



## Lea County

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### **PUBLIC RELEASE**

August 16, 2023

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### **LEA COMMISSION NAMES NOMINEE FOR STATE SENATE VACANCY**

The Lea County Board of County Commissioners (LCBCC) held a special meeting at the Lea County Courthouse today to recommend an appointee to fill the District 42 State Senate vacancy.

Commissioners interviewed two candidates for the vacancy created by Senator Gay Kernan's retirement on August 1, 2023.

New Mexico State Representative Larry R. Scott of Hobbs, who has served District 62 since 2014, and is also a business owner, and Steven McCutcheon II of Carlsbad, a business owner, long-time rancher and former Eddy County Commissioner, were the two individuals who submitted resumes and letters of interest to Lea County.

Commissioners interviewed the two candidates regarding their intentions on various topics, including America The Beautiful (formerly 30 x 30), working across the aisle, difficult decisions they've made as government representatives and endangers species acts.

Commissioner Gary Eidson, District 3, moved to submit Scott's name to fill the Senate vacancy. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Jonathan Sena of District 4 and unanimously approved by all Commissioners.

Scott's name will be forwarded to the Office of the Governor for consideration. In accordance with state law, Governor Michelle Lujan Grisham will make an appointment from a roster of submitted nominees. McCutcheon's name is also on the Governor's desk for consideration, as Eddy County Commissioners nominated him for the Senate seat at their meeting yesterday.

The LCBCC's interviews with Scott and McCutcheon can viewed on-line at <https://www.leacounty.net/p/meetings/streamed-meetings1>.

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