.

Member Padilla asked for clarification on if NMTD would provide litter bags to local entities based on Section 7 – B – 2. NMTD clarified that local entities can apply for litter bags through the grant. Litter bags could also be purchased for state-wide initiatives or educational campaigns.

Member Cunningham expressed that recycling drop-off programs have been closed to the public. Member Pierpont reiterated that rural communities across the state have limited their recycling programs and suggested storage of recyclables until drop-off programs are able to re-open.

### **Committee Roles and Responsibilities:**

NMTD provided suggestions for the roles of the responsibilities of the Committee including reporting regional activities to NMTD, providing regional leadership to grant members, outreach to regional communities on the grant opportunity, and identifying volunteer opportunities at the regional level.

Member Cunningham expressed difficulty with outreach and recruitment during the pandemic. Chair Homer agreed that the pandemic will pose a challenge but expressed interest in committee members providing more regional support to grant partners and compiling regional litter data.

Members reviewed the make-up of the Committee by region. Members expressed interest about developing regional partnerships. Member Cunningham and Chair Homer requested support from NMTD to recruit committee members for regions with only one current member. Chair Homer requested that Members email any suggestions for roles and responsibilities.

Member Padilla agreed to disseminate the document for a state-wide litter study previously completed. Members agreed to continue the conversation at the FY21 Quarter 1 after review of the document. NMTD will disseminate Committee member's contact information and the FY20 regional summary. Member Pierpont mentioned that Albuquerque utilized a Litter Study to provide data for a plastic bag ban.

Chair Homer expressed that the Litter Study needs to be better defined by the Committee. Member Cunningham expressed that beautification should also be included in the study. NMTD agreed to disseminate information about litter index and community appearance best practices.

Member Cunningham stated the importance of providing technical resources and suggested the Committee develop informational packets for rural communities.

### **COVID-19 Updates:**

NMTD updated the Committee on how the program has pivoted and provided resources to local partners due to the pandemic. NMTD has been providing support for budget amendment requests, waived the grant match requirement, and is allowing communities to purchase materials for future activities. NMTD will also develop a vendor portal for grant partners to purchase goods and services and support local businesses. Member Cunningham mentioned that rural communities will not have many vendors.

The City of Farmington has cancelled the Great American Clean-Up. Villages of Cimarron, Springer, and Maxwell will still hold a clean-up drop-off event but will be implementing social distancing procedures. San Juan County held their Dumpster Weekend.

### **Advisory Committee Updates:**

Member Holguin – Doña Ana County cancelled Earth Day event. Instead the County utilized Facebook to have virtual giveaway.

Chair Homer – Earth Day’s 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary website held a virtual event.

Member Garwood – Approval for Carlsbad’s bag ban has been postponed until the fall. Carlsbad was still able to hold Great American Cleanup river event.

Member Pierpont – NMRC has postponed their biannual conference until 2021.

Member Pantoja – Instead of Arbor Day presentation, Keep Roswell Beautiful held a drive-thru seedling giveaway with social distancing implemented.

Member Cunningham – Judy will follow-up with the City of Anthony for beautification support.

Member Padilla – Keep Luña County Beautiful has cancelled events. RVers are volunteering to pick up litter and Luña County is providing supplies.

**Public Comment:**

Sara Martinez expressed appreciation for committee members sharing best practices. Los Alamos County’s Earth Day event has been postponed until September.

**Adjourn:**

The motion was made by Member Judy Cunningham to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Member Sara Pierpont, and passed unanimously. Chair Debra Homer adjourned the meeting at 3:22 P.M.

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Approved by Committee vote at public meeting held on April 24, 2020.

  
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Committee Chair