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## Co-Presidents' Communiqué

Hello League Members,

Kathe and I hope your hot summer is going well. We want to let everyone know that our activities will be picking up now that our July "vacation period" has ended.

As we previously indicated to everyone, we want to put action into our program and priorities; the August meeting will do just that. Please read Beth Bardwell's article about an interesting topic for the Aug. 12 general meeting.

The summer has been busy for those engaged in Voter Services. Dale Yeo, voter services director, has been working with volunteer League members to create candidate questions for the fall issue of our two Voters' Guides (English and Spanish). In conjunction with the state league, our questions for the November election candidates will be answered (hopefully) and their responses will be posted on Vote 411 in addition to our locally printed guides. We are also collecting responses from candidates for the online guides in our neighboring counties (Otero, Sierra, Grant and Luna.)



Several members are working with the state League to develop radio/TV and social media public service announcements to be distributed throughout the state during the upcoming months. The state Voter Services Committee, chaired by our own Edwina Jaramillo, wants to be proactive and counter any misinformation about the election. Members of an Election Integrity project are writing short messages featuring several New Mexico county clerks who will remind the public that their votes are secure and are important.

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## The Future of the Public Library

Half a century ago, one of my favorite escapes from the routine and loneliness of my small-town childhood was to visit my public library, a craggy building with a labyrinth of rooms and the timeless fragrance of dusty books. I would disappear into the shelves and read books that opened the door to worlds other than my own.



Since then, public libraries have grown, adapted and innovated in a myriad of ways to serve their changing communities, but providing the freedom to read and to access information remains one of their core tenets.

Come join the League of Women Voters in person or virtually on **Saturday, Aug. 12** from 2:00-3:15 pm for a moderated panel discussion on the *Future of the Public Library*. The meeting will be held at the Doña Ana Community College Workforce Center at 2345 Nevada Ave. in Las Cruces. To attend virtually, click on the link sent to your email (by 1:50 pm) or join at: <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/83454340450?pwd=Z2lraK1WdVdWSU14cmtjWVB0MW9pZz09>

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## Co-Presidents' Communiqué (cont.)

We want to thank Laura Castille for serving as the League's vice-president. She did an excellent job in finding speakers for our general meetings. Unfortunately, Laura had to step down from the Board to tend to work and family. Thankfully, she remains a dedicated League member.

Meanwhile, the Board appointed Beth Bardwell as vice-president. Beth will also remain chair of the LWV Affordable Housing Committee. Thank you Beth for taking on this important task!

Finally, some of you may soon receive a message from Kate Mangelsdorf, our membership director, to remind you to pay your 2023/24 dues. The final page of this newsletter can be downloaded and either emailed or mailed to the League at P.O. Box 15142, Las Cruces, NM 88004 ([lwvsnm@gmail.com](mailto:lwvsnm@gmail.com)), or go to the [LWVSNM website and pay online](#). We don't want to leave anyone out of the yearly membership handbook and directory, so please send in your \$65 dues (tax deductible) as soon as possible.

As always, thank you for being a partner with the League of Women Voters.

*[Jo Galván Nash](#) and [Kathe Kanim](#)  
Co-Presidents*



### Youth Engagement Committee:

We will be proposing a variety of youth engagement projects and invite any member interested in such efforts to let us know that you would like to be on the committee. We'll be working to register voters and with the Las Cruces Public Schools, among other activities. Please contact us indicating your interest: Josie Miller, [jomiller@lcpss.net](mailto:jomiller@lcpss.net) and Eileen VanWie, [vanwieek@yahoo.com](mailto:vanwieek@yahoo.com).

### Can You Hear Me Now?:

The LWVSNM Voters' Guides are tremendously popular with voters. But it takes many phone calls to candidates to ensure they answer the League's questions about their qualifications and topics of importance to the community. Please [email Dale Yeo](#) if you can help her team make some phone calls in the coming weeks. We want our Guides to be complete!

## Upcoming Calendar Events

### AUGUST 2023

- Aug. 1, Tues.: **LWV Housing Committee**, 3:30, Zoom, contact [Beth Bardwell](#) to join or attend.
- Aug. 7, Mon.: **Regular Board Meeting**, 5:30 pm, Zoom, [contact Kathe if you want to attend](#).
- Aug. 9, Wed.: **Otero County Unit Mtg.**, 6:30, Zoom, contact [Claudia Powell](#) to join or attend.
- Aug. 10, Thurs.: **LWV Education Committee**, 4:30 pm, Zoom, [contact Eileen VanWie](#) to join or attend.
- Aug. 12, Sat.: **General Meeting**, 2:00 pm, Zoom and in-person at DACC Workforce Center. All members welcome. Snacks served; bring your own beverage.
- Aug. 21, Mon.: **Short Board Meeting**, 5:30 pm, Zoom, [contact Kathe if you want to attend](#).
- Aug. 22, Thurs.: **LWV Education Committee**, 4:30 pm, Zoom, [contact Eileen VanWie](#) to join or attend.
- Aug. 26, Sat.: **[Women's Equality Day](#)**
- Aug. 30, Wed.: A full "**blue moon**"— when the moon is closest to earth, making it appear larger in the sky.

### 2023/24 LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF SOUTHERN NEW MEXICO BOARD:

Jo Galván Nash & Kathe Kanim – Co-Presidents  
Beth Bardwell – Vice-President  
Edwina Jaramillo – Secretary  
Louise Marquez – Treasurer  
Kathy Brook & Eileen VanWie – Past Presidents  
Dale Yeo – Voter Services Co-Director and  
TBA, Co-Director  
Kate Mangelsdorf – Membership Director  
Eileen VanWie & Josie Miller – Youth Engagement  
Co-Directors  
TBA – Public Relations Director  
and  
Nancy Stanton — Development Chair  
Jo Galván Nash – The Voter Editor  
Mary Flynn, Chair, and Johnnie Aldrich and Kate  
Mangelsdorf, Members – Nominating Committee  
TBA — Historians  
Claudia Powell & Cindy Broughton — Otero Unit  
Liaisons

## Dues Model Discussed at State LWV Meeting

The July board meeting of LWVNM was via Zoom; Hannah Burling and I provided brief summaries of the LWVUS Council meeting held in Las Vegas, NV, June 22-25. A major topic was the transformation of the League including a new dues model to be implemented sometime in 2024. The idea is to promote membership by making it easier to understand how to join the League and to change the dues-paying process and the sharing of dues among the local, state, and national levels. Currently dues are collected through local Leagues and shared through per member payments (PMP) from local Leagues to the state and national levels. The new model is expected to involve a recommended dues payment of \$75 with a minimum payment of \$20 per person. Beyond that, members will be invited to pay more or less depending on their comfort levels. The distribution of funds will reduce the average proportion going to LWVUS.



At the state board meeting Hannah reported on the recent NM Supreme Court ruling that the Republican claims of partisan gerrymandering can be considered in the district court using standards articulated by US Supreme Court Justice Elena Kagan. You might be interested in listening to [Kagan's dissent](#) in 2019 on redistricting.

- *Kathe Brook, LWVNM Co-President  
LWVSNM Past Co-President*

## Future of Public Library (cont.)

Dr. Jennifer Kreie of the League of Women Voters and current member of the City's Library Advisory Board will guide a far-ranging discussion by three of our area public librarians serving our southern New Mexico rural and urban communities in Alamogordo (Kim Underwood), Anthony (Casey McCool), and Las Cruces (Sarah Booth).

Discussion topics include the role of libraries in civic engagement, funding for public library resources, programming and facilities, the transition from written to digital information and literacy, book bans and how civic organizations can support our public libraries.



To better engage in advocacy and education in support of our public libraries, the League of Women Voters of Southern New Mexico formed a study committee to update the [League's 2007 position on public libraries](#). League members interested in participating in the study should contact Kathy Brook at [kathybrook@comcast.net](mailto:kathybrook@comcast.net). The moderated panel discussion on the Future of the Public Library is one means to share information and inform the League's study on the current trends and needs of public libraries. We hope you will join the discussion!

- *Beth Bardwell, Vice President*

## Board Meetings Schedule Changes

During the recent Visioning Lab, it was decided that the **regular** Board Meetings (longer meetings) will take place on the first Mondays of the month at 5:30 pm, unless there's a holiday; in that case the meetings will be moved to the first Tuesday. The **short** Board meetings (one hour) will move to the third Mondays at 5:30 pm.

Don't forget, any League member is welcome to attend LWVSNM board meetings. To attend, just notify Co-President Kathe Kanim in advance; she will send you an email with the Zoom meeting link.



## Development Will Help Grow LWVSNM

I have enjoyed a varied and rewarding career and look forward to using my skills and nonprofit management knowledge to benefit the League's recently created Development Committee. To build upon the work and legacy of League members of the past 50 years is both inspiring and humbling. Taking the steps to establish a financial foundation to ensure the future and sustain the League's mission of "empowering voters and defending democracy" couldn't come at a more critical time.

Our development strategies will focus on broad goals such as building ongoing relationships and partnerships with the community at-large, as well as providing information for League members should they choose to include the League in their planned giving arrangements or making donations in memory of family and friends or to mark milestones such as graduations, birthdays, etc.

Watch for additional information in future issues of *The Voter* and on our website as we include information on how to make donations.



Nancy Stanton

■ Nancy Stanton  
LWVSNM Development Chair

### EDITORS NOTE: For those who haven't met Nancy, here is some biographical information about her.

Nancy grew up in Missouri, just east of Kansas City, and earned a Bachelor's Degree at Central Missouri State University. She also took graduate level courses at Bridgeport University, Southern Connecticut and University of West Georgia. Nancy taught middle and high school social studies in Connecticut and suburban Atlanta. She left teaching and worked as political campaign staff for two US Senators from Georgia and as a statewide director for an incumbent Secretary of State.

Later, she began work in the nonprofit arena, first for eight years for NW GA Girl Scout Council and eight years as executive director for NE GA Girl Scout Council and CEO for Good Shepherd Services which served the Vietnamese resettlement community and a homeless women and children's shelter. Upon moving to Florida she became VP for Volunteer Services for Special Olympics Florida and finally, ended her career as Associate State Director for Advocacy for AARP Florida. After retiring, she worked several summer 'gigs' at lodges at Mt. Rainier National Park, Crater Lake, Grand Tetons and Grand Canyon North Rim. Nancy has a son, granddaughter and grandson who live in the TriCities area of Washington state.

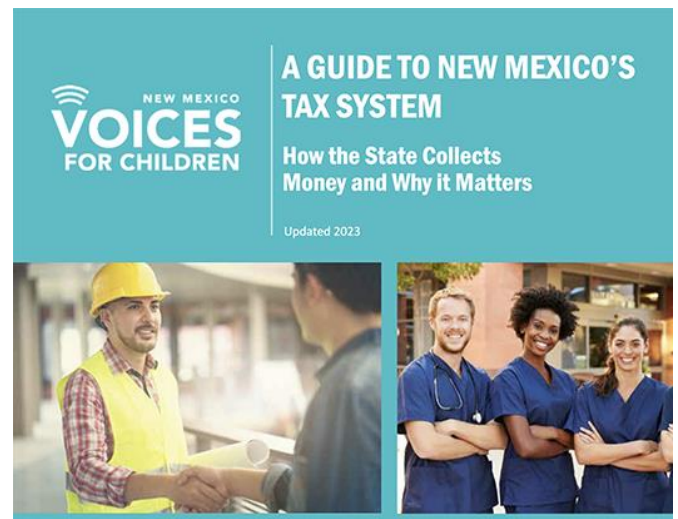
## New Mexico's Tax System Explained

A partner with LWVNM is the New Mexico Voices for Children organization. LWVNM works closely with NM Voices on budgets, tax policies, and many legislative issues.

This summer, the organization completed an update to "A Guide to New Mexico's Tax System." It gives thorough information about our taxes and explains the variety of taxes we pay. It helps make sense of how the state collects our money and "why it matters." It also explains acronyms, and where our taxes are allocated with an easy-to-read pie chart.

In addition to this publication, LWVNM reports that a link to a training on "Budgeting 101" will soon be forwarded to members. The Zoom training will be held on **Tues., Aug. 22 at 2:00 p.m.** Please watch your emails and get registered for the event.

Take a few minutes to [read about the publication on the LWVNM website](#). You can also [download the 16-page tax guide](#).



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## LET'S MEET LWVSNM MEMBER ... *Elizabeth Rodriguez-Johnson*

I graduated from NMSU in 1976 with a degree in Secondary Education, and a major in Mathematics. I received my Masters in 1976 and Ph.D. in 1980 in Educational Management & Development, with a minor in Experimental Statistics. My professional career began in 1980 as a Mathematician at Pacific Missile Test Center (PMTTC), Point Mugu, CA. The main responsibility was to develop mathematical models for determining the accuracy of missile trajectories, which included statistical analysis.

In 1984, I was accepted into an Office Personnel Management (OPM) project, an assignment for the Strategic Defense Initiative Organization (SDIO, aka Star Wars Program) within the Office of the Secretary of Defense (OSD) at the Pentagon. When the one-year assignment had terminated I stayed with the SDIO until 1987, and had several SIDO assignments, one of which was to be a part of the management team that manifested a German sensor, Infrared Background Signature Survey (IBSS), on the Space Shuttle. The IBSS flew on a Shuttle several years later.

I left the SDIO for a job as a Staff Specialist for Suitability with DoD Director for Operational Test and Evaluation (DOT&E), also at the Pentagon. The specialization was evaluation of DoD Major Defense Systems to assess their suitability. While there, I wrote the book, *Engineering Test Principles for Operational Suitability*, 1992, A. Deepak Publishing, Hampton, VA.

From 1991 to 2011 I had various assignments within the Pentagon and the Office of the Secretary of Defense. Assignments included: establishing basic research projects with Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs) and Minority Institutions (MIs); working with the White House Office of Science and Technology Policy (OSTP); analyzing operations with the Office of the Director of Test, Systems Engineering and Evaluation (DTSE&E) within OSD/AT&L; evaluating Major DoD Defense Systems while they were going through the developmental phase; directing the Y2K Management Office in 1999; and chairing the Acquisitions and Technology Programs (ATP) Task Force (TF).



As a result of my work on the Major DoD Defense Systems and other assignments, I received the Exceptional Civilian Service Award. Another award I received for the Y2K management was the Meritorious Civilian Service Award. From 2006-2011, the ATP Task Force undertook a minimum of 45 important system safety initiatives in response to Secy. of Defense Rumsfeld's mandate to reduce preventable accidents.

After retiring in 2011, I worked as a Senior Safety & Acquisition Specialist with Concurrent Technologies Corporation. I left this job in 2019.

My husband and I retired to Las Cruces in 2011 because we were very familiar with the area and thought it was a wonderful place to live. I've been involved in many community projects since coming to Las Cruces. In 2012, it was an honor to be a fellow for the Re-elect Obama Campaign and to be the campaign manager for Marci Beyer's election as District Judge.



*In addition to being a member of LWVSNM, Liz is the First President of the Doña Ana County NAACP. She's pictured with other DAC-NAACP officers at a meeting at the Unitarian Universalist Church where they have their meetings.*

In 2015, I was elected as the Chair of the Democratic Party of Doña Ana County. Under my auspices, Doña Ana had the largest voter turnout in recorded history. Approximately six years ago I became involved with the NAACP Doña Ana Chapter and currently serve as the First Vice President. Trying to establish a community board to monitor the excessive use of force within the LCPD is a priority. After joining the LWVSNM about two years ago, most of my effort has been centered on assisting with the Affordable Housing Committee.

■ *Liz Rodriguez-Johnson*

The NAACP of Doña Ana County met on July 15, 2023. The guest speakers were from the ACLU: Saba Ijadi and Daniel Williams. Mr. Ijadi is a community engagement specialist and Mr. Williams is a policing policy advocate. Here are a few highlights from their presentation and discussion with the attendees.

- ◇ The U.S. incarceration rate is higher than any other country. There was discussion around the use of fear-based tactics by politicians to get elected.
- ◇ 1 in 5 people incarcerated in the world are in the U.S. Mr. Ijadi said the U.S. government (federal and state) spends \$80 billion a year to operate prisons.
- ◇ At this point in time there are fewer privatized prisons in New Mexico (currently only two) but many aspects of prison operation are contracted with private companies.
- ◇ 90% of the people in prison come out at some point. We should keep this in mind and think about rehabilitation and assistance in reentering communities.
- ◇ In 2022, 31 people were killed by police in New Mexico. This number is higher than the state of New York, which has a population 9 times higher than NM.
- ◇ Project Light is gradually being implemented. This project is meant to have professionals other than police respond to problem situations due to behavioral/mental health issues. There are problems with adequately staffing this project. Currently, it is not available 24/7.

▪ Jennifer Kreie

*Member of the NAACP DAC chapter and member of the LWVSNM*



## December's Social & Legislative Conversation

It may seem early, but the League is already planning December's meeting. This is when we get a chance to socialize with one another and to meet with our local lawmakers and discuss our legislative priorities and hear about theirs.

The exact day in December is not yet settled but will be announced soon.

In the meantime, if you know of a location where the meeting could take place, please email the suggestion to Jo ([jogalvan.nash@gmail.com](mailto:jogalvan.nash@gmail.com)). We're looking for:

1. a space with seating that doesn't charge for the room (or charges a very small amount);
2. accommodates approx. 50 people;
3. provides access to a cash bar;
4. has technology for a Zoom; and
5. will serve appetizers or allow us to bring in catered food.

Help with this activity is appreciated! And, as we've already learned, many of the "traditional" spaces in Las Cruces have already been booked, so time is of the essence.

## UPCOMING GOVT. MEETINGS

**LC City Council:** Aug. 7, Aug. 14 (wrksess), Aug. 21, Aug. 28 (wrksess); all at 1:00 p.m., City Hall

**County Commission:** Aug. 22, 9:00 am, DAC Govt. Center.

**LCPS School Board:** Aug. 4, 9:00 am, (Board Retreat, open to public), LCPS Admin. Bldg. Conference Rm. A); Aug. 15, 6:00 pm, Trujillo Admin. Building.

**NMSU Board of Regents:** Through Aug. 17, ongoing NMSU President Search listening sessions will be available as webinars for the public. [Get the link here.](#) For the specific dates, [click here.](#)

## Downwinders Gain a Big Step Forward

Those of you who are planning to see the movie "Oppenheimer" may also want to know that an important decision was made recently by Congressional leaders. The US Senate approved an amendment to extend a federal fund for victims of radiation exposure and expand who it covers. This is positive for communities seeking inclusion in the Radiation Exposure Compensation Act (RECA). New Mexicans exposed to radiation from the first nuclear blast at Trinity will now be included, more than 78 years since the blast. However, more Congressional action is coming. [Read more about this news here.](#)



## **SUMMARY HIGHLIGHTS\*\***

### **Regular Board Meeting**

**Monday May 15, 2023 • 5:30pm • Zoom**

#### **1. Co-Presidents' Report**

- a. Preliminary Results of Survey: J. Galván Nash discussed the preliminary results of the LWV membership survey. Only 22 out of 103 possible responses were received to-date. A recommendation was made for a telephone tree to attempt a better response rate. A straw poll of the Board failed on the telephone tree suggestion. The discussion was tabled until the Visioning Lab where we hope to get more input from the membership.
- b. Development Coordinator Position: J. Galván Nash reported that Nancy Stanton has agreed to Chair this important position. E. VanWie noted that Nancy's contact information will be provided to Hannah Burling, LWVNM Co-President, to be included in a committee to coordinate fundraising efforts throughout the state.

#### **2. Vice President Report/Meeting Topics**

June 17, Sat., Visioning Lab, 9:30 am-1:30 pm: K. Kanim reported that the Visioning Lab will be held at the DACC Workforce Center.

#### **3. Secretary Business**

\*Collection of Conflict of Interest Disclosure (COID) Forms: Board members are annually required to complete COID forms. **Action Item:** Board members who have not yet done so, please send the COID forms to E. Jaramillo.

#### **UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

1. Selection of Otero Liaison: A motion was made by K. Brook to welcome the Otero County Unit liaisons to the Board as a non-voting member; and was seconded by D. Yeo. The motion carried unanimously. C. Broughton reported that she or Claudia Powell will attend Board meetings.
2. Discuss and Approve Revised "Dues Process" Procedure: The Board reviewed the proposed Dues Process Procedure. It was noted that paying half-price dues at mid-year (Nov.-April) is applicable only to non-members joining late. After several changes were discussed, K. Brook made a motion to approve the Dues Process Procedure as amended; it was seconded by L. Marquez. The motion was approved unanimously.
3. Discuss and Approve Diversity Funds Expenditure: The Board reviewed the proposed Diversity Fund proposals for expenditure of the remaining \$415 diversity funds. A motion was made by K. Mangelsdorf to contact all five proposed recipients to ask if they would like to continue their League membership. If so, the League will pay their membership for one year out of the Diversity Fund. The motion was seconded by L. Marquez, and it carried unanimously.

#### **NEW BUSINESS**

Update on Historian(s) Appointment(s): J. Galván Nash reported that Josie Miller will continue with the Historian position for the remainder of this summer and will then relinquish her appointment.

#### **A. DIRECTORS AND COMMITTEE CHAIR REPORTS** *(Written reports may be placed on consent agenda if sent to Board in advance)*

1. Membership Update: K. Mangelsdorf reported that we have three new LWVSNM members, and two new Otero County Unit members.
2. Orientation Update: The Board agreed on June 10, 2023, as the date for the next new member orientation at 9:30 a.m. via Zoom.
3. Committee Report: E. VanWie reviewed a portion of the Education Committee Report submitted prior to the Board meeting. She also discussed the need for the League to attend city council meetings and other public meetings.

**B. ADJOURNMENT**

A motion was made by L. Marquez to adjourn the meeting; it was seconded by K. Kanim. The \*motion carried unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 7:00 p.m.

\*Consent Agenda

\*\*For a copy of the full minutes contact Edwina Jaramillo at [marthaj11@verizon.net](mailto:marthaj11@verizon.net).

—Prepared by Edwina Jaramillo, Secretary



**SUMMARY HIGHLIGHTS\*\***  
**Regular Board Meeting**  
**June 19, 2023 • 5:30 pm • Via Zoom**

**A. MEETING ADMINISTRATION**

**Approval of Minutes - June 5, 2023:** D. Yeo made a motion to approve the minutes of the 6/5/23 board meeting; it was seconded by K. Brook. The motion carried unanimously.

**B. CO-PRESIDENTS and OFFICERS REPORTS**

**1. Co-Presidents' Report**

- a. **Discussion of Proposed Meetings Schedule for 2023/24:** A motion was made by B. Bardwell to automatically move the Monday Board meetings to Tuesday when they fall on a Federal holiday; it was seconded by D. Yeo. The motion carried unanimously. Based on the motion the September 4<sup>th</sup> meeting is moved to September 5, 2023, and the February 19<sup>th</sup> meeting to February 20, 2024.

**Frequency of Meetings:** A motion was made by E. VanWie to have monthly general meetings; it was seconded by E. Jaramillo. E. VanWie modified the motion to remove the word "general" from the motion, which will allow for either general meetings or unit meetings monthly. The motion carried.

- b. **Topic for September 2023 General Meeting:** Several suggestions were made for a program topic including getting out accurate information, threats to democracy, the recent report from the Election Reformers Network, or Get-Out-the-Vote.
- c. **Discuss and Approve Change to the Timeline of Approval to Annual Business Meeting Minutes:** A motion was made by L. Marquez to change the approval of the annual meeting minutes to June of the same year of the annual meeting; it was seconded by K. Brook. The motion carried unanimously.



2 **Vice President Report/Meeting Topics**

a. Aug. 12, 2023 General Meeting (Libraries) and Inviting Other Group(s) to Attend:  
B. Bardwell shared her plans for a proposed panel discussion on libraries (that may serve to inform the planned revision of the Libraries Position statement) including individuals representing several local libraries.

b. Other Scheduled Meetings:

**October Meeting:** Erika Graf-Webster and Nancy Stanton will help B. Bardwell on a planned doctor shortage discussion in either a public forum or for League members.

**November Meeting:** a proposal was made to prepare for the Legislative Conversation and Social (held in December) during this meeting.

**December Meeting:** Several date options were discussed for the Legislative Conversation and Social – 12/2, 12/6, 12/9 or 12/16.

**January 2024 Meeting:** discussion centered on holding a unit meeting on either a report from the Education Committee to include a revised Education Position, or a discussion on electrification in affordable housing.

**March 2024 Meeting:** a proposal was made to have a meeting on Women’s History Month in conjunction with the Suffrage Alliance.

3. **Treasurer’s Report** - Vote on Audit presented June 5, 2023: A motion was made by K. Kanim to approve the audit report; it was seconded by K. Brook. The motion carried unanimously.

**C. UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

A motion was made by K. Brook to approve the revised PR position description; it was seconded by K. Kanim. The motion carried unanimously.

**D. NEW BUSINESS**

Discussion and Approval of Secretary Job Description: A motion was made by D. Yeo to approve the revised Secretary position description; it was seconded by E. VanWie. The motion carried unanimously.

**E. DIRECTORS AND COMMITTEE CHAIR REPORTS**

1. Otero County Unit (OCU): C. Powell reported that the OCU had a successful Juneteenth in the Park event; plan to discuss early voting equity on the Mescalero Reservation; and, plan to email the Alamogordo high school for initial contact/entry.
2. Discuss Voters’ Guides/Bids and Possible Electronic Vote of Board: D. Yeo reported that LWVSNM will get bids for the Voters’ Guides from the Bulletin (English) and Camino Real Media (Spanish). She and J. Galván Nash will attend a meeting with Richard Coltharp, the Bulletin publisher, and Gerald Smola of Camino Real. K. Brook indicated that the English Voters’ Guide in the past covered only Las Cruces and LCPS, and the Spanish Voters Guide covered other areas but not the school elections.

**F. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 7:30 p.m.

\*\*For the full minutes contact Edwina Jaramillo at [marthaj11@verizon.net](mailto:marthaj11@verizon.net).



### **LAS CRUCES CITY COUNCIL • Regular Meeting**

July 3, 2023

Observer: Kathy Brook

Public participation included considerable discussion of property crimes, especially those affecting small businesses. There was also a statement from a representative of C.A.R.E about problems of access to health care for those unable to pay.

A resolution on parks and recreation fees and facility use policy was approved. Included were fees for summer programs, out-of-school time programming, sports leagues, swim meets, etc. Also approved were resolutions on routine budget adjustments, acceptance of grant awards, and contracts for survey services (since the city is currently without a surveyor).

During the councilor comment portion of the meeting, several councilors responded to allegations that they don't care or aren't doing enough about crime.

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### **Las Cruces City Council Regular Session**

July 17, 2023

Observer: Kathy Brook

Heather Pollard, community activist, and Steve Newby, architect, were honored at the start of the meeting with declarations of Heather Pollard Day and Steve Newby Day. Both have contributed considerably to development of the downtown area. Heather Pollard has also been involved in the restoration of the Amador Hotel and provided leadership to the Doña Ana Arts Council.

Public participation included concerns about criminal activity, the need for spay and neuter funding, and traffic concerns.

In his comments at the end of the meeting, Mayor Miyagishima referred to the role of bail reform in releasing perpetrators from jail and the advice from the NM Supreme Court on the use of the Arnold rule to determine who could appropriately be released.

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### **SOUTH CENTRAL SOLID WASTE AUTHORITY • Regular Quarterly Meeting**

July 20, 2023 • Amador Avenue Board Room and Zoom

Observer: Johnnie R Aldrich

This "Authority," a nine-member Board of Directors made up of representatives from both the City of Las Cruces Commissioners and the Doña Ana County Commission, meets quarterly to help Director Patrick Peck manage this million-dollar entity in charge of the thousand-ton trash/garbage collection throughout the county. Becky Graham is this term's chair and Christopher Schaljo-Hernandez is the Vice Chair. Board Members are Manuel Sanchez, Diana Murillo, Kasandra Gandara, and Ken Miyagishima. Ex-Officio members are Adrienne Widmer, Fernando Macias, and Javier Perea. All were present at today's meeting.

After the initial opening activities, Pledge of Allegiance, Roll Call, Acceptance of Minutes and Agendas, the Board heard a lengthy description of the audit process of the Authority's activities and financial statements. This requirement of the State of New Mexico Environmental Department is due in December 2023, and work begins this month.

○ *continued*



### SCSWA (cont.)

Employee recognitions included Certificates of Appreciation to an all-volunteer committee of eight, headed by Miguel Hernandez, who worked on the elaborate SCSWA float entry in this year's 4th of July parade. Special mention was made of the committee's ingenuity in the use of available materials, like scrap metal, in the float construction. The total cost of the impressive float was \$800.00 — and many volunteer hours.

A second certificate went to Brandi Misquez, Recycling Coordinator, for her work in the supervision and scheduling of two Summer Intern Students. These young women from local high schools got a thorough knowledge of the Authority's scope through observation of every phase of activity from administration to route-driving and landfill management.

Director Peck's report indicated that, as usual, the month of May was a good one in both trash and recycling collections. To date, this year is among the top 5 in the history of the Authority in the amount of waste collected.

Expansion of our county's population leads inevitably to expansion of facilities for waste collection. A new transfer station, for example, is planned on a 40-acre site on Holman Road. By law, the Authority must seek public response to the planned facility, which will involve extensive construction and large-truck traffic. However, when residents of the area were informed of several opportunities for public input, very few responded. Thus, Peck indicated that he will ask the NM Environmental Department to waive this requirement. Further landfill construction is planned for both the Corralitos and Anthony collection sites.

Peck also indicated that the heat has also caused additional expense at the Corralitos Landfill because of heat-related issues at the Landfill's gas control panel. He's working with engineers and a manufacturer to get a second cooling unit installed there.

The meeting ended with an account of efforts by administration to respond positively to complaints by a city resident about collection in his neighborhood. The problem was solved. This seems to be one government entity for which "service" is on-going and real. Questions/Complaints? Call 575-528-3800.

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### DONA ANA COUNTY COMMISSION • Regular Meeting

July 25, 2023

Observer: Jo Galván Nash

DAC Clerk Amanda López Askins said in preparation for the Nov. 7 election, her office is developing training videos and an election-related podcast. Now that municipal elections are dovetailed as the County, she said "every year is now an election year." The County is also preparing for a groundbreaking ceremony on a new \$3 million warehouse, funded by the state and county over the last two years.

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### Books for LWVSNM Book Club – AUGUST 2023

*We read so we know things.*

***The Book Club is taking a hiatus for the month of August. Club meetings are on the 1<sup>st</sup> Thursdays of each month. If interested contact Erika at [grafwebster@icloud.com](mailto:grafwebster@icloud.com)***

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# TREASURER'S REPORT – JUNE 2023

PREPARED ON 07.01.23 • LOUISE MARQUEZ, TREASURER

DATE	DETAIL	AMOUNT
	<b>BALANCE FORWARD</b>	<b>\$ 8,304.67</b>
<b>NEW INCOME</b>		
6/1/2023	PayPal Deposit - Member	
	3-1: Member Dues \$	97.50
	4-5: Donations/Gifts in Addition to Dues \$	(2.92)
		\$ 94.58
5/13/2023	PayPal Deposit - Member	
	3-1: Member Dues \$	65.00
	4-5: Donations/Gifts in Addition to Dues \$	0.67
		\$ 65.67
5/16/2023	PayPal Deposit - 2 Members	
	3-1: Member Dues \$	130.00
	4-5: Donations/Gifts in Addition to Dues \$	(1.11)
		\$ 128.89
6/12/2023	Deposit - 2 Members	
	3-1: Member Dues \$	130.00
		\$ 130.00
6/21/2023	Deposit - 3 Members	
	4-5: Donations/Gifts in Addition to Dues \$	330.00
		\$ 330.00
6/28/2023	PayPal Deposit - Member	
	3-1: Member Dues \$	65.00
	4-5: Donations/Gifts in Addition to Dues \$	0.67
		\$ 65.67
6/12/2023	Deposit - 2 Members	
	3-1: Member Dues \$	130.00
		\$ 130.00
6/30/2023	PayPal Deposit - Member	
	3-1: Member Dues \$	65.00
	4-5: Donations/Gifts in Addition to Dues \$	0.67
		\$ 65.67
	<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b>\$ 1,010.48</b>
<b>NEW EXPENSES</b>		
6/16/2023	Check 1161: Jo Galvan Nash - 10-3 Board Expenses: Office Supplies	\$ 30.14
6/16/2023	Check 1162: Consumer Cellular - 10-1: Board Expenses: Telephone	\$ 20.99
6/17/2023	Debit Card: FedEx - 8-11: Board Workshop - Visioning Lab copies	\$ 57.56
6/17/2023	Debit Card: Dion's Pizza - 8-11: Board Workshop - Vision Lab Meal (offset by member donations)	\$ 149.14
	<b>TOTAL NEW EXPENSES</b>	<b>\$ 257.83</b>
	<b>TOTAL CASH ON HAND</b>	<b>\$ 9,057.32</b>

## COMMITTED FUNDS

4/24/2023	Spanish Language Voter	\$ -
4/24/2023	Diversity Fund: 2 Memberships Paid 6/1/23	\$ 220.00
4/24/2023	Youth Engagement Fund	\$ 625.00
4/24/2023	Social Media Fund	\$ 250.00
4/24/2023	New Mexico Listens Project	\$ 400.00
4/24/2023	Voter Services	\$ -
	<b>TOTAL COMMITTED FUNDS</b>	<b>\$ 1,495.00</b>

# TREASURER'S REPORT – JULY 2023

PREPARED ON 08.01.23 • LOUISE MARQUEZ, TREASURER

DATE	DETAIL	AMOUNT
	<b>BALANCE FORWARD</b>	<b>\$ 9,057.32</b>
<b>NEW INCOME</b>		
7/3/2023	PayPal Deposit - Member	
	3-1: Member Dues \$	65.00
	4-5: Donations/Gifts in Addition to Dues \$	0.67
		\$ 65.67
7/15/2023	PayPal Deposit - 2 Members	
	3-1: Member Dues \$	162.50
		\$ 162.50
	<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b>\$ 228.17</b>
<b>NEW EXPENSES</b>		
7/14/2023	Check 1163: We Are IT- 14-2: Website - Updates to Website	\$ 97.37
7/14/2023	Check 1164: Consumer Cellular - 10-1: Board Expenses - Telephone	\$ 20.97
	<b>TOTAL NEW EXPENSES</b>	<b>\$ 118.34</b>
	<b>TOTAL CASH ON HAND</b>	<b>\$ 9,167.15</b>

## COMMITTED FUNDS

4/24/2023	Spanish Language Voter	\$ -
4/24/2023	Diversity Fund: 2 Memberships Paid 6/1/23 Youth	\$ 220.00
4/24/2023	Engagement Fund	\$ 625.00
4/24/2023	Social Media Fund	\$ 250.00
4/24/2023	New Mexico Listens Project	\$ 400.00
4/24/2023	Voter Services	\$ -
	<b>TOTAL COMMITTED FUNDS</b>	<b>\$ 1,495.00</b>



# MEMBERSHIP FORM

Send this Membership Form with Your Dues and/or Donation

Date: \_\_\_\_\_ New member? Y / N Renewal? Y / N \*Student? Y / N

Last Name: \_\_\_\_\_ First Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City/State/Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone # \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

2<sup>nd</sup> Household Member: New Member? Y / N Renewal? Y / N \*Student? Y / N

Last Name \_\_\_\_\_ First Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ City/State/Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone # \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

Student Members (age 16+): List current school: \_\_\_\_\_

What League issues are you most passionate about? Circle any that apply:

- |               |                           |                     |                     |
|---------------|---------------------------|---------------------|---------------------|
| Voting Rights | Elections                 | Education/Youth     | Redistricting       |
| Gun Safety    | Immigration/Border Issues | Health Care         | Climate/Environment |
| Legislation   | Local Government          | Social Justice/JEDI | Jobs/Economy        |
| Other: _____  |                           |                     |                     |

What skill set or interest do you want to offer to the League? \_\_\_\_\_

*Send the Membership Form with Your Dues and/or Donation • THANK YOU!*

### **ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP:**

Annual Dues are paid in May of each year. If paying dues, select appropriate box:

- \$65.00 for first member    \$32.50 for second household member    \*Students (16+) free.

Make checks payable to LWVSNM. Send to: PO Box 15142, Las Cruces, NM 88004. Or pay at [www.lwvsnm.org](http://www.lwvsnm.org) using PayPal or Credit Card. (An additional \$2.50 is appreciated to cover electronic fees.) Forms can be emailed to: [lwvsnm@gmail.com](mailto:lwvsnm@gmail.com) Thank you!

### **DONATION:**

Please accept my donation of \$\_\_\_\_\_. I request my donation be used for:

- General Use    Election/Voting-Related

### FOR OFFICE ONLY

Treasurer \_\_\_ National Data \_\_\_ Membership SNM \_\_\_ Committee \_\_\_ New Member \_\_\_