

ELAINE HOWE, CHAIR
 BART FARIS, VICE CHAIR
 JOSÉ CERRATO

DARRELL KUNDARGI
 PAUL VAN GULICK
 JONATHAN GONZALES

CHRIS WELCH
 KATHERINE TARA

MARCH 14, 2025

Location: Virtual via Microsoft Teams

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

Board Members Present: Bart Faris (Vice-Chair), Paul van Gulick, Darrell Kundargi, Rin Tara, Dr. José Cerrato,

Board Members Absent: Elaine Howe (excused), Chris Welch (excused), Jonathan Gonzales (excused)

PIC Members Present: Kelsey Bicknell (*Water Authority*), Rowan Hannan (*Water Authority*), Diane Agnew (*Water Authority*), Corbin Carsrud (*Bernalillo County*), Danielle Shuryn (*Water Authority*), Dan McGregor (*Bernalillo County*), Jeff Pompeo (*Water Authority*), Kali Bronson (*Bernalillo County*), Patrick Chavez (*Albuquerque Metropolitan Arroyo Flood Control Authority [AMAFCA]*), Dr. Sheldon Jordan (*City of Albuquerque*)

Guests Present: Francesca Shirley (*Water Authority*), John Kay (*Sandia National Labs*), Jesus Dezbah (*Sandia National Labs*), Robert Mullin (*Bernalillo County*), Mark Kelly (*Water Authority*), Steve Glass (*Ciudad Soil & Water Conservation District*), Kyle O'Malley (*City of Albuquerque*), Kimberly Beisner (*United States Geological Survey*)

Call to Order

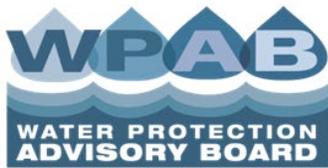
Vice Chair Faris called the meeting to order at 9:07 AM when quorum was established.

I. Approval of Agenda

A. March 14, 2025 Agenda

Mr. van Gulick moved to approve the [March agenda](#); Mr. Kundargi seconded the motion.

Board Member	Vote on Motion
Chair Howe	Absent (excused)
Vice-Chair Faris	Yes
Darrell Kundargi	Yes
Chris Welch	Absent (excused)
Jonathan Gonzales	Absent (excused)
José Cerrato	Yes
Paul van Gulick	Yes
Rin Tara	Yes



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II. Review and Approval of Meeting Minutes

A. February 14, 2025 Meeting Minutes

Mr. van Gulick moved to approve the [February minutes](#); Mr. Kundargi seconded the motion.

Board Member	Vote on Motion
Chair Howe	Absent (excused)
Vice-Chair Faris	Yes
Darrell Kundargi	Yes
Chris Welch	Absent (excused)
Jonathan Gonzales	Absent (excused)
José Cerrato	Yes
Paul van Gulick	Yes
Rin Tara	Yes

III. Policy Implementation Committee Updates

Written updates from Policy Implementation Committee (PIC) agencies were provided to Board members prior to the meeting and can be viewed [\[HERE\]](#).

IV. Board Business

A. Approval: Letter to Federal Delegation Regarding the Kirtland Air Force Base Bulk Fuels Facility Jet Fuel Leak

The Board reviewed the draft letter to federal representatives advocating for an accelerated cleanup of the Kirtland Air Force Base Bulk Fuels Facility jet fuel leak. After discussion and final revisions, the Board approved the letter.

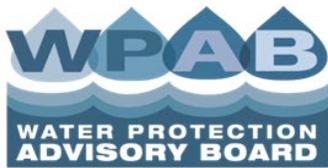
MOTION:

Mx. Tara moved to send [the letter as amended](#) to Representative Melanie Stansbury, Representative Gabe Vasquez, Senator Ben Ray Luján, & Senator Martin Heinrich; Dr. Cerrato seconded the motion.

VOTE:

The motion **passed**.

Board Member	Vote on Motion
Chair Howe	Absent (excused)
Vice-Chair Faris	Yes
Darrell Kundargi	Yes
Chris Welch	Absent (excused)



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Jonathan Gonzales	Absent (excused)
José Cerrato	Yes
Paul van Gulick	Yes
Rin Tara	Yes

i. OpEd from Board Chair

Ms. Bicknell informed the Board that Chair Howe is drafting an op-ed to reinforce the points made in the approved letter to federal representatives. Chair Howe will also present on behalf of the WPAB to the Water Authority’s Governing Board at its April meeting.

Questions & Discussion:

Mr. van Gulick requested Board members be notified when the op-ed is published.

Vice-Chair Faris asked whether the op-ed would be issued by the Water Authority.

Ms. Bicknell clarified that the Water Authority’s Public Information Officer (PIO) will submit the op-ed on behalf of Chair Howe, not as a Water Authority statement or press release.

B. Approval: 2024 Annual Report & Transmittal Letter

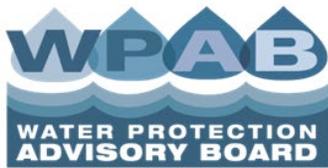
MOTION:

Mr. Kundargi moved to approve [the 2024 Annual Report & Transmittal Letter](#); Dr. Cerrato seconded the motion.

VOTE:

The motion **passed**.

Board Member	Vote on Motion
Chair Howe	Absent (excused)
Vice-Chair Faris	Yes
Darrell Kundargi	Yes
Chris Welch	Absent (excused)
Jonathan Gonzales	Absent (excused)
José Cerrato	Yes
Paul van Gulick	Yes
Rin Tara	Abstained



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V. Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Subcommittee Report

Mr. Kundargi reported that the DEI Subcommittee recommends that the Board consider how DEI principles could be embedded into Board processes moving forward.

Mr. Kundargi encouraged Board members to review the WPAB DEI statement before the next meeting as a foundation for further discussion. He offered to facilitate a structured conversation at the next meeting on integrating DEI into the Board's work.

Questions & Discussion:

Mr. van Gulick stated that maintaining a subcommittee while also integrating DEI into the Board's broader work is not an either/or decision and recommended dedicated discussion time at the next meeting. Vice-Chair Faris agreed, suggesting an agenda item to determine the future role of the subcommittee and potential Board actions.

VI. Presentation: Assessment of Per- & Polyfluoroalkyl Substances in Water Resources of New Mexico

*Kimberly Beisner, Research Hydrologist
United States Geological Survey (USGS)
kbeisner@usgs.gov*

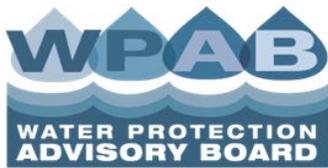
Ms. Beisner provided an overview of USGS research on PFAS in New Mexico's water resources, with a focus on the Rio Grande as it flows through Albuquerque. Slides from her presentation can be viewed [HERE](#).

VII. Presentation: PIC Agency PFAS Updates

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

Ms. Shuryn provided an overview of the current regulations for PFAS in drinking water and provided an update on the Water Authority's ongoing PFAS monitoring in drinking water and wastewater. Slides from her presentation can be viewed [HERE](#).

*Patrick Chavez, Stormwater Quality Engineer
AMAFCA
pchavez@amafca.org*



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Mr. Chavez provided an overview of AMAFCA's PFAS monitoring efforts in stormwater, discussing recent sampling results, methodology, and regulatory considerations.

*(written) Shellie Eaton, Principal Engineer
City of Albuquerque - Environmental Health
Department
seaton@cabq.gov*

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

Ms. Eaton & Ms. Bronson provided written updates on their respective agencies' PFAS-related activities and monitoring. Their statements are included in this meeting's [PIC Updates](#).

VIII. Other Board Business

A. Next WPAB Meeting – May 9, 2025 @ 9:00 AM

IX. Public Comment Period

There were no comments from the public.

X. Adjourned at 11:06 AM