

**SANTA FE COUNTY
BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS**

RESOLUTION NO. 2024 - 038

**A RESOLUTION UPDATING THE PURPOSE AND ACTIVITIES
OF THE WATER POLICY ADVISORY COMMITTEE AND REPEALING AND
REPLACING RESOLUTION NO. 2019-95**

WHEREAS, the Board of County Commissioners ("Board") seeks to create and maintain a coherent water policy that encompasses the full spectrum of water matters of importance to the residents of Santa Fe County ("County"); and

WHEREAS, there is no life without water; in addition, water quality and quantity dictate activities necessary to establish and maintain community and address growth; and

WHEREAS, the County's Sustainable Growth Management Plan identifies water as a matter of importance to the County's residents, the conservation and preservation of which requires a full community effort; and

WHEREAS, the County has numerous existing water policy documents that require review and revision on a regular basis; and

WHEREAS, it is in the County's interest to address issues that impact water quality and quantity in Santa Fe County in a comprehensive manner, including utility service, domestic water supply, wastewater management, irrigation, drought management, flood prevention and control, water reclamation, and water reuse; and

WHEREAS, County Resolution No. 2019-95 established a Water Policy Advisory Committee ("WPAC") for the purpose of ascertaining and providing factual information and recommendations to the Board regarding sustainable utility services, domestic water supply and conservation, wastewater management and reclamation, irrigation, drought management, flood prevention and control, and water reuse in the County and region; and

WHEREAS, the Board wishes to re-organize the membership of the WPAC and more clearly define the WPAC's duties and responsibilities; and

WHEREAS, this Resolution should repeal and replace County Resolution No. 2019-95.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Santa Fe County Board of County Commissioners that:

1. The Water Policy Advisory Committee ("WPAC") is hereby established for the purpose of ascertaining and providing factual information and recommendations to the Board regarding sustainable utility services, domestic water supply and conservation, wastewater management and reclamation, irrigation, drought management, flood prevention and control, and water reuse in the County and region. It is the express intent of the Board that WPAC shall be a

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working committee that augments County staff resources by bringing independent expertise, research, and effort to its assigned work.

2. The County Manager shall appoint one employee of the County Manager's Office to provide administrative support to the WPAC, such as reserving meeting space, noticing meetings, managing virtual components of meetings, and ensuring that the agenda and packet material for meetings are timely available to WPAC members and the public.
3. WPAC's substantive work shall be primarily supported by the following three (3) departments (the Departments), each of whom shall have one primary staff liaison appointed by the County Manager: 1) Community Development Department/Sustainability Division; 2) Public Works Department/Utilities Division; and 3) Growth Management Department/Planning Division. The County Manager may from time to time appoint other County staff to support the substantive work of the WPAC.
4. The WPAC shall be comprised of the following:
 - a. One (1) member of the Board who shall assist the WPAC in vetting advisory recommendations and champion advisory recommendations made by WPAC, but who shall not be a voting member of the WPAC; and
 - b. Up to nineteen (19) voting members appointed by the Board; provided, however, that the initial members under this Resolution shall consist of the current members appointed under Resolution No.2019-95, who may serve out their existing terms and shall thereafter be eligible for re-appointment under this Resolution.
5. WPAC members must be County residents.
6. WPAC voting members are selected to ensure that the WPAC reflects a wide range of expertise and experience, including membership in established community water groups, professional practice in a water-related field, including agriculture; and volunteer experience.
7. To achieve representation and diversity, the WPAC voting members shall be appointed from the following areas or organizations, where practicable:
 - a. A member of a water system (i.e., mutual domestic water consumers' association, water cooperative, rural water system, or water district);
 - b. A member of an agricultural organization (i.e., soil and water conservation district);
 - c. A member of an acequia association;
 - d. A member from the Estancia Planning Area;
 - e. A member from the Galisteo Planning Area;
 - f. A member from the Central Planning Area;
 - g. A member from the Northern Planning Area;
 - h. A non-County Commissioner member of the Buckman Direct Diversion Board recommended by that Board;
 - i. One member per Pueblo recommended by the following Pueblos:
 1. Cochiti Pueblo;
 2. Nambe Pueblo;
 3. Pojoaque Pueblo;

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4. Santa Clara Pueblo;
 5. Santo Domingo Pueblo;
 6. San Felipe Pueblo;
 7. San Ildefonso Pueblo; and
 8. Tesuque Pueblo.
- j. A member of the City of Santa Fe Water Conservation Committee recommended by that committee; and
 - k. The Board shall choose the remaining members and, in the event that a named entity does not recommend a member or suitable representation from an area is not obtained, any other members up to 19 voting members.
8. The WPAC may appoint one or more working groups so as to focus member's subject matter expertise and areas of interest on specific topics of interest and maximize its bandwidth.
 9. The County Manager's Office shall actively solicit letters of interest and evidence of qualifications from applicants whenever there is an actual or anticipated vacancy on the WPAC or in anticipation of the expiration of the terms of WPAC voting members. A County resident who is interested in being appointed to the WPAC at a time when applications are not actively being solicited may submit a letter of interest and evidence of his or her qualifications to the office of the County Commissioner for the Commission District in which the resident resides c/o the County Manager.
 10. WPAC voting members shall serve terms of three (3) years. In the event of a vacancy, the Board shall appoint a new voting member to serve out the remainder of the departing voting member's term.
 11. There shall be no limitation on the number of consecutive terms that a member may serve. A member may be removed by the Board with or without cause.
 12. WPAC voting members shall elect a chair and a vice-chair in alternate years by a majority vote of a quorum of the voting members present at a meeting noticed for that purpose.
 13. The WPAC and its working groups shall meet as often as deemed necessary to carry out their work. The WPAC shall hold its meetings in a County facility or such other location as may be conducive to attendance by the public.
 14. The WPAC shall comply with applicable state laws and County policies for public notice, open meetings, and rules of order; provided, however, that only summary minutes shall be required.
 15. All matters coming before the WPAC shall be resolved by a majority vote by the quorum, which shall consist of a majority of the voting members actually appointed by the Board at that time.
 16. Departments shall, to the extent practicable and as directed by the Board, present new and revised policies and formal plans within WPAC's subject matter areas of interest as defined in this Resolution to the WPAC for discussion so that it can make a recommendation to the Board.

17. To the extent consistent with the County's adopted Strategic Plan, the WPAC shall have the following duties and responsibilities:
 - a. Adopt and use the Results Based Accountability Framework for addressing water issues in the County and develop Specific, Measurable, Achievable, Relevant, and Time-Bound (SMART) objectives for all of its work.
 - b. Incorporate geographic and culturally appropriate best practices into its recommendations and assure that the interests and voices of current County youth are reflected in its work.
 - c. Ensure that its work is based in diversity, equity, and inclusion (DEI) principles.
 - d. Ensure that it actively engages youth, and that the voices of youth are considered, in its work, including by working with schools and youth-based organizations.
 - e. Support the January 12, 2021, City of Santa Fe & County Utilities Santa Fe Water 2100: 5-year Water Resource Planning Cycle and all subsequent revisions and planning cycles.
 - f. Provide recommendations for new, and updates to existing, policies, ordinances, and plans related to subject matters within its scope of responsibility, including, but not limited, to:
 - i. Drought management and aquifer recharge.
 - i. Incentivization of large- and small-scale water collection and pollutant reduction activities, such as rain gardens and water catchment systems.
 - ii. Provision of water and resources for abnormal events, such as flooding, water contamination, or other unplanned water loss.
 - g. Develop a workplan to assure adequate water quality and quantity for a seven (7) generations ahead (approximately 100 year) water plan for the County that includes:
 - i. Review of existing County, State, and regional plans for integration.
 - ii. Review of the Sustainable Land Development Code, Ordinance No. 2016-9, as amended, and other related policies and ordinances.
 - iii. Evaluation and recommendations for regional partnerships and projects.
 - h. Analyze and make recommendations concerning wastewater, including, but not limited to, County wastewater service options for rural and non-densely populated areas of the County, such as distributed wastewater treatment facilities.
 - i. Provide such other analysis and recommendations as directed by the Board.

18. At the Board's second meeting in January of each year, the WPAC shall present to the Board for its approval a report of progress towards adopted goals from the previous year and a draft work plan and meeting calendar for that year; provided, however, that the first workplan after adoption of this Resolution shall be presented to the Board within four (4) months of its adoption. In addition to other SMART objectives, the workplan shall include a schedule for the submittal of reports and other deliverables to the Board. The workplan may be amended by the Board on its own initiative or in response to a proposal by the WPAC.

19. The WPAC shall present a report of its activities and recommendations to the Board on a quarterly schedule or as identified in its current workplan.

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20. The Board, in its discretion, may dissolve or incorporate the WPAC into another standing committee at any time.

21. This Resolution repeals and replaces County Resolution No. 2019-95.

PASSED, APPROVED, AND ADOPTED ON THIS 26th DAY OF MARCH, 2024.

**SANTA FE COUNTY
BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS**

By: *Hank Hughes*
Hank Hughes, Chair

ATTEST:

Katharine E. Clark
Katharine E. Clark
Santa Fe County Clerk

Date: 3/27/2024

Approved as to form:

Cristella Coley for
Jeff Young
Santa Fe County Attorney



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COUNTY OF SANTA FE)
STATE OF NEW MEXICO) ss

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I Hereby Certify That This Instrument Was Filed for
Record On The 27TH Day Of March, 2024 at 12:01:21 PM
And Was Duly Recorded as Instrument # 2030679
Of The Records Of Santa Fe County

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