

Council Meeting Staff Report

June 15, 2021

Agenda No.:	A.
Indexes (Council Goals):	* 2021 Council Goal - Enhancing Communication
Presenters:	County Council - Regular Session
Legislative File:	14407-21

Title

Discussion of Open Meetings Act and Task Forces and Ad Hoc committees

Body

Each year, Council approves a resolution that establishes the minimum standards of public notice for all meetings of the Council, the County Indigent Hospital and County Health Care Board and of all standing County Boards, Commissions and policymaking bodies. The resolution, Resolution No. 21-01, is shown in Attachment A. This resolution defines how the County will comply with the Open Meetings Act (shown in Attachment B) including, but not limited to, creation of agendas and posting of agendas at least 72 hours prior to a meeting. The resolution names the following "County Boards, Commissions and Policymaking Bodies:"

Art in Public Places Board

Board of Adjustment (formerly Variance Board)

Board of Public Utilities

Community Development Advisory Board

DWI Planning Council

Environmental Sustainability Board

Historic Preservation Advisory Board

Labor Management Relations Board

Library Board

Lodgers' Tax Advisory Board

Los Alamos County Health Council

Parks and Recreation Board

Personnel Board

Planning and Zoning Commission

Transportation Board

Valuation Protests Board

Currently, in addition to these named boards, commissions and policymaking bodies, Council has created several "Ad-Hoc" committees and/or task forces by approval of unique charters which may or may not give guidance on how or if the task force will follow the Open Meetings Act. Historically, these "Ad-Hoc" committees have followed the requirements of the Open Meetings Act.

This item has been brought to Council so that Council can give clarity for these committees and/or task forces with respect to the Open Meetings Act as well as the applicability of the Boards and Commission Handbook. After this discussion, a separate item will be brought back to Council so that a formal decision can be made in a public meeting as to the desires of Council for these "Ad-Hoc" committees. If necessary, the charters for the existing Task Forces will be brought back to Council with the appropriate revisions. Additionally, educational materials will be developed for all interested parties so that the roles, responsibilities and expectations of members can be given upfront prior to submission of an application.

Attachments

A - Resolution No. 21-01 Open Meetings Act

B - Section 10-15-1 NMSA 1978 Open Meetings Act