

2022

Water Protection Advisory Board

ANNUAL REPORT FOR 2022
SUBMITTED TO THE
ALBUQUERQUE CITY COUNCIL
BERNALILLO COUNTY COMMISSION
AND THE
ALBUQUERQUE BERNALILLO COUNTY WATER
UTILITY AUTHORITY GOVERNING BOARD

Annual Report 2022

Prepared by the
Albuquerque and Bernalillo County
Water Protection Advisory Board

Members:
Steve Glass, Chair
Darrell Kundargi, Vice Chair
Camilla Feibelman
Alejandría Lyons
Caroline Scruggs, Ph.D.
Joel Wooldridge
Jose Cerrato, Ph.D.
Bart Faris
Jonathan Gonzales

Acronyms

Air Force	United States Air Force
AMAFCA	Albuquerque Metropolitan Arroyo Flood Control Authority
BFF	Bulk Fuels Facility
City	City of Albuquerque
COVID-19	disease caused by SARS-CoV-2
GPPAP	County Ground-Water Protection Policy and Action Plan
GWQB	Ground Water Quality Bureau
HWB	Hazardous Waste Bureau
KAFB	Kirtland Air Force Base
MRCOG	Mid-Region Council of Governments
MRG	Middle Rio Grande
MS4	Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System
MWL	Mixed Waste Landfill
NMBGMR	New Mexico Bureau of Geology and Mineral Resources
NMED	New Mexico Environment Department
NPDES	National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System
O&G	Oil and Gas
ONRT	Office of Natural Resources Trustee
OSE	Office of the State Engineer
PIC	Policy Implementation Committee
PPCP	Pharmaceuticals and Personal Care Products
PSTB	Petroleum Storage Tank Bureau
RAPP	Rivers and Aquifers Protection Plan
SNL	Sandia National Laboratories
UCMR4	Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring Rule
USGS	United States Geological Survey
WALH	Western Albuquerque Land Holdings
WPAB	Water Protection Advisory Board
WQPPAP	Water Quality Protection Policy and Action Plan

This report presents an overview of the Water Protection Advisory Board's (WPAB's) areas of focus, activities, and accomplishments during calendar year 2022. In addition to summarizing WPAB activities, this report offers a list of water quality concerns/topics in the basin in 2022 and a description of the WPAB's priorities for 2023.

Background

Starting in 1988, the City of Albuquerque (City) and Bernalillo County (County) passed resolutions calling for action to clean up and protect the Middle Rio Grande's (MRG's) shared groundwater resources. After five years of planning and research, the Albuquerque/Bernalillo County Ground-Water Protection Policy and Action Plan (GPPAP) was adopted by the County in November 1993, by the City in August 1994, and subsequently by the Albuquerque Bernalillo County Water Utility Authority (Water Authority) after its creation in 2003.

GPPAP was updated and revised in 2009 to include surface water quality protection activities, resulting in a single Water Quality Protection Policy and Action Plan (WQPPAP). In 2018, the Water Authority began the process of completing updated source water assessments for both groundwater and surface water, as well as an update to the WQPPAP. The updated WQPPAP, renamed the Rivers and Aquifers Protection Plan (RAPP), was finalized by the Water Authority in February 2019. The RAPP, plus its groundwater and surface water assessments, serve as the Water Authority's source water protection plan.

The WPAB was established to oversee implementation of the WQPPAP with members of the community appointed to WPAB by the City, County and Water Authority. The WPAB as established by ordinance is to:

- Study and advise the Water Authority, City, and County on surface water and groundwater protection concerns;
- Oversee implementation of the WQPPAP;
- Periodically review and evaluate the effectiveness of the WQPPAP and make recommendations for changes, as necessary;
- Promote consistency in Water Authority, City, and County actions to protect surface and groundwater quality; and
- Advocate for effective protection of surface and groundwater quality.

The WPAB consists of nine members: two appointed by the Water Authority; three appointed by the Mayor with the advice and consent of the City Council; and three appointed by the County Commission. One member is appointed jointly with the advice and consent of the County Commission and the Mayor with the advice and consent of

the City Council. A summary of the current members' qualifications is provided in **Appendix A**.

Additionally, the WPAB works with members of a Policy Implementation Committee (PIC). The PIC comprises members from the City, County, and Water Authority staff that are involved in environmental protection, compliance reporting, water quality monitoring, and source water protection activities. The Albuquerque Metropolitan Arroyo Flood Control Authority (AMAFCA) is also represented on the PIC. Core PIC entities and agencies that implement activities related to the RAPP, in addition to other environmental and public health services, include:

Albuquerque Bernalillo County Water Utility Authority

- Compliance Division
- Water Resources Division

Bernalillo County

- Natural Resource Services

City of Albuquerque

- Environmental Health Department
- Department of Municipal Development
- Solid Waste Management Department

Albuquerque Metropolitan Arroyo Flood Control Authority

- Water Quality

Water Protection Advisory Board Activities for 2022

The WPAB is required to hold meetings at least once a quarter. In 2022, WPAB met ten times, including one special meeting. No meetings were held in July, September or December. In response to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, all WPAB meetings were held virtually via the WebEx platform. The 2022 Work Plan was approved by WPAB at the January 14, 2022 meeting (**Appendix B**). In 2022, the WPAB meeting agenda topics included presentations in the following areas, consistent with the board's established priorities for the year:

- I. Protection of groundwater quality in the Albuquerque Basin;
- II. Protection of surface water quality and watershed health within the Middle Rio Grande Watershed;
- III. Fostering intergovernmental coordination, cooperation, and communication; and
- IV. Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI).

Below is a summary of significant action items taken by the board and technical presentations heard by members during the 2022 calendar year. A summary of public comments, when provided, is also included below. Meeting minutes for each meeting are included in **Appendix C** and include summaries of board discussions on agenda topics.

January

Board Actions:

Members elected Mr. Steve Glass as Chair and Mr. Darrell Kundargi as Vice Chair for 2022.

Members unanimously voted to approve the Open Meeting Act Resolution.

Members unanimously voted to approve the 2022 WPAB Work Plan.

Presentations:

None.

Public Comments:

None.

February

Board Actions:

None

Presentation:

- *Water Quality Control Commission activity update*, Bruce Thompson (Member-at-large, Water Quality Control Commission). [Link to Presentation](#)

Public Comments:

None.

March

Board Actions:

Members reviewed and unanimously approved the 2021 WPAB Annual Report and Cover Letter. [Link to 2021 WPAB Annual Report](#)

Members proposed a special meeting to draft letter regarding the Clean and Green Retail Ordinance which places a ban on plastic bags.

Presentations:

- *Bernalillo County's Green Stormwater Infrastructure and Low Impact Development Standards*, Kali Bronson, Stormwater Program Compliance Manager, Bernalillo County and Sarah Ganley, P.E., Bohannon Huston. [Link to Presentation](#)

Public Comment: None.

March (Special Meeting)

Board Actions:

Members unanimously approved drafting of a letter to City of Albuquerque City Council regarding the Clean and Green Retail Ordinance which places a ban on plastic bags.

Members unanimously approved the completed letter to City of Albuquerque City Council regarding the "Plastic Bag Ban" and the impacts of plastic bags to water resources **(Appendix D)**.

Presentation:

None.

Public Comments:

None.

April

Board Actions: None.

Presentations:

- *Orphan Site Update*, Gail Cooke, Orphan Sites Program Manager, New Mexico Environment Department, Groundwater Quality Bureau (GWQB). [Link to Presentation](#)
- *Groundwater Contamination Sites in Albuquerque and Bernalillo County*, Justin Ball, Ground Water Quality Bureau Chief, New Mexico Environment Department,

and Paul Chamberlain, Geoscientist, State Cleanup Program, New Mexico Environment Department. [Link to Presentation](#)

Public Comment: None

May

Board Actions: None.

Presentations:

- *Bosque Assessment Update Program (BAUP)*

Colleen McRoberts, Open Space Superintendent, Open Space Division, City of Albuquerque. [Link to Presentation](#)

- *Middle Rio Grande Stormwater Quality Team Overview and Activities*

Kathleen Verhage, Senior Engineer, Stormwater Management Section, City of Albuquerque, and Patrick Chavez, Storm Water Quality Engineer, AMAFCA. [Link to Presentation](#)

Public Comment:

Ms. Rosalie Flores signed up to give public comment. Ms. Flores is an equity and expungement inclusion consultant working with the New Mexico Acequia Association regarding water quality and water quantity issues from the cannabis industry in New Mexico and reported that she has a contract with the City of Albuquerque to create program recommendations for a Cannabis Social Equity Program to coordinate water management efforts for the cannabis industry.

June

Board Actions: None.

Presentations:

- *Railyards Site Update*

Ken Zeigler, Senior Environmental Health Scientist, Environmental Health, City of Albuquerque. [Link to Presentation](#)

Public Comment: None.

July

Meeting was cancelled.

August

Board Actions: None.

Presentations:

- *Kirtland Air Force Base Bulk Fuels Facility Leak Cleanup*
Ryan Wortman, Kirtland Air Force Base, Physical Scientist, project manager. [Link to Presentation](#)
- *Water Authority Sanitary Sewer Overflow Update*
Danielle Shuryn, Compliance Manager, ABCWUA Water Authority, and Jason Casuga, Chief Engineer/CEO, MRGCD. [Link to Presentation](#)

Public Comment:

Three members of the public signed up for comments, this includes Debra H., Janus Herrera, and Carolyn Carlson. No comments were made during the meeting.

September

Meeting was cancelled.

October

Board Actions:

Members welcomed the new WPAB County appointee Jonathan Gonzales. Jonathan is a lifelong member of the Albuquerque community and has served a government career specializing in IT.

Several members of the WPAB proposed drafting a letter of support to the Legislative Finance Committee by means of a sub-committee. The sub-committee would be designated to draft letters of support on topics of concern to the WPAB in the coming year. Members agreed that the drafting of sub-committees will be established in early 2023.

Presentations:

- *New Mexico Water Data Act*
Stacy Timmons, Associate Director-Hydrogeology Programs, NM Bureau of Geology and Mineral Resources. [Link to Presentation](#)
- *NMAC 20.6.4 Triennial Review Update*

Jennifer Fullam, Supervisor, Standards, Planning & Reporting Team, Surface Water Quality Bureau, New Mexico Environment Department

Public Comment:

None.

November

Board Actions:

Members unanimously approved drafting a Letter of Support to the New Mexico Legislative Finance Committee regarding budget requests by state entities responsible for the protection of water resources and the environment.

Members unanimously approved the Final Letter of Support to be sent to the listed parties of the New Mexico Legislative Finance Committee **(Appendix D)**.

Presentations:

- *Sandia National Laboratories Environmental Restoration Sites Update*
Michael Nagy, Manager, Environmental Restoration & Stewardship Department
 - Burn Site Groundwater Investigation (BSG), Michael Skelly
 - [Link to Presentation](#)
 - Tijeras Arroyo Groundwater (TAG) Investigation, John Copland
 - [Link to Presentation](#)
 - Technical Area Groundwater Investigation (TAG-V), Jun Li
 - [Link to Presentation](#)

Public Comment:

None.

December

Meeting was cancelled.

Summary of Board Priority Activities for 2023

Based on the study and analysis of the topics and issues described above, WPAB identified four areas of focus as priorities for calendar year 2023 (**Appendix E, 2023 WPAB Work Plan**).

Protect Groundwater Quality

WPAB will continue to monitor the progress of groundwater remediation and investigation projects in the Middle Rio Grande (MRG), including the Kirtland Air Force (KAFB) Bulk Fuels Facility (BFF) leak, and other contamination sites that threaten water supply. The WPAB will receive regular updates on the KAFB BFF jet fuel leak project from the New Mexico Environment Department (NMED) and KAFB. The WPAB will also receive updates on other groundwater contamination sites in the State Cleanup, Neglected Contamination Sites, Voluntary Remediation, and Brownfields Programs within the City and County from the NMED Groundwater Quality Bureau (GWQB). NMED will additionally present to WPAB regarding Voluntary Remediation and Brownfield programs and projects. WPAB will receive regular updates on the KAFB Bulk Fuels Facility jet fuel leak project. Lastly, the City of Albuquerque (CABQ) Environmental Health Department will update WPAB on remediation projects.

Protect Surface Water Quality and Watershed Health

WPAB will monitor projects and progress on watershed health including National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) primacy efforts, Municipal Separate Storm Sewer (MS4) permitting, and receive presentations on emerging contaminants of concern. The CABQ Department of Municipal Development (DMD), Bernalillo County Natural Resource Services (NRS), and the Albuquerque Metropolitan Arroyo Flood Control Authority (AMAFCA) will provide updates for their NPDES Watershed-Based MS4 permit compliance programs; the Water Authority will provide updates for their NPDES permit compliance program.

Foster intergovernmental coordination, cooperation, and communication

The board intends to serve as a forum and advocate for communication among intergovernmental groups and will review how agencies coordinate regulatory efforts and resolve current and potential future threats to water quality in the MRG watershed. The board will encourage improved public outreach efforts by the relevant agencies and receive updates and feedback from the internal WPAB Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) Committee. The Board will receive regular updates from the PIC, as well as quarterly reports from the New Mexico Water Quality Control Commission (WQCC) and the Mid-Region Council of Government Water Resources (MRCOG) Board on relevant topics and actions related to water quality. The board will receive a presentation about the new Environmental Crimes Task Force from NMED. The board will additionally receive various updates from other governmental organizations including from the Water Authority on updates to the Surface and Groundwater Source Water Assessments from the Rivers and Aquifers Protection Plan (RAPP), and from NMED on

Water Reuse Regulations and neglected contamination sites (formerly referred to as orphan sites).

Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion

The Board will maintain DEI as a standing agenda item for all meetings. The Board will complete a DEI Work Plan by the first quarter and identify biannual training opportunities or presentations (**Appendix F**). Presenters will be provided with DEI questions in advanced to address during presentations to the Board. The Board will advise appointing agencies (City, County, and Water Authority) on policy actions supporting NMED to address neglected contamination sites.

2023 Topics of Significant Concern

Below is a table of the topics of significant concern to the WPAB that guide the 2023 Work Plan above.

Area of Focus	Explanation
Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion	WPAB has the responsibility to acknowledge racial and economic disparities and provide guidance, advice, and recommendations for corrective action to its constituent agencies regarding these matters and how they impact effective protection of surface and groundwater resources.
Kirtland Air Force Base (KAFB) Bulk Fuels Facility (BFF) Project	Water Authority supply wells are downgradient of the contamination plume and supply wells for the Veterans Administration Medical Complex and KAFB are in close proximity. The extent of contamination and corrective action activities should be actively monitored.

Area of Focus	Explanation
Groundwater Contamination Sites	Several groundwater contamination sites are being investigated/remediated in the City and County, including leaking underground storage sites, Superfund sites, and former industrial sites. These sites are regulated by the NMED under the Petroleum Storage Tank Bureau (PSTB), Ground Water Quality Bureau (GWQB), or the Hazardous Waste Bureau (HWB). The Board will monitor activities and progress of these sites to ensure the continued protection of groundwater supply wells.
Stormwater Quality	The Board will remain up to date on MS4, multi-sector general, pesticide general, and construction general permitting activities.
Watershed Health	The Board will be updated on efforts to preserve watershed health. Current efforts include the surface water quality protection measures outlined in the RAPP, the NPDES efforts, and developing processes for emerging contaminants.
Intergovernmental Collaboration	Improve public outreach by government agencies for water quality issues. The Board will advise appointing agencies (City, County, and Water Authority) on policy actions in support of NMED to address neglected contamination sites and other water quality concerns.

APPENDIX A
Summary of Member Qualifications

J. Steve Glass, Chair

- County appointment
- Fourth term – January 2022 – January 2025
- Master of Science, Environmental Science; 40 years of professional experience in environmental chemistry and biology applications in environmental science and regulation; 23 years employment with MRG local governments in water resource protection programs

Darrell Kundargi, Vice Chair

- City appointment
- First term – September 2019 to September 2022
- Master of Water Resources; Bachelor's Degree in environmental studies; hydrologist and regional water rights coordinator for U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service for 15+ years

Camilla Feibelman

- City appointment
- Second term – January 2022 to January 2025
- Master of Planning in Urban Planning; Bachelor of Arts in Environmental Biology; Director of Rio Grande Chapter of Sierra Club, experience in ecosystem protection and environmental justice communications

Alejandría Lyons

- City appointment
- First term – September 2019 to September 2022
- Dual Masters candidate in Community & Regional Planning and Water Resources, Bachelor of Arts in Economics and Political Science

Caroline Scruggs, Ph.D., P.E.

- Water Authority appointment
- Second Term – January 2022 – January 25
- County appointment: October 2012 to October 2018
- Ph.D., Environment and Resources; over 20 years of experience in civil and environmental engineering and water resource planning.

Joel Wooldridge

- Joint City/County appointment
- First Term – February 2020 to February 2023

- Bachelor of Arts, Sociology and Geography; city planner for the City of Albuquerque Planning Department for 20+ years with over 40 years of experience in groundwater protection policy, growth strategies, and consulting.

Jose Cerrato, Ph.D.

- Water Authority appointment
- First Term – December 2021 to December 2024
- Ph.D. Civil Engineering; over 15 years of experience in environmental and chemical engineering with applications ranging from water treatment technology to heavy metal behavior in the environment.

Bart Faris

- County Appointment
- First Term – September 2021 to September 2024
- Bachelor of Science, Soil and Water Science; over 40 years in water resources, hydrology, environmental resource management and restoration, and community development

Jonathan Gonzales

- County appointment
- First Term – October 2022 to October 2025
- Central New Mexico Community College; over 10 years' experience as a federal employee with IT and analytical expertise; life experience in agriculture and the local acequia system.

APPENDIX B
2022 WPAB Work Plan

**WATER PROTECTION ADVISORY BOARD
WORK PLAN FOR 2022**

- I. WPAB Officer Elections for 2022
- II. Open Meetings Resolution adoption (annually)
- III. 2021 Annual Report and Letter from the Chair
- IV. Protection of Groundwater Quality
 - Receive update on Water Authority groundwater contamination site inventory in Rivers and Aquifers Protection Plan
 - Receive an update on HP Digital Groundwater Contamination site
 - Receive update about Sandia National Laboratories Environmental Restoration activities, including the Mixed Waste Landfill, Tijeras Arroyo Groundwater Area of Concern (AOC), and Technical Area V Groundwater AOC.
 - Updates from the New Mexico Environment Department Ground Water Quality Bureau on groundwater contamination sites in the City of Albuquerque and Bernalillo County
 - Receive regular updates on the Kirtland Air Force Base Bulk Fuels Facility jet fuel leak project
 - Receive an update on the Produced Water Act rule-making as well as an update on the produced water research consortium progress
 - Receive an update from City of Albuquerque Environmental Health Department on remediation projects
- V. Protection of Surface Water Quality and Watershed Health
 - Stormwater update, including MS4 permitting and annual watershed-based permit public meeting
 - Receive an update on surface water quality protection measures in Water Authority Rivers and Aquifers Protection Plan (Water Authority source water protection plan)
 - Receive an update on City of Albuquerque Open Space BAUP initiative
- VI. Foster Intergovernmental Coordination, Cooperation and Communication
 - Regular Policy Implementation Committee (PIC) updates
 - Updates from New Mexico Environment Department on Orphan Site status
 - Improve public outreach for water quality issues by governmental agencies
 - Regular updates from WPAB Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Committee
 - Quarterly updates on agendas, topics, and actions of the Water Quality Control Commission that relate to water quality topics for WPAB
 - Quarterly updates on agendas, topics, and actions of the Mid-Region Council of Government (MRCOG) Water Resources Board that relate to water quality

- Update from Water Data Act Initiative

VII. Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion

- Maintain DEI as a standing agenda item for all WPAB meetings
- Complete DEI training identified by DEI Sub-Committee
- Complete Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Work Plan by mid-year
- Provide presenters DEI questions in advance to address during presentations to WPAB
- Advise appointing agencies (City, County, and Water Authority) on policy actions in support of NMED and addressing orphan sites

APPENDIX C
2022 Meeting Minutes



STEVE GLASS, CHAIR

DARRELL KUNDARGI, VICE CHAIR

JOSÉ CERRATO

BART FARIS

CAMILLA FEIBELMAN

ALEJANDRÍA LYONS

CAROLINE SCRUGGS

JOEL WOOLDRIDGE

January 14, 2022

Location: Video conference¹

Time: 10:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.

¹ Meeting was held via video conference in keeping with COVID-19 safety protocols.

Board Members Present: Chair Steve Glass, Bart Faris, Camilla Feibelman, José Cerrato, Joel Wooldridge, Darrell Kundargi, Caroline Scruggs, Alejandría Lyons

Board Members Absent (excused):

PIC Members Present: Diane Agnew (Water Authority), Shelby Stimson (Water Authority), Kelsey Bicknell (Water Authority), Kali Bronson (Bernalillo County), Dan McGregor (Bernalillo County), Ken Ziegler (City of Albuquerque), Shellie Eaton (City of Albuquerque), Kathy Verhage (City of Albuquerque), Danielle Shuryn (Water Authority), Cassia Sanchez (Water Authority)

Guests: Mark Kelly, Roberto Roibal

I. Call to Order

Chair Glass called the meeting to order at 10:02 am.

II. Approval of Agenda

Chair Glass noted that PIC Updates were inadvertently left off the agenda and suggested they be added as item 3e under Board Business.

Mr. Kundargi motioned to approve the January 14, 2022 meeting agenda with this change incorporated. Ms. Feibelman seconded the motion.

Unanimous vote to approve meeting agenda:

Chair Steve Glass: Yes
Camilla Feibelman: Yes
José Cerrato: Yes
Alejandría Lyons: Yes
Bart Faris: Yes
Darrell Kundargi: Yes
Caroline Scruggs: Yes
Joel Wooldridge: Yes

III. Review and Approval of December 6, 2021 Meeting Minutes

Mr. Faris motioned to approve the December 6, 2021 meeting minutes. Mr. Wooldridge seconded the motion.

Unanimous vote to approve December 6, 2021 meeting minutes:

Chair Steve Glass: Yes
Camilla Feibelman: Yes
José Cerrato: Yes
Alejandría Lyons: Yes
Bart Faris: Yes
Darrell Kundargi: Yes
Caroline Scruggs: Abstain
Joel Wooldridge: Yes

IV. Board Business

a. Elect 2022 WPAB Officers

Chair Glass stated he would be willing to serve another term as Chair of the WPAB, but invited the nomination of other Board members to the Chair position.

Ms. Feibelman motioned to approve Steve Glass as Chair and Ms. Scruggs seconded the motion.

Ms. Feibelman nominated Mr. Kundargi as Vice Chair. Mr. Kundargi accepted the nomination.

Ms. Feibelman motioned to approve Darrel Kundargi as Vice Chair and Ms. Scruggs seconded the motion.

Unanimous vote to approve, by slate, the election of Mr. Glass as Chair and Mr. Kundargi as Vice Chair of the WPAB for 2022:

Chair Steve Glass: Yes

Camilla Feibelman: Yes

José Cerrato: Yes

Alejandría Lyons: Yes

Bart Faris: Yes

Darrell Kundargi: Yes

Caroline Scruggs: Yes

Joel Wooldridge: Yes

b. Approval of WPAB Open Meetings Resolution

Mr. Faris motioned to approve the Open Meeting Act Resolution. Mr. Wooldridge seconded the motion.

Unanimous vote to approve the Open Meeting Act Resolution for 2022:

Chair Steve Glass: Yes

Camilla Feibelman: Yes

José Cerrato: Yes

Alejandría Lyons: Yes

Bart Faris: Yes

Vice Chair Darrell Kundargi: Yes

Caroline Scruggs: Yes

Joel Wooldridge: Yes

c. Approval of 2022 WPAB Work Plan

17:00

The Board reviewed the draft Work Plan and discussed suggested additions and edits.

Chair Glass suggested that the WPAB receive quarterly updates about the water quality-related agenda topics and actions of the Water Quality Control Commission. Chair Glass also recommended the addition of quarterly updates on the agenda topics and actions of the Mid-Region Council of Government (MRCOG). Mr. Faris agreed, and inquired about who would deliver those updates. Ms. Agnew suggested that the PIC could give quarterly reports on such activities as part its regular updates to the Board. Ms. Agnew said presentations could be requested from the appropriate entities should topics of interests arise from these quarterly updates. Mr. Wooldridge agreed and suggested the Work Plan specify that the MRCOG update would be specific to the MRCOG Water Resources Board.

Mr. Faris suggested the addition of an update from the City of Albuquerque and Bernalillo County about the development of drilling permits for oil and gas. Mr. McGregor responded that drilling permit effort is virtually complete. In response, Mr. Faris withdrew his suggestion to receive an update on this effort.

Ms. Feibelman suggested the addition of a separate section for Diversity Equity and Inclusion. Under this section, Ms. Feibelman and Vice Chair Kundargi suggested the following sub-bullets:

- Maintain DEI as a standing agenda item for all WPAB meetings
- Complete DEI training identified by DEI Sub-Committee
- Complete DEI Work Plan by mid-year
- Provide presenters DEI questions in advance to address during presentations to WPAB
- Advise appointing agencies (City, County, and Water Authority) on policy actions in support of NMED and addressing orphan sites (contamination sites without a responsible party identified)

Ms. Scruggs suggested that the Work-Plan should specify, under the bullet for Sandia National Laboratories, updates about the Mixed Waste Landfill.

Chair Glass asked for more information on the Bosque Assessment Update and Prioritization (BAUP) Initiative. Ms. Agnew explained that it is a collaborative initiative lead by the City of Albuquerque Open Space, which

could have a water quality element. Ms. Feibelman requested that any information about the BAUP effort be emailed to the Board.

Ms. Scruggs motioned to approve the 2022 Work Plan with these changes incorporated. Mr. Faris seconded the motion.

Unanimous vote to approve the 2022 WPAB Work Plan:

Chair Steve Glass: Yes

Camilla Feibelman: Yes

José Cerrato: Yes

Alejandría Lyons: Yes

Bart Faris: Yes

Vice Chair Darrell Kundargi: Yes

Caroline Scruggs: Yes

Joel Wooldridge: Yes

d. Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Subcommittee Report

Ms. Feibelman stated that this subcommittee met at the end of 2021 to discuss the possibility of lobbying the Legislature during its upcoming session for creation of a recurring fund for Orphan [Contamination] Sites. Subcommittee members agreed that more discussions with PIC agencies would be needed to determine if or how to move forward with this effort.

Ms. Feibelman asked PIC members for information on State plans to address orphan sites. Ms. Agnew stated that the Water Authority is in contact with NMED to get more information on the agency's plans. She stated that this communication is ongoing and that no new information is available at this time.

Mr. McGregor reminded the Board of its advisory role, per Bernalillo County's Legal Department.

Mr. Zeigler stated that if the Board members have legal questions about the scope of the WPAB's authority, they may contact the City Environmental Health Department's attorney. Mr. Zeigler also stated that any policy action or directive would have to come from the Mayor's office or the City Council.

Ms. Feibelman suggested that the subcommittee schedule another meeting to discuss follow-up actions.

Ms. Feibelman also suggested that a continued discussion of the DEI toolkit be included as an item on the February 2022 WPAB agenda.

e. PIC Updates

PIC Members from the City of Albuquerque, Bernalillo County, Albuquerque Metropolitan Arroyo Flood Control Authority (AMAFCA), and the Albuquerque Bernalillo County Water Utility Authority (Water Authority) were invited to provide updates of their agencies' activities to the Board.

V. Other Board Business

No additional Board business at the January meeting.

VI. Public Comment Period

No community members requested public comment at the January meeting.

VII. Adjourn

Chair Glass adjourned meeting at 10:57.



STEVE GLASS, CHAIR

DARRELL KUNDARGI, VICE CHAIR

JOSÉ CERRATO

BART FARIS

CAMILLA FEIBELMAN

ALEJANDRÍA LYONS

CAROLINE SCRUGGS

JOEL WOOLDRIDGE

February 11, 2022

Location: Video conference¹

Time: 9:00 a.m. to 10:30 a.m.

¹ Meeting was held via video conference in keeping with COVID-19 safety protocols.

Board Members Present: Chair Steve Glass, Bart Faris, José Cerrato, Joel Wooldridge, Darrell Kundargi, Caroline Scruggs

Board Members Absent (excused): Alejandría Lyons, Camilla Feibelman

PIC Members Present: Diane Agnew (Water Authority), Shelby Stimson (Water Authority), Kelsey Bicknell (Water Authority), Kali Bronson (Bernalillo County), Paul Olson (City of Albuquerque), Kathy Verhage (City of Albuquerque), Danielle Shuryn (Water Authority), Patrick Chavez (AMAFCA)

Guests: Mark Kelly, Bruce Thomson, Jaren Peplinski, Brannon Lamar, Liz Anderson

I. Call to Order

Chair Glass called the meeting to order at 9:06 am.

II. Approval of Agenda

Mr. Faris moved to approve the February 11, 2022 meeting agenda. Dr. Scruggs seconded the motion.

Unanimous vote to approve meeting agenda:

Chair Steve Glass: Yes

Camilla Feibelman: Absent

José Cerrato: Yes
Alejandría Lyons: Absent
Bart Faris: Yes
Darrell Kundargi: Yes
Caroline Scruggs: Yes
Joel Wooldridge: Yes

III. Review and Approval of January 14, 2022 Meeting Minutes

Mr. Wooldridge moved to approve the January 14, 2022 meeting minutes. Dr. Scruggs seconded the motion.

Unanimous vote to approve January 14, 2022 meeting minutes:

Chair Steve Glass: Yes
Camilla Feibelman: Absent
José Cerrato: Yes
Alejandría Lyons: Absent
Bart Faris: Yes
Darrell Kundargi: Yes
Caroline Scruggs: Yes
Joel Wooldridge: Yes

IV. Board Business

a. PIC Updates

PIC Members from the City of Albuquerque, Bernalillo County, Albuquerque Metropolitan Arroyo Flood Control Authority (AMAFCA), and the Albuquerque Bernalillo County Water Utility Authority (Water Authority) were invited to provide updates of their agencies' activities to the Board.

Ms. Agnew reported that Ms. Scruggs has been reappointed by the Water Authority to serve another term on the WPAB.

Ms. Agnew also provided an update about the Water Authority's Data Gap Well Project. She said drilling is currently underway and the first sample at the water table has been collected this week. Continued drilling will include push-ahead sampling, and well construction is expected to begin at the end of the following week. Project data, project documents and other information is accessible by the public at the Water Authority's [Kirtland Air Force Base Bulk Fuels Facility jet fuel spill webpage](#).

b. Review of 2021 WPAB Annual Report

The Board reviewed the draft 2021 WPAB Annual Report. Chair Glass recommended that the Board members continue to independently review the report over the next month and requested that the vote to approve the 2021 Annual Report take place at the March WPAB meeting.

V. Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Subcommittee Report

This item was postponed to the March WPAB meeting agenda.

VI. Presentation: Water Quality Control Commission activity update *Bruce Thompson, Member-at-large, Water Quality Control Commission,* bthomson@unm.edu

This presentation is available to view on the [WPAB Information Portal](#).

Mr. Chavez inquired about the possibility of increased *Escherichia coli* (*E. coli*) concentrations due to increased wildlife in the bosque as a result of restoration efforts. Ms. Bronson replied that a joint Bernalillo County and U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) microbial source tracking study has indicated that the largest wildlife contribution is from birds rather than mammals. Mr. Thompson expressed his concern about whether or not the study considers microbial regrowth. Ms. Bronson stated that the study is ongoing and that USGS plans to release more results this fall.

Mr. Wooldridge commented that the discussion of riparian vegetation protection relates to rural land use issues, particularly when working with ranchers and farmers who may object to riparian land management recommendations from government agencies. He inquired about Mr. Thompson's thoughts about how this challenge may be overcome. Mr. Thompson acknowledged this issue and agreed that there is no government agency with the authority, for example, to direct landowners to exclude cattle from the riparian zone on their property. He explained that the NMED has been building exclusion structures in high-priority watersheds on public lands

to protect riparian vegetation from cattle, and these efforts have been successful. There is an effort to convince private landowners to follow similar practices, but Dr. Thompson agreed that this is a challenge. Ms. Shuryin asked whether the Outstanding National Resource Waters (ONRW) proposal will have impact on livestock as well, in terms of exclusion structures. Dr. Thompson replied that he is not certain of the answer at this time and will ensure this question is considered in future discussions. Chair Glass commented that climate change has an impact on both water quality and water quantity, and appreciates the effort by the Water Quality Control Commission to integrate the analysis of these impacts.

Dr. Cerrato asked Dr. Thompson which issues he had touched upon warranted attention from the WPAB this year in particular. Dr. Thompson replied that *E.coli* is of particular importance and is most likely to impact many of the stakeholders in the Middle Rio Grande.

VII. Other Board Business

No additional Board Business at the February meeting.

VIII. Public Comment Period

No community members requested public comment at the February meeting.

VII. Adjourn

Chair Glass adjourned meeting at 10:34.



STEVE GLASS, CHAIR

DARRELL KUNDARGI, VICE CHAIR

JOSÉ CERRATO

BART FARIS

CAMILLA FEIBELMAN

ALEJANDRÍA LYONS

CAROLINE SCRUGGS

JOEL WOOLDRIDGE

March 11, 2022

Location: Video conference¹

Time: 9:00 a.m. to 10:30 a.m.

¹ Meeting was held via video conference in keeping with COVID-19 safety protocols.

Board Members Present: Chair Steve Glass, Bart Faris, Joel Wooldridge, Darrell Kundargi, Camilla Feibelman, Alejandría Lyons, José Cerrato

Board Members Absent (excused): Caroline Scruggs

PIC Members Present: Shelby Stimson (Water Authority), Kelsey Bicknell (Water Authority), Kali Bronson (Bernalillo County), Kathy Verhage (City of Albuquerque), Danielle Shuryn (Water Authority), Dan McGregor (Bernalillo County), Shellie Eaton (City of Albuquerque)

Guests: Sarah Ganley, Brannon Lamar, Jaren Peplinski, Mark Sanchez, Elizabeth Anderson

I. Call to Order

Chair Glass called the meeting to order at 9:05 am.

II. Approval of Agenda

Mr. Faris moved to approve the March 11, 2022 meeting agenda. Mr. Wooldridge seconded the motion.

Unanimous vote to approve the March 11, 2022 meeting agenda:

Chair Steve Glass: Yes

Camilla Feibelman: Yes

José Cerrato: Absent
Alejandría Lyons: Yes
Bart Faris: Yes
Darrell Kundargi: Yes
Caroline Scruggs: Absent
Joel Wooldridge: Yes

III. Review and Approval of February 11, 2022 Meeting Minutes

Chair Glass pointed out that Bruce Thompson should be referred to as Dr. Thompson rather than Mr. Thompson, and Caroline Scruggs should be referred to as Dr. Scruggs rather than Ms. Scruggs. He also requested that *Escherichia coli* (*E. coli*) be italicized, as it is a Latin name.

Dr. Cerrato joined the meeting at 9:09 am.

Mr. Kundargi moved to approve the February 11, 2022 meeting minutes with these changes included. Mr. Faris seconded the motion.

Unanimous vote to approve February 11, 2022 meeting minutes:

Chair Steve Glass: Yes
Camilla Feibelman: Yes
José Cerrato: Yes
Alejandría Lyons: Yes
Bart Faris: Yes
Darrell Kundargi: Yes
Caroline Scruggs: Absent
Joel Wooldridge: Yes

IV. Board Business

a. PIC Updates

PIC Members from the City of Albuquerque, Bernalillo County, Albuquerque Metropolitan Arroyo Flood Control Authority (AMAFCA), and the Albuquerque

Bernalillo County Water Utility Authority (Water Authority) were invited to provide updates of their agencies' activities to the Board.

Chair Glass requested that the Board be provided with a copy of the technical memo that was recently submitted by the Water Authority to the New Mexico Environment Department Hazardous Waste Bureau regarding the October 21, 2021 Technical Working Group meeting for the Kirtland Air Force Base Bulk Fuels Facility. He also requested that the Water Authority continue to share with the Board any information regarding the HP Digital groundwater contamination site as it becomes available.

b. Review and Approval of 2021 WPAB Annual Report and Cover Letter

Mr. Faris moved to approve the 2021 WPAB Annual Report and Cover Letter, and the submittal of these documents to the indicated recipients. Mr. Wooldridge seconded the motion.

Unanimous vote to approve and submit the 2021 WPAB Annual Report and Cover Letter:

Chair Steve Glass: Yes

Camilla Feibelman: Yes

José Cerrato: Yes

Alejandría Lyons: Yes

Bart Faris: Yes

Darrell Kundargi: Yes

Caroline Scruggs: Absent

Joel Wooldridge: Yes

V. Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) Subcommittee Report

Ms. Feibelman stated that the subcommittee will reconvene for a meeting later this month and invited participation from any additional Board or PIC members who are interested. Dr. Cerrato stated that he would like to participate in the subcommittee.

One of the DEI-related goals identified by the subcommittee and the Board was to conduct public outreach regarding WPAB agenda topics to encourage

citizen attendance at WPAB meetings, especially if a WPAB agenda item is particularly relevant to a certain neighborhood or community. Ms. Feibelman stated that the DEI Subcommittee will review the 2022 presentation schedule and help develop of a corresponding public outreach plan during the April WPAB meeting.

Another of the Board's DEI initiatives is to provide all speakers with a pre-developed set of DEI questions and ask that they address these questions during their presentations to the Board. Ms. Bicknell confirmed that this has been occurring as speakers are invited to present.

Ms. Feibelman summarized the status of the orphan sites initiative. There is no additional update at this time, but the subcommittee will continue to look at ways to engage with the issue over the next year.

VI. Presentation: Bernalillo County's Green Stormwater Infrastructure and Low Impact Development Standards

Kali Bronson, Stormwater Program Compliance Manager, Bernalillo County, kbronson@bernco.gov

Sarah Ganley, P.E., Bohannan Huston, sganley@bhinc.com

This presentation is available to view on the [WPAB Information Portal](#).

Ms. Feibelman inquired if there has been a survey of the contents of the floatables, and specifically the amount of plastic bags, going into the river. Ms. Bronson replied that AMAFCA has done a floatables study but they do not separate plastic bags from other types of plastic. Ms. Bronson stated that there are national studies that provide data specific to plastic bags. Ms. Feibelman asked if there is a regular maintenance schedule to remove floatables from infrastructure. Ms. Bronson replied that each of the Multiple Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4) permittees have their own regular maintenance schedules.

Mr. Wooldridge expressed his appreciation for this effort and inquired about the regulatory strength of the Green Stormwater Infrastructure (GSI) and Low Impact Development (LID) Standards document being presented. Ms. Bronson replied that it was developed as part of the update of Bernalillo County's Technical Standards document, which provides guidance for improvements in the public right-of-way in the County's jurisdiction. Various Bernalillo County ordinances refer to and mandate compliance with the Technical Standards document, which includes the GSI and LID Standards. Ms. Bronson expects that the County Commission will vote to approve the Technical Standards update in the summer of 2022.

Mr. Wooldridge asked about how landscape architects were engaged during the process of creating the GSI and LID Standards document. Ms. Ganley replied that they are currently reaching out to landscape practitioners for their feedback before the document is finalized. She emphasized the collaborative and interdisciplinary approach to this project. Dr. Cerrato and Chair Glass also spoke to the importance of interdisciplinary collaboration when working on water issues.

VII. Discussion of Letter to City Council regarding vote to repeal plastic bag

Ms. Feibelman provided a summary of the Albuquerque City Council's repeal of the *Clean and Green Retail Ordinance*, commonly known as the plastic bag ban. Ms. Feibelman and Chair Glass proposed that WPAB write a letter to the City Council to provide additional information about how the repeal of this ordinance will impact water resources. The Board members agreed that this action is appropriate.

Ms. Feibelman explained to the Board that the Mayor will have ten days to veto the City Council's decision following the vote. If the Mayor issues a veto, the City Council can vote to override his veto at the March 21, 2022 City Council meeting. Due to the short window of time in which a letter from the WPAB will have relevance, Ms. Feibelman proposed that the Board convene a Special Meeting the week of March 14th in order to submit this letter in advance of the March 21, 2022 City Council meeting. The Board agreed to meet on Wednesday, March 16, 2022 at 9:15 a.m. Chair Glass, Mr. Faris, and Mr. Wooldridge volunteered to participate in a subcommittee to draft this letter ahead of the Special March Meeting. PIC members Shellie Eaton, Diane Agnew, Kelsey Bicknell, Shelby Stimson and Kali Bronson volunteered to support the subcommittee in drafting the letter.

VIII. Other Board Business

No additional Board business at the March meeting.

IX. Public Comment Period

No community members requested public comment at the March meeting.

VII. Adjourn

Chair Glass adjourned the meeting at 10:58am.



STEVE GLASS, CHAIR

DARRELL KUNDARGI, VICE CHAIR

JOSÉ CERRATO

BART FARIS

CAMILLA FEIBELMAN

ALEJANDRÍA LYONS

CAROLINE SCRUGGS

JOEL WOOLDRIDGE

March 16, 2022

Location: Video conference¹

Time: 9:15 a.m. to 10:00 a.m.

¹ Meeting was held via video conference in keeping with COVID-19 safety protocols.

Board Members Present: Chair Steve Glass, Bart Faris, Joel Wooldridge, Alejandría Lyons, José Cerrato, Camilla Feibelman

Board Members Absent (excused): Caroline Scruggs, Darrell Kundargi

PIC Members Present: Shelby Stimson (Water Authority), Kelsey Bicknell (Water Authority), Diane Agnew (Water Authority), Ken Ziegler (City of Albuquerque), Shellie Eaton (City of Albuquerque)

Guests: Elias Archuleta, Mark Kelly

I. Call to Order

Chair Glass called the meeting to order at 9:20am.

II. Approval of Agenda

Chair Glass requested that the agenda be amended to include a vote for approval of drafting a letter to the Albuquerque City Council regarding the "Plastic Bag Ban." This vote would take place under Board Business ahead of the review and approval of the letter.

Ms. Lyons moved to approve the March 16, 2022 special meeting agenda with this change incorporated. Mr. Faris seconded the motion.

Unanimous vote to approve the March 16, 2022 special meeting agenda:

Chair Steve Glass: Yes
Camilla Feibelman: Absent
José Cerrato: Yes
Alejandría Lyons: Yes
Bart Faris: Yes
Darrell Kundargi: Absent
Caroline Scruggs: Absent
Joel Wooldridge: Yes

III. Approval to Draft a Letter to the City of Albuquerque City Council regarding the “Plastic Bag Ban”

Mr. Faris moved to approve the drafting of a letter to the Albuquerque City Council regarding the “Plastic Bag Ban.” Mr. Wooldridge seconded the motion.

Unanimous vote to approve the drafting of a letter to the Albuquerque City Council regarding the “Plastic Bag Ban”:

Chair Steve Glass: Yes
Camilla Feibelman: Absent
José Cerrato: Yes
Alejandría Lyons: Yes
Bart Faris: Yes
Darrell Kundargi: Absent
Caroline Scruggs: Absent
Joel Wooldridge: Yes

IV. Review and Approval of the Letter to the City of Albuquerque City Council regarding the “Plastic Bag Ban”

The Board discussed the option of formatting the letter in a bulleted list of key information with references, but ultimately agreed that paragraph format was more effective. The Board made edits to the language of the draft letter to make the text more concise and strengthen the points being argued. The

Board discussed using bold text to emphasize key points in the letter and agreed to use bolded text sparingly.

Mr. Faris proposed the addition of in-text references to various scientific studies and sources to support the statements in the letter.

Ms. Lyons requested the addition of a phrase to emphasize cost implications to the City and to other affected agencies.

The redline version of the draft letter can be found at [this link](#), or on the WPAB Information Portal. The final version letter can be found at [this link](#), or on the WPAB Information Portal.

Ms. Feibelman moved to approve the letter to the Albuquerque City Council regarding the “Plastic Bag Ban,” with these changes incorporated. Mr. Wooldridge seconded the motion.

Ms. Feibelman joined the meeting at 9:50 am. Ms. Lyons left the meeting at 10:00 am.

Unanimous vote to approve the letter to the Albuquerque City Council regarding the “Plastic Bag Ban”:

Chair Steve Glass: Yes

Camilla Feibelman: Yes

José Cerrato: Yes

Alejandría Lyons: Absent

Bart Faris: Yes

Darrell Kundargi: Absent

Caroline Scruggs: Absent

Joel Wooldridge: Yes

V. Other Board Business

No other Board business at the March Special Meeting.

VI. Public Comment Period

No community members requested public comment at the March Special meeting.

VII. Adjourn

Chair Glass adjourned the meeting at 10:19 am.



STEVE GLASS, CHAIR

DARRELL KUNDARGI, VICE CHAIR

JOSÉ CERRATO

BART FARIS

CAMILLA FEIBELMAN

ALEJANDRÍA LYONS

CAROLINE SCRUGGS

JOEL WOOLDRIDGE

April 8, 2022

Location: Video conference¹

Time: 9:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.

¹ Meeting was held via video conference in keeping with COVID-19 safety protocols.

Board Members Present: Chair Steve Glass, Bart Faris, Joel Wooldridge, Darrell Kundargi, José Cerrato, Camilla Feibelman, Caroline Scruggs

Board Members Absent (excused): Alejandría Lyons

PIC Members Present: Shelby Stimson (Water Authority), Kelsey Bicknell (Water Authority), Kali Bronson (Bernalillo County), Diane Agnew (Water Authority), Kathy Verhage (City of Albuquerque), Shellie Eaton (City of Albuquerque), Patrick Chavez (AMAFCA), Ken Zeigler (City of Albuquerque), Glenn Degouseman (Bernalillo County)

Guests: Brannon Lamar, Jaren Peplinski, John Rhoderick, Justin Ball, Dionna Arellano, Gail Cooke, Paul Chamberlain

I. Call to Order

Chair Glass called the meeting to order at 9:04 am.

II. Approval of Agenda

Mr. Kundargi moved to approve the April 8, 2022 meeting agenda. Mr. Faris seconded the motion.

Unanimous vote to approve the April 8, 2022 meeting agenda:

Chair Steve Glass: Yes

Camilla Feibelman: Absent

José Cerrato: Yes

Alejandría Lyons: Absent

Bart Faris: Yes

Darrell Kundargi: Yes

Caroline Scruggs: Absent

Joel Wooldridge: Yes

III. Review and Approval of March 11, 2022 Meeting Minutes

Ms. Feibelman and Dr. Scruggs joined the meeting at 9:07

Mr. Kundargi moved to approve the March 11, 2022 meeting minutes. Mr. Wooldridge seconded the motion.

Unanimous vote to approve March 11, 2022 meeting minutes:

Chair Steve Glass: Yes

Camilla Feibelman: Yes

José Cerrato: Yes

Alejandría Lyons: Absent

Bart Faris: Yes

Darrell Kundargi: Yes

Caroline Scruggs: Abstain

Joel Wooldridge: Yes

IV. Review and Approval of March 16, 2022 Special Meeting Minutes

Mr. Wooldridge moved to approve the March 16, 2022 Special Meeting minutes. Mr. Kundargi seconded the motion.

Unanimous vote to approve March 16, 2022 Special Meeting minutes:

Chair Steve Glass: Yes

Camilla Feibelman: Yes

José Cerrato: Yes

Alejandría Lyons: Absent

Bart Faris: Yes

Darrell Kundargi: Yes

Caroline Scruggs: Yes

Joel Wooldridge: Yes

V. Board Business

a. PIC Updates

PIC Members from the City of Albuquerque, Bernalillo County, Albuquerque Metropolitan Arroyo Flood Control Authority (AMAFCA), and the Albuquerque Bernalillo County Water Utility Authority (Water Authority) were invited to provide updates of their agencies' activities to the Board.

Ms. Feibelman expressed her interest in providing leadership of the PIC agencies with a presentation about floatables (trash) and plastic pollution in stormwater systems. Chair Glass suggested that, as the Chair of the WPAB, he could invite members of the City Council and the Bernalillo County Commission to attend the May WPAB meeting to learn more about the stormwater program. The Board members agreed that this invitation is appropriate.

b. Discussion: Resuming in-person meetings

Chair Glass pointed out that in-person meetings may be more widely accessible to the public than virtual meetings, in terms of access to technology. He also noted that virtual meetings may allow for more people to attend, in terms of access to transportation. Ms. Agnew stated to the Board that the Water Authority can support hybrid meetings, where attendees can attend in person or virtually. Dr. Scruggs, Mr. Faris, Mr. Wooldridge, Ms. Feibelman, and Chair Glass stated that they prefer the hybrid approach. The PIC agencies all stated that they are not restricted from attending in-person meetings. Mr. Faris suggested a hybrid format for the May meeting, with agreement from the Board. Ms. Agnew confirmed that Water Authority staff

will proceed with securing an appropriate room for the hybrid WPAB meeting in May.

VI. Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) Subcommittee Report

Ms. Feibelman briefly summarized the discussion from the most recent DEI subcommittee meeting. The activities of this subcommittee will be discussed in more detail during the May WPAB meeting.

VII. Presentation: Orphan Site Update

Gail Cooke, Orphan Sites Program Manager, New Mexico Environment Department, Groundwater Quality Bureau (GWQB), gail.cooke2@state.nm.us

This presentation is available to view on the [WPAB Information Portal](#).

Chair Glass asked if any of the 302 orphan sites listed in the presentation are included in the EPA's National Priority List. Ms. Cooke clarified that the presentation includes only sites not covered by any other federal or state program (and therefore are not on the National Priority List).

Mr. Wooldridge commented that it appears from the map that there is a larger concentration of Orphan Sites near river corridors and other waterways. John Rhoderick, Water Protection Division Acting Director of the New Mexico Environment Department, responded that contamination sites do tend to be most prevalent in high-population density areas, which also tend to occur near water features.

Ms. Feibelman recommended that the NMED GWQB meet with the Legislative Finance Committee over the summer, in addition to the Water and Natural Resources Interim Committee, to lobby for adequate funding for the Orphan Sites program.

Ms. Feibelman asked for more information about how the Gold King Mine settlement funds are being used to support the Orphan Sites Program. Mr. Rhoderick responded that the settlement is funding the program's current work. An ongoing Gap Analysis study will help identify the best mechanism to continually fund the cleanup of Orphan Sites.

Ms. Feibelman asked about the role of the Office of the Natural Resource Trustee (ONRT) in funding this program. Mr. Rhoderick responded that the ONRT has not been involved up to this point, but there are efforts to support this collaboration. Ms. Feibelman asked how the WPAB can support the efforts of the Orphan Sites program. Mr. Rhoderick responded that there is nothing specific at this time, and that continued collaboration and

communication with the WPAB will lead to opportunities to support the program.

Dr. Scruggs asked if there is a targeted amount of money needed to fund this program. Ms. Cooke replied that there is no specific number at this time, and that those estimations are in progress.

Mr. Zeigler and Ms. Agnew requested that Ms. Cooke share the shapefiles for the orphan sites. Ms. Agnew said that the Water Authority is interested in the shapefiles to include in the Potential Sources of Contamination Inventory that the Water Authority is updating as part of its Source Water Protection program. Mr. Faris requested that Ms. Cooke share the entire Orphan Sites Program report. Ms. Cooke replied that she will follow up internally at NMED about the procedure for releasing these files.

Mr. Faris asked about the approach to address Orphan Sites related specifically to dry cleaners. Mr. Rhoderick anticipates that an initiative to target dry cleaners will be a component of the program in the future, but nothing has been established yet.

Mr. Khundargi asked if an environmental justice analysis is expected to be included in the program, such as looking at the distribution of these Orphan Sites and any potential correlation to demographic information such as ethnicity and income. Ms. Cooke replied that she appreciates the importance of this approach and will be sure to include these considerations in discussions going forward, potentially during the implementation phase of the program development.

VIII. Presentation: Groundwater Contamination Sites in Albuquerque and Bernalillo County

Justin Ball, Ground Water Quality Bureau Chief, New Mexico Environment Department, justin.ball@state.nm.us

Paul Chamberlain, Geoscientist, State Cleanup Program, New Mexico Environment Department, paul.chamberlain@state.nm.us

This presentation is available to view on the [WPAB Information Portal](#).

Ms. Agnew asked if the NMED has approved Monitored Natural Attenuation for the HP Digital contamination site. Mr. Ball responded that he would get back to Ms. Agnew with more information.

Ms. Bronson asked about the impact of the Former Gulton Industries Facility on the Tijeras arroyo, and if any soil removal occurred. Mr. Ball replied that

some surface soils were removed and that while some groundwater has been impacted, there have been no documented impacts to surface water flows.

IX. Other Board Business

No additional Board business at the April meeting.

X. Public Comment Period

No community members requested public comment at the April meeting.

VII. Adjourn

Chair Glass adjourned the meeting at 11:11 am.



STEVE GLASS, CHAIR

DARRELL KUNDARGI, VICE CHAIR

JOSÉ CERRATO

BART FARIS

CAMILLA FEIBELMAN

ALEJANDRÍA LYONS

CAROLINE SCRUGGS

JOEL WOOLDRIDGE

May 13, 2022

Location: Video conference¹

Time: 9:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.

¹ Meeting was held via video conference in keeping with COVID-19 safety protocols.

Board Members Present: Chair Steve Glass, Vice Chair Darrell Kundargi, Joel Wooldridge, Camilla Feibelman, Alejandría Lyons, José Cerrato (arrived at 9:09 AM)

Board Members Absent (excused): Caroline Scruggs, Bart Faris

PIC Members Present: Shelby Stimson (Water Authority), Kelsey Bicknell (Water Authority), Kali Bronson (Bernalillo County), Kathy Verhage (City of Albuquerque), Shellie Eaton (City of Albuquerque), Patrick Chavez (AMAFCA), Gary Sandoval (City of Albuquerque), Charles Barber (City of Albuquerque)

Guests: Brannon Lamar, Commissioner Charlene Pyskoty, Tricia Keffer, Chris Sanderson, Rosalie Flores, Colleen McRoberts

I. Call to Order

Chair Glass called the meeting to order at 9:04 am.

II. Approval of May 13, 2022 Agenda

Ms. Lyons moved to approve the May 13, 2022 meeting agenda. Mr. Wooldridge seconded the motion.

Unanimous vote to approve the May 13, 2022 meeting agenda:

Chair Steve Glass: Yes

Camilla Feibelman: Yes

José Cerrato: Absent

Alejandría Lyons: Yes

Bart Faris: Absent

Darrell Kundargi: Yes

Caroline Scruggs: Absent

Joel Wooldridge: Yes

III. Review and Approval of April 8, 2022 Meeting Minutes

Mr. Wooldridge moved to approve the April 8, 2022 meeting minutes. Ms. Feibelman seconded the motion.

Unanimous vote to approve April 8, 2022 meeting minutes:

Chair Steve Glass: Yes

Camilla Feibelman: Yes

José Cerrato: Absent

Alejandría Lyons: Yes

Bart Faris: Absent

Darrell Kundargi: Yes

Caroline Scruggs: Absent

Joel Wooldridge: Yes

IV. Board Business

a. PIC Updates

PIC Members from the City of Albuquerque, Bernalillo County, Albuquerque Metropolitan Arroyo Flood Control Authority (AMAFCA), and the Albuquerque

Bernalillo County Water Utility Authority (Water Authority) were invited to provide updates of their agencies' activities to the Board.

V. Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) Subcommittee Report

Ms. Feibelman reported that the subcommittee will meet before the June WPAB meeting. She outlined the subcommittee's plan to notify affected or potentially interested communities ahead of future WPAB meetings, and to ask all presenters to address a standard list of DEI-related questions. She provided specific suggestions regarding notification of groups affected by the HP/Digital groundwater contamination site near Jefferson and I-25, which will be the topic of presentations at the June WPAB meeting.

VI. Presentation: Bosque Assessment Update Program (BAUP)

Colleen McRoberts, Open Space Superintendent, Open Space Division, City of Albuquerque, cmcroberts@cabq.gov

The purpose of the BAUP is to update Bosque management goals and objectives that meet management, recreation, and restoration needs including protecting and enhancing the ecosystem, public use, and fire prevention. This process is supported by extensive biological surveys following the methodology outlined in Hink and Ohmart 1984. A comprehensive geodatabase will be developed to evaluate current conditions and plan for desired future outcomes. The E-Team, which represents interested parties from management agencies in the Albuquerque Bosque, will help define 5 priority projects.

Ms. Feibelman asked if there would be an opportunity for public participation or comment the plan. Ms. McRoberts stated that once the update identifies five priority projects, each of those will include their own public engagement process.

Ms. Feibelman observed that many of the entry points to the bosque are not marked, and she suggested that improved "wayfinding" signage to indicate bosque access could support the public recreation aspect of the plan. Ms. McRoberts responded that the BAUP project will help identify the needs and priority sites for signage, but the implementation of signage will be a separate future effort which will likely include a public participation project.

Ms. Feibelman asked if a study had ever been done regarding the impact to wildlife and recreation by the widening of bosque trails under Mayor Barry's administration. Ms. McRoberts said she was not aware of such a study but

promised to follow up to confirm. She also discussed the current efforts to monitor and support sustainable recreational use in the bosque.

Ms. Feibelman inquired about any plans to reduce channelization of the river, such as work to lower the banks to encourage inundation and over-banking. Ms. McRoberts replied that these conversations are in the early phases, and that any potential work to encourage inundation of the riverbanks will need to be done in compliance with the relevant federal agency partners.

Chair Glass asked if the data collected by the Bosque Ecosystem Monitoring Program (BEMP) has been used as field verification of the modeled data used in the update. Mr. Sanderson clarified that data was mapped in the field, not modeled. Mr. Sanderson replied that BEMP has participated in the partner engagement process (called the E-Team), but they have not yet compared the surveyed data to BEMP data sets.

VII. Presentation: Middle Rio Grande Stormwater Quality Team Overview and Activities

*Kathleen Verhage, Senior Engineer, Stormwater Management Section, City of Albuquerque, kverhage@cabq.gov
Patrick Chavez, Storm Water Quality Engineer, AMAFCA, pchavez@amafca.org*

This presentation is available to view on the [WPAB Information Portal](#).

Ms. Feibelman asked if there has been an effort to engage the veterinary community as outreach agents for the “Poop Fairy” campaign to encourage cleanup of pet waste. Ms. Verhage replied that the veterinary community has been involved in previous years but are not currently involved. Ms. Verhage stated that the City does currently work with the Humane Society to provide an information packet to first-time pet owners.

Commissioner Pyskoty thanked the Board for inviting her to this presentation.

Mr. Wooldridge commented on the unique regulatory situation of the state-owned Expo New Mexico Fairgrounds, and he asked if there has been any progress related to the regulation of stormwater quality at that site. Chair Glass responded that he is not aware of any renewed efforts on this matter.

VIII. Other Board Business

As a follow-up to the DEI subcommittee discussion, Ms. Feibelman proposed a list of people and entities to invite to future WPAB meetings.

Chair Glass expressed concern to inviting City and County legislative leadership to all future WPAB meetings, cautioning frequent invitations to meetings would diminish the importance of WPAB recommendations.

IX. Public Comment Period

Ms. Rosalie Flores signed up to give public comment. Ms. Flores is an equity and inclusion consultant working with the New Mexico Acequia Association (NMAA) about water quality and water quantity issues related to the cannabis industry in New Mexico, and reported that she has a contract with the City of Albuquerque to create program recommendations for a Cannabis Social Equity Program. Pursuant to all this, Ms. Flores said the NMAA is proposing a partnership between the City, the Water Authority, the New Mexico Environment Department (NMED), the Middle Rio Grande Conservancy District (MRGCD), Bernalillo County, and any relevant soil and water conservation districts, to coordinate water management efforts around the cannabis industry in New Mexico. Ms. Flores said such a partnership was important given that cannabis production is a water-intensive industry and there is currently no limit on the number of licenses that can be issued to growers.

Chair Glass stated that the Mid-Region Council of Governors (MRCOG) is seeking someone to give a presentation regarding water use of the cannabis industry at their annual Commissioners training on June 10, 2022. With Ms. Flores' permission, Chair Glass agreed to submit her name as a candidate present on this topic to MRCOG.

Ms. Feibelman expressed her interest in hearing more about this topic at a future WPAB meeting.

VII. Adjourn

Chair Glass adjourned the meeting at 11:13 am.



STEVE GLASS, CHAIR

DARRELL KUNDARGI, VICE CHAIR

JOSÉ CERRATO

BART FARIS

CAMILLA FEIBELMAN

ALEJANDRÍA LYONS

CAROLINE SCRUGGS

JOEL WOOLDRIDGE

June 10, 2022

Location: Video conference

Time: 9:00 a.m. to 10:30 a.m.

Board Members Present: Chair Steve Glass, Vice Chair Darrell Kundargi, Bart Faris, Joel Wooldridge, José Cerrato, Caroline Scruggs

Board Members Absent (excused): Alejandría Lyons, Camilla Feibelman

PIC Members Present: Kelsey Bicknell (Water Authority), Kali Bronson (Water Authority), Kathy Verhage (City of Albuquerque), Byron Lueras (City of Albuquerque), Danielle Shuryn (Water Authority), Dan McGregor (Bernalillo County), Patrick Chavez (AMAFCA)

Guests:

I. Call to Order

Chair Glass called the meeting to order at 9:05 am.

II. Approval of Agenda

Chair Glass requested a motion to approve the June 10, 2022 meeting agenda. Mr. Faris moved to approve and Mr. Wooldridge seconded the motion.

Unanimous vote to approve the June 10, 2022 meeting agenda:

Chair Steve Glass: Yes

Vice-Chair Darrell Kundargi: Yes

Camilla Feibelman: Absent

José Cerrato: Yes

Alejandría Lyons: Absent

Bart Faris: Yes

Caroline Scruggs: Yes

Joel Wooldridge: Yes

III. Review and Approval of May 13, 2022 Meeting Minutes

Motion to approve has been moved until the next WPAB meeting to address the Board's comments.

IV. Board Business

a. PIC Updates

PIC Members from the City of Albuquerque, Bernalillo County, Albuquerque Metropolitan Arroyo Flood Control Authority (AMAFCA), and the Albuquerque Bernalillo County Water Utility Authority (Water Authority) were invited to provide updates of their agencies' activities to the Board.

Patrick Chaves (AMAFCA):

- The Zuni/Pennsylvania Detention Pond project is nearing 100% design and will go out to bid soon.

Kathy Verhage (City of Albuquerque):

- MS4 Self-Assessment has been completed.

Ken Zeigler (City of Albuquerque):

- The Environmental Health Department (EHD) is working with Open Space Superintendent Colleen McRoberts at the Candelaria Nature Reserve to create an orthomosaic digital model of the site. A contractor had flown this site previously and the COA would like to look at changes in the landscape between when the site was an old farm and its current state of natural/native vegetation.
- An underground fire at the Yale Landfill is being monitored by EHD.

Kali Bronson (Water Authority):

- Passive samplers installed and recovered and low-flow sampling has been completed at the Data Gap Well. Samples were split with KAFB (when there was enough volume to split from the passive samplers).
- Working with contractor INTERA to conduct a slug test.
- HP submitted a work plan to investigate 1,4-dioxane at the request of NMED GWQB. The Water Authority reviewed and submitted comments to NMED.

V. Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) Subcommittee Report

A subcommittee meeting is scheduled for July 6, 2022 to discuss DEI questions for invited presenters as well as some mechanisms for increasing our level of outreach regarding future meetings. Objective of the July meeting is to review the questions and outreach strategy and to finalize details of the DEI plan for WPAB approval.

VI. Presentation: Railyards Site Update

Ken Zeigler, Senior Environmental Health Scientist, Environmental Health, City of Albuquerque, krziegler@cabq.gov

This presentation is available to view on the [WPAB Information Portal](#).

Chair Glass asked how vapors were managed. Mr. Zeigler explained a vapor barrier was only installed in the flue shop floor so the building could be occupied and not classified as “interim use”. The floor was then covered in self-leveling concrete and carpet. The boiler shop floor did not have a vapor barrier installed but did have a concrete floor installed so it could be classified as an “interim use” building.

Mr. Wooldridge asked whether there are domestic wells still in operation in the vicinity of the railyards site and if they were inventoried as part of the site investigation.

Mr. Zeigler deferred to Mr. Faris, who had worked on the project in its early investigative stages. Mr. Faris explained that a survey of domestic wells was done and no documented domestic wells were found.

Mr. Faris congratulated Mr. Zeigler and staff regarding the technology used to document the project.

Mr. Faris asked what the water quality exceedances in the monitoring wells on the southern end of the site were. Mr. Zeigler explained they were primarily manganese but there was one arsenic exceedance.

Mr. Zeigler offered to host a site visit of the Railyards at a later date if the WPAB was interested.

VII. Other Board Business

No additional Board business at the June meeting.

VIII. Public Comment Period

No community members requested public comment at the June meeting.

VII. Adjourn

Chair Glass adjourned the meeting at 10:30 am.



STEVE GLASS, CHAIR

DARRELL KUNDARGI, VICE CHAIR

JOSÉ CERRATO

BART FARIS

CAMILLA FEIBELMAN

ALEJANDRÍA LYONS

CAROLINE SCRUGGS

JOEL WOOLDRIDGE

August 12, 2022

Location: Webex Video Conference

Time: 9:00 a.m. to 11:00 p.m.

Board Members Present:

Chair Steve Glass, Vice Chair Darrell Kundargi, Bart Faris, Joel Wooldridge, José Cerrato, Caroline Scruggs, Alejandría Lyons, Camilla Feibelman

A quorum was established before the meeting began.

Board Members Absent (excused):

All in attendance.

PIC Members Present:

Kelsey Bicknell (Water Authority), Cetan Christensen (Water Authority), Kali Bronson (Water Authority), Danielle Shuryn (Water Authority), Jeff Pompeo (Water Authority), Ken Ziegler (City of Albuquerque), Kathy Verhage (City of Albuquerque),

Guests:

Elizabeth Anderson (Water Authority), Diane Agnew (Water Authority), Jason Casuga (MRGCD), Tracie Vaught (AFCEC), Chris Segura (AFCEC), Ryan Wortman (AFCEC), Brannon Lamar (KAFB), Carolyn Carlson (The Paper), Ashley Palacios (KAFB), Janus Hererra (Health Equity Council), Jaren Peplinski (Urban Waters Federal Partner), Deborah H. (Community Member), Brian Fetting (KOB4)

I. Call to Order

Chair Glass called the meeting to order at 9:04 am.

II. Approval of Agenda

Chair Glass requested a motion to approve or modify the August 12, 2022, meeting agenda. Ms. Feibelman requested to amend the agenda and move DEI discussion to after board business. A request was made amend the link for the meeting invitation so that the link can be accessed directly from the “join meeting” button.

Mr. Faris moved to approve amended agenda, and Ms. Scruggs seconded the motion.

Unanimous vote to approve the amended August 12, 2022, meeting agenda:

Board member	Vote on Motion
Chair Steve Glass:	Yes
Vice-Chair Darrell Kundargi:	Yes
Camilla Feibelman:	Yes
José Cerrato:	Yes
Alejandría Lyons:	Yes
Bart Faris:	Yes
Caroline Scruggs:	Yes
Joel Wooldridge:	Yes

III. Review and Approval of Meeting Minutes

a. May 13th, 2022, and June 10th, 2022, Meeting Minutes

Chair Glass requested a correction to the June 10th, 2022 meeting minutes before requesting a motion to approve the May 13th, 2022, and June 10th, 2022 meeting minutes. Mr. Wooldridge moved to approve, and Mr. Kundargi seconded the motion.

Vote to approve the May 13th, 2022, meeting minutes:

Board member	Vote on Motion
Chair Steve Glass:	Yes
Vice-Chair Darrell Kundargi:	Yes
Camilla Feibelman:	Yes
José Cerrato:	Yes
Alejandría Lyons:	Abstain
Bart Faris:	Yes
Caroline Scruggs:	Abstain
Joel Wooldridge:	Yes

Unanimous vote to approve the June 10th, 2022, meeting minutes:

Board member	Vote on Motion
Chair Steve Glass:	Yes
Vice-Chair Darrell Kundargi:	Yes
Camilla Feibelman:	Yes
José Cerrato:	Yes
Alejandría Lyons:	Yes
Bart Faris:	Yes
Caroline Scruggs:	Yes
Joel Wooldridge:	Yes

IV. Board Business

a. PIC Updates

- **City Stormwater** – Ms. Kathy Verhage has no update, but they are starting their MS4 annual report preparation.
- **City Environmental Health** – Mr. Ken Ziegler: The City did a drone fly-over at the Candelaria Nature Preserve for CABQ Open Space, who had interest in making a trail mapping program for area. The group provided them with an orthomosaic and digital surface model for this project. Chair Glass asked if this project was part of the Bosque Action Update Plan (BAUP). Mr. Ziegler responded that this project is not necessarily for BAUP and is for data collection. Mr. Ziegler offered to send links of the imagery to interested parties for this project. Additionally, the fire at the closed Yale Landfill is still being monitored but appears to have stopped burning.
- **Water Authority** – Ms. Bronson, along with Mr. Ziegler, met with NMED regarding the Orphan Sites program. Additionally, the Water Authority Data Gap monitoring well samples for the passive and low-flow sampling have been received. Benzene, toluene, MEK, and phthlate were detected below the laboratory reporting limit in the passive sampling results. Toluene was detected in the low flow results also below the laboratory reporting limit. No EDB was detected. Ms. Bronson introduced a new member to the Water Authority, Cetan Christensen.

Ms. Feibelman asked if Ms. Bronson could highlight any details from the Orphan Site meeting. Ms. Bronson replied that the Site list contained sites that are not orphaned and requested NMED describe how they arrived at their list of Sites. NMED was receptive to feedback from the Water Authority and the City of Albuquerque and intend to make the Orphan Sites list a living document.

Ms. Feibelman followed by asking if NMED knew how a long-term cleanup program would be funded. Ms. Bronson explained there is not a specific funding source currently, and they are looking to other sources for funding clean up. For now, cleanup would be funded on a site-by-site basis, for example seeking funding from Superfund or responsible parties. Mr. Ziegler added that in the meeting he offered that a letter from the Water Protection Advisory Board could be provided when the Orphan Sites Program is seeking funding. Chair Glass confirmed that the WPAB could provide a letter to support these types of actions.

Chair Glass asked who Ms. Bronson and Mr. Ziegler met with at NMED. Ms. Bronson and Mr. Ziegler responded that they met with Gail Cooke and Justin Ball (Bureau Chief) from the Groundwater Quality Bureau and their consultants from INTERA. Mr. Zeigler added that funding to create the list of Orphan Sites was difficult to acquire and it is increasingly difficult to get sites added or removed from the list. Ms. Feibelman added that she thought NMED Secretary James Kenny had said that Gold King Mine money would be used to clean up, or at least start clean-up, at some of the Orphan Sites. Ms. Bronson responded that the funding from GKM was not mentioned in prior meetings and the use of the funds for this purpose needs to be clarified.

- **Bernalillo County** – No representatives.

V. Presentation: Kirtland Air Force Base Bulk Fuels Facility Leak Cleanup (9:40–10:25)

Ryan Wortman, Kirtland Air Force Base, Physical Scientist, project manager
ryan.wortman.3@us.af.mil

Ryan Wortman from Kirtland Air Force Base (KAFB) presented on the 2021 Quarter 4 reporting period for the Bulk Fuels Facility (BFF) spill and resulting groundwater contamination. This presentation included the project status update, injection well activities, an update on the technical working groups, and the RCRA process.

This presentation is available to view on the [WPAB Information Portal](#).

Presentation Questions and Comments:

Ms. Feibelman asked if a rig is used to drill the monitoring well. Mr. Wortman confirmed this.

Ms. Feibelman asked for clarification of the site location and the proximity of Burton Park. Mr. Wortman responded that the location of interest is off Gibson at the KAFB Gate, and source area is directly south of this. Mr. Wortman mentioned that Bullhead Park is due north of the source area. Ms. Agnew added that Burton Park is further west of the photos in the attached presentation.

Mr. Wooldridge asked if the team working on this project have been able to describe what the ultimate success of this remediation plume project would look like (e.g., is it total clean up?), and if so, when that is estimated to occur. Mr. Wortman responded that the plume remediation target is the EPA's MCL and that the timeline is dependent on approval of the corrective measure evaluation (CME), which would determine project completion. Mr. Wortman added that the project is working on a 10+ year timeline to

reach corrective measure implementation (CMI) and that the remedy selected would determine the remainder of the timeline for remediation. Mr. Wortman stated that a long-term monitoring phase is expected to take place over at least over 30 years before the corrective action will be considered complete.

Chair Glass commented that he was glad the Technical Working Groups are back in operation. Chair Glass asked where the new Data Gap Monitoring Well is located and if results from this monitoring well would be on future maps. Mr. Wortman and Ms. Bronson clarified that the Data Gap well is just south of Katherine Ave and east of Louisiana Blvd. Mr. Wortman stated that the Data Gap Well is not Kirtland Air Force Base infrastructure and thus the well will not be added to future maps – but will look at the Water Authority’s report on the Data Gap Well when it is available. Chair Glass asked for confirmation that there were no detections of contaminants of concern above MCL found at the Data Gap Well after the first sampling event. Ms. Bronson confirmed there have been no detections above MCLs.

Dr. Cerrato asked where in the plume remediation efforts have been focused and if biological encouragement has been attempted. Mr. Wortman responded that a pilot test was conducted using biological remediation to break down benzene. The pilot test was successful, but the feasibility of scaling this treatment out to the plume extent needs to be determined. Dr. Cerrato asked what type of treatment is currently being done. Mr. Wortman responded that they are doing pump and treat using granular activated carbon (GAC) for ethylene dibromide (i.e., by absorption).

Ms. Agnew questioned the expectation that it would be another decade until CMI and asked if funding has been considered for this time. Mr. Wortman indicated this is a best estimate based on where KAFB is on the RCRA timeline. Mr. Wortman added that funding is planned for the next 30 years of long-term monitoring. Mr. Wortman stated that the timeline would be something for the KAFB and NMED to answer collaboratively. Ms. Agnew clarified that it has been over two decades since facility assessment began, so another decade is a pretty significant impact to this source of water. Ms. Agnew offered support from the Water Authority to help KAFB reach CMI, including supporting public outreach efforts.

Mr. Faris asked how fluctuations of the groundwater levels impact the distribution of LNAPL and what corrective measures are considered for this. Mr. Wortman responded that due to the age of the early monitoring wells, they are no longer characterizing the shallowest portion of groundwater because the water table has risen since the spill was identified in 1999. The most recent monitoring wells installed should characterize the shallowest water. Mr. Wortman stated that the rising water table and subsequent water level fluctuations will lead to interaction with the LNAPL contaminant smear zone and will impact water quality. The shallow wells will help understand how the rising water table is interacting with the smear zone in the source area. Mr. Wortman explained that this re-encountering of water with the source zone is of main concern in the southern portion of the plume (defined as the source area). This will be considered in the CME.

Mr. Faris asked when the next Technical Working Group meeting is scheduled is scheduled for and asked whether the WPAB and PIC members would be invited to these meetings. Mr. Wortman responded that they are not scheduled yet, and invitations to the working groups are based on the topic, where they are only inviting technical experts. Mr. Faris inquired about who makes decisions for the invitees. Mr. Wortman responded that the invitees are decided at the stakeholder meetings attended by multiple agencies. Ms. Agnew added that the Water Authority created a guidance document on who to invite and how to provide structure to working groups, and suggested implementing this for future working group meetings. Mr. Faris added that he would like KAFB to keep WPAB and PIC in mind as the Technical Working Group meetings occur. Mr. Wortman responded that KAFB will refer to the guidance document.

Dr. Scruggs asked to review slide 6, and noted that between 2016 and 2021, the benzene concentration went up in parts of the plume. Dr. Scruggs asked how this data was being interpreted. Mr. Wortman responded that as the water table is rising, the groundwater is encountering fuel that is in the smear zone. Mr. Wortman added that as KAFB monitors the plume over time, there will be changes in concentrations over time due to the smear zone and the rising groundwater levels.

Dr. Scruggs asked if KAFB added the most recent monitoring wells in the same area as the prior wells to look at the fluctuations in the water table and asked if there are changes to the water table occurring north of the area that is currently being monitored with the most recently installed wells. Mr. Wortman responded that the southern area (the area of the spill) is the area of historic concern, and that original wells installed there are submerged and because of this, they needed new wells to look the new water level's effects on benzene concentrations. Wells for that purpose were installed in the northern area between 2014–2015.

Dr. Scruggs asked if KAFB will have sufficient vapor intrusion data to present in the report due in March and whether there was more data available from offsite soil vapor monitoring (SVM) wells. Mr. Wortman responded that the report would summarize the sampling event for the eight recently installed SVM wells, while also incorporating that data into the larger network. The focus in the report will be to confirm the findings of the 2018 report, which stated there is no vapor intrusion risk and determine if any other infrastructure is needed to characterize the shallow plume. Mr. Wortman stated that the preliminary data shows that the plume is characterized, and KAFB will decide with NMED if their analysis is sufficient, but that will be an iterative process.

VI. Presentation: Water Authority Sanitary Sewer Overflow Update (10:25 – 10:40)

Danielle Shuryn, Compliance Manager, Water Authority, dshuryn@abcwua.org

Danielle Shuryn from the Water Authority provided the board an overview of the July 10th sewage line spill timeline and actions taken to mitigate, communicate, and monitor the event.

Jason Casuga, Chief Engineer/CEO, MRGCD, jason@mrgcd.org
Jason Casuga from MRGCD, described the communication plan implementation during the sewage line collapse with ABCWUA and AMAFCA, and MRGCD's response to monitor the sewage spill contamination and notify water users of the spill event and monitoring.

This presentation is available to view on the [WPAB Information Portal](#).

Presentation Questions and Comments:

Chair Glass thanked for presenters for the recap but asked to clarify the location of five-day spill report so that members could review. Ms. Bicknell clarified that the five-day spill report was provided as a link to the information portal the day before the meeting.

Dr. Scruggs asked if the AMAFCA holding pond that was used to retain the sewage would have been able to hold the 6.7 million gallons that was spilled in this incident and asked what the holding capacity is in the event of another spill. Ms. Shuryn responded that the holding capacity of the pond was maxed out at 3 million gallons.

Ms. Feibelman asked for the reason of the collapse. Ms. Shuryn responded that rehabilitation of this line was occurring but it was not the site of the collapse. Ms. Anderson added the portion of line recommended for rehabilitation was identified in the Water Authority's asset management dataset compiled by the Water Authority, but the information on the status of the line may have been incorrect. Ms. Anderson stated the asset management dataset will be reviewed to confirm the status of the lines in the area. Ms. Anderson added that the Water Authority had sought \$17 million for sewer interceptor rehab prior to this event and were prioritizing projects on lines with the greatest need. Ms. Anderson also stated that the Water Authority is working hard to ensure projects are implemented before failures occur.

Ms. Feibelman asked about the reporting from community members about this pipe collapse and stated that it may be a good opportunity to reinforce that the public can be used to report these type of emergency events. Ms. Feibelman suggested a future public communication to congratulate the public on their diligence in this matter, and to continue to report emergency events to 311. Mr. Casuga added to the comment, by stating that the communication plan adopted by the Water Authority worked in reporting this event to downstream users. Ms. Anderson added that the time to get the bypass in place was quick, and the Water Authority had two on-call contractors to get the line taken care of, and the bypass pumping was in place within 20 hours – which in Ms. Anderson's experience was impressive.

Chair Glass commented that he was impressed with the turn-around, and that comparatively the sewage spill on KAFB took days to stop. Chair Glass also asked if the diversion dam was shut down quickly enough to prevent contamination of the Pueblo of Isleta irrigation system. Mr. Casuga responded that MRGCD believes the response was quick enough to prevent sewage flow into the Pueblo of Isleta system. The pool behind the dam was emptied to allow the sewage spill to pass through. Testing of the water directly behind the dam indicated to MRGCD that the water quality was sufficient to be used for irrigation.

Chair Glass stated he saw there were two spills reported, and asked if there was a second collapse somewhere else. Ms. Shuryn clarified that each manhole that overflows is considered a spill according to the Water Authority's NPDES permit.

Mr. Faris asked what lessons were learned regarding prevention and communication of this type of event in the future. Ms. Shuryn responded that the Water Authority will be improving its asset management plan and will continue evaluating existing conditions of its assets. Ms. Shuryn stated they will have ongoing communication with AMAFCA, in terms of emergency response and preparation for preventative measures. Ms. Anderson added that the need to work with AMAFCA to identify additional locations to capture sewer overflows so sewage doesn't make it to the river is another lesson learned. Mr. Casuga responded that MRGCD encountered issues with communication with irrigators, noting that their users span multiple generations, so they don't use the same forms of media and communication. From this event they learned they need to be able to reach a broader range of their irrigators to share these types of emergency events with and need to figure out how to reach their customers more broadly.

Mr. Kundargi asked if there was an impact to community health since the spill occurred in the neighborhoods. Ms. Anderson and Ms. Shuryn stated that the impact to the local community was mitigated – the Water Authority cleaned the streets and assisted three customers with pumping sewage away from their properties. Mr. Kundargi stated that local community members felt out of the loop in terms of the water quality reports, and asked how the Water Authority will improve local communication about clean up and follow up water quality analyses. Ms. Shuryn stated that the data collected during the incident is available to the public. Mr. Casuga added that the data MRGCD has from the Water Authority was posted on the MRGCD website and made publicly available, but the sampling data that was collected by the Pueblo of Isleta needs to be requested directly from the Pueblo. Ms. Anderson added that in the event there were some downstream entities that were not contacted, due to them not being in the emergency response plan and that the Water Authority will add these downstream users to the emergency response plan.

Ms. Lyons asked what is the responsibility of the WPAB board to get the information out to the community. Ms. Lyons also stated that entities in Valencia County downstream of the spill have also been doing their own water quality sampling and that communities are still concerned about this. Ms. Shuryn responded that the Water Authority could

make emergency information a front-page link on their website that would be easily accessible by the community. Mr. Casuga commented that water samples indicated a drastic decline in *E. coli* less than a day after the discharge stopped and water quality samples for *E. coli* were no longer taken. Mr. Casuga reiterated that the challenge is how to succinctly and effectively communicate information to the public.

I. Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) Subcommittee Report

Ms. Feibelman shared that the subcommittee held a meeting in July. The main discussion was how to include DEI in board presentations and how to get word out to communities about WPAB meetings. The subcommittee has a draft of the procedures under review. They have updated DEI questions to presenters to be considered when sharing. The subcommittee requested the Water Authority prepare information about the meeting and post it on social media. Board members can also push those posts out using their personal social media accounts.

The subcommittee also requested the list of presenters for the September meeting.

II. Other Board Business

III. Public Comment Period

VII. Adjourn

Chair Glass adjourned the meeting at 11:00 am.



STEVE GLASS, CHAIR

BART FARIS

CAROLINE SCRUGGS

DARRELL KUNDARGI, VICE CHAIR

CAMILLA FEIBELMAN

JOEL WOOLDRIDGE

JOSÉ CERRATO

ALEJANDRÍA LYONS

JONATHAN GONZALES

October 14, 2022

Location: Webex Video Conference

Time: 9:00 a.m. to 11:00 p.m.

Board Members Present:

Chair Steve Glass, Vice Chair Darrell Kundargi, Bart Faris, Joel Wooldridge, Camilla Feibelman, Johnathan Gonzales

A quorum was established before the meeting began.

Board Members Absent (excused):

José Cerrato, Alejandría Lyons, Caroline Scruggs

PIC Members Present:

Kelsey Bicknell (Water Authority), Cetan Christensen (Water Authority), Kali Bronson (Water Authority), Ken Ziegler (City of Albuquerque), Dan McGregor (Bernalillo County)

Guests:

Diane Agnew (Water Authority), Danielle Shuryn (Water Authority), Jeff Pompeo (Water Authority), Mark Kelly (Water Authority), Jennifer Fullam (New Mexico Environment Department), Stacy Timmons (New Mexico Bureau of Geology and Mineral Resources)

I. Call to Order

Chair Glass called the meeting to order at 9:01 am.

II. Approval of Agenda

Chair Glass requested a motion to approve the October 14, 2022, meeting agenda.

Mr. Joel Wooldridge motioned to approve the agenda and Vice-Chair Darrell Kundargi seconded the motion.

Unanimous vote to approve the amended October 14, 2022, meeting agenda:

Board member	Vote on Motion
Chair Steve Glass:	Yes
Vice-Chair Darrell Kundargi:	Yes

Camilla Feibelman:	Yes
José Cerrato:	Absent
Alejandría Lyons:	Absent
Bart Faris:	Yes
Caroline Scruggs:	Absent
Joel Wooldridge:	Yes
Johnathan Gonzales	Yes

III. Review and Approval of Meeting Minutes

a. August 12, 2022, Meeting Minutes

Vote to approve the August 12, 2022, meeting minutes:

Mr. Bart Faris made the motion to approve the meeting minutes, and Mr. Joel Wooldridge seconded the motion.

Unanimous vote to approve the August 12, 2022, meeting minutes.

Board member	Vote on Motion
Chair Steve Glass:	Yes
Vice-Chair Darrell Kundargi:	Yes
Camilla Feibelman:	Yes
José Cerrato:	Absent
Alejandría Lyons:	Absent
Bart Faris:	Yes
Caroline Scruggs:	Absent
Joel Wooldridge:	Yes
Johnathan Gonzales	Yes

IV. Board Business

a. PIC Updates

- ***Water Authority - Update from Ms. Kali Bronson, Environmental Manger***

Data Gap Well: The second sampling for ethylene dibromide (EDB) at the Water Authority Data Gap monitoring well for the Bulk Fuels Facility spill (BFF) at Kirtland Air Force Base (KAFB) was completed. No EDB was found in the Data Gap monitoring well. Since completion of the Data Gap monitoring well in April 2022, there have been two sampling events with no EDB detected. The Water Authority will be presenting on the status of the BFF Spill during the November Water Authority board meeting. See Water Authority website for access. Ms. Bicknell will provide further information to the board on how to join the meeting.

Orphan Sites: Ms. Bronson met with Gail Cooke from NMED to discuss the orphan contamination sites list, how the City of Albuquerque and the Water Authority can support the program and provide additional information about sites the agencies are familiar with, and how the program is being funded. Currently there is a special appropriation request to support the orphan sites program. The report of existing orphan sites will be a living document. Mr. Ziegler and Ms. Bronson are supporting this effort.

Ms. Feibelman asked if the orphan site program was being expanded through NMED's general fund or by a special appropriation request. Ms. Bronson responded that NMED does not have an established budget for the orphan sites program, but they are looking to establish permanent funding.

Ms. Feibelman inquired about the number of known orphan sites. Mr. Ziegler responded that the current list has sites that are not actually sites (ex: Railyards, and some city landfills) and additionally there are some known orphan sites that are missing. The current list was compiled from a historic Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Superfund site list from 2002. When NMED gets appropriated funds, they will update the list with the new information provided.

Ms. Feibelman stated that the Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion subcommittee (DEI) wished to flag sites that are orphaned but have not been championed for clean-up. Mr. Ziegler responded that there will be an effort to help refine this list, which then can be used to prioritize clean-up, but the first step is to know what sites should be on the list. Ms. Feibelman stated that Ms. Agnew with the Water Authority has a library of known orphan sites and suggested that this be provided to NMED. Ms. Agnew responded that the Water Authority's list only contains known sites of contamination that don't meet the definition of an orphan site (i.e., where there is no known or cooperating responsible party). Ms. Agnew emphasized that NMED is working to clean up these sites but are lacking funds and staffing.

Mr. Ziegler stated that in the future, the State will not be using the term orphan sites because it gets confused with orphan wells. The State is working on a more appropriate name change.

Ms. Feibelman stated that if the Legislature can identify a site for clean-up this may help with the allocation of funds for clean-up efforts. She suggested that with the State enjoying budget surpluses, the time was right for WPAB to press for clean-up of known orphan sites. Ms. Agnew said NMED has expressed its desire to take advantage of current economic conditions to identify and prioritize orphan sites. The intention of NMED is to develop a program with an established process to identify priority sites and ensure clean up, Ms. Agnew reported.

Mr. Faris asked what would be included in the orphan site report from NMED and how the report would be made. Ms. Bronson responded that a draft report has already been completed and reviewed by the Water Authority, the City of Albuquerque, and Bernalillo County. The report has the list of orphan sites from the 2002 EPA superfund list. The Water Authority, the City, and Bernalillo County have provided comments on this. This was in response to a request from NMED's Gail Cooke for assistance in refining the orphan site list and identifying sites that are priorities. After this quality assurance/ quality control (QAQC) process the orphan site list will be made into a living document.

Mr. Faris stated that in a discussion with the Ground Water Quality Bureau Chief, Mr. Faris made known that the WPAB is a potential resource for these types of initiatives. He asked the board if the WPAB should consider drafting a letter of support for the orphan site program and if board members should approach their respective organization boards to seek additional support. Ms. Feibelman responded that this is the time of year to send funding requests to agencies and Legislative Finance Committee (LFC), as the LFC meets in late November to early December for requests of special appropriation. In light of this, Ms. Feibelman asked if the Board should approve the letter at the next meeting. Ms. Bronson responded that Gail Cooke communicated that a letter of support will be helpful in the future, but what is currently needed is assistance in reviewing the current orphan sites list. This requested support is being provided by the Water Authority and the City. Mr. Faris stated that a letter of support to the LFC for long term funding (not just special appropriation) would underline the long-term need for this program. Ms. Feibelman asked the board to flag the legislative support letter for the next meeting. Mr. Faris inquired about the frequency of letters to the LFC. Chair Glass responded that the board writes a letter for priority legislation on relevant issues.

Sandia National Lab, Tijeras TAG site: Sandia National Lab has proposed Monitored Natural Attenuation (MNA) at the Tijeras TAG site. The Water Authority has provided comment stating that the utility does not support MNA due to the length of time it will take to reduce contaminant concentrations.

- ***Bernalillo County (County)– Update from Mr. Dan McGregor, Natural Resource Services Manager***

MS4 Annual Report: The Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4) Report is available for public review and comment. The County depends on the board for public review and comment. Ms. Bicknell will send a copy of the MS4 Annual Report for board review as well as the public notice.

Technical Standards Document: the County completed a draft for their technical standards documents. The County is conducting an internal review on this and expecting to have out for public review in early 2023.

Water Fair with NMDH: The Water Fair with the New Mexico Department of Health was held Sept 25, 2022 in the East Mountains. Samples collected at the event show high nitrate in Montecello area (map of detections and concentrations shown). No new areas of contamination came to light at the event, but nitrate levels were higher than expected at the known locations of contamination. The County reports that it is working to educate the community on proper well maintenance and septic system care.

- ***City of Albuquerque, Environmental Health (City) – Update from Mr. Ken Ziegler, Senior Environmental Health Scientist***

MS4 report: The Report is in draft form and out for public comment. The Report is on the city website for review.

Personnel Change: Charles Barber is the new manager for the City of Albuquerque, Environmental Health Department.

Dry Cleaner Sites: Matthew Smith sent copies of a Rio Grande study of active and closed dry cleaners (not orphan sites) located roughly in the area between Santa Fe and Belen. The study used passive soil gas monitoring around historic and current dry cleaners. Two sites had concerning levels which will be followed up on.

Mid-Region Council of Governments (MRCOG): At the recent MRCOG Water Resource Board meeting the organization's legislative priorities were presented.

Balloon Fiesta: Recreational vehicles parked at the closed Los Angeles Landfill during the Fiesta. The amount of precipitation this year amounted to 1.44 inches and only one vehicle had to be moved due to pooling water. There were many safety measures in place for human health, with flare runs for protection from landfill gases and routine daily checks of the site.

b. Welcome new WPAB member, Jonathan Gonzales

Jonathan Gonzales is an Albuquerque resident who works as an IT specialist for the federal Social Security administration. This is Mr. Gonzales' first board apportionment.

- V. Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Subcommittee Report (9:25 – 9:40)**
Board Member Camilla Feibelman

Legislative Funds: Ms. Feibelman proposed drafting a letter of support for water agency funding by means of a subcommittee for the LFC before the agencies present in

November. Ms. Feibelman and Mr. Faris agreed to join the subcommittee. Future work will include developing a standing subcommittee to work on letters of support for water protection agencies each year. All subcommittees for the Board will be established in the January 2023 meeting.

Board Presentations: One of the DEI objectives is to have representation of community members for relevant topics in the WPAB meetings. To ensure this objective is met, the DEI subcommittee wishes to review board presentations in advance each month so it can identify groups that should be invited to the presentation. Ms. Feibelman reminded the board to send presenters the questions generated by the DEI subcommittee, and to email presentation materials to the DEI subcommittee so they can be distributed to relevant parties.

Questions and Comments

Ken Ziegler: There is a public meeting coming up with KAFB and Sandia National Labs for existing permits. The BFF and mixed waste landfills are the only topics that will not be discussed at the public meeting.

Kelsey Bicknell: An email with this will be sent to the board with times and how to join.

- VI.** Presentation: New Mexico Water Data Act (9:40 – 10:10)
Stacy Timmons, Associate Director-Hydrogeology Programs, NM Bureau of Geology and Mineral Resources, stacy.timmons@nmt.edu, newmexicowaterdata.org

Ms. Timmons presented on the New Mexico Bureau of Geology and Mineral Resources implementation of the Water Data Act for New Mexico, passed by the Legislature in 2019. This statute aims to ensure collaboration between the state, regional and national organizations for the sharing, integration, and management of water data (e.g., raw measurements, quantity, quality of surface water and groundwater). The Water Data Plan has two methods to share and improve access to data: (1) the Data Catalog, which is an open source and community driven data dictionary; and (2) the Federated Data Model, which shares only QAQC data for public consumption and requires developer skills for APIs. This initiative is revealing the challenges that exist in data management and data acquisition.

This presentation is available to view on the [WPAB Information Portal](#).

Presentation Questions and Comments:

Mr. Wooldridge commented that neighborhood associations in Albuquerque could benefit from data from this catalog. Mr. Woolridge explained that the organization Tree New Mexico is promoting the planting of trees without discussion of the water-use consequence of vegetation. Mr. Woolridge asked Ms. Timmons if trees and water-use are part of the inventory of data in the catalog. Ms. Timmons responded that planting of trees would be categorized as a land-use change. There are some datasets that can be

used to evaluate the potential impacts of vegetation changes. There are new datasets for evapotranspiration (ET) changes with high resolution detection of the ET changes in an area. Some of that is remotely sensed, but not directly measured. There is some additional high-resolution data along the Rio Grande, ~~and~~ groundwater (GW) level measurements, which can be used to compare ET and GW levels. Mr. McGregor stated that outreach efforts have emphasized the importance of tree selection. Planners are aware of the issues with vegetation water-use, and this is being addressed by encouraging the use of regionally appropriate plants. Mr. Ziegler offered that more information could be found on the [Tree Plotter website](#), which has most trees optimized by locations and environment.

Ms. Feibelman commented that an interesting product of the data catalog could be an additional catalog of research that results from the use of this dataset. Ms. Feibelman asked what was learned from data set since work began in 2019. Ms. Timmons responded that an output from this are use metrics showing who is using data and time spent on the site. This highlights what data is accessed by users and if the catalog can source results from the available datasets. Ms. Timmons stated that this data is a starting point to understanding data needs, and added that the water data catalog tool is open source so a research catalog can be built if anyone wishes to do so.

Vice-Chair Kundargi offered appreciation to the enormity of the task of data management and the complexity of managing data, and inquired about accessibility of data for end users. Ms. Timmons responded that there is a Data User Working group working to develop products that satisfy producers and developers as well as users. Ms. Timmons commented that her department is commonly asked to give presentations on the database and data itself and that these instances have helped with outreach to communities without internet access or the technical skills to work in the database. Ms. Timmons commented that a community's lack of data access often correlates with a lack of actual data for the community in question.

- VII.** NMAC 20.6.4 Triennial Review Update (10:10 – 10:40)
Jennifer Fullam, Supervisor, Standards, Planning & Reporting Team, Surface Water Quality Bureau, New Mexico Environment Department,
jennifer.fullam@env.nm.gov

See Presentation

Ms. Jennifer Fullam presented the results from the review of Surface water quality standards from the New Mexico Environment Department (NMED). The review is a federal requirement, with a public hearing required every 3 years to share water quality standards with the public. Ms. Fullam's presentation included information on the review process, as well as the resulting changes to the Surface water quality standards. Changes include adjustments to language, definitions, standards, and requirements for implementation of standards.

This presentation is available to view on the [WPAB Information Portal](#).

Presentation Questions and Comments:

Chair Glass encouraged the Board to support NMED in the LFC letter.

I. Other Board Business

Ms. Bicknell informed the board that the next scheduled WPAB meeting is on Veterans Day. To accommodate the holiday, the next meeting will be held from 9 am – 11 am, Thursday November 10th, 2022. Proper notice of date change in the meeting minutes, and board calendar will be made available.

II. Public Comment Period

No public comments

VII. Adjourn

Chair Glass adjourned the meeting at 11:00 AM



STEVE GLASS, CHAIR

BART FARIS

CAROLINE SCRUGGS

DARRELL KUNDARGI, VICE CHAIR

CAMILLA FEIBELMAN

JOEL WOOLDRIDGE

JOSÉ CERRATO

ALEJANDRÍA LYONS

JONATHAN GONZALES

November 10, 2022

Location: Webex Video Conference

Time: 9:00 a.m. to 11:00 p.m.

Board Members Present: Chair Steve Glass, Bart Faris, Jonathan Gonzales, Caroline Scruggs, José Cerrato.

A quorum was established before the meeting began.

Board Members Absent (excused): Vice-Chair Darrell Kundargi, Camilla Feibelman, Alejandría Lyons, Joel Wooldridge

PIC Members Present: Kelsey Bicknell (Water Authority), Cetan Christensen (Water Authority), Diane Agnew (Water Authority), Ken Ziegler (City of Albuquerque), Dan McGregor (Bernalillo County), Charles Barber (City of Albuquerque), Kathy Verhage (City of Albuquerque), Patrick Chavez (AMAFCA)

Guests: Travis Peacock (Water Authority), Mark Kelly (Water Authority), Jaren Peplinski (Urban Waters), Jun Li (Sandia National Laboratory), Anna Gallegos (Sandia National Laboratory), Mike Skelly (Sandia National Laboratory), Adria Bodour (Department of Energy), Michael Nagy (Sandia National Laboratory), John Copland (Sandia National Laboratory)

Call to Order

Chair Glass called the meeting to order at 9:11 am.

I. Approval of Agenda

Mr. Bart Faris motioned to approve the agenda and Ms. Caroline Scruggs seconded the motion.

Unanimous vote to approve the November 10, 2022, meeting agenda:

Board member	Vote on Motion
Chair Steve Glass:	Yes
Vice-Chair Darrell Kundargi:	Not present
Camilla Feibelman:	Not present
José Cerrato:	Yes
Alejandría Lyons:	Not present
Bart Faris:	Yes
Caroline Scruggs:	Yes
Joel Wooldridge:	Not present
Johnathan Gonzales	Yes

II. Review and Approval of Meeting Minutes

a. October 14, 2022, Meeting Minutes

Chair Glass made the motion to approve the amended October 14, 2022, meeting minutes, and Mr. Bart Faris seconded the motion.

Unanimous vote to approve the October 14, 2022, meeting minutes.

Board member	Vote on Motion
Chair Steve Glass:	Yes
Vice-Chair Darrell Kundargi:	Not present
Camilla Feibelman:	Not present
José Cerrato:	Yes
Alejandría Lyons:	Not present
Bart Faris:	Yes
Caroline Scruggs:	Abstain (not present at 10/14/2022 meeting)
Joel Wooldridge:	Not present
Johnathan Gonzales	Yes

III. Board Business

a. Letter of Support to New Mexico Legislative Finance Committee regarding budget requested by state entities responsible for the protection of water resources and the environment.

Ms. Caroline Scruggs motioned to draft the letter of support for the Legislative Finance Committee, Mr. Bart Faris seconded the motion.

Unanimous vote to approve the drafting of the Letter of Support for the Legislative Finance Committee.

Board member	Vote on Motion
Chair Steve Glass:	Yes
Vice-Chair Darrell Kundargi:	Not present
Camilla Feibelman:	Not present
José Cerrato:	Yes
Alejandría Lyons:	Not present
Bart Faris:	Yes
Caroline Scruggs:	Yes
Joel Wooldridge:	Not present
Johnathan Gonzales	Yes

b. Approval of Final Letter of Support

Edits were made regarding the terms for “orphan sites” presented in the letter of support. It was clarified in the letter than orphan sites refer to sites with no known

responsible party. Additionally, it was decided to send the letter to incumbent elected officials as well as the newly elected members.

Mr. Bart Faris moved to approve the Final Letter of support for the Legislative Finance Committee, and Ms. Caroline Scruggs seconded the motion. Unanimous vote to approve the Final Letter of Support and send to sitting and incoming elected officials.

Board member	Vote on Motion
Chair Steve Glass:	Yes
Vice-Chair Darrell Kundargi:	Not present
Camilla Feibelman:	Not present
José Cerrato:	Yes
Alejandría Lyons:	Not present
Bart Faris:	Yes
Caroline Scruggs:	Yes
Joel Wooldridge:	Not present
Johnathan Gonzales	Yes

A copy of the Final Letter of Support is available to view on the [WPAB Information Portal](#).

c. PIC Updates

- *City of Albuquerque, Environmental Health (City) – Update from Mr. Ken Ziegler, Senior Environmental Health Scientist*
 - The City attended public meetings for Sandia National Labs and Kirtland Air Force Base (KAFB).
 - The City is performing water quality sampling of landfills.
 - The updated water quality trends for the City will be in the Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4) report which will be available December 1, 2022. The report is currently in the public comment period. The City is currently presenting the MS4 report to various audiences. There will be a meeting with the City and Albuquerque Metropolitan Arroyo Flood Control (AMAFCA) regarding the MS4 report.

- *Bernalillo County (County)– Update from Mr. Dan McGregor, Natural Resource Services Manager*
 - The County is working on the MS4 annual report, and updates to the County Ordinances which will be completed in January.
 - The County anticipates updates on the Green Stormwater Infrastructure and Low Impact Development (GSI/LID) at the next meeting.

- *Albuquerque Bernalillo County Water Utility Authority (Water Authority)- Update from Ms. Kelsey Bicknell, Senior Water Resources Scientist*
 - On November 8th, The Water Authority received a Notice of Disapproval (NOD) from the New Mexico Environmental Department (NMED) for the KAFB Bulk Fuels Facility (BFF) groundwater monitoring plan (submitted April 2021). The letter addressed the issue of passive samplers being inadequate to measure water quality at the site. It is now a strict requirement that only active sampling can be performed at the site. The NOD additionally addressed the lack of comprehensive sampling at wells, and the lack of clear data reporting. The KAFB will have to submit a revised groundwater monitoring plan by January 18, 2023, and a workplan to return to active sampling by March 1, 2023.
 - The Water Authority sent a letter to NMED regarding concerns about Monitored Natural Attenuation (MNA) as a potential selection for corrective measures for the KAFB BFF site. This was sent to Rick Shean, Hazardous Waste Bureau Chief, and Chris Catechis Division Director, Resource Protection Division, at NMED about how the site does not meet MNA guidance from the EPA and submitted model results that shows the time until remediation if no action is taken.
 - The Water Authority received correspondence regarding a new work plan for 1,4-Dioxane (1,4-D) contamination for Hewitt-Packard (HP)/Digital site. HP/Digital submitted comments to NMED on October 25th regarding the placement of monitoring wells.

No comments or questions from the board.

IV. Presentation

Sandia National Laboratories Environmental Restoration Sites Update (9:45-10:45)
Michael Nagy, Manager, Environmental Restoration & Stewardship Department,
mdnagy@sandia.gov; *Michael Skelly,* mfskell@sandia.gov; *Jun Li,* junli@sandia.gov;
John Copland, jrcopla@sandia.gov

Sandia National Laboratories (SNL) presented on three Environmental Restoration Sites. The three sites included the Burn Site Groundwater (BSG) investigation in the Manzanita mountains, the Tijeras Arroyo Groundwater (TAG) Investigation, and the Technical Area Groundwater Investigation. Presentations included general site characteristics, contamination characterization, and restoration activities.

Burn Site Groundwater Investigation:

Mr. Mike Skelly presented on the Burn Site Groundwater (BSG) Investigation, located in the Manzanita mountains, on east side of the Albuquerque Basin. The area of concern (AOC) is a burn site used as an explosive testing facility for Sandia National Labs from 1967 to the 1980s in the furthest east portion of the KAFB. Nitrate is the primary

contaminant of concern. Five monitoring wells at the site have nitrate above the established Maximum Contaminant Load (MCL) of 10 parts per million (ppm). The nitrate plume is fully characterized at this site. Mr. Mike Skelly is working with the NMED Hazardous Waste Bureau on site remediation. Currently work is being done to prepare the Current Conceptual Model (CCM) and Corrective Measures Evaluation (CME) report which will be completed in January 2023.

This presentation is available to view on the [WPAB Information Portal](#).

Presentation Questions and Comments:

Chair Glass: What is the location to the Tijeras arroyo?

Mr. Mike Skelly: Very far, further northeast from location.

Mr. Bart Faris: Do you have reduction-oxidation (redox) conditions for the site?

Mr. Mike Skelly: Geochemistry work has been done to support and develop a conceptual model of the site and for the corrective measures evaluation. There is no reduction going on at the site; because of this there is no degradation of nitrate occurring from redox conditions. The organics from the historic operations are not enough to support redox degradation.

Bart Faris: Do you do any passive sampling?

Mr. Mike Skelly: No. The regulatory driven sampling plan only allows for active sampling. For the past 18-20 years only benet pumps have been used so that the data is consistent and comparable. SNL does not have the ability to change sampling due to the agreed upon regulatory requirements with NMED.

Mr. Bart Faris: The CME will be submitted to NMED in January 2023. What are the next steps in this process?

Mr. Mike Skelly: SNL will present knowledge of the site and what can be implemented for remediation, then NMED picks the remediation system. NMED makes the decision on which remediation system is applicable, after SNL submits the CME report and the NMED completes their review. SNL will continue to monitor for any site changes while NMED works through this process.

Mr. Bart Faris: To clarify the CME report, you provide remediation alternatives and preferred alternatives and NMED makes the final decision on site remediation?

Mr. Mike Skelly: Yes, all options for remediation are presented and then the options are narrowed down to list that is implementable, and additionally presented is the preferred remediation alternative. For this site SNL is proposing MNA as the preferred alternative and is including an alternative of long-term monitoring, and a pump and treat system. The final remediation alternative will be selected by the NMED Hazardous Waste Bureau.

Mr. Dan McGregor: Given its a burn site - any concern or investigation for dioxins as burn product and/or PFAs from fire training/suppression?

Mr. Mike Skelly: SNL is not required to sample for dioxanes. The fuel type that was used at this site is known, and dioxanes were not present in the fuel used. What is looked for is JP4 to JP8, as well as diesel range organics, gasoline range organics, and a suite of volatile organic compounds (VOCs). The burning was prescribed for the survivability fire tests. There is a concern with aqueous film forming foam (AFFF) type products. But no firefighting foams were used at this site historically. SNL is currently working on converting sampling equipment to be PFAS free.

Mr. Dan McGregor: What is the concentration of background nitrate at this site?

Mr. Mike Skelly: NMED described the background nitrate for the site at 4ppm 20-30 years ago based on available data at that time. Currently, there are wells that are much lower than the estimated background level of 4 ppm. There is naturally occurring nitrate but not at all locations, and there are wells with much lower levels than the previously thought 4 ppm.

Mr. José Cerrato: What other chemicals have you monitored?

Mr. Mike Skelly: The efforts have been to only sample for what's necessary at this site. There is no other constituent of concern other than nitrate. Other chemicals monitored were nitrate, organics, perchlorates, and VOCs. The SNL is working with Water Authority to properly dispose of the purge water. To do this an analytical suite, including, radiological analysis, cations, and anions, etc. must be performed. The sampling of the purge water has shown no other contaminants of concern for this site.

Mr. José Cerrato: What is the pH of the water at this site?

Mr. Mike Skelly: pH of the water is a little basic since it is sourced from the Madera Group limestone but maintains a range of pH at 7-8.

Tijeras Arroyo Groundwater (TAG) Investigation:

Mr. John Copland is the task leader for the Tijeras Arroyo Groundwater (TAG) Investigation. The area of concern (AOC) is in the north-central portion of KAFB. The TAG AOC has elevated nitrate levels in a perched groundwater system. In 2021, five wells exceeded the nitrate MCL of 10 ppm, with nitrate measurements as high as 23 ppm. One well exceeded trichloroethene (TCE) MCL of 5 ppm at 18.5 ppm in the perched aquifer. There are 47 sites within the AOC that have been approved by the NMED for corrective action completion status, but the perched groundwater system remains a concern (an area of 4.4 sq. miles). The primary source of nitrate contamination occurred from 1962 – 1987 from KAFB sewage lagoon (3.8 billion gallons), and two other wastewater outfalls discharged from 1948-1992 and the second from 1948-1974. Groundwater monitoring began at the site in 1992. There are 31 groundwater wells and perched vapor monitoring wells installed at the site. Sampling 21 wells for metals, nitrates, VOCs, and radionuclides.

NMED issued public notice for remedy selection at the site in August 2022. Comments were due by October 4th, 2022. The TAG team are reviewing these comments. Remediation alternatives presented in the CCM and CME and submitted to NMED include MNA for the preferred remediation alternative. Other proposed alternatives

include long term groundwater sampling, groundwater extraction, and in-situ bioremediation.

This presentation is available to view on the [WPAB Information Portal](#).

Presentation Questions and Comments:

Dan McGregor: Could you please provide the reference to the USGS study referenced on slide 6, from Ben Linhoff?

Mr. John Copland: The article by Ben Linhoff, is titled “Deciphering natural and anthropogenic nitrate in recharge sources in arid region groundwater”, July 2022. LINK: <https://www.usgs.gov/publications/deciphering-natural-and-anthropogenic-nitrate-and-recharge-sources-arid-region>

Mr. Dan McGregor: And similar question as to before - for this study area what do you consider to be the concentration of natural occurring nitrates?

Mr. Ken Ziegler: Source of TCE from Eubank Landfill on the slides as source from TCE. This is not observed in the sampling of the landfill by the City.

Mr. John Copland: Shallow soil investigation showed DCE and PCE and suspected that these soil vapor concentrations could affect groundwater levels.

Mr. Ken Ziegler: 2004 – 2019 samples only show 4 detections of TCE during this time. The idea that the TCE is from the landfill are not supported by the water quality data. The City would like to see the report on this.

Mr. John Copland: The hypothesized source of TCE in the perched aquifer is derived from the TCE detections noted in the Q3 2021 SNL Consolidated Quarterly Report. Soil vapor transport is hard to quantify, but it is suspected the TCE is derived from the vicinity of the landfill.

Mr. Mike Skelly: Need to clarify that Mr. Copland is talking about the perched aquifer and Mr. Ziegler is talking about samples from the regional aquifer.

Chat Comments

[Ms. Diane Agnew: The Water Authority submitted comment to the NMED expressing our concerns with selection of MNA as a final remedy for this site.]

[Ms. Kelsey Bicknell: The Water Authority reviewed both of those USGS papers, and we have concerns about the methodology and data analysis of both papers. USGS gave the Water Authority the Ben Linhoff papers. Upon review there are concerns regarding robust analysis of this site.]

Links to relevant articles regarding nitrate in the TAG

Mr. Jaren Peplinski:

LINK: <https://www.usgs.gov/publications/deciphering-natural-and-anthropogenic-nitrate-and-recharge-sources-arid-region>

Ms. Kelsey Bicknell:

LINK: <https://pubs.geoscienceworld.org/gsa/geology/article/49/6/667/594886/Discovery-of-a-large-subsoil-nitrate-reservoir-in>

Technical Area Groundwater Investigation:

Ms. Jun Li is the Technical Area-V Groundwater (TAG-V) Investigation task lead. The TAG-V area of contamination is on the KAFB. From 1960 to 1992 septic waste and wastewater was discharged and infiltrated through 500 feet of sediment to the regional aquifer. The contaminant of concern is nitrate and TCE which are above MCLs. Surface and subsurface remediation began in the 1990s. Groundwater remediation is needed still at the TAG-V site. Two phases of a treatability study for in-situ bioremediation were proposed at this site. Phase I of the study began in November 2017 and concluded in May 2021, where it was found that in-situ bioremediation was not effective. Groundwater monitoring wells have shown that anerobic conditions were not established enough to degrade TCE, and TCE concentrations were not high enough to sustain the bacteria injected solutions in the remediation wells. The Phase I report was submitted to NMED Hazardous Waste Bureau, where they concluded that it was not necessary to conduct Phase II of the treatability study.

Ms. Jun Li is working on preparing updates to the 2004 conceptual site model and the 2005 CME report. The TAG-V site is approaching the final milestone of recommendations for final remedy in the final CME report for NMED.

This presentation is available to view on the [WPAB Information Portal](#).
The annual monitoring report can be found here: [2021 Annual Monitoring Report](#)

No comments or questions.

I. Other Board Business

Announcement, that the 2023 Land and summit conference is scheduled for March. Sign up and register.
<https://www.landandwatersummitnm.org/>

Next meeting will be in January.

II. Public Comment Period

No public comments

VII. Adjourn

Chair Glass adjourned the meeting at 10:55 AM

APPENDIX D
Board Correspondence and Resolutions



STEVE GLASS, CHAIR

DARRELL KUNDARGI, VICE CHAIR

JOSÉ CERRATO

BART FARIS

CAMILLA FEIBELMAN

ALEJANDRÍA LYONS

CAROLINE SCRUGGS

JOEL WOOLDRIDGE

March 16, 2022

Timothy M. Keller, Mayor
City of Albuquerque
P.O. Box 1293
Albuquerque, NM 87102

Subject: Water Protection Advisory Board Request for the Albuquerque City Council to Reconsider the Repeal of the *Clean and Green Retail Ordinance*

Dear Mayor Keller:

The Water Protection Advisory Board (WPAB) is **tasked by ordinance to provide water quality advice** to the Albuquerque City Council, Bernalillo County Board of County Commissioners, and the Albuquerque Bernalillo County Water Utility Authority Governing Board (Ordinance 36-1995). On March 7, 2022 the City Council voted to repeal the *Clean and Green Retail Ordinance* that prohibited most businesses from handing out single-use plastic bags. In response to this action, the WPAB offers advice to the City Council about the impacts of plastic bags and other waste to our water resources, specifically the Rio Grande which is the primary drinking water source for Albuquerque, and the environment, which benefit the residents of Albuquerque and Bernalillo County.

Plastics are a well-studied challenge when it comes to water quality and source water protection (Emeric et.al., 2020). **Plastics are pervasive** (Hassan, et.al., 2019) in the City's natural environments and **degrade water quality** (e.g., accumulation and release of sediment, contaminants, and microplastics). **Plastics also contribute to solid waste pollution** (e.g., collecting along the Rio Grande and urban waterways) (AMAFCA, 2005, 2017). Furthermore, **plastic decomposes when exposed to sunlight, forming microplastic particles** (Lear, et.al., 2022) and **hormone analog chemicals** (Segovia-Mendoza. et.al., 2020) that can potentially enter the drinking water supply and interfere with the life cycles of aquatic life, wildlife, and the ecosystem.

Additionally, **plastic bags undermine the City's ability to comply with their federal permit** with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) under the National Pollutant Discharge and Elimination System (NPDES) Middle Rio Grande Watershed Based Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4) (EPA, 2014). The NPDES MS4 permit has specific requirements that all permittees, including the City, must meet, to control floatables (trash). The purpose of the MS4 permit is to prevent trash, including plastic bags, from ever entering the stormwater system and discharging into

the Rio Grande and other waterways (e.g., Tijeras Arroyo, Middle Rio Grande Conservancy District laterals and drains). On an annual basis, **the City collects and disposes of approximately five semi-truck loads of plastic bags** from storm drains. Additionally, each of the 18 other NPDES MS4 permittees must collect their own debris. **Addressing plastic pollution is costly for the City** and other MS4 permittees and increases in magnitude if plastic pollution is not mitigated through Citywide efforts like the *Clean and Green Retail Ordinance*.

The WPAB requests that the City Council **reconsider their repeal** of the *Clean and Green Retail Ordinance* and the resultant consequences for our limited and valuable water resources.

Respectfully,



J. Steve Glass, Chair
Water Protection Advisory Board

Cc: Councilor Louie Sanchez, District 1
Councilor Isaac Benton, District 2
Councilor Klarissa Peña, District 3
Councilor Brook Bassan, District 4
Councilor Dan Lewis, District 5
Councilor Pat Davis, District 6
Councilor Tammy Fiebelkorn, District 7
Councilor Trudy Jones, District 8
Councilor Renée Grout, District 9
Mayor Timothy Keller
Mark Sanchez, Executive Director, Albuquerque Bernalillo County Water Utility Authority
Julie Morgas Baca, County Manager, Bernalillo County

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STEVE GLASS, CHAIR

DARRELL KUNDARGI, VICE CHAIR

JOSÉ CERRATO

BART FARIS

CAMILLA FEIBELMAN

ALEJANDRÍA LYONS

CAROLINE SCRUGGS

JOEL WOOLDRIDGE

JONATHAN GONZALES

January 24, 2023

Senator George K. Muñoz
Chair, State of New Mexico Senate Finance Committee
325 Don Gaspar, Suite 101
Santa Fe, NM 87501

Subject: Support for the Budget Request by State Entities Responsible for the Protection of Water Resources and the Environment for Fiscal Year 2024

Dear Chair Muñoz:

The Water Protection Advisory Board (WPAB) hereby requests continued support of State Agencies responsible for the protection of water resources and the environment. In addition, WPAB recommends long term financial support for the New Mexico Environment Department's neglected contamination sites project. Neglected contamination sites (initially referenced as orphan sites) are sites that negatively impact water quality throughout New Mexico and typically do not have a party responsible for contaminant clean up.

The WPAB was established through ordinance by the Albuquerque City Council Bernalillo County Board of County Commissioners, and the Albuquerque Bernalillo County Water Utility Authority Governing Board to advise and make recommendations regarding protection of groundwater and surface water resources throughout the Bernalillo County area.

WPAB again respectfully requests that the State Agencies responsible for New Mexico's water quality have their budgets approved at the highest level to effectively protect the State's water resources. Approval to these State Agencies' budgets will result in improved protection of water resources for New Mexico citizens.

Respectfully,

Steve Glass, Chair
Water Protection Advisory Board

Cc: Cabinet Secretary, James Kenney, New Mexico Environment Department

Mike Hamman, New Mexico State Engineer
Cabinet Secretary, Sarah Cottrell Propst, New Mexico Energy, Minerals, and Natural
Resources Department
Maggie Hart-Stebbins, Office of the Natural Resources Trustee
Director, Rolf Schmidt-Peterson, Interstate Stream Commission
Senate Finance Committee Vice Chair Nany Rodriguez, District-24
Senator William E. Sharer, District-1
Senator William F. Burt, District-33
Senator Pete Campos, District-8
Senator Crystal R. Diamond, District-35
Senator Roberto J. Gonzales, District-6
Senator Siah Correa Hemphill, District-28
Senator Michael Padilla, District-14
Senator Jeff Steinborn, District-36
Senator Pat Woods, District-7
Senator Gay G. Kernan, District-42
House Appropriations and Finance Committee Vice Chair Representative Nathan P.
Small, District-36
Representative Anthony Allison, District-4
Representative Phelps Anderson, District-66
Representative Gail Armstrong, District-49
Representative Cathrynn N. Brown, District-55
Representative Ambrose Castellano, District-70
Representative Jack Chatfield, District-67
Representative Randal S. Crowder, District-64
Representative Meredith A. Dixon, District-20
Representative Candy Spence Ezzell, District-58
Representative Harry Garcia, District-69
Representative Dayan Hochman-Vigil, District-15
Representative T. Ryan Lane, District-3
Representative Raymundo Lara, District-34
Representative Debra M. Sariñana, District-21
Representative Candie G. Sweetser, District-32
Representative Christine Trujillo, District-25
Representative Brian G. Baca, District-8
Representative Christine Chandler, District-43
David Abbey, Director of Legislative Finance Committee
Helen Gaussoin, Legislative Finance Committee Analyst
Mayor Tim Keller, City of Albuquerque
Julie Morgas Baca, Bernalillo County Manager
Mark S. Sanchez, Executive Director, Albuquerque Bernalillo County Water Utility
Authority



STEVE GLASS, CHAIR

DARRELL KUNDARGI, VICE CHAIR

JOSÉ CERRATO

BART FARIS

CAMILLA FEIBELMAN

ALEJANDRÍA LYONS

CAROLINE SCRUGGS

JOEL WOOLDRIDGE

JONATHAN GONZALES

January 24, 2023

Representative Patricia A. Lundstrom
Chair, State of New Mexico House Appropriations and Finance Committee
325 Don Gaspar, Suite 101
Santa Fe, NM 87501

Subject: Support for the Budget Request by State Entities Responsible for the Protection of Water Resources and the Environment for Fiscal Year 2024

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David Abbey, Director of Legislative Finance Committee
Helen Gaussoin, Legislative Finance Committee Analyst
Commissioner Adriann Barboa, Chair, District-3, Bernalillo County Commission
Councilor Isaac Benton, President, District-2, Albuquerque City Council
Councilor Klarissa J. Peña, Chair, Albuquerque Bernalillo County Water Utility Authority
Governing Board

APPENDIX E
2023 Work Plan

**WATER PROTECTION ADVISORY BOARD
WORK PLAN FOR 2023**

- I. WPAB Officer Elections for 2023
- II. Open Meetings Resolution adoption
- III. 2022 Annual Report and Letter from the Chair
- IV. Protection of Groundwater Quality
 - Receive an update on HP/Digital Groundwater Contamination site
 - Receive an update from the New Mexico Environment Department (NMED) Ground Water Quality Bureau on groundwater contamination sites in the City of Albuquerque and Bernalillo County
 - Receive a presentation from the NMED on Voluntary Remediation and Brownfield programs and projects in Albuquerque and Bernalillo County
 - Receive regular updates on the Kirtland Air Force Base Bulk Fuels Facility jet fuel leak project
 - Receive an update from City of Albuquerque Environmental Health Department on remediation projects
- V. Protection of Surface Water Quality and Watershed Health
 - Stormwater update, including MS4 permitting and annual watershed-based permit public meeting
 - Receive an update on NMED Surface Water Quality Bureau National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Primacy efforts
 - Receive presentations on PFAS and other emerging contaminants
- VI. Foster Intergovernmental Coordination, Cooperation and Communication
 - Regular Policy Implementation Committee (PIC) updates
 - Receive a presentation on the new Environmental Crimes Task Force
 - Receive an update on the Water Authority updates to the Surface and Groundwater Source Water Assessments in the Rivers and Aquifers Protection Plan
 - Receive an update on NMED efforts to establish Water Reuse Regulations
 - Receive update from New Mexico Environment Department on neglected contamination sites (formerly referred to as orphan sites)
 - Quarterly updates on agendas, topics, and actions of the Water Quality Control Commission that relate to water quality topics for WPAB
 - Quarterly updates on agendas, topics, and actions of the Mid-Region Council of Government (MRCOG) Water Resources Board that relate to water quality
 - Improve public outreach for water quality issues by governmental agencies

VII. Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion

- Regular updates from WPAB Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Committee
- Complete Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Work Plan by first quarter
- Identify biannual DEI training opportunities or presentations
- Provide presenters DEI questions in advance to address during presentations to WPAB
- Advise appointing agencies (City, County, and Water Authority) elected officials on policy actions in support of NMED to address neglected contamination sites

APPENDIX F
Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Statement

The Water Protection Advisory Board (WPAB) was established by joint ordinance to study issues related to the quality of our water supply, and to advise the City of Albuquerque, Water Utility Authority, and Bernalillo County to help ensure the effective protection of surface and groundwater quality so that public health, quality of life, and economic vitality of this and future generations are not diminished.

WPAB recognizes that systemic racism has meant that many communities have not been able to ensure their drinking water supply is adequately protected or remediated. As evidence of this, low income and communities of color in our geographical area have experienced significantly greater impacts from contaminated water. Furthermore, WPAB recognizes that our Board cannot be insulated from pervasive systemic racism in our society, and that it is critical for our Board to acknowledge systemic racism and strive to address it directly and continually in fulfilling our mission to protect water quality for all communities. As an appointed advisory board we have a responsibility to acknowledge these disparities and provide guidance, advice, and recommendations for corrective action to our constituent agencies regarding these matters and how they impact effective protection of surface and groundwater resources.

WPAB commits to identify and address systemic racism within our Board's structures and to dismantle and seek change to overcome such influence in the future. We recognize such work is constant and ongoing, and that it must be a priority if the WPAB is to adequately champion diversity, equity, and inclusion to protect the surface and groundwater resources that comprise our shared drinking water supply for every community.

WPAB is committed to continuing our work of examining threats to water quality; reviewing reports and studies regarding remediation of existing contamination which may impact water quality; and providing guidance, advice and advocacy for the continued protection of our surface and groundwater, while fostering diversity, equity, and inclusion in our work. Toward that end, we encourage our constituent agencies, when making appointments to WPAB, to consider candidates who not only possess the requisite expertise to provide sound advice about threats to our water supply, but who are representative of the cultural diversity of our community.