



**Minutes of the Meeting of the
Grants Committee
9:30 a.m.
November 14, 2023
Executive Board Room,
University of New Mexico Science & Technology Park**

Committee Members Present	Committee Members Absent	Others Attending	NMSC Staff
Martin Suazo, Chair	Marco Serna (designee for Henry Valdez, AODA)		Linda Freeman
Cindy Aragon (State Bar)			Amanda Armstrong
Jennifer Barela (LOPD)			Douglas Carver
Melanie Martinez (NMCD)			Jamie Goldberg
Sheila McDonald (DPS)			Jeremy Seymour
Anita Mesa (BHSD)			Keri Thiel
Robert Mitchell (AOC)			

I. Welcome and Introductions. Martin Suazo, Chair, called the meeting to order at 9:42 a.m.

II. Approval of Minutes for the May 23, 2023 Meeting.

Upon a motion by Anita Mesa, Behavioral Health Services Division, seconded by Jennifer Barela, Law Offices of the Public Defender (LOPD), the minutes were approved by a unanimous vote.

III. Reported Conflicts of Interest. Chair Suazo informed the committee that if anyone had a conflict of interest with any of the applicants or applications, they should declare it before deliberations begin. Anita Mesa, Behavioral Health Services Division, recused herself from evaluation of the application from the Krossroads reintegration and recovery program from the Eighth Judicial District because the application is similar to one that had been submitted to her office. Chair Suazo indicated that under the conflict of interest policy, Ms. Mesa would be excused from commentary on that project.

IV. Sentencing Commission Staff Presentation and Overview of Applications.

Linda Freeman, Executive Director, New Mexico Sentencing Commission (NMSC), Jamie Goldberg, NMSC, and Douglas Carver, Deputy Director, NMSC, discussed recent activities that had been conducted to improve communication and coordination with Criminal Justice Coordinating Councils (CJCC). They informed the Committee that many of the CJCCs were still effectively operating on a county basis, rather

than at the judicial district level as intended. Mr. Carver and NMSC Staff Attorney Keri Thiel have been reviewing the Crime Reduction Grant Act statutes.

Ms. Thiel gave the Committee an overview of the 24 eligible grant applications that had been received; the total request for these applications was over \$4 million.

V. Open Discussion.

The members of the Committee discussed their initial impressions of the applications.

Members discussed the problems with grants that were focused on hiring, as there were often long delays in filling positions; the bill that had passed during the Legislative Session that focused on recruitment and retention for public defenders, district attorneys, Corrections officers, and law enforcement officers; money that was in the budget focused directly on recruiting law enforcement officers; struggles the LOPD has had with recruitment and retention; the desire Committee members have for CJCCs to prioritize their applications when one Judicial District has multiple applications; and the need for CJCCs to provide minutes of their discussions and data to support the needs reflected in the grant applications.

VI. Adjourn Into Executive Session.

A motion to adjourn into Executive Session made by Robert Mitchell, AOC, seconded by Cindy Aragon, passed unanimously.

The Committee adjourned into Executive Session to discuss the applications and make their awards.

VII. Reconvene and Further Discussion.

There was no further discussion by the members of the Committee.

VIII. Final Awards With Any Contingencies or Requirements

Upon a motion by Anita Mesa, BHSD, seconded by Jennifer Barela, LOPD, the Committee made the following awards, by unanimous vote;

Judicial District	Agency	Grant Name	Amount Awarded	Notes
1st	First Judicial District Court	CJCC Director	\$120,000.00	S1.5 year duration
2nd	Bernalillo County/Gordon Bernell Charter School	Housing Vouchers	\$50,000.00	1.5 year duration
2nd	Bernalillo County Metropolitan Court	Buffalo, NY Opioid Court Site Visit	\$11,580.00	1 year duration
2nd	Second Judicial District Attorney's Office	Gun Violence Prevention Program	\$600,000.00	1 year duration

3rd	Doña Ana County	DDJI Part II	\$63,746.00	1 year duration
5th	Law Offices of the Public Defender	LOPD Recruitment and Retention Bonuses	\$75,000.00	1.5 year duration
6th	Sixth Judicial District Attorney's Office	Veteran's Diversion Program	\$100,000.00	1 year duration
6th	Hidalgo County	Day Habilitation Support Services	\$100,000.00	Added to existing grant 2024-18.2
8th	Krossroads Integrative Health and Recovery Solutions, Inc	Krossroads Training, Equipment, and Coordinator	\$23,574.00	1.5 year duration
9th	Law Offices of the Public Defender	LOPD Recruitment and Retention Bonuses	\$22,500.00	1.5 year duration
12th	Twelfth Judicial District Court	Young Adult Court	\$133,600.00	1.5 year duration

The total amount awarded was \$1,300,000.00.

IX. Next Meeting.

The next meeting of the Grants Committee was set for April 9, 2024, to disburse FY 2025 grants.

X. Adjourn. The meeting adjourned at 11:30 a.m.