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 STEVE GLASS, VICE CHAIR  
 JOSÉ CERRATO

DARRELL KUNDARGI  
 CAMILLA FEIBELMAN  
 PAUL VAN GULICK

JONATHAN GONZALES  
 ELAINE HOWE  
 CHRIS WELCH

**November 8<sup>th</sup>, 2024**

**Location:** Via Teams video conference

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

**Board Members Present:** Steve Glass (Vice-Chair), Camilla Feibelman, José Cerrato, Elaine Howe, Jonathan Gonzales, Paul van Gulick

**Board Members Absent:** Bart Faris (Chair, excused), Darrell Kundargi (excused), Chris Welch (excused)

**PIC Members Present:** Kelsey Bicknell (*Water Authority*), Rowan Hannan (*Water Authority*), Diane Agnew (*Water Authority*), Jeff Pompeo (*Water Authority*), Kali Bronson (*Bernalillo County*), Corbin Carsrud (*Bernalillo County*), Dan McGregor (*Bernalillo County*), Shellie Eaton (*City of Albuquerque*), Patrick Chavez (*Albuquerque Metropolitan Arroyo Flood Control Authority*)

**Guests Present:** Daniel Willard (*United States Department of Defense [DOD]*), Mark Kelly (*Water Authority*), JD Nance (*New Mexico Environment Department*), Ryan Wortman (*Air Force Civil Engineer Center [AFCEC]*), Sheen T. Kottkamp (*AFCEC*), Tracie Vaught (*AEGISS Inc*), Mary Wommack (*New Mexico District 10 Legislative Aide*), Kaila Hood (*Congresswoman Stansbury Staff*)

**Call to Order**

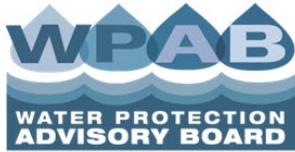
Vice-Chair Glass called the meeting to order at 9:04 AM when quorum was established.

**I. Approval of Agenda**

A. November 8<sup>th</sup>, 2024, Agenda

Ms. Howe moved to approve the agenda; Dr. Cerrato seconded the motion.

Board Member	Vote on Motion
Chair Bart Faris	Absent (excused)
Vice-Chair Steve Glass	Yes
Darrell Kundargi	Absent (excused)
Camilla Feibelman	Yes
José Cerrato	Yes
Jonathan Gonzalez	Yes
Elaine Howe	Yes
Chris Welch	Absent (excused)
Paul van Gulick	Yes



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## II. Review and Approval of Meeting Minutes

### A. October 11<sup>th</sup>, 2024 Meeting Minutes

Ms. Feibelman moved to approve the October meeting minutes; Vice-Chair Glass seconded the motion.

Board Member	Vote on Motion
Chair Bart Faris	Absent (excused)
Vice-Chair Steve Glass	Yes
Darrell Kundargi	Absent (excused)
Camilla Feibelman	Yes
José Cerrato	Yes
Jonathan Gonzalez	Yes
Elaine Howe	Abstained
Chris Welch	Absent (excused)
Paul van Gulick	Abstained

## III. Board Business

### A. Welcome new board member, Paul van Gulick

The Board welcomed its new member, Mr. Paul van Gulick. A retired professional engineer and surveyor, Mr. van Gulick brings extensive experience in civil engineering, hydrology, and floodplain modeling, along with prior service as executive director of the Eastern New Mexico Rural Water Authority.

## IV. Policy Implementation Committee (PIC) Updates

### *City of Albuquerque, Environmental Health – Scheduled Update*

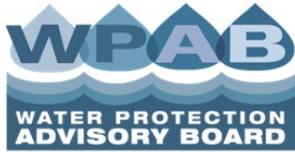
There were no staff from the Environmental Health Department present to provide an update.

### *City of Albuquerque, Engineering Division – Update from Shellie Eaton, Senior Engineer*

- **MS4 Annual Report:** Ms. Eaton reported that the City is still accepting comments on its Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4) Annual Report until November 15, 2024. The report is available for review on [the City's website](#).

### *Albuquerque Metropolitan Arroyo Flood Control Authority (AMAFCA) – Update from Patrick Chavez*

- **Technical Standards Manual:** On November 1, AMAFCA issued its [updated Technical Standards Manual](#), which provides policies, standard practices, criteria, guidance, and references for use in carrying out drainage designs, studies, and analysis. Mr. Chavez said this edition includes a new requirement for floatables management for stormwater discharges to AMAFCA facilities.
- **Downtown Albuquerque News Article:** AMAFCA contributed to a Downtown Albuquerque News article on stormwater quality last month and recently participated in a follow-up piece. Mr.



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Chavez shared that AMAFCA personnel demonstrated their E. coli sampling process at the Angostura Diversion Dam to the reporter and discussed the challenges of meeting regulatory standards. The article is expected to be published within the next month.

### *Bernalillo County (County) – Update from Mr. Corbin Carsrud, Hydrogeologist*

- **MS4 Annual Report:** Mr. Carsrud shared that the County's MS4 Annual Report is available for public comment on the [County's website](#).
- **Tijeras Creek Watershed Restoration Project:** Construction on the Tijeras Creek Watershed Restoration Project is expected to begin in December.

#### Questions & Discussion:

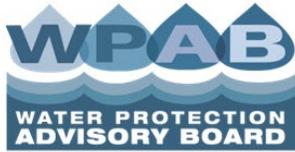
Vice-Chair Glass highlighted the partnership between Ciudad Soil & Water Conservation District (Ciudad SWCD) and the County on the Tijeras Creek Watershed Restoration Project. He also noted that Ciudad SWCD's mill levy passed on November 5, ensuring reliable income to support partnerships with Bernalillo County and other agencies.

### *Albuquerque Bernalillo County Water Utility Authority (Water Authority) – Update from Ms. Kelsey Bicknell, Environmental Manager*

- **Hewlett-Packard (HP)/Digital Site:** Ms. Bicknell reported that the Water Authority met with NMED and HP in late October to discuss the remedial design for the site. She noted that the Water Authority provided its groundwater modeling report detailing recommendations for the installation of its source water protection monitoring well, which HP expressed interest in reviewing. Tentative plans are in place to hold regular technical meetings between NMED, HP, and the Water Authority.
- **Kirtland Air Force Base (KAFB) Bulk Fuels Facility:** The Air Force will host a public meeting on the KAFB Bulk Fuels Facility site on November 21 at the New Mexico Veteran's Memorial. The meeting will include updates on ongoing remediation efforts, a poster session, and a Q&A session with subject matter experts for the site.
- **Sandia National Laboratories (SNL) and KAFB DOE/DoD Joint Public Meeting:** Ms. Bicknell reported that SNL has submitted a conceptual site model and CME report for Tijeras Area 5, with opportunity for public comment expected soon. She highlighted SNL's proactive approach to maintaining relationships with regulators by voluntarily continuing its MS4 program for stormwater discharges into the Tijeras Arroyo, even though the arroyo is no longer classified as a water of the U.S.

#### Questions and Discussion:

Ms. Howe asked which treatment methods are under consideration at the HP/Digital Site.



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Ms. Bicknell responded that the current option is an advanced oxidation process system using a skid-mounted design. She added that the extraction and injection system needed for the treatment is still under discussion.

Vice-Chair Glass asked which part of SNL discharges into the Tijeras Arroyo.

Ms. Bicknell said all of SNL's stormwater flows into the Tijeras Arroyo.

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

Vice-Chair Glass reported that Mr. Kundargi was elected as the new chair of the DEI Subcommittee. Dr. Cerrato noted that the subcommittee has not met since its last update to the Board, so there were no updates to share at this time.

### Questions & Discussion:

Ms. Feibelman suggested that subcommittee members continue to circulate Board meeting notices and topical updates to their contact lists. She emphasized that this is a simple but effective way to ensure impacted communities are informed and included in discussions.

## VI. Kirtland Air Force Base Bulk Fuels Facility Jet Fuel Leak Updates

- A. Regulatory Update – Kirtland Air Force Base Bulk Fuels Facility Corrective Action  
*John David Nance, Hazardous Waste Bureau Chief, New Mexico Environment Department,*  
[jd.nance@env.nm.gov](mailto:jd.nance@env.nm.gov)

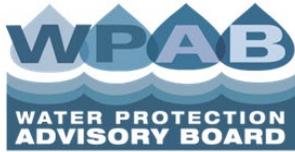
Mr. Nance provided an overview of the Site's history and the Corrective Action process as required by the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA). Mr. Nance also summarized the most recent work plans for the Site that have been submitted to NMED for review. He emphasized key goals, including fostering transparency between the Air Force and stakeholders and advancing Site cleanup as efficiently as possible.

Slides from Mr. Nance's presentation can be viewed [\[HERE\]](#).

### Questions and Discussion:

Dr. Cerrato asked for clarification on what specific changes were proposed to the operation of the groundwater treatment system.

Mr. Nance explained that the current approach focuses on containment through a pump-and-treat interim measure. Groundwater is extracted, treated, and either reinjected upgradient or used for land application on base. He explained that the Air Force's proposal to turn off the northern wells (which are currently pumping water containing no detectable EDB) and increase pumping from the southern wells closer to the EDB plume, was intended to capture more EDB. However, NMED and stakeholders raised concerns about the potential impact on plume dynamics, and the



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NMED and Air Force agreed no changes will occur until further evaluation can be completed during the Corrective Measures Evaluation phase.

Ms. Howe asked whether the current treatment method involves Granular Activated Carbon (GAC) absorption.

Mr. Nance confirmed that GAC is used as the interim treatment.

Dr. Cerrato noted that GAC absorption can capture contaminants but does not break them down, and additional treatment technologies would be necessary to address contamination effectively.

Mr. Nance confirmed that the Corrective Measures Evaluation would evaluate alternative technologies to remediate remaining groundwater and soil vapor contamination, including addressing the smear zone caused by fluctuating groundwater levels.

Mr. van Gulick inquired about how the “clean” status of the two northern wells was determined, asking whether Bennett pump data or other methods were used for evaluation.

Mr. Nance responded that the status is determined by sampling water produced by the extraction wells.

Mr. Wortman clarified that routine monitoring of influent water from the northern wells at the treatment facility has consistently shown non-detect levels of EDB for several years.

#### B. Kirtland Air Force Base (KAFB) Bulk Fuels Facility Leak Cleanup

*Ryan Wortman, Physical Scientist, Kirtland Installation Support Section, Air Force Civil Engineer Center, [ryan.wortman.3@us.af.mil](mailto:ryan.wortman.3@us.af.mil)*

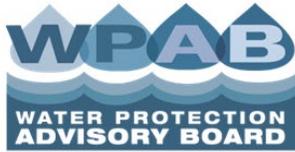
Mr. Wortman provided an update on the Air Force’s efforts at the site, including the groundwater pump-and-treat interim measure, plume delineation efforts, monitoring well network management, and next steps and goals for the Site. He outlined the current status of the project and key steps required to transition from the investigation phase to remedy evaluation. Mr. Wortman concluded by encouraging Board members to attend the November 21 public meeting on the Site.

Slides from Mr. Wortman’s presentation can be viewed [\[HERE\]](#).

#### Questions and Discussion:

Ms. Howe asked about the apparent increase in benzene concentrations in the plume since 2016, whether absorption into sediments contributes to benzene remaining trapped in the area, and if changes to extraction well pumping could cause benzene to move.

Mr. Wortman explained that while benzene concentrations have increased, the plume's overall shape remains stable. He explained that the increased benzene concentrations are likely related to the rise in the groundwater table – when that groundwater contacts residual fuel in the soil, it



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creates a smear zone. He noted that the flat groundwater gradient and benzene's slower movement compared to EDB contribute to the plume's stability, alongside the natural breakdown of hydrocarbons. Regarding pumping adjustments, Mr. Wortman stated that any changes have been deferred until the investigation phase is complete. He added that while their modeling indicates benzene would be captured by extraction wells and treated via GAC absorption, current pumping rates will be maintained until the Corrective Measures Evaluation.

Ms. Feibelman, referencing the Groundwater Treatment System Open House in July, asked whether proposed changes to pumping were discussed with the public and sought clarification on the reasoning for deferring adjustments.

Mr. Wortman explained that the proposed adjustments to reduce pumping from two northern wells were based on their long-term non-detect status for EDB and the system's ability to meet MCL standards through modeling. However, concerns raised by NMED and the Water Authority about evaluation criteria and plume containment led to deferral of these changes until the corrective measures phase.

Ms. Feibelman asked Ms. Bicknell to elaborate on the Water Authority's reasoning for maintaining current pumping.

Ms. Bicknell deferred the question to her upcoming presentation, offering to revisit it if needed afterward.

### C. Project Update: Bulk Fuels Facility Jet Fuel Leak

*Kelsey Bicknell, Environmental Manager, Water Authority, kbicknell@abcwua.org*

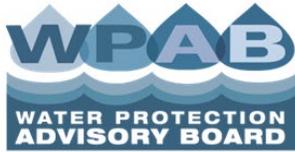
Ms. Bicknell provided an update on the Water Authority's review of the Site, noting the critical importance of remediating impacted groundwater and protecting source water from contamination. Ms. Bicknell explained the Water Authority's response to the Site, advocated for immediate active source area treatment using reliable technologies such as soil vapor extraction (SVE), and explained the importance of the interim pump and treat measure to protecting drinking water supply wells. She also emphasized the importance of involving the Water Authority in technical discussions and decision-making with the Air Force and NMED.

Slides from Ms. Bicknell's presentation can be viewed [\[HERE\]](#).

#### Questions & Discussion:

Ms. Howe asked for clarification that the Water Authority is advocating for soil vapor extraction (SVE) as a treatment option.

Ms. Bicknell explained that the Water Authority advocates reintroducing SVE immediately as an interim measure to address source area contamination. She noted that SVE was previously



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successful at the Site and would address the mass of fuel in the ground, ultimately preventing further contamination of groundwater.

Ms. Howe suggested that monitoring for EDB contamination should aim for concentrations below the Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL) to allow for earlier detection and proactive response.

Ms. Bicknell agreed, emphasizing that the Water Authority evaluates all detections of EDB, including those flagged as present but below the quantifiable reporting limit.

Vice-Chair Glass requested clarification on the whether the detection limit was lower than the MCL for EDB.

Ms. Bicknell explained that the typical detection limit for EDB is 0.019 µg/L, while the MCL is 0.05 µg/L.

Mr. Wortman added that the laboratory method (EPA Method 8011) is capable of detecting EDB concentrations below the MCL.

Mr. van Gulick asked whether the Water Authority's request for involvement in technical discussions and decision-making is being addressed. He also asked Mr. Nance whether involving the Water Authority in technical discussions aligns with NMED's operating procedures.

Ms. Bicknell explained that while there has been some effort, particularly by Mr. Nance, the Water Authority has not been consistently included in technical meetings or decision-making processes.

Mr. Nance shared his perspective, drawing from his consulting background, that including stakeholders in technical meetings can improve transparency and expedite corrective actions. He mentioned ongoing efforts to make the process more inclusive by inviting the Water Authority to relevant meetings, including monthly updates and technical working groups. He emphasized the value of stakeholder perspectives in driving effective corrective actions.

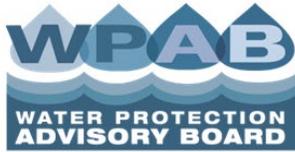
Mr. van Gulick followed up by asking about the prospects for a dedicated NMED staff member to support the project.

Mr. Nance responded that NMED is actively hiring and has made an offer to a candidate who would support the Site. He also mentioned plans to reassign internal staff to focus more on KAFB. He noted that the Water Authority's recommendation for dedicated staffing has reinforced his efforts to prioritize this with upper management.

## VI. Other Board Business

### A. Discussion: Move in-person Meeting from January 10<sup>th</sup> to January 3<sup>rd</sup>

The Board discussed rescheduling the next meeting from January 10 to January 3. Ms. Bicknell noted that the meeting will be held in person at the Water Authority's Customer Service Building and



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highlighted its significance as Vice-Chair Glass's final meeting, as his term is ending. No objections to the new date were raised, and Ms. Bicknell will send out a revised invitation with details.

## VII. Public Comment Period

There were no comments from the public.

## VIII. Adjourned at 10:20 AM