STATE OF NEW MEXICO
Harold Runnels Building, 1190 St.
Francis Drive
Santa Fe, New Mexico
87505

MEETING MINUTES
MEETING OF THE UTILITY OPERATORS CERTIFICATION ADVISORY BOARD
February 16, 2026

Present:	Cathie Eisen, Chair Maria Gilvarry, Vice Chair Bobby Towle Sydney Hoke Michael Alvidrez Ivan "Mike" Abell Craig Byers Rick Mitchell
Absent:	None noted
Others present:	Pam Jones, Board Administrator Luis Lopez, Paralegal, Office of Public Facilitation Carlos Gonzales Teresa Stevens Drew Padilla Veronica Serrano Brian Bennon Melissa Chavez Cliff Waide A. Belsher Randy Bayliss

The Chair called the Board into order at 9:13 A.M.

Item 1. Roll call.

Action: Chair Eisen called the roll and a quorum was present. Guests were introduced.

Item 2. Approve February 16, 2026 agenda.

Action: The Board reviewed the February 16, 2026 meeting agenda. A motion was made

by Vice Chair Gilvarry, Member Byers seconded and approved to accept the agenda with edits. The motion passed.

Item 3. **Approval of the January 22, 2026 regular meeting minutes.**

Action: Approval of the meeting minutes was removed from the agenda, per Item No. 2, with the understanding that they would be provided before the next meeting.

Item 4. **Public Comment.**

Action: No public comment was offered.

Item 5. **Discussion of Board Vacancies**

Action: Chair Eisen opened discussion regarding current vacancies on the Advisory Board. Members discussed potential candidates and the process for filling the open positions. The Board considered whether nominations should be made during the meeting or postponed until additional information regarding candidates could be gathered.

Board members expressed interest in ensuring that future nominees bring relevant operator experience and can actively participate in Advisory Board meetings and discussions.

Following discussion, the Board determined that additional information regarding potential nominees would be helpful before making formal nominations. The matter was tabled for future consideration.

Item 6. **Operator Certification Program Guidebook Review**

Action: Brian Bennon presented the reformatted Need-To-Know criteria and guidebook. The Advisory Board discussed the Operator Certification Program guidebook. Members provided feedback on several sections of the guidebook and discussed areas where clarification or updates may improve usability for certified operators and applicants.

Discussion included possible revisions to language within the document, ensuring consistency with program policies, and improving accessibility of information for operators seeking certification or renewal.

Board members expressed appreciation for the work that has been completed on the guidebook and indicated that continued review would be beneficial prior to finalizing any revisions.

Item 7. **Other business (including next meeting date).**

Action: The Board addressed other business and discussed the next meeting date. The next meeting date was discussed and will be scheduled for March 12, 2026.

Item 8. **Adjournment by roll call.**

Action: The Chair adjourned the meeting by roll call vote. The meeting adjourned at 3:24PM.

Cathie R Eisen
Board signature

3/12/2026
Date