

STAFF REPORTS

NEW MEXICO GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS,
Mike Miller, PBPA

During Q2, PBPA provided an expert panelist for the New Mexico Legislative Finance Committee meeting in Artesia. Thank you to those members who helped identify and persuade this resource to participate. Among others, the panel included Rep. Larry Scott and Rep. James Townsend with the discussion centering around the future of the oil & gas industry. Later that evening we co-hosted dinner for the committee and staff at the home of Roswell Mayor Tim Jennings.

PBPA also was the keynote speaker at the Lea County Economic Development Corporation's annual meeting. Michael Lozano addressed the group talking about the opportunities and obstacles facing industry in the Permian Basin.

New Mexico held its primary election on June 7th. The big race was that for the Republican nomination for Governor. Mark Ronchetti prevailed over four other candidates garnering well over 50% of the votes. Mark will give Governor Lujan-Grisham a very strong challenge. In the month of June, he outraised her almost 2:1, with over 95% of the money coming from New Mexicans and 86% of that money being donations of \$100 or less. Since the primary, all candidates for statewide and legislative offices have begun their fundraising efforts. We are participating and providing information to our membership of those events for incumbents and candidates that are supportive of industry.

Later in June we attended the EnergyPlex conference in Hobbs. At this event Mike Miller was able to spend time with Doug Akerman the new executive director of NMOGA. This event was also attended by several of the legislators that represent SE New Mexico.

June was the beginning of the Interim committee meeting in New Mexico and we have been following their activities, specifically Water and Natural Resources Committee, Legislative Finance Committee, Radioactive and Hazardous Waste Committee and the Science and Technology Committee. Obviously, these committees are where much of the legislation takes shape for the upcoming 60-day session in 2023.