

New Mexico Spaceport Authority  
Special Meeting  
October 23, 2009 – 8:00am  
NM Spaceport Authority Office – Las Cruces, NM

The meeting was called to order with seven members present. Quorum confirmed. Officials and guests present included: Steve Landeene, NMSA, Belinda Lucero, NMSA, Steve Amland, NMSA, Lee Peters, Steve Traver, and Jim Hayhoe.

**Members Present:**

Fred Mondragón, Chairman (conference call)  
Ben Woods  
Eric Vasquez – Designee (conference call)  
Jim Manatt  
Casey Luna (conference call)  
D. Kent Evans  
Gary Whitehead (conference call)

**Members Not Present:**

Toots Green

**Approval of Agenda:**

Director Evans moved to approve the agenda. Director Manatt seconded the motion. Motion carried.

**Public Comment:**

Jim Hayhoe stated he would like to make the new Board Members aware of several things including Resolution 2007-003 dated 12/6/07 which was passed to create the Spaceport America Welcome Center in the Village of Hatch. A letter dated 4/7/08 from NMSA addressed to Mayor Nordyke of the Village of Hatch acknowledging access to the \$500K for the Welcome Center and also a letter of information which was provided to Steve Landeene suggesting that the Village of Hatch has a partial Interim Welcome Center approach they would like to have considered by the Board.

Steve Landeene acknowledged receipt of an email which addressed a Masonic Temple being considered for lease in the Village of Hatch for an Interim Welcome Center. He stated that he has asked for a meeting to work out the strategy with the Village of Hatch prior to approaching Dona Ana County for approval.

Steve Landeene also commented on the huge success of the ISPCS Conference and stated the bus for the tours of Spaceport America were over capacity. He advised that Space News commented that this was the best conference ever.

Executive Session: Discussion of Water Rights Litigation

Chair Mondragón entertained a motion to enter into executive session pursuant to 10-15-1(H)-(8) of the Open Meetings Act for the purpose of discussion of purchase, acquisition or disposal of real property or water rights.

Motion: Director Manatt moved to enter into executive session. Director Evans seconded the motion.

Roll Call Vote:

Chairman Mondragón - yes

Director Evans - yes

Director Whitehead - yes

Director Manatt - yes

Director Woods - yes

Director Luna - yes

Motion carried.

Return to Open Session:

Chair Mondragón stated that no action was taken and the matters discussed in the closed session were limited to the purchase, acquisition or disposal of real property or water rights.

Motion: Director Whitehead moved to return to open session. Director Luna seconded the motion.

Roll Call Vote:

Chairman Mondragón - yes

Director Evans - yes

Director Whitehead - yes

Director Manatt - yes

Director Luna - yes

Action Item: Consideration of approval and authorization for Steve Landeene to sign JPA for TorC Welcome Center.

Motion: Director Manatt moved to approve and authorize Steve Landeene to sign the JPA for the TorC Welcome Center. Director Whitehead seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Action Item: Consideration of approval and authorization for Steve Landeene to engage in mediation and/or negotiation of water rights.

Steve Landeene welcomed support from Board Members and the Chair at the water mediation. He stated that 5 parties have engaged in action to question the water right application for 200 acre feet submitted to the State Engineer's Office. A hearing is set for December 14, 2009, but he would prefer to address this directly with the parties during this mediation to come up with a positive resolution. He stated this will expedite water rights approval by the State Engineer and will be beneficial for Spaceport America and the ranching community.

Motion: Director Manatt moved to approve and authorize Steve Landeene to engage in mediation and negotiation of water rights with the participation of no

more than 3 members of the NMSA Board acting as a subcommittee. Director Luna seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Comments:

Chair Mondragón discussed the possibility of scheduling a planning session on 11/6/09 and advised that he will work with Steve Landeene on this and inform the Board.

Adjourn:

Director Luna moved to adjourn. Director Whitehead seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Approved: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
Fred Mondragón, Chairman