

# LWVCNM Observer's Report

Sandoval County Commission regular meeting

May 22, 2024

Mary Templeton, observer

Present: David Heil (Chair), Michael Meek (Vice Chair), Joshua Jones, Jay Block, Katherine Bruch (video)

## **Description of Issues Relevant to the League**

### Transportation, Energy and Climate Change

The Commission moved to approve an Intergovernmental Agreement between Sandoval and Bernalillo Counties to provide joint funding for lobbying services in support of the I-40 TradePort Corridor (I40TPC). The Commission also moved to approve a Corridor Development Agreement that forms a partnership between Sandoval and Bernalillo Counties, Los Lunas NM, Kingman AZ, Winslow AZ and one or more private entities.

#### ***As background:***

The I40TPC is a USDOT infrastructure project to move goods from the Port of Los Angeles as far as North Carolina using clean-energy modes of transportation (<https://i40tradeportcorridor.com/>). Part of the motivation behind the project is that by 2035, all drayage trucks operated in California must have zero emissions, creating a challenge for distributing freight from the Port of Los Angeles. A clean-energy corridor along I-40 would provide "inland ports", such as Albuquerque, where hydrogen and electric vehicles could refuel at optimal intervals, as well as warehouses where freight could be offloaded for transport away from the corridor.

LWVUS supports environmentally sound energy policies that reduce energy growth rates, emphasize energy conservation, and encourage the use of renewable resources. In addition, LWVNM supports policies and incentives that reduce greenhouse gas emissions by promoting greater energy efficiency; by developing clean, renewable energy sources; by encouraging further research on alternatives to the combustion of fossil fuels for energy. Last, the LWVCNM supports promoting (1) energy conservation and efficiency in transportation, buildings, and infrastructure, including energy efficiency standards and land use policies that reduce vehicle miles travelled, and (2) a clean, low-carbon energy economy that is sustainable, including all forms of renewable energy and transportation infrastructure as two among several actions to mitigate and adapt to climate change.

## **Additional Comments**

### Public Comment

Eight of ten speakers commented on elections, registration, election machines and voter id.

### Approvals

The Commission moved to approve a letter to Governor Grisham requesting declaration of a State of Emergency regarding fentanyl and human trafficking, and crime rates in New Mexico.

### Commissioner Discussion

The Chair addressed the reasons why Sandoval County does not require voter ids, as well as state practice for certifying election machines.

### **Sandoval County Commission Website**

<https://www.sandovalcountynm.gov/commission/>