



**MINUTES**  
**Joint Meeting**  
of the  
**Chief Elected Officials**  
and the  
**Executive Standing Committee**  
Monday, November 17, 2025  
10:00 am  
**Hybrid Meeting**

Mid-Region Council of Governments, 809 Copper, NW, Albuquerque, NM 87102

**Call to Order-** 10:04 a.m. by Mayor Gregory Hull

**Attendance-** by Art Martinez, Workforce Administrator

**CEO's**

• <i>In-Person</i>	▪ <i>Virtual</i>	<i>NP – Not Present</i>
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Roll Call	Name	Company
NP	Jake Bruton, Mayor	Village of Tijeras
NP	Bryan Olguin, Mayor Kori Taylor Steve Robbins	Town of Peralta
○	Jack Torres, Mayor Christiana Jones	Town of Bernalillo
○	Mike Nealeigh, Mayor * Heather Guetierrez	Village of Jemez Springs
○	Walt Benson, Commissioner Antonio Jaramillo *	Bernalillo County
	Ryan Schweback, Commissioner J. Jordan Barela Kevin McCall	Torrance County
○	Ken Brennan, Mayor * Jerry Powers	Town of Edgewood
○	Gregg Hull, Mayor	City of Rio Rancho
○	Michael Meek, Commissioner * Jayme Espinoza	Sandoval County
NP	Peter Nieto, Mayor Roy Hubbard	Town of Mountainair
NP	Steve Lucero, Mayor Jennifer Garcia	Village of San Ysidro
NP	Elias Sanchez, Mayor	Village of Encino
NP	Chris Gillespie, Mayor Michael Limon Shaline Lopez	Village of Bosque Farms
NP	Denny Herrera, Mayor	Village of Cuba

○	Charles Griego, Mayor Marcos Castillo * Debra Sanchez	Village of Los Lunas
○	Nathan Dial, Mayor Michelle Jones	Town of Estancia
○	Tim Keller, Mayor Monica Mitchell Justin Hilliard *	City of Albuquerque
NP	David Dean, Mayor	Village of Willard
NP	Brandon S. Webb, Mayor Steve Anaya Deborah Liu	City of Moriarty
NP	Robert Noblin, Mayor Roseann Peralta Steven Tomita	City of Belen
NP	Lawrence Rael, Mayor	Village of Los Ranchos
○	James Fahey, Mayor	Village of Corrales
○	Morris Sparkman Orlando Montoya *	Valencia County

## Executive Standing Committee

### Attendance- by Art Martinez

● <i>In-Person</i>	▪ <i>Virtual</i>	NP – <i>Not Present</i>
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Roll	Name
●	Karla Causey, Treasurer, Finance Standing Committee Chair
▪	Vaadra Chavez, Chair-Elect, Operations Standing Committee Chair
<b>NP</b>	Gabriel Esparza, Youth Standing Committee Chair
▪	Antoinette Holmes, Disability Standing Committee Chair
▪	Honorable Gregg Hull, WCCNM Chief Elected Official
▪	Justin Hilliard - Bernalillo County Rep
●	Kristopher Johnson, Sandoval County Rep.
▪	John Mierzwa – Past Chair
<b>NP</b>	Debbie Ortiz-, Torrance County Rep.
●	Stacy Sacco – Chair
▪	Susan Yassenka – Valencia County Rep.

**CEO AGENDA ITEMS**

**Approval of Thursday, November 17, 2025, Agenda – By Gregg Hull**

**Motion: James Fahey, Mayor**

**Second: Ken Brennan, Mayor**

**No Discussion**

**Action: Passed unanimously by Roll Call**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Company</b>	<b>Yes In Person /Virtual</b>	<b>No In-Person /Virtual</b>	<b>Abstain In-Person /Virtual</b>
Jake Bruton, Mayor	Village of Tijeras			
Bryan Olguin, Mayor Kori Taylor Steve Robbins	Town of Peralta			
Jack Torres, Mayor Christiana Jones	Town of Bernalillo	V		
Mike Nealeigh, Mayor Heather Guetierrez	Village of Jemez Springs	V		
Walt Benson, Commissioner Antonio Jaramillo	Bernalillo County	V		
Ryan Schweback, Commissioner J. Jordan Barela Kevin McCall	Torrance County			
Ken Brennan, Mayor Jerry Powers	Town of Edgewood	V		
Gregg Hull, Mayor	City of Rio Rancho	V		
Michael Meek, Commissioner Jayme Espinoza	Sandoval County	V		
Peter Nieto, Mayor Roy Hubbard	Town of Mountainair			
Steve Lucero, Mayor Jennifer Garcia	Village of San Ysidro			
Elias Sanchez, Mayor	Village of Encino			
Chris Gillespie, Mayor Michael Limon Shaline Lopez	Village of Bosque Farms			
Denny Herrera, Mayor	Village of Cuba			
Charles Griego, Mayor Marcos Castillo Debra Sanchez	Village of Los Lunas	V		
Nathan Dial, Mayor Michelle Jones	Town of Estancia	V		
Tim Keller, Mayor Monica Mitchell Justin Hilliard	City of Albuquerque	V		
David Dean, Mayor	Village of Willard			
Brandon S. Webb, Mayor Steve Anaya Deborah Liu	City of Moriarty			

Robert Noblin, Mayor Roseann Peralta Steven Tomita	City of Belen			
Lawrence Rael, Mayor	Village of Los Ranchos			
James Fahey, Mayor	Village of Corrales	V		
Morris Sparkman Orlando Montoya	Valencia County	V		

**Tab 1: Approval of Minutes, Chief Elected Officials: July 8, 2025 – By Gregg Hull**

**Motion: James Fahey, Mayor**  
**Second: Mike Nealeigh, Mayor**  
**No Discussion**  
**Action: Passed unanimously by Roll Call**

Name	Company	Yes In Person /Virtual	No In-Person /Virtual	Abstain In-Person /Virtual
Jake Bruton, Mayor	Village of Tijeras			
Bryan Olguin, Mayor Kori Taylor Steve Robbins	Town of Peralta			
Jack Torres, Mayor Christiana Jones	Town of Bernalillo	V		
Mike Nealeigh, Mayor Heather Guetierrez	Village of Jemez Springs	V		
Walt Benson, Commissioner Antonio Jaramillo	Bernalillo County	V		
Ryan Schweback, Commissioner J. Jordan Barela Kevin McCall	Torrance County			
Ken Brennan, Mayor Jerry Powers	Town of Edgewood	V		
Gregg Hull, Mayor	City of Rio Rancho	V		
Michael Meek, Commissioner Jayme Espinoza	Sandoval County	V		
Peter Nieto, Mayor Roy Hubbard	Town of Mountainair			
Steve Lucero, Mayor Jennifer Garcia	Village of San Ysidro			
Elias Sanchez, Mayor	Village of Encino			
Chris Gillespie, Mayor Michael Limon Shaline Lopez	Village of Bosque Farms			
Denny Herrera, Mayor	Village of Cuba			
Charles Griego, Mayor Marcos Castillo Debra Sanchez	Village of Los Lunas	V		
Nathan Dial, Mayor Michelle Jones	Town of Estancia	V		

Tim Keller, Mayor Monica Mitchell Justin Hilliard	City of Albuquerque	V		
David Dean, Mayor	Village of Willard			
Brandon S. Webb, Mayor Steve Anaya Deborah Liu	City of Moriarty			
Robert Noblin, Mayor Roseann Peralta Steven Tomita	City of Belen			
Lawrence Rael, Mayor	Village of Los Ranchos			
James Fahey, Mayor	Village of Corrales	V		
Morris Sparkman Orlando Montoya	Valencia County	V		

### Action

**Tab 2: Approval of WFCP-03-25, BAR #1 - By Jesse Turley, Workforce Accounting Manager**

- Mr. Turley presented BAR #1.
- This BAR (Budget Adjustment Request) is based on the allocation letter received from NMDWS, dated July 1, 2025; this gives us our 2<sup>nd</sup> year carry in amount as of June 30, 2025 (PY24) and now our amount. Many factors adjusted a few contracts; the effect ultimately adjusts the client services lines.
- The PY25 BAR #1 updates the actual formula carry-in from PY24 to PY25 in the amount of \$2,314,254. This is \$174,254 higher than the preliminary estimate of \$2,140,000. The new breakdown is as follows: \$1,137,408 Adult, \$495,224 Dislocated Worker, \$416,919 Youth and \$264,704 Administrative.
- The PY25 BAR #1 has an initial request to transfer (lowered to \$834,804) monies of Dislocated Worker to Adult which is all that is available of the PY25 DW monies that were changed. An additional \$1,400,000 is being planned for transfer later in the year with the FY26 monies.
- The PY25 BAR #1 adjusts monies in the Professional Services category of which are: \$20,000 in Board Expenses, \$20,000 Legal, \$75,825 Board Available, \$65,000 Audit, \$279,617 in Contingency which includes the balance of the sale of lease & \$930 Social Security Ticket-to-Work.
- PY25 Preliminary budget continues to have the two ongoing USDOL grants, Chances and Career Pathways Infrastructure. Both bring in additional directed funding streams to serve the central area, thus, there are two additional service provider contracts with MRCOG and ongoing with YDI.
- Total Financial Budget totals \$13,714,442.

**Questions & Comments**

**Motion: James Fahey, Mayor**

**Second: Ken Brennan, Mayor**

**No Discussion**

**Action: Passed unanimously by Roll Call**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Company</b>	<b>Yes In Person /Virtual</b>	<b>No In-Person /Virtual</b>	<b>Abstain In-Person /Virtual</b>
Jake Bruton, Mayor	Village of Tijeras			
Bryan Olguin, Mayor Kori Taylor Steve Robbins	Town of Peralta			
Jack Torres, Mayor Christiana Jones	Town of Bernalillo	V		
Mike Nealeigh, Mayor Heather Guetierrez	Village of Jemez Springs	V		
Walt Benson, Commissioner Antonio Jaramillo	Bernalillo County	V		
Ryan Schweback, Commissioner J. Jordan Barela Kevin McCall	Torrance County			
Ken Brennan, Mayor Jerry Powers	Town of Edgewood	V		
Gregg Hull, Mayor	City of Rio Rancho	V		
Michael Meek, Commissioner Jayme Espinoza	Sandoval County	V		
Peter Nieto, Mayor Roy Hubbard	Town of Mountainair			
Steve Lucero, Mayor Jennifer Garcia	Village of San Ysidro			
Elias Sanchez, Mayor	Village of Encino			
Chris Gillespie, Mayor Michael Limon Shaline Lopez	Village of Bosque Farms			
Denny Herrera, Mayor	Village of Cuba			
Charles Griego, Mayor Marcos Castillo Debra Sanchez	Village of Los Lunas	V		
Nathan Dial, Mayor Michelle Jones	Town of Estancia	V		
Tim Keller, Mayor Monica Mitchell Justin Hilliard	City of Albuquerque	V		
David Dean, Mayor	Village of Willard			
Brandon S. Webb, Mayor Steve Anaya Deborah Liu	City of Moriarty			
Robert Noblin, Mayor Roseann Peralta Steven Tomita	City of Belen			
Lawrence Rael, Mayor	Village of Los Ranchos			
James Fahey, Mayor	Village of Corrales	V		
Morris Sparkman Orlando Montoya	Valencia County	V		

**Tab 3: Approval of Workforce Connection of Central New Mexico (WCCNM)  
Board Members – By Art Martinez, Workforce Administrator**

- Mr. Martinez presented new Board Members.

**New Board Member**

**Business Members**

<u>Name</u>	<u>County</u>	<u>Business</u>
Chris Corbine	Sandoval	Woodruff Engineering, Inc.
Holly Muller	Bernalillo	Presbyterian Healthcare Services
David Vedera	Bernalillo	2Gates2Paths, LLC

Motion: James Fahey, Mayor  
 Second: Ken Brennan, Mayor  
 No Discussion  
 Action: **Passed unanimously by Roll Call**

**EXECUTIVE STANDING COMMITTEE AGENDA ITEMS**

**Approval of Thursday, November 17, 2025, Agenda – By Stacy Sacco**

Motion: Kristopher Johnson  
 Second: Vaadra Chavez  
 No Discussion  
 Action: **Passed unanimously by Roll Call Vote**

	Yes In-Person/Virtual	No In-Person/Virtual	Abstain In-Person/Virtual
Karla Causey	I		
Vaadra Chavez	V		
Gabriel Esparza			
Antoinette Holmes	V		
Gregg Hull	V		
Justin Hilliard	V		
Kristopher Johnson	I		
John Mierzwa	V		
Debbie Ortiz			
Stacy Sacco	I		
Susan Yassenka	V		

**Tab 4: Approval of Minutes, Executive Standing Committee: September 15, 2025 –  
By Stacy Sacco**

**Motion: Karla Causey  
Second: Susan Yasenka  
No Discussion  
Action: Passed unanimously by Roll Call Vote**

	Yes In-Person/Virtual	No In-Person/Virtual	Abstain In-Person/Virtual
<b>Karla Causey</b>	<b>I</b>		
<b>Vaadra Chavez</b>	<b>V</b>		
<b>Gabriel Esparza</b>			
<b>Antoinette Holmes</b>	<b>V</b>		
<b>Gregg Hull</b>	<b>V</b>		
<b>Justin Hilliard</b>	<b>V</b>		
<b>Kristopher Johnson</b>	<b>I</b>		
<b>John Mierzwa</b>	<b>V</b>		
<b>Debbie Ortiz</b>			
<b>Stacy Sacco</b>	<b>I</b>		
<b>Susan Yasenka</b>	<b>V</b>		

**Action**

**Tab 5: Approval of Operational Policy NO. OP-410, Change 12, Supportive Services –  
By Sonora Rodriguez, Program Manager**

- Ms. Rodriguez presented Operational Policy OP-410-Change 12, Supportive Services Policy. We are recommending approval of this updated policy, with an effective date of PY25, November 17, 2025.
- The background of this policy includes transportation, childcare, dependent care, housing, and needs-related payments that are necessary for an individual to participate in activities authorized under WIOA Title I. In addition, supportive services also include Measurable Skill Gain (MSG) attainment incentives for participants who successfully complete key training milestones.
- The purpose of this policy change is to provide clearer guidance on how Individual Training Accounts (ITAs) and Measurable Skill Gain (MSG) achievements are calculated for non-traditional postsecondary training institutions—specifically, institutions that do *not*

follow a standard semester or quarter-credit-hour system. These are minor revisions, but they ensure our performance calculations are consistent, accurate, and aligned with federal guidance.

- Because these non-traditional schools operate outside of semester or quarter structures, the policy introduces a conversion formula that allows us to equate their training hours to more traditional credit-hour systems. This ensures we can accurately determine whether a participant has completed enough training hours to qualify for a measurable skill gain.
- To clarify, Measurable Skill Gain is a federally defined performance indicator used by the U.S. Department of Labor. It tracks progress as participants move through their training and ensures they are making meaningful advancement toward a credential or certification.

Comments

**Motion: Justin Hilliard**

**Second: Gregg Hull**

**No Discussion**

**Action: Passed unanimously by Roll Call Vote.**

	Yes In-Person/Virtual	No In-Person/Virtual	Abstain In-Person/Virtual
<b>Karla Causey</b>	<b>I</b>		
<b>Vaadra Chavez</b>	<b>V</b>		
<b>Gabriel Esparza</b>			
<b>Antoinette Holmes</b>	<b>V</b>		
<b>Gregg Hull</b>	<b>V</b>		
<b>Justin Hilliard</b>	<b>V</b>		
<b>Kristopher Johnson</b>	<b>I</b>		
<b>John Mierzwa</b>	<b>V</b>		
<b>Debbie Ortiz</b>			
<b>Stacy Sacco</b>	<b>I</b>		
<b>Susan Yasenka</b>	<b>V</b>		

## UPDATES

### Update from WCCNM Chair & Chair-Elect

#### Stacy Sacco – Chair

- Mr. Board Chair announced the WCCNM annual Holiday luncheon is scheduled for December 15th at the Embassy Suites. More details will be shared soon.
- Mr. Sacco stated he has been attending the NAWB Policy Power-Up meetings online and finds them very valuable. He shared there are a list of upcoming virtual sessions and will pass along the meeting information as requested by other members.

## **Vaadra Chavez – Chair-Elect**

- Provided a brief operations update, noting that the operations team continues to work hard to serve the community, with many ongoing activities and job-related events.
- She has encouraged everyone to follow and share the organization’s social media posts
- Ms. Chavez raised concerns about continued WIOA funding cuts and the likelihood of ongoing federal reductions and emphasized the need to begin exploring ways to diversify revenue streams.
- She invited CEOs and board members to share any ideas or suggestions and send input to Nicole for inclusion in future conversations.

## **WCCNM CEO Agreement - CEO signatures**

- Mr. Arthur Martinez stated that we are still missing some signatures from CEO’s and Ms. Giddings will be reaching out to acquire those.

## **Update on USDOL Grants:**

### **Re-entry Citizens – Pathway Home 3 (Chances)**

- Mr. Martinez stated the Re-entry Grant is entering its final seven months, and the team is working to maximize progress and outcomes. With enrollment of about 160 of the 200 planned. Many are in training or follow-up services.
- He noted some participants have recidivated, which was anticipated as part of the program’s challenges.
- The goal of this grant was to build a sustainable reentry infrastructure, including a strong partner network. Progress has been made, though continued work is needed with federal partners and state corrections.

## **H1B Building Career Pathways for Infrastructure Fund Jobs**

- Ms. Sonora Rodriguez gave an update on the H1B Grant she stated that 89 participants are co-enrolled with other programs.
- Training focus has included CDL, electrical apprenticeships, low-voltage technician OJT, and crane operator programs. Efforts are underway to diversify beyond CDL training.
- A planned co-enrollment with CNM Ingenuity is being restructured due to staff turnover.
- The team is working with NMDWS on statewide energy sector strategy efforts. A convening was held on October 29, 2025, with participation from regional leaders.
- Ms. Rodriguez stated she is participating in the Albuquerque Workforce Leadership Academy (Aspen Institute) to strengthen regional sector strategy alignment.
- Sector strategies involve using employer input to identify workforce needs and guide training, recruitment, and communication efforts.
- Collaboration with the education community and partners is essential and will continue to be emphasized in upcoming discussions.

## **WCCNM Operations Update**

- Mr. Daniel Sanchez, Operations Manager, gave update on the One-stop centers. The remain to extremely busy, with 4,000 plus visitors per month across four locations.
- This is significantly higher than last year.
- Partner referrals through MyHub continue to rise, with 180+ referrals since July, strengthening collaboration and reducing silos.
- New registrations are up across all counties, and job fairs are drawing strong attendance (150 participants per event).

- A Business Resource Fair will be held on December 12, 2025, in Albuquerque to showcase services and supports available to employers.

**WCCNM Finance Standing Committee**

- Mr. Martinez stated that the conversation about diversifying revenue streams beyond WIOA funding.
- Our team is going to submit legislative proposal for \$300,000 for youth training pilot program within approximately 10-11 months.
- We will continue to explore establishing a 501c3 board within 6 months.

**PUBLIC COMMENT/ADJOURNMENT**

- Public Comments – No**
- Adjournment – 11:03 am**

**NOTES**

**Next Meeting: CEO Meeting March 10, 2026, at 10:00 am  
Executive Standing Committee, January 26, 2026, at 1:30 pm**

*Anyone requiring special accommodations please notify the MRCOG office at 247-1750 seven (7) days prior to the meeting.  
"Equal Opportunity Program"*

**A more detailed account of the meeting and discussions are available for review at the MRCOG offices at: 809 Copper NW, Albuquerque, NM 87102.**

**Will be Approved at both the CEO Meeting and Executive Standing Committee on different days  
XXXXXXX**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Gregg Hull, CEO Chair

ATTEST:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Secretary

1. Nicole: Reach out to CEOs next week or two to get signatures on the CEO agreement
2. Stacy Sacco: Send list of National Association of Workforce Boards upcoming events to Nicole for distribution
3. Stacy Sacco and Art: Continue conversation about diversifying revenue streams beyond WIOA funding

4. Art and team: Submit legislative proposal for \$300,000 for youth training pilot program within approximately 10-11 months
5. Art: Reach out to APS and other organizations about the \$600,000 proposal
6. Art: Explore establishing a 501c3 board within 6 months
7. Mrcog: Send December 4th NOV meeting information on disability to Antoinette Holmes

DRAFT