



**Minutes of the Meeting of the
Grants Committee
9:30 a.m.
April 9, 2024
Executive Board Room,
University of New Mexico Science & Technology Park**

Committee Members Present	Committee Members Absent	Others Attending	NMSC Staff
Martin Suazo, Chair	Cindy Aragon (State Bar)		Linda Freeman
Jennifer Barela (LOPD)	Melanie Martinez (NMCD)		Amanda Armstrong
Sheila McDonald (DPS)			Grace Cairo
Anita Mesa (BHSD)			Douglas Carver
Robert Mitchell (AOC)			Jeremey Seymour
Henry Valdez (AODA)			Nancy Shane
			Keri Thiel

I. Welcome and Introductions.

Martin Suazo, Chair, called the meeting to order at 9:48 a.m. Upon a motion by Anita Mesa, Behavioral Health Services Division (BHSD), seconded by Henry Valdez, Administrative Office of the District Attorneys (AODA), the agenda for the meeting was approved by unanimous vote.

II. Approval of Minutes for the November 14, 2023 Meeting.

Upon a motion by Jennifer Barela, Law Offices of the Public Defender (LOPD), seconded by Sheila McDonald, Department of Public Safety (DPS), 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, BHSD, recused herself from evaluation of the application concerning the San Juan County Reentry Support Services as her department has direct oversight of that program. Robert Mitchell, Administrative Office of the Courts (AOC), recused from the same project as his wife is the Alternative Sentencing Director. Mr. Valdez, AODA, informed the Committee that he had a potential conflict with the applications from the Eight Judicial District as his partner was the office manager for that District Court. Chair Suazo indicated that the reported conflicts would be taken into account.

IV. Sentencing Commission Staff Presentation and Overview of Applications.

Nancy Shane, Director of Research, New Mexico Sentencing Commission (NMSC), and Keri Thiel, Staff Attorney, NMSC gave the Committee an overview of each of the 45 eligible grant applications that had been received, working through a handout provided to the Committee. The total request for these applications was \$4,727,219.00.

V. Open Discussion.

Chair Suazo noted there was \$4.7 million in requests with only \$2.9 million to award. Members of the Committee discussed the recruitment and retention applications from LOPD, and the complication that while the applications were from different districts, LOPD was one state agency. Members of the Committee also asked NMSC staff whether similar projects that had been funded in the past were effective. NMSC staff noted that while the outreach programs that were included in applications in this round has not been funded in the past, the recruitment and retention bonuses programs that had been funded in past rounds of grants do not seem to have shown strong evidence that they get people to stay, according to the reports issued by these programs. NMSC staff will soon be conducting data pulls to better determine whether these past grants had been effective. It was also noted that there was a statute passed focused on public attorney recruitment and retention. Ms. Barela, LOPD, noted that only one of the applications in this round were for recruitment and retention bonuses; the others were for recruitment trips.

VI. Adjourn into Executive Session.

A motion to adjourn into Executive Session made by Henry Valdez, AODA, seconded by Sheila McDonald, DPS, 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 Henry Valdez, AODA, seconded by Sheila McDonald, DPS, the Committee made the following awards, by unanimous vote:

JD	Agency	Grant Name	Amount Awarded (original)	Notes
1st	First Judicial District Court	Pretrial Peer Support	\$64,000.00	Extension to existing grant 2024-02.2
2nd	Law Offices of the Public Defender	Bernalillo County Warrant Forgiveness Walk-In Program	\$48,000.00	
2nd	Bernalillo County Metropolitan Court	Lease of Remote Alcohol Monitoring	\$40,150.00	Extension to existing grant 2024-06

		Devices (SCRAM/CAM)		
2nd	Second Judicial District Attorney's Office	Pre-Prosecution Diversion Program	\$725,000.00	Extension to existing grant 2024-08
2nd	Law Offices of the Public Defender	Re-entry Center Liaison LOPD Staffing	\$76,700.00	Extension to existing grant 2024-09
4th	Fourth Judicial District Court	Pretrial Justice and Community Engagement	\$40,000.00	
5th	Fifth Judicial District Court	Chaves Adult Treatment Court Program	\$2,500.00	
6th	Hidalgo County	Hidalgo County Community Response Team	\$79,000.00	
8th	DreamTree Project	Taos LEAD	\$150,000.00	
10th	Tenth Judicial District Court	Adult Treatment Court Program	\$50,000.00	
11th	San Juan County	Reentry Support Services	\$82,236.00	
13th	Thirteenth Judicial District Court	Resource Assessment Center	\$382,800.00	Extension to existing grant 2024-26
13th	Valencia County	Medicated Assisted Treatment Program	\$175,000.00	

The total amount awarded was \$1,915,386.

Ms. Thiel informed the Committee that there was a balance of \$984,614 available for Round 2, plus any amounts that might be pulled back from grants that were not able to meet their spending goals for their projects.

IX. Next Meeting/Need for Round 2?

The next meeting of the Grants Committee was set for May 13, 2024, to discuss funding priorities for the grants. The Committee will also meet on October 22, 2024, to disburse Round 2 FY 2025 grants.

X. Adjourn. The meeting adjourned at 11:25 a.m.