

*New Mexico Finance Authority*  
**810 W. San Mateo Rd, Santa Fe, New Mexico 87505**  
**(505) 984-1454**  
**Minutes of Colonias Infrastructure Board Meeting**  
**April 30, 2025**  
**NM Farm and Ranch Heritage Museum**  
**4100 Dripping Springs Road Las Cruces, NM 88011**

**Voting Members Present:**

Janice Baca-Argabright, Vice Chair	Appointee, Minority Leader of the Senate
Fernando Martinez Jr.	Designee, NM Finance Authority
Jose Luis Segura	Appointee, Speaker of the House of Representatives
Wesley Billingsley	Designee, NM Dept. of Finance and Administration

**Non-Voting Members Present:**

Richard Garcia (via zoom)	Designee, NM Counties
Jay Armijo	Director, South Central Council of Governments
Priscilla Lucero	Director, Southwest NM Council of Governments
Dora Batista (via zoom)	Director, Southeastern NMED District
Donna Maestas-DeVries	Designee, NM Mortgage Finance Authority

**Voting Members Absent:**

Mary Kay Papen, Chair	Appointee, President Pro Tempore of the Senate
Rebecca Dow	Appointee, Minority Leader House of Representatives
James Kenney	Secretary, NM Environment Dept.

**New Mexico Finance Authority Staff:**

Angela Quintana	Kryshana Madrid (via zoom)
Arielle Lansdell (via zoom)	Sharon Romero
Bryan Otero (via zoom)	Michael Vonderheide (via zoom)
Erika Falance (via zoom)	

**Guests:**

Alan Berg, Tryone W&WWA	Jeff Honeycutt, Lincoln Co.	Frank Madrid, City of Lordsburg
Michael Hawkes, SAMDWCA		
Matt Thompson, BHI	Dave Maxwell, Stantec	
Rachel Anaya, SCSWA	Jennifer Horton, DAMDWCA	
Samantha Serna, Lincoln Co.	Robert Esqueda, Town of Silver City	
Peter Pena, Town of Silver City	Rolf Heckler, City of TorC	
George Esqueda, Stantec	Gary Whitehead, City of TorC	
Wesley Hall, Stantec	Shanti Ceane, Stantec	
Michael Garza, Dona Ana Co.	Miraya Rascon, Dona Ana Co.	
Pablo Jimenez, Otero Co.	Heather Lutz, Luna County	
Michelle Blackwell, Dona Ana Co.	Rosa Montoya SCSWA	
Wyatt Briggs, SMA	David Bailey, Luna Co.	

Christie Soulsby, Wilson Co.  
Jesse Cole, City of TorC  
Sarah Volcko, Stantec  
Diana Gomez, BHI  
Joseph Holguin, Grant Co.  
Deborah Mahler, Catron Co.  
Dusti Conover, City of Lordsburg  
Richard Maynes, Stantec  
Kristina Ortiz, USDA

Cynthia Hernandez, SMA  
Patrick Peck, SCSWA  
Armando Cordero, SMA  
Tyler Hopkins, BHI  
Angelina Duncan, Grant Co.  
Mario Juarez-Infante, City of Sunland Park  
Frank Madrid, City of Lordsburg  
Annette Morales, TDSHC  
Jacquin Olea, SWSWA

1. **Call to Order and Roll Call.** Co-Chair Baca-Argabright called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. A quorum was established.

2. **Approval of Agenda. Member Segura moved, seconded by Member Martinez, to approve the agenda. The motion passed 4-0.**

3. **Approval of Board Minutes.**

3.1 **Member Segura moved, seconded by Member Billingsley to approve the February 25, 2025, Board meeting minutes. The motion passed 4- 0.**

4. **Recommendation of the 2025 Colonias Infrastructure Fund Waiver Requests.**

**4.0 Recommendation of the 2025 Colonias Infrastructure Fund (“CIF”) Waiver Requests.**

Ms. Quintana presented requests from 2025 CIF applicants for waivers to CIF policies. The policies require that applicants evidence compliance with all relevant regulations and CIB policies prior to receiving awards from the CIF. Staff received six Project Continuation policy and three State Audit Rule/EO-compliance waiver requests. The Project Review Committee has reviewed the requests and concurs with staff’s recommendations. Staff presented the requested waivers.

**4.1 Town of Carrizozo (CIF-6699) Roads and Drainage Project.**

Waiver Request: Project Continuation

Justification: The Town has a 2023 CIF award-\$310,360 (15% expended) that does not meet the 50% expenditure for Project Continuation. At the February 25, Colonias meeting, the Town was approved for a scope change on the 2023 project to include construction costs to fully expend the funds. The project is anticipated to go out to bid in May with the project completion date by February 2026.

Recommendation: NMFA staff recommends approval of the request.

Waiver Request: State Audit Rule, EO-Compliance

Justification: Although the Town submitted the necessary documents for their FY2024 audit, their current auditor is behind in completing their audit. It is anticipated that the audit will be completed by April 2025 with the submission to the OSA by the end of May 2025.

Recommendation: NMFA staff recommends approval of the request.

#### **4.2 Catron County (CIF-6700) Roads and Drainage Project.**

Waiver Request: Project Continuation

Justification: The County has two 2023 awards-\$338,363 combined (11% expended) that do not meet the 50% expenditure requirement for Project Continuation. Due to high staff turnover, both projects were delayed. These projects are currently in design with the anticipated completion by October 20, 2025.

Recommendation: NMFA staff recommends approval of the request.

#### **4.3 City of Deming (CIF-6702, CIF-6703, CIF-6704, CIF-6705, CIF- 6706, CIF-6707, CIF-6708 and CIF-6709) Water, Wastewater, Roads/Drainage and Solid Waste Infrastructure Projects.**

Waiver Request: State Audit Rule, EO-Compliance

Justification: For the past couple of years, the City was under a special audit requirement which resulted in late submission of their FY2022, FY2023 and FY2024 audits. All audits are expected to be completed and submitted to the State Auditor's office by July 31, 2025.

Recommendation: NMFA staff recommends approval of the request.

#### **4.4 Dona Ana County (CIF-6710) Flood Prevention Project.**

Waiver Request: Project Continuation

Justification: The County has a 2021, two 2022 and four 2023 awards - \$21,106,423 (21% expended) that do not meet the 50% expenditure requirement for Project Continuation. Long lead times on materials has delayed the 2021 project which is anticipated to be completed by December 2025. The two 2022 projects are anticipated to be completed by April 2025 (flood) and June 2025 (WWTP). Three of the 2023 projects (Wastewater) required either re-bidding, re-designing or ROW/easement negotiations with an anticipated completion date of March 2026 (funding expiration date). The fourth 2023 project (Flood) is currently in construction with a substantial completion date of April 2025.

Recommendation: Two of the seven outstanding projects (2022 and 2023) were awarded to Dona Ana County on behalf of the Dona Ana County Flood Commission. Although these projects were awarded to the County, it is the Flood Commission staff that oversees these projects. These flood projects have a combined total award of \$2,300,000 with an expended amount of 75%. Since the 2025 application is a flood prevention project, NMFA staff recommends approval of the request.

#### **4.5 Lincoln County (CIF-6720) Roads/Drainage Project.**

Waiver Request: Project Continuation

Justification: The County has a 2023 award-\$1,500,000 (0% expended) that does not meet the 50% expenditure requirement for Project Continuation. The County was delayed in moving the project forward due to the South Fork Salt Fires that threatened the area in the summer of 2024. The project is currently in the design phase but had to reanalyze the drainage due to changes in the site condition. Final design is anticipated to be completed by June 2025 with construction beginning in August 2025.

Recommendation: NMFA staff recommends approval of the request.

#### **4.6 City of Lordsburg (CIF-6721, CIF-6722 and CIF-6723) Water and Wastewater Infrastructure Projects.**

Waiver Request: Project Continuation

Justification: The City has two 2023 awards - \$4,589,000 combined (0% expended) that do not meet the 50% expenditure requirement for Project Continuation. Both awards were delayed from closing due to the long process in obtaining consent to additional debt from USDA. Both projects are moving forward with an anticipated bid opening in mid-April 2025 and notice-to-proceed for construction by June 2025.

Recommendation: NMFA staff recommends approval of the request.

#### **4.7 Malaga MDWCA (CIF-6726) Water Infrastructure Projects.**

Waiver Request: Project Continuation

Justification: The Association has 2022 and 2023 awards - \$1,756,544 combined (7% expended) that do not meet the 50% expenditure requirement for Project Continuation. The design for the 2022 project is currently being finalized with an anticipated completion date of June 2025. The 2023 award design is being finalized with an anticipated completion date of June 2025 and construction beginning in July 2025.

Recommendation: NMFA staff recommends approval of the request.

#### **4.8 Southwest Solid Waste Authority (CIF-6734) Solid Waste Project.**

Waiver Request: Project Continuation

Justification: The Authority has a 2022 award - \$700,000 (4% expended) that does not meet the 50% expenditure requirement for Project Continuation. Staff turnover delayed the project from moving forward. The project is now under contract with an anticipated completion of design by April 2025 and construction beginning June/July 2025.

Recommendation: NMFA staff recommends approval of the request.

Waiver Request: State Audit Rule/EO-Compliance

Justification: The Authority's FY2023 audit is anticipated to be completed by April 2025 with the FY2024 audit being started immediately after with an anticipated submittal date of June 2025.

Recommendation: NMFA staff recommends approval of the request.

**Member Martinez moved, seconded by Member Billingsley to approve item 4.0. The motion passed 4- 0.**

- 5. 2025 Colonias Infrastructure Fund Application Presentations.** Representatives from the respective areas listed below presented their projects and answered questions from the Board.

**5.1 CIF-6727; Otero County; Bent Round Mtn. Rd./Drainage; \$225,000**

**5.2 CIF-6728; Otero County; La Luz Section Rd./Drainage; \$225,000**

**5.3 CIF-6725; Luna County; Dona Ana Rd. improvement; \$968,852**

**5.4 CIF-6734; SW Solid Waste Authority; Cell 9B/C design/construction; \$500,000**

**5.5 CIF-6720; Lincoln County; Rancho Ruidoso roadway/drainage; \$460,000**

**5.6 CIF-6730; San Antonio MDWCA; Water system improvements; \$263,040**

**5.7 CIF-6735; SC Solid Waste Authority; SCSWA Holman Rd. transfer station; \$9,000,000**

**5.8 CIF-6736; City of Sunland Park; Riverside Ph. II drainage improv.; \$400,000**

**5.9 CIF-6737; City of Sunland Park; Calle Obregon/Carrosel rd./drainage; \$4,000,000**

**5.10 CIF-6732; Town of Silver City; Chloride N. Tank; \$1,084,625**

**5.11 CIF-6733; Town of Silver City; Swan Street Ph. 1; \$2,000,000**

**5.12 CIF-6739; Tyrone W&WWA; Wastewater line replacement; \$503,124**

**5.13 CIF-6717; Village of Hatch; WW Collection PER; \$350,000**

**5.14 CIF-6718; Village of Hatch; WWTP Improvements; \$270,500**

**5.15 CIF-6719; Village of Hatch; Water disinfection system; \$592,000**

**5.16 CIF-6716; Grant County; Arenas Valley Rd. Ph. III; \$5,940,000**

**5.17 CIF-6721; City of Lordsburg; 2nd St. & Mary Dee Kipp Watermain;\$864,000**

**5.18 CIF-6722; City of Lordsburg; Water system improvements; \$487,200**

**5.19 CIF-6723; City of Lordsburg; WWT Plant PER; \$152,455**

**5.20 CIF-6738; City of Truth or Consequences; Municipal WW Collections PER; \$191,000**

**5.21 CIF-6729; Otis MDWC&SWA; Tank Rehab; \$2,485,641**

**5.22 CIF-6711; Dona Ana MDWCA; Water wells project; \$2,000,000**

**5.23 CIF-6712; Dona Ana MDWCA; West Mesa Water System Ph. I; \$5,000,000**

**5.24 CIF-6713; Dona Ana MDWCA; Dona Ana Village Lift station; \$619,487**

**5.25 CIF-6714; Dona Ana MDWCA; East Central Collection system; \$1,713,029**

**5.26 CIF-6701; Cedar Creek MDWCA; Water System improvement; \$1,200,000**

**5.27 CIF-6715; Enchanted Forest MDWCA; Redundant water supply; \$500,000**

**Informational Only.**

**6. Next Board Meetings.**

- May 8, 2025, 2:30 p.m. Colonias Project Review Committee Teleconference
- May 15, 2025, 10:00 a.m. Colonias Board Meeting (2025 CIB award determinations) Sierra County Commission Chambers, Truth or Consequences
- September 2025 TBD

**7. Public Comment.** Member Lucero recommended that the Policy Committee consider meeting to review the current policies with regards to capacity considerations.

**8. Adjournment.** The meeting adjourned at 10:49 a.m.



05 / 17 / 2025

Secretary

Date