



OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

October 25, 2019

Chairwoman Sara Scott

Vice Chair Pete Sheehey David

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Antonio Maggiore

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Randall Rytí

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Commissioners,

It has come to my attention that the Los Alamos County Council is making a recommendation to Governor Michelle Lujan Grisham to appoint a replacement in the New Mexico Legislature for the late State Senator Carlos Cisneros to represent Los Alamos.

I Daniel R. Barrone am submitting this letter of sincere interest in receiving your consideration for the position of representing the constituents of Los Alamos, Rio Arriba, Santa Fe and Taos Counties in the vacated State Senate seat for District 6 and have attached for your review a copy of my credentials as a public official and active member of numerous organizations representing our communities.

As you can see, having been born and grown up in Pojoaque (and still having family there), attended school at St. Michaels in Santa Fe, having coached in Espanola, owning a regional business and having been the Chairman of the North Central Regional Transit District for Rio Arriba, Los Alamos, Taos and Santa Fe Counties for the past 8 years, I am very familiar with the needs of our constituents in the District. The NCRTD alone will hold a series of 22 meetings in our local communities to hear the needs and concerns of our residents, as we do annually.

As the NCRTD Chair, I meet monthly with the Managers and Commissioners of every County and have shown that I am accessible to all of our communities to hear your concerns, and will continue to do so. And of course, I have made sure that Rio Arriba, the home of the NCRTD and its employees, receives the transportation resources it needs, as I have always strived to see that every community is treated fairly.

As a State senator, I would continue to maintain that direct accessibility.

Lastly, as a Mayor of 5 years and former County Commissioner of 8 years here in North Central New Mexico, I know firsthand the infrastructure and legislative needs of our communities, not from afar, but in firsthand having to deal with balancing budgets and balancing the policies made by state government with the practical consequences of them at the local level, where we always struggle with the needs for roads, jobs, housing, public safety, social services and the revenue needed to pay for them.

I believe that the constituents of State Senate District 6 would be best served by an elected official who knows the struggles of local government, is honest, fair, has a demonstrated track record of success and innovative ideas at the local level that we can bring to Santa Fe, most of all, and knows how to bring people together so that we can work collectively for the good of all of us.

If you look at my resume you will see that I have a long, and successful history of getting different governments and people of different and competing points of view to work together collectively to help us work better, more efficiently and more productively to everyone's benefit, assembling and inspiring talented people, creating jobs, investing in our critical infrastructure and public safety, completing large public works projects and generating economic growth in both our towns and rural communities.

My background is not from a text book or from speeches filled with good intentions of what people want to hear, but from real life hands-on experience in construction, balancing multi-million dollar budgets, developing affordable housing, protecting the environment, building and running successful businesses, creating real good paying jobs for locals, stimulating the local economy, providing first responders with the equipment and salaries they need, and cutting government costs while paying our people well for their talents.

Since my first election, I have been known as "Mr. Work Gloves", because I dig in, roll up my sleeves and do whatever is necessary, from digging out acequias that haven't flowed in 40 years to flying to Washington to help our communities bring home over \$30,000,000 for local projects.

I have demonstrated that I can build those bridges between federal, state, county and municipal government. I would like to be your representative and spokesperson in creating a future based on unity and enriching the lives of our families and youth, helping them to know there is hope and a bright future ahead here in our communities and that they don't need to leave the homes they grew up in to find it.

I believe that we have a tremendous opportunity with our current governor to truly change the way that state government operates and who it works for. Michelle and I went to school together and still maintain a close personal and working relationship that I believe will allow the voice of our counties and the needs of our constituents to be clearly heard.

I would be honored to be your recommendation to the Governor to represent the people of Rio Arriba County and District 6 in the State Senate and to be able to help our Governor make the changes that we in local government have known were needed and have been talking about for decades, but have been unable to get done.

I now that you have a tough choice and it will take a lot to fill the shoes of the late Senator. But we have a unique chance for real change, real honest and fair government, for a real spokesperson for the local governments and the people of north central New Mexico. I ask you to give me that chance to be your voice.

Sincerely,

Dan Barrone

Daniel R. Barrone
Mayor

DANIEL R. BARRONE

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El Prado, NM 87529
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GOVERNMENT EXPERIENCE

Town of Taos Mayor, 2014-present

- **Accomplishments:**

- ✓ **AIR SERVICE CONNECTIVITY:**

Oversaw a \$24,000,000 airport expansion and modernization program (Civil Engineering Project of the Year for New Mexico) that allowed for seasonal commercial air connecting service to Dallas and Austin Texas in winter 2018-2019, the expansion of that service to Orange County and Los Angeles in winter 2019-2020, and year-round service in summer 2020. The project came in \$4,000,000 under budget and increased tourism so significantly that every ski resort in the region broke all-time records, despite a national recession in the industry.

- ✓ **WATER AND SEWER:**

Built or replaced over \$1,500,000 in aging water and sewer annually since taking office in 2014.

- ✓ **ROADS:**

Built or replaced over \$1,300,000 in aging roads annually since taking office in 2014.

- ✓ **INTER-GOVERNMENTAL SUPPORT FOR EMERGENCY SERVICES:**

Because the County is legally unable to lobby for or against a County ballot initiative, at my urging the Town stepped in to organize a public education campaign to win public approval by referendum of a 1/8 E-911 GRT to provide a dedicated, non-political source of revenue for training, operations, maintenance and periodic upgrades of the Regional Dispatch/E-911 system. The tax has allowed the E-911/Combined Dispatch Center to expand the number and wages of

Dispatchers, as well as to upgrade and increase the call stations. In addition, the Town and County, who were previously carrying the full cost, have been able to reallocate about \$386,000 a year (in current dollars) to other high priority services, including increasing first responder salaries in order to remain competitive.

✓ ECONOMIC REVITALIZATION:

Convinced the Council to launch a municipal campaign to revitalize the Town's aging hotels and motels to improve the Town's safety and appearance, the visitor experience, and to improve declining of flat tourism, Lodgers Taxes and GRT's. The resulting campaign of vigorous code enforcement, combined with one-on-one diplomacy, financial and regulatory incentives and a national search for investors resulted in finding new owners and management for 6 major hotels (including attracting Hilton and other major international corporate investment and branding), with one additional hotel still under negotiation, the total rehabilitation (in partnership with the state) of 2 hotels and new management and significant safety and convenience upgrades to 3 of the remaining 4.

✓ GOVERNMENT EFFICIENCY:

Lodgers Tax revenues have increased an average of 7% per year and GRT's have increased an average of 3½ % per year during my administration, while reducing the workforce 18% through attrition and simultaneously increasing real wages and benefits an average of 20% for police, fire, managers and those in their last 3 years before retirement. These efficiencies have allowed the Town to fully staff the Taos Police department for the first time in a decade and to move to a full-time 24/7 fire department for the Town and much of the County.

✓ SHORT-TERM RENTALS:

In conjunction with the City of Santa Fe and the New Mexico Department of Tourism, the Town initiated the first short-term rental ordinance in New Mexico and the first industry agreement with Airbnb for the mandatory charging, collection and reporting of Lodgers Tax.

✓ FINANCE:

We erased nearly \$1,000,000 operational deficits we inherited when we arrived at the Town in both the FY 2013-2014 budget already in place and in FY 2014-2015 budget set to go into effect. Both budgets were balanced within 90 days of taking office and we additionally

established the current 4/12th General Fund reserve and an additional 3/12th operating reserve and 1/12th capital replacement fund in the Town's Regional Landfill and Utilities Enterprise Funds.

✓ MUSIC AND ARTS:

To broaden Taos' tourism industry and extend the tourism season, Taos has developed and branded its self as a world class festival and concert destination, developing, partnering with or attracting such A-list entertainment as Dwight Yokum, Sting, Alabama Shakes, Kongo's, Mumford and Sons, War, Sly and the Family Stone, Raul Malo and the Mavericks, and become the permanent home to Michael Herne's Big Barn Dance, Meow Wolf's Taos Vortex, and the highly regarded interactive digital street art festival, "The Paseo". Each holiday festival, concert or special event, as measured by independent third party economic impact studies, generates between \$1,860,000 and \$2,860,000 in economic impact for the Town and region.

✓ CDBG:

Lobbied with DFA for the Town to be awarded the first multi-jurisdictional collaborative CDBG grant (Town of Taos and Taos County) in New Mexico for the Taos Youth and Family Center Rehabilitation, which was subsequently nominated by DFA to HUD as New Mexico's submission for the national CDBG project of the year.

As Mayor, I also advocated for and the Town was awarded the first CDBG economic development grant since 2009 (Don Fernando Hotel Renovation), creating 50 permanent jobs and attracting \$5,000,000 in private investment.

✓ AFFORDABLE HOUSING:

Worked with the County Commission and Town and County staff to staff to complete a land swap of 5 acres on Herdner Road (the old NM DoT and County Public Works Yard) in exchange for 8 acres at the Taos Airport and Regional Landfill that allowed the County to construct a new, larger and more centrally located Public Works and Fleet Facility for the County and the Town to secure Affordable Housing Tax credits through MFA to finance the construction of 72 new affordable 1,2 and 3 bedroom energy efficient apartments.

✓ RENEWABLE ENERGY:

Have advocated for the adoption of a series of commercial solar public-private partnerships with Kit Carson Electric Cooperative

(4mw to-date, with additional capacity planned) on municipally owned brownfield properties to reduce Town demand changes, provide additional long-term municipal revenues, stabilize the local electric grid and promote energy independence through locally generated and owned renewable energy.

✓ **AWARDS AND RECOGNITION:**

During my 5 year administration the Town of Taos has received recognition for Airport of the Year (2018), the Best Sewage Treatment System of the Year (2017), Best New Event (Taos Vortex) (2018), Best Social Media Campaign (2018) and overall Best Marketing Campaign (2015), Best Civil Engineering Project (Taos Regional Airport Crosswinds Runway) (2018), Conservation Partner of the Year (Rio Fernando River and Watershed Restoration) (2018) (Acequia restoration and Revitalization)(2019), and numerous other awards including top ten ranking in the world by numerous publications for "Best Christmas Destinations", "Best Ski Towns", "Best Small Towns", "Best Arts and Cultural Destinations", "Best Music Festivals", etc.

Taos County Commission

County Commission Chairman (2008-2014)

Commissioner, District 1 (2006- 2014)

• **Accomplishments:**

✓ **NEW COUNTY COMPLEX:**

As a County Commissioner, I advocated in the community for the public to endorse and fund the construction of a new County Complex; including a county administration building, Sherriff's Offices, state approved regional detention center for adults and minors, and state approved courts complex for District and Magistrate Courts.

✓ **PUBLIC FINANCING:**

As County Commission Chair, I inherited plans and a budget for the new complex that did not meet state approval and was \$12,000,000 over budget. I convinced the County Commission to modify the designs and budget to meet the needs of all departments and all state court and detention requirements, while reducing the budget to meet anticipated funding. I then went to Washington, D.C. to meet with our congressional delegation and to Santa Fe to meet with the Governor and our legislators to obtain additional federal financing through the USDA and eventually leveraged reduced loan rates from the State to

bring the project in "on-time and under budget". The dedicated GRT's committed to the project then generated surplus revenues, which were used to fund the E-911 Combined Dispatch Center and to purchase the property that now houses the Sheriff's Office.

✓ REGIONAL E-911 AND COMBINED DISPATCH

As County Commission Chair, I advocated with the Mayor of Taos and my fellow Commissioners for the negotiation of a new inter-governmental JPA, and the development and financing of \$1,240,000 in county financing for the region's first modern consolidated and CAD driven (Spillman) dispatch and E-911 system between the Town of Taos, Taos County, Taos Pueblo, the Taos Ski Valley, the Village of Questa, Taos Fire Department, Taos County EMS, Taos County Emergency Management, Taos County Sheriff's Office, and the volunteer fire departments. I then advocated for the acceptance of a compromise JPA by NM DFA. Later, when it appeared that the federal government was going to close the federal dispatch for North Central New Mexico, we lobbied USFS to instead allow the USFS Carson National Forest dispatch services to be incorporated into the facility, keeping those jobs, families and services here in Taos County.

✓ PUBLIC HOUSING:

Met with federal officials and supported staff against my fellow Commissioners in insisting on a federal investigation of our County Housing Authority that resulted in indictments and permanent changes in the regulations and, after convincing the County to step in and take it over to save the program for over 1,600 residents, worked with the Town, other counties and mayors, as well as HUD and MFA in facilitating the formation of the Northern Regional Housing Authority (NRHA) through HUD and the NM Mortgage Finance Agency to consolidate a half dozen small, rural troubled agencies into one financially solvent regional entity based here in Taos, NM.

✓ INTER-GOVERNMENTAL COMPROMISE:

When the Town of Taos decided to recover badly needed matching funding for the expansion of the Taos Regional Airport by annexing the airport and over 6 miles of state highway and adjacent neighborhoods between the Town limits and the airport, the County objected and both parties went to court. As a result of the proposed annexation it became clear that as many as 21 prior annexations by the Town had not or may have not been done properly. As Chairman of the County Commission I met with the Mayor, attorneys and representatives of both sides, impacted citizens and others to forge a

settlement by which the court cases were dropped, saving everyone time and money, the Town agreed to redo its prior annexations before the State Boundary Commission in order to give all the impacted residents an opportunity to be heard, and the Town agreed to return to the Town an amount equal to the amount of GRT's that would be generated from the airport construction up to the amount needed for the match of the federal grant. The project proceeded, creating economic opportunity, the annexation was dropped and years and thousands of dollar in further litigation were avoided.

✓ **AWARDS AND RECOGNITION:**

Received the Facility Project of the Year for the County Complex (HB Construction) and Civil Engineering Project of the Year for the design and construction of Rim Road (Taos County Public Works).

North Central Regional Transit District (NCRTD)

Chairman, Board of Director (2011 to present)

Board of Directors, representative for Taos County (2011 to 2014)

Board of Directors, representative for Town of Taos (2014 to present)

- **Members governments (22):**
Santa Fe County, Los Alamos County, Rio Arriba County, San Juan County, Taos County, Town of Taos, City of Los Alamos, City of Farmington, City of Bloomfield, Village of Questa, City of Santa Fe, City of Espanola, Village of Taos Ski Valley, Town of Red River, Village of Chama, Dulce, and 6 Pueblos (Ohkay Owingeh, San Ildefonso, Tesuque, Poaque, Santa Clara, Nambe, Picuris, Taos Pueblo and the Jicarilla Apache Nation).

The NCRTD also maintains working contractual or corporate relationships with UNM-Taos, Taos Ski Valley, Inc., Ski Santa Fe, the Oñate Military Complex (Homeland Security, National Guard, NM Troop Command), NM Corrections Department, and SF County Adult Detention Center.

- **Statutory purpose:**
Created in 2004 as the first regional transit district in New Mexico, NCRTD is a state authorized regional transportation planning and operating district and is funded by member governments through a referendum approved dedicated GRT, as well as partnerships with NM DoT and US DoT, promoting improved quality of life to all citizens and enhanced economic development opportunities by providing free transit to work, health care, recreation and needed services.

- Accomplishments:

- ✓ GOVERNMENT ACCOUNTABILITY:

Under my oversight as Chairman, the NCRTD has received 4 perfect audits, established an unprecedented 8/12th operating reserve, achieved GFOA status for fiscal years 2018 and 2019, and national recognition in both 2014 and 2018 by the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) Administrator for "Outstanding Public Service in Rural Public Transportation".

- ✓ EXPANDED FREE PUBLIC TRANSIT:

Service has been expanded under my Chairmanship to serving over 10,079 square miles of rural and urban New Mexico, with 54 vehicles covering 1,420,000 miles annually of service that is 100% free to the ridership.

- ✓ PUBLIC RECOGNITION:

In 2019, all member governments and the residents of all member jurisdictions unanimously passed a modification allowing the dedicated local GRT to become permanent, ensuring the long-term growth and viable operations of the system.

Enchanted Circle Council of Governments (ECCoG)

Founding Chairman (2018 to present)

- Member Governments (8):

Taos County, Colfax County, Town of Taos, Village of Taos Ski Valley, Town of Red River, Village of Questa, Village of Angel Fire, Village of Eagle Nest.

- Statutory purpose:

A state recognized regional inter-inter-jurisdictional governmental entity formed by a DFA approved JPA to promote regional economic development, tourism, marketing and inter-governmental collaboration on shared services and regional infrastructure.

- Accomplishments:

- ✓ INTER-GOVERNMENTAL COOPERATION:

In partnership with Town staff, provided the leadership to convince 7 otherwise competing local governments to join together to collaborate on issues of common regional interest to improve the local

economy for visitors and locals alike by unanimously agreeing to form the Enchanted Circle Council of Governments (ECCoG), which then received DFA approval in under 14 days.

✓ REGIONAL MARKETING:

As Chairman, I advocated for participation of the member local governments to underwrite a regional marketing campaign with \$500,000 for Taos Air for summer service that eventually was used to match a 3 year \$1,000,000 federal grant to expand air service to 2 California destinations. The decision of the group to endorse the unique regional partnership was unanimous.

✓ GREEN TOURISM:

As Chairman, I worked to successfully persuade the elected bodies of the multi-county region to work together on a series of regional projects, including working under a single joint public-private partnership agreement with Kit Carson Electric Cooperative, on a program to install electric vehicle recharging stations throughout the region to reduce environmental impact and increase tourism amongst the demographic associated with EV ownership.

Taos County Economic Development Corporation (TCEDC)

Board of Directors, Chair (2014-2015)

Board of Directors, representative for Taos County (2010 to present)

- Member governments (6):
Taos County, Town of Taos, Taos Pueblo, Village of Questa, Village of Taos Ski Valley, Town of Red River.
- Statutory purpose:
A state recognized regional economic development corporation founded in 1987 to help facilitate the transition from a rural self-sufficient agrarian based economy to a commercially focused economy through the design and implementation of community and economic development programs and projects, such as the provision of technical and financial assistance, public education, and business incubation.
- Accomplishments:

✓ INCUBATION OF LOCAL BUSINESSES:

The TCEDC has developed a shared commercial kitchen, processing and storage facility that has helped to incubate multiple local start-up success stories that now are fully independent employers of local labor, and that contribute to the tax base and local economy, including Taos Mountain Energy Bars, O So Good Foods, Pepe's Salsa and others.

✓ **PSERVION OF AGRICULTURAL TRADITIONS:**

The TCEDC has developed and operates a USDA certified mobile, allowing the local growing, slaughter and sale of organic grass fed beef, lamb, pork and other livestock, allowing the continuation of important local family ranching traditions by Hispanic families and the Taos Pueblo.

Certified Public Official

New Mexico Municipal League (2018 to current)

BUSINESS EXPERIENCE

Olguin's Sawmill

Owner, founder of multi-state family business based in Taos, NM (1987 to present)

- **Nature of Business:**

- **LOCALLY BASED, FAMILY OWNED ECONOMIC DRIVER:**

Operate a commercial sawmill and lumber business, sourcing locally grown product to provide dimensional lumber, vigas, fencing, firewood and custom woodworking to the public, building trades and historic restoration projects within New Mexico, Texas, Colorado Oklahoma, and Nebraska.

- **PRESERVING OUR ENVIRONMENT:**

Conduct forestry and watershed restoration projects under multiple contracts with BLM, the US Forest Service, NM State Forestry and local governments and non-profit environmental and public safety groups to provide thinning of overgrown high fire risk areas, improving fire safety, forest health, wildlife habitat and watershed restoration while repurposing the removed material into commercially viable products, from lumber to firewood and mulch.

➤ **PESERVING OUR HISTORICAL ARCHITECTURE AND TRADES:**

As one of the last sawmills and sources of locally grown product in the state, we take great pride in carrying on a 300 year old New Mexico cultural and family-based tradition. As one of the few sources left to provide the materials necessary to continue the historic construction methods of New Mexico with real viga construction, and one of the last providers of replacement vigas, corbels and specialized unique handmade wood structural members and ornamentation that Northern New Mexico is known the world over for, we are committed to the restoration and continued useful life of our historic homes, plazas, hotels and churches for the generations to come.

T/C investment Co, Absolute Rental Properties, A&M Partnership (1992-1993)

- **Nature of Business:**

➤ **DEVELOPMENT OF AFFORDABLE HOUSING:**

Coordinated with private investors, development companies and government entities to assess and meet the affordable housing needs of low income residents within multiple communities in several states through public private partnerships.

➤ **CONSTRUCTION MANAGEMENT AND PROJECT ADMINISTRATION:**

Supervised construction and management of 25 complexes averaging 30-68 units per complex in Arizona, NM, Colorado, and Wyoming.

COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

Taos Athletic Booster Association

President (2000 to present)

Taos County Little League Association

Baseball Coach (1998 to 2002)

Las Vegas Little League Association

Baseball Coach (1979 to 1982)

Espanola Municipal School District

Wrestling Coach (1988 to 1990)

Taos District Youth Wrestling

Wrestling Coach (1991 to 1997)

Boy Scouts of America
Scout Master (1992 to 1998)

Wyoming Children, Youth and Families Department
Certified Therapeutic Foster Parent (1984 to 1987)

Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints, Taos Ward
Elders Quorum President (2017 to current)
Bishopric 2nd Councilor (2014 to 2017)

EDUCATION

New Mexico Highlands University
Business Management and Machine Technology (1977 to 1982)

St Michaels High School
Santa Fe, NM (1974 to 1977)
State Wrestling Champion (1977)
Allstate High School Football (1976, 1977)

Affidavit

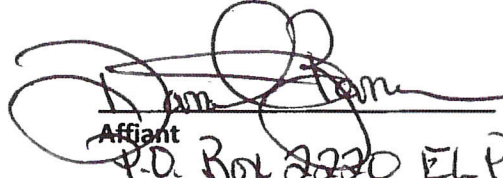
I, DANIEL BARRONE, being first duly sworn, state that I reside at 609 Zia Trac NM 87571, being within the geographical boundaries of New Mexico state senate District 6.

I am at least twenty-five years of age.

I desire to be recommended to be considered by the Los Alamos County Council and appointed by the Governor of the State of New Mexico to fill the vacancy for the office of New Mexico State Senator for District 6.

If and when the Governor appoints me to the position of New Mexico State Senator for District 6, I will be eligible and legally qualified to hold such office in that I will not then hold any office of trust or profit with the state, county or national governments, except notaries public and officers of the militia who receive no salary.

I make the foregoing affidavit under oath, knowing that any false statement herein constitutes a felony punishable under the criminal laws of New Mexico.



Affiant

P.O. Box 2220 EL PRADO NM 87529

Mailing Address

609 Zia Trac NM 87571

Residence Address

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 5th day of Nov, 2019.

Cathy T. Romero
Notary Public

My commission expires:

June 14 2022

