



Julia Maccini, *Chair*
Roberto Roibal, *Vice-Chair*
Camilla Feibelman
Steve Glass
Darrell Kundargi

Alejandría Lyons
John Pietz
Caroline Scruggs
Joel Wooldridge

October 9, 2020

Location: Video conference¹

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

¹ Meeting was held via video conference in response to Governor Michelle Lujan Grisham's declaration of a public health emergency and ban on gatherings of more than five people.

Board Members Present: Chair Julia Maccini, Vice-Chair Roberto Roibal, Camilla Feibelman, Steve Glass, Darrell Kundargi, Alejandría Lyons, John Pietz, and Joel Wooldridge

Board Members Absent (excused): Caroline Scruggs

PIC Members Present: Diane Agnew, Kali Bronson, Shellie Eaton, Mo Hobbs, Mark Kelly, Dan McGregor, Kate Mendoza, Danielle Shuryn, Kathy Verhage, and Ken Ziegler

Guests: Elizabeth Anderson (Albuquerque Bernalillo County Water Utility Authority), Claire Jordy (University of New Mexico), Mayor Tim Keller (City of Albuquerque), Helen Maestas (Mayor's Office), Sofia Jenkins-Nieto (University of New Mexico), Stephanie Stringer (New Mexico Environment Department)

I. Call to Order

Chair Ms. Julia Maccini called the meeting to order at 9:04 a.m.

II. Approval of Agenda (9:00 – 9:05)

Chair Maccini requested a motion to approve the agenda. Vice-Chair Roberto Roibal moved to approve the agenda and Mr. Steve Glass seconded. Motion to approve the agenda carried unanimously.

III. Review and Approval of June 21, 2020 Meeting Minutes (9:05 – 9:10)

Chair Maccini asked if there were any edits to the September meeting minutes. Chair Maccini requested a single vocabulary edit and the meeting minutes were revised to reflect the requested change. Chair Maccini requested a motion to approve the meeting minutes as amended. Mr. Glass moved to approve the meeting minutes and Vice-Chair Roibal seconded the motion. Motion to approve the meeting minutes carried unanimously.

IV. Board Business (9:10 – 9:45)

a. PIC Agency Updates

Policy Implementation Committee member Ms. Kathy Verhage, with the City of Albuquerque (City), informed board members that on August 18, 2020, there was a diesel fuel spill from a truck following a minor traffic accident near Central Avenue and Locust Street in Albuquerque. Ms. Verhage explained that the City is working with Diesel Direct West, the company that owns the truck, to clean up the spill. Ms. Verhage told board members that diesel entered the City's storm drain system and that the City has kept contaminants contained mainly within storm drain system sumps and a stormwater detention pond. Ms. Verhage said the City does not anticipate impacts to groundwater or surface water as a result of the spill.

City PIC member Mr. Ken Ziegler informed board members that the City has contracts to install five groundwater monitoring wells at the Rail Yards contamination site. Mr. Ziegler explained that the additional groundwater monitoring wells will assist with contaminant plume delineation in groundwater, and that two wells will be installed upstream of the groundwater gradient at the Rail Yards contamination site and three will be placed downstream. Mr. Ziegler talked about the benefits of the City's Hydrasleeve™ sampling efforts and how this new sampling technology requires considerably less time than traditional sampling methods.

Chair Maccini asked City PIC members about the construction timeline for a joint Albuquerque Metropolitan Arroyo Flood Control Authority (AMAFCA) and City stormwater pump station to be located near Arno Street and Marble Avenue. City PIC member Ms. Shellie Eaton reported that construction began on October 5, 2020, with an expected completion date of December 8, 2021. Ms. Eaton informed board members that the project includes a new stormwater detention pond and pump station, which will replace the pump station at Broadway Boulevard and Lomas Boulevard. Ms. Eaton also told board members that a draft version of the Fiscal Year (FY) 2020 Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4) Permit Annual Report for the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System Stormwater General Permit for MS4s in the Middle Rio Grande Watershed in New Mexico (MS4 General Permit) has been posted on the City's website and is available for public comment.

PIC member Mr. Dan McGregor with Bernalillo County (County) informed board members that the draft FY 2020 MS4 Permit Annual Report is also available for public comment on the County website.

Mr. McGregor informed board members that the County is revising its wastewater ordinance to address alternative systems like holding tanks and long-term portable toilets. Mr. McGregor told board members that the County is looking into how to handle variances for septic drain fields that are in floodplains and that the County is clarifying the process with AMAFCA. Mr. McGregor said the County and the Albuquerque Bernalillo County Water Utility Authority (Water Authority) are working together to assess financial costs incurred by residents with a septic system failure. Mr. McGregor explained that owners of septic systems within 200 feet of a sewer collector line are responsible for engineering fees and construction costs to connect to the sewer collector line, as well as the installation cost

for a sewer service lateral line. Mr. McGregor explained the County is considering a rule to allow replacement wastewater systems in lieu of sewer connections for properties where sewer connection costs exceed a predetermined cap. Water Authority Chief Planning Officer Ms. Elizabeth Anderson informed board members that the Water Authority is working to extend sewer access to as many people as possible, and is also concerned about the financial costs to customers. Chair Maccini asked about the status of the unpermitted septic system campaign, and Mr. McGregor explained that the County's goal is to resolve 250 cases of unpermitted and/or aging septic systems by the end of 2020.

Mr. McGregor informed board members about potential surface water and groundwater contamination resulting from firefighting efforts during the September 25, 2020 fire at the Friedman Recycling facility. Mr. McGregor explained that Bernalillo County Fire Department (BCFD), Albuquerque Fire Rescue and Kirtland Air Force Base (KAFB) responded to the scene, and that the firefighting foams brought by KAFB at BCFD request may have contained per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS). Mr. McGregor stated that the New Mexico Environment Department (NMED) will request sampling to investigate potential groundwater contamination. Mr. McGregor explained that under the MS4 General Permit, firefighting-generated runoff is not classified as an illicit discharge. Mr. McGregor informed board members that runoff from firefighting activities entered Bernalillo County storm drains and was discharged into the County's Griegos stormwater detention pond. Mr. McGregor told board members that the discharge was largely contained, but that some flow escaped to agricultural drains. The Middle Rio Grande Conservancy District was notified and the County continued to block flow from the stormwater detention pond to the agricultural drain. Mr. McGregor informed board members that there will likely be sediment removal at the Griegos stormwater detention pond to remove contaminated sediments.

Mayor Tim Keller joined the meeting to thank board members for their work on the Water Protection Advisory Board and their continued work throughout the COVID-19 pandemic.

b. WPAB To'hajiilee Subcommittee Report and Letter Finalization

Chair Maccini requested a motion to accept an update from the To'hajiilee Letter subcommittee. Mr. Glass moved to accept the update, and Ms. Camilla Feibelman seconded. Motion to accept an update from the To'hajiilee Letter subcommittee carried unanimously. Board members reviewed and revised a draft letter of support for the proposed water supply pipeline to the Village of To'hajiilee, and after a discussion of communication issues added a request to the letter for regular updates from the County on the To'hajiilee situation.

Board members talked about how to help address the Village's water crisis and a discussion ensued about what issues fall within the board's mission and purview. Chair Maccini said that letters drafted by the board in the past have had a positive impact and requested that a training on the board's mission and a review of past board actions be added to the January 2021 meeting. Chair Maccini also stated that she would like the board to develop a protocol for handling unruly participants in the public comment section of future meetings.

Chair Maccini requested a motion to approve the board letter of support for the proposed water supply pipeline to the Village of To'hajiilee, as revised by the board. Mr. John Pietz moved to approve the revised letter and Mr. Joel Wooldridge seconded. Motion to approve

the board letter of support for the proposed water supply pipeline to the Village of To'hajilee, as revised, carried unanimously.

c. WPAB Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Subcommittee Report

Chair Maccini requested a motion to accept the update from Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Subcommittee. Mr. Glass moved to accept the update, and Vice-Chair Roibal seconded. Motion to accept an update from the Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Subcommittee carried unanimously. Chair Maccini told board members that the subcommittee is still drafting a statement of diversity, equity inclusion and a set of questions for the board to consider during presentations to ensure attention to environmental justice and equality issues.

V. Presentation: Water Authority Update – Kirtland Air Force Base, Bulk Fuels Facility (9:45 – 10:15)

Water Authority Environmental Manager Ms. Diane Agnew presented an update on the Kirtland Air Force Base (KAFB) Bulk Fuels Facility (BFF) remediation site. The presentation provided a technical overview of the KAFB BFF site, a discussion of the Water Authority's role at the site, and a review of outstanding technical questions and data gaps at the site. The presentation is available via the Water Authority's Legistar portal.

Board members and Ms. Agnew discussed the modeling and studies the Air Force has completed to characterize and determine the extent of contamination at the site. Board members stated that cleaning up the source area is of utmost importance to address site contamination. Additionally, board members discussed the fact that groundwater level rise remains a large data gap in contaminant plume delineation at the site, which could cause problems in identifying appropriate remediation technologies during the Corrective Measures Evaluation process. Board members also discussed the long-term cost feasibility of contaminant removal compared to current pump-and-treat methods.

VI. Presentation: New Mexico Environment Department Update – Kirtland Air Force Base, Bulk Fuels Facility (10:15 – 10:45)

Ms. Stephanie Stringer, Resource Protection Division Director at NMED, provided an overview of NMED regulatory authority, including funding, staff resources, regulations, and permitting for the KAFB BFF remediation site. The presentation is available via the Water Authority's Legistar portal.

VII. Other Board Business (10:45 – 10:50)

Following the presentations, board members discussed several challenges at the KAFB BFF site including limitations on information available to the public, limited opportunities for stakeholder involvement, the failure of the NMED and KAFB to hold a technical working group for the past two years, and outstanding data gaps at the site. Board members discussed drafting a letter to NMED and the U.S. Air Force to urge progress in addressing these areas of concern.

Chair Maccini requested a motion to approve formation of a subcommittee to draft such a letter to the NMED and U.S. Air Force. Mr. Glass moved to approve the subcommittee and

Vice-Chair Roibal seconded. Motion to approve a subcommittee to draft a letter to the NMED and U.S. Air Force carried unanimously.

VIII. Public Comment Period (10:50 – 11:00)

None.

IX. Adjourn

Chair Maccini moved to adjourn the meeting. Meeting adjourned at 11:08 a.m.