



## National Guard Association of New Mexico

Board of Directors  
47 Bataan Blvd  
Santa Fe, NM 87508



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### New Mexico National Guard Board of Directors Meeting

1. The New Mexico National Guard Association (NMNGA) meeting was held on Wednesday, January 22, 2025 at 1730 on Google Meet.

2. Welcome Comments

- a. NMNGA President called the meeting to order at 1730
- b. Roll Call of voting members was performed by NMNGA Secretary
- c. In attendance:

President- COL Eric James

93<sup>rd</sup> TC- LTC Joseph Garcia  
111<sup>th</sup> Rep- LTC Peter Romero  
515<sup>th</sup> RTI Rep- MAJ Tony Kessel  
JFHQ Rep- LTC James Chavez  
150 SOW Rep- Maj Travis Swaims  
FGO Army Rep- LTC Warren Maestas  
HQ NMANG Rep- Col David Chavira  
CGO Army Rep- 1LT Shawna Laity  
WO Rep- CW3- CW3 Charles Estrada  
Life Army Rep- Col (Ret) Tom Gonzales

d. NMNGA Secretary counted 10 voting members in attendance. Quorum was established to proceed.

e. Others in attendance:

Vice President- LTC Randall Bates  
Executive Director- CPT Thomas Flores  
Past President- Lt Col Leah Gallegos  
Resolutions & Legislation Committee- LTC Paul Lauritzen  
Membership Committee- 1LT Evren Gonzales  
Finance Committee- 1LT Kyle Lynch  
Resolutions & Legislative committee- CPT Daniel Ruiz

f. President Opening Remarks

- (1) Proposing innovative approach to long standing issues

g. Vice President Opening Remarks

- (1) Review and approval of new bylaws by Board of Directors
- (2) State Conference review
- (3) New Treasurer to be announced

### 3. Treasurer Update and Budget Review

- a. Phil Grijalva is vacating his position due to moving to another state
  - (1) Melissa Levison has been appointed as the treasurer by the President
- b. Additional options for bookkeeper
  - (1) Looking at more affordable options
- c. Opportunities to invest
  - (1) Looking into CDs and Money Markets
- d. Status of Funds
  - (1) There is \$61,654 in the bank
  - (2) \$9,000 in bank is for OCS

### 4. Standing Committee Updates by NMNGA Vice President

- a. By-Laws Committee
  - (1) Bylaws are posted on the website.
  - (2) Vice-Army and Vice-Air will remain appointed by the President
  - (3) Executive Director will be a 5-year term with ability for additional year that could be added
- b. Resolutions and Legislation
  - (1) Two initiatives
    - (a) Background checks for New Mexico Youth Challenge and Job Challenge
    - (b) Tricare paid for by State
- c. Awards and Scholarships
  - (1) Applications for scholarships is online now
  - (2) Looking at three \$900 scholarships
  - (3) Offer CGOs lifetime memberships
- d. Nominations
  - (1) No Update

### 5. Special Committee Updates NMNGA Vice President

- a. Membership Committee

- (1) Currently at 36% of membership
- (2) Working digital campaigns
- (3) Offering flexible membership tiers and digital life
- b. Corporate Sponsors
  - (1) Corporate Sponsor page updated on website
  - (2) Many sponsors from last years conference interested in coming back
  - (3) part of awards funds for Conference is to make plaques for sponsors
- c. State Conference Committee
  - (1) April 25-26<sup>th</sup> at the Greater Albuquerque Association of Realtors
  - (2) Working with the Clyde on hotel rooms and dinner
  - (3) Discussed pricing proposal: One price for whole conference
- d. Professional Development
  - (1) Chief Boehler is working the Professional Development for Conference
- e. Communications
  - (1) Setup LinkedIn
- 6. Unfinished Business
  - a. No Update
- 7. New Business
  - a. Approve bylaws as re-written
    - (1) NMNGA President moved to approve bylaws as re-written. Motioned accepted. The ayes had it. Motion carried.
    - (2) Bylaws will be signed by those who voted to approve
  - b. Other new business
    - (1) Vote on Annual Budget
      - (a) Budget to include funds for Executive Director, Hall of Honor, State and National Conference, and bookkeeper
      - (b) Spending more on initiatives to drive membership
      - (c) NMNGA President moved to approve the budget. Motioned accepted. The ayes had it. Motion carried.

8. Other Topics

a. No other topics discussed

b. Next Board of Director meeting will be on April 25<sup>th</sup> at the Greater Albuquerque Association of Realtors

9. Adjournment

a. NMNGA President moved to adjourn meeting. Motioned accepted. The ayes had it. Motion carried.

10. For matters regarding the NMNGA meeting minutes please reach out to the NMNGA Secretary at 808-220-2250.

TABITHA A. GONZALES  
New Mexico National Guard Association  
Secretary

Approved/Disapproved

ERIC JAMES  
New Mexico National Guard Association  
President