



# County of Los Alamos

1000 Central Avenue  
Los Alamos, NM 87544

## Minutes

### Environmental Sustainability Board

*Erik Loechell, Chair; Dina Pesenson, Vice-Chair; Hermann Geppert; Jessie Emerson;  
Makayla Lui; and Amanda MacDonald, Members*

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Thursday, December 16, 2021

5:30 PM

Due to COVID-19 concerns, meeting will  
be conducted remotely.

[https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81836612698?  
pwd=SVI0bFpPU3J2cTIMUkVwZTdqL3hnQT09](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81836612698?pwd=SVI0bFpPU3J2cTIMUkVwZTdqL3hnQT09)  
QT09

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comment  
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Please click this URL to join. [https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81836612698?  
pwd=SVI0bFpPU3J2cTIMUkVwZTdqL3hnQT09](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81836612698?pwd=SVI0bFpPU3J2cTIMUkVwZTdqL3hnQT09)  
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Webinar ID: 818 3661 2698

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International numbers available: <https://us02web.zoom.us/u/kcoBSFuE3Z>

#### 1. CALL TO ORDER - ROLL CALL

Chair, Erik Loechell, called the meeting to order at 5:34p.m. The following members were  
in attendance:

Present: Chair Loechelle, Vice-Chair Pesenson, Member Emerson, and Member  
Macdonald.

Absent: Member Geppert and Member Lui.

#### 2. PUBLIC COMMENT

None

#### 3. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

A motion was made by Member MacDonald, seconded by Vice-Chair Pesenson, that the agenda be approved as presented.

The motion passed unanimously.

#### 4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

[15278-21](#) Approval of the November 18, 2021, Environmental Sustainability Board Minutes

**Attachments:** [A - Draft ESB Minutes November 18, 2021](#)

A motion was made by Vice-Chair Pesenson, seconded by Member MacDonald, that the November 18, 2021 minutes be approved as presented.

The motion passed unanimously.

#### 5. BOARD BUSINESS

[15281-21](#) Food Waste Composting Feasibility Study Update

**Presenters:** Erik Loechell

**Attachments:** [County of Los Alamos Compost Feasibility study update-12-16-21](#)

The ESB received an update from SCS Engineers Tracie Bills, Michelle Leonard, and Craig Coker on the Compost Feasibility Study. The presentation included information on existing and projected organics feedstock, compost recipes, technologies, markets, best management practices, available sites, and permitting requirements.

[15283-21](#) Discuss County Council Outcome of the ESB Recommendation regarding Pesticide Use by the County

**Presenters:** Erik Loechell

The ESB discussed the outcome of the County Council meeting in which the Council accepted the ESB recommendation to ban the use of Glyphosate by Los Alamos County with an amendment to integrated pest management. They directed staff to implement these changes and return to Council within 90 days for the consideration of approval of an implementation plan and potential follow up budget actions. The board discussed the next steps that the Council may take and requested a progress report on the integrated pest management plan from the Community Services Department in February 2022.

[15277-21](#) Approval of the 2022 ESB Meeting Schedule

**Presenters:** Erik Loechell

**Attachments:** [B - 2022 ESB Meeting Dates](#)

A motion was made by Vice-Chair Pesenson, seconded by Member Macdonald, that the 2022 ESB Meeting Schedule be approved as amended.

The motion passed unanimously.

#### 6. REPORTS

**A. Chair's Report - Erik Loechell**

Vice-Chair Pesenson reported that Member Staples resigned her position with the ESB and that the recruitment process is currently ongoing.

**B. Board Member Reports****C. Los Alamos Resiliency Energy and Sustainability Task Force - Dina Pesenson**

Vice-Chair Pesenson reported that the County Council requested that the LARES Task Force make some changes to the formatting of subcommittee plan layout. Angelica Gurule reported that the Task Force is wrapping up the final report to be delivered to the Council in February 2022. They have also been working to get input from various County Departments.

**1). Board of Public Utilities - Jessie Emerson**

Member Emerson reported that items discussed at the December BPU meeting included the community wide power outage that occurred, funding for the free power project to cover lobbying expenses, funding for painting a water tower and what the costs would cover. The Board also conducted a self evaluation with the conclusion that there needs to be more open discussions at meetings and more outreach within the community outreach and involvement. They discussed that 2% sewer rate increase over the next two years will help cover the replacement of sewer hubs. Jordan Garcia presented information on the Uniper Project and the Board discussed the need for a long-term power plan. The current plan is for 33 months and will be evaluated near the end of this plan. They will also have future discussions on solar power storage, the Chromium Plume presentation and a conservation program update.

**2). Transportation Board - Vacant**

Vacant

**3). Parks and Recreation Board - Dina Pesenson**

Vice-Chair Pesenson reported that the Parks and Recreation Board discussed how the CIP funds for golf course will be used. Due to public comment there was a motion to change how the funds will be used.

**4). County Council Liaison - Councilor Williams**

Councilor Williams reported that the Council discussed the construction delays on the Marriott and the request by the developer to extend the contract time frame, the Council denied the time extension. County Engineer Eric Martinez will provide a presentation on the golf course improvements. There was also discussion on expanding the use of effluent water in parks and the golf course.

**D. Team Reports****1). Los Alamos Public Schools Team - Angelica Gurule**

Staff Liaison Angelica Gurule reported that LAPS team will be attending the Water Festival and other events this spring as well as the Recycle Art Fair and Fashion Show on

April 20, 2022.

2). **Zero Waste Los Alamos - Angelica Gurule**

Staff Liaison Angelica Gurule reported that the Zero Waste Team did not have their December meeting due to the Power Outage. The team plans to develop their 2022 work plan and will focus on food waste reduction and prevention.

3). **Bee City Team**

Staff Liaison Angelica Gurule requested to have a board member who is interested to lead the Bee City Team, Vice-Chair Pesenson stated that she would be willing to take on this roll. Dorothy Brown has offered to provide a presentation on local pollinators.

7. **STAFF REPORT**

15280-21 November 2021 Residential Sustainability Report

Presenters: Angelica Gurule

Attachments: [C - Residential Sustainability Report - Noveber 2021. NEW](#)

The ESB reviewed and discussed the November 2021 Residential Sustainability Report. The data now includes more data and graphs that will demonstrate overall diversion as a result of the new yard trimming program which began July 9, 2018. Most recent additions to the report include greenhouse gas emissions reduced by recycling and composting.

8. **PREVIEW OF UPCOMING AGENDA ITEMS**

1. SCS to provide preliminary report for Food Waste Composting Results and Recommendations
2. Review and Revise FY23 Work Plan
3. Bee City presentation by Dorothy Brown

9. **ADJOURNMENT**

**The meeting adjourned at 8:13pm**

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 County Human Resources Division at 662-8040 at least one 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 the personnel in the Community Services Administration Office at 662-8163 if a summary or other type of accessible format is needed.