

New Mexico Finance Authority
207 Shelby St.
Santa Fe, NM 87501
(505) 984-1454

Minutes of Water Trust Board Meeting
October 7th & 8th, 2024
New Mexico State Capitol, Room 322
490 Old Santa Fe Trail, Santa Fe, New Mexico

Members Present:

Elizabeth Anderson, Chair (Day 1)	NM State Engineer
Uday Joshi (Day 2)	Designee, NM State Engineer
Alison Nichols	Designee, NM Municipal League
Joy Esparsen	NM Counties
Mark Thompson	NM Indian Affairs Department
Fernando Martinez	Designee, NM Finance Authority
Priscilla Lucero	Environmental Community Representative
Wesley Billingsley	Designee, NM Department of Finance & Administration
Julie Maitland (Day 2 via zoom)	Designee, NM Department of Agriculture
Jason John (via zoom)	Designee, Navajo Nation
Albert Chang (Day 1)	Designee, NM Energy, Minerals and Natural Resources Dept.
Michael Sloane, Secretary (Day 1)	Director, NM Department of Game & Fish
Steven Deal (via zoom)	Designee, NM Environment Department
Brent Van Dyke	Soil & Water Conservation District Representative

Absent:

Timothy McGinn	Irrigation/Conservancy District Ground-Water Rep.
Greg Alpers	Irrigation/Conservancy District Ground-Surface Rep.

Finance Authority Staff:

Anthony Maestas	Kryshana Madrid
Angela Quintana	Laura Williams (via zoom)
Charlotte Larragoite (via zoom)	Michael Vonderheide
Dan Opperman (via zoom)	Sharon Romero
Erika Falance	Yasmine Haldeman

Guests:

Agatha King, Quemado Lake MA
Alan Hook, City of Santa Fe
Arvind Patel, NV5
Andy Yates, Colfax SWCD
Angie Gonzales, City of T or C
Bernadette Anaya, Town of Estancia
Billie Mitchell, Flora Vista MDWCA
Bobby Ortiz, EMWT Regional WA
Buster Smith, City of T or C
Carlos Abeyta, Peñasco MDWCA
Casey Ish, MRGCD
Cejtha KWA, Quemado Lake WA
Chellye Porter, Bosque Gardens
MDWCA
Craig Turner, Major of Cloudcroft
Chris Perea, Wilson & Co.
Chris Benay, Cibola County
Chris Little, Mescalero Apache Tribe
Chris Ahmie, Acoma Pueblo
Clarence Maestas, City of Espanola
David Bailey, Luna County
David Laughlin, ABCWUA
David McSherry, City of Deming
Deborah Autrey, City of Texico
Elijah Mares, City of Espanola
Emily Oster, City of Santa Fe
Frank Chacon, City of Gallup
Frank Chiapetti, City of Gallup
George King, Quemado Lake WA
Harvey Mattell, Village of Logan
Hector Rangel, City of Sunland Park
Jaquelyne Bowens, ENMWUA
James Martinez, Los Alamos County

Jason Casuga, MRGCD
Javier Perea, City of Sunland Park
Jesse Roach, City of Santa Fe
Jody Garcia, SMA
Lauren Groesbeck, Village of Cloudcroft
Lester Smith, City of T or C
Lisa Campbell, Stantec
Mare DePauli, City of Gallup
Maria Chilton, Rio Embudo MDWCA
Marta Ortiz, ABCWUA

Mario Juarez-Infante, City of Sunland Park
Mike Morris, ENMWUA
Odie Chapman, Lybrook MDWCA
Orlando Ortega, ENMWUA
Pascual Maestas, NMARC
Patricia Bolliger, Stantec
Phillip Skinner, Mayor of Columbus
Ray Hubbard, Town of Estancia
Rick Mitchell, Flora Vista MDWCA
Robin Bowman, City of Texico
Rochelle Brown, City of Farmington
Rolf Hechler, Mayor of T or C
Rodney Paris, Village of Logan
Sally Baxter, City of Espanola
Sayira Yamara, EPCOR
Shelley Gutierrez, Rio Chiquita MDWC&MSWA

Stephen Ingles-Garcia, Wilson & Co
Vincent Turner, Village of Cloudcroft
Windea Cassy, City of Deming
Donzil Worthington, Bohannon Huston

- 1. Call to Order and Roll Call.** Chair Sloane called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. A quorum was established.
- 2. Approval of Agenda.** Member Van Dyke moved, seconded by Member Lucero, to amend the agenda, adding two additional presentations. The motion passed 12-0.

3. Approval of August 7, 2024, Board Minutes.

3.1 Member Nichols moved, seconded by Member Esparsen, for approval of the August 7, 2024, minutes. The motion passed 12-0.

4. Report from the Nominating Committee.

4.1 Member Martinez reported that the Nominating Committee conferred and recommends New Mexico State Engineer Designate Elizabeth Anderson be elected Chair of the Water Trust Board for a term expiring June 30, 2025.

Informational Only.

5. Election of Board Chair.

5.1 Pursuant to the nominating committee's recommendation, Chair Sloane opened the floor for a motion to elect NM State Engineer Designate Elizabeth Anderson as Chair of the Water Trust Board for a term expiring June 30, 2025.

Member Van Dyke moved, seconded by Member Esparsen, to elect Elizabeth Anderson as the new Chair for Water Trust Board. The motion passed 12-0 on a roll call vote.

6. Recommendation of 2025 Water Project Fund Waiver Requests. Ms. Quintana presented the 2025 Water Trust Board ("WTB") waiver requests. Applicants unable to meet the expenditure target by September 16, 2024, were instructed to submit a waiver request within their application. Applications that do not meet the preliminary expenditure target and not granted waivers by the Board will not continue through the evaluation process. In addition, applicants were required to submit appropriate planning documents that evidence best practices for project planning and implementation.

Five applicants requested planning document waivers, and fourteen applicants requested waivers for the preliminary expenditure target. The Project Review Committee reviewed these requests and concur with staff's recommendation.

6.1 Village of Des Moines – Water Storage, Conveyance and Delivery Project-Design new supply well and pump house.

Waiver Request: Planning Document Requirement

Justification: The Village's draft PER is pending review by NMED Drinking Water Bureau ("DWB") prior to their Board's approval. The Village anticipates final approval by November 2024.

Recommendation: NMFA staff recommends approval of the waiver request.

6.2 Lybrook MDWCA – Water Storage, Conveyance and Delivery Project-Design waterline replacements.

Waiver Request: Planning Document Requirement

Justification: The Association’s 2017 PER recommended Cutter Lateral phases 1-3. Phase 1 is currently in construction. The proposed project will look at phase 2. The Association’s engineer provided updated costs to phase II. Per policy, PERs older than two years must be accompanied by updated cost estimates.
Recommendation: NMFA staff recommends approval of the waiver request.

6.3 Rio Embudo MDWCA-Water Storage, Conveyance and Delivery Project-Design storage tank, distribution system expansion, and dedicated fill lines.

Waiver Request: Planning Document Requirement

Justification: The Association’s DRAFT PER (August 2024) is pending review by NMED-DWB prior to their Board’s approval. The Association anticipates final approval by November 2024.

Recommendation: NMFA staff recommends approval of the waiver request.

6.4 Rosedale MDWCA – Water Storage, Conveyance and Delivery Project-Design/construct water meters.

Waiver Request: Planning Document Requirement

Justification: The Association’s proposed project is for the design and replacement of meters throughout the system. Their engineer has provided a current project cost estimate as part of a design analysis report in place of a full PER as allowed by WTB policy.

Recommendation: NMFA staff recommends approval of the waiver request.

6.5 Sile MDWCA – Water Storage, Conveyance and Delivery Project-Design replacement of waterlines, storage tank, and supply well.

Waiver Request: Planning Document Requirement

Justification: The Association’s draft PER (July 2024) is pending review by NMED-DWB prior to their Board’s approval. Their engineer has provided a current project cost estimate. The Association anticipates final approval by November 2024.

Recommendation: NMFA staff recommends approval of the waiver request.

Member Lucero moved, seconded by Member Van Dyke for approval of items 6.1 - 6.5 as presented. The motion passed 12-0.

6.6 Albuquerque Bernalillo CWUA – Water Conservation or Treatment, Recycling or Reuse Project-Construct new arsenic treatment plant

Waiver Request: Preliminary Expenditure Target - 70%

Justification: The Authority has an outstanding 2021 (To’haiilee pipeline); 2022 (Arsenic treatment plant) and 2023 (Water plant) awards, a combined balance of \$16,275,481 (12% expended). 2021, 2022 projects are currently in construction. The 2023 project going out to bid by September and construction beginning in October 2024. The Authority anticipates substantial completion of all three projects by May 2025.

Recommendation: NMFA staff recommends approval of the waiver request.

6.7 Town of Bernalillo – Water Storage, Conveyance and Delivery Project-Calle del Norte waterline

Waiver Request: Preliminary Expenditure Target – 70%

Justification: The Town has a 2022 (Transmission lines and tank) award (\$1,913,000) with 1% expended. In April 2024, the Town requested and the WTB approved a scope change to focus on a more critical

project. The Town anticipates design completion by the ending of September and construction beginning in November. The Town anticipates project completion by May 2025.

Recommendation: NMFA staff recommends approval of the waiver request.

6.8 Eastern NMWUA – Water Storage, Conveyance and Delivery Project-RW 1 & 2 pipeline

Waiver Request: Preliminary Expenditure Target – 35%

Justification: The Authority has an outstanding 2022 (pipeline) and 2023 awards with a current combined balance of \$25,126,303 (12% expended). The 2022 project is currently in construction with funding sources coming from WTB, DWSRF and USBR. The authority anticipates expending the 2022 WTB funds by June 2025. The 2023 project was awarded the construction contract on April 25, 2024. Additional federal funds will be used with the WTB funding to complete the phased 2022 project. The Authority anticipates full expenditure of the 2023 funds by December 2025.

Recommendation: NMFA staff recommends approval of the waiver request.

6.9 EMWT Regional WA – Water Storage, Conveyance and Delivery Projects-Ph. 1 McIntosh

Waiver Request: Preliminary Expenditure Target – 70%

Justification: The Association has an outstanding 2022 (Design McKintosh system) award (\$491,050) with the full balance remaining. The Association was unable to begin the design on the project until all water rights issues were resolved. The design has begun and is estimated to be completed by March 2025.

Recommendations: NMFA staff recommends approval of the waiver request.

6.10 City of Gallup – Water Storage, Conveyance and Delivery Project-Reach 27.12 waterlines and tank

Waiver Request: Preliminary Expenditure Target – 35%

Justification: The City has an outstanding 2021 (Water tank) and 2023 (G-80 wells) awards with a remaining combined balance of \$13,512,303 (27% expended). The 2021 project is estimated to be completed by January 2025. The 2023 project had bid openings in mid-September with anticipated construction beginning in January 2025. The City anticipates substantial project completion by mid-summer 2025.

Recommendation: NMFA staff recommends approval of the waiver request.

6.11 Los Alamos County (2) Water Storage, Conveyance and Delivery Projects-San Ildefonso and Townsite waterlines

Waiver Request: Preliminary Expenditure Target – 70%

Justification: The County has an outstanding 2022 (Non-potable water tank) and 2023 (Water transmission line) awards (\$8,650,000) with a current combined balance of \$6,676,230 (23% expended). The 2022 award is complete and awaiting final disbursement request. The 2023 project went out to bid in mid-September with anticipated award for construction on October 29, 2024. The project is anticipated to be completed by early 2026.

Recommendation: NMFA staff recommends approval of the waiver request.

6.12 Luna County – Flood Prevention Project-Yuma/Maverick flood mitigation

Waiver Request: Preliminary Expenditure Target - 70%

Justification: The County has an outstanding 2022 (Ph. I land POE flood diversion) and 2023 (China Draw E. Florida) award with a current combined balance of \$4,470,273 (3% expended). The 2022 project was

delayed due to securing easements and NMDOT permits. The project has gone out to bid with anticipation of construction beginning November 2024. The project (funded from different sources) will be completed in 2 years. The County anticipates full expenditure of WTB funds by February 2025. The 2023 project is currently in construction and is anticipated to be substantially completed by early Fall 2025.

Recommendation: NMFA staff recommends approval of the waiver request.

6.13 Middle Rio Grande CD – Water Storage, Conveyance and Delivery Project-Feeder 3 pump station
Waiver Request: Preliminary Expenditure Target – 70%

Justification: The District has an outstanding 2022 (Socorro Main canal) and 2023(Corrales Siphon) awards with a current combined balance of \$8,276,031 (42% expended). The 2022 project is in construction with an anticipated completion date of early January 2025.

Recommendation: NMFA staff recommends approval of the waiver request.

6.14 Peñasco MDWCA – Water Storage, Conveyance and Delivery Project-Distribution line replacement

Waiver Request: Preliminary Expenditure Target – 70%

Justification: The Association has an outstanding 2023 (Design line replacement) award (\$323,600) with a remaining balance of \$310,270.41 (4% expended). This design project was delayed due to inadequate underground utility markings. The utility markings have since been resolved and the topographical surveying has begun.

Recommendation: NMFA staff recommends approval of the waiver request.

6.15 Pendaries MDWCA, Water Storage, Conveyance and Delivery Project-Waterline replacements

Waiver Request: Preliminary Expenditure Target – 70%

Justification: The Association has an outstanding 2023 (Design waterline replacements) award with a remaining balance of \$482,277 (4% expended). The project was delayed due to input from new Board members on the completion of the Associations asset management plan.

Recommendation: NMFA staff recommends approval of the waiver request.

6.16 Rio Lucio MDWCA - Water Storage, Conveyance and Delivery Project-New supplemental well

Waiver Request: Preliminary Expenditure Target - 70%

Justification: The Association has an outstanding 2023 (Waterline replacement) award (\$825,130) with a remaining balance of \$822,464 (<1% expended). This project is a continuation of the 2021 project (replacement of waterlines). Due to continued long lead times for brass components for connections as well as challenging subsurface and NMDOT permitting, the project has been delayed. The project is anticipated to complete March 2025.

Recommendation: NMFA staff recommends approval of the waiver request.

6.17 Village of Ruidoso (4) - Water Storage, Conveyance and Delivery Project-Waterline replacements; Alto Lake Dam spillway; well replacement; Water intake and transmission lines

Waiver Request: Preliminary Expenditure Target - 70%

Justification: The Village has an outstanding 2023 (Upper Canyon surface diversion well) award with the full balance remaining. The contractor was unable to begin work due to the monsoon season. The recent fires and flooding also had a severe impact on the Village. The Village anticipates drawdowns beginning in October.

Recommendation: NMFA staff recommends approval of the waiver request.

**6.18 Storrie Project WUA- Water Storage, Conveyance and Delivery Project-Phase II water project
Waiver Request: Preliminary Expenditure Target - 70%**

Justification: The Association has an outstanding 2023 (Transmission line replacement) award (\$13,900,000) with the full balance remaining. The Association was unable to secure the funds due to having to complete several years of audits. The design of the project has been awarded with an anticipated completion date of July 2025. The Association estimates construction beginning September 2025.

Recommendation: NMFA staff recommends approval of the waiver request.

**6.19 City of Truth or Consequences - Water Conservation or Treatment, Recycling or Reuse Project-
Cantrell Dam improvements**

Waiver Request: Preliminary Expenditure Target - 70%

Justification: The City has a 2021 (Cantrell Dam plan/design) award with the remaining balance of \$280,818 (63% expended). The project was delayed due to constraints with property ownership and utility conflicts. The City anticipates completion of the project by December 2024.

Recommendation: NMFA staff recommends approval of the waiver request.

Member Esparsen moved, seconded by Member Thompson for approval of items 6.6 - 6.19 as presented. The motion passed 12-0. Chair Anderson abstained from voting on item 6.6.

7. 2025 Water Project Fund (“WPF”) Applications Presentations.

5.1 2025 WPF Presentations. Ms. Quintana introduced the applicants presenting their projects to the WTB. Below is the list of applicants who presented to the Board.

WPF#	County	Project Type
WPF-6598	Quemado Lake WA	Water System Improvements (Water Storage)
WPF-6553	Village of Cloudcroft	Water storage tanks (Water Storage)
WPF-6591	Middle Rio Grande	CD Feeder 3 pump station (Water Storage)
WPF-6540	Acoma Pueblo	Skyline storage tank (Water Storage)
WPF-6565	Eastern NMWUA	Raw Water pipeline (Water Storage)
WPF-6582	Village of Logan	Canadian River water pipeline (Water Storage)
WPF-6603	Rosedale	Water system improvements (Water Storage)
WPF-6588	Lybrook MDWCA	Water system improvements (Water Storage)
WPF-6573	City of Farmington	La Plata waterline (Water Storage)
WPF-6593	Pena Blanca MDWCA	Waterline replacement (Water Storage)
WPF-6621	City of Truth or Consequences	Cantrell Dam project (Flood Prevention)
WPF-6545	Albuquerque Bernalillo CWUA	Arsenic Treatment (Water Conservation)
WPF-6552	Village of Des Moines	Water system improvements (Water Storage)
WPF-6594	Peñasco MDWCA	Water system improvements (Water Storage)
WPF-6602	Rio Lucio MDWCA	New well project (Water Storage)
WPF-6595	Pendaries MDWCA	Water system improvements (Water Storage)
WPF-6554	Colfax SWCD	Fire Mitigation (Watershed)

WPF-6610	San Luis Cabezon MDWCA	Water system improvements (Water Storage)
WPF-6611	San Luis Cabezon MDWCA	Well improvements (Water Storage)
WPF-6614	Sile MDWCA	Water system improvements (Water Storage)
WPF-6601	Rio Embudo MDWCA	Water system improvements (Water Storage)
WPF-6584	Los Alamos County	Townsite waterline (Water Storage)
WPF-6583	Los Alamos County	San Ildefonso waterline (Water Storage)
WPF-6576	City of Gallup	Water supply Reach 27.12 (Water Storage)
WPF-6552	Cibola County	Drainage Improvements (Flood Prevention)
WPF-6587	Luna County	Yuma/Maveric flood (Flood Prevention)
WPF-6568	EMWT Regional WA	Ph. I McIntosh water, (Water Storage)
WPF-6617	Storrie Project WA	Ph. II water project, (Water Storage)
WPF-6590	Mescalero Apache Tribe	State potable water well (Water Storage)
MEETING RECESSED AT 11:57 A.M ON 10/7 AND RECONVENED AT 10:00 AM ON 10/8		
WPF-6620	City of Texico	Water system project (Water Storage)
WPF-6599	Regina MDWCA	Water system improvements (Water Storage)
WPF-6551	Cedar Creek MDWCA	Water system improvements (Water Storage)
WPF-6615	Sky Country Estates MDWCA	Water system improvements (Water Storage)
WPF-6550	Bosque Gardens MDWCA	Water system improvements (Water Storage)
WPF-6592	Nogal MDWCA	Water supply project (Water Storage)
WPF-6555	Village of Columbus	NE Channel Ph. II (Flood Prevention)
WPF-6556	Village of Columbus	PER (Water Storage)
WPF-6572	Town of Estancia	New well and system improvements
WPF-6618	City of Sunland Park	Edgemont flood control (Flood Prevention)
WPF-6619	City of Sunland Park	Carlos Aguirre (Flood Prevention)
WPF-6569	City of Espanola	Riverside waterlines (Water Storage)
WPF-6570	City of Espanola	Price 2 Carter well (Water Storage)
WPF-6571	City of Espanola	Tank Rehab (Water Storage)
WPF-6600	Rio Chiquita MDWCA	Water storage tank (Water Storage)
WPF-6574	Flora Vista MDWCA	Rd. 3125 lines (Water Storage)
WPF-6575	Flora Vista MDWCA	Rd. 3536 lines (Water Storage)
WPF-6577	Flora Vista MDWCA	Jenkins Ranch lines (Water Storage)
WPF-6557	City of Deming	WWTP improvements (Water Conservation)
WPF-6558	City of Deming	Milo flood prevention (Flood Prevention)
WPF-6559	City of Deming	Milo potable water system (Water Storage)
WPF-6560	City of Deming	Copper tin waterlines, (Water Storage)
WPF-6578 not presented	Pueblo of Isleta	Storage tank and station (Water Storage)
WPF-6612	City of Santa Fe	San Juan-Chama project water conservation
WPF-6543 not presented	City of Albuquerque	St. John Drainage, (Flood Prevention)
WPF-6549 not presented	City of Bloomfield	Water supply, (Water Storage)

Informational Only.

8. Proposed Next Meeting:

- October 21, 2024, 2:30 p.m., WTB Project Review Committee – Teleconference via Zoom
- October 29, 2024, 10:00 a.m., WTB Legislative Authorization (NM State Capitol, Rm. 307)

9. Adjournment. Member Van Dyke moved, seconded by Member Lucero for adjournment. The meeting adjourned at 11:02 a.m.



Secretary

11 / 02 / 2024

Date