**New Mexico Civil Legal Services Commission**

Via Google Meets

August 8, 2024

New Mexico Civil Legal Services Commission Meeting Minutes

1. **Call to Order and Roll Call:**

Mark Fidel called the meeting to order at 1:30 pm, Thursday, August 8, 2024. Commissioners present: Commissioner John Arango, Commissioner Mary Smith, Commissioner Kristina Bogardus, Commissioner Liz McGrath and Chairman Mark Fidel. A quorum was established

1. **Approval of Agenda:**

Amendment of Agenda, Item #7 is changed to Action: Approval of FY2026 Budget. Commissioner Bogardus made a motion to amend and approve the agenda. Commissioner Smith seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

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1. **Approval of Meeting Minutes from the June 6, 2024, Commission Meeting:**

Commissioner Smith asked for correction of minutes introduction of guests place before Judge Erin O’Connell name, insert 2nd Judicial District. Terrelene Massey’s, Southwest Women’s Law Center last name spelled incorrectly, and affiliation was omitted. Commissioner Smith made a motion to make changes and approve the June 6, 2024, minutes. Commissioner McGrath seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

1. **Introduction of Guests:**

Cristina Martinez, DFA, Special Services Bureau Chief; Gary Housepian CEO, Disability Rights New Mexico; Jeannette Gallegos, Division Director for Local Government Division at DFA; Jessica Martinez, Director of Policy and Coalition Building, New Mexico Immigrant Law Center, Jessica Calero, Development Team, New Mexico Center on Law and Poverty; Leslie Padilla, New Mexico Department of Justice formally the Attorney General’s Office, The Government Counsel and Accountability Division; Mathew Mirachi, Director of Advancement Operations, Enlace Comunitario; Sandra Ortega, CLS Program Manager, at DFA; Sireesha Manne, Executive Director, New Mexico Center on Law and Poverty; Sonya Bellafant, Executive Director, New Mexico Legal Aid; Terrelene Massey, Executive Director, Southwest Women’s Law Center; Tesha Henderson, Business Specialist, Administrative Office of the Courts Access to Justice Program; Therese Yanan, Native American Disability Law Center; Judge Erin O’Connell, 2nd Judicial District, Chair, Access to Justice Commission; Rudy Sanchez, Executive Director, DNA People’s Legal Services; Diana Dorn-Jones, United South Broadway Corporation.

1. **Update from non-profit legal services providers (5 minutes/provider):**

Bryn Downing, Senior Citizens Law Office; Gary Housepian, Disability Rights New Mexico; Bette Fleishman, Pegasus Legal Services for Children; Jessica Martinez, New Mexico Immigrant Law Center; Mathew Mirachi, Enlace Comunitario; Sireesha Manne, New Mexico Center on Law and Poverty; Rudy Sanchez, DNA People Legal Services; Sonya Bellafant, New Mexico Legal Aid; Terrelene Massey, Southwest Women’s Law Center; Therese Yanan, Native American Disability Law Center; Bette Fleishman, Pegasus Legal Services for Children; Diana Dorn-Jones United South Broadway Corporation.

1. **Discussion: Review of FY2026 budget, as we know it to date:**

The amount of AOC fees known to have been transferred in FY2024 is $1,330,590. Draw from the Civil Legal Services Fund $1,826,050. Recommended amount is $8,100,000

1. **Action: Approval of FY2026 Budget:**

As discussed, the FY2026 budget amount is $8,100,000. Commissioner Arango made a motion to approve the FY2026 budget amount Commissioner McGrath seconded the motion, The motion passed unanimously.

1. **Other Business - Discussion only:**

Discuss the upcoming RFP process. Chairman Fidel will place an agenda item on the next Commission meeting; preliminary RFP commentary and discussion.

1. **Date for next Commission Meeting:**

The Commission agreed the next meeting will be held on Thursday, December 12, 2024, 1:30 pm to 3:30 pm.

1. **Adjournment:**

Commissioner Bogardus made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Smith seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned at 3:14 pm.