



Union County

UNION COUNTY, NM
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BY Brenda Green

RESOLUTION #2022-30

SUPPORTING ESTABLISHMENT OF A LEARNING CENTER IN UNION COUNTY WITH MESALANDS COMMUNITY COLLEGE AS THE HIGHER EDUCATION PROVIDER

WHEREAS, Union County is located in a rural area of New Mexico with limited higher education opportunities; and

WHEREAS, the establishment of a Learning Center within the county would provide the community and surrounding areas with services that would be beneficial to the continued growth and economic development of the area through additional education/training of both students and area residents; and

WHEREAS, Mesalands Community College is currently the nearest higher education provider to Union County, New Mexico; and

WHEREAS, Mesalands Community College currently provides services such as dual credit coursework to high school students within the county; and

WHEREAS, Mesalands Community College is currently a fully accredited institution with accreditation provided by the Higher Learning Commission; and

WHEREAS, a number of wind energy projects are currently being planned for construction within Union County in the near future and demand for entry-level wind energy technicians is expected to increase and with Mesalands Community College being home to the North American Wind Research & Training Center, that certification can be provided; and

WHEREAS, a Learning Center in Union County would be ideally located to provide potential nursing students hands on training at the Union County General Hospital, which is a critical access hospital with a Level IV Trauma Center and/or at the Rural Health Clinics located in the county; and

WHEREAS, Mesalands Community College offers degrees/certifications in a number of fields which are currently relevant to the needs of Union County including, but not limited to, Agri-Business, Animal Science, Building Trades, Allied Health/Pre-Nursing, CDL Training, Farrier Science, Law Enforcement, Automotive Technology and Wind Energy Technology.

NOW, THEREFORE, the Board of Commissioners of Union County finds that:

1. Establishment of a Learning Center in Union County would provide greatly needed higher education opportunities for a rural population located in the far northeast corner of New Mexico which currently has limited access to these services.
2. Mesalands Community College is best suited to provide higher educational services to a Learning Center located in Union County.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Commissioners of Union County fully supports the establishment of a Learning Center in Union County with Mesalands Community College as the higher education provider.

PASSED, APPROVED and ADOPTED on this 23rd day of March, 2022.

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS FOR

THE COUNTY OF UNION
STATE OF NEW MEXICO

Justin Bennett

Justin Bennett, Chairman

Clay Kiesling

Clay Kiesling, Vice-Chairman

Walter C. Hall

Walter Hall, Member

ATTEST:

Brenda Green
Brenda Green, Clerk

