

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

-Oct 19 extended early voting.

-Next Monday Indigenous People's Day, we could take next Monday off. Or organize a phone or text bank.

-If we can organize a phone bank, we need enough people. The training of the phone bank walks you through the link to get to the system and the software. You need a laptop and phone.

## **INTERIM COMMITTEES**

-Interim Committee CJ Interim Committee (Court Justice).

Reena presented something health-related: trying to stop the venture capital acquisition of healthcare facilities. Peter and Reena are trying to prevent this. Two states already have this on their books. It's a national and statewide issue.

-Alyssa is in AZ trying to get AZ blue.

-Donna Thiersch - leading a County Clerk's Office pilot program. They will choose ballots and feed them to the machines.

-Cynthia (working with Girls' Inc.) for election work. Little ones and 12-year-olds. Different ages. Doing a mock election.

-NC is an important and potential Dem. It's tied. Has now become a Swing State. 2020/2022 drastically undervoted. Now the 27 year old the Maclundburg county. They've hired 15 organizers, and 5K vols to start Mecklenburg. Charlotte Meck.

-Monica knows an 85-year-old who has been going all over the country canvassing. She went to Mecklenburg. Took a couple of turfs and did it herself.

-Pam, after we win, and throw over the filibuster. Conversation about Trump. We are not allowed to talk about how delusional he is and our country is mentally ill right now. People have picked up psychopathic symptoms. Bandy Lee -World Health Org - violence specialist.

-Chris - Jeanne Brown: if you want FLA cards need to get them out today.

Jayne - Charlotte Newspaper, something about Trump's lies. Hindering recovery.

## **STEPHANCIE GARCIA RICHARD, LAND COMMISSIONER**

-State Wide position constitutionally mandated.

-Crucial to a lot of things we both care about. Mgt. about our public lands. 13M acres of public lands.

-Because we are rich in resources, we are cash poor. We use our resources to pay for public services. We use those resources - K-12 education, higher education, hospitals, etc.

-Elected for 2 four year terms. She is in 6th year, year 2 of second terms.

- Responsibilities

2M acres of public land belongs to everyone in the Permian basin

Her professional career was as a teacher as well as a former legislator

Reliance on extraction and fuel - a nightmare for lots of reasons.

Unhealthy environment

Finite resource that won't always be here

Of all of those nightmares - we need to diversify, and ensure we are no longer reliant on them

Should have been doing this a decade ago

Transition programs for workers.

At the land office we are prorating how we use these.

3X increase of renewable energy on State Land.

Using State Land for access to housing. 2 places for affordable living on State Land.

Creative development - like a studio for Netflix

Dual mandate

State statue and constitution - raise funds but not at the expense of people's lines etc.

Legal office - first ever accountability for ruining the state lands. Plugged 5K abandoned oil wells.

Industry has taken on the cost.

We have 30 lawsuits, with favorable judgments. We were awarded 7.5M mandate.

She leaves in 2 years so it's important to see who takes her job. State Land Community Solar project.

People think Solar Energy will kill soil.

Have had record breaking revenue.

Tribal issues - land exchanges to repatriate land back to tribes. Chaco and Mt. Taylor we don't do any more extraction on these.

Q. Reporter or NM. There are few inspectors to point out things.

A. Do we have enough laws, do we have enough inspectors. O & G is regulated . The office is an owner of this. They can say this is our land and you are not using it appropriately. Inspectors are really the Regulators from the OCD - office of Oil Conservation Department.

Environmental Inspectors are now being hired by Land Mgt.

Q. How do you intersect with Wildlife.

A. Because there is such a large amount of land. We are the Fifth Largest in our country. There was a wildlife corridors passed in 2019. Trapping ban passed. Ban on Coyote Killing contests. Partnered with Game and Fish - safe passage for wildlife. Wildlife corridors. Conflict occurs between where people want to go and where wildlife goes.

Wind generation not compatible with Rafter (big birds). So - it's a compatibility issue. Largest concentration in Lesser Prairie Chicken in NM. Corridor for these.

Q. Historically -how areas have been determined. And are you grooming someone for your position when you leave?

A. Not her role. 13M of state land based on township and range surveys. Every town has sections. They were given 4 sections in every township and range. Some of those sections had owners - like first service or tribal. There are no tribal institutions that receive revenue. The beneficiaries are named in the constitution. Some state parks are leased from her office.

A. Chaco is a sacred and ancestral area that takes up four states. Ancestral roads, cultural sites, amazing for night star-gazing: Navajo and Pueblo. Also is rich in O&G. Drilling there overlaps with Navajo Nation. They assign certain plots of land called allotments, called allottees. It's Navajo. In 2019 they convened a Tribal Working Group. Developed map of 70K acres. Signed an exec order to stop drilling. This was before the federal law. This exec order was just renewed. If this is upended, problem. She would like that Chaco ban...

Deb Holland, considered to do the same thing. Take Fed O&G out from Chaco. There was opposition, because of the allottees. Allottee land would be impacted because there would be no drilling around it. They felt as though their autonomy would be affected. 20-year exec order.

Q. You introduced yourself. State Land is the second most powerful office in the state. Also a part of the Gov. She is independent. First woman but not first democratic. Talk about the differences between her and her predecessors and the person she will not groom.

A. She wants to cement responsibility to pry away from nefarious hands. And to make sure it becomes part of statute. Teacher for 19 years. Legis for 6. The land office has worked on its own because it has vast power. You can't hold LC accountable. So she set about changing them. Like backroom deals. Jeffrey Epstein leasing state land for his house. Stuff like that. First non O&G, non-cowboy type running the office. Mandated in State Statue - have to have a public meeting in the community of impact. More rule changes favoring compliance, make sure who you sell to has a clean record.

It isn't just in our country - diamonds, cobalt. Kind of amazing that NM has the restrictions that we have. We are a small population and people are watching. Can't hide anywhere. So it's easier here in NM. We are like an African nation. We have a geographic advantage. Our protection has to be on high alert.

Much of our land has been stewarded by people in the know.

QR royalty increase -

A: O&G will lease the land. They pay us a portion of the minerals they resource. They pay us 20%. In Texas, they charge 25%. We are subsidizing minerals that belong to us. State Legislators- O&G statutory lease is a legal contract - except for O&G in Legis. Changed in 1970's to 20%. We are not charging the market rate.

2019 first started this effort. We've had various successes. Took 20 years to abolish death penalty. They are afraid of being punitive to O&G.

2024 - bill passed out of the state house to the senate. Hearing but they refused to give us a vote.

Q. On state land there are thousands of wells, there about 1100. On other lands thousands.

Q. Share legislation you are generating cement legacy and support.

A. Royalty rate - McQueen is considering running for Land Commissioner. Crystal Diamond may run against him. Higher bonding rates. For 25/26. Mimi Stewart j- pay attention to her. She is creating a big climate package,

Q. Green Amendment

A Yes, she supports and has testified. Is water part of her thing? Water who develops it on State Land, they don't develop. They put in a ban of using fresh water to put in for fracking.

Your background has served you well. We appreciate you.

Royalty, Bonding, follow Mimi Stewart.

Who will be a Royalty fan - McQueen and Peter. Liz, yes.

Friends McQueen/Wirth in House and Senate - Liz schedules good discussions. And then passes it right out to corporations. Munoz killed it. Finance is where good bills go to die.

Gov's positions on environmental- it's been mixed. Do you have a fav gov? Future gov? Would love a Gov Deb. Steph loves Heinrich. Raul T might be looking. Hector Banderas might.

She will run for Lt. Gov

### **Executive Committee**

Leadership Election

Dottie -Only have an issue - don't think we need to do anything different. The vast majority of our members want the responsibility. Either Helen or Laurie Whittaker. Helen is the first choice.

Add another at large? YES? Should it be Helen or Laurie. Ask both - if we get one or both, either way it works. Marti. They can start in Jan but come in Dec.

Leadership? Good.

Voting - recommended slate. Have a vote. Is there anyone else who would like to be part of it. At large people should have responsibilities. If anyone wants to join in the future, then let us know.

9th of December.

Off Friday before Thanksgiving and Monday after Thanksgiving.

Deb W gets a Challah

Stephanie - gets an honor or a gift. Or give Stephanie a Challah.

Or just a mention for the women who started this group. Or a piece of paper for names. Dottie will take ownership of this.

Nov th next meeting