

**VALENCIA ASSOCIATION OF LOCAL ELECTED OFFICIALS (VALEO)  
QUARTERLY MEETING**

**Veterans Memorial Center @ Eagle Park  
305 Eagle Lane, Belen, NM  
Tuesday, May 24, 2022, 6:00 PM – 7:00 PM**

**MINUTES**

**1. Call to Order**

City of Belen Mayor Robert Noblin called the meeting to order at approximately 6:15 p.m., and encouraged attendees to help themselves to burritos from Montano's provided by the City of Belen

**2. Introductions**

**3. City of Belen Mayor Robert Noblin invited all present to introduce themselves. The following individuals were present:**

Robert Noblin, Mayor, Belen  
Frank Ortega, City Councilor, Belen  
Danny Bernal, Jr., City Councilor, Belen  
Steven Holdman, City Councilor, Belen  
Yvette Padilla, City Councilor, Belen  
Kathleen Pickering, Community Services Administrator, Belen  
Steven Tomita, Development Services, Belen  
Danny Monette, County Manager, Valencia County  
Orlando Montoya, Valencia County  
Gregory Martin, Village Administrator, Los Lunas  
Joshua Ramsell, Mayor, Rio Communities  
Art Apodaca, City Councilor, Rio Communities  
Jim Winters, City Councilor, Rio Communities  
Marty Moore, City Manager, Rio Communities

**4. Review of Past Minutes**

City of Belen Mayor Robert Noblin referenced copies of minutes from the last VALEO meeting on March 29, 2022, which are posted on the Valencia County website.

**5. New Business**

- Belen Economic Development, ***Steven Tomita***  
Steve Tomita, Development Services Director for City of Belen, introduced himself and made a presentation of the current economic development initiatives in Belen.
- Retired Senior Volunteer, ***Kathleen Pickering***  
Kathleen Pickering described the AmeriCorps RSVP 2-year Senior Demonstration Grant that the City of Belen was awarded. She discussed the workforce-readiness focus of the

grant, and encouraged other members of VALEO to contribute areas where senior volunteer services could make a difference to the County.

- Public Safety Salary Equity, **Mayor Robert Noblin**

Mayor Noblin shared the problem of the law enforcement entities in Valencia County vying for the same potential officers for their force with other VALEO members. The group agreed that collaborating on law enforcement concerns was important, and that perhaps issues beyond salary equity could benefit all the residents of Valencia County. The group agreed to continue discussions on possible areas of collaboration like the VRECC

- Hospital RFP, **County Officials**

Danny Monette shared the County's RFP for the hospital project. He noted that he could only provide the information and timelines spelled out in the RFP, and could not elaborate on any details outside of the RFP's process.

## **6. Future VALEO Meeting Schedule**

- August 16, 2022, Hosted by City of Rio Communities
- November 15, 2022, Hosted by Valencia County

## **7. Adjourn**