

SANTA FE COUNTY**RESOLUTION NO.2000- 112**

**A RESOLUTION JOINING A COALITION OF LOCAL GOVERNING BODIES IN THE
SANTA FE, RIO ARRIBA, LOS ALAMOS TRI-COUNTY REGION IN ORDER TO
FOSTER A POSITIVE AND COMPETITIVE ENVIRONMENT FOR
TELECOMMUNICATIONS IN THE REGION.**

WHEREAS, the City of Santa Fe, Santa Fe County, the City of Espanola, Rio Arriba County, Los Alamos County, and potentially others wish to join in the formation of a coalition for the purposes of stimulating the expansion and development of reasonably priced, advanced telecommunications services to foster economic development in the tri-County area; and

WHEREAS, the Telecommunications Act of 1996 (the Act) was enacted by Congress in order to create a competitive deregulated environment; and

WHEREAS, the region has been traditionally served by a single telecommunications provider as Local Exchange Carrier (LEC); and

WHEREAS, the coalition members wish to stimulate competition within the tri-county region and increase providers' level of investment; and

WHEREAS, the coalition members wish to encourage the development of telecommunications infrastructure and availability of telecommunications services in the regions; and

WHEREAS, telecommunications is anticipated to be one of the largest growth sectors in the United States economy in the forthcoming decade; and

WHEREAS, the coalition members believe that high speed access to the Internet and other advanced services are essential to the sustained economic development and quality of life of the tri-county region; and

WHEREAS, the coalition members wish to accommodate growth and development of telecommunications infrastructure in the region through the efforts to encourage entry of Competitive Local Exchange Carriers (CLEC's); and

WHEREAS, development and retention of many businesses requires the availability of reasonably priced, high-speed telecommunications services for the business and residential areas; and

WHEREAS, reasonably priced, high-speed telecommunications services is crucial to the economic well-being of a community; and

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WHEREAS, the future economy of the United States lies in the global economy, which requires high speed dependable affordable connectivity; and

WHEREAS, the tri-County area lacks adequate high-speed telecommunications infrastructure for current and future demand and expeditious deployment is not expected without stimulus; and

WHEREAS, many businesses are faced with leaving the tri-County Area because of the lack of adequate telecommunications services for their business and their employees; and

WHEREAS, the Coalition members believe that high-speed access to the Internet and advanced services are also a quality of life requirement for many residences; and

WHEREAS, telemedicine and distance learning is dependent on affordable wide bandwidth for rural areas and is vital to the health and well being of the entire region,

WHEREAS, the Coalition members believe that by combining their telecommunications purchasing power they may be able to 1) reduce the price of telecommunications services, 2) stimulate competitive entry, 3) stimulate the incumbent providers to increase their level of investment, and 4) increase the types of services available by encouraging providers of leapfrog technologies; and

WHEREAS, the Coalition members believe that 1) finding solutions to telecommunications right-of-way issues, 2) reviewing relevant State, County, and City statutes, and 3) discussing issues with selected telecommunications service providers may result in a list of actions that can help foster telecommunications competition, investment and economic development in the tri-County area, in addition to retaining businesses that might otherwise leave the tri-County area.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SANTA FE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS THAT:

Section 1. The Tri-Area Association for Economic Development (TRADE) is hereby appointed as the central organization for the purposes of organizing meetings, developing issues, and coordinating the work of the Coalition.

Section 2. The Coalition is directed to explore the preparation and issuance of a RFQ (Request for Quote) for the bulk purchase of telecommunications services for the Coalition members and other entities including City, Pueblo and County governments, and such other large purchasers as may be located within the tri-county area.

Section 3. The Coalition shall study existing regulations and statutes that may hinder telecommunications development by providers, including leapfrog technologies to possibly reduce "roadblocks" and "streamline" government processes.

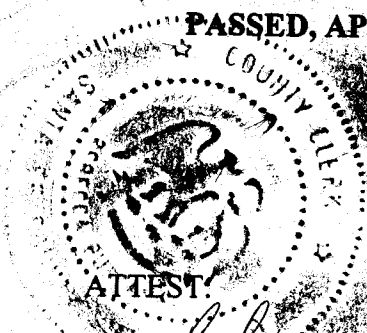
Section 4. It is expressly understood that the Coalition may call upon the member organizations or other assisting organizations, such as the NNM Telecommunications Advisory Group (T.A.G.), Connect New Mexico, and Rural Payday, as may be necessary and proper to provide advice and assist in the work contemplated herein.

Section 5. Each member of the Coalition shall duly designate a staff member as a representative to the Coalition for the purposes of providing necessary materials, partaking in discussions, exploring options, and forwarding the Coalition's recommendations to their respective governing bodies regarding the work contemplated herein.

PASSED, APPROVED AND ADOPTED this 29 day of August, 2000

By: Richard D. Anaya

Richard Anaya, Chairman



ATTEST:

By: Rebecca Bustamante
Rebecca Bustamante, County Clerk

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

[Signature]
County Attorney



COUNTY OF SANTA FE) SS
STATE OF NEW MEXICO)

I hereby certify that this instrument was filed for record on the 30 day of Aug, A.D. 20 00, at 2:24 o'clock P.m. and was duly recorded in book 1801 page 849851 of the records of Santa Fe County.

Witness my Hand and Seal of Office
Rebecca Bustamante
County Clerk, Santa Fe County, N.M.

[Signature]
Deputy