

Trade Ports Advisory Committee Meeting

MINUTES

Date and Time: Friday, July 10, 2026, 9:00 AM – 12:00 PM

Meeting was held online via MS Teams.

MEMBERS PRESENT:	Priscilla Lucero	Public Member, Executive Director, Southwest New Mexico Council of Governments – Chair Site Readiness
	Lucinda Vargas	Public Member, College Professor of Economics, Applied Statistics, and International Business at NMSU- Vice Chair Site Readiness
	Hilma Chynoweth	Public Member, Director of Strategic Development– Chair Trade Ports
	Alex Nellos	Public Member, Registered Architect - Vice Chair Trade Ports
	Mario Juarez- Infante	Public Member, City Manager of Sunland Park
	Isaac Romero	Deputy Cabinet Secretary, Economic Development Department – Designee for Rob Black, Cabinet Secretary
	Brian Schath	Economic Development Senior Advisor, Environment Department – Designee for James Kennet, Secretary
	Erin Taylor	Acting Secretary, Energy, Minerals, and Natural Resources Department
	Marquita Russel	CEO, New Mexico Finance Authority
MEMBERS ABSENT:	Gabriella Dasheno	Deputy Utility Division Director, Public Regulation Commission
	David Quintana	Acting Secretary, Department of Transportation
EDD STAFF PRESENT:	Isaac Romero	Deputy Secretary
	Yuriria Morales-Mangone	Global Partnerships and Economic Transition Representative
	Taj McCellon	Senior Administrative Assistant
	Jim Lucero	Regional Representative - Southeast
	Rebecca Hansana	Regional Representative - Northwest
	David White	Regional Representative - Southwest
	Yiwei Chen	General Counsel
	Jennifer Myers	Regional Rep Team Leader
	Stephen Lindsey	Regional Representative - Southwest
	Kevin Wilson	Regional Representative - Southeast
GUESTS:		

ORDER OF BUSINESS

I. Opening

Member Chynoweth called the meeting to order at 10:10 AM, called the roll, and confirmed a quorum was present.

- a. Approval of July 10, 2026 meeting agenda. **Motion** by Member Russel to approve meeting agenda. **Seconded** by Member Lucero. Vote 9/0. **Motion passed.**

- b. Approval of April 10, 2026 meeting minutes. **Motion** by Member Vargas to approve meeting minutes. **Seconded** by Member Schath. Vote 9/0. **Motion passed.**
- c. Public Comments. There were no public comments.

II. Discussion of trade port district applications and next steps

Member Romero updated the committee on the resignation of Joshua Smith and Jackie Thornburg. The program will be temporarily managed by Deputy Romero while the open positions are filled. Interviews are pending for the Infrastructure Program Manager role. The Senior Business Operations role will also be filled imminently. The department will also hire a Program Coordinator for additional support. Member Romero anticipates that the committee will be able to review trade ports districts at the September 11, 2026 meeting. After the committee has reviewed districts, funding applications will open for public-private partnerships and other funding avenues. Applications will hopefully be ready for review at the committee's December 11, 2026 deadline.

III. Discussion of additional meeting dates

Members discussed additional meeting dates. The meetings for the rest of the year will take place on September 11, 2026 and December 11, 2026.

IV. Agenda items for the next meeting: Trade Ports districts applications for review.

V. Next regularly scheduled Trade Ports Advisory Committee Meeting: Friday, September 11, 2026.

VI. Adjourn.

The meeting was adjourned by Member Chynoweth at 10:22 AM.