

**MINUTES OF THE**  
**THE CITY OF SANTA FE & SANTA FE COUNTY**  
**BUCKMAN DIRECT DIVERSION BOARD MEETING**

**June 1, 2023**

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

This regular meeting of the Santa Fe County & City Buckman Direct Diversion Board meeting was called to order by County Commissioner Anna Hamilton, Chair, at approximately 4:11 p.m. in the County Commission Chambers, 102 Grant Avenue, Santa Fe, New Mexico. The Chair welcomed the participants to the County Chambers.

**2. ROLL CALL:** Roll was called and a quorum was present as shown:

**BDD Board Members Present:**

Commissioner Anna Hamilton  
Councilor Carol Romero-Wirth  
Commissioner Anna Hansen  
Councilor Renee Villarreal  
J.C. Helms, Citizen Member  
Tom Egelhoff, Las Campanas [non-voting]

**Member(s) Excused:**

None

**Others Present:**

Rick Carpenter, BDD Facilities Manager  
Nancy Long, BDDDB Legal Counsel  
Luke Pierpont, Egolf + Ferlic + Martinez + Harwood, LLC  
Bernardine Padilla, BDD Public Relations Coordinator  
Delfin Peterson, BDD Administrative Assistant  
Randy Sugrue, BDD Operations Superintendent  
Monique Maes, BDD Contracts Administrator  
Jesse Roach, City Water Division Director  
Jay Lazarus, BDDDB Consultant, Glorieta Geoscience, Inc.  
Robert Reine, EMLA

**3. APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Councilor Romero-Wirth moved to approve the agenda as published.  
Commissioner Hansen seconded and the motion passed by unanimous [5-0] voice vote.

#### 4. CONSENT AGENDA

Commissioner Hansen requested the removal of item 7.d.

Commissioner Hansen moved to approve the Consent Agenda as amended. Councilor Villarreal seconded and the motion passed by unanimous voice vote.

##### Consent Items:

- a. **Request for approval of Amendment No. 2 to Professional Services Agreement #21-0421 with Daniels Insurance, Inc. to extend the term of the agreement and to increase compensation in an amount up to \$160,000.00 plus applicable NMGRT for fiscal year 2024**
- b. **Request for approval of (Sole Source) Professional Services Agreement with Snell & Wilmer, LLP for Legal Services for fiscal year 2024. 1) Request for approval of a Professional Services Agreement with Snell & Wilmer, LLP, for legal services in an amount up to \$200,000.00 plus NMGRT. 2) Request to utilize funds from the Legal Settlement for this contract**
- c. **Request for approval of Amendment No. 2 to the Service Agreement #21-05.21 with Alpha Southwest, Inc. to increase the amount of the agreement by \$33,800.00 for a total contract amount of \$287,633.30 and to extend the term of June 30, 2024. 1) Approval of Budget Authorization Request (BAR) from the Major Repair and Replacement Fund to the Operating Fund in the amount of \$33,800.00**
- d. Removed for discussion

#### 4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES: May 4, 2023

The following changes were noted:

Page 1, Incorrectly identifies Councilor Romero-Wirth as the Chair

Page 2, The County does not use ~~Board~~ PrimeGov

Page 2, Chair ~~Hansen~~ Hamilton

Page 15, Time of adjournment at 4:55~~5~~

Commissioner Hansen moved to approve the May 4, 2023 minutes with the changes as noted above. Mr. Helms seconded and the motion passed by unanimous [5-0] voice vote.

#### 5. PRESENTATION/INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

##### a. Monthly Update on BDD Operations

RANDY SUGRUE (BDD Operations Superintendent): Madam Chair, members of the Board, this is my update on BDD operations for the month of May, 2023. Raw water diversions have averaged about 7.95 million gallons per day. Our drinking water deliveries through booster stations 4A/5A, around 6.2 million gallons per day. Delivery to Las Campanas at 2A about 1.51 million gallons per day. Leaving onsite

treated and non-treated water storage of about 0.24 million gallons per day. BDD was providing about 59 percent of the water supply to the City and County for the month. And you can see our comparison to our annual average below.

On page 2, the average or approximate daily regional water demand for May around 10.5 million gallons per day, that's increasing certainly. Rio Grande flows averaged around 5,500 cubic feet per second and it peaked a few days ago at over 7,000 cubic feet per second. Now it's back between 6,000 and 6,500 cubic feet per second.

Nichols and McClure storage, this is a couple of weeks ago, 85.5 percent and that has increased somewhat and their inflow remains over 25 to 27 MGD. City/County/Las Campanas storage is updated by partners as of March 13<sup>th</sup> in Abiquiu SJC storage was around 12,593 acre-feet and we did receive an allocation of SJC water. The City received 1,359 acre-feet out of 5,230 and the County received 97 acre-feet out of 375 acre-feet. I imagine there will be an update in the next 30 to 60 days on that.

Our ENSO summary shows that we are in neutral conditions but there is now a 90 percent or greater chance of El Niño developing and persisting into the fall. So we can expect, I hope, wetter monsoon season.

There is an update at BDD. We've had some maintenance issues that have resulted in us shutting off BDD 4A/5A transmission lines for about the last week. We are going through each individual membrane rack doing pressure testing and sealing on the racks. We are developing some unacceptable pressure leaks and so we just shut it off and decided we need to address this and get it up and running correctly and not try and just stumble along. So actually that is coming along well. I just got a phone call an hour ago that we are on I believe rack number 4. So things are progressing well and I apologize for being off line for such an extended period. I stand for questions.

CHAIR HAMILTON: Excellent. Thank you. Are there questions? I had one. And I should be able to figure this out on my own as we get the numbers every month. It being a little wetter, you know, we're slightly above that, and I know – are we above the average even though it seems a little wetter to me?

MR. SUGRUE: Above average as far as precipitation?

CHAIR HAMILTON: No, no, no the Buckman use.

MR. SUGRUE: The full production?

CHAIR HAMILTON: Yes, production. Is that just a balance between –

MR. SUGRUE: If you look at the graph on page 1, if we would have completed the month without this unanticipated shutdown, I think we would have been somewhat above our 10 year or 12 year average. We're probably still, even with this shutdown, close to that average of 226 million gallons for the month of May. That will remain to be seen in the next few days as I finish the accounting for the month.

CHAIR HAMILTON: So we're a little above average in May; right?

MR. SUGRUE: Yeah. The light blue is the annual average and the dark green is essentially our actual production. May, again, I had to compute this about two weeks ago so there's a little bit of wiggle room there. But I still think we're pretty close to that number because again, the river went over 7,000 cfs in the month but the turbidity is surprising low so the water is essentially pretty easy to treat. We did have a couple of turbidity spikes; one just this morning from a storm event. But other than that we have been diverting every day. Even with our maintenance issues, by the way, we're still pulling our water for Las Campanas for irrigation purposes. So we're not completely off.

CHAIR HAMILTON: Great. And I did interestingly just see globally this is supposed to be one of the strongest El Niños in over a decade – and we’re already getting some very, very big effects in Europe in terms of drought and rain. I just thought that was interesting. Commissioner Hansen.

COMMISSIONER HANSEN: Thank you, Madam Chair. So, we’re still releasing water. The water is – I see that Dr. Roach is in the audience, so I’m taking advantage – the reservoirs are still releasing water down the river and –

MR. SUGRUE: I’m going to let Dr. Roach comment on that because they’re on top of that.

COMMISSIONER HANSEN: That’s his department.

MR. SUGRUE: Absolutely.

JESSE ROACH (City Water Division Director): To also move back onto Madam Chair’s question; we have struggled to treat as much water as we would like to treat at Canyon Road because of high inflows and turbidity to Nichols and so that’s part of the reason why the BDD production was above average in May. And then Commissioner Hansen to your question, we are almost full in our reservoirs and now we are on the back side of the hydrograph so the inflows are coming down. So we expect this week to be the last week of big flows in the river and then we’re going to start lowering those releases and expect to be able to treat more of the water as those inflows decline into the reservoirs and the turbidity increases. So we do expect this week to be the last of the real big flow weeks in the Santa Fe River and expect those flows to start going down next week.

COMMISSIONER HANSEN: I asked this question because in my district, I’m happy to have the water run all the way down to San Ysidro and down past there but since San Ysidro is a low-water crossing and we are trying to get money to build a bridge there, it is challenging for residents to cross there and it does concern me because we only really closed that road in a storm event. So I’m happy to get the water. I am not complaining. But I know that my residents are suffering from having to go around some of it. I mean, I wouldn’t drive through it and I have a pretty heavy car. It’s a little dangerous because it is pretty high at San Ysidro.

MR. ROACH: It should get better starting next week for them.

CHAIR HAMILTON: Okay, I appreciate that. I’m sure they will be grateful also. I mean, everybody loves the water. Everybody loves the water in the river so I’m not complaining about that, I am grateful. As long as it keeps coming, I am good with that. But I do worry about the water getting too high at San Ysidro and I see people shaking their heads around in the audience who might live out in that area. Thank you, Madam Chair.

MR. SUGRUE: Madam Chair, any other questions?

CHAIR HAMILTON: Any other questions? Thank you so much, Randy.

**b. Report from the Facilities Manager**

MR. CARPENTER: Good afternoon. Thank you, Madam Chair and members of the Board. Just a couple of updates for you. The major repair and replacement item expenditure for the month were \$1,721.60. As far as vacancies, our journeyman electrician position is currently advertised and will close on June 21<sup>st</sup>. The instrumentation

control tech position and the warehouse maintenance tech position closed on the 28<sup>th</sup>. We did not get any applicants for the maintenance repair tech. We go one applicant for the planner/scheduler. And with that, Madam Chair, I'll stand for questions.

CHAIR HAMILTON: Any questions? Are you still having some troubles finding applicants for some positions at this point?

MR. CARPENTER: It's an ongoing problem, Madam Chair.

CHAIR HAMILTON: I keep thinking things will get better. Best of luck with that.

## 7. CONSENT

### d. Request Approval of BDD Board comment letter regarding Hexavalent Chromium Environmental Assessment (EA) Scoping, Los Alamos National Laboratory

CHAIR HAMILTON: Commissioner Hansen, you had a question or what did you want to discuss on that?

COMMISSIONER HANSEN: I wanted to basically I wanted to thank Kyle and James Bearzi for writing the letter. I am really grateful that they got that done. I wanted to also share that Santa Fe County has also is submitting a letter on the hexavalent chromium plume. And I think that I'm not going to make any changes to it because I recognize that everyone is out of town. But I am grateful and I just wanted it to be on the record and not part of consent that we are sending a letter on the hexavalent. I mean, it really should say, "hexavalent chromium EA scoping comment" but since they called it chromium I do have an issue with it being called "chromium" because chromium is basically safe. It's hexavalent chromium that is a problem. And if you have chromium 3, that's safe. If you have chromium 6, that's hexavalent.

CHAIR HAMILTON: It says, re: hexavalent chromium EA scoping. It's the same as the Santa Fe County letter.

COMMISSIONER HANSEN: Oh, I'm sorry. Then I need to change this here. But I am talking about this.

CHAIR HAMILTON: Oh, okay.

COMMISSIONER HANSEN: The actual information from Environmental Management does not call it hexavalent chromium. They call it just the chromium interim measure and they should know better by now because I bring this up every single time.

CHAIR HAMILTON: Thank you for getting that out on the record. Do you want to make a motion?

COMMISSIONER HANSEN: Yes. I'll make a motion to approve to approve the letter.

COUNCILOR VILLARREAL: Second.

The motion passed by unanimous [5-0] voice vote.

CHAIR HAMILTON: Okay, so just to note, that letter is available to be signed and everybody is signing it. So before you walk out the door, if everybody could sign the letter that would be great.

COMMISSIONER HANSEN: That was the other thing that I thought was really important that everyone on the Board sign the letter.

**8. MATTERS FROM THE PUBLIC** - None were presented.

**9. MATTERS FROM THE BOARD**

COMMISSIONER HANSEN: Madam Chair.

CHAIR HAMILTON: Yes.

COMMISSIONER HANSEN: I wanted to let the Board members know that I am doing a town hall with the Santa Fe National Forest Service on June 8 at the Santa Fe Community College. It will be at 6:30 in the evening and there will be a number of members of the Santa Fe National Forest team there to answer questions and then there will be a short presentation. And then there will be questions and answers for the public and I will be moderating. And I requested this meeting and I hope that all of you can attend. I know that a number of the Commissioners are attending. We have noticed the meeting to be a quorum. And I know Commissioner Hamilton and I believe Commissioner Hughes will be there. So I would love to see some of the City Councilors there. I hope you can make it.

COUNCILOR ROMERO-WIRTH: Thank you, Commissioner.

Unfortunately, we are doing a housing conversation and livability series that same week.

CHAIR HAMILTON: That's a good thing too.

COMMISSIONER HANSEN: That's a good thing also. That's all I have.

CHAIR HAMILTON: Excellent. Any other matters from the Board?

**10. NEXT MEETING:** Thursday, July 6, 2023 at 4:00 p.m.

**11. ADJOURN**

Having completed the agenda, Commissioner Hansen moved to adjourn and Chair Hamilton declared this meeting adjourned at approximately 4:32 p.m.

Approved by:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Anna Hamilton, Board Chair

**ATTEST TO**

\_\_\_\_\_  
KATHARINE E. CLARK  
SANTA FE COUNTY CLERK

Respectfully submitted:

Karen Farrell, Wordwork

**D R A F T**

**- subject to approval -**