

LWW LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS® OF LOS ALAMOS UPDATE

Newsletter of the League of Women Voters of Los Alamos
P.O. Box 158, Los Alamos, NM 87544
www.LWVLosAlamos.org
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Calendar

July 27 Board Meeting, location tbd, noon

June Lunch with a Leader: Taking a Break!

There will be no LWL in July, but we will have a leader for our August 17 meeting. Stay tuned! Also, go to our website to listen or watch the LWL meetings that have been recorded. Videos of the last two speakers, Shannon Bacon, Chief Justice of the NM Supreme Court, and State Senator Leo Jaramillo are posted and well worth listening to even if you heard them the first time.

Karyl Ann Armbruster

President's Message: A supreme win for democracy and a friendly invitation

Over the last 4 days, the U.S. Supreme Court has issued several opinions that will have profound implications for millions of Americans, including prospective college students of color, former students with debt, the LGBTQ+ community, and voters. Unlike the others, voters may breathe a sigh of relief.

In *Moore v. Harper*, the majority of justices, in a 6-3 opinion, rejected the fundamentally undemocratic "independent state legislature" theory pressed by Republicans in North Carolina. That theory would have immunized state legislatures from any judicial review whatsoever of restrictive voting laws or gerrymandered redistricting maps.

There is another significant issue precluded by the opinion. New Mexico was one of seven states in which an "alternate" electoral certificate was signed that did not honor the popular vote in the state. The former president's advisor John Eastman, a resident of Santa Fe, hoped that if enough "alternate" certificates were submitted, the question of who should be president would be thrown to the state legislatures, a majority of which are Republican-controlled. New Mexicans had voted 501,614 to 401,894 to elect Joe Biden as President and Kamala Harris as Vice President, and Governor Grisham certified the state's five electoral college votes to be counted for them. At the same time, five New Mexico Republicans signed and transmitted to the federal government their own certificate, in support of the former president and vice president, with the "understanding that they might later be determined" to be the qualified electors. The Secretary of State later confirmed that this action had not disrupted the election, and the matter was referred for investigation.

The decision this week in *Moore v. Harper* means that a theory first raised obliquely in *Bush v. Gore* by Justices Rehnquist, Scalia, and Thomas twenty-five years ago has been clearly repudiated in a win for democracy.

Please consider accepting the state League's invitation to join the Nuclear Issues Study. At the LWVNM League Convention in April the delegates approved the study proposal to revisit the LWVUS Nuclear Issues position and consider nuclear energy among potential solutions to the climate emergency. This study is expedited; study reports and interviews will be available for LWVNM membership consideration in November 2023, followed by consensus meetings in December 2023. The current LWVUS Nuclear Issues Position appears on pp. 97 and 100 of LWVUS Impact on Issues 2022 - 2024. Efforts to obtain concurrence from other state Leagues will occur following New Mexico's approval of a position, which will be voted by the LWVNM Board on next winter. The goal is to obtain concurrence by LWVUS during the June 2024 Convention.

Opportunities to participate include

1. collaborating with other members to study one of the four Nuclear Issues tasks, reviewing references under the guidance of an expert task leader and preparing a five-page study report with bibliography by 10/30/23;
2. providing references for consideration in a study task report; or
3. recommending an expert willing to be interviewed who could offer valuable perspectives on commercial nuclear energy for member consideration.

To join the study or to recommend an expert, contact Karen M. Douglas
([douglaskm\(at\)alumni.stanford.edu](mailto:douglaskm(at)alumni.stanford.edu)).

Felicia Orth

Observer Corps Report – County Council Regular Session – June 13, 2023

The hybrid session was attended by Council Chair Denise Derkacs and Councilors Theresa Cull, Melanee Hand, Suzie Havemann, Keith Lepsch, David Reagor, and Randall Ryti. Our observer report is based upon discussion during the meeting and documentation provided in the full agenda package.

Draft ordinances to adopt a municipal GRT of 0.5%

Council introduced an ordinance that would raise the County's gross receipt tax (GRT) by one-half percent (0.5%). If approved, the raise would go into effect July 1. A second ordinance was introduced that proposes raising the GRT by half a percent, which would go into effect Jan. 1, 2024. Read about the public hearings for these two ordinances in the observer report for the June 27 Council meeting.

Atomic City Transit Short-Range Transit Plan

James Barela, Transit Manager in the Public Works Department, provided a brief overview of the Five-Year Transit Plan. Approval of this plan is a minimum requirement of the New Mexico Department of Transportation (NMDOT) for transit agencies receiving FDA funding.

The service plan was prepared by the County's consultant, LSC Transportation Consultants, Inc. A briefing was provided at a Council Work Session on March 14, 2023. At that meeting, LSC Consultant Genevieve Evans described the approach used to develop and analyze potential improvements that Atomic City Transit (ACT) could implement over the next five years. (See our observer report for that meeting in the March *Update*.)

Barela described the recommendations for which Council support was requested:

- Increase Route 1 Peak services (Downtown Circulator with 15-minute frequency from 1 pm to 5 pm), as staffing will allow.
- Discontinue Route 2P (peak service to White Rock). Note this route has not been in service for several years.
- Support the recommendation for a Saturday service pilot program, providing transit services from 9 am to 5 pm, as staffing will allow. Micro-transit options with limited fixed routes are identified as the logical service to pilot.
- Eliminate Route 2T's second loop from 3 p.m. to 5 p.m. to adjust for traffic congestion and provide a more dependable service during rush hour traffic (White Rock Truck Route).
- Redesign Route 3 to include service to the Western area and Route 1 to include hourly service to the Camino Entrada area. These changes would improve on-time performance and increase ridership.
- Support early morning micro-transit services as staffing will allow. This service will utilize driver downtime between 5am - 6am, add early service to the public, and support LANL employees who report to work at 6 am.
- Recommend Route 5 along Range Road (bus stop at Guaje Cemetery) be serviced as on-demand (Barranca Mesa route).

Council unanimously approved the Five-Year Transit Plan.

For more details on the Council's discussion, see Kirsten Laskey's article in the *Daily Post*, June 20, 2023.

<https://ladailypost.com/council-action-taken-june-13-2023/>

Video: Councilor Keith Lepsch Recaps Meeting Highlights, *Los Alamos Daily Post*, June 16, 2023. <https://ladailypost.com/video-councilor-keith-lepsch-recaps-meeting-highlights/>

June Fabryka-Martin and Craig Martin

Observer Corps Reports – County Council – Work Session, June 20, 2023

The hybrid workshop session was attended by Council Chair Denise Derkacs and Councilors Melanee Hand, Suzie Havemann, David Reagor, and Randall Ryti. Councilors Theresa Cull and Keith Lepsch were absent. Our observer report is based upon discussion during the meeting and documentation provided in the full agenda package. Because it was a workshop, Council did not take action or vote on any item on the agenda.

LANL Legacy Cleanup Update

Michael Mikolanis, Manager of the Department of Energy (DOE)'s Environmental Management, Los Alamos Field Office (EM-LA), briefed the Council on the status of cleanup efforts at two EM-LA sites on DP Road, and on interim measures to manage the chromium plume until a final remedy is approved.

Middle DP Road (MDPR) Site

MDPR is the site where a Los Alamos County Public Utilities subcontractor encountered debris on February 14, 2020 during excavation activities for a new sewer utility line. The site, which is east of the Bluff Apartments, is slated to be transferred to the County once it has received a Certificate of Completion of cleanup from the NM Environment Department (NMED). The County wants to utilize that land for commercial or residential development. The status of the cleanup was previously discussed by Mikolanis at a Council meeting on 6/28/2022. (See observer report in the July 2022 *Update*.)

The bulk of MDPR has been cleaned up, but the land transfer to the County has been delayed once again. Recent soil samples from a small area contained arsenic concentrations that exceeded the site screening level. "The arsenic is probably some background from either the fill dirt that was brought in or otherwise introduced," said Mikolanis. "But for the County to get what it wants out of this land,

we need to demonstrate to the State that we've removed all of the waste that's there."

Material Disposal Area T (MDA T) at Technical Area 21 (TA-21)

MDA-T is an inactive landfill at the east end of the Delta Prime (DP) West area, one of the cleanup sites within TA-21 at LANL. Once it has been cleaned up to regulatory standards, DOE anticipates that the land at TA-21 will be acceptable for reuse by the County. However, the message from Mikolanis was that many years of work remain before that land transfer can happen.

Currently, work is primarily focused on the footprints of three radioactive waste operations: resin absorption beds used to dispose of liquid waste from uranium and plutonium processing operations, radioactive waste disposal shafts, and the Radioactive Waste Treatment Facility (Building 257). All buildings at MDA T have been removed down to their foundations. In 2020, the contractor began the deactivation and decommissioning (D&D) of Building 257 and its associated waste lines. However, the work was halted when higher than expected levels of contamination were found.

The concentrations of radioactive materials found triggered the DOE's nuclear safety rule for working with radioactive constituents. As a result, a documented safety analysis is now required before D&D work can resume. "We're going to have to characterize the hazards there," said Mikolanis. Characterization involves pulling up the foundations and collecting subsurface samples to define the extent of any contamination that may have made it through the foundation.

Chromium plume interim measures

Mikolanis then described the interim measures that have been used to control the hexavalent chromium plume in groundwater beneath Mortandad and Sandia Canyons. The measures involve pumping contaminated water from the regional aquifer using extraction wells, treating the water to reduce the chromium concentrations to values below the groundwater standard, and then reinjecting the

treated water into the aquifer through a series of injection wells along the plume's southern periphery. This strategy is known as Underground Injection Control, or pump-and-treat. Mikolanis explained that the reinjection is intended to create a hydraulic barrier that contains the plume by setting up a reverse gradient that pushes backwards against the natural flow of the groundwater. He said that reinjection also avoids unnecessary consumption of the water.

The primary objective of the pump-and-treat measures has been to prevent the plume from reaching groundwater beneath Pueblo de San Ildefonso property. The extraction and injection wells have been in operation since 2018. By 2022, monitoring wells indicated that the plume's front had retreated 500 ft upgradient of that property line, which Mikolanis cited as evidence of the success of this approach.

Six of the ten wells were shut down in October 2022 for electrical maintenance. "While we were doing that maintenance, we received direction from the NMED Hazardous Waste Bureau (HWB) not to restart those," said Mikolanis. In December 2022, the NMED Groundwater Quality Bureau (GWQB) directed EM-LA to cease all injection operations by April 1. NMED's primary objection to the injection remedy was that reinjection of the treated water could be pushing the plume further down into the aquifer rather than creating a hydraulic barrier that is containing the plume.

To negotiate an agreement on what interim measures can be put in place now and to move toward proposing a final remedy, Mikolanis said EM-LA is continuing its three-party technical meetings with NMED HWB and GWQB and the Pueblo de San Ildefonso. He encouraged the County to request a three-party meeting with NMED and EM-LA. To date, the County has only met with these entities separately.

(See also our observer report for the 5/23/23 Council meeting in the June *Update*. That report summarizes the County's concerns about the chromium plume reaching its water production well, PW-3.)

Library Board update

Library Board Chair John Nash provided the Board's annual presentation to Council. He focused on what has been completed, what the Board is currently working on, and what challenges or opportunities it sees coming up in the future. Because of increased public demand for digital resources in many forms, which is a nationwide trend, technology initiatives ranked high on all of those lists. The Board also assists in supporting opportunities for the local business environment, such as WiFi access, quiet work spaces, technology help, electronic resources and other check-out items.

Among its list of activities, the Board dealt with a request for reconsideration of a book in the library collection. Nash said, "As far as the collective memory of the library knows, that's the first time that's happened in the history of the library." The Board supported the library's position that the book in question was purchased following the library's policy for the collection.

During follow-up questions and discussion, Councilor Reagor said, "I want to ask you about your Drag Story Hour, and the people that took offense to that. Don't people define what is offensive? And why don't you regard it like a black-face story hour, where people find offense at something and you honor their request that it is offensive? Why don't you treat the Drag Queen Story Hour the same way you would treat something like that, where it's not an appropriate activity for the County?"

Gwen Kalavaza, Library Manager, responded. "The library was presented with an opportunity for a program. We evaluated the interest in the community and decided to go forward with the particular program, Drag Story Hour. As a library, we're not vetting the content of the program. We're strictly looking at the interest in the community and the attendance we think we'll get." As evidence of the community's interest in this program, she said, "we had over 250 people attend, with many comments, both pro and against the program."

Kalavaza added that, "As a library, we have to be very careful not to make judgment about the contents, within a book for example, but also the content within a program. We leave it up to the individual family or community member to decide whether or not they want to consume that content in the book or to attend a particular program. It's a very careful line that the library walks in order not to infringe on First Amendment rights."

Councilor Reagor returned to his original question. "If that's the answer, then why don't you have a black-face story hour? Wouldn't that be offensive enough that you wouldn't allow it?" Kalavaza responded that "I don't know I can answer that question because we haven't been presented with a group in the community offering to sponsor such an event."

Speaking for the board, Nash added, "I think you're comparing apples to oranges, not apples to apples, because ... people I know in the LGBTQ community are not offended by that." He concluded, "For me, this recognizes the place of libraries, which is to present diverse ideas and opinions ... as well as what you have set as guides for inclusivity, welcomeness and diversity of opinion and background for what we want Los Alamos and White Rock to be."

Fire Station 4 Replacement Project

Troy Hughes, Los Alamos County Fire Chief, presented the Department's need to replace Fire Station 4, which serves North and Barranca Mesas and North Community. This station was built across from the golf course in 1965. Its design, layout and structural capacity no longer meet the staff and equipment needs.

Hughes provided a long list of features needed for a modern station. These include energy-efficient heating and cooling systems; positive pressure HVAC systems in living areas; a decontamination room to clean gear and equipment contaminated on emergency calls; and male and female sleeping, showering, and restroom provisions. Beside lacking such features, the current fire station has structural issues due to the larger and much heavier fire apparatus, and drainage

issues that have led to water intruding into its basement.

The replacement station requires a new site because the existing station must remain in full operation throughout construction, said Hughes. In addition to being able to maintain emergency response times, the chosen site should be fairly flat terrain on County-owned land, with access to utilities infrastructure. Design and cost are also considerations.

Hughes reported that the Department has identified three potential sites: adjacent to the current fire station, the entry to the Golf Course Maintenance Yard above the round-about on San Ildefonso Road, and the Loma Linda playlot. At future meetings, Fire and Capital Project Management staff will present their plan for engaging the community in the site evaluation process. Ultimately, Hughes said, Council will be the one to select the site.

Eric Martinez, Deputy Public Works Director, said the preliminary project schedule calls for site evaluation, design, public outreach and site selection by Council to occur this year, with construction and occupancy completed in 2025. Other parameters suggested by Councilor Havemann included which sites could better be utilized for housing, natural resource protection, and Parks & Recreation amenities.

Video: Councilor Suzie Havemann Recaps Work Session, *Los Alamos Daily Post*, June 27, 2023. <https://ladailypost.com/video-councilor-suzie-havemann-recaps-work-session/>

June Fabryka-Martin and Craig Martin

Observer Corps Report – County Council Regular Session – June 27, 2023

The hybrid session was attended by Council Chair Denise Derkacs and Councilors Theresa Cull, Melanee Hand, Suzie Havemann, Keith Lepsch, David Reagor, and

Randall Ryti. Our observer report is based upon discussion during the meeting and documentation provided in the full agenda package.

Public Hearing on draft ordinances to adopt a municipal GRT of 0.5%

An ordinance to increase the County's gross receipt tax (GRT) by one-half percent (0.5%) effective July 1, 2024 was defeated by a vote of 3–4. Chair Derkacs and Councilors Havemann and Lepsch voted in favor, and Councilors Cull, Hand, Reagor, and Ryti voted in opposition. The second ordinance, which proposed to raise the GRT by 0.5% effective Jan. 1, 2024, was removed from the agenda.

Rationale for increasing GRT rate

The County's rationale for the proposed increase was set forth during the FY24 budget hearings in April (see our observer report in the *May Update*) and in the staff report in the agenda package. GRT accounts for about 75% of total budgeted revenues and comes primarily from the community's largest employer, Triad, which operates LANL. Although GRT revenues are expected to increase along with LANL's increased budget over the next few years, the County projects a significant decline in GRT revenue once LANL moves into pit manufacturing and takes advantage of the GRT exemption allowed for manufacturers. When that happens, the County estimates that GRT revenues may drop by about \$15 million dollars annually.

The proposed new 0.5% tax increment would generate about \$13 million dollars annually. This additional GRT revenue was considered necessary to maintain desired operational service levels, catch up on deferred maintenance issues, and fund capital projects. Without this additional funding, significant reductions to current operational and capital plans would have to be made.

The County's current GRT rate is 7.1875%, and will drop to 7.0625% on July 1, 2023 due to a state GRT reduction of one-eighth percent (0.125%). If the proposed ordinance were adopted, the County's GRT rate would be 7.5625%. Steven Lynne, County Manager,

noted that the County's current GRT is relatively low compared to that for other county seats in New Mexico, which average 7.95%. In fact, Los Alamos currently has the 30th lowest GRT rate of 33 County seats. With the proposed change, it would be ranked 25th lowest. The County's last GRT change was in July 2007. Since then, the Consumer Price Index has increased about 45% and the proposed GRT change is about 15%.

The FY2024 Adopted Budget included the projected revenue associated with this ordinance. Without its approval, "the entire budget would require significant restructuring," said Lynne. "It really wouldn't be appropriate to proceed with the budget that has been adopted."

Council discussion

The majority of councilors agreed that a significant decrease in GRT revenue is probable once the laboratory becomes eligible to take a manufacturing deduction for pit production. The point of contention was whether the County should proactively take action now to offset the expected shortfall, or whether it should hold off until the timing and magnitude of the projected decrease in GRT revenue are better known.

Arguments in favor of the increase.

Councilor Havemann spoke eloquently and at length in favor of approving the ordinance on the basis of several considerations. "My main point is that this is not a green light for a spending spree. We reviewed and deliberated our finances, our strategic plan, staffing levels, department-level services and amenities and capital projects during the budget hearings in April. We approved a budget that was dependent upon reliable revenues that included this GRT rate with a half-cent increase.

"As long as I've lived here ... and during my campaign for election, the prevailing sentiment has been for Los Alamos to have more services and amenities, for better maintenance of our existing assets, and for improvements" in all of the long list of priorities in our 2023 Council Strategic Plan, such as downtown

vitality, housing options, and business support. "We have, and will likely continue, to face rising prices, staffing challenges, and aging infrastructure that, frankly, we have benefited from for decades but now it's time to pay our part in bringing these assets into the 2020s."

"I believe the Laboratory, along with other employers in our community, including our small businesses, will be more successful with workforce recruitment and retention if Los Alamos has more to offer its residents. This GRT increment will hit LANL the hardest, and I believe, since they cannot help with funding the quality of life services and amenities directly, they can help indirectly by paying more in GRT to help fund the amenities and infrastructure maintenance, that in turn will benefit all of our residents, the ones who live here now and the ones who will be new to our community."

Chair Derkacs and Councilor Lepsch agreed with Councilor Havemann's statement in all respects. Chair Derkacs added that "preparing for reduced revenues in advance I believe is fiscally responsible. Delaying a GRT increase for future years could necessitate an even higher increase."

Arguments against the increase.

Councilors who voted against the GRT rate increase pointed out that a revenue shortfall was neither imminent nor certain and that there was no down-side to holding off, at least until next year's budget hearing.

Councilor Reagor added two more objections. "In the past, all of our budget projections for the Lab, at least for the last several years, have undershot the final amounts that they paid. Furthermore, if we do this now, all of that money will be spent. It's not that the money gets put away, saved, etc; it all gets spent right now. And then if a budget crunch occurs in the future, we'll still have the same pinch that we're in now. ... That's how government really works."

Councilor Ryti objected to the concept of over-collecting revenue now to fund unspecified things in the distant future. "There are a lot of equity questions I would have about raising the GRT at this point in time when it is in advance of having a shortfall," he said, "and

the shortfall is of unknown magnitude and duration."

Concluding the arguments against the tax rate increase, Councilor Reagor said "We don't really know anything a year in advance right now. So, we should wait until the budget hearings next year and look at this whole issue again. ... We definitely want to vote this down at this time "

Boards and Commission FY24 work plans

Councilors Havemann and Reagor on the Council's Work Plan Review Committee met with County staff and reviewed the FY24 Work Plans for ten boards and commissions (B&Cs). Councilor Havemann presented an overview of the committee's findings and recommendations.

The Committee continued to encourage the B&Cs to actively solicit public input and to look for ways to gauge public sentiment on items within the B&C's areas of responsibility. It stressed the importance of the B&Cs collaborating on projects and designating inter-board liaison assignments as appropriate. B&Cs were encouraged to consider transitioning their subcommittees to working groups as appropriate in the coming years, so as to streamline and reduce bureaucratic work load. Lastly, Havemann said, "We wanted to also emphasize that the work plans should be a reflection of the board, the citizen members of that board, and not be a reflection of the County department and staff that are affiliated with that board."

Local news coverage of this meeting

Video: Councilor Randall Ryti Recaps Tuesday's Meeting, *Los Alamos Daily Post*, June 29, 2023.

<https://ladailypost.com/video-councilor-randall-ryti-recaps-tuesdays-meeting/>

Kirsten Lasky, *Los Alamos Daily Post*, June 29, 2023. <https://ladailypost.com/council-action-taken-tuesday-june-27-2023/>

June Fabryka-Martin and Craig Martin

June's Lunch with a Leader: **State Senator Leo Jaramillo**

NM State Senator Leo Jaramillo participated in Lunch with a Leader while sitting in his truck on the LANL campus and therefore was not allowed to join us with video. He proceeded to discuss his priorities and achievements during the 2023 legislative session.

The senator is especially proud of the passage of Healthy Universal School Meals (SB4), which will provide free and healthy breakfasts and lunches for all students in grades K-12. The program calls for the use of locally produced ingredients and “engaging student and family voices and choices in menu development.”

His second priority was to pass the Catalytic Converter Sales Record Act (SB133), which requires dealers to record information about the seller, including proof of ownership, in order to cut down on thefts of the devices. The statute is now in effect.

The senator also sponsored Menstrual Products in School Bathrooms (HB134), which was requested by a group of high school students. His bill establishing a program to distribute funds to assist local law enforcement agencies in the recruitment and retention of officers resulted in a \$100m appropriation in the budget bill.

He supported Representative Chandler's bills - No Publication Required for Name Changes (HB31), to protect victims of domestic abuse and transgender people from being publicly identified, and Driver Safety Awareness License Plates (HB287), to support driver safety awareness and remind drivers to look twice for motorcycles. In addition, he co-sponsored Sen. Duhigg's Elections Changes Act (SB180), which updates the elections code for increased efficiency and increases compensation for election workers.

In addition to passing bills, legislators are responsible for distributing “junior” money and capital outlay funds. In 2023 each senator was allocated \$4.1m, but the average request was for \$39m! Senator Jaramillo distributed funds

to acequias, land grants, schools, roads, and public safety projects. He assigned funds to the Jemez Mountain Fire Protection Project and also contributed \$75,000 for equipment for the LAHS robotics team.

In response to a question about his support for the modernization of the legislature, the senator commented that he could not afford to serve in the legislature without the part-time job at the Lab that provides him with health insurance. He said more constituents need to call for modernization of the legislature, which includes paying a salary to legislators.

With great excitement, the senator announced that in July he will be one of the 55 freshman legislators heading to the Emerging Leaders Seminar at the University of Virginia's Darden School of Business. His name was submitted by Senator Peter Wirth to the State Legislative Leaders Foundation as one of four top-performing freshmen in New Mexico. At the conference, the legislators will learn to bridge the partisan divide in search of solutions to the problems facing the states and the nation.

Barbara Calef

Tickler Report – Tentative Council Agenda Items

Tickler Report Tentative Council Agenda Items for July 2023

This is a partial list of tentative Council agenda items. All of the items are subject to change.

- Ordinance raising Councilor salary to State maximum
 - Possible introduction of draft ordinance at 7/11/23 meeting
 - Public hearing on draft ordinance (if introduced at 7/11/23 meeting) at 7/25/23 meeting
- New County public website
 - Presentation by Granicus Open Cities at 7/18/23 meeting
- Trinity Road Diet
 - Presentation at 7/18/23 meeting
- North Mesa Housing Project
 - Presentation at 7/11/23 meeting
- Los Alamos County Regional Service Plan
 - Public Hearing on approval of plan at 7/11/23 meeting
- LANL Strategic Planning Presentation
 - Presentation at 7/18/23 meeting
- Regional Planning Presentation on Transportation, Housing, and NCNMED
 - Presentation at 7/25/23 meeting

Tickler Report – County BCC Vacancies

County BCC Vacancies as of June 30, 2023

Los Alamos County has 12 standing Boards and Commissions (BCCs). Generally, the purpose of a board is to serve in an advisory capacity to the County Council, but some have statutory responsibilities as well.

All BCCs are listed below with their current vacancies. Upcoming vacancies (in the next 6 months) are in **yellow** text, changes from last month have a **pink** highlight.

• Art in Public Places Board	2
○ No terms ending soon	
• Board of Public Utilities	0
○ No terms ending soon	
• County Health Council	3
○ No terms ending soon	
• Environmental Sustainability Board	0
○ No terms ending soon	
• Historic Preservation Advisory Board	2
○ 2 terms ending on June 30	
• Labor Management Relations Board	0
○ No terms ending soon	
• Library Board	0
○ 2 terms ending on August 31	
• Lodgers' Tax Advisory Board	0
○ No terms ending soon	
• Parks and Recreation Board	0
○ No terms ending soon	
• Personnel Board	1
○ No terms ending soon	
• Planning and Zoning Commission	2
○ No terms ending soon	
• Transportation Board	1
○ No terms ending soon	

Interested Los Alamos County residents may submit an online application by visiting the County's Boards and Commissions webpage and selecting "apply."

https://www.losalamosnm.us/government/boards__commissions

LWVLA Board of Directors 2023-2024

Officers:

- President: Felicia Orth
- 1st Vice-President: [open]
- 2nd Vice-President: Ellen Mills
- Past President: Barbara Calef
- Secretary: Rebecca Chaiken
- Treasurer: Addie Jacobson

Directors:

- Reservations: Amy Birnbaum
- Lunch with a Leader: Karyl Ann Armbruster
- Newsletter Editor: Robert Williams
- Publicity: Jody Benson
- Director at Large: Akkana Peck
- Director at Large: Rebecca Shankland
- Voter Services: Lynn Jones

Off-board Directors:

- Arrangements: Wendy Swanson
- Nominating Committee: [open]
- Fundraising: Ellen Mills, Leslie Wallstrom, and Tracy McFarland
- Observer Corps, County Council: June Fabryka-Martin and Craig Martin
- Membership: Jean Dewart
- Website/Social Media: Madhavi Garimella and Helena Whyte
- Video: Eduardo Santiago



LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS® OF LOS ALAMOS

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION FORM

Mail to: LWV Los Alamos / P.O. Box 158 / Los Alamos, NM 87544

Name(s): _____

Address: _____ Date: _____

ZIP: _____

Phone 1: _____ E-mail 1: _____

Phone 2: _____ E-mail 2: _____

Membership Categories: All checks for memberships and contributions should be payable to LWV-Los Alamos and all are tax-deductible. Let us know if you'd like a tax-deduction statement. A substantial portion of Single and Household membership dues support state and national League of Women Voters work. The additional funds from Single Sustaining or Household Sustaining memberships support Los Alamos LWV initiatives such as the Voter Guide, candidate forums, etc.

_____ Single membership: \$45.

_____ Household membership (two or more people at the same address): \$70.

_____ Single Sustaining membership: \$75.

_____ Household Sustaining membership (two or more people at the same address): \$95.

_____ Student membership: Free (must be 16 or over).

_____ Additional donation to support the Los Alamos LWV work: \$ _____

_____ **Newsletter Update** – Check here to receive it as an electronic file, saving postage and paper,

_____ **OR** Check here if you prefer to have a hard copy of the newsletter mailed to you.

_____ Check here to receive occasional friendly reminders of upcoming events by e-mail.

Ways to help the League if you wish to be an active member (check as many as apply)

Name1 Name2

_____ Voter Registration at events such as the Farmers Market. Training by the County Clerk's office.

_____ Organize/provide refreshments at forums when we meet in person.

_____ Observer Corps: Watch Council, DPU, P&Z meetings etc. and write a short summary to publish in our newsletter. (All meetings are recorded, so you can watch them later.)

_____ Write newsletter articles on a local issue or League activity.

_____ Assist in developing the Voter Guide: edit, develop questions, enter data onto League database, work with news publications to get the information printed, etc.

_____ Assist with Lunch with a Leader: assist in inviting leaders to give presentations; order/deliver lunches when we meet in person, help set up tables, etc.

_____ Website/social media: technical assistance and content development.

_____ Advocate for League positions: communicate with local, state, and federal leaders.

_____ Serve on the LWV-Los Alamos Board.

_____ Other: _____

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