

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

January 30, 2022

MINUTES

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

Zoom: <https://zoom.us/j/92581420162?pwd=9MKYOeo5umpVy5Zz4stsrhjkUqFCqm.1>

10:00 A.M. Special Meeting ***Called to Order at 10:06***

Roll Call: Haydn Forward, Catron County ***Present On-line***
Jim Paxon, Sierra County ***Present On-line***
Daniel Monette, Socorro County ***Present On-line***
Tom Paterson, Livestock Rep. ***Present On-line***
Sisto Hernandez, NGO ***Present On-line***

Pledge of Allegiance

Introduction of Guests

- I. **Approval of Agenda** *Move by Director Paterson to approve. Second by Director Monette. Passes 5/0*
- II. **Approval of Minutes**
 - A. **Approval of Minutes of December 08, 2025**; *Move by Director Paterson second by Director Monette. Passes 5/0*
- III. **Public Comment: Limited to 3 Minutes**

Majorie Lantana a cattle rancher, a member of the Navajo Nation and serves as the Northwest New Mexico Cattle Growers Association as Vice-President, and Chair to the Cross-Cultural Committee. Northwest New Mexico Cattle Producers are very concerned with the threat of the Mexican wolf advancement into our area and the Gray Wolves from the North. We appreciate the work that CLLA for compensation for the Mexican wolves. The livestock producers in northwest New Mexico urge CLLA to address the threat of the Gray Wolf and to consider revisions to your governing documents so CLLA can cover the damages from the gray wolves too. Chair Forward advises that the current agenda includes items to address her requests.
- IV. **Presentation**
 - A. **Presentation by CLLA Administrator on paid claims from Dec 08, 2025 to date, and remaining funds from the 2024 State Legislative appropriation.**

Administrator advises that the remaining funds from the 2024 State Legislative Appropriation is \$735,557.50 remaining. We are over halfway through those funds, and we gained access in May of 2025. We've used over half of the three-year appropriation in 8 months. In December to January 2026 Twenty-two claims have been paid. Director Paterson asks what the timing is for claims to be paid once a completed application has been submitted. Administrator Mahler advises that it's 4-7 days to get payment in the mail to the producer. Chair

Forward asks what the timeframe is for the reimbursement from NMDA. The Administrator advises that reimbursements have always been received within 25-30 days.

V. New Business

A Discuss modification of By-Law language to include references to the Grey Wolf along with the Mexican Wolf allowing compensation for confirmed and probable depredation, Conflict Avoidance and Indirect Damages by the CLLA. *Director Paterson moves to modify both A and B to allow for compensation for both Mexican Wolves and Grey Wolves no matter where they occur in the state of New Mexico. We also appeal to Catron Sierra and Socorro Counties to modify their JPAs to allow for compensation for both Mexican Wolves and Grey Wolves no matter where they occur in the state of New Mexico. Director Paterson advises that he has spent time speaking with our Northern New Mexico Stockman Association and the native American livestock producers in northwest New Mexico. Grey wolves are penetrating into New Mexico from Colorado. New Mexico Game and Fish trapped a Grey Wolf with a collar and returned it to Colorado. There were 14 pups born in the wild since Colorado released these wolves. 4 of them have collars. Of the 10 uncollared, we do not know the survival rate. Game and Fish likely will not be aware until there are depredations or they are spotted. The only recourse for those producers that lose livestock to these wolves is the Livestock Demonstration Grant through the Federal Government which was \$190,000 for 2024. Who do those producers submit their application to? There is no mechanism for compensation for these impacted producers. Director Paterson requests that the counties amend the JPAs to reflect that the CLLA is responsible for both Mexican Wolf and Grey Wolf depredations wherever they occur in New Mexico, and we do the same thing with our By-laws. Director Paterson advises to not include "endangered" as that distinction may change with HR 4255. Director Monette advises he had the opportunity to speak with Senator Brantley and Representative Armstrong. Both support the modification to include Grey Wolves. Chair Forward comments that there is a need for the change. Including the Grey Wolves provides us the opportunity to speak with our Legislature on increasing the funding while providing the opportunity to expand our discussions north of I-40. The obvious risk for now is financial, but it is minimal as we are getting ahead of the problem. Chair Forward suggests removing "Mexican" and just have "Wolf". Director Paterson advises that the bylaws also include language about the experimental population areas, so language modifications are needed there also. There is ongoing educational outreach through the Cattle Grower's Association in the northern area of the state. Director Paxon requests to avoid confusion rather than removing "Mexican" add "and/or Grey Wolf(es) which would remove any confusion. Dr. Ebert advises that the Mexican Wolf and the Grey Wolf are listed as separate species under the Endangered Species Act, so it's probably beneficial to show the distinction. Director Forward would like to include education and outreach in the Bylaws. Director Paterson adds language to increase educational outreach. Second by Director Paxon. Point of order by Director Paxon as the meeting is remote. He requests a roll call of the vote. Passes 5/0.*

B Discuss modification of the JPA agreement with Catron, Sierra and Socorro counties to modify the JPA language to include the reference of the Grey Wolf along with the Mexican

Wolf allowing compensation for confirmed and probable depredations along with Conflict Avoidance and Indirect Damages by the CLLA. Director Paterson moves to request the counties modify the JPA. Without the JPA amendment under the Bylaws, we are not allowed to do anything different. This is a critical piece. Director Paxon requests John Oakleaf confirms or corrects to make sure we are using the most current and accurate terminology. Dr. Oakleaf temporarily left the meeting. Dr Ebert advises that there is confusion, she defers to Dr. Oakleaf once he returns. Director Forward: to remain consistent between the bylaws and the JPA should we change the verbiage to "Mexican Wolf" and "Grey Wolf" Director Hernandez advises that per Fish and Wildlife official website it is referred to on there as the Mexican Wolf. Second by Director Paxon. Passes 5/0.

- C. **Discussion Direction and/or Action regarding the Indirect Damage application for 2024.** Dr. Ebert requests there be the addition of language for number eight. Language is requested to excludes Bulls from the total as Indirect Damages is for breeding cows and heifers. There is no discussion on the provided due date for applications to CLLA Administrator on May 31, 2026. Director Paterson requests conforming changes to add the Grey Wolf to the applications.
- D. **Discussion Direction and/or Action regarding the Conflict Avoidance application for 2024.** Add grey wolves to the application.
- E. **Discussion, Direction and/or Action acknowledging Dr. Craig Gifford and his ongoing support of the CLLA through a Resolution.** Director Paterson advises that Dr. Gifford, Dr. Peel and Dr. Anderson provide CLLA and our producers with a huge service. They have provided CLLA quarterly reports on valuation since 2023. CLLA should acknowledge their work that vastly enhances what CLLA is able to accomplish. It is timely to give some note of appreciation to all three. Director Paterson will work with the Administrator on the creation of the Resolutions.
- F. **Discussion, Direction and/or Action regarding the Confirmed injury claim for Bob Daugherty USDA report number 2507030942. The Calf was injured and died while in treatment. The producer has been compensated at market rate for animal loss. This claim is for the treatment costs incurred.** Discussion by Directors and Ex-Officio Nelson Shirley regarding past Coexistence Council and CLLA payments and consensus regarding policy of the CLLA on claims to be paid moving forward. Claims made beyond vet supplies and vet specific charges will not be paid by CLLA. Claims for feed, labor, and other caregivers are not CLLA reimbursable A policy needs to be created advising that CLLA will compensate for professional veterinary care, surgery, and the cost of veterinary supplies. Director Forward advised that Ex-Officio McQueen shared that a sales calf claim may occur. If the producer provided the receipts showing the difference between the market price of the healthy calves versus the injured calf, the CLLA may consider paying that difference in market price. Director Paterson endorses the provided proposal by Ex-Officio's Shirley and McQueen. Receipts may be required unless market rate is provided. The CLLA will compensate a producer vet care/medication for a food animal that died during injury care and the full market rate of the food animal. Director Monette advises a third option of capping the amount paid for veterinary care to a food animal to the claim is a possibility. Dr Ebert advises that Guard Dogs are also included in the list of compensable animals. Discussion by Directors and Ex-Officio regarding compensation for values we have compensation rates for.

Director Paterson states that the compensation was designed initially to make producers whole, or to place them back to the spot if there were no wolves. Direction to Administrator to create policy. Director Paxon calls point of order regarding implementation of a policy not passed by the board or agenda. Framework has been provided for the review of the agenda claims. Director Paxon; deduct feed from his claim. Director Paterson moves to pay for vet care and medications from Item F. Second by Director Paxon. Passes 5/0

G. Jimmy Heap Confirmed Injury claim USDA report number 2508131622. Mr. Heap is requesting compensation for incurred direct expenses of treatment and loss of marketability of the female calf. *Tabled, Administrator to request receipts. Move by Director Paterson, second by Director Monette.*

H. David Carson Confirmed Injury claims. USDA report number 2508110746 Female "Angus calf (#1). USDA report number 2504231249 female "Angus calf (#2). And USDA report number 2508110755 female "Angus cross calf. All animals were treated between 10-18 days. *Director Paterson requests the Administrator delete feed from the claim payment. Director Forward advises Administrator to delete feed and pay for the medications. Directors comment on the applicant's thorough recordkeeping. Move to approve by Director Paxon, Second by Director Monette. Passes 5/0*

VI. Old Business

A. Discussion, Direction and/or Action regarding the Confirmed Equine Depredation for David Carson/Toriette Ranch, USDA report number 2509201324. *Ex Officio Nelson Shirley provides the requested information discovered. Mr. Shirley advises that valuation of horses is difficult as the transactions on quality horses is private treaty. He recommends Ranch horse value be raised to \$10,000 and Performance horses are set at \$16,000. That valuation would be based on the threshold of when an owner would reasonably purchase insurance for that animal. A performance horse is an animal that has entered into competition. Dr. Ebert shares that other states have adopted requirements that if the animal has been insured, they have insurance covering the loss of the animal. Discussion that the board may consider covering the deductible. The Administrator to create written policy to \$10,000 for a ranch horse and \$16,000 for a performance horse. Director Paterson moves to pay Toriette/David Carson \$10,000 for the confirmed depredation. Second by Director Monette. Passes 5/0*

B. Discussion, Direction and/or Action regarding the multiple injury claims from KCK Investments. *Director Paterson regarding the dogie calf claim. Discussion by Directors and Ex-Officio. Dr. Ebert advises that reduced weight for dogie calf is captured under the Indirect Damages program. Move by Director Paterson; no payment on dogie calf claim. No payment of labor. Pay medication on Bull claim only. Devaluation to be addressed at sale time with comparables to other bulls at market. On calf claim, pay \$60.00 medication. Devaluation will be determined at sale. Second by Director Monette. Passes 5/0.*

C. Discussion, Direction and/or Action regarding the Confirmed Equine Injury USDA Report

2509110856. Claim includes treatment expenses by Vet Tech. submitted by Jim Mater. Administrator paid \$944.00 of veterinarian charges in December as directed in December CLLA meeting. The remainder of this claim \$1,870.00 is under review. Discussion by Directors and Ex-Officio. Move by Director Paterson to pay bandage portion of the claim only. \$50.00 to be paid to Mr. Mater. Second by Director Monette. Passes 5/0.

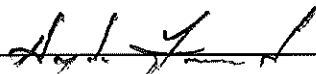
Next Meeting May 15, 2026; at 10:00 in Reserve.

VII. Adjourn at 12:24 Move by Director Paxon, second Director Monette. Passes 5/0.

The next proposed Regular Meeting of the CLLA will be May 15, 2026; at 10:00 a.m. at the Catron County Fire Administration Building Reserve, NM. 87830. Items for the agenda must be submitted to the County Livestock Loss Authority Administrator no later than 5:00pm on 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 Lane, 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."

Approved: _____



Date: _____

5/15/26

Haydn Forward, Chair