

New Mexico Finance Authority
810 W. San Mateo Road., Santa Fe, New Mexico 87505
(505) 984-1454
Water Trust Board Meeting Minutes
June 25, 2025
Zoom

Members Present:

Elizabeth Anderson, Chair	NM State Engineer
AJ Forte, Vice-Chair	NM Municipal League
Michael Sloane, Secretary	NM Department of Game & Fish
Mark Thompson	Designee, NM Indian Affairs Department
Marquita Russel	CEO, NM Finance Authority
Wes Billingsley	Designee, NM Department of Finance & Admin.
Erin Taylor	Designee, NM Energy, Minerals and Natural Resources Dept.
Timothy McGinn	Irrigation/Conservancy District Ground-Water Rep.
Priscilla Lucero	Environmental Community Representative
Max Henkels	Designee, NM Department of Agriculture
Joy Esparsen	Director, NM Association of Counties
Dennis Romero	Designee, NM Environment Department
Jason John	Designee, Navajo Nation
Greg Alpers	Irrigation/Conservancy District Surface-Water Rep.

Member Absent:

Brent Van Dyke	Soil & Water Conservation District Rep.
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New Mexico Finance Authority Staff:

Angela Quintana
Fernando Martinez
John Brooks
Kryshana Madrid
Mark Chaiken
Sharon Romero

Guests:

Village of Ruidoso

- 1. Call to Order and Roll Call.** Chair Anderson called the meeting to order at 10:03 a.m. A quorum was established.
- 2. Approval of Agenda.** Member Lucero moved, seconded by Member Esparsen, to approve the agenda. The motion passed 12-0.

3. Approval of Board Minutes.

3.1 Member Sloane moved, seconded by Member Russel, to approve the April 22, 2025, minutes. The motion passed 12-0.

4. Nominating Committee Report.

4.1 Nominating Committee Report. The Nominating Committee met virtually and made the nominations to include Elizabeth Anderson, Chairman, A.J. Forte, Vice Chairman, Michael Sloane, Secretary

Informational Only.

5. Election of Officers.

5.1 Election of Officers. Elizabeth Anderson as Chair, A.J. Forte as Vice-Chair, and Michael Sloane as Secretary.

Member Russel moved, seconded by Member Lucero for approval of item 5.1. The motion passed 13-0. Member Thompson arrived at 10:10 am.

6. WTB Water Project Fund Project Management Policies.

6.1 Recommendation on updates/changes to the WTB Water Project Fund Project Management Policies. Staff presented a redline version of the water project fund policy changes required by HB211. One of the significant changes was the inclusion of Wastewater Collection, Conveyance and Treatment projects as an eligible project. NMFA staff, with the collaboration of NM Environment Department, outlined the criteria for the new eligible project. Staff recommends approval of changes in policy as presented.

Member Russel moved, seconded by Member Forte for approval of item 6.1 as presented. The motion passed 13-0 on a roll call vote.

7. WTB 2026 Application Funding Timeline.

7.1 Overview of WTB 2026 Application funding cycle. Staff presented the timeline for the upcoming 2026 WTB Funding cycle. A notable change is the addition of Wastewater Collection, Conveyance and Treatment Projects.

2025

- July 14-31 Notice of Intent
- August 5 WTB Project Application Training
- Aug. 11-Sept. 11 WTB On-line Project Application (Phase I)
- October 1-2 WTB meeting – Waiver considerations; Project Presentations
- October 29 WTB meeting – 2026 WTB Legislative Authorization Recommendations
- December 8 WTB Readiness Application Training

2026

- Dec. 10, 2025 – Jan. 22, 2026; WTB On-line Readiness Application (Phase II)
- April 2 WTB meeting – Regulatory Compliance waiver considerations
- April 21 WTB meeting – 2026 WTB Funding Awards

Informational Only.

8. Next Board Meeting. August 27, 2025

9. Adjournment. The meeting adjourned at 10:36 am.



Secretary

09 / 30 / 2025

Date