

Santa Fe City and County, Advisory Council on Food Policy

Thursday March 13, 2025

9:00AM-11PM

In-Person; Santa Fe Farmers' Market Institute:1607 Paseo De Peralta, Santa Fe, NM 87501 and
on Zoom

A. CALL TO ORDER 9:06am

B. ROLL CALL

Nate Crail - Present

Maria Sanchez-Tucker - Present

Eric Renz-Whitmore - Not present

David Sundberg - Present

Susan Perry - Present

Emigdio Ballon - not present

Tejinder Ciano - not present

Said Assali - Excused

Jasmine Meyer - Present, but left early

Peter Ives – Present

We initially had a quorum but since Jasmine left early we could not vote on having the next meeting as an in person gathering.

Staff

Pam Roy

Helen Henry

Guests

James Martin

Coy Maienza

JoDee Powers

Harrison Gibson

Shauna Woodworth

C. APPROVAL OF AGENDA –March 13, 2025

Prioritization and Agenda Order

D. ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES –February 13, 2025

E. COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE FLOOR

James Martin said that the county is opening a new senior center in Cerrillos.

Shauna said that they are building a school garden at Chapparelle.

Coy said that the county is releasing a RFP related to healthy communities (health, fitness and nutrition).

F. INITIATIVES AND ACTIONS

1. Legislative Update: Hvtce Miller,
Santa Fe County, Intergovernmental Outreach Coordinator
Hvtce was not able to be present.

2. Food, Agricultural and Water Initiative Priorities - NMFAPC update
Pam gave an overview of how the NM legislative sessions work with regard to the 30 day sessions and the 60 day sessions.

Pam shared the NM Food & Agriculture Policy Council's legislative priority tracking document and explained how the Council assigns tier designation to those priorities.

Pam went over each of the priorities and where they are in terms of being included or not included in the budget (HB2) and explained the process of how the budget makes its way through the House and Senate, and where we have been able to advocate for these priorities, such as the NM Grown program Approved Supplier Program, etc. Pam has been in contact with the Office of the Governor and the agencies to see where the support is for these programs and we continue to monitor the funding process to make sure that what we want gets in the budget if it is not there and that what is there stays in the budget.

The Agriculture Water Resilience program does not have money in it, but we are asking the Senate to put at least some money towards it.

Pam went over the individual bills and talked about where they are with being able to make it through the process. Although not all bills will make it through because of time, getting things started and creating relationships around these initiatives is important.

Peter asked if there is a list of the priorities? Pam said that we are sending out action alerts. Pam will put something together about our top priorities in the immediate.

Harrison asked if this was a typical legislative session? David - what is typical? Support for food systems has not maintained momentum and we are not getting the funding for programs that have a huge impact.

Peter - more chaotic, given all the circumstances in DC. We may be looking at a special session to deal with the repercussions.

Pam - we have taken a collective effort towards these programs and tried to avoid siloing the work. The Governor has been a huge champion. We have seen gains and we have seen the agencies come on board.

Peter commented on an article sociogenomics which addresses the nature/nurture continuum and may help us better understand how good food affects

Sue mentioned that it might be good to do more op eds and radio programs, etc.

Pam mentioned that we had 28 new legislators this year and we are still working to bring them up to speed with regard to our programs.

David brought up additional funding through a projected windfall and maybe we could we use a special session to shore up shortfalls in our budget.

3. Federal: Immediate Concerns and Farm Bill
School meals for children is in jeopardy.

The funding (LFPA, \$13.8B) for food banks has been cancelled (farm to food bank) \$3M for NM. This is a program that the Food Depot has been working on. There is a huge advocacy effort around this. As of June 30, our program will have spent their funds. David says that there has been a lot of conflicting messaging at the federal level around this since there are conflicting priorities. Because of all of the layoffs, there will be more people who will need support around food security. There is \$10M in the state budget, which we have been asking if some of that money could go towards the local purchasing program, but that will be a decision of the food banks.

Medicaid is in jeopardy at the federal level, which will affect the Food as Medicine program.

Peter is on his way to DC and asked for some specifics about what he can advocate for. Pam will give him contacts and information (and share with everyone).

Sue said that the message that she is sharing with people is that "We take care of our own." We will do everything we can to take care of each other on all levels.

Peter suggested that once the legislative session is over, that we convene a gathering of funders to talk about how we collectively address the gaps and create strategies.

Pam mentioned how the federal freeze is affecting FTT's USDA grant. The person who was responsible for paying invoices was fired and then hired back, so he is facing a backlog of work.

Jasmyne commented on how Presbyterian has been able to pivot internally at least partially. Cuts to Medicaid will affect the people that they serve tremendously. They have kept their commitment to equity throughout this.

David went over the reality of how federal changes are affecting people in terms of rising food costs, cutbacks to programs that support people with food resources - this will affect everything.

Pam reported on closures to FSA offices in the state.

Pam said that the National Farm to School Network conference in ABQ is being rescheduled because of things happening at the federal level.

G. PRESENTATIONS: Decide for April, possibly: Promoting Composting and Healthy Soils (Tejinder)??

H. STAFF COMMUNICATIONS

I. ITEMS FROM THE COUNCIL

Member check-in

PSAs from various members, staff and guests

J. ITEMS FROM THE CHAIR

1. New interim Chair, Peter Ives

2. New member update

Thank you to Maria - Jasmyne has been renewed and Sergio is now a member.

3. Next Meeting:

April 10, 2025: (Hybrid)

We will need a quorum to vote about a May in-person date at the Teen Center so we hope to get that at the April meeting.

4. Topics for future presentations

David will follow up with Tejinder: Composting

L. ADJOURNMENT 10:52am

These notes were taken contemporaneously and may contain errors and omissions.

Signed by *Helen Henry* Helen Henry.

I verify that these notes have been approved by a quorum of members of the
Santa Fe Food Policy Council.

Signed by Susan Perry, Co-chair or, Peter Ives, Interim Co-chair
