

**New Mexico Finance Authority**  
**207 Shelby St.**  
**Santa Fe, NM 87501**  
**(505) 984-1454**  
**Minutes of Water Trust Board Meeting**  
**August 7, 2024**  
**New Mexico State Capitol, Room 307**  
**490 Old Santa Fe Trail, Santa Fe, New Mexico**

**Members Present:**

AJ Forte, Vice Chair	NM Municipal League
Michael Sloane, Secretary	Director, NM Department of Game & Fish
Joy Esparsen (via zoom)	NM Counties
Marquita Russel	CEO, NM Finance Authority
Priscilla Lucero (via zoom)	Environmental Community Representative
Julie Maitland	Designee, NM Department of Agriculture
Albert Chang	Designee, NM Energy, Minerals and Natural Resources Dept.
Jason John (via zoom)	Designee, Navajo Nation
Kelsey Rader (via zoom)	Designee, NM Environment Department
Tonantzin Roybal	Designee, NM Department of Finance & Administration
Tanya Trujillo	Director, NM State Engineer

**Absent:**

Timothy McGinn	Irrigation/Conservancy District-Ground Water Representative
Greg Alpers	Irrigation/Conservancy District Surface Water Representative
Brent Van Dyke	Soil & Water Conservation District Representative
Mark Thompson	NM Indian Affairs Department

**NM Finance Authority Staff:**

Anthony Maestas	Luanna Salazar
Angela Quintana	Michael Vonderheide
Charlotte Larragoite (via zoom)	Patricia Griego
Dan Opperman	Paul Romero
Donnie Quintana	Sharon Romero
Fernando Martinez	Sue Pittard (via zoom)
Kryshana Madrid	

**Guests:**

Charles Thomas	Petroglyph Consulting LLC
Rebecca Martinez	NMML
Rhea Serna	LFC

1. **Call to Order and Roll Call.** Vice Chair Forte called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. A quorum was established.
2. **Approval of Agenda. Member Lucero moved, seconded by Member Russel, to approve the agenda. The motion passed 11-0.**
3. **Approval of Board Minutes. Member Roybal moved, seconded by Member Sloane, for approval of the April 23, 2024, minutes. The motion passed 11-0.**

4. **Appointment of Nominating Committee.**

4.1 Appointing of Nominating Committee for vacant Chair position. Vice Chair Forte appointed Member Russel, Member Lucero, Member Esparsen, Member Trujillo, and Member McGinn to the Nominating Committee.

**Informational Only.**

5. **Approval of Amended and Restated Bylaws.**

5.1 **Approval of Amended and Restated Bylaws.** Mr. Dan Opperman presented the amended and restated bylaws to incorporate statutory changes that have occurred over the past several years. Staff recommends approval as presented. Discussion ensued with staff answering questions from the Board.

**Member Maitland moved, seconded by Member Trujillo, for approval of agenda item 5.1. The motion passed 11-0.**

6. **New Mexico Municipal League’s Statewide Water Needs Assessment Discussion.**

6.1 **NMML Statewide Water Needs Assessment Discussion.** Rebecca Martinez, Senior Policy Advisor with the New Mexico Municipal League, and Chuck Thomas, of Petroglyph Consulting LLC, presented an overview of the NM Municipal League’s statewide assessment to identify the needs of water infrastructure throughout the state.

**Informational Only.**

7. **Approval of Technical Assistance Plan.**

7.1 **Approval of Technical Assistance Plan.** Mr. Donnie Quintana presented a Technical Assistance Plan to utilize \$3.5 million from the 2024 Water Project Fund distribution as provided in the 2024 Legislative session HB211. The funds would be used to assist water systems with planning by hiring consulting engineers to complete appropriate planning documents and by engaging a dedicated team of professionals, including attorneys, project managers, community facilitators, and others as needed to facilitate regionalization of water systems. Staff requests approval to allocate up to three million five hundred thousand (\$3,500,000) from the 2024 Water Project Fund distribution for these contracts.

Member Trujillo moved, seconded by Member Maitland, for approval of agenda item 7.1. The motion passed 11-0.

**8. Construction Cost-Overrun Update.**

**8.1 Construction Cost-Overrun update.** Ms. Angela Quintana updated the Board regarding the current project, Cerro Regional Mutual Domestic Project WPF-5083 to be allocated funds from the construction cost overrun set-aside.

2021 Set-Aside \$2,280,398	Cost Overrun Awards	Amount
	La Cueva MDWCA	\$105,500
	Rodarte MDWCA	\$540,000
	Rio Lucio DWCA	\$250,686
	Union del Llano MDWCA	\$1,200,000
	<b>Balance</b>	<b>\$184,212</b>
<b>2021 Awarded: 29 projects/\$51,035,518</b>	<b>11 remaining projects all in construction</b>	
2022 Set-Aside \$5,100,000	<b>Balance</b>	<b>\$5,100,000</b>
<b>2022 Awarded: 31 projects/\$66,938,000</b>	<b>22 remaining projects; 15 construction projects; 6 currently in construction</b>	
2023 Set-Aside \$6,066,277	<b>Balance</b>	<b>\$6,066,277</b>
<b>2023 Awarded: 50 projects/\$122,442,762</b>	<b>31 construction projects; 2 currently in construction</b>	
SB275 Allocation \$18 million	Cerro Regional MDA (2020)	\$1,200,000
	<b>Balance</b>	<b>\$16,800,000</b>

**Informational Only.**

**9. 2024 Water Project Fund Awards 2nd Iteration: Consideration and Approval of Awards.**

**9.1 2024 Water Project Fund Awards 2nd Iteration: Consideration and Approval of Awards.** Ms. Quintana presented the projects in the order determined by the initial project application evaluations, scores, and available funding. Of the six high ranked applicants, the City of Espanola (3 applications) and El Rito Regional W&WWA did not meet the July 5 compliance deadline. Luna County did meet NMED-DWB compliance but removed their 2024 application due to it being funded through the Colonias Infrastructure Board in May. The following applications are recommended for a phased amount based on their submitted project budgets:

Applicant	Project	Requested Amount	Recommended Scope	Recommended Amount
<b>Water Storage</b>				
ABCWUA	Expansion of DWTP	\$15,000,000	Plan, design, surveying	\$902,500
Village of Logan	Canadian River water pipeline crossing	\$2,200,000	Design/surveying	\$381,800
Lower Rio Grande PWWA	S. Valley water systems regionalization project	\$5,644,105	Design/ROW/easements	\$731,655

The Project Review Committee has reviewed these recommendations and concurs with staff's recommendation. Staff recommends the following 10 projects as presented for funding from the 2nd iteration of the 2024 WTB Funding Cycle. Staff also recommends the remaining balance in the amount of \$790,059 be used as a set-aside for construction cost-overruns for the 2024 WTB awardees.

Project #	Applicant	County	Project Name	Scope/Description	Amount Requested	Proposed Phase	Recommended Amount
<b>Water Storage</b>							
WPF-6316	Santa Fe, City of	Santa Fe	Nichols Dam Repair	Construction of repairs to Nichols Dam	\$ 5,500,000		\$ 5,500,000
WPF-6267	Capulin MDWCA	Rio Arriba	Water system improvements phase I	Design water system improvements	\$ 500,000		\$ 500,000
WPF-6318	Sierra Vista MDA	Bernalillo	Waterline Replacement	Construct replacement of existing waterlines and distribution system components	\$ 6,381,440		\$ 6,381,440
WPF-6263	ABCWUA	Bernalillo	Expansion of DWTP	plan, design construct two new direct injection/extraction aquifer storage wells	\$ 15,000,000	Plan, design, surveying	\$ 902,500
WPF-6291	Logan, Village of	Quay	Canadian River Water Pipeline Crossing	Design/construct Canadian River Water Pipeline Crossing	\$ 2,200,000	Design/ Surveying	\$ 381,800
WPF-6293	Lower Rio Grande PWWA	Dona Ana	S. Valley water systems regionalization project	Design/construct a new well, staging tank, transmission and distribution water pipelines	\$ 5,644,105	Design/ ROW easements	\$ 731,655
WPF-6266	Canon MDWCA	Sandoval	Water system improvements	Construct/replace existing distribution waterlines	\$ 4,854,620		\$ 4,854,620
					\$ 58,922,411		\$ 19,252,015
<b>Water Conservation</b>							
WPF-6314	Santa Fe, City of	Santa Fe	Canyon Road Water Treatment Plant Improvements	Construct new flocculation and sedimentation process	\$ 7,750,000		\$ 7,750,000
WPF-6315	Santa Fe, City of	Santa Fe	San Juan-Chama return pipeline	Design for a pipeline and pump to reclaim effluent from San Juan-Chama sources	\$ 2,000,000		\$ 2,000,000
					\$ 9,750,000		\$ 9,750,000
<b>Flood Prevention</b>							
WPF-6313	Santa Fe Pojoaque SWCD	Santa Fe	Santa Cruz Flood Control Dam Site 1 Reconstruction	Re-construct a high hazard dam	\$ 1,100,000		\$ 1,100,000
					\$ 7,198,589		\$ 1,100,000

**Member Maitland moved, seconded by Member Russel, for approval of agenda item 9.1. The motion passed 11-0.**

**10. Consideration and Approval of Resolution, Notification and Certification of Need for Issuance of Severance Tax Revenue Bonds to Additional Qualified Projects.**

**10.1 Consideration and Approval of Resolution, Notification and Certification of Need for Issuance of Severance Tax Revenue Bonds to Additional Qualified Projects.** Mr. Dan Opperman presented an update to the resolution approved in April to certify that SBOF funds will be made available for the additional projects presented.

**Member Maitland moved, seconded by Member Russel, for approval of agenda item 10.1. The motion passed 11-0.**

**11. WTB 2025 Application Funding Cycle Overview.**

**11.1 WTB 2025 Application Funding Cycle Overview.** Staff presented an overview of the upcoming 2025 WTB application cycle. Staff has received 90 Notice of Intent (“NOI”) with a requested amount of \$329,775,697. Applicants may continue to submit NOI’s up until the closing of the application on September 16, 2024. Below is the breakout by project type with preliminary requested amounts:

<b>Project Type</b>	<b># of NOI’s Received</b>	<b>Preliminary Requested Amount</b>
Water Storage	66	\$235,526,408
Flood Prevention	11	\$28,452,088
Water Conservation	7	\$62,168,750
Watershed Restoration	6	\$3,628,451
<b>Total</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>\$329,775,697</b>

The estimated available funding for the 2025 cycle is approximately \$122.8 million with a 15% cap of \$18 million. Per WTB policy, applicants may not receive more than 15% of the available funds in any year. The Board was provided an application cycle timeline.

**Informational Only.**

**12. Proposed Next Meetings.**

**12.1**

- September 25, 2024, WTB Project Review Committee
- October 2-3, 2024, Water Trust Board Meeting
- October 21, 2024, WTB Project Review Committee
- October 29, 2024, Water Trust Board Meeting

**13. Adjournment.** The meeting adjourned at 11:38 a.m.



10 / 15 / 2024 Secretary

Date