

**SANTA FE COUNTY  
WATER POLICY ADVISORY COMMITTEE  
THURSDAY, MARCH 12, 2026  
240 GRANT AVENUE, PLAZA CONFERENCE ROOM, 4:00 PM  
SANTA FE, NEW MEXICO**

**1. OPENING BUSINESS**

**A. CALL TO ORDER**

A meeting of the Water Policy Advisory Committee was called to order by Peter Gowen, Chair, at 4:08 PM, on Thursday, March 12, 2026, in the Plaza Conference Room, 240 Grant Avenue, Santa Fe, NM.

**B. ROLL CALL**

**MEMBERS PRESENT**

Peter Gowen, Chair  
Stephen Schmelling  
Amy Jordan  
James Mike Henry, virtually  
Commissioner Camilla Bustamante, ex-officio member, virtually

**MEMBERS ABSENT**

Shann Stringer, excused  
John Kadlecek, excused  
Laird Graeser  
Emily Wolf  
Jeff Montoya  
Darrin Muenzberg

**OTHERS PRESENT**

Anna McMahon, Santa Fe County Planning Team Leader  
Brandt Giest, Santa Fe County Water Resources Manager  
Travis Soderquist, Santa Fe County Utilities Director  
Jacqueline Beam, Santa Fe County Sustainability  
Cristella Valdez, Assistant County Attorney  
Carl Dickens, community member  
Elizabeth Martin, Stenographer

**\*THERE WAS NOT A QUORUM PRESENT - NO ACTION WAS TAKEN AT THE MEETING**

**C. APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

No action was taken.

**2. MATTERS FROM THE PUBLIC**

None.

**3. APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES**

**A. REQUEST APPROVAL OF THE FEBRUARY 12, 2026 WATER POLICY ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES**

No action was taken.

**B. INTRODUCTIONS**

Introductions were made.

**4. MATTERS FROM STAFF**

**A. UTILITIES**

Mr. Soderquist reviewed projects that the utilities staff was working on and stated that the consultant report on PFAs was complete. We are making a presentation to the Board of County Commissioners on March 31<sup>st</sup> regarding the findings and potential next steps. We are transitioning Brandt to be the point of contact for this group. He will be focusing on water and can focus on water policy as well.

**B. SUSTAINABILITY**

Ms. Beam said the at the next meeting, we will formally present a possible workshop focused on data planning with the state for the Next Generation Water Summit.

**C. PLANNING**

There was no report.

**D. PUBLIC WORKS**

There was no report.

**5. DISCUSSION ITEMS**

**A. DISCUSSION ON A WAY FORWARD FOR EFFICIENT WPAC STAFF COORDINATION**

Chair Gowen said he would like to have an open discussion.

There was discussion around the lack of a quorum and possibly revising the meeting schedule to meet every other month,

The discussion was postponed to the April meeting.

**B. WORKING GROUP ASSIGNMENTS**

There was no discussion.

**6. ACTION ITEMS**

**A. DISCUSSION AND ACTION ON MAKING AMENDMENTS TO WPAC 2026 WORKPLAN FOR PRESENTATION TO BCC FOR APPROVAL**

Chair Gowen said the proposed amendments are posted on the website.

This item was postponed to the April meeting.

**7. INFORMATION ITEMS**

**A. STORMWATER MANAGEMENT WORKING GROUP PROGRESS REPORT**

Mr. Dickens gave a report on working group issues.

**B. DRINKING AND WASTEWATER MANAGEMENT WORKING GROUP PROGRESS REPORT**

Chair Gowen gave a report on the working group progress.

**C. OUTREACH WORKING GROUP PROGRESS REPORT**

There was no report.

**8. MATTERS FROM THE COMMITTEE**

None.

**9. NEXT WPAC MEETING: APRIL 9, 2026**

10. CONCLUDING BUSINESS

A. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business before the Committee, the meeting adjourned at 4:53 pm.

*Peter Gowen*

Peter Gowen, Chair

*Elizabeth Martin*

Elizabeth Martin, Stenographer

SFC CLERK RECORDED 06/04/2026

COUNTY OF SANTA FE ) WATER POLICY ADVISORY  
STATE OF NEW MEXICO ) ss PAGES: 4

Hereby Certify That This Instrument Was Filed for  
Record On The 4TH Day Of June, 2026 at 09:19:21 AM  
and Was Duly Recorded as Instrument # 2084929  
In The Records Of Santa Fe County

Deputy *K* Witness My Hand And Seal Of Office  
Katharine E. Clark  
County Clerk, Santa Fe, NM

