



**Minutes**  
**NMFOG Board of Directors Meeting**  
**Friday, December 1, 2023**  
**12 – 2 p.m.**  
**FOG Office and via Zoom**

Directors in attendance in person:, Kathi Bearden, Sammy Lopez, Paula Maes, Jessica Onsurez, Lucas Peerman, Charles Peifer, Mary Lynn Roper, Daniel Russell, Kristelle Siarza and Greg Williams.

Directors in attendance via Zoom: Dede Feldman, Rashad Mahmood, Karen Moses and Rebecca Valdez.

Staff in attendance in person: Melanie J. Majors. Jason Espinoza, lobbyist.

Not Present: Nate Gentry, Henry Lopez, Kip Purcell and Daniel Yohalem.

A quorum of the FOG Board of Directors being present in person and online, Vice President Onsurez ran the meeting as President Moses was out and attended the meeting via Zoom. Ms. Onsurez called the meeting to order at 12 p.m. Mr. Peifer made a motion to approve the agenda, Mr. Russell seconded the motion, motion carried.

Mr. Mahmood presented the minutes. Mr. Williams made a motion to approve the minutes which were seconded by Ms. Roper, motion carried.

Treasurer Lopez gave the Finance Committee Report. The report included the quarterly financials and budget vs. actuals. FOG has current assets of \$403,443.58 with \$222,044.29 earmarked for the sunshine attorney in an investment account. Mr. Lopez reported \$18,744.52 in the checking account. The total liabilities and equity are \$403,443.58. Ms. Siarza made a motion to accept the financial report which was seconded by Ms. Bearden, motion carried.

Ms. Moses' made her final President's Report starting with a lot of thanks you messages. She thanked Ms. Majors and shared her list of accomplishments with the board. She said that Ms. Majors would continue through Dec. 2024 at the current salary of \$60,000 a year. As part of the discussion she asked that a designation be made to hire a college intern. The recommendation was to be included in the budget. The executive committee recommended and approved a \$5000 bonus for Ms. Majors for 2024. She thanked outgoing board members – Henry Lopez who she said was so critical to FOG during the Covid Health Pandemic. She also singled out Ms. Feldman for her work assisting with government affairs during her time as a board member. She said that former FOG President Bearden is stepping off the board and she thanked Ms. Bearden

for representing her part of the state and her commitment to FOG, her committee work and thanked her for serving as FOG president more than once.

Ms. Moses thanked Ms. Maes and the NMBA for their efforts to help keep the FOG expenses low. She said without their contributions, FOG would not be able to operate as it does.

She thanked Ms. Siarza and her team for work on the FOG video and for their work on redesigning the website.

Ms. Moses said she was proud of the fact that the executive committee had some young fresh voices. She thanked all the committee chairs. She said she was proud of the work by the legal search committee to start the process and complete the process to hire a FOG attorney.

She highlighted several aspects of the 3-year plan. She said a lot of item on the list were completed. This included development of a board survey – which was used when developing and broadening the makeup of our board. The Governance Committee reviewed the bylaws and other items. She said outreach has increased, including more training and talks to groups. She said she was proud of the accomplishments this past year – including the increase in the Thornburg Grant. She also stated FOG will be releasing a year end report in January.

Dixon Event – Ms. Majors provide the Dixon report on behalf of Ms. Maes. She said that expenses totaled \$16,356.43 with income at \$33,970. The silent auction took in \$1470. She indicated that several individuals purchased tickets, but were unable to attend. FOG ends up paying for meals that were not consumed. She said feedback concerning the speaker and the silent auction were all positive.

Attorney Search – Mr. Peifer detailed FOG's search for an attorney and the interviews held with the finalists. The board agreed to pay for the salary and benefits for the attorney. Ms. Bearden made a motion which Williams seconded to direct Ms. Moses and Ms. Majors to reach out to the finalist to discuss the job offer.

Legal – Mr. Williams shared what he termed as his final update on the Libit v UNM Foundation lawsuit. He shared that the Supreme Court let the Court of Appeals decision stand. He did say he heard rumblings that UNM and the other universities may revisit the legislature and ask that the statute be clarified.

Marketing – Ms. Siarza gave an overview of the new FOG website and allowed the board to view the progress on the new site. It is hoped the website will be live before Christmas. It was also recommended to add the new video to the website.

Nominating Committee – Ms. Bearden proposed the addition of two new board members – Wende Schwingendorf and Barbara Vigil. Ms. Roper made a motion to accept the committee recommendation, Mr. Lopez seconded, motion carried.

She indicated the terms of Mr. Peifer, Mr. Purcell and Mr. Williams are all ending and recommended they all be kept on the board to serve new terms. Mr. Peifer's term is for one year

at his request. Ms. Roper made a motion to accept the recommendation, Mr. Russell seconded, motion carried.

- Election of Officers – Ms. Bearden gave her report and said that the following slate was proposed for the 2024 board:  
Jessica Onsurez, president
- Lucas Peerman, vice president
- Sammy Lopez, Treasurer
- Rashad Mahmood, secretary

Mr. Russell made a motion to accept the nominating committee recommendation, Mr. Williams seconded, motion carried.

Executive Director Report – The report was provided to all of the members, it is attached along with the hotline report.

Incoming President Onsurez said she thanked the board for the trust placed in her and would be outlining her plans for 2024 and thanked everyone for attending the meeting and for their time and dedication to FOG.

As there was no new business, Ms. Roper made a motion to adjourn, Mr. Russell seconded, motion carried. Meeting was adjourned at 2:02 p.m.