

# LWVCNM Observer's Report

Sandoval County Commission regular meeting

January 24, 2024

Mary Templeton, observer (by video recording)

Present: David Heil (Chair), Michael Meek (Vice Chair), Joshua Jones, Jay Block, Katherine Bruch

## Description of Issues Relevant to the League

No agenda items were taken up for which the League has a policy position.

## Additional Comments

### Public Comment

Five of sixteen speakers challenged the District 1 commissioner's legitimacy to hold office based either on representation disagreement or distrust of the 2022 election results. The Commission Chair expressed concern over the attacks. Three speakers associated with the High Desert Treatment Center celebrated sobriety success and thanked the Commission for its support. Two speakers spoke about general election distrust and two expressed fear over people crossing the southern Border.

### Commissioners Discussion

One commissioner asserted that "over 9 million illegals" crossed the southern border in the last 3 years. (<https://sandovalcountynm.new.swagit.com/videos/295846> 1:39:22). He attributed "terrorists...record just awful sex trafficking...hundreds of thousands of American have died of drug overdoses..." to these border crossings.

**As background**, the U.S. Customs and Border Patrol lists 3,267,405 unlawful crossings (Title 8 apprehensions) from 2021 through 2023 (<https://www.cbp.gov/newsroom/stats/cbp-enforcement-statistics/title-8-and-title-42-statistics>). If you also include those seeking lawful admission, total individuals numbered 7,924,245 over the same three years (<https://www.cbp.gov/newsroom/stats/cbp-enforcement-statistics>). Not all who sought lawful admission entered the U.S.

## Sandoval County Commission Website

<https://www.sandovalcountynm.gov/commission/>