

ELAINE HOWE, CHAIR
BART FARIS, VICE
CHAIR
JOSÉ CERRATO

DARRELL KUNDARGI
PAUL VAN GULICK
JONATHAN GONZALES

CHRIS WELCH
KATHERINE TARA

MAY 9, 2025

Location: Virtual via Microsoft Teams

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

Board Members Present: Elaine Howe (Chair), Bart Faris (Vice-Chair), Paul van Gulick, Chris Welch, Dr. José Cerrato, Darrell Kundargi

Board Members Absent: Rin Tara (excused), Jonathan Gonzales (absent)

PIC Members Present: Kelsey Bicknell (*Water Authority*), Rowan Hannan (*Water Authority*), Diane Agnew (*Water Authority*), Dan McGregor (*Bernalillo County*), Kali Bronson (*Bernalillo County*), Shellie Eaton (*City of Albuquerque*), Jeff Pompeo (*Water Authority*), Dr. Sheldon Jordan (*City of Albuquerque*), Danielle Shuryn (*Water Authority*), Curtis Cherne (*City of Albuquerque*), Kyle O'Malley (*City of Albuquerque*)

Guests Present: Mark Kelly (*Water Authority*), Steve Glass (*Ciudad Soil & Water Conservation District*)

Call to Order

Chair Howe called the meeting to order at 9:05 AM when quorum was established.

I. Approval of Agenda

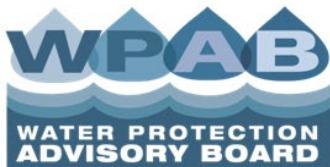
A. May 9th, 2025, Agenda

Vice-Chair Faris moved to approve the May agenda; Mr. van Gulick seconded the motion.

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

II. Review and Approval of Meeting Minutes

A. March 14th, 2025 Meeting Minutes



ELAINE HOWE, CHAIR
BART FARIS, VICE
CHAIR
JOSÉ CERRATO

DARRELL KUNDARGI
PAUL VAN GULICK
JONATHAN GONZALES

CHRIS WELCH
KATHERINE TARA

Vice-Chair Faris moved to approve the [March minutes as amended](#); Mr. van Gulick seconded the motion.

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

III. Policy Implementation Committee Updates

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

Ms. Bicknell provided updates on Water Authority engagement with the Kirtland Air Force Base Bulk Fuels Facility jet fuel leak, and the Hewlett-Packard (HP)/Digital contamination sites.

City of Albuquerque, Environmental Health Department – Update from Ms. Shellie Eaton, Principal Engineer

Ms. Eaton provided updates on the status of annual groundwater sampling at City landfills, the status of the new City appointee to the WPAB, and on the extended public comment period for the draft 2026 Multi-Sector General Permit (MSGP).

City of Albuquerque, Department of Municipal Development, Storm Water Management – Update from Mr. Curtis Cherne

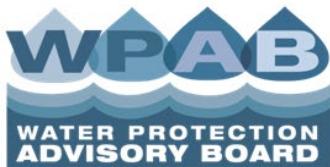
Mr. Cherne introduced himself and several team members to the Board, noting his recent appointment to the role, and reported that routine stormwater inspections are ongoing.

Bernalillo County (County) – Update from Ms. Kali Bronson, Stormwater Compliance Program Lead

Ms. Bronson provided updates on County initiatives, including the development of a revegetation specification and an outreach campaign targeting properties that currently lack permitted septic systems.

IV. Board Business

A. Discussion: Quarterly In-person Meetings



ELAINE HOWE, CHAIR
BART FARIS, VICE
CHAIR
JOSÉ CERRATO

DARRELL KUNDARGI
PAUL VAN GULICK
JONATHAN GONZALES

CHRIS WELCH
KATHERINE TARA

MOTION:

Chair Howe moved to implement quarterly in-person Board meetings, while maintaining the monthly virtual meeting schedule; Mr. Kundargi seconded the motion.

DISCUSSION:

The Board clarified the frequency of in-person meetings will be quarterly, with all other scheduled meetings continuing to be held virtually.

VOTE:

The motion **passed**.

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

B. Update: WPAB letter to New Mexico Congressional Delegation regarding the Bulk Fuels Facility jet fuel leak

Ms. Bicknell reported that in response to the letter sent by WPAB, the full New Mexico Congressional Delegation issued a joint letter to the Air Force echoing the Board's concerns.

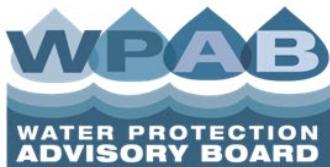
Ms. Bicknell also informed the Board that an opinion editorial by Chair Howe had been published in the *Albuquerque Journal*.

DISCUSSION:

The Board discussed the likelihood of an Air Force response to the Delegation letter.

V. Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Subcommittee Report

Mr. Kundargi shared the Subcommittee's recommendation to schedule diversity, equity and, inclusion training for the Board. The Subcommittee also recommended that the training become an annual component of the Board's work plan.



ELAINE HOWE, CHAIR	DARRELL KUNDARGI	CHRIS WELCH
BART FARIS, VICE CHAIR	PAUL VAN GULICK	KATHERINE TARA
JOSÉ CERRATO	JONATHAN GONZALES	

Ms. Bicknell has reached out to the City's Office of Equity and Inclusion to schedule a presentation for the August meeting.

VI. Presentation: Middle Rio Grande MS4 Stormwater Team Update

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

Ms. Bronson provided an overview of Bernalillo County's stormwater program, with a focus on the County's MS4 permit, regional coordination under the Middle Rio Grande watershed-based permit, and County-led efforts to improve stormwater quality.

Slides from her presentation can be viewed [HERE](#).

DISCUSSION:

The Board engaged in follow-up discussion with Ms. Bronson regarding sampling methodology, stormwater infrastructure, permitting, and compliance.

VII. Other Board Business

A. Next WPAB Meeting – June 13th, 2025 – In-person/hybrid

June's upcoming WPAB meeting will be held in-person at the Water Authority's Customer Service Building, located at 1441 Mission Ave. NE, Albuquerque. Ms. Bicknell noted that a map would be included with the updated calendar invitation and advised members to park in the customer service lot to enter through the main entrance. Only WPAB board members will attend in person; PIC members and presenters will be joining the meeting virtually via a Teams link.

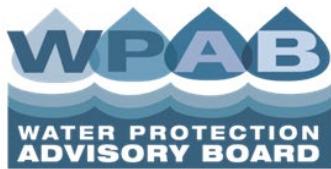
i. Topic: NMED Legislative Update and Carlisle Village Cleaners Update

B. Chair Howe presentation to Water Authority Governing Board

Chair Howe reported on her presentation to the Water Authority Governing Board at their April 23rd, 2025 meeting, where she summarized WPAB's work plan for 2025 and its concerns with cleanup of the Bulk Fuels Facility jet fuel leak. Her presentation highlighted two key recommendations: that the Water Authority continue to insist on robust technical collaboration with the Air Force, and that it develop a contingency plan in case a production well must be taken offline due to contamination.

VIII. Public Comment Period

There were no comments from the public.



ELAINE HOWE, CHAIR
BART FARIS, VICE
CHAIR
JOSÉ CERRATO

DARRELL KUNDARGI
PAUL VAN GULICK
JONATHAN GONZALES

CHRIS WELCH
KATHERINE TARA

IX. Adjourned at 10:50 AM