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**NEW MEXICO STATE ARMORY BOARD**  
**TRANSCRIPT OF TELEPHONIC REGULAR BOARD MEETING**  
**March 18, 2021**  
**10:06 a.m.**

REPORTED BY: Jan A. Williams, NM CCR 14

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**BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT**

Major General Kenneth A. Nava, Chairman

Colonel Nathaniel L. Carper, Chief of Staff

Major (Retired) Mark F. Gonzales, Member-at-Large

Command Sergeant Major (Retired) John B. Torres,  
Member-at-Large

Colonel (Retired) James T. Keefner, Member-at-Large

Theresa V. Martinez, Executive Director

**BOARD MEMBERS NOT PRESENT**

Command Sergeant Major Robbie Cantrell, State Command  
Sergeant Major, Secretary

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1                   ITEM NO. 1:    CALL TO ORDER

2                   MG NAVA:    Good morning, everyone.  I have  
3 10:06 on March 18.  I would like to call this meeting  
4 of the State Armory Board to order.

5                   ITEM NO. 2:    INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS

6                   MG NAVA:    Mr. Burney, do we have any guests  
7 on the line with us?

8                   MR. BURNEY:    Not that I am aware of, sir.

9                   MG NAVA:    All right.  Do I have any persons  
10 that are not normally associated with the State Armory  
11 Board on the line?  Anybody that needs to introduce  
12 themselves?

13                   (No response.)

14                   MG NAVA:    Hearing none, thank you.

15                   ITEM NO. 3:    INVOCATION

16                   MG NAVA:    Can we go to (Retired) State  
17 Command Sergeant Major John Torres for the invocation.

18                   (Invocation.)

19                   MG NAVA:    Thank you, Sergeant Major Torres.

20                   ITEM NO. 4:    PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

21                   MG NAVA:    State Command Sergeant Major  
22 Cantrell, are you on the line by chance?

23                   (No response.)

24                   MG NAVA:    Okay.  Sergeant Major Cantrell is  
25 currently at the Nominative Leaders Course and so he's

1 out-of-pocket. But Chief Brush is sitting in my  
2 office. And he's going to lead us in the Pledge of  
3 Allegiance.

4 (Pledge of Allegiance.)

5 MG NAVA: All right. It's kind of difficult  
6 to do the Pledge of Allegiance in sync over the phone  
7 and on a video teleconference, but I appreciate  
8 everyone's attempt at that.

9 ITEM NO. 5: ROLL CALL

10 MG NAVA: Mr. Burney, if you would please  
11 conduct the roll call.

12 MR. BURNEY: Will do, sir. Good morning.  
13 Major General Nava.

14 MG NAVA: Here.

15 MR. BURNEY: Ms. Theresa Martinez, Executive  
16 Director.

17 MS. MARTINEZ: Here.

18 MR. BURNEY: Colonel Nathaniel Carper, Chief  
19 of Staff.

20 COL CARPER: Here.

21 MR. BURNEY: And per Major General Nava, I  
22 believe State Command Sergeant Major Robbie Cantrell  
23 is excused.

24 Colonel (Retired) Jim Keefner, Board Member.

25 COL (R) KEEFNER: Here.

1           MR. BURNEY: Major (Retired) Mark Gonzales,  
2 Board Member.

3           MAJ (R) GONZALES: Here.

4           MR. BURNEY: Sergeant Major (Retired) John  
5 Torres, Board Member.

6           CSM (R) TORRES: Here.

7           MR. BURNEY: Assistant Attorney General  
8 Steven Romero.

9           MR. ROMERO: Here.

10          MR. BURNEY: And Jan Williams is here.

11          General Nava, you do have a quorum. Only one  
12 person is excused, Sergeant Major Cantrell.

13          MG NAVA: Thank you very much, Marty.

14                 ITEM NO. 6: APPROVAL OF AGENDA

15          MG NAVA: Okay. Everybody, in front of you,  
16 you should have a copy of the agenda. I know that we  
17 were having some issues with the State email  
18 interacting with the Federal email. So the Federal  
19 folks I think have printouts in front of them. But  
20 everybody should have a copy of the agenda in front of  
21 them.

22                 I would like to entertain a motion to accept  
23 the agenda as published.

24          COL CARPER: I make a motion to accept the  
25 agenda as published.

1           MR. ROMERO: This is Assistant Attorney  
2 General Romero. If the Board Members, as they make a  
3 motion, if they could please just state their name so  
4 it will be a little easier on Jan to track who is  
5 moving for the minutes.

6           MG NAVA: Perfect. Great point. Thank you,  
7 sir, appreciate that. Okay. So let's try that one  
8 more time. We'll do it in slow motion. Identify  
9 yourself and the person that's making the motion.

10           COL CARPER: This is Colonel Nate Carper. I  
11 make a motion to accept the agenda as published by  
12 Mr. Burney.

13           MAJ (R) GONZALES: This is Major Mark  
14 Gonzales, (Retired). I second that motion.

15           MG NAVA: So we have a motion from Colonel  
16 Carper to approve the agenda. We have a second from  
17 Major Gonzales. All in favor say aye.

18           (The Board Members voted unanimously.)

19           MG NAVA: Anybody opposed?

20           (No response.)

21           MG NAVA: Okay. So let the minutes reflect  
22 that everybody voted unanimously to approve the  
23 agenda.

24           ITEM NO. 7: APPROVAL OF THE DECEMBER 17, 2020 MINUTES

25           MG NAVA: Next we have the December 17, 2020,

1 minutes and the January 19, 2021, minutes that  
2 everybody has received. We'll do them in order. So  
3 can I first have a motion to approve the December 17  
4 minutes.

5 COL CARPER: This is Colonel Nate Carper. I  
6 make a motion that we approve the December 17, 2020,  
7 as published.

8 MS. MARTINEZ: This is Theresa Martinez. I  
9 second the motion.

10 MG NAVA: Okay. So we have a motion and a  
11 second. Any discussion?

12 (No response.)

13 MG NAVA: All in favor say aye.

14 (The Board Members voted unanimously.)

15 MG NAVA: Okay. Thank you. So the teaching  
16 I got at the last meeting from our Assistant Attorney  
17 General was that we should probably do a roll call  
18 vote, and that will facilitate this a little bit  
19 better than doing what we're doing with the ayes.

20 So, Jan, please let the minutes reflect that  
21 we did have unanimous approval of the December 17,  
22 2020, minutes. We'll do this a little bit different.  
23 We're going to do a roll call vote on the next one.

24 ITEM NO. 8: APPROVAL OF THE JANUARY 19, 2021 MINUTES

25 MG NAVA: So can I have a motion please to

1 approve the January 19, 2021, minutes.

2 COL CARPER: This is Colonel Nate Carper. I  
3 make a motion that we approve the January 19, 2021,  
4 minutes as published.

5 MS. MARTINEZ: This is Theresa Martinez. I  
6 second that motion.

7 MG NAVA: Thank you. We have a motion and a  
8 second. Any discussion?

9 (No response.)

10 MG NAVA: Marty, if you would please, go  
11 through the roll call and we'll vote that way.

12 MR. BURNEY: All right, sir. General Nava.

13 MG NAVA: Aye.

14 MR. BURNEY: Theresa Martinez.

15 MS. MARTINEZ: Aye.

16 MR. BURNEY: Nathaniel Carper.

17 COL CARPER: Aye.

18 MR. BURNEY: Colonel James Keefner.

19 COL (R) KEEFNER: Aye.

20 MR. BURNEY: Major Mark Gonzales.

21 MAJ (R) GONZALES: Aye.

22 MR. BURNEY: Sergeant Major John Torres.

23 CSM (R) TORRES: Aye.

24 MR. BURNEY: Okay.

25 MG NAVA: Okay. Thank you very much for

1 doing that.

2 ITEM NO. 9: NEW BUSINESS

3 MG NAVA: So again we're moving on to items  
4 of new business. So 9 A, approval of General Dynamics  
5 AT&T Wireless request to add an emergency generator.  
6 Ms. Seyal.

7 MS. SEYAL: Good morning, General Nava. Good  
8 morning everyone. As you can see in the packet that  
9 you received, you received a copy of our  
10 interconnection agreement that we currently have with  
11 AT&T.

12 And I received an email from them in January,  
13 requesting that they be allowed permission to install  
14 an emergency backup generator at their existing  
15 location.

16 So in order to continue to operate, they need  
17 to get a backup generator installed in that location.  
18 This is to provide continuous wireless service during  
19 power outages to first responders and to AT&T  
20 customers was how they explained it to me. So that is  
21 what we are asking permission for. And I'm not sure  
22 if you need further explanation.

23 MG NAVA: Thank you, Kelly. So, Members of  
24 the Board, what are your questions for Kelly about  
25 this request?

1 (No response.)

2 MG NAVA: Okay. I have some questions.

3 So is this backup generator going to consume  
4 more utilities and is the cost associated with our  
5 agreement with them, is it changing or is this a fuel  
6 as in gasoline or diesel type generator, is it a solar  
7 generator? I'm looking at this for the first time  
8 right now, I'm scanning through this right now.

9 MS. SEYAL: Give me just a moment. I believe  
10 that this is a diesel generator. There is no cost  
11 associated to us or for us. I am attempting to get my  
12 mail to sort here.

13 MR. ROMERO: This is Attorney General Romero.  
14 It looks like it costs a rent increase of \$250.  
15 Please correct me if that's wrong, Ms. Seyal.

16 MS. SEYAL: I'm trying to get the document  
17 open.

18 MG NAVA: As far as the continuity of  
19 service, right, so again they should be able to  
20 provide their customers with, you know, continuous  
21 service.

22 That is an important matter for us in the  
23 National Guard, to think about emergency response. It  
24 is an important thing. So I don't have a problem with  
25 a diesel generator.

1           Have your environmental folks looked at the  
2 fuel cell and all that kind of stuff to make sure that  
3 meets all of your requirements, Kelly?

4           MS. SEYAL: They have the general information  
5 for what they want to install. And the environmental  
6 folks don't have any issue with this.

7           MG NAVA: Okay. Well, it doesn't sound like  
8 it's a problem for me for sure.

9           Members of the Board, any other questions  
10 about this?

11          COL CARPER: Just seeing the schematics, sir,  
12 while you're flipping through, I just want to make  
13 sure with Kelly that it's not increasing their  
14 footprint, it's going inside the current existing  
15 wire.

16          MS. SEYAL: Correct. It doesn't increase  
17 their footprint at all. It just goes inside and feeds  
18 to their equipment only.

19          COL CARPER: That and the environmental were  
20 my only two concerns. This is Colonel Carper by the  
21 way.

22          MG NAVA: Board Members, any other questions?  
23 Kelly, what is your recommendation to the  
24 Board?

25          MS. SEYAL: Sir, my recommendation to the

1 Board is that we approve this. It's beneficial not  
2 only to our first responders, but to the broader AT&T  
3 community. And I think it shows good faith on our  
4 part in supporting their efforts.

5 MG NAVA: Okay. Board Members, we have a  
6 recommendation from Ms. Seyal to approve this request.  
7 Do I have a motion?

8 MS. MARTINEZ: This is Theresa, sir. I move  
9 to accept Kelly's recommendation and move forward with  
10 this request.

11 MG NAVA: Thank you, Theresa.

12 MAJ (R) GONZALES: Sir, this is Mark  
13 Gonzales. I will second that motion, sir.

14 MG NAVA: Thank you. We have a motion and a  
15 second. Any further discussion on this matter?

16 (No response.)

17 MG NAVA: Mr. Burney, if you would please  
18 conduct a roll call vote.

19 MR. BURNEY: Will do, sir. General Nava,  
20 your vote on accepting the additional generator.

21 MG NAVA: Aye.

22 MR. BURNEY: Ms. Martinez, your vote.

23 MS. MARTINEZ: Aye.

24 MR. BURNEY: Colonel Carper, your vote, sir.

25 COL CARPER: Aye.

1           MR. BURNEY: Colonel (Retired) James Keefner,  
2 your vote.

3           COL (R) KEEFNER: Aye.

4           MR. BURNEY: Major (Retired) Mark Gonzales,  
5 your vote.

6           MAJ (R) GONZALES: Aye.

7           MR. BURNEY: Sergeant Major (Retired) John  
8 Torres, your vote.

9           CSM (R) TORRES: Aye.

10          MR. BURNEY: The vote is complete, sir.

11          MG NAVA: Thank you. I appreciate that.

12          Moving on to item 9 B, discussion to divest  
13 Portales, Santa Rosa, Hobbs, Espanola, Clayton,  
14 Deming, Lordsburg, and Carlsbad Armories. Captain  
15 Ruiz.

16          MS. SEYAL: Sir, Captain Ruiz is on orders.  
17 So this is Kelly Seyal and I'll take this topic.

18          MG NAVA: Okay. Kelly.

19          MS. SEYAL: Ladies and gentlemen, we have  
20 several facilities that the National Guard is actually  
21 not using at this time. Some of them are empty and  
22 others have occupants.

23          So based on the briefing that you have in  
24 front of you, what we're looking for is the Board's  
25 permission to explore the possibility of divesting

1 these facilities.

2           So we're actually not looking to divest right  
3 now. We're looking for your permission to reach out  
4 to the local communities or maybe the folks that  
5 currently occupy the facilities to see if there is  
6 interest in taking them over.

7           You will see, as you go through the slides,  
8 that the owner maybe is stated a little differently  
9 each time. So, for example, for Carlsbad it says  
10 State Armory Board of New Mexico; and for Hobbs it  
11 says State of New Mexico, the State Armory Board.

12           This is because that is how it's listed on  
13 the official documents, but they essentially mean the  
14 same thing. So what we've given you is just some  
15 basic information about each location.

16           We do have occupants in some of these  
17 facilities. So Carlsbad, for example, has the State  
18 Police that are currently using this facility. Hobbs  
19 is empty. Santa Rosa is empty. Espanola has the  
20 Department of Health.

21           Deming has the city in place. Portales is  
22 actually vacant. Clayton has the sheriff's  
23 department. Lordsburg also has the sheriff's  
24 department that are currently in those facilities.  
25 But we don't have National Guard.

1           The reason that this is particularly  
2 important from at least the G9 and maybe the TAGs  
3 perspective is that, for every bit of square feet that  
4 we have on our books with the National Guard and with  
5 Army, that impacts our ability to get more military  
6 construction projects or potentially to expand our  
7 footprint in other locations; because as far as the  
8 National Guard is concerned, we have all the square  
9 footage that we need.

10           So they don't recognize that these facilities  
11 are empty. They say it's open space, you should be  
12 using it.

13           So if you have questions about the individual  
14 locations, I would be happy to field them. But the  
15 general recommendation or what we're seeking is a vote  
16 to allow permission to begin to engage with the  
17 community or potential folks who might be interested  
18 in taking over these properties.

19           MG NAVA: Thank you, Kelly, for setting the  
20 stage here.

21           As the adjutant general, I do not want you  
22 talking to any communities about any of this. That's  
23 my job. So there are a couple of communities that we  
24 have recently gone out to go speak with to kind of  
25 move this in the right direction.

1           And I would like to go through maybe each of  
2 these slides. And we'll talk about each of those  
3 locations.

4           If it's the pleasure of the Board, I think  
5 that on each of these I would like to discuss the  
6 Board's intent with those facilities so that we can  
7 have an official document on record to notify  
8 potential owners of the Readiness Centers of what we  
9 intend to do.

10           Let's just go through them one by one, if  
11 that's okay, Kelly. And we can start with the  
12 Carlsbad Readiness Center.

13           So to the Board Members, as you know the  
14 State Police is currently using the Carlsbad Armory.  
15 They have been using it for several years at this  
16 point. It suits their need well.

17           And one of the prior discussions that we've  
18 had with State Police under the last governor's  
19 administration was, hey, we can just turn this  
20 building over to GSD and allow them to work with GSD  
21 and continue to use that facility. That was a course  
22 of action that was previously discussed.

23           Again, when we look at the DOD market share  
24 and the National Guard market share of recruiting in  
25 Carlsbad, there's probably not a very good chance any

1 time in the near future, I'm going to say in the next  
2 ten years, that we would have force structure that  
3 would require us to reinvest in the Carlsbad Armory  
4 area.

5 That's my professional opinion, you know,  
6 informed by the recent demographics that I've been  
7 shown by our recruiters.

8 So I believe that divesting the Carlsbad  
9 Readiness Center is the right thing for the State  
10 Armory Board and for the New Mexico National Guard to  
11 release this 13,584 square foot that is currently  
12 showing excess and start moving back towards actually  
13 demonstrating the true deficit of usable square  
14 footage that we have in the New Mexico National Guard.

15 Board Members, what questions or clarifying  
16 information do you need about Carlsbad?

17 CSM (R) TORRES: I've got a question.

18 MG NAVA: Sergeant Major Torres.

19 CSM (R) TORRES: Yes. We're closing this  
20 Armory. Do we have any Guardsmen that live in  
21 Carlsbad? And, if we do, where would they be going  
22 to, what other armories are supporting them so they  
23 can attend if they want to continue being Guardsmen?  
24 Do you have a plan for those people?

25 MG NAVA: Sergeant Major, thank you for that

1 question. There has not been a unit assigned to  
2 Carlsbad for many years right now. That Armory has  
3 been utilized by State Police for several years at  
4 this point. There are four Guardsmen that live in  
5 Carlsbad. And their nearest location to drill would  
6 be one hour away, in Roswell, New Mexico.

7 CSM (R) TORRES: Okay. As long as they're  
8 cared for.

9 MG NAVA: Absolutely, Sergeant Major.

10 MAJ (R) GONZALES: Sir, when I was with FMO,  
11 I used to work on all these armories. And I'm pretty  
12 familiar with all of them by age. Are we still going  
13 by the 50-year plan, to where we are divesting  
14 facilities like the Army until they're 50 years old,  
15 or has that changed over the years, sir?

16 MG NAVA: It's 25 years for full depreciation  
17 from the Federal standpoint, Mark.

18 MAJ (R) GONZALES: Okay. And you can  
19 probably tell us better than anybody, sir. Are we  
20 looking at getting any new type units in the near  
21 future or not?

22 MG NAVA: My stated objective from the first  
23 day that I came in as the adjutant general is that I  
24 wanted to grow the New Mexico National Guard. It's  
25 one of my top strategic objectives.

1           The reality of where we are right now is that  
2 I do not see us growing any time in the near future.  
3 We have indicated, both verbally and in written  
4 format, to the National Guard Bureau that we want to  
5 grow the New Mexico Army National Guard and the Air  
6 National Guard for that matter.

7           And we have competed for refits, investments  
8 of additional types of units, in the New Mexico  
9 National Guard. To date we have not received any of  
10 them.

11           From a more strategic standpoint, the  
12 Department of Defense has reached the high watermark  
13 when it comes to DOD spending. The expenses  
14 associated with the response to COVID-19 are going to  
15 put additional pressures on the Department of Defense.

16           The Department of Defense strategic  
17 objectives are to shift towards our pure competitors,  
18 which namely are China and Russia; China being the one  
19 most focused on right now by the Department of  
20 Defense.

21           When you look at the Army for the last 20  
22 years, the Army has been the preeminent service in  
23 funding, in receiving all the funding that it  
24 required. I do not see that continuing going forward.

25           I see the Air Force, I see the Navy, and I

1 see the Space Force as being the services that are  
2 going to receive more funding; and, therefore, there  
3 will have to be a bill-payer because the DOD budget  
4 will not grow, the bill-payer being the Army.

5           So I am not stopping nor am I advocating for  
6 my staff to stop trying to find us more force  
7 structure. Even if I did get that force structure, it  
8 is highly unlikely I would put it in Carlsbad; because  
9 again, when you look at the number of recruits that  
10 we're getting, it would not be sustainable.

11           MAJ (R) GONZALES: I understand, sir. And I  
12 know a lot of these armories are old already and  
13 they're hard to maintain. I was just curious whether  
14 or not we were going to later on get units or not get  
15 units.

16           Because when I was working with FMO, that was  
17 one of the problems that we had, is that we get rid of  
18 an armory too soon; and then we get force structure.  
19 And then we didn't have anywhere to put them back in  
20 2000 before I left.

21           MG NAVA: Yes. We're in a different space  
22 right now. Back in those days the Army National Guard  
23 was pushing 4,000. Today we're at 2,860-ish,  
24 somewhere around there.

25           And what's happening to us on the Army side

1 is that we are getting incrementally decreased in our  
2 number because the authorizations in our units are  
3 being reduced by the Army. So our number is going  
4 slightly down and it's not really growing at this  
5 point.

6 So I guess a roundabout way to answer your  
7 question, we're still trying to get more units. I  
8 don't see anything on the horizon in the next five to  
9 seven to ten years probably.

10 MAJ (R) GONZALES: Roger, sir.

11 MG NAVA: Okay. So reference Carlsbad. So  
12 divesting it probably is the right thing to do, Board  
13 Members. There is a path to go through working  
14 through GSD and just transferring this through  
15 government transfer over to GSD.

16 And then they can allow the State Police to  
17 continue operating in there. That would take it off  
18 of our books. And it would relieve the FMO of the  
19 requirements for maintenance and whatnot of this  
20 facility.

21 And what I would ask -- and again I don't  
22 know if it's appropriate or not because we had it  
23 listed on here as a discussion -- is to have a motion  
24 from the group to pursue divesting it through the GSD.

25 Mr. Romero, can you tell me, can I do that

1 given the way we have our agenda written?

2 MR. ROMERO: Yes, sir. I think the way ahead  
3 would be that we can schedule a special meeting at the  
4 end to actually vote on a way ahead with each one of  
5 these properties. As it's listed right now on the  
6 agenda, I think we might be in a gray area as far as  
7 an OMA violation if you actually pull the trigger and  
8 drive on with that today.

9 MG NAVA: Thank you for that guidance. So  
10 with what we'll do is we'll go through each one of  
11 these and discuss them.

12 Mr. Burney, when we get to the next meeting,  
13 we will need to schedule a special meeting to actually  
14 vote on some resolutions specific to these, because  
15 there are at least three communities that we need to  
16 start moving on. And Carlsbad is not one of those.

17 So thank you for that, Mr. Romero. I  
18 appreciate that.

19 So we'll go to the next one which is Hobbs.  
20 Hobbs currently does have soldiers in it. Sergeant  
21 Major.

22 CSM (R) TORRES: Yes, sir.

23 MG NAVA: However, the soldiers in that unit,  
24 within the last two years, they have drilled like a  
25 total of eight times there in that location. For most

1 of the soldiers, we've gone down to the name tape  
2 level and have looked at how many folks are from the  
3 area.

4 Do you remember what the number is, Colonel  
5 Carper?

6 COL CARPER: Yeah. So it was six total. And  
7 I think two of them were from Texas that would come  
8 over.

9 MG NAVA: So six soldiers assigned to the  
10 Hobbs Readiness Center are driving less than 50 miles.  
11 Everybody else is driving greater than 50 miles to get  
12 to drill. Two of those six live in Texas.

13 I have met with the mayor to discuss the  
14 Hobbs Readiness Center. The City of Hobbs owns all  
15 the land around our Readiness Center. The City of  
16 Hobbs is very interested in acquiring the Readiness  
17 Center.

18 I informed him that I have no authority to do  
19 this of my own accord and that it would require a  
20 resolution by the State Armory Board to continue  
21 progressing. But the City of Hobbs is very interested  
22 in creating a first responder type training facility  
23 there at the Hobbs Readiness Center.

24 When we look again at our DOD market share  
25 and we look at the National Guard part of that DOD

1 market share, the National Guard is not doing very  
2 well with respect to pulling recruits in from that  
3 part of the State.

4           This is probably due to a couple of reasons.  
5 Part of it is the oil and gas industry and its up and  
6 down swings that it has in that part of the state. I  
7 was the commander of the Hobbs unit.

8           And this is one of these areas that, when  
9 things are going very well, our younger soldiers are  
10 making, you know, well over \$100 an hour working on  
11 the weekend. And to pull them away to do drill is  
12 just not financially in their best interests. So they  
13 don't.

14           I had the staff look at a way to optimize for  
15 our soldiers and reduce the number of miles that they  
16 have to drive to the nearest Readiness Center to go to  
17 drill.

18           If we consolidated the Hobbs detachment,  
19 which is an engineer detachment, into its parent  
20 headquarters which is located in Roswell, the majority  
21 of those soldiers assigned to the detachment no longer  
22 have to drive greater than 50 miles.

23           So this is a Readiness Center that is from  
24 the National Guard perspective kind of one that is  
25 ripe for divesting to the city. The city has

1 indicated to me, again by speaking with the mayor and  
2 the city manager, just talking feasibility, that they  
3 are very interested in that facility.

4           So I'm going to keep going through these and  
5 letting you guys know what I know up to this point.  
6 What questions do we have about the Hobbs Readiness  
7 Center?

8           (No response.)

9           MG NAVA: No questions. We'll go to the next  
10 one, the Santa Rosa Readiness Center. Santa Rosa is  
11 owned by the City of Santa Rosa. Again this is a unit  
12 that is currently deployed to the CENTCOM area of  
13 operations. They are scheduled to return in the  
14 August time frame.

15           We did have a meeting with the mayor to  
16 discuss that the soldiers from the Santa Rosa  
17 Readiness Center have not been drilling there. Again  
18 they're part of the 720th Transportation Company.  
19 They've been doing their trainings for their  
20 deployment mostly out of Las Vegas.

21           This property is not owned by the State  
22 Armory Board, it's owned by the City of Santa Rosa.  
23 And the document that we have from Santa Rosa says  
24 that, at the point that the National Guard deems it no  
25 longer has a military use, that it would revert back

1 to the City of Santa Rosa. All permanent property  
2 that is located there would become the property of the  
3 City of Santa Rosa.

4           The City of Santa Rosa is very interested in  
5 acquiring this Readiness Center. They already  
6 collaborate with the county and they use it for many  
7 events in the City of Santa Rosa. But they also would  
8 like to use it for a first responder type facility.  
9 So they are very interested in acquiring this  
10 Readiness Center.

11           Going to Espanola, Espanola is currently  
12 vacant. Again this is a detachment that is deployed  
13 in the CENTCOM theater of operations. The Department  
14 of Health has a short-term lease with the State Armory  
15 Board and has some of the alternate care facility  
16 equipment, the Federal medical set equipment that was  
17 acquired by FEMA during the COVID-19 response, in the  
18 Espanola Readiness Center.

19           The Department of Health has indicated to me  
20 that it is not a suitable long-term solution for them  
21 for storage because of its location. They would  
22 prefer something in Santa Fe or in Albuquerque.

23           So we have notified them that they need to  
24 figure out what they're going to do with that  
25 equipment. So again they have a short-term lease with

1 us to continue storage there, but they need to get out  
2 of it.

3 I had a meeting with the mayor and with the  
4 city manager just looking for feasibility. They have  
5 a great plan. They would like to acquire the Espanola  
6 Readiness Center. I probably should not divulge all  
7 of the stuff I discussed with them, but they do have a  
8 plan.

9 They would very much like to gain access to  
10 the Espanola Readiness Center. They have some  
11 developments that would be a very important part of  
12 their economic development that they are looking at.  
13 So they are very interested in acquiring that  
14 facility.

15 The Deming Readiness Center, again we have a  
16 lease with the City of Deming for the use of that  
17 facility. They have taken excellent care of this  
18 facility. It was used heavily in 2019 for the surge  
19 of individuals coming across the border that were  
20 unable to be taken care of by the Department of  
21 Homeland Security.

22 They had a very, very good operation there  
23 which I saw firsthand. They did a great job. The  
24 building honestly has never looked better. They took  
25 very, very good care of it.

1           As you all know, there is a potential issue  
2 right now brewing on the Southwest Border. There are  
3 some decisions, some lawsuits with the ACLU against  
4 the Federal Government that continue to potentially  
5 open the pathway for more folks to cross the border.

6           And this very well could come back into use  
7 or be required to be used as a shelter as it was in  
8 2019.

9           That being said, the Governor is very clear  
10 that she is expecting the Federal Government to step  
11 forward and come up with a plan to deal with the  
12 situation on the border. And she does not want to put  
13 the State in the forefront with that response.

14           That being said, again the Deming Readiness  
15 Center has not had a unit assigned to it in many, many  
16 years. We have intentionally kept it because of its  
17 strategic importance, its location by the border.

18           It has served as a base of operations for  
19 counter drug operations. Customs and Border Patrol  
20 have used it as a base of operations. We have used it  
21 for short-term housing for units rotating through  
22 doing border-type missions.

23           But it has not been used as a National Guard  
24 Readiness Center for a very long time. This is  
25 another Readiness Center that we should have a

1 discussion about at our next special meeting. Again  
2 it is owned by the State of New Mexico State Armory  
3 Board.

4           Next we have the Portales Readiness Center.  
5 If you recall, the Portales Readiness Center had the  
6 Roosevelt County Sheriff working in there for several  
7 years. They had a sweetheart of a deal on their rent.  
8 They did take pretty good care of it.

9           We had some major damage done to the building  
10 by a once-in-100-year windstorm and rainstorm. That  
11 building has a new roof, has new stucco, has new  
12 paint. It's in very good condition.

13           If you recall, we recently had some potential  
14 buyers interested in that Readiness Center that work  
15 with the movie industry. That seems to have kind of  
16 all fallen apart. That being said, this facility is  
17 currently vacant. And we ought to consider doing  
18 something with it. That's Portales.

19           Next is the Clayton Readiness Center. The  
20 Clayton Readiness Center just recently met its 25-year  
21 depreciation date. It is currently occupied by the  
22 sheriff, which is a unique kind of a situation,  
23 because the property doesn't belong to the county, it  
24 doesn't belong to Union County, it belongs to the Town  
25 of Clayton.

1           So again, like Santa Rosa, if we determine at  
2 some point that we are going to divest of it, the town  
3 would be the one that would have the say-so as to how  
4 it would get utilized.

5           There has been great collaboration, however,  
6 between the town and the county. They're all getting  
7 along just fine. But again this is a location that  
8 has not had soldiers assigned to it for a very long  
9 time and is currently being utilized by the sheriff.

10           The Lordsburg Readiness Center. The  
11 Lordsburg Readiness Center has been vacant for a very  
12 long time when it comes to National Guard use of that  
13 facility. And I'm drawing a blank right now. Who is  
14 in our Lordsburg Readiness Center? Is it being  
15 utilized, do we have a lease, who is in it?

16           MS. SEYAL: Sir, it's the sheriff.

17           MG NAVA: The sheriff. Thank you. So this  
18 is another one that, if divested, would free up 13,872  
19 square feet.

20           So since we're not going to make any  
21 decisions at this point, we will need to schedule a  
22 future meeting where we do talk about each of these.

23           Board Members, if you have specific  
24 questions, Sergeant Major, your point about taking  
25 care of our soldiers, you're tracking 100 percent.

1 And we have all that information, we have all that  
2 data.

3 So we can include that in our presentation  
4 when we talk about this and talk about the soldiers  
5 from the locations; how long the facility has or has  
6 not been utilized; the impact, the economic impact to  
7 the communities. We can talk through all that at our  
8 next meeting.

9 Ms. Seyal, do you have anything else  
10 regarding the potential divestment opportunity or this  
11 item on new business?

12 MS. SEYAL: No, sir. We just wanted to throw  
13 that information out there to allow the Guard writ  
14 large to begin to discuss what we might do with this  
15 and see what the Board thought. Thank you for  
16 providing all of that information.

17 MG NAVA: Okay. Great. Again, just to be  
18 clear, nobody should be talking with the leadership of  
19 these communities except for me. With the political  
20 implications, I've got to work closely with the  
21 Governor's Office to make sure that everybody is on  
22 the same sheet of music here.

23 MS. SEYAL: Yes, sir. There was never any  
24 intent from my shop to be talking to anyone. This was  
25 literally a discussion with the Board so that we, the

1 broader, meaning you, Guard could have the vote to  
2 begin to move forward. Not my shop.

3 MG NAVA: Okay. Very good. Thank you.

4 Board Members, any questions over this item?

5 (No response.)

6 MG NAVA: Okay. Thank you. We're going to  
7 go on to the next item of new business, item 9 C,  
8 update of the Onate Complex RV Park. And since  
9 Captain Ruiz is not here, then this goes to Ms. Seyal  
10 again.

11 MS. SEYAL: All right, sir. Board Members,  
12 there had been a discussion about the potential of  
13 putting an RV park at the back of the Onate Complex.  
14 So what you have is just a couple of potential courses  
15 of action.

16 The team went out and measured the space and  
17 took a look at other RV parks and the distance and  
18 space requirements, the electrical, water, sewer,  
19 et cetera, taking a look at putting in maybe some  
20 landscaping or some pavers, picnic tables, those types  
21 of things.

22 And so what the presentation that's in front  
23 of you provides is just two different courses of  
24 action. One allows for 22 RVs to be put in place and  
25 the other allows for 18, two at each essential hotbox

1 location.

2           We've given some rough estimates based on  
3 this information that we have from our vendors and  
4 given some idea of what it might cost to do this. We  
5 did not offer potential rent fees because they really  
6 vary quite largely depending on what services you have  
7 available for the renters. So that is information  
8 that's not here.

9           We did offer you some ideas of cost. On the  
10 low end, if we were to put in 18 RV parking spots, two  
11 essentially at each power source, we would look at  
12 about \$82,000 to bring that up and online. And to  
13 bring in 22, we're looking at about one hundred and a  
14 half thousand dollars.

15           And this would require obviously some time to  
16 get done, because we would need to clean it up and  
17 pretty it up and bring everything in. But I just  
18 wanted to provide this to give you updated information  
19 on our previous discussion and for your consideration  
20 to move forward.

21           MG NAVA: Thank you. Did you guys have an  
22 opportunity to kind of collaborate with Board Member  
23 Torres given the fact that he has all of this  
24 experience doing this work?

25           MS. SEYAL: Sir, I honestly don't know if

1 Eric Salazar and Daniel coordinated that. They were  
2 very inundated with our (inaudible) submission. And  
3 so my best guess would be that they did not.

4 MG NAVA: Okay. Again I don't think this is  
5 something right now that we require action on.

6 Sergeant Major Torres, again I very much  
7 value your opinion and your thoughts on this idea.  
8 The idea again is that the area where we currently  
9 have the mobile homes, that we consider an RV park  
10 there as a possibility.

11 And the idea again is not necessarily that  
12 the State Armory Board would have to fund this.  
13 Potentially that could be our billeting fund. But  
14 that it becomes something that's part of our overall  
15 billeting operation, our hotel operation that we  
16 currently run here at the Onate Complex. Excuse me.  
17 Our New Mexico National Guard Training Complex.

18 So I think this is still very much in the  
19 preliminary stages. I appreciate the work that you  
20 all did.

21 And again, Sergeant Major Torres, if you  
22 could provide some feedback as to whether this seems  
23 like it makes sense or not to you just from a  
24 practical standpoint, I would appreciate that.

25 Again I don't think that there's any kind of

1 discussion or decision that has to be made today,  
2 though.

3           Sergeant Major Torres, did you have  
4 something?

5           CSM (R) TORRES: Yes. My opinion is that I  
6 would be more than willing to share my prints of the  
7 way my RV park is set up. And they can come and look  
8 at it and see what they think of it.

9           At my RV park, my sites are 44 feet wide, 75  
10 feet long, all of them are drive-throughs. And I have  
11 found out in the last few years there are so many big  
12 motor homes that they find that very practical.

13           So looking at the prints here, the 22 or the  
14 18, if they would come and look at my park and see  
15 what they think, I'll show them the prints that I  
16 have, the plans that I have, they can have an idea of  
17 what it would look like.

18           It all depends on the site. Mine work  
19 because they love the space that they have. Like now,  
20 with what's going on with the corona virus, in my  
21 units there is 45 feet between each RV or motor home  
22 or whatever. So my customers like that because of the  
23 situation that we're in now.

24           But it's just an idea to look at. If they  
25 like 22 or they like 18, it all depends how much

1 property they've got. They are both welcome to come  
2 and look at it, see what they think.

3 I'm more than happy to share my prints with  
4 them so they have an idea of what it takes, you know,  
5 so they don't have to go to a professional engineer or  
6 something. They're welcome to that, if they wish to  
7 use it.

8 MG NAVA: Thank you very much, Sergeant  
9 Major. And I think that again this is some  
10 preliminary information. Again the billeting fund,  
11 just for everyone's understanding -- and I don't even  
12 think I'm using the right terminology. Sonya, if  
13 you're on the phone, if you could help me with the  
14 correct name.

15 It was our old billeting fund advisory  
16 council. We're moving towards a civilian-led team.  
17 Again we're restructuring that. In my mind this would  
18 be part of our billeting operation and, therefore,  
19 they would obviously have a big say-so in all this.

20 But I think the idea of making a small RV  
21 park here on this complex to me has merit. Again  
22 there are a lot of folks that come through Santa Fe, a  
23 lot of DOD cardholders, a lot of retirees, a lot of  
24 former National Guardsmen and women that I'm sure  
25 would take us up on this.

1           And to your point, Sergeant Major, I think  
2 you're right. There are larger trailers. I think  
3 some of these fifth-wheel trailers look more like  
4 houses people are pulling around. And pulling  
5 straight through makes a lot of sense for them to be  
6 able to get in and out. I for one would certainly  
7 like to see your plans and see what we could do with  
8 this.

9           Board Members, what questions do we have or  
10 what comments do we have on this topic for Ms. Seyal  
11 as a Board?

12           (No response.)

13           ITEM NO. 10: OLD BUSINESS

14           MG NAVA: Okay. We have no old business  
15 scheduled on this meeting for today. Is that correct,  
16 Mr. Burney?

17           MR. BURNEY: Yes, sir, that is correct.

18           ITEM NO. 11: ANNOUNCEMENTS

19           MG NAVA: Okay. Excellent. Going to item  
20 No. 11 then, announcements. I don't have any great  
21 announcements other than we currently are getting  
22 additional vaccine with the New Mexico National Guard  
23 to be able to extend vaccinations to family members  
24 and to DOD-affiliated folks.

25           So for anybody that is interested in

1 receiving the vaccine. Again it's totally optional.  
2 But for those that are interested, we have it  
3 available.

4 There is an app that we have through our  
5 State surgeon's office that you can use to coordinate  
6 for that. Do any Board Members have any  
7 announcements?

8 (No response.)

9 ITEM NO. 12: NEXT MEETING

10 MG NAVA: Okay. Mr. Burney, instead of our  
11 regularly scheduled next quarter meeting, I do think  
12 we need a meeting to discuss the potential divestment  
13 opportunities. And so we need something sooner. So I  
14 would say within a month. So what are your proposed  
15 dates for a meeting, Mr. Burney?

16 MR. BURNEY: So, if we stick with our regular  
17 schedule, April 15 would be the third -- I'm sorry.  
18 That's the wrong date. No. April 15 would be the  
19 third Thursday in April, sir.

20 MG NAVA: So Easter is on the 4th. The 15th  
21 is tax day. Anything else that might be conflicting  
22 with anybody besides getting your taxes in to Uncle  
23 Sam?

24 MR. ROMERO: This is Assistant Attorney  
25 General Romero. Our taxes have been moved to May,

1 mid-May I think, May 15 through May 17, somewhere in  
2 there.

3 MG NAVA: Okay. Good. Thank you,  
4 Mr. Romero. I appreciate that. Any part you had in  
5 that, I appreciate that.

6 Okay. So April 15. Board Members, is that  
7 okay?

8 (Affirmative response.)

9 MR. ROMERO: This is Assistant A.G. Romero  
10 again. If we're tracking the April 15 meeting, that  
11 does give us enough time to not have to follow the  
12 special meeting procedures. So we can just drive on  
13 with our normal procedure for that Board meeting. You  
14 are statutorily permitted to call more frequent Board  
15 meetings.

16 MG NAVA: Okay. Thank you. So just our  
17 normal process of getting our agenda published and  
18 putting it in the newspaper, that kind of stuff, the  
19 normal process that we normally follow, right?

20 MR. ROMERO: Roger, sir.

21 MG NAVA: Okay. Perfect. Okay. So our next  
22 meeting is going to be on the 15th of April at ten  
23 a.m. Well, you know what, Santa Fe County is  
24 currently in the green.

25 If we can meet in person, I would like to do

1 that. We have facilities that we can allow and ensure  
2 we have proper social distancing. We haven't met in  
3 person actually for a year already, since the onset of  
4 COVID-19.

5 So if we can meet in person, that would be my  
6 preference. We will have the teleconference as a  
7 backup plan for the ability to participate  
8 telephonically for anybody that feels unsafe or unable  
9 to meet.

10 I can ensure that, in the Santa Fe area, we  
11 have a place where we can properly social distance and  
12 whatnot. So I think that would be my preference.

13 Again assuming that we don't have any kind of  
14 relapse with COVID-19, Santa Fe County is in the  
15 green, we should be good to go there. The next  
16 meeting on the 15th, ten a.m. In person as a primary,  
17 teleconference as a backup. Any last minute alibis or  
18 comments from anybody on the Board?

19 MR. BURNEY: Sir, are you going to give us a  
20 location where you're going to have the meeting?

21 MG NAVA: Marty, I think that as far as the  
22 location, we can do it here at the headquarters. We  
23 can use my conference room and fit the individuals  
24 that we have on the State Armory Board in there, no  
25 problem, and keep a six-foot distance very easily.

1 MR. BURNEY: Roger, sir.

2 MG NAVA: Again anybody that cannot  
3 participate in person or chooses not to, that's fine.  
4 They can still participate telephonically.

5 ITEM NO. 13: CLOSING REMARKS

6 MG NAVA: That being said, this meeting has  
7 gone pretty quickly. Again thank you, Kelly, for  
8 bringing the information that you brought forth. I  
9 appreciate that.

10 MS. SEYAL: Yes, sir.

11 MG NAVA: Can I have a motion to adjourn the  
12 meeting.

13 MS. MARTINEZ: Sir, I'll make a motion to  
14 adjourn. This is Theresa.

15 MG NAVA: Theresa made the motion. Mark,  
16 will you second it.

17 MAJ (R) GONZALES: Second. Mark Gonzales  
18 seconds the motion, sir.

19 MG NAVA: Okay. We have a motion and a  
20 second.

21 MR. BURNEY: Excuse me, sir.

22 MG NAVA: Go ahead.

23 MR. BURNEY: I'm sorry, sir. I was just  
24 looking at all my little notes here. This is Marty  
25 speaking. You just scheduled a special meeting on the

1 15th. Are we still going to have the regularly  
2 scheduled meeting? The next one would be the 17th of  
3 June, sir.

4 MG NAVA: Let's do this, Marty. Let's get  
5 through our 15th meeting. And then, as part of our  
6 agenda, we'll talk about the next meeting. And we'll  
7 try to get back on our regular schedule.

8 MR. BURNEY: All right, sir. Thank you.

9 MR. NAVA: Okay. Very good. I have a motion  
10 and a second to adjourn the meeting. We're not going  
11 to do a roll call for this one. All in favor say aye.

12 (The Board Members voted unanimously.)

13 MG NAVA: Thank you all very much. Have a  
14 great day. It's eleven o'clock.

15 (At 11:00 a.m. the meeting was adjourned.)

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## REPORTER'S CERTIFICATE

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I, JAN A. WILLIAMS, New Mexico CCR #14, DO  
HEREBY CERTIFY that on March 18, 2021, the proceedings  
in the above matter were taken before me, that I did  
report in stenographic shorthand the proceedings set  
forth herein, and the foregoing pages are a true and  
correct transcription to the best of my ability.

I FURTHER CERTIFY that I am neither employed  
by nor related to nor contracted with (unless excepted  
by the rules) any of the parties or attorneys in this  
case, and that I have no interest whatsoever in the  
final disposition of these proceedings.

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