

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

**January 9, 2025**

**1. Call to Order**

This meeting of the Santa Fe County & City Buckman Direct Diversion Board meeting was called to order by Carol Romero-Wirth, BDD Board Chair, at approximately 4:06 p.m. in the Council Chambers, City Hall, 200 Lincoln Avenue, Santa Fe, New Mexico.

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

<b><u>BDD Board Members Present:</u></b>	<b><u>Member(s) Excused:</u></b>
Councilor Carol Romero-Wirth, Chair	None
Councilor Jamie Cassutt	
Commissioner Justin Greene [Alternate]	
Rolf Schmidt-Petersen, Citizen Member [remotely]	
T. Egelhoff, The Club at Las Campanas [non-voting member]	

[Santa Fe County had not yet appointed new BDD Board members.]

**Alternates Present:**

Peter Ives, Citizen Member Alternate

**Others Present:**

Bradley Prada, Facilities Manager  
Nancy Long, BDD Legal Counsel  
Kyle Harwood, BDD Legal Counsel  
Jesse Roach, City PUD Water Division Director [remotely]  
Delfin Peterson, BDD Administrative Assistant  
Bernardine Padilla, BDD Public Relations Coordinator  
Matt Sandoval, BDD Operations Superintendent  
Danny Carter, BDD Chemist [remotely]  
Jay Lazarus, Glorieta Geoscience, Inc.  
Peter Hunt, Glorieta Geoscience, Inc.

It was established that Citizen Member Schmidt-Petersen's internet connection was strong and that he would serve as the voting citizen member for this meeting.

[Chair Romero-Wirth read the agenda captions throughout the meeting.]

**3. Approval of Agenda**

Commissioner Greene moved to approve the agenda as published. Councilor Cassutt seconded and the motion passed by unanimous [4-0] roll call vote.

**4. Approval of Minutes**

**a. December 5, 2024 Buckman Direct Diversion Board Meeting**

Councilor Cassutt moved to approve the minutes as presented. Commissioner Greene seconded and the motion passed by unanimous [4-0] roll call vote.

**5. Presentations and Information Items**

**a. Monthly Update on BDD Operations**

MATT SANDOVAL (BDD Operations Superintendent): Thank you, Madam Chair, members of the Board. This memorandum is to update the Buckman Direct Diversion Board of BDD operations during the month of December 2024.

The BDD diversions and deliveries have averaged in million gallons per day as follows: raw water diversions, 3.7 million gallons per day; drinking water deliveries through Booster Station 4A/5A, 3.61 mgd and; raw delivery to Las Campanas at Booster Station 2A was zero for the month of December.

The BDD provided approximately 54.3 percent of the water supply to the City and County for the month of December 2024. And I'll stand for questions.

CHAIR ROMERO-WIRTH: Great. Do we have questions from members of the Board? Commissioner Greene.

COMMISSIONER GREENE: Thank you, Madam Chair. I like data and that's great. I'm wondering if we could start to get historic tracking of this. So you would show, we're talking about December, so what was December for the last three years. Then, sort of looking ahead, if it's possible, we'll have this same report for January next month, like looking ahead as to what our expectation is and then what our expectations and how we performed against expectation. There's obviously a bunch of variables here in saying, Oh, we're going to be using Canyon Road water and that's why we're diverting less from BDD or it's a hotter summer or whatever. But it will show that we're thinking ahead and sort of able to track from a least a Board member thing of expectations and historic usage. Just a point on the map is good but understanding and context is better.

MR. SANDOVAL: Yes. I was just going to say that I could include a projection. So we're talking one month our projection and then three prior years?

COMMISSIONER GREENE: Let's see the predictions for January so once January comes through you can say, we were projecting 3.7 and we delivered 3.69; good job, right?

MR. SANDOVAL: Okay.

COMMISSIONER GREENE: And then there's – so your projections show that you're sort of in tune with what the City is demanding and then the same thing sort of happens with you going backwards, not necessarily based on projections, but say, if we're looking at December 2024 and then what was December in 2023, and what was December in 2022, and then if there's some major number change in this then you – it makes me wonder

why and if it's pretty obvious and you know the answer as to why you could also put a note in there that says, The reason that we are using twice as much water this year is because it is really hot and dry and people are still irrigating or whatever the reason, right.

But you're our water expert so putting everything in context is definitely more educational to me.

MR. SANDOVAL: Thank you, Madam Chair, Board Member Greene. I'll definitely include that in the next meeting going forward.

CHAIR ROMERO-WIRTH: I guess I would just caution, we can talk about how best to do that and maybe work with you but just to be clear, this project, we are wholesalers. This project is not just the City, as you know. It's the County and Las Campanas. I'm not sure what you're asking for in terms of projections and what it means. It's not just the City as you referred it. It is your system as well.

COMMISSIONER GREENE: I would love to hear the County –

CHAIR ROMERO-WIRTH: And I'm not sure that Mr. Sandoval is in the best position to be able to say why or why not something happened or didn't happen or why expectations weren't met because, again, we are wholesalers as the BDD. And we deliver to the partners and they have systems and some of them are complex. So I think we might want to talk off line about what you're asking for and how best to give you some sort of historical context that is accurate for the role of the BDD.

BRADLEY PRADA (Facilities Manager): Madam Chair and Board Members, I think this needs to be an off line conversation to see what exactly you want to see. And we can definitely present it.

CHAIR ROMERO-WIRTH: Right, some sort of historical context but let's me careful about what it means or what we're drawing from it.

MEMBER SCHMIDT-PETERSEN: Madam Chair, I do have one question.

CHAIR ROMERO-WIRTH: Sure.

MEMBER SCHMIDT-PETERSEN: It's sort of a follow up from our last meeting where I believe Mr. Sandoval was ill at, and it was just a request from a number of the Board members for some snow pack status and what that mean as the year goes forward on the Rio Chama and the diversions and maybe the Rio Grande. It was just one of the things that was in our minutes and I thought I'd mention it here since Mr. Sandoval is giving the presentation.

CHAIR ROMERO-WIRTH: Okay, well, let's look that too and see what we can do to address that need or want. Board Member Ives, I think I saw you be kind of interested and I know you had some questions earlier. I don't know if they were satisfactorily answered, so I'll kick it to you.

MR. IVES: Thank you, Madam Chair. I had a question on some of the numbers. Looking at item #1 in the memo a and b, the diversion is at 3.7 million gallons per day on an average and then drinking water deliveries through Booster Stations 4A/5A have 3.61 million gallons per day with zero deliveries to Las Campanas. There's a difference of about 0.09 million gallons per day which equates to about 2,790,000 gallons for the month which is about 8.56 acre-feet and so I'm just trying to understand that difference and if there is that difference, what happens to that water?

MR. SANDOVAL: Sure, thank you, Madam Chair and member of the Board. That number does include or hasn't been subtracted the diversion, the return flow back to the river. So at Booster Station 1A some of the sediment return line is – it goes back to the river.

So that number is accurate. The other, .09 is the return flow back to the river which we get a credit for so it is all accounted for.

MR. IVES: Thank you. Thank you, Madam Chair.

CHAIR ROMERO-WIRTH: Okay. Any other questions? Thank you, Mr. Sandoval for your presentation. We appreciate it.

**b. Report from BDD Facilities Manager**

MR. PRADA: Madam Chair, Board members, thank you. This is the update for the Facilities Manager. There were no major repair and replacement for this past month. LANL, after the extension for the LANL MOU that we approved last month, we are hopeful that we will have something before April, I believe, to present to you guys and have an agreement at that point.

Due to the holidays the rebuild project stalled out a little bit. So we're still continuing to work on a lot of those things and when we have something ready to present, we will.

Partner billing is up to date. Staff has been working very hard to try and catch up on some of the past due billing. I want to give thanks to our staff and the hard work they did to get us up to date. Current job vacancies, as you can see in the list below, we're making some headway with those and continuing to hire people. That's the report.

CHAIR ROMERO-WIRTH: Thank you, great. Questions from the Board? Thank you, we'll move on.

**6. Action Items: Discussion Agenda**

**a. Consideration and Possible Action on Resolution 2025-1, Relating to the New Mexico Open Meetings Act and Adopting Annual Open Meetings Act Notice Requirements**

CHAIR ROMERO-WIRTH: We have one item on our discussion agenda. I believe our general counsel, Nancy Long, has this item.

NANCY LONG (BDD Counsel): Madam Chair and members of the Board, it is that time of year when we are to consider and act upon an Open Meetings Act Resolution as required by state law. This Open Meetings Act Resolution before you is very similar to last year's. There is always a little bit of fine tuning. There was some surplus language I think from the prior resolution that we took out. The resolution does allow for remote attendance which has to be in the resolution if you are going to allow that at your meetings. So we do allow for that and we see now that it is working for us to allow that remote attendance only if it is difficult or impossible for you to attend in person. And we kept in the emergency protocols which seem to be in all of the public meeting resolutions anymore just in case we need to cancel meetings or have them entirely remote in the event of a public health emergency.

I would ask for your approval of the resolution for this year.

CHAIR ROMERO-WIRTH: And just a quick clarification. This will allow us, like we had the snow cancelation, if we had had all of this in place including the Zoom capability we could have met by the Zoom, correct?

MS. LONG: Yes, Madam Chair. So long as we had –

CHAIR ROMERO-WIRTH: So it's not just public health emergencies?

MS. LONG: If the entire Board, if it would be difficult or impossible and it certainly was at that last storm. So as long as we could get it set up, we could have had the meeting.

CHAIR ROMERO-WIRTH: Okay, I think that's important because we already experienced that. Is there a motion on this and then I'm happy to have some more conversation.

COMMISSIONER GREENE: So I will move to approve as presented, but I would like to discuss.

CHAIR ROMERO-WIRTH: That's fine.

COUNCILOR CASSUTT: I'll second.

CHAIR ROMERO-WIRTH: With a motion and a second to approve this item and Commissioner Greene, I'll turn it to you.

COMMISSIONER GREENE: Thank you. So now we're going to be set up for Zoom including for public participation? Is that how it's going to be or is just going to be streamed for remote attendance by Board members?

MS. LONG: It does allow for public participation is what I understand. Is that correct, Delfin?

DELFIN PETERSON (BDD Administrative Asst.): Yes.

MS. LONG: So they can just click on the link on the agenda and then Delfin will let them in and when we call for public comment – if they just want to observe, they can do that or they can make a comment.

COMMISSIONER GREENE: Wonderful. And then is this archived? Is the recording archived?

CHAIR ROMERO-WIRTH: I think it is available if people wanted it but I am not sure -- it is not being screened on YouTube.

MS. LONG: That's right. It is not on YouTube so it is not archived in that way.

COMMISSIONER GREENE: All right, but it is available if somebody wanted to go back and look at it.

MS. LONG: It's something new for us.

COMMISSIONER GREENE: Okay, great. I love the way the County does it; it's great. You can go back and say, What did I say?

MS. LONG: Understood.

**The motion passed by unanimous [4-0] roll call vote.**

CHAIR ROMERO-WIRTH: And I just want to note that I believe Jesse Roach is listening. I don't know that he has been promoted to be a panelist but he was picking up kids. So this is another place where this new format helps us. He wanted to make sure that I let everyone know he is not here and why and he was sorry not to be able to be here in person.

MS. LONG: Madam Chair, if I could just follow up on the question of archiving. We have heard from IT here that these meetings will not be archived.

CHAIR ROMERO-WIRTH: Right, but I do think that they are available if somebody wanted to go back and watch; correct?

BERNARDINE PADILLA (BDD Public Relations Coordinator): They are not streamed and that's why they are not archived is what they told me.

CHAIR ROMERO-WIRTH: Okay. We'll get clarification on this because I think they do have a recording on it.

MS. LONG: We'll look into it.

CHAIR ROMERO-WIRTH: Councilor Cassutt.

COUNCILOR CASSUTT: Based on my experience with EDAC we can have it recorded but it is an active decision to be made. So I'm not sure that they will be recorded. I don't see the recording in progress but from my understanding we can record the meetings and therefore archive them.

CHAIR ROMERO-WIRTH: And at least have them if somebody wanted to go back and look later. We'll look into this and clarify it at the next meeting to make sure that we're providing the correct information.

7. **Matters from the Public** – None were brought forward

8. **Matters from the Board**

CHAIR ROMERO-WIRTH: Board Member Ives.

MR. IVES: I was just going to note that the next meeting coming up is in early February and I will be out of state and I will dial in if I can, but I may not be here.

CHAIR ROMERO-WIRTH: Okay and thanks for letting us know.

9. **Next Meeting**: Thursday, February 6, 2025 at 4:00 p.m.

10. **Adjourn**

Chair Romero-Wirth adjourned this meeting at approximately 4:26 p.m.

Approved by:

---

Carol Romero-Wirth, Board Chair

Respectfully submitted:

Wordswork

**ATTEST TO**

---

ANDREA SALAZAR  
CITY OF SANTA FE CLERK