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Approved Minutes of the First Meeting of the Governor's Ethics and Campaign Finance Reform Task Force

Governor's Task Force on Ethics Reform

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**APPROVED MINUTES
of the
FIRST MEETING
of the
GOVERNOR’S ETHICS AND CAMPAIGN FINANCE REFORM TASK FORCE**

**May 3, 2006
Governor’s Cabinet Room, Fourth Floor, State Capitol, Santa Fe, New Mexico**

On May 3, 2006, the first meeting of the Governor’s Ethics and Campaign Finance Reform Task Force, hereinafter referred to as the “Task Force”, was held in the Governor’s Cabinet Room on the Fourth Floor of the State Capitol in Santa Fe, New Mexico.

PRESENT

Gov. Garrey Carruthers, Dean, NMSU School of Business Admin. & Econ./ Co-Chair
Suellyn Scarnecchia, Dean, UNM School of Law/ Co-Chair
Stuart Bluestone, NM Chief Deputy Attorney General
Matt Brix, Executive Director, Common Cause
John Carey, President & CEO, Association of Commerce and Industry
Dede Feldman, NM State Senator
Mary Graña, Public Member
W. Ken Martinez, NM State Representative
Kathy McCoy, NM State Representative
Jim Noel, Exec. Director, NM Judicial Standards Commission
Leonard Sanchez, CPA, Moss-Adams + Neff, L.L.P.
Ron Solimon, President & CEO, Indian Pueblo Cultural Center
Hilary Tompkins, Chief Counsel, Office of the Governor
Stuart Udall, Former U.S. Secretary of the Interior
Brad Winter, Albuquerque City Councilor

ABSENT

Barbara Brazil, President, New Mexico First
Maralyn Budke, Public Member
Gay Kernan, NM State Senator

STAFF

Justin Miller, Associate General Counsel, Office of the Governor
Olivia Padilla-Jackson, Director, New Mexico State Board of Finance
Amy Chavez, Deputy Director, New Mexico State Board of Finance
Inez Gonzales, Staff, New Mexico State Board of Finance
Catherine Monroe, Staff, New Mexico State Board of Finance

Task Force Opening Discussion

The Task Force was convened pursuant to Governor Bill Richardson's direction to task force appointees to study the issues related to government ethics and campaign finance reform in New Mexico and to recommend a broad package of reforms to the Governor and the legislature by the 2007 legislative session. Co-chairs Governor Garrey Carruthers and Dean Suellyn Scarnecchia called the meeting to order at 11:30 a.m. Governor Carruthers reiterated the responsibilities with which Governor Richardson has charged the task force. He further indicated that the task force would examine best practices in other states with respect to ethics and campaign finance reform. Dean Suellyn Scarnecchia is in the process of compiling a comprehensive package of materials from other states to assist the task force with respect to that mission. Governor Carruthers additionally stated that state legislators and the chairs of the major and minor parties in the state would be encouraged to provide the task force with their perspective on the issues that the task force will examine. Governor Carruthers expressed his desire to hold a meeting to allow for public comment on those issues.

The task force members introduced themselves. The members discussed types of assistance that each could provide to the task force and the different perspectives that they might bring to task force meeting discussions.

Open Meetings

Governor Carruthers expressed his desire to hold task force meetings in the spirit of the Open Meetings Act. Dean Scarnecchia made a motion to hold open meetings and Rep. Ken Martinez seconded the motion.

Task Force Cooperation with Committees

The task force members discussed the possibility of presenting task force issues and suggestions to legislative committees during the interim. Representative Ken Martinez indicated that it would be appropriate for task force members to present task force issues and suggestions to the legislative Courts, Corrections and Justice Committee during the interim. Representative Kathy McCoy suggested that task force meeting information should be made available to legislators. Dean Scarnecchia further stated that written public commentary on task force issues might be encouraged.

May 30 Task Force Meeting

Governor Carruthers announced that the next task force meeting will be held on Tuesday, May 30 at 9:00 a.m. at the University of New Mexico School of Law.

The task force adjourned at approximately 12:30 p.m.