

County Livestock Loss Authority
P.O. Box 507
Reserve, NM 87830

October 22, 2025

Socorro County Annex

198 Neel Ave., Socorro NM.

Regular Meeting Agenda

ALL MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC WILL BE ABLE TO WATCH AND LISTEN TO THE MEETING VIA:

Zoom: <https://zoom.us/j/93747938972?pwd=ozhpzsFRrF9b4JjG39vgI9jwjOjyXk.1>

10:00 A.M. Regular Meeting *Called to order at 10:02* **Vice Chair conducts meeting**

Roll Call: Haydn Forward, Catron County *Present*
Jim Paxon, Sierra County *Present on-line*
Daniel Monette, Socorro County *Present*
Tom Paterson *Present*
Nelson Shirley, Vice Chair *Present*

Pledge of Allegiance *by Administrator Mahler*

Introduction of Guests

Representative Gail Armstrong (in-person)

Senator Crystal Brantly (in-person)

Jessica Carranza, El Defensor Chieftain Editor (in-person)

Callie Paterson (in-person)

Commissioner Shelly, Grant County (on-line)

Dr. K. Ebert, NMDA (on-line)

Patricia Depner, NMDA (on-line)

Sisto Hernandez, Western Landowner's Alliance (on-line)

I. Approval of Agenda *Moved to approve by Director Monette, 2nd by Director Paterson approved 5/0*

II. Approval of Minutes

A. Approval of Minutes of September 10, 2025, Special Meeting *Move to approve by*

Director Paterson, second by Director Monette. Approved 4/0/1 Director Forward recused as he was not in attendance.

III. Public Comment: Limited to 3 Minutes *no public Comment*

IV. Presentations/Reports

- A. Indirect Damages Disbursement by J. Oakleaf *J. Oakleaf is not in attendance. No presentation.*
- B. Presentation of Annual Report on payments made by CLLA Administrator. *Presentation of payments made by CLLA Administrator from 10/2024 to 10/2025. Director Paterson requests that the report encompass both a fiscal year of July 01-June 30 breakdown and a Calander year (Jan-Dec.). Addition discussion by Directors on on-going funding sources including the 2025 Federal Livestock Demonstration Grant that has not been appropriated to date. Moved by Director Shirley to approve, second by Director Paterson. Approved 5/0*
- C. CLLA Operating Budget *Presentation by Administrator Mahler regarding operating CLLA Budget and current and anticipated expenditures. Discussion by Directors of anticipated expenditures and ongoing fund sources.*

V. New Business:

- A. Discussion and Action on the Disbursement of Indirect Damages recommended by John Oakleaf. *Discussion by Directors. Director Paterson appreciated all of Fish & Wildlife's work and diligence. Director Paterson moves to approve with the removal of Nelson Shiley's payment from this motion. Second by Director Monette. Passes 5/0. Director Shirley removes himself from the room. Remaining portion of Indirect Damages for Director Shirley, motion to approve payments as outlined by Fish and Wildlife Services by Director Paterson, second by Director Monette. Passes 4/1 Director Shirley recused. Discussion by Director Paterson regarding the lack of Indirect Damage payments made by the federal government. CLLA is paying for true costs to producers as the legislature authorized.*
- B. Discussion, Direction and/or Action regarding the multiple injury claims from KCK Investments. *3 claims for injury compensation. Director Shirley advises the Board needs to set standard on what will be paid through the CLLA. Historically we have not paid feed or labor to feed or projected loss in market value. Historically we pay vet bills and medication costs. Discussion by Directors on types and numbers of claims from KCK Investments. The CLLA Board needs to decide what cost we compensate the producer for. Director Paxon requestions staff speak with KCK Investments regarding the serviceability of the Bull or if he plans to sell. We need to consider each case prior to tabling for additional information from the producer. Director Paterson agrees that CLLA needs a policy for consistency on what claims will be paid by CLLA. Director Shirley advises that CLLA does not mandate/require producers to do specific Conflict Avoidance measures. CLLA could issue a broad Memorandum of best practices. Director Paterson asks KCK Investments to summarize the common denominators associated with his depredation claims. Is there something the producer can do or is there a F&W issue to address? and what Moved by Director Paterson to table all three claims pending approval of a written policy adopted by the CLLA Board. Second by Director Paxon. Approved 5/0.*
- C. Discussion, Direction or Action regarding the Equine Depredation for David Carson/Toriette Ranch, Report number 2509201324. *Director Shirley advises that horse prices are going up as fast as cattle. So, we may need to revisit the cap amounts. Administrator advises that the Werkmans are having a difficult time*

locating a replacement horse in the possible payment amount. The horses in that price range are not suitable. Director Shirley advised to decide to pay up to \$7,500 or table to look at horse market to determine if the cap should be modified for ranch and performance horse compensation. Director Forward agrees with Director Shirley, the price of horses has increased and a good solid, young, sound ranch horse is tough to find at that price. He advises review of the horse market purchase price prior to payout determination. Director Shirley offers to document the information of Item C and the past payments made as discussed in Item B and he will put together a recommendation to circulate to the Directors. We can have a Special Meeting to discuss and act on the proposed recommendations. Moved by Director Shirley to Table this item to review the horse market. Second by Director Paterson. Passes 5/0.

- D.** Discussion, Direction or Action regarding the Injury claim by Jim Travers/Whitehouse Ranch Report number 2508090746 Calf injury. *Director Shirley confirms that Jim Travers is requesting compensation for vet treatment. Moved to approve by Director Monette, seconded by Director Paterson. Approved 5/0*
- E.** Action item: Election of Officers. The election of Chair and Vice-Chair of the CLLA for 2026 *Discussion by Director Paterson, we've learned that the Chair and the Administrator should work in proximity. Director Paterson nominated Director Forward. Second by Director Shirley. Passes 5/0 Director Shirley nominates Director Paterson as Vice-Chair, second by Director Forward. Passes 5/0*

*Director Shirley resigns as NGO representative effective immediately.
Chair Forward conducts meeting*

- F.** Presentation of candidates and Board Action regarding the appointment of NGO and Cattle Producer representative to the CLLA Board. *Director Paterson point of order; this election is confined to the three county commissioner Directors. Chair Forward requests nominations. Director Paxon recommends the Livestock representative is appointed first as Director Paterson was the elected Vice-Chair of the CLLA. He requests information about New Mexico Cattle Growers having reservations with Director Paterson serving on the CLLA. Director Paterson advises that they prefer he does not, but their stronger preference is that we continue to have institutional knowledge and commitment to work with legislators on funding. Director Paxon nominates Director Paterson as the Livestock Producer Representative, second by Director Monette. Passes 4/0. NGO Candidates Anita Hand and Sisto Hernandez. Director Paxon nominates Anita Hand as NGO Representative. No Second. Director Forward nominates Sisto Hernandez as NGO. Point of order by Director Paxon; Sisto is not a resident of New Mexico. Director Paxon requests clarification that residency is a requirement. It is not addressed in the JPA. Point of Order by Director Paterson, "I served as the Representative while a resident of Texas. Mr. Shirley has served as the NGO Representative while being a resident of Kansas. Historical experience is that residency is not a requirement. I have not seen anything in the JPA that requires New Mexico residency." Director Forward "Considering history and consistency it appears that the NGO does not have a residency requirement based on that we have nomination and a second. All in favor 4/1 Director Paxon voting nay. Motion passes. Sisto Hernandez appointed as NGO Representative. Sisto Hernandez accepts the nomination and is happy to be a part of the CLLA working to compensate ranchers. Director Paterson advises he has worked with Sisto for many years. He's managing the RCPP, former Chair of the Co-Existence Council. He is a Native American and a*

tribal member of the White Mountain Apache. Director Paterson is thrilled at the prospect of having Sisto on the CLLA Board. Director Forward thanks Sisto for his interest and application. He is excited to work with him.

- G.** Discussion, Direction and Action to staff regarding modifying by-laws to add Special Advisors as Ex-Officio and appoint those members. *Discussion by Directors, Director Paterson advises that for 2.5 years Audrey has been a lightning rod for communication in wolf country as a Catron County Commissioner. Director Paterson would value having Audrey's insights and frame of reference. She has performed a valuable service and would not want her input to be restricted to Public Comment. Likewise, Nelson Shirley has been willing to dig into details about CLLA processes, grant statuses and educate himself to provide good advice. "I would be horrified if we were not able to call on him in the context of doing our work and confine him also to being a member of the public who can only speak at the beginning in Public Comment." We have the resources to continue to rely on them. The special Advisors should be named as individuals and include their past roles. Director Paterson advises that an amendment of bylaws would be required. Director Paterson moves to amend bylaws and appoint Audrey McQueen and Nelson Shirley as Special Advisors. Director Forward agrees we should identify them by name. Director Paxon point of order: The Ex-Officios do not represent the CLLA. Only the sitting board members represent the CLLA. Director Paxon requests that language be included in the Bylaw amendment. Director Paterson amends his motion for removal of the Special Advisor label. Those individuals will fall under the ex-Officio terminology. Director Paxon, requests we vote on modifying the bylaws to include new ex-Officio members. The Chair calls for two motions: first is to modify bylaws to add two ex-Officio. Moved by Director Paterson, second by Director Monette. Passes 5/0. Add Nelson Shirley and Audrey McQueen as ex-Officio members of the CLLA moved by Director Paterson, second by Director Monette. Passes 5/0*
- H.** Annual Resolutions for IPRA, OMA, Public Participation and Parliamentary Procedures. *Move to approve the group of Resolutions by Director Paterson, second by Director Forward. Passes 5/0*

A special meeting will be scheduled

VI. Adjourn @ 11:14

The next proposed Regular Meeting of the CLLA will be Thursday February 5, 2026, at 10:00 a.m. at the Sierra County Government Building, T or C. Items for the agenda must be submitted to the County Livestock Loss Authority Administrator no later than 5:00pm on the Monday the week before the meeting.

If you are an individual with a disability who is in need of a reader, amplifier, qualified sign language interpreter, or any other form of auxiliary aid or service to attend or participate in the hearing or meeting please contact the CLLA Administrator, at 1 C Foster Drive, Reserve NM. 87830, phone (505) 787-9652 at least one (1) week prior to the meeting or as soon as possible. Public documents, including the agenda and minutes, can be provided in various accessible formats. Please contact CLLA Administrator if a summary or other type of accessible format is needed."



Haydn Forward

Approved: _____

Haydn Forward, Chair