



ESTANCIA BASIN WATER PLANNING COMMITTEE

DRAFT Regular Committee Meeting Minutes August 14, 2021

Members and Staff

Click or tap here to enter text.

<i>Member</i>	<i>Position</i>	<i>Term Expiration</i>	<i>Present</i>	<i>Absent</i>
Rik Thompson – Chair	Santa Fe Co.- Agriculture	March 2022	x	
Manny Encinas - Vice Chair	At Large	December 2022	x	
Daniel McGregor – Secretary/Treasurer	Bernalillo Co. – Government	March 2022	x	
Krista Bonfantine	Bernalillo Co – Municipal	December 2022	x	
Dierdre Tarr	Claunh-Pinto SWCD	July 2022	x	
Brenda Smythe	Edgewood SWCD	December 2023		x
Johnny Perea	East Torrance SWCD	March 2022		x
Sherry Abraham	Santa Fe Co. – Municipal	December 2023		x
Vacant	Santa Fe Co. – Government	Unfilled		
Rhonda King	Torrance Co. – Municipal	July 2022	x	
Steven Guetschow	Torrance Co. – Government	July 2022	x	
James Patcha	Torrance Co. – Agriculture	May 2023		x
William (Bill) Larson	Torrance Co. – Agriculture	July 2022	x	

Others/ Guests:

None	
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Call to Order:

Choose an item.

Held at: Hybrid Meeting per Meeting Notice: By Zoom hosted at Torrance County in Estancia

Called to Order at: 10/14/2021 9:35 AM **By:** Rik Thompson Chair

As: Quorum currently stands at 7. Met as Committee with Quorum

Notations: Bill Larson left the meeting at 10:34. A quorum was present throughout the meeting.
No motions/votes were made after Mr. Larson's departure from the meeting

Approval of Agenda:

Review of Agenda for Thursday, October 14, 2021

Motion: Approve the Agenda as presented

Motion Made: **Motion Seconded:**

Notations/Amendments: None

Motion Vote: Roll Call Vote:

Membership Issues:

No Actions Taken. Santa Fe Government Position Remains Vacant. Quorum stands at 7.

Motion: Accept Appointment from Bernalillo County to fill an unexpired term: Krista Bonfantine

Approval of Minutes:

Review of Minutes of September 12, 2021

Motion: Approval of the Minutes

Motion Made: Steven Guetschow **Motion Seconded:** Rhonda King

Notations /Amendments: Change next meeting date from Aug 14 to Sep 12, Note that Estancia has indicated they do not have a 40-year water plan.

Motion Vote: Roll Call Vote: Unanimous – Bonfantine abstaining (not present at 8/12/2021 meeting)

Financial Matters:

D. McGregor reports that the existing balance stands at \$24,952.44 including recent reimbursement from Santa Fe County and FY22 support from Bernalillo County, Estancia, and Edgewood.

Financial Report:

Review of Report of: Wednesday, October 13, 2021

Motion: Approval of the Financial Report

Motion Made: Bill Larson **Motion Seconded:** Dee Tarr

Notations /Amendments: None

Motion Vote: Roll Call Vote: Unanimous

Public Comments:

None

Correspondence:

Commissioner Pyskoty, Bernalillo County regarding Town of Edgewood Planning Council and amendments to the Campbell Ranch Master Plan.

Unfinished Business: Solicitation for Professional Services:

Dan McGregor reported that the initial transition was off to a slow start due to lack of proactive communication. Contact with John Shoemaker and Associates Inc. (JSAI) was made earlier in the week and initial e-mail exchange has occurred. David Chace has requested the EBWPC work out a payment method/strategy to ensure Hydroresolutions costs are covered prior to engaging in the transition. Data exchange appears doable, but physical change of keys and site visits still need to be worked out. JSAI will be provided with contact information for EWPBC members in event assistance with landowners is needed. Dee Tarr also mentioned the need for JSAI to also engage with SWCA for monitoring data exchange.

Deep Exploratory Well / Scoping Effort and Constraints

No progress to date. Dan McGregor to meet with Dee regarding SRMDC engagement and scoping and also needs to meet with Stacey Timmons to discuss NM Tech interests. Rik Thompson mentioned that there is some local fear regarding that a deep well might trigger an interest in oil and gas development. Bill Larson mentioned the previous NM Tech report regarding oil and gas potential in the basin, and Dan mentioned the NM Tech summary on data and conditions in the basin. Rik indicated that key question to be answered is “wanting to see what is down really deep”, Krista Bonfantine and Dan McGregor clarified that key question is characterization of deeper aquifers and interaction. Rhonda King also mentioned potential drilling in north part of the basin and though there might have been NM Bureau of Mines available.

40-year Water Planning for Water Entities in the Estancia Basin (Subcommittee:
Abrams, Thompson, Guestchow, McGregor)

Dan McGregor recapped that the request was initiated by City of Moriarty to catalog what plans were available, and possible assist where no plans existed. Dan McGregor, as secretary, needs to send an e-mail update on status of action to the City of Moriarty. Manny Encinas commented that there may be funding available for the smaller entities through Rural Economic Development funds. The new director for REC is Patricia Dominquez (formerly with Senator Udall). Dan McGregor will try to find Josh Sherman (NRCS) report and provide to members.

New Business:

Town of Edgewood/ Amendments to Campbell Ranch Master Plan

Rik Thompson indicated that he would be recusing himself from any vote or signature on committee action due to his being on the Entranosa Water and Wastewater Association Board, which is a likely supplier for Campbell Ranch. Rik also indicated this was necessary as there was an existing non-disclosure agreement in place with Campbell Ranch. . Rik will be providing input/clarification on Entranosa policies if requested, but does not speak for Entranosa Board or for the OSE on Entranosa applications or other matters. Rik requested that Manny Encinas, Vice-chair, provide any necessary signatures.

Dan McGregor also pointed out that Sherry Abrams is in a similar situation and likely would need to reclude herself from any discussion as it could constitute ex parte communications should any of the issues come up to the Town of Edgewood council.

Other's in the group identified past involvements in the matter, but did not request recusal. .Dan McGregor mentioned his past role in the Aquifer Science matter and expert testimony to that affect. Krista Bonfantine clarified her past involvement with the Deep Well protest group and expressed her frustration that the water issues with Campbell Ranch has still not been addressed by the Town of Edgewood and that the amendments that had been proposed felt like an end run around the relevant water issues. Rhonda King mentioned that the King family (relations) were involved with various water rights sales and transfers. None asked for recusal based on these involvements.

Rik further clarified that Entranosa policy is that developers would have to come with "wet" water rights in hand and finance and construct any necessary infrastructure. Those water rights and infrastructure would then be transferred to Entranosa in exchange for Entranosa memberships (i.e. connections) and that Entranosa would provide water to the development as part of that agreement. Rik emphasized that Entranosa does not take a position, other than its own policies, with regard to development proposals.

Rik cautioned the committee to be careful on taking this matter and to remain apolitical and to focus on basin water issues only and to remain neutral and not take sides in the Town of Edgewood matters because the committees credibility to all parties is everything, so stick to facts and then let chips fall where they may.

Rhonda King emphasized, as did Dan McGregor, that the EBWPC role in such matters is strictly advisory, and they also recapped the history of the Master Plan and Edgewood annexation. Rhonda expressed her appreciation that the role of the committee not become a political instrument and should remain advisory. Rhonda also stated that its ultimately up to the deciding entity to make its own decisions on its own ordinances. Rhonda emphasized that it was important that the committee look at the whole scope of the issues surrounding water rights and issues, positive and negative, including the need to change existing water uses (irrigation) to help promote other economic development and basin sustainability. Rhonda emphasized the need to be looking at how best to preserve and extend the life of the basin.

Rhonda also stated that she felt that there was not enough information currently available (in the agenda packet) to make a decision to move forward or not, including not knowing what amendments Town of Edgewood planning council had approved and Town of Edgewood

Next Regular Scheduled Meeting **Date:** Friday, December 10, 2021 9:30 AM
 Location: Torrance County Administrative Offices, 205 Ninth Street, Estancia NM
Plus Zoom hybrid

Adjourn:

With no further business,

Meeting Adjourned: 10/14/2021 12:00 AM

Respectfully submitted,

Dan McGregor EBWPC Secretary Treasurer

Reviewed and approved by: _____

Torrance County

Santa Fe County

Bernalillo County

"Coordinated water resource planning for the Estancia Underground Water Basin"