

BOARD STUDY MINUTES

La Montanita Food Co-op  
Board of Directors Meeting – February 17, 2015

**Topic – Brainstorming and Mapping Out of Future Study Hours**

**Led by:** David Hurley

**Goals for discussion:**

- Identify topics board members are interested in learning more about as part of a long-term visioning process
- Identify resources that could assist us in learning about each topic

Background: At a recent Board-Staff Retreat, the general manager stated that he sets goals and plans 3-5 years into the future. The group discussed that the Board should be engaged in long-term visioning beyond five years, perhaps 5-40 years into the future.

***End #1 – Increased access to, and purchase of, healthy foods***

<b>Topics of Interest</b>	<b>Possible Resources</b>
Water - Predictions of mega-droughts - Will Albuquerque be here in 40 years?	NASA models Rocky Mountain Farmers Union
Changing demographics as they relate to food decisions	
Changes in owner needs	
For whom are we trying to increase access? (community members in needs, co-op staff members)	
Alternative/additional distribution options and models - Schools - Hospitals - Grab n go - Buying clubs, drones (e.g. how to deliver food to the South Valley)	
Subsidies for small/local agriculture	

***End #2 – A growing regenerative agricultural sector that uses sound environmental practices***

<b>Topics</b>	<b>Resources</b>
Future of farming in New Mexico - Rural New Mexico is shrinking - Water shortage – how will this impact farming practices? - NMDA is not paying attention to water shortages	Wallace Center Rocky Mountain Farmers Union Weston Price Foundation Steve Warshawer NMDA Mid-Rio Grande Conservancy Districts Natural Resource Conservation Service (part of USDA)
GMOs	

***End #3 – A thriving and sustainable local economy that benefits members and community***

<b>Topics</b>	<b>Resources</b>
Models for measuring the power of the local dollar	
Models for community response to disasters and other problems – Ways to mobilize our owners	
Service co-ops	
How can the co-op adapt to changes in owner needs? Will we still be selling food in 40 years, and/or will we be offering other products/services/programs?	
How to teach cooperation, culture shift, “reprogram” values, attitudes, behaviors Biology of Altruism	Marx Santa Fe Institute Sam Bowles Elinor Ostrom Art Sherwood can direct us to resources as well
What is the future of the cooperative economy?	
Acequias as a model of cooperation	NM Acequia Association

***End #4 – A strengthened co-operative community***

<b>Topics</b>	<b>Resources</b>
Education of community <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Partner with co-op-minded organizations – field trips for schools; tie into gardening programs (co-op does some of this already, could do more)</li> </ul>	
How are other co-ops thinking about their communities? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Member engagement approaches and initiatives</li> </ul>	Art Sherwood has contact with a number of co-ops that we might be able to learn from Connect with NM co-ops
Lessons learned from co-ops that have closed	