

**RESOLUTION NUMBER: 2023-22** 

# ROOSEVELT COUNTY POLICY

### **Travel and Per Diem**

Supersedes prior Resolution No. 2019-39 with regards to the Travel and Per Diem

WHEREAS, the Roosevelt County Board of Commissioners finds it necessary to address appropriate travel and per diem procedures conducted in a manner above reproach, with complete impartiality and without preferential treatment; and,

WHEREAS, the Roosevelt County Board of Commissioners recognizes that a Travel and Per Diem Policy for the Roosevelt County Government is for all County elected officials and employees to follow in all travel activities; and,

WHEREAS, The Roosevelt County Board of Commissioners desires to modify the existing policy that details those procedures of travel and per diem to which each elected official and employee is expected to adhere.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, by the Roosevelt County Board of Commissioners that the following Travel and Per Diem Policy:

## Per Diem, Mileage and Other Travel Regulations

- A. All Travel for Roosevelt County. All travel for official County business shall be approved by the elected official or department head prior to commencement and shall be documented on the Travel Request and Voucher Form. All Travel Request and Voucher Forms need to be submitted to Finance within (seven) 7 business days upon arrival. The use of a County owned vehicle should always be the first option, if available for all County business approved travel.
- **B.** P-card Utilization. If an employee travels, a Roosevelt County Purchase Card should be issued to book hotels and for meals. It is the responsibility of a department head(s) or elected official(s) to log the authorized use of the purchase card. Finance must have a signed Roosevelt County Purchasing Card Agreement on file for every employee and elected official.
- C. Actual Expenses in Lieu of Standard Per Diem Rates. Actual expenses paid by an elected official or employee that are greater overall than the standard per diem rate may be reimbursed provided the following conditions are met:
  - Documentation of paid receipts is required for all expenses and shall only be paid if
    incurred in the discharge of authorized County business. Itemized receipts for the actual
    meals and lodging expenses incurred, including room service charges must be submitted
    with Travel Request and Voucher Form. No reimbursement will be given without an
    itemized receipt.
  - 2. **Meal** payment will not exceed fifty-nine (\$59) dollars for meals within a twenty-four (24) hour period for in-state and out-of-state travel. The 24-hour period begins at the date and time of departure from post of duty. The purchase of any alcoholic beverage(s) is an **unauthorized** purchase and will not be paid or reimbursed.

- All gratuities are capped at eighteen percent (18%). [Section 10-8-4(K)(2) NMSA 1978 (1995 Repl. Pamp.]; [2.42.2.9 NMAC Rn, DFA Rule 95-1, Section 4, 07/01/03; A, 01/15/04]
- 3. **Return from overnight travel,** on the last day of travel when overnight lodging is no longer required, partial day meal payment can be calculated. To calculate the number of hours in the partial day, begin with the time the traveler initially departed on the travel. Divide the total number of hours traveled by twenty-four (24). The hours remaining constitute the partial day which shall be reimbursed as follows:
  - (a) for less than two (2) hours, none
  - (b) for two (2) hours but less than six (6) hours, twenty dollars (\$20.00)
  - (c) for six (6) hours or more, but less than twelve (12) hours, forty-two dollars (\$42.00)
  - (d) for twelve (12) hours or more, fifty-nine dollars (\$59,00)
  - (e) no reimbursement for actual expenses will be granted in lieu of partial day per diem rates. [2.42.2.9 NMAC Rn, DFA Rule 95-1, Section 4, 07/01/03; A, 01/15/04]
- 4. Lodging shall be obtained at government rates or lower and shall not exceed the single occupancy room charge (including tax). In the event that the lodging expenses are in excess of two-hundred fifteen dollars (\$215.00) per night, traveler must obtain the signature of the County Manager prior to travel. Travel requests exceeding the two-hundred fifteen dollars (\$215.00) must be accompanied by supporting documentation of the county business travel. [2.42.2.9 NMAC Rn, DFA Rule 95-1, Section 4, 07/01/03; A, 01/15/04]
- 5. Loss of receipts, under circumstances where the loss of receipts would create a hardship, and Affidavit of Lost Receipts Form may be substituted and is subject to approval by the Department Head or Elected Official and the County Manager. [2.42.2.12 NMAC Rn, DFA Rule 95-1, Section 7, 07/01/03]
- **D. Standard Actual Other Expenses Reimbursed.** Reimbursement will be made for standard actual expenses, other than per diem expenses, such as for taxi, airline or other transportation fares, parking fees, car rental, registration fees (not including lodging or meals), or the like provided such expenses are the most economically practical and are directly incurred in the discharge of authorized official County business. Receipts are required for reimbursement. [2.42.2.12 NMAC Rn, DFA Rule 95-1, Section 7, 07/01/03]

#### E. Mileage - Private Conveyance - Reimbursement.

Elected officials and employees of Roosevelt County shall be reimbursed for travel by private conveyance in the discharge of official duties as follows:

- 1. Private-owned vehicle is calculated at a rate of eighty percent (80%) of the internal revenue service standard mileage rate set Jan. 1 of the previous year.
- 2. Mileage shall be reimbursed based strictly on distances shown on official Rand McNally road maps. If the Rand McNally mileage calculator is not available, the traveler will need to use the New Mexico Department of Transportation (DOT) map or odometer readings. If the traveler is outside of New Mexico, traveler will have to self-certify through odometer readings.
- 3. County vehicles shall be utilized whenever possible to conduct official business. If a county vehicle is not available, the County Manager may approve the use of a personal vehicle. Gasoline receipts are not a reimbursable item and under no circumstances shall an elected official or employee fuel a personal vehicle with county purchasing cards or fleet fuel cards in lieu of mileage computation.

- F. Limitations to Travel Reimbursements. Any person who is reimbursed in an amount that singly or in the aggregate exceeds one thousand five hundred dollars (\$1500) in any one fiscal year shall not be entitled to further reimbursement until such person furnishes in writing to the County Commission an itemized statement on each separate instance of travel covered within such reimbursement, the place to which traveled and the purpose served by such travel.
- **G.** Restrictions. Elected officials and employees are not entitled to any meal expenses for any travel less than eleven (11) hours in duration.
- H. Penalty. If any employee or elected official owes any amounts to the County as a result of travel, they will be notified by Finance. Any elected official or employee who is in arrears to the County in any amount, must reimburse the County within thirty (30) days from the date of Finance notification. It is the responsibility of the employee or elected official to reimburse the County for any unauthorized charges to the P-Card. Any amount due to the County and not paid within 30 days will be subject to wage withholding from the next pay period. Possible personnel action, up to and including termination from County employment, and legal action can result from misuse of the P-Card.

Travel Vouchers and Procedures for Administration. Every request for travel reimbursement or travel advances of per diem, mileage, or other expenses authorized by provisions of this Policy shall be submitted on the Travel Request and Voucher Form and shall be consistent with this Policy, New Mexico State Statutes, and the rules and regulations of the NM Department of Finance and Administration.

The Roosevelt County Board of Commissioners may eliminate or may reduce the rates set for the per diem and mileage for all or any class of public officials and employees of the local public body at any time the local public body deems it to be in the public interest, and such reduction shall not be construed to permit payment of any other compensation, perquisite or allowance. The local public body shall exercise this power of reduction in a reasonable manner and shall attempt to achieve a standard rate for all public officers and employees of the same classification. [Section 10-8-5 NMSA 1978]

It shall be the responsibility of County Administration to properly administer this section of the Policy consistent with its provisions and consistent with State laws and regulation.

Compliance with D.F.A. Rule. Any provision which is not addressed specifically in this Policy shall be in accordance with the most recent New Mexico Administrative Code and New Mexico State Statutes relating to reimbursement of elected officials and employees for travel expenses and attending meetings.

**PASSED, APPROVED, AND ADOPTED** this 11th of July, 2023 by the Roosevelt County Board of Commissioners in an open meeting in Portales, New Mexico.

ATTEST:

Mandu M. fault Mandi Park, Roosevelt County Clerk



BODY OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS ROOSEVELT COUNTY, NEW MEXICO

Paul Grider, Chair – District V
Voted: Yes No Abstained

Rodney Savage, Vice Chair - District II Voted: Ves INO Abstained

Dennis Lopez – District I

Voted: Yes DNo Abstained

Roy Lee Criswell – District III

Voted: □ Yes □ No □ Abstained

Tina Dixon – District IV

Voted: √Yes □ No □ Abstained





# Roosevelt County Purchasing Card User Agreement

## Requirements for Use

The Purchasing Card is to be used only to make purchases at the request of, and for the legitimate business benefit of Roosevelt County. I understand that under no circumstances may the Purchasing card be used to make personal purchases, either for myself or for others.

I understand that I am making financial commitments on behalf of Roosevelt County and I will strive to obtain the best value for Roosevelt County. All receipts will be turned in to the Finance Office after the Elected Official or Department Head has reviewed and approved. In the event a receipt is lost and the vendor is unable to provide a duplicate, the employee will be required to complete a lost receipt affidavit.

I understand that any violations of the Travel Policy that require reimbursement to the County due to exceeding allowed expenses will be subject to payroll deduction if the County has not received reimbursement within the allowed 30-day period per Policy.

I have been given a copy of the Roosevelt County Purchasing Card Policy and Procedures and the Travel Policy. Failure to comply with the Purchasing Card Policies and/or the Travel Policy may result in disciplinary action, cancellation of card privileges, and possible termination of employment. In the event an employee or elected official voluntarily terminates their employment before all excess sums charged have been reimbursed to County, County shall have a right to maintain a civil action to recover any outstanding sum and shall also be entitled to recovery of its attorney fees incurred in collecting such sums.

Employee AcknowledgementPrint Name	Date			
Department Head or Elected Official Authorization	Date			
Print Name				
Finance ApprovalPrint Name	Date			

# TRAVEL REQUEST & VOUCHER Traveler Name Travel Destination & Purpose Date & Time of Departure

Finance

County Manager

Revised	2/2020

Dept/Office

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