

**SANTA FE COUNTY
WATER POLICY ADVISORY COMMITTEE
THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 13, 2025
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 Shann Stringer, Chair, at 4:01 PM, on Thursday, November 13, 2025, in the Plaza Conference Room, 240 Grant Avenue, Santa Fe, NM.

B. ROLL CALL

MEMBERS PRESENT

Shann Stringer, Chair
Emily Wolf
James Mike Henry
Peter Gowen
Stephen Schmelling
Amy Jordan
Laird Graeser
John Kadlecek
Commissioner Camilla Bustamante

MEMBERS ABSENT

Darrin Muenzberg
Jeff Montoya

OTHERS PRESENT

Andrew Harnden, Santa Fe County Planning
Alexander Ladd, Director, Growth Management, SF County
Michael Vos, Land Use Administrator, SF County
Michael Carr, Public Works Environmental Compliance Officer
Carl Dickens, Community Member

C. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

MOTION A motion was made by Mr. Gowen, seconded by Mr. Graeser, to approve

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the agenda as presented.

VOTE The motion passed on a voice vote.

2. MATTERS FROM THE PUBLIC

None.

3. APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES

A. REQUEST APPROVAL OF THE OCTOBER 9, 2025 WATER POLICY ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

Approval of the minutes was deferred to the next meeting.

There was a discussion around the minutes process and issues with prompt submission of the minutes.

B. INTRODUCTIONS (WPAC MEMBERS, STAFF, GUESTS)

Introduction of public attendees occurred.

4. MATTERS FROM STAFF

None.

5. PRESENTATIONS

None.

Mr. Gowen spoke briefly about his upcoming presentation to be given at the December meeting.

There was discussion around the number of domestic wells, areas where no domestic wells were shown and the database.

6. DISCUSSION ITEMS

A. NEXT GENERATION WATER SUMMIT (NGWS) 2026

Mr. Harnden said Ms. Beam is not here today and will give us an update at the December meeting.

B. DRAFT WPAC 2026 WORKPLAN

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Mr. Gowen, who drafted the 2026 work plan, shared his screen and he and the Committee reviewed the black-lined document.

Mr. Gowen said the changes break down to changes under the Stormwater Subcommittee and a new item that was added under the Drinking Water Subcommittee, as discussed in the prior meeting. Under the Outreach Subcommittee, he consolidated some existing items. Number 7 is a new item regarding outreach strategies of how we submit information to citizens at large on water. Number 9 clarifies the process for County water related projects.

Chair Stringer said he and John are both on the Pojoaque Soil and Water Conservation District. He has been a member since 2012. The District began work in 2009 to get funding to work on one of the dam sites that needed repair. Now there is a second dam site that needs attention. The safety analysis has been done by a consultant and has been presented to the State Engineers Office. That enabled us to get funding from the Legislature. We were invited by the County to submit language regarding this issue for the County's Hazard Mitigation Plan. He is not sure if that was done. If you look at the plan on the website, there is no language in that respect. He and John would like to add these dams to the work plan. We would like to have the District come to this meeting in January or February to present the current situation. The information needs to be made public and be included in the Hazard Mitigation Plan.

Mr. Gowen asked what would be the work product of the Committee.

Chair Stringer said reviewing the detail of the Hazard Mitigation Plan and recommendations from us as to what the County should do. We think they should put up some alarms and do a rehearsal.

There was discussion around stormwater management as it relates to these issues, along with flood control.

Mr. Gowen said clearly, the project described has a place on the work plan. We will come up with the appropriate wording to add it to our work plan. Are there any other suggestions or comments.

It was said that the Committee needs to be sure we don't lose any of the detail in the general manner of the plan.

Mr. Gowen said we will need the leaders of each working group to make sure the details are covered and dealt with.

There was discussion around having a leader for the Stormwater Working Group.

Commissioner Bustamante said it would be helpful to have a leader for this

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working group. She thinks we need to call that out for future budget and planning. Someone should be reviewing each building that goes up.

It was decided to include that recommendation for the Stormwater Working Group.

There was discussion around looking at arroyo issues and flood control.

Mr. Gowen said he will work on language for adding a task to take a look at the Arroyo Management Plan and the Flood Control Plan.

Mr. Gowen added that the Ordinance requires us to present our work plan to the County Commission in January. We will need to have a final draft at our December meeting. We also need to possibly add language about subdivision review under number 1.

Mr. Harnden said we can continue with our agenda and return to this item, if we have time, to work on the language.

7. INFORMATION ITEMS

**A. RECAP OF 'SANTA FE COUNTY WATER: TODAY & TOMORROW'
OCT 27TH 9AM - 2PM BCC SPECIAL MEETING & AGENDA ITEMS FOR NOV 17TH
9AM START**

Mr. Harnden gave a brief recap and stated that they have received and agreed upon suggestions from Commissioner Bustamante for the arrangement of seating at the November 17th meeting.

8. ACTION ITEMS

None.

9. MATTERS FROM THE COMMITTEE

None.

10. NEXT WPAC MEETING: DECEMBER 11, 2025

- The Committee returned to item 6 B to work on word smithing the language on proposed changes.

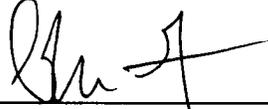
11. CONCLUDING BUSINESS

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MOTION A motion was made and seconded to adjourn the meeting.

VOTE The motion passed on a voice vote.

There being no further business before the Committee, the meeting adjourned at 5:14 pm.



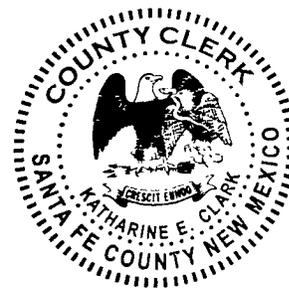
Shann Stringer, Chair

Elizabeth Martin
Elizabeth Martin (Jan C 2026-04-09 15:15:51)

Elizabeth Martin, Stenographer

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COUNTY OF SANTA FE) WATER POLICY ADVISORY
STATE OF NEW MEXICO) ss PAGES: 5
I, Deputy Clerk, Hereby Certify That This Instrument Was Filed for
Record On The 20TH Day Of January, 2026 at 04:15:48 PM
and Was Duly Recorded as Instrument # 2075381
of The Records Of Santa Fe County



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