



# County of Los Alamos

1000 Central Avenue  
Los Alamos, NM 87544

## Minutes

### Environmental Sustainability Board

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

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Thursday, January 20, 2022

5:30 PM

Zoom

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**Due COVID-19 concerns, the meeting will be conducted remotely:**

**Join from a PC, Mac, iPad, iPhone or Android device:**

**Please click this URL to join. <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81836612698?pwd=SVI0bFpPU3J2cTIMUkVwZTdqL3hnQT09>**  
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**Webinar ID: 818 3661 2698**

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

Chair, Erik Loechell, called the meeting to order at 5:32 p.m. The following members were in attendance:

Present: Chair Loechell, Vice-Chair Pesenson, Member Geppert, Member Emerson, Member Lui, Member MacDonald

#### **2. PUBLIC COMMENT**

None

#### **3. APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

A motion was made by Member MacDonald, seconded by Member Geppert, that the agenda be approved as presented.

The motion passed unanimously.

#### **4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**15413-22** Approval of the December 16, 2021, Environmental Sustainability Board Minutes

**Presenters:** Erik Loechell

**Attachments:** [A - Draft ESB Minutes December 16, 2021](#)

**A motion was made by Member Geppert, seconded by Member MacDonald, that the December 16, 2021 minutes be approved as presented.**

**The motion passed unanimously.**

## **5. BOARD BUSINESS**

**15414-22** Election of Environmental Sustainability Board Chair and Vice-chair

**Presenters:** Erik Loechell

The Environmental Sustainability Board received nominations for Dina Pesenson to serve as Chair and Erik Loechell to serve as Vice-Chair beginning January 2022 and ending December 2022. The vote was temporarily suspended until Vice-Chair Pesenson was able to connect remotely. The vote was held after the Food Waste Composting Feasibility Study.

**A motion was made by Chair Loechell, seconded by Member Geppert, that Dina Pesenson be appointed Environmental Sustainability Board Chair, with a term date beginning January 2022 and ending December 2022.**

**The motion passed unanimously.**

**A motion was made by Chair Loechell, seconded by Member MacDonald, that Erik Loechell be appointed Environmental Sustainability Board Vice-Chair, with a term date beginning January 2022 and ending December 2022.**

**The motion passed unanimously.**

**15424-22** Food Waste Composting Feasibility Study Update

**Presenters:** Erik Loechell

**Attachments:** [County of Los Alamos Compost Feasibility study update-1-20-22](#)

The ESB received an update from SCS Engineers Tracie Bills and Michelle Leonard on the Food Waste Composting Feasibility Study. This update was on the review, analysis and results for various composting technologies including costs of development, method of composting and environmental impacts.

**15415-22** Open Meetings Act and Inspection of Public Records Act

**Presenters:** Katie Thwaites

**Attachments:** [C - OMA and IPRA Overview](#)

The ESB received a presentation from Assistant County Attorney Katie Thwaites on the New Mexico Open Meetings Act and Inspection of Public Records Act. The presentation

was provided to inform the ESB of the processes in place to ensure that all meetings and records are open and available to the public.

**15417-22****Revise the FY23 ESB Work Plan**

**Presenters:** Erik Loechell

**Attachments:** [B - FY23 Draft Workplan Template](#)

The ESB reviewed the Draft FY23 Work Plan (Fiscal Year 2023: July 1, 2022 - June 30, 2023) for the Environmental Sustainability Board. A detailed summary of the ESB activities and accomplishments for the fiscal year 2022 were discussed and are included in the work plan. Future work plans, current and proposed special projects or assignments and guiding documents for the ESB were included and updated. The ESB will review and approve the final work plan February 17, 2022.

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

None

**B. Board Member Reports**

None

**C. Los Alamos Resiliency Energy and Sustainability Task Force - Dina Pesenson**

Staff Liaison Angelica Gurule reported that the LARES Task Force is completing the final report which includes all recommendations. During the January 28, 2022 LARES meeting the Task Force will vote on final approval of the report and recommendations. If approved the report will be presented to the County Council at the February 22, 2022 meeting.

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

Member Emerson reported that during their January meeting the BPU elected Cornell Wright to serve as Chair and Steve Tobin to serve as Vice-chair for calendar year 2022. The BPU then voted on and approved the 2% sewer increase over the next two years. Katie Leonard recommended a sustainability coordinator be considered to coordinate efforts with solar energy and storage. A new staff position of Home Energy Auditor has been created and is open. At the next BPU meeting scheduled for February 15, 2022 the Board will receive a presentation on the chromium plume.

**2). Transportation Board**

None

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

Chair Pesenson reported that the Parks and Recreation Board are working on their FY2023 work plan. Councilor Williams reported that there was discussion about the proposed bike skills park. Chair Pensenson noted that more information will be gathered regarding the bike skills park from the community and more outreach will be conducted.

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

Councilor Williams reported that late last year the Parks and Recreation Board passed the recommendation of the current plan developed for the golf course to go before council. The golf course plan to build a new hole on the other side of the service road and extend the driving range was presented to Council earlier this month and was approved to move forward to the design and public outreach phase and included a budget increase of \$600k. Councilor Williams also reported that Councilor James Robinson has resigned as County Councilor. Appointment of the new County Councilor will take place at the January 22, 2022 County Council meeting. Staff Liaison Angelica Gurule reported on the current status of Operation Save the Bear. There will be an agenda item going before the Council in February for approval of the requisition for bear dumpsters. Councilor Williams requested that the bid includes a breakdown of commercial customers that generate food waste versus those that do not. Environmental Services will have approximately 1,300 fully automated bear carts to be delivered to hot spot areas upon initial deployment.

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

Staff Liaison Angelica Gurule reported that the LAPS team will be participating in the Recycle Art Fair and Fashion Show. LAPS will also participate in the Water Festival which will be held in conjunction with DPU and is tailored to the 4th grade classrooms in the district. Volunteer requests will be sent to ESB as the event date draws closer.

**2). Zero Waste Los Alamos**

Staff Liaison Angelica Gurule reported that the Zero Waste Team met on January 19, 2022. The team worked on their work plan and ensured that it is aligned with ESB in working on continued education of backyard composting, food waste prevention, increase in recycling and promoting reuse and reduction. The work plan will be discussed in more detail at the ESB meeting in February once it has been approved. Staff Liaison Angelica Gurule requested an ESB Member volunteer to join the Zero Waste Team. Member Lui offered her assistance as the newest member to join the Zero Waste Team.

**Bee City Team - Dina Pesenson**

Chair Pesenson reported that the Bee City Team will be meeting February 25, 2022. Staff Liaison Angelica Gurule confirmed the date of the first meeting and stated that PEEC will be collaborating on this project. Staff members at PEEC have contacts in Santa Fe and with LANL individuals who would like to participate with the Bee City Team. Additionally, Dorothy Brown will give a presentation on bees and local pollinators at the ESB meeting in March.

**7. STAFF REPORT**[15425-22](#)

December 2021 Residential Sustainability Report

**Presenters:** Angelica Gurule**Attachments:** [D- Residential Sustainability Report - December 2021 NEW](#)

The ESB reviewed and discussed the December 2021 Residential Sustainability Report. The diversion rate has decreased from prior months due to less restrictions due to the pandemic. More people have returned to work instead of working from home.

**8. PREVIEW OF UPCOMING AGENDA ITEMS**

1. SCS to present final report for Food Waste Composting Feasibility Study and recommendations
2. Bee City Presentation by Dorothy Brown

**9. ADJOURNMENT**

**The meeting adjourned at 8:27pm**

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.

*Dina Pinson*

3/15/2022