

# LWVCNM Observer's Report

Sandoval County Commission regular meeting

March 26, 2025

Mary Templeton, observer (by video recording)

Present: Michael Meek (Chair), Jordan Juarez (Vice Chair), Joshua Jones, Katherine Bruch, Jon Herr

## **Description of Issues Relevant to the League**

### Transparency in State and Local Governments

The Commission discussed the status of IPRA in Sandoval County currently, after a member of the public proposed that an IPRA task force be formed. Some counties are addressing a request backlog, as well as sorting out what kinds of information are confidential and cannot be disclosed. The county attorney cited an example of a large load on the county coming from only a few requestors, such as Lexus/Nexus, a larger corporation based in London which requests IPRA data for their research and then sells it for profit. Several state bills were introduced to provide protections in for various similar circumstances. IPRA is an unfunded mandate at the county level.

#### ***As background:***

LWVCNM expects all state and local governments, executive and legislative, to follow the requirements of the Inspection of public Records Act (IPRA).

## **Additional Comments**

### Public Comment

Two of 7 speakers expressed concerns about funding to properly staff the new animal shelter under construction. Two other speakers promoted a rewritten early US history.

## **Sandoval County Commission Website**

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