NMUCA's Top Ten In 2021



New Mexico Utility Contractors Association

See what your support and membership accomplished in 2021!



In a time of uncertainty and unprecedented change, you have remained steadfast as businesses, as an industry, and as a member. NMUCA worked to ensure that the construction industry was declared and remained an essential business. NMUCA members have shared their experiences, their best practices, and their strategies to help each other through these challenging times. NMUCA's most valuable asset and focus is always its members!

In-Person Meetings

We were all delightfully reminded of the advantages of meeting in person again in 2021 after being virtual for over a year.

In person meetings are more interesting, more, well, personable, and more productive. NMUCA will keep the virtual attendance option going forward, but I know I speak for most when I say that it was refreshing to meet again. Our committees met and we also had four membership meetings (one online in February) in 2021 with guests speakers NM Men's Basketball Coach Pitino, Sandoval County Commissioner and

David Laughlin with the water authori-

ty. We also had a great time at our

Holiday Party in November.

Gubernatorial candidate Jay Block, and Meetina

Infrastructure Funding



In August, Congress passed a massive Infrastructure bill that totals 3.5 Trillion dollars!



New Mexico will receive \$3.7 Billion which will be allocated at the 2022 New Mexico Legislature including \$2.5 Billion on High-

ways apportion programs and \$225 Million for bridge repair replacement and repairs, \$355 Million for water infrastructure projects and more for public transportation. This is the largest allocation of federal funds dedicated to New Mexico's infrastructure. The 2021 Legislature funded millions in Capital Outlay Projects and reauthorizations, Transportation Fund, Transportation projects, and Bonds, Public Project Revolving funds, and NMFA Water Projects. One of NMUCAs top priorities for legislation is infrastructure funding and sufficient funds for revolving funds water projects throughout the state. Investment in infrastructure leads to jobs and a boost in New Mexico's economy.

NMUCA Committees

The Safety, Human Resources, & Planning Committees are the backbone of our association and remain one of your most valuable resources for information keeping you informed, up-to-date & engaged in NMUCA. When the committees meet & discuss relevant topics, the information is shared with members via email and our electronic newsletter. NMUCA was a founding member of the Construction Safety Coalition and the Construction Industry Crime Alliance that enhances our focus on safety and security. Our HR committee keeps you updated on the ever changing world of HR and

our planning committee is committed to

bringing you events worthy of your time.

Zia Partnership & NMOSHA & Safety Awards

Through our partnership we have a very strong relationship with NMOSHA. We have a CAS participate on our Safety Committee and used as a resource for members. Partnerships were renewed and recognized for their efforts. As the national focus is still on COVID, the safety partnership remains steadfast on preventing illness and injury from all hazards in the construction industry.



The NMUCA Safety Awards were presented to the recipients in August. Safety Award winners pave the way for all NMUCA members as examples of excellence in Safety.

Golf & Scholarships

Our Last Ditch Open golf tournament was in full swing (pun intended) this year and raised enough money to fund our scholarships. NMU-CA awarded two scholarships in 2021.

The scholarship applications are available in early spring and are available for employee's graduating seniors off to college and also for employees who are taking classes while working.



Meetings, Training, Dig Talks

NMUCA provides opportunities for training and learning throughout the year. In 2021

the following meetings, training and seminars were a focus in 2021: Bidding with Subs, Managing FMLA, I-9 Self Audit, Dig Safe Month, Trench Safety Stand Down, Bid Protesting, Working in Winter Weather Conditions; Employment Policy Update, OSHA Fatality Recap; Suicide Prevention and Opioid Use; Safety During COVID; Protecting your workforce; Compliance with Federal and State Mandates Updates; High Wind Hazards, Ladder Safety; Working in the Heat; Working in the Cold; Unemployment fraud,

Covid Threats for Employer Lawsuits; OSHA Updates; Distracted Driving, Work Zone Safety; Cannabis Legalization; Fall Protection; Unemployment Rates; and more.



Legislation

Although it is getting tougher to protect our businesses from harmful legislation and government overreach, there were a handful of

victories in 2021. Most of the time, our lobbying efforts are not to help pass legislation but to stop it. NMUCA's efforts are geared towards a healthy business environment where government agencies have the least amount of control possible over your business decisions. NMUCA worked all levels in 2021 to educate lawmakers on the merits of infrastructure investment, & for the freedom to run your business as you see fit. Many initiatives were killed or tabled because of our efforts.

For example, HB 21 Public Works Project Contributions died with only a Senate Floor vote needed to pass. This legislation would have removed an exemption for infrastructure/road construction for paying into a fund for programs that we cannot use. NMUCA took the lead and fought hard against this bill. Regardless of a win or loss in the legislative battles, it is imperative to have a voice. NMUCA is and will remain your voice at all government levels.

Industry Partnerships

NMUCA is strengthened when we work with other industry groups. NMUCA is involved in and works with the following organizations: ASA, ABA, MCA, AGC, ACNM, NMBC, NMRCGA, NM811, CSC, AMAFCA, CWCC, NMCCT, WICNM, SMACNA, OSHA, PSB, PRC, ACHE, NMHBA, ABCWA, NMGC, PNM, NMRA, NAIOP, CID. I know that's a lot of acronyms, if you would like a full list of names, call or email me.

Lastly, as your Executive Director & Lobbyist, I would like to thank each and every one of your for your membership in NMUCA and your confidence in me to do the job you ex-

pect. I am very proud to work for you and hope that I can continue to do so. I have never done this job alone; the real strength of this association comes from you and the many volunteers who work tirelessly to make sure your membership is worth the investment. I always strive to do better and I am open for suggestions & accept them gracefully, so please call me anytime and let's chat! I worked hard to keep up-to-date & adapt in 2021 so that I could remain a valuable resource for you. My promise for 2022 is that I will do the same and strive to do better!

Jane Jernigan