New Mexico Mining Safety Board (MSB) – Meeting, November 19, 2026 @ 1 PM

AGENDA

FINAL

MSB members:
John Purcell (Chair), Jerry Higginbotham (Vice Chair), Michael Ackman, Howard Bartoo, Don Bush, Jeff Cook, Katharine Fishman, Roy Newman, Mike Runner, Todd Schuller.

The State Mine Inspector (SMI), and the EMNRD Cabinet Secretary are Ex-Officio members of the MSB.
Chris Hefner, State Mine Inspector
Ms. Melanie Kenderdine, Cabinet Secretary EMNRD

Leon Richter-Freund, Counsel for Mining Safety Board and State Mine Inspector.

Administrative duties provided by Darlene Martinez BMS Administrative Specialist.

LOCATION

Bureau of Mine Safety, room 101
101 East Road
Socorro, NM
with Teleconference
Capability

Join Zoom Meeting
https://nmt-edu.zoom.us/j/99180374524?pwd=8aRb2BODQxSmcSIQJwsBVPBmHb8bAd.1
Join and take notes
https://nmt-edu.zoom.us/j/99180374524?pwd=8aRb2BODQxSmcSIQJwsBVPBmHb8bAd.1&mynotes=on
Meeting chat link
https://nmt-edu.zoom.us/launch/jc/99180374524
Meeting ID: 991 8037 4524

Purpose of Meeting:
The MSB will conduct a regular meeting. The purpose of the meeting is for regular MSB business including the approval of the last meeting's minutes; SMI and Chair reports; Mine Rescue Team Requirements for Remote Mines; continued discussion to consider adding "Referencing Federal Regulations and Other Mine Safety Sources" section to NMAC Tittle 19, Chapter 6 – Mine Safety; update on board vacancies and nomination process for new members; and to submit any other new business that may be included at future meetings.

Other business items: If MSB members would like other items included on the agenda, please contact the SMI at 575-835-5460 or Chair (John Purcell) at 575-200-6771.

Agenda (Starting at 1 PM)

Action
Meeting will commence.
Chair – Attendance, introductions, and safety share.
Approval of today's agenda; Action Item
Approval of the last meeting's minutes, held on August 6, 2026; Action Item
SMI Report – Introduction of Jesse Carlowe, NM Deputy State Mine Inspector and other topics.
Chair Report – MSHA updates; US Department of Labor awards more than $10.5M in grants to support mine safety, health training across the nation, NM Tech received $172,394; US Department of Labor finds none of nation's 12,000 mining operations met criteria for pattern of violations in fiscal year 2026; and 2026 Mine Fatalities. Flooding of Morton Salt Mine in Ohio (https://fox8.com/news/morton-salt-shuts-down-fairport-harbor-salt-mine-due-to-significant-water-breach/).

Discussion – Mine Rescue Team Requirements for Remote Mines
Continued discussion to adding section to NMAC Tittle 19, Chapter 6 – Mine Safety; Referencing Federal Regulations and Other Mine Safety Sources, to address Federal and other safety rules and regulations to be used by the SMI and BMS.
New Member status - Application form can be found on Boards and Commissions | Office of the Governor - Michelle Lujan Grisham (state.nm.us).
New Business and action items to be discussed at the next meeting.
Proposed date and location of next meeting; Action Item
Meeting adjourned. Action Item

If you are an individual with a disability who is in need of a reader, amplifier, qualified sign language interpreter, or any other form of auxiliary aid or service to attend or participate in the hearing or meeting, please contact (575) 835-5460 at least 48 hours prior to the meeting. Public documents, including the agenda and minutes, can be provided in various accessible formats. Please contact (575) 835-5460 if a summary or other type of accessible format is needed.