



NMCAL Legislative Committee Progress Report Presented to the NMCAL Membership August 07, 2014

Library Legislative Day was held January 30, 2014. Christopher Schipper represent the NMCAL group in the Senate and James Pawlak in the House. Once again, the NMCAL presence at the State Capital proved helpful in promoting the inclusion of a library bond issue on the November election ballot. The Legislature unanimously passed SB 53 with a \$10.8 million Library General Obligation Bond Issue. We were able to suggest an amendment in the bill language which added the word “supplemental” to the text relating to academic libraries. Two Library projects are included in the Higher Education Bond Issue; a \$10 million renovation of Golden Library at Eastern New Mexico University and a \$1 million project at Zollinger Library at UNM-Gallup.

March 21, 2014 NMCAL Legislative Committee met in Albuquerque. The following are major items that were discussed.

- Discussed and forwarded revisions on items concerning the NMCAL Legislative Committee, that recite in the NMCAL Webpage.
- Had a review on how we felt Library Legislative Day went.
- Discussion with Mr. H. Ronald James, Capital Projects Coordinator, New Mexico Higher Education Department. Items included draw down activity, overall process, expenditure reports, eligibility requirements of NMCAL members, etc.
- Reviewed the NMCAL GO Bond factsheet.
- No progress on the library technology proposal.

On June 6, 2014 Barbara, Poppy and Ruben met with Gerald Hoehne, NMHED Capital Projects Auditor and Ron James, NMHED Capital Projects Coordinator. A very enriching discussion on the ins and outs of the Library GO Bond process in expending the funds. They will be providing a presentation at the NMCAL Library Directors retreat on August 7th.

The Committee made a recommendation to the NMCAL Executive Board, to forgo a nomination for NMLA call Legislator of the Year. However, we did suggest that we continue to entertain the idea of recognizing Linda Kehoe, Principal Analyst, NM Legislative Finance Committee staff for all her work she has contributed with the Library GO Bonds process.

In progress; an A to Z procedure guide identifying steps to follow for spending Library GO Bond funds.