Doña Ana Mutual Domestic Water Consumers Association
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The following are the minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Doña Ana Mutual Domestic Water Consumers Association Board of Directors, June 18, 2026 convened at 3:00 p.m. in the Doña Ana Mutual Domestic Water Consumers Association Board Room located at 5535 Ledesma Dr., Las Cruces, NM 88007:

Call to Order & Roll Call

Vice President Morrow called the meeting to order at 3:00 p.m. and called roll:

Secretary/Treasurer – Brian Cox, Excused Absence
Board Member – Brian Clouse, Present
Board Member- Ralph Owens, Present

A Quorum was declared.

Others in Attendance:

Legal Counsel- Nann Winter (via Zoom)
Executive Director- Jennifer Horton, Present
Office Manager- Margo Lopez, Present
Member- Tim Brooks, Present
Member- Jamie Cully, Present
DAVA- Stephanie Vargas & Sylvia Chavez, Present

Approval of Agenda

Mr. Owens moved to approve the agenda as presented; the motion was seconded by Mr. Clouse. Vice President Morrow stated that he would like to move Item #3 from Unfinished Business to Customer Issues and Public Input. Mr. Owens moved to approve the agenda as amended, Mr. Clouse seconded. There was no further discussion, and the motion passed unanimously by roll call vote 3-0.

Minutes

Mr. Clouse moved to approve the Regular Board Meeting Minutes of May 21, 2026 as presented; Mr. Owens seconded. There was no further discussion, and the motion passed unanimously by roll call vote 3- 0.

Customer Issues and Public Input

Ms. Vargas with Dona Ana Village Association (DAVA), a small nonprofit organization who is focusing on their youth with hands on experience in the outdoor space in the Dona Ana Village and the Radium Springs area. She stood before the Board of Directors to seek a partnership through a donation or a contribution from Dona Ana MDWCA to help preserve the community's land through the use of water, to maintain the longevity of plants for people of all ages to enjoy the natural habitat of that area, El Parque Alegre. She stated that their Association has received grants to help improve the natural habitat by adding community trails and benches and with the community's support they have been able to purchase a small piece of land, which led her to inquire about how she can gain access to water. Ms. Vargas stated the water is to get the plants growing in the beginning stages and is not necessary for long term use. She shared that currently they are filling buckets to get the plants watered and have lost several plants through that process. Ms. Chavez handed out flyers showing their work in progress and Ms. Vargas spoke of those whom they have partnered with and how the funds that were obtained are used directly in the project and clarified it is not used to pay for her time.

Mr. Tim Brooks previously addressed the Board of Directors regarding his damaged meter and related fees. He maintained that he does not own the meter because it belongs to Doña Ana MDWCA and, therefore, should not be required to pay for it. He requested that the $500 fee be waived, stating that he believed the meter had been vandalized. Mr. Clouse reported that he visited the site, and photographs were provided to the Board, to show the meter's location. Mr. Clouse stated that, in his opinion, the meter was as protected as one could be and that the meter was located next to his fence. He further stated that it appeared to have been driven over and further discussion ensued. Mr. Brooks stated that the policy should be changed; Mr. Clouse stated the Association's hands are tied as there could not be any other protective devices around his meter, as the county will not allow the entity to do so. The policy was stated to be the same policy as the City of Las Cruces, in which they implement for METER TAMPERING, DAMAGE AND/OR THEFT OF METERING OR MONITORING EQUIPMENT. Mr. Brooks stated that he would be fine to wait for the Board to come to a decision so long as he does not get billed for it. In the meantime, Mr. Brooks's account continued to be placed in protest status while the Board of Directors takes time to explore this matter further. Mr. Owens moved to table the action on the meter for Mr. Brooks; Mr. Clouse seconded. There was no further discussion, and the motion passed unanimously by roll call vote 3- 0.

Board President Report

Vice President Morrow stated he had nothing new to report.

Staff Reports

Ms. Horton provided financials for the months of May. Ms. Horton began to review the Check Listing and stated there was a large check for $114,000 for Bohannan Huston who is actively wrapping up the West Mesa Project. She stated the check was for the design. She shared there are 2 additional large checks to Morrow Enterprises, Inc, for their retainage and for the base bid and alternates 1,2 & 3 and further reported that they will be starting alternate 4. She shared it will run through funding and roughly $800,000 in checks to the contractor. She reviewed the Budget Report for May. She stated the budget looks great due to the additional $351,000 that was not budgeted for from the Westmoreland lawsuit that was paid. She stated there is $1.1 million in excess operating funds and reported the Association is carrying about $1 million in receivables between the Federal and State Programs for Construction. Ms. Horton shared there are some year end loan payments that will need to be paid in the last couple of weeks of June and expects finishing out the year with roughly $800,000. Ms. Horton reported that the Balance Sheet shows the cash is up. She shared that through the process of moving money into the Sweep Account the Association has earned $14,000 in interest. She continued to state that she expects to see $10,000 to $13,000 a month in interest. Ms. Horton wrapped up the financials with the Income Statement as it ties back to the Budget Report.

Ms. Horton provided a written report for the Project Updates. She reported on the Southeast Collection Project, and shared USDA has given their approval of Change

Order #4 which will change order in the last alternative since there was money remaining. She stated that she is expecting the contractor to move into construction any day as they have started potholing and have called in utility locates.

Ms. Horton reported on the Picacho Hills Sewer Main Protection Project. She stated that she has not moved forward with it as it has been challenging to get a contractor interested in bidding. She reported that it has moved down the list as it is a smaller project.

Ms. Horton stated the West Mesa Water System Design Project is nearing completion.

Ms. Horton stated there are a total of (6) funding applications. She reported on the (2) Water Trust Board Applications. One is for a new water well at the South Tanks and the other is to rehabilitate the (2) tanks in Radium Springs. She stated that she did not get the necessary documents in time for this agenda in order to get the project started and will need to schedule a Special Meeting for the approval of the funding of the projects. She shared that all but one of the (4) Colonias Applications are on the agenda for approval of the loan and grant documents. She stated that the West Meas is not closing yet, as she is waiting for the county permits to come in. Ms. Horton stated those would take care of the 2 water wells in Dona Ana, the last part of the Dona Ana Village Lift Station, and start the design of the East Central Collection System. Ms. Horton stated that now that the Association is ready to close on the Radium Springs Project, they have $623,000 to do a rehab inside and out of those tanks but does not include painting the murals back on those tanks.

Ms. Horton reported on subdivisions. She reported Desert Oaks has had the concept review returned to them with comments and have not heard back from them.

Ms. Horton shared the City of Las Cruces has pulled their commitment to serving the Buena Suerta Subdivision. The city is stating they do not have the capacity to serve that subdivision and are evaluating the capacity in their sewer line to accept the wastewater flow from the subdivision.

Ms. Horton shared the plans for the Villas (87 residential lots), is pending the approval of New Mexico Environment Department (NMED). It has been advised that they expect to have an answer by the 26^{th} of June.

Ms. Horton shared Appaloosa Tract Subdivision, which has 7 residential lots on Valley Drive, and is reported to not have valid water rights that meet the policy requirements.

Ms. Horton shared the plans for the Plazuela Subdivision, which has 38 residential lots on Plazuela Ct. in Picacho Hills. She stated comments have been provided and is currently waiting for the revisions of their concept plans before they can move into the design phase.

Ms. Horton shared the plans for the Altor Estate Subdivision, located on Swartz Road has 3 residential lots. She reported their water rights do not meet the policy requirements and are proceeding with their subdivision without water rights.

Ms. Horton reported on other matters. She stated that there was 1,964 new AMI meters installed, and there was no new operator certifications obtained for the month and 3 are waiting for test dates.

Ms. Horton stated that USDA is currently reviewing all of the documentation for the Winterhaven Mutual Domestic transfer and that in the next couple of weeks she should hear back from them with the next steps.

Ms. Horton reported on New Mexico Rual Water Association (NMRWA). She stated that it appears that they are headed in the right direction. She reported that she has hired an Apprenticeship Coordinator and now has only 1 vacancy to fill: a Wastewater Operator. She shared that the National Office approved a loan for NMRWA to repay the IRS and the American Express Credit Card the prior Executive Director charged up. She stated that it is going to their finance committee this weekend and will have confirmation by Monday. Ms. Horton stated that she has gathered all the necessary documentation to complete the travel audit. She stated that she expects to have to repay $50,000 in Federal Travel Violations. She continued to state that between the travel violations, the $30,000 bonus and some other expenses that were not allowed in the Federal Programs, she anticipates having to repay $100,000 and National will make a second loan for that with the caveat that NMRWA's National Director steps down and further discussion ensued.

Unfinished Business

Mr. Owens moved to approve the New Members New Meters; the motion was seconded by Mr. Clouse. The Chair called for discussion of the motion. There was no further discussion, and the motion passed unanimously by roll call vote 3-0.

Mr. Clouse moved to approve the Approval of Resolutions 2026- 11 – 2026-17; the motion was seconded by Mr. Owens. The Chair called for discussion of the motion. Ms. Horton stated that these items were brought to the Board last meeting for review and updated the revisions per the Board. Ms. Horton asked for clarification on the effective date for the new rates to go into effect. The Board of Directors stated the effective date is September 1, 2026. There was no further discussion, and the motion passed unanimously by roll call vote 3-0.

Mr. Clouse moved to approve the Approval of Resolution 2026 - 18 Infrastructure Capital Improvement Plan; the motion was seconded by Mr. Owens. The Chair called for discussion of the motion. Ms. Horton shared this is the ICIP list of future projects the Association may want to do with a 5-year look ahead prioritizing each project. She stated that in reality it could be a 15 to 20-year look ahead due to obtaining funding. Ms. Horton stated that if the Board of Directors wants to seek funding for a sewer project in the next 12 months it will need to be prioritized on this ICIP list and there will need to be some modifications to the current list to include a sewer project by July first and further discussion ensued. There was no further discussion, and the motion passed unanimously by roll call vote 3-0.

New Business

None

Board Open Discussion

None

Adjournment

Mr. Owens motioned to adjourn at 4:47 p.m., with a second from Mr. Clouse. The motion passed unanimously 3-0.

Brian Cox
Secretary/Treasurer

7/16/26
Date