



Agenda Item Number: 2008-8-4A

## BERNALILLO COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

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**Meeting Date:** August 12, 2008

**Department:** County Manager **Staff Contact:** Liz Hamm, Director

**TITLE:** NACIO 2008 Award for the “Big Read”

**ACTION:** Presentation of Proclamation

**SUMMARY:**

Bernalillo County Public Information Department received the 2008 NACIO award for the “Big Read” to honor a countywide/national effort in 2007 to encourage more leisure time reading. Bernalillo County joined a nationwide campaign created by the National Endowment for the Arts and the Institute of Museum and Library Services called “The Big Read.” The Big Read’s literary selection for Bernalillo County was Rudolfo Anaya’s “Bless Me, Ultima.” Bernalillo County sponsored and coordinated nearly two dozen local events between September 5 and October 6 that encouraged residents to read “Bless Me, Ultima.” Literary experts link higher literacy rates with a more informed, productive society.

**ATTACHMENT:**

1. Draft Proclamation