



**Minutes of the Meeting of the
New Mexico Sentencing Commission
May 28, 2025, 12:00 pm**

Via Zoom

Members Present	Members Absent	Others Attending	NMSC Staff Present
Bob Cleavall, Chair (Governor)	Bennett Baur (LOPD)	Douglas Alsup (NMSC DOJ counsel)	Douglas Carver
Martin Suazo, Vice Chair (Pro Tem)	Sheriff Mark Cage (House Minority)		Nancy Shane
Cindy Aragon (State Bar)	Gregory Gaudette (Senate Minority)		Keri Thiel
Jason Bowie (DPS)	Adolfo Mendez (DOJ)		
Hon. Daniel A. Bryant (DMCJA)	Angela “Spence” Pacheco (Speaker)		
Ambrosio Castellano (Speaker)	Marissa Padilla (PED)		
Hon. John Chavez (NM SCt)			
Mark Donatelli (Speaker)			
Claire Harwell (Governor)			
Aaron Holloman (AOC) (NM SCt)			
Brady Horn (NM SCt)			
Scot Key (Senate Minority)			
April Land (UNMSOL)			
Melanie Martinez (NMCD)			
Ramona Martinez (Pro Tem)			
Anita Mesa (BHSD)			
Rachel Montano (CYFD)			

Charity A. Norman (designee for Krista Lawrence, Governor)			
Hon. R. David Pederson (DMCJA)			
Clint Wellborn, (AODA)			
Sydney West (Pro Tem)			

EMERGENCY MEETING

I. Welcome and Introductions. The meeting was called to order at 12:03 p.m. Chair Bob Cleavall welcomed everyone to the meeting.

Douglas Alsup, Department of Justice, informed the members of the Commission that the Commission has requested prior authorization for an Emergency Meeting as outlined in the Commission's Open Meetings Resolution. The Emergency Meeting was authorized due to the risk to and possible financial loss to the New Mexico Sentencing Commission (NMSC) employees. In addition, Mr. Alsup recommended that any vote be taken by roll call.

II. Approval of the Commission's Intergovernmental Agreement with the University of New Mexico.

Chair Cleavall opened the discussion by noting that the Intergovernmental Agreement (IGA) with the University of New Mexico (UNM) had been discussed thoroughly at the Commission's December 10, 2024 meeting. After that meeting, Chair Cleavall worked with Mr. Alsup and UNM's Office of University Counsel to prepare a draft. He also created a working group to help create a draft. The working group consisted of Commission members Vice Chair Martin Suazo; Cindy Aragon; Mark Donatelli; Chief Public Defender Bennett Baur; and Spence Pacheco. He informed the members of the Commission that the IGA needed to be approved by the Commission by the end of May in order that NMSC staff would not have any break in their employment, hence the need for an Emergency Meeting. Chair Cleavall continued that the draft that was presented to the members of the Commission for consideration is only for one year, versus the three-year agreements the Commission had been working under until recently. If members of the Commission had additional concerns about the IGA, they could be incorporated into the agreement in the coming year. He thanked the members of the Commission for the excellent turnout for this meeting given the importance of the meeting.

Members of the Commission asked questions about and discussed whether the IGA really gave the NMSC the independence that it required for its work; whether the IGA still made NMSC staff beholden to UNM's Institute for Social Research for its work; and that some changes might need to be made to the IGA over the coming year.

Commission Vice Chair Suazo made a motion to approve the IGA as presented to the members of the Commission. The motion was seconded by April Land, University of New Mexico School of Law. The motion was approved unanimously upon a roll call vote of members of the Commission.

III. Adjourn.

The meeting adjourned at 12:20 p.m.