

1 ALBUQUERQUE BERNALILLO COUNTY
2 WATER UTILITY AUTHORITY
3 Wednesday, August 17, 2016 5:09 p.m.

4 ALBUQUERQUE BERNALILLO COUNTY GOVERNMENT CENTER
5 ONE CIVIC PLAZA, NW
6 ALBUQUERQUE, NM 87102

7 Before: Paul Baca
8 PAUL BACA PROFESSIONAL COURT REPORTERS
9 500 Fourth Street, NW, Suite 105
10 Albuquerque, New Mexico 87102

11 A P P E A R A N C E S

12
13 COUNCILOR TRUDY JONES, Chair
14 COMMISSIONER ART DE LA CRUZ, Vice Chair
15 COUNCILOR PAT DAVIS, Member
16 COMMISSIONER MAGGIE HART STEBBINS, Member
17 COMMISSIONER DEBBIE O'MALLEY, Member
18 COUNCILOR KEN SANCHEZ, Member
19 MAYOR RICHARD J. BERRY, Member (Excused)
20 TRUSTEE PABLO RAEL, Ex-Officio Member
21 MR. ROB PERRY, Admin. Officer, Alternate Member
22 (Excused)

23
24
25

**PAUL BACA PROFESSIONAL COURT REPORTERS
500 FOURTH STREET NW - SUITE 105, ALBUQUERQUE, NM 87102**

1 CHAIRWOMAN JONES: All right. Let's call
2 the meeting to order. It looks like we have a
3 quorum. I will call this August 17, 2016 meeting of
4 the Albuquerque Bernalillo County Water Utility
5 Authority to order.

6 Let the record reflect that Chief
7 Administrative Officer Rob Perry is excused and all
8 other members are present.

9 Let's start with a moment of silence and
10 the Pledge of Allegiance led by the Village of Los
11 Ranchos Trustee Pablo Rael.

12 (Whereupon there was a moment of silence.)

13 (Whereupon the Pledge of Allegiance was
14 led by Pablo Rael.)

15 CHAIRWOMAN JONES: Thank you all for being
16 here this evening. It's nice to see such a large
17 crowd. We are going to do proclamations and awards,
18 but first let me make an announcement, and that is
19 that R-16-9 has been withdrawn from the agenda. And
20 as soon as we are finished with the proclamations I
21 think we have one person who would like to come and
22 discuss that.

23 First let's start with proclamations and
24 awards. And the approval of the minutes, I make a
25 motion to approve the June 22, 2016 minutes.

1 VICE CHARIMAN DE LA CRUZ: Second.

2 CHAIRWOMAN JONES: There is a motion and a
3 second. All those in favor say yes.

4 ALL MEMBERS: Yes.

5 CHAIRWOMAN JONES: Opposed?

6 Motion carries.

7 (6/0 Vote. Agenda Item 3 approved.)

8 CHAIRWOMAN JONES: When we call your name
9 and announce what your award is, would you please
10 come down to the front and then when we are finished
11 with everyone we would love to have you come by and
12 let us shake your hands and thank you for the work
13 that you have done for the City of Albuquerque and
14 the County of Bernalillo and all of the customers of
15 the Albuquerque Bernalillo County Water Utility
16 Authority.

17 The first recipient is Richard Costales.

18 Can you come forward, please. And please
19 forgive me when I mispronounce your name, it is
20 certainly unintentional.

21 Richard is recognized for innovative
22 thinking that saved time and money during the
23 construction of the new Ammonium Sulfate Building at
24 the Surface Water Plant.

25 Richard will receive \$200.

1 Julie Garcia. Julie will receive \$175 and
2 eight hours paid leave. Julie is recognized for
3 efforts to ensure a smooth open enrollment process
4 for all employees, including development of a new
5 mechanism for enrollment in gym memberships to
6 improve the health and wellness of the employees.

7 Thank you, Julie.

8 Mario Martinez. Mario will receive \$200.
9 Mario investigated the cause of a series of power
10 outages that had been plaguing the Southside Water
11 Reclamation Plant. His efforts revealed trouble
12 with some of the PNM power lines coming into the
13 plant, and he worked with PNM to resolve the issue,
14 potentially saving the plant from a series power
15 failure and permit violations.

16 Thank you, Mario.

17 Gilbert Paris. Gilbert will receive \$100.
18 Mr. Paris is recognized for working outside of his
19 duties to create a series of detailed plan diagrams
20 improved septage hauling to the Southside Water
21 Reclamation Plant.

22 Thank you, Gilbert.

23 Travis Peacock. Travis will receive \$100.
24 Travis is recognized for learning to operate new
25 symptoms such as GIS on his own initiative and

1 undertaking tasks outside of his normal scope of
2 work, including guiding plant tours and training
3 employees in use of the Maximo work order system.

4 Thank you, Travis.

5 And then we have a team of Leonard Aragon,
6 Xavier Vasquez, Dennis Garcia and Cody Elwell. Each
7 will receive \$300 plus four hours each of leave.

8 This group performed specialized heavy
9 maintenance activities on the San Juan-Chama
10 Diversion Structure and saved time and over \$10,000
11 on the use of an outside contractor.

12 I'm sorry they couldn't be here this
13 evening but thanks to all of them.

14 Roger Gonzales. Roger will receive \$100.
15 He is recognized in the health and wellness category
16 for losing a total of 40 pounds by adopting a
17 long-term program of healthy eating and exercise.

18 Congratulations, Roger.

19 Jimmy Vigil. Jimmy will receive \$175. He
20 is recognized for his quick thinking on the evening
21 of June 14, when he responded to a security incident
22 at a remote reservoir site. By reacting quickly and
23 following the protocol for security breaches, it
24 precluded the need to drain the reservoir and waste
25 1 million gallons of water during the period of peak

1 water demand.

2 Thank you, Jimmy, from all of us.

3 David Gutierrez. David will receive \$50
4 plus eight hours of leave. David is recognized for
5 his innovation in making significant improvements to
6 Utility Development Processes upgrades which is
7 improved services to the public.

8 Thank you, David.

9 And here is another team -- group.
10 Mauricio Carreon, Miguel Leyba, Porfirio Maestas,
11 Aimee Ashton, Marlon Luna, Dennis Baldonado and
12 Marshall Sebay.

13 Each of these will receive \$200. This
14 group saved time and an estimated \$60,000 by
15 reconstructing a carousel on a primary clarifier at
16 the Southside Water Reclamation Plant instead of
17 bringing in a contractor.

18 Thank you, and congratulations to all of
19 you.

20 Here is one that I am going to just
21 massacre. Kent Degruyter, will receive \$100. Kent
22 is recognized for his innovation in the development
23 of online applications in order to streamline
24 services to customers.

25 And we thank Ken for that.

1 Debra Walz-Burkett and Priscilla Stevens.
2 They will each receive \$200. Thanks for being here
3 tonight ladies. Deborah and Priscilla are
4 recognized for taking the initiative to correct a
5 Customer Care and Billing system issue, which
6 avoided the potential for customer billing errors.

7 Congratulations and thank you.

8 Thanks to all of you. Would you please
9 come up and let us congratulate you and thank you.

10 (Applause.)

11 CHAIRWOMAN JONES: These are the people
12 that make the Albuquerque Bernalillo County Water
13 Utility Authority successful in help us serve all of
14 our customers. So one more round of applause for
15 all of them.

16 (Applause.)

17 CHAIRWOMAN JONES: Next on the agenda is
18 public comment, but I would like to start with
19 Dr. Joe Valloz, who would like to make a statement
20 about the agenda items that was withdrawn. Thank
21 you.

22 Good evening, Dr. Valloz.

23 DR. VALLOZ: Madam Chair, thank you for
24 the opportunity. Dr. Joe Valloz, 5020 Grande Vista
25 Court Northwest, Albuquerque, 87120.

1 It is nice to see old familiar faces. I
2 just want to make a simple statement on behalf as
3 president elect of the New Mexico Dental
4 Association. I just want to offer to you to work
5 cooperatively and also the Albuquerque District
6 Dental Society with this fluoridation issue in the
7 months to come. So we look forward to working with
8 you. Thank you very much.

9 CHAIRWOMAN JONES: Thank you Dr. Valloz.
10 Ms. Jenkins, how many do we have signed up
11 for public comment.

12 MRS. JENKINS: 23.

13 CHAIRWOMAN JONES: Okay. With 23 speakers
14 we will have three minutes for each. You will have
15 a warning at two and a half minutes and then if you
16 will please conclude at three minutes.

17 Mrs. Jenkins, who is our first speaker.

18 MRS. JENKINS: Alan Deme followed by Lynne
19 Anderson.

20 CHAIRWOMAN JONES: When she calls your
21 name, please come up.

22 MR. DEME: Hello. My name is Alan Deme.
23 I am a water user, not an abuser. However, looking
24 at my bill this month I was charged, in my opinion,
25 an excessive conservation charge.

1 So I contacted the folks downtown and I
2 got the runaround. I didn't get a clear explanation
3 of how the math works and I am going to call it
4 voodoo math. I finally came downtown again and I
5 picked up a piece of paper and I wondered if each
6 and every one of you who live, I suspect in the
7 City, would know how they go about figuring out your
8 water bill. And this piece of paper is so
9 convoluted I don't think any of you would be able to
10 figure it out on your own. So my plea to you is
11 would you please refine, redo the water assessment
12 and how they figure out your monthly averages, your
13 conservation charges, and how do we get rid of some
14 of these excessive rates.

15 Next, I looked at my mother's bill. She
16 no longer lives at her home, so therefore there is
17 no water use. But she has a winter average of six.
18 I am a user. I got a winter average of five. That
19 impacts my summer usage. My brother who uses a lot
20 more water than me, he gets a winter average of six.
21 What goes, why, different areas of town have
22 different settings for these averages. They seem
23 very unfair. And then if you look at the
24 calculation for those months in the winter as
25 described, I am well below what I use as an average

1 of another user.

2 So I feel I am being unfairly assessed.
3 My conservation charge, which this month is very
4 excessive why, because, I have 550 square feet of
5 grass up front which I am going to water and I will
6 continue to water because that is an investment and
7 I want it.

8 Air conditioning has been running quite a
9 bit this summer, as you all know and that is water.
10 I have trees, I have a garden and, again, I have a
11 lawn in the backyard. I am not going to stop using
12 water and I would like an explanation or a change in
13 these assessments and how you figure those averages
14 and how do we go about doing that. If someone would
15 tell me.

16 CHAIRWOMAN JONES: Thank you, sir.
17 Commissioner De La Cruz.

18 VICE CHAIRMAN DE LA CRUZ: Thank you,
19 Madam Chair. Mark, I think that this is an
20 intriguing question and I am sure that many
21 Albuquerqueans and many residential customers would
22 have similar questions. I think we need to make
23 sure that people know how to maneuver appropriately
24 that sheet that was given to this gentleman, and I
25 would like to see something on the website. I am

1 requesting a briefing on that as well.

2 MR. SANCHEZ: Okay.

3 VICE CHARIMAN DE LA CRUZ: Thank you,
4 Madam Chair.

5 CHAIRWOMAN JONES: Thank you.
6 Mrs. Jenkins.

7 MRS. JENKINS: Lynne Anderson followed by
8 David Brookshire.

9 MS. ANDERSON: Madam Chair, Commissioners
10 and Councilors, my name is Lynne Anderson and I
11 represented NAIOP, the commercial real estate
12 development association.

13 This means that I have 260 plus member
14 businesses who include architects, engineers,
15 planners, land use attorneys, water attorneys,
16 obviously contractors, across -- the financiers
17 across the whole spectrum of commercial real estate
18 and people that make commercial real estate happen
19 and obviously have a strong interest in water use
20 that interacts with the Water Authority.

21 We all know how important a sane water
22 policy it that plans for quality, sufficient
23 quantity, conservation and growth. In the opinion
24 of NAIOP, over 260 member businesses, Water 2120 is
25 just that.

1 The NAIOP Board of Directors voted
2 unanimously to support this plan, and members across
3 the chapter attended public meetings since February
4 and the town hall on July 22. Over 400 people
5 attended just the town hall. Compare that to a
6 conversation I had last year with an EPA official
7 who was bragging that 30 people attended a recent
8 storm water meeting that she had planned. Frankly,
9 the Water Authority has done an excellent job in
10 soliciting public input and incorporating that input
11 into the final study.

12 NAIOP strongly supports passage of this
13 plan recognizing its solid science and flexibility.
14 We urge your support and your vote for this plan to
15 go forward.

16 And I don't need the three minutes unless
17 there are questions. Thank you.

18 CHAIRWOMAN JONES: Thank you,
19 Ms. Anderson.

20 MRS. JENKINS: David Brookshire followed
21 by Scott Verhines.

22 MR. BROOKSHIRE: Good evening. I would
23 like to direct my comments towards the Water
24 Resources Management Strategy, which I gather we
25 will be discussing later. By way of introduction I

1 am an emeritus distinguished professor of economics
2 at UNM. My research as a water economist began at
3 the National Water Commission in 1971. I served as
4 a journal editor and recently I have been a member
5 of the Technical Consumer Advisory Committee for the
6 last four years. My terms are coming to an end, as
7 they say.

8 And I have been privileged to be part of
9 the process in the Water Resources Management
10 Strategy. I would like to give you a few items of
11 innovation that I think should be brought forth;
12 they are improvements over the last strategy.

13 First of all there is a hundred-year
14 planning horizon. This in and of itself is quite
15 unique. It is quite innovative and it is quite in
16 some sense brave but necessary.

17 Secondly, there is a unique use of
18 scenarios in the office of State Engineers model.
19 The way they set this up it allows for adaption over
20 time; that is, they can revisit it and revisit it as
21 times change, serve the notion of adaptive
22 management.

23 Thirdly, there is a thoroughness of the
24 whole process that I have observed over the four
25 years. And I am sure they started on this before

1 the four years that I was on the Board, but they
2 have then picked the important issues, in my mind,
3 and avoided getting sidetracked. We all know that
4 when you get in the water the more you dig into it,
5 if you will, the devil is in the details.

6 They have stayed really on track. They
7 have run the river, so to speak, and gone down and
8 done a really good job. That doesn't mean there are
9 things that shouldn't be done, but I think they did
10 an excellent job. And they have done an explicit
11 plan for managing groundwater stocks both in the
12 long-term and in stable manner. And the obvious
13 importance of this is I recently, as of Monday, was
14 up at El Vado and Heron looking around at the
15 bathtub rates. Obviously the conjunctive use of
16 surface and groundwater is incredibly important.

17 So let me talk a few minutes about the
18 groundwater reserve management plan. It is notable
19 with the following aspects: There is a threshold of
20 subsidence, excuse me. This is really important.
21 We all know the areas that settle are a problem.
22 They are a problem for the community as a whole.
23 There is a concept of a safety reserve; that is, in
24 other words, we acknowledge we are going to use the
25 groundwater system, but in fact there is a safety

1 reserve level where they trigger various activities.
2 There is a working management level, and there is
3 also a working reserve. All of this builds on the
4 iconic study of the value of water, which was done
5 by Chris Nunn, Lee Brown and Mary Woodward. I have
6 used the study in my classes. It was recognized by
7 the research council. This is a high-level
8 recognition, so to build upon that is notable.

9 Final thoughts, don't stop now. You
10 essentially have a living document, a series of
11 chapters. Move forward in preparation for the next
12 round. I am sure there is much to establish,
13 identify that could be worked on. Okay? Lay out a
14 plan and I would suggest specifically from my
15 discipline's point of view focus on the demand side.
16 Population obviously is important, but there are a
17 lot of other aspects of population they did not have
18 time to take beyond population, they did not have
19 time to take into consideration and I would suggest
20 they move forward on that.

21 Thank you for the extra time.

22 CHAIRWOMAN JONES: Thank you.

23 MRS. JENKINS: Scott Verhines followed by
24 Dave Hill.

25 MR. VERHINES: Good evening, Madam

1 Chairwoman, Members of the Board. I'm Scott
2 Verhines. I am a consulting civil engineer. I have
3 been working in the water business in New Mexico
4 most of 40 years now, recently served a term as the
5 New Mexico State Engineer, and I am privileged to be
6 a part of the TCAC about six months now. So I came
7 in, in the middle of the process of developing the
8 plan that you're going to be discussing tonight.

9 I would like to make a couple of comments
10 about the plan itself. First of all, we don't do
11 enough of this in New Mexico. I can assure you I am
12 very fortunate to get to do quite a bit of water
13 planning around the State. This effort with your
14 staff, with your consultants, the quality of the
15 questions, the inclusiveness of the plan, the
16 robustness of the plan is really missing around the
17 State. So I give you a lot of credit to the team
18 for having put this together. It was really well
19 done. Even though I am coming in at the middle,
20 they have been helpful, everybody has been helpful
21 to get me up to speed on some of the history that
22 came into this effort. And, anyway, fabulous job.
23 I urge you to support the efforts.

24 CHAIRWOMAN JONES: Thank you, Mr.
25 Verhines.

1 MRS. JENKINS: Dave Hill followed by
2 Barbara Webber.

3 MR. HILL: Madam Chair and Councilmen. My
4 name is Dave Hill and I am also a member of the TACA
5 advisory committee. I am a rookie member with
6 Scott, came on about six months ago. But I have
7 been involved in the water issue here in New Mexico
8 for over 20 years. And I encourage you to engage
9 and adopt this plan, the 21 -- the Water 2120 plan
10 because it really does have three major points that
11 I think are important.

12 First, this is the only community that I
13 know of that does a hundred-year plan. There is not
14 another community that I know that has put out a
15 hundred-year plan, even communities with a lot of
16 water. So I commend the Board's staff on their
17 efforts to do a hundred-year plan.

18 Second, it utilizes an adoptive management
19 plan, and the adoptive management plan is an ever
20 changing plan. It is not a statistic plan. We all
21 know things are going to change in the future. This
22 plan is one that does that.

23 And, third, I commend the staff on getting
24 public input. They have done a great job. I have
25 been in the water conservations, I went to town hall

1 meetings and when a plan is really well worked they
2 are not afraid to let the public see it and this is
3 one that is well worked, so I encourage you to adopt
4 this plan. Thank you.

5 CHAIRWOMAN JONES: Thank you, Mr. Hill.

6 MRS. JENKINS: Barbara Webber followed by
7 Bob Murphy.

8 MS. WEBBER: Madam Chair, Members of the
9 Board, my name is Barbara Webber. I am the
10 Executive Director of Health Action New Mexico. I
11 want to congratulate the work that has gone in on
12 considering the fluoride issue, which is such an
13 important issue, not only for everyone living in the
14 county and in the City of Albuquerque, but
15 especially for our children. We know that children
16 need to have a good start in life. We also know
17 that children in New Mexico have been rated as 49th
18 in the nation for the welfare of children in our
19 state and we also know that dental disease is the
20 most common childhood disease that is transmittible.
21 And so we have more and more information that not
22 only is it an issue in sitting in pain, not only is
23 it an issue of oral health that can have cosmetic
24 affects, but it is really an issue that is
25 correlated to heart disease, that is correlated to

1 obesity to, diabetes and to other diseases that we
2 know have been particularly effective of our
3 children.

4 In Bernalillo County we have more Native
5 Americans living here than we do collectively in the
6 pueblos and nations. So we have a big
7 responsibility, and yet that population bears the
8 burden of oral disease. In fact, children have four
9 times the rate, for example, Anglo children do and
10 our Hispanic children have almost three times the
11 rate that Anglo children do. So, again, I
12 congratulate you for giving yourselves more time to
13 look at this very important issue. We know that
14 fluoride has been a time-tested tool in protecting
15 our children from oral health disease and we urge
16 you to, as you go forward, that you really look at
17 this issue but particularly take into consideration
18 the welfare of our children.

19 Thank you.

20 CHAIRWOMAN JONES: Thank you, Ms. Webber.

21 MRS. JENKNS: Bob Murphy followed by Jason
22 Espinoza.

23 CHAIRWOMAN JONES: Just a moment, please.

24 COUNCILOR DAVIS: Madam Chair, if I can
25 clarify. It is my understanding that we have

1 removed the resolution of fluoride from the agenda
2 tonight; is that right?

3 CHAIRWOMAN JONES: Thank you, Councilor
4 Davis. That has been withdrawn.

5 COUNCILOR DAVIS: Thank you. That has
6 been withdrawn but I think it's an important
7 conversation that we have had for several meetings
8 now, and hopefully we can continue, so I would like
9 to encourages folks to continue that.

10 CHAIRWOMAN JONES: Thank you, Councilor
11 Davis.

12 MR. MURPHY: Good evening. My name is Bob
13 Murphy. I am the Executive Director of the Economic
14 Forum. I'm here very much in support of the 2120
15 hundred-year plan, which is incredibly unique for a
16 community of our size in the Southwest facing
17 several years of drought and probably drought going
18 into the future.

19 The Economic Forum has been supportive of
20 the efforts of the Water Authority for some time.
21 Our support of the business water task force and
22 years -- earlier years and early years of that group
23 where the San Juan-Chama water and other -- and the
24 Alameda diversion and those things, we very much
25 compliment Mark and his staff and John and

1 everyone's efforts in implementing those things
2 incredible successful. I am, as I said very, very
3 supportive of where we are headed with that, to have
4 an active water, hundred-year water plan lends
5 itself wonderfully to the community being able to
6 talk in the most sincere way about water security
7 and being able to address future economic
8 development and economic expansion issues and
9 opportunities and know that we have a well managed,
10 well financed and exceptional water system and a
11 good plan to continue to oversee that as we go
12 forward. So I very much encourage your support and
13 your adoption of this plan.

14 Thank you.

15 CHAIRWOMAN JONES: Thank you, Mr. Murphy.

16 MRS. JENKNS: Jason Espinoza followed by
17 Rudy Blea.

18 MR. ESPINOZA: Madam Chair, members of the
19 board Jason Espinoza. I am the president and CEO
20 with the New Mexico Association of Commerce and
21 Industry. We serve as the statewide business
22 advocate representing businesses both big and small
23 across every industry and every corner of the State.
24 And when we talk about water planning, we do come
25 here and support of the hundred-year water plan.

1 Water planning is important for economic
2 development. It is important for community
3 development, for sure. And we really appreciate the
4 Water Authority, their outreach, their inclusion of
5 the business community and the larger community in
6 this process, hearing our input, including it. I am
7 in support of the planning, so I hope you do so as
8 well.

9 Thank you.

10 CHAIRWOMAN JONES: Thank you,
11 Mr. Espinoza.

12 MRS. JENKINS: Rudy Blea followed by Amy
13 Ewing.

14 MR. BLEA: Good afternoon,
15 Madam Commissioners and Members of the Commission.
16 I think I am getting to know you guys more than
17 those I did in Santa Fe. Rudy Blea, Department of
18 Health, State of New Mexico.

19 On behalf of designate secretary Lynn
20 Gallagher, I want to thank you for taking the
21 opportunity to once again look into the issue of
22 water fluoridation within your community. You will
23 hear time and time again the importance of oral
24 health and it is an important issue, especially
25 among the elementary school age children here at

1 APS. APS has a number of dental providers coming
2 into those schools to take care of the oral health
3 issues. But until we change certain behaviors, such
4 as doing good oral hygiene every day, eating healthy
5 and seeing a regular dentist in a timely basis, oral
6 health will still remain as issue as it is at APS,
7 Santa Fe school district and especially throughout
8 the State of New Mexico.

9 Recently the Department of Health provided
10 oral healthcare for 6,622 kids, outside of the
11 Bernalillo County program, the school district.

12 We found 26 percent of rural and urban and
13 frontier children still have existing decay today as
14 they go to school, 26 percent. APS is not provided
15 any data at the present time, but they are
16 collecting data to find out what their providers
17 have found. But what is going on nationally, what
18 is going on in New Mexico will also be occurring in
19 APS. You will find children with active decay in
20 school.

21 Once again, on behalf of the secretary,
22 myself, the Department of Health, thank you for
23 giving us this opportunity to talk to you and to
24 again look at this very important issue in the
25 future.

1 The Department of Health will be working
2 very closely with the oral health coalition,
3 especially the New Mexico Dental Association, the
4 New Mexico Hygiene Association and the New Mexico
5 Pediatric Association.

6 Once again, thank you very much, and have
7 a good evening.

8 MRS. JENKINS: Amy Ewing followed by Laura
9 McCarthy.

10 MS. EWING: Thank you, Madam Chair. My
11 name is Amy Ewing and I am the Vice Chair of the
12 Technical Customer Advisory Committee. Lorri Fire,
13 who is the chair of the TCAC committee was unable to
14 attend tonight so she has asked me to read her
15 comments and then I have some comments of my own.

16 So Lorri's letter reads as follows: Dear
17 Governing Board Members, the purpose of this letter
18 is to provide support of the draft 2017 Water
19 Resources Management Strategy that serves as an
20 update to the 2007 document.

21 The TCAC has spent several months
22 reviewing this document both individually and during
23 monthly committee meeting discussions. Water
24 Authority Staff and their consultants have conducted
25 a thorough analysis of the existing report and

1 provided a general update of relevant information as
2 well as opportunities for improvement and
3 communicating content.

4 During committee meetings additional
5 comments from the committee regarding the 2017
6 document were discussed for inclusion. As a
7 professional landscape architect, I consider the
8 2017 Water Resources Management Strategy update to
9 be an exceptional document illustrating responsible
10 practices for management of water resources,
11 conservation methods that have been put into place,
12 additional goals identified, as well as the clear
13 explanations to educate the public on the approach
14 of the strategy are or to be praised.

15 I recommend that the Board approve the
16 2017 WRMS document. Warm Regards, Lorri Fire.

17 And my comments are as follows: I am also
18 in support of this update and your support for that.
19 As a Water Authority customer and City of
20 Albuquerque homeowner, I appreciate the thorough
21 planning that has been undertaken by the Water
22 Authority staff and their consultants. I am not
23 aware of any other city that is planning for a
24 hundred-year planning horizon, and I appreciate both
25 the forethought and commitment to maintain the

1 strategic groundwater reserve.

2 As a water resources professional, I know
3 that Albuquerque is better positioned to provide a
4 sustainable water supply for the future than any
5 other western city. Also, of note I have discussed
6 this current Water Resources Management Strategy
7 update with another utility staff from another
8 utility in the state, and also the associated public
9 process that went along this and they said that they
10 really feel that Albuquerque has raised the bar with
11 this plan and I agree. So, thank you very much.

12 CHAIRWOMAN JONES: Thank you.

13 MRS. JENKINS: Laura McCarthy followed by
14 Yvette Tovar.

15 MS. McCARTHY: Madam Chair, and members of
16 the Board, I am Laura McCarthy. I am Director of
17 Conservation Programs for the Nature Conservancy. I
18 am also a member of the Technical Citizens Advisory
19 Committee.

20 The Nature Conservancy is a pragmatic and
21 solutions-oriented conservation nongovernmental
22 organization. Our byline is essentially that we
23 work for people and nature.

24 One of my primary projects is called the
25 Rio Grande Water Fund, I want to introduce that to

1 you as something that we started after the Las
2 Conchas fire in 2011 which had a devastating affect
3 on 23 watersheds that drain directly into the Rio
4 Grande causing the debris flow that you may remember
5 wiped out the Dixon apple orchard.

6 The Rio Grande Water Fund is our
7 solution-oriented effort to bring diverse interests
8 together to help protect the sources of our water
9 for generations to come.

10 Those headwater forests are critical water
11 supplies for the future. The Rio Grande Water Fund
12 has had an unbelievable response in the community,
13 both Albuquerque, but also throughout all of the
14 small communities that are in places where the water
15 comes from, whether it is the San Juan-Chama project
16 water or native Rio Grande water.

17 So to the plan, I think they have done an
18 amazing job of documenting something that has not
19 been included in the plan before, and that is the
20 protection that is needed for the water sources that
21 up to now have been overlooked and that the Las
22 Conchas fire woke us up to the fact of how
23 vulnerable our headwater sources actually are. The
24 plan includes a strategy for the Water Authority to
25 become a collaborator, a participant and a

1 coinvestor in protection of the San Juan-Chama
2 project watersheds and of the -- all the watersheds
3 that supply native water.

4 That is a very important new policy that
5 we are strongly in support of. I attended the
6 public meetings and learned from hearing people that
7 they were surprised that the Water Authority wasn't
8 already invested in watershed protection and so for
9 that reason and has been mentioned, this plan is
10 needed. It is doing some very important new things,
11 and I want to commend the staff as others have for
12 their vision and also their pragmatic orientation to
13 providing strategies that will be able to be
14 implemented.

15 CHAIRWOMAN JONES: Thank you.

16 MRS. JENKINS: Yvette Tovar followed by
17 Ryan Gronewold.

18 MS. TOVAR: Good evening. My name is
19 Yvette Tovar. I am the Executive Director of the
20 New Mexico Water Collaborative. I'm here to offer
21 my support for the proposed changes to the Water
22 Resources Management Strategy. I think at its core,
23 one of the biggest strengths is the diverse approach
24 and the different methodologies that are being
25 considered by the Water Authority. And I would like

1 to just highlight what I think are the cores and the
2 strongest approaches in the plan.

3 First, would be continued efforts towards
4 conservation. I think we are all quite familiar
5 with the enormous success that the Water Authority
6 has had with conservation efforts up to date and the
7 idea that we need to continue that, I think it is
8 incumbent upon us as a community and as a
9 municipality to not give up on that and to now look
10 at what are the new ways we need explore
11 conservation, for example, with water harvesting.
12 So engaging in some ideas and thoughts that perhaps
13 we haven't given as much attention to up to this
14 point.

15 Secondly, I would like to say that the
16 aquifer storage and recovery efforts and continuing
17 and expanding them, I think are our really excellent
18 response to the realities of climate change. What I
19 means by that is that in an area climate in the
20 areas west and southwest we have a responsibility to
21 be as efficient with what we do with our water and
22 the aquifer storage and recovery offers the
23 opportunity to have either minimal or zero losses
24 when it comes to evapotranspiration by virtue of the
25 fact that it is storing water below the ground where

1 it is not exposed to the heat. The new normal is
2 higher temperatures, right, and with higher
3 temperatures we have higher losses when our water is
4 on the surface.

5 The expansion into storm water capture and
6 storage I think presents an incredible opportunity
7 to maximize our storm water events. It is not
8 uncommon for a few people to think that really that
9 that is really not such a great opportunity. They
10 would like to say, well, it doesn't rain very often
11 here, but the fact is when it does rain, it is fast
12 and furious and it is an opportunity to capture that
13 water, to store it for reuse. And especially in an
14 urban context where water flows fast because we have
15 so many paved surfaces, really is something that
16 matters and bears looking at further.

17 And the last one I would like to mention
18 is the efforts to enhance additional connectivity to
19 the reuse of our wastewater. I think this really
20 smart both for an economical standpoint and a
21 environmental standpoint because we are really
22 building on existing infrastructure, right? We are
23 not having to add more to it, and we are just
24 expanding the areas and the communities the smaller
25 communities within our larger communities that could

1 reuse that water.

2 Thank you for your time.

3 MRS. JENKINS: Ryan Gronewold followed by
4 Jennifer Faler.

5 MR. GRONEWOLD: Hello. My name is Ryan
6 Gronewold. I am the Water Management Chief with the
7 Albuquerque District US Army Corps of Engineers.

8 And if I could, I would like to read a
9 statement from John deAntonio who unfortunately
10 wasn't able to be here this evening. He is
11 currently the Deputy District Engineer for Programs
12 and Project Management at the Albuquerque District
13 Corps of Engineers, but previously he was the New
14 Mexico State Engineer from 2003 to 2011. So, if it
15 is all right I will just read you his statement.

16 It says, First, I would like to thank the
17 Board of the Albuquerque Bernalillo County Water
18 Utility Authority for providing the opportunity to
19 submit my statement in writing and please accept my
20 regrets for not being able to attend in person.

21 During my tenure as New Mexico State
22 Engineer, I worked closely with the Authority staff
23 on their water resources strategies that culminated
24 in an approval of a permit to convert and
25 consumptively use the San Juan-Chama water via their

1 drinking water project. The permit was approved
2 with some very stringent requirements and the
3 Authority has been exemplary in complying with the
4 permit conditions and has continually exceeded the
5 water conservation goal requirements required by
6 that permit.

7 Also the Authority has granted a permit
8 for underground storage and recovery from the Bear
9 Canyon Recharge Demonstration Project allowing for
10 recharge of the aquifer. This opened the door for
11 future artificial recharge projects and
12 implementation of the Authority's aquifer storage
13 and recovery strategies.

14 The Authority has shown great results in
15 implementing their San Juan-Chama drinking water
16 project. Bear Canyon and other ASR projects as well
17 as their water reuse strategies. Their groundwater
18 monitoring network and USGS gauges are shown that
19 the aquifer levels are arising and consumptive use
20 is declining. The Authority has clearly
21 strengthened their water supply portfolio through
22 the development of their diverse resources.

23 In order to continue working towards
24 achieving a more sustainable future, and in the
25 spirit of a continued public, public partnership the

1 US Army Corps of Engineers is working
2 collaboratively with Mr. Sanchez, and the Authority
3 staff to explore opportunities for enhanced storage
4 of San Juan-Chama and native Rio Grande water and of
5 course, Abiquiu reservoir.

6 Based on my understanding of the new
7 100-year plan, I would recommend that the Authority
8 adopt the Water Resources Management Strategy to
9 continue the leadership that has been shown by this
10 Board and the staff. There is some really good
11 policies that would provide the foundation for a
12 long-term water supply for the citizens of
13 Albuquerque and Bernalillo County.

14 Again, thanks for the opportunity to
15 provide comment and we look forward to continuing
16 our efforts for better water resources management in
17 the Middle Rio Grande.

18 Also if I could add myself, I work with
19 the Authority within the water management community
20 and as a partner as Abiquiu Reservoir. In my
21 experience the Authority has been collaborative and
22 forward thinking in its water management activities
23 and strategies so that they benefit the many
24 stakeholders within the Rio Grande Basin. This
25 Water Management Strategy is another example of that

1 forward thinking. And I would recommend that it be
2 adopted.

3 CHAIRWOMAN JONES: Thank you.

4 MR. GRONEWOLD: Thank you.

5 MRS. JENKINS: Jennifer Faler followed by
6 Sonia Garcia.

7 MS. FALER: Thank you, Madam Chair, and
8 Members of the Board. I am Jennifer Faler, the area
9 manager for the Albuquerque Area Office. I'm here
10 this evening representing the Bureau of Reclamation
11 who not only operates the Middle Rio Grande project
12 and San Juan-Chama project, we also find ourselves
13 as key players in many conflicts around the Western
14 United States between environmental advocates and
15 agencies irrigation districts, farmers and
16 municipalities. I'm here to voice our support for
17 the new 100-year plan for several reasons.

18 We support the plan for its regional and
19 board base approach to solving complex issues that
20 thrive in the Middle Rio Grande environment rather
21 than taking a more narrow approach of water
22 planning. More specifically, the Bureau of
23 Reclamation would like to applaud the Water
24 Authority for its successful leadership in the area
25 of aquifer management and your accomplishments with

1 respect to rising water levels in your aquifer
2 during times of historic drought conditions.

3 We support your efforts to achieve native
4 storage in Abiquiu reservoir as our efforts over the
5 last five years in working with the fish and
6 wildlife service has made it clear that more
7 operational flexibility is needed in the Middle Rio
8 Grande to meet both human and nonhuman needs in the
9 basin.

10 Finally, the Water Authority's approach of
11 building regional partnerships with both Interstate
12 Stream Commission and the Middle Rio Grande
13 Conservancy District and surrounding communities and
14 their members while developing a flexible approach
15 to planning with the ability to adapt to
16 uncertainties like climate change is very
17 innovative.

18 So thank you for the opportunity to voice
19 our support for the 2120 water plan. We think the
20 plan is responsive to key issues in the Middle Rio
21 Grande and I also look forward to our continued
22 partnership in the ESA collaborative program.

23 CHAIRWOMAN JONES: Thank you.

24 MRS. JENKNS: Sonia Garcia followed by
25 Elaine Hebard.

1 MS. GARCIA: Good afternoon. My name is
2 Sonia Garcia. I am a dentist in Master Community
3 Health and Patients. I am here for the issue of the
4 community water fluoridation. I have known this
5 issue and I have found that -- and the most present
6 concerns the safety and continuance of water
7 fluoridation in the prevention without the risk of
8 developing any disease when used at concentrations
9 of 50.3 milligrams per meter.

10 Also I found in the literature what
11 happened with fluoridation is stopped. Studies show
12 increasing fluoridation in the community were
13 fluoridation, and this is from the 2016. There is a
14 scientific evidence of the increasing in the
15 incidents of this where public fluoridation measures
16 has suspended. Also others have different, Canada
17 shows a link, the cessation of water fluoridation
18 with an increase of the incident after 2.5 years
19 after cessation of fluoridation. So I am wondering
20 what would happen for our children, for our
21 communities, two years from now or four years from
22 now. I'm here to ask you, Commissioners, that put
23 into consideration again the recommendation for
24 every community fluoridation as a policy for the
25 prevention of cavities.

1 Thank you very much.

2 MRS. JENKINS: Elaine Hebard followed by
3 Geraldine Amato.

4 MS. HEBARD: Good afternoon. My name is
5 Elaine Hebard. I have been a member -- I have been
6 a long-time attendee at these meetings. In fact, I
7 was here in 2007 when the last set of strategies
8 were discussed. As a retired lawyer and regional
9 water planner, I have a deep interest in the
10 management of my utility, how it fits in with
11 regional water and land use framework, how it is
12 planning to adapt to the projected changes and how
13 that all can be made better. And that really has
14 been my objective every month that I have showed up
15 in front of you guys and made some comments.

16 I am also a member of the TCAC and I am
17 the one who voted no because I hope that the
18 strategies will be made as innovative as I think the
19 hundred-year plan could be.

20 While I have a lot of comments that I
21 could make, I am going to focus on three plus one
22 that is not in there as a policy.

23 Changing Policy B balanced demand with
24 renewable supply to protecting -- fully utilizing
25 and protecting existing water rates and water

1 resources changes the message. Gone is in the
2 attempt to achieve ABCWA's adopted guiding principle
3 to balance use with renewable supply. Unmentioned
4 is the expressly accepted goal to balance growth
5 with renewable supply, which was done in 2005 when
6 this body accepted the regional water plan.

7 Discarding such goals in favor of the more
8 pugilistic sounding protect our water rights is not
9 how we need to be planning in the region.

10 No one would ever suggest that the utility
11 not protect its property, but how can we be more
12 resilient. Please keep the balanced demand with
13 renewable supply.

14 The result of eliminating it can be seen
15 in Policy C. Rather than reserving the aquifer for
16 when we really need it, we are changing it to be a
17 working reserve. Creating levels is not a bad idea
18 in theory, but we start with a zero at full being
19 50 feet below predevelopment levels. So what does
20 that mean? It represents 20 percent of what is the
21 working reserve. Right now to pay for the impacts
22 of that pumping it takes all of the Rio Grande water
23 rights, plus all of the return flows, plus extra
24 water from Abiquiu. That consumption was 16 percent
25 of what we could consume in the river in 2015.

1 That includes Santa Fe, Rio Rancho, MRTC,
2 et cetera. To ensure that the aquifer will be
3 preserved, I would suggest going down only ten more
4 feet so it is 60 feet below the predevelopment
5 retaining the rest for a future reserve.

6 I am going to skip ahead and say Policy L,
7 I would like to see that policy that talks about
8 cumulative impacts and integrating land use and
9 water be retained and finally to include a climate
10 policy specifically addressing climate change and
11 adopting a climate change policy.

12 CHAIRWOMAN JONES: Thank you, Ms. Hebard.

13 MRS. JENKNS: Geraldine Amato followed by
14 Ege Richardson.

15 MS. AMATO: Good evening. If the good
16 people that spoke here this evening were in charge
17 of making the decisions regarding such a vital
18 resource as our water, things wouldn't be in the
19 deplorable condition that they are today and will
20 get worse. Despite this pledge to the flag that
21 says we are under a republic form of government, we
22 are not. We are on the federal reservation. The
23 decision-making is made by the lords of the
24 reservation, not by the people within it. This
25 Board stands as a fraud against the American people

1 because its decisions are not made by you. You are
2 mercenaries, how would you say mercenary slaves and
3 if you don't do what the master dictates, you are no
4 longer in position.

5 We are under the Federal Uniform
6 Commercial Code. Water is a commodity. Not only
7 that, since we have malevolent people in charge,
8 they use water to control people and to weaken
9 people. That Flint, Michigan, travesty, in my
10 estimation, was deliberate. There are people still
11 within this nation, they committed genocides before,
12 why would you not think they would commit them
13 today.

14 They had there ancestors. In an article
15 published by a journalist Andrea Mock, states, "The
16 goal of King minds spilled 3 million gallons of
17 wastewater loaded with an estimated 880,000 pounds
18 of toxic metals." The State of New Mexico filed a
19 lawsuit against the U.S. Environmental Protection
20 Agency in May of 2016. This is what happens with
21 baser problems. The attorneys and the courts
22 continue to do business as usual, but there is no
23 redress agreements, there is no justice without it.

24 Another statement in this article, "The
25 EPA says its Office of Inspector General is working

1 with the U.S. Department of Justice to determine
2 whether crimes were committed by the EPA." I don't
3 think we need a way for them to say they have
4 determined it, it is obvious that crimes were
5 perpetrated. And you can decide whether they were
6 done deliberately or inadvertently, but they are
7 crimes against everyone who practices agriculture
8 along those rivers. They talk about tourism as just
9 a makeshift type of industry. We don't need tourism
10 but we do need agriculture and we do need water.

11 And then to conclude -- oh, I want to
12 mention that the Masons, the highest degree of the
13 Scottish Rite is called the Degree of the Inspector
14 General. So that tells you who is actually in
15 control, the 33rd Degree. And those people are
16 malevolent, the ones in charge of the Scottish Rite,
17 but they work quite firmly on the front lines here
18 in this area.

19 CHAIRWOMAN JONES: Thank you, Ms. Amato.

20 MS. AMATO: You gave that other man some
21 time to conclude, but with me you cut me short.

22 CHAIRWOMAN JONES: Thank you, Ms. Amato.

23 MRS. JENKINS: Ege Richardson followed by
24 Joe Martinez.

25 MS. RICHARDSON: Good evening, Madam

1 Chair, and Members of the Board. My name is Ege
2 Richardson. I am a water and wastewater engineer
3 and I am also one of the members of the TCAC
4 committee. I'm here today to show my support for
5 the Water Resources Management Plan and the Water
6 2120 policies. I think the Authority and its
7 consultants have done a remarkable job in putting
8 together a very comprehensive document on a very
9 difficult topic. This document was prepared over
10 months of hard work and as a result of many
11 iterations and a lot of detailed reiterations.

12 The Water Authority's intent to protect
13 our groundwater as a resource and our water rights
14 have been notable in their proactive approach to
15 this policy and in their search for new water
16 resources since the early stages of this work. I am
17 in favor of the variety of alternatives that this
18 plan is including, ranging from more common and
19 accepted options such as reuse or reclaimed water to
20 more controversial to more complicated things,
21 options such as potable use and I believe the
22 inclusion of such a variety shows the open vision of
23 the policy towards the topic and the desire of the
24 Authority to produce a more complete and effective
25 approach.

1 I am excited that the policy continues to
2 include water conservation and affords efforts to
3 teach our community the value of water, and I
4 believe the adaptive management strategy which
5 allows for frequent iterations and updates to the
6 plan will result in a high success of
7 implementation.

8 To conclude my words, I want to say that I
9 support the work the Authority has done and I
10 support the water 2120 policy that will be presented
11 tonight. Thank you.

12 MRS. JENKINS: Joe Martinez followed by
13 Catherine Sovereign.

14 CHAIRWOMAN JONES: Councilor Sanchez would
15 like to make a statement.

16 COUNCILOR SANCHEZ: I want to personally
17 thank the members of the TCAC committee for all the
18 work, many of you are here this evening. They have
19 taken a great deal of time to look at this plan.
20 Again, this requires a lot of work, a lot of
21 thought. I think that you guys did a really good
22 job in working with our staff and coming up with a
23 great plan in this 100-year plan. I think it is
24 important for the citizens of our community. Thank
25 you for your work.

1 CHAIRWOMAN JONES: Thank you. Go ahead.

2 MR. MARTINEZ: My name is Joe Martinez
3 with Health Action New Mexico. First, thank you for
4 the strong and conscientious work that you do to
5 assure every resident of Bernalillo County safe
6 drinking water. That is a noble and courageous work
7 that you do and I wanted to express my gratitude to
8 you for that.

9 Let me say two things. One, the residents
10 of Bernalillo County also deserve to have water that
11 has a community water fluoridation system provided
12 so that all residents of Bernalillo County can
13 benefit from the safety and from the prevention of
14 tooth decay.

15 Second, that you invest quality time to
16 examine the benefits of community water
17 fluoridation, its cost effectiveness and a policy
18 that is going to benefit every resident of this
19 county.

20 Finally, picture this. Picture this.
21 That in every homesite and every park and every
22 church and every business site that there is quality
23 affordable safe and healthy water on tap. Water on
24 tap that is healthier than bottled water.

25 Thank you for your leadership. Thank you

1 for your commitment to do the right thing.

2 CHAIRWOMAN JONES: Thank you, sir.

3 MRS. JENKINS: Catherine Sovereign
4 followed by Martin Haynes.

5 MS. SOVEREIGN: Good evening. My name is
6 Catherine Sovereign. I am a registered dental
7 hygienist and a registered dietetic nutritionist and
8 the current president of the New Mexico Dental
9 Hygienist Association.

10 Madam Chair, and Board members, I also
11 want to give my appreciation to you for taking the
12 time and the additional effort that would go into
13 studying water fluoridation. Adults and especially
14 our elders also benefit from water fluoridation.
15 Many of the people, the children and the elderly and
16 adults like you and I, there are many who are
17 disadvantaged and could not get a fluoride rinse at
18 the store or go and pay for additional fluoride
19 services at a dental professional's office. And
20 water fluoridation has been shown to be safe and
21 effective in preventing decay. Many adults,
22 including myself, have gingival or gum recession and
23 we are at very high risk for disease of the roots of
24 the teeth. The roots of the teeth do not have
25 enamel, they have cementum, therefore, decay starts

1 quickly and it moves rapidly. And so this is the
2 number one reason that many elderly and adults lose
3 their teeth.

4 And without healthy teeth they are not
5 going to be able to have a healthy diet which links
6 back into many of the chronic illnesses that many
7 New Mexicans are afflicted with.

8 Many dental hygienists each day can attest
9 to the benefits of fluoride for persons at all
10 stages of the human life cycle.

11 The New Mexico Dental Hygienist
12 Association and the American Dental Hygienist
13 Association are in full support of the water
14 fluoridation by the Bernalillo County Water Utility
15 Authority.

16 Thank you for your attention and your
17 time.

18 CHAIRWOMAN JONES: Thank you.

19 MRS. JENKINS: Martin Haynes followed by
20 Joe Valloz, Dr. Joe Valloz.

21 MR. HAYNES: Good evening, Madam Chair,
22 Members. My name is Martin Haynes. I am swinging
23 back to the strategy and I'm here to talk about the
24 strategy on behalf of the Business Water Task Force.

25 The Business Water Task Force has been

1 involved in the strategy of this utility since the
2 utility was owned by the City of Albuquerque.
3 Members have been part of the original customer
4 conservation -- customer -- yeah, customer service
5 committee -- no, that's not right -- customer
6 advisory committee, and have remained involved in
7 the meetings that were just held from the customer
8 conversations and the town hall.

9 We are proud to be part of the process
10 that puts us in the position of our predecessors to
11 formulate a secure and quality water for the
12 citizens of Albuquerque and Bernalillo County.

13 The Business Water Task Force supports the
14 effort of thinking 100 years into the future, which
15 is the type of forward thinking that this Authority,
16 that the Water Utility Authority has been known for.
17 We need to look for that far so that we can get an
18 understanding of what lies ahead and get prepared.

19 We are one of the only cities, as
20 mentioned before, in the Southwest that isn't even
21 looking that far into the future. The
22 San Juan-Chama project water that was purchased back
23 in the early 1960s, and brought online in 2008,
24 affords us the reliance like no one else has in the
25 Southwest.

1 In combination of adaptive management and
2 responsible management that periodically addresses
3 the ever changing environment, we will be able to
4 maintain a secure resource.

5 We are truly fortunate to have a staff
6 that allows us to provide this type of security.

7 While the Resource Management Strategy has
8 many alternatives, you have heard a few mentioned
9 earlier, to achieve the 100 plan, the Business Water
10 Task Force looks forward to and remains engaged in
11 implementing the alternative.

12 As the ratepayers continue to conserve
13 water, we look forward to the implementation of the
14 aquifer storage and recovery, reuse of our water,
15 and watershed restoration to just mention a few.

16 As we continue to educate our citizens,
17 including our children, we prepare for the future.

18 The water utility has done a good job and
19 this really hasn't come up so far in their getting
20 the involvement and feedback of the citizens. In
21 combination with the customer conversations and the
22 town hall, the customers have the opportunity to
23 express their preferences and their choices. Now we
24 hope, the Business Water Task Force, hopes that this
25 Board will show support for what the customers have

1 voiced. Please consider moving this strategy
2 forward.

3 Thank you.

4 CHAIRWOMAN JONES: Thank you, Mr. Haynes.

5 MRS. JENKINS: Dr. Tom Schripsema followed
6 by John Garcia.

7 DR. VALLOZ: Dr. Schripsema defers. He's
8 already left and I already spoke.

9 MRS. JENKINS: John Garcia.

10 MR. GARCIA: Thank you. My name is John
11 Garcia, Executive Vice President of Home Builders
12 Association of Central New Mexico. We are a member,
13 member organization of the Business Water Task Force
14 that Martin just talked about.

15 Just briefly, I will tell you, we just
16 credit the -- credit you and the staff of the Water
17 Authority for really being a leader in reducing
18 water use, one of the best in the country.

19 Last year, and earlier than a few years
20 ago the legislature passed the sustainable building
21 tax credit. Last year it was revised and upgraded
22 to add a water component and currently New Mexico is
23 one of the top green build states in the country
24 because of the energy efficient homes that we build.
25 We just want to encourage the adaptive management

1 approach adopted by the organization and you and
2 encourage the hundred-year outlook for water
3 management in the future.

4 Thank you.

5 CHAIRWOMAN JONES: Thank you, Mr. Garcia.
6 And that is the end of the public comments.

7 The next scheduled meeting is
8 September 21, 2016 at 5:00 p.m. in the Vincent E.
9 Griego Chambers.

10 And just an announcement for those of you
11 out here who seem to be interested in water, there
12 are vacancies on the Technical Customer Advisory
13 Committee. We have Board members or anyone who has
14 any nominations or if you would like to volunteer,
15 please direct your attention to the online
16 application at the Water Authority's website at
17 www.ABCWUA.org. Thank you.

18 Next on the agenda is introduction or
19 first reading of legislation. This will simply be
20 an introduction where we see where the legislation
21 is. There will be no action required or taken on
22 any of these topics.

23 The first is R-16-10 authorizing the
24 agreement with Alta Vista Enterprises Limited for
25 the Mikay Lanna Vistas for water and sewer service.

1 Thank you.

2 MR. DAVE: Good evening.

3 CHAIRWOMAN JONES: Would you state your
4 name, please.

5 MR. DAVE: Chris Dave with the Water
6 Authority, principal engineer at the utility level
7 section. And Madam Chair, Members of the Board, I
8 would like to present to you a development agreement
9 for a development entitled Mikay Lanna Vistas. It
10 is a 16 lot subdivision. It is located along Gun
11 Club just west of Carol Street in an incorporated
12 area of Bernalillo County. It is going to be served
13 IOW at Cristo trunk. The developer is going to have
14 to establish distribution lines and sanitary sewer
15 lines that serve this site and will be subject to
16 utility expansion charges and water supply charges.

17 CHAIRWOMAN JONES: Thank you. Are there
18 any questions? Thank you, sir.

19 Next is a presentation of R-16-11
20 authorizing an agreement with Ceja Vista LLC for the
21 Ceja Vista Phase 1 for water and sewer services. I
22 think you get to tell us about this one also.

23 MR. DAVE: Another exciting development.
24 This one is actually within the City of Albuquerque.
25 It is located along the south side of Dennis Chavez

1 just east of 118 Street. The subdivision proposes
2 403 single family homes that is located in the 2WR
3 and 1W trunk. The developer will also be installing
4 collector lines and distribution lines to serve the
5 property and will also be subject to paying for
6 water supply charges as well as utility expansion
7 charges for this development.

8 CHAIRWOMAN JONES: Thank you. Are there
9 any questions? Thank you very much.

10 And next is R-16-12 formal presentation of
11 Adopting Water 2120, Securing Our Future Water and
12 the 2016 Water Resources Management Strategy as the
13 Water Authority's water supply and demand policies.

14 Good evening, Mr. Sanchez.

15 MR. SANCHEZ: Madam Chair, Board Members,
16 we are pleased to present tonight something that has
17 been discussed in public comment. It is the third
18 iteration of the Water Resources Management
19 Strategy. This one is entitled Water 2120:
20 Securing Our Water Future.

21 So, what I would like to begin with
22 tonight is describing briefly what the plan is. So
23 the plan is initially when you started this process
24 we wanted to challenge ourselves and do something
25 bold that did not exist that we were aware of in the

1 west and certainly around the country. And it is
2 basically a hundred-year plan as you have heard
3 tonight. It is thoughtful, it is well balanced. It
4 uses existing resources. It seems to acquire new
5 resources only when needed. It is a living
6 document, as we have discussed, that will guide our
7 decisions for the next hundred years. Even though
8 it is long-term, 100 years, it is actually quite
9 short when you think of water years and water in
10 general.

11 It is designed to meet the projected
12 demand. It is data driven and it is based on the
13 best available science, and it does include climate
14 change. It is based on the same policies
15 implemented in 1997 and 2007 in previous strategies.

16 It includes a Rio Grande Compact Pool, an
17 environmental pool and out channel storage. What
18 the plan is not, it is not a growth plan. It is not
19 intended to stimulate growth. It is intended to
20 meet future demands and future demands may not
21 always be population driven.

22 It is not about drying up the agriculture.
23 Often I think the perception of our customer base in
24 Albuquerque Metro area is that we are drying up the
25 state where we are going to jeopardize agriculture.

1 So one of the things this plan does and one of the
2 policies we actually prohibit, the acquisition of
3 new pre-1907 water rights. So I think that is a
4 significant statement to all the users along the
5 Middle Rio Grande. The plan is not about future
6 rate increases. This plan going forward for the
7 entire hundred-year period does not contemplate the
8 need for any new additional rate increases.

9 Now, let me qualify that by saying there
10 are still plan rate increases for the infrastructure
11 renewal and ramp up that this Board has approved,
12 but for this plan's orientation no additional rate
13 increases will be required.

14 In terms of the public process, including
15 tonight, there has been five presentations to this
16 body. There has been 14 detailed presentations to
17 the TCAC over almost the last two years. There were
18 two public meetings in February. There were four
19 customer conversations that occurred in May and
20 June. We have had about five, I believe,
21 neighborhood coalition meetings. We had a town hall
22 in July. And all said, we have touched over 600
23 individual customers and residents throughout this
24 process. There have been five technical report
25 chapters that have been published on the website.

1 Each of you have a copy of those. These are not the
2 policies, per se, but the technical work that went
3 into influencing the development of these policies.
4 And we have a technical team, I might point out,
5 second to none that is sitting right behind me here.

6 We have had presentations to national
7 associations including the American Water Resource
8 Association, Groundwater Association and the
9 American Groundwater Trust. In terms of more
10 presentations, again, it is hard to note from this
11 slide, but our technical team presented supply,
12 demand, groundwater, alternatives and supply depths
13 to the Board over the last year.

14 In terms of the TCAC process, as we have
15 mentioned, there has been 14 meetings over the last
16 two years. All elements of the plan were vetted
17 through the TCAC; they spent countless hours doing
18 that. The five chapters were reviewed with them,
19 and over 1,300 comments were received by TCAC
20 members that were reviewed and addressed in a
21 detailed matrix of those comments and responses are
22 available.

23 The TCAC reviewed all the models, and as
24 mentioned they voted on a seven to one basis.

25 Now at this point I am going turn it over

1 to John Stomp. He is going to review more detailed
2 elements of the plan, and later in the presentation
3 Paul Cassidy and Erik Harrigan of RBC Capital
4 Markets will talk about the numbers we have
5 presented and the no need for rate increases. John.

6 MR. STOMP: Thank you, Mr. Sanchez.
7 Members of the Board, thank so you much for all your
8 patience over the last year in dealing with all of
9 the issues that have been brought before you.

10 Tonight I am going to summarize those
11 issues, and a lot of the technical basis, as
12 Mr. Sanchez said, is in your notebook and has been
13 available online for quite a while, in advance of
14 the town hall for people to have an opportunity to
15 look at it.

16 As Mr. Sanchez pointed out, we have had --
17 this is our third iteration of the policy. The
18 policy document itself in 1997 was a City policy
19 document. 2007 this Board adopted that document and
20 many of those -- many of you were on that Board at
21 the time that that policy was adopted.

22 The key elements in those previous
23 policies were conservation, the transition to
24 renewable supply through the drinking water project
25 and reuse and reclamation. And the idea was that we

1 would transition to renewable supplies to save and
2 preserve and protect the aquifer for future
3 generations to come.

4 The difference between this strategy and
5 the strategy that was presented in the past was we
6 identified future water gaps in the plan.

7 So in 1997 we had water gap that started
8 in 2040, and you can see that gap. That gap was not
9 addressed in that plan. That was a gap that was
10 identified that would be for the future for somebody
11 else to take care of when that time came.

12 In 2007 the same thing, we identified this
13 much smaller gap because we adopted more
14 conservation goals and we went from 175 gallons per
15 capita per day to 150 gallons per capita per day.
16 That triangle moved from 2040 to 2055. So we still
17 had a small gap that needed to be filled.

18 Tonight I will tell you that the
19 hundred-year water plan that we have, although we
20 have nine different alternatives before you, we
21 filled the gap that is needed necessary for the
22 hundred years under the medium supply and the medium
23 demand, but we have not forgotten that there is a
24 worst-case scenario and there are gaps that need to
25 be filled and we will talk a little bit about that

1 as I go along.

2 And, Madam Chair, I will be glad to answer
3 questions as we go along. It is really up to you as
4 you would like to do this.

5 CHAIRWOMAN JONES: Thank you, Mr. Stomp.

6 MR. STOMP: The successes of the past
7 strategy have been really quite amazing. We started
8 out as a biggest water waste during the west at
9 250 gallons per capita per day. We are down to
10 130 gallons per capita per day in 20 years. We have
11 doubled the amount of people we served over the same
12 period of time and we have transitioned from solar
13 lines on the aquifer, which is the green, to
14 multiple supplies, six different sources of supply,
15 actually, from surface water, groundwater and a
16 multitude of non-potable projects. You can see the
17 reduction in the groundwater use, which is the key
18 to the future that we are talking about tonight,
19 which is managing the groundwater in a different
20 way. We are proposing to you a management strategy
21 that nobody else in the country is doing and is new
22 to the State of New Mexico, and that is protect and
23 preserve around a particular level that you are
24 saving a large quantity of water for the future.

25 As was said previously, the aquifer is

1 arising in Albuquerque, has been arising since 2008.
2 It is risen and then the pictures that are shown
3 here are 2014 information you can see -- or maybe
4 you can't see because it is microscopic, I guess,
5 the aquifer has risen between 15 and 25 feet just
6 from these two monitoring wells that you see here on
7 the graph here.

8 So the plan that we developed included a
9 look at our future demand, where the supply is going
10 to come from. If you compare the future demands
11 with our supplies, how many gaps do we have? What
12 is the gap in the supply difference between demand
13 and supply, and how do you fill those gaps? We have
14 approached you on many occasions and had the
15 opportunity and thank you for that opportunity to
16 present this -- this plan to you over the course of
17 the last year or so.

18 As I talk about we have a low, medium and
19 high supply demand, I am in the low and medium and
20 high demand, a low medium and a high supply, you put
21 those three together and you get a nine -- a three
22 by three matrix or nine different alternatives. I
23 am not going to go through the nine different
24 alternatives and I know you don't want me to. What
25 we focused it on was a range of demands and I think

1 is really important to look at. We can't forecast
2 what the future is going to be, but we are trying
3 forecast the range of demand. We have a high
4 projected demand which is significantly less than
5 our high projected demand in the past. In fact, it
6 is the medium projected demand in the past because
7 growth has significantly slowed in Albuquerque. Our
8 medium projected demand and our low projected demand
9 are a result of looking at our growth actually in
10 the utility itself. But we have also compared the
11 population figures that -- and as Commissioner
12 De La Cruz has pointed out we actually put those
13 numbers out there so people can actually see what
14 the projected growth in the system is by population
15 and these population figures have been compared to
16 the merge cog, the BBR and other people that are in
17 the business of actually predicting population, so
18 we vetted those numbers and again all of that
19 information is available to you in the notebook.

20 We looked at climate change and there is a
21 lot of data out there and there was a significant
22 study that was done by Bureau of Reclamation that
23 looked at the effects of climate change on both
24 native and San Juan-Chama water. This traffic shows
25 what the changes in climate change will do to our

1 water supply in the future. This is addressing, of
2 course, San Juan-Chama water under the high supply
3 scenario we see no change. We are anticipating that
4 whatever water we got in the past is the water we
5 would get in the future.

6 Under the medium climate change, which is
7 the one that we selected, called the central
8 tendency, we see about a 15 percent reduction in
9 supply over the next 90 to 100 years. So that means
10 as demand increases we have less supply available,
11 which means a larger gap.

12 The worst-case scenario is the low water
13 supply and that shows about a 25 percent reduction
14 in our supplies in the future. And we have
15 addressed that gap and that gap, we can't fill that
16 gap. I think there is a lot of uncertainty in the
17 future about filling that gap. I will be glad to
18 answer any questions that you have about that.

19 The Groundwater Management Reserve Plan is
20 probably the most significant element of this plan,
21 and that is we are now creating a working reserve in
22 which we are setting a management level and telling
23 our customers that we are not going to pump the
24 water below that level and that we are going to add
25 projects to our system and renewable supplies to our

1 system to keep that water above the -- above that
2 management level, and that is shown in this orange
3 line here.

4 The white line is what would happen if we
5 decided we weren't going to do anything. We were
6 not going to change this water management strategy
7 in terms of our groundwater use and we continue to
8 use the aquifer, and you see that dash line where
9 the aquifer would continue to be reduced over time.
10 This plan with implementation of Portfolio Number 1
11 shows the orange line, which means we continue to
12 stay above that management level and that means 100
13 years from now two-thirds of the aquifer that we are
14 setting aside is still going to be available for our
15 kids, our grandkids in the future. We are not
16 foregoing the opportunity of use of that water for
17 the future. So this is an incredible set aside for
18 the future of our citizens.

19 If you just look at the volumes, those
20 water droplets are intended to show a relative
21 difference in the volume. We are going to pump a
22 significantly less amount of groundwater under this
23 current supply plan than if we would have kept under
24 the current practice.

25 When you look at our supply gaps, when you

1 pick the medium demand and the medium supply, we
2 have a supply gap which is that blue triangle which
3 starts about the year 2083. I would like to point
4 out to you the dashed line which is the 2007
5 triangle that was predicted back in the adoption of
6 the 2007 and you can see because of our reduction in
7 use over time with our conservation program that
8 triangle is now shifted to the right and is a much
9 smaller than it was in the past.

10 Meeting the demand. So these are the
11 projects and what we are asking to be adopted by
12 this Board, which is to continue to utilize our
13 existing supplies, both groundwater and surface
14 water, but a significant reduction in our
15 groundwater use.

16 We are asking to adopt a conservation goal
17 of 110 gallons per capita per day over the next 20
18 years, continue to do reuse which I think the future
19 of what we are going to be doing is all going to be
20 about reuse and includes aquifer storage and
21 recovery and possibly some new storage. Connect our
22 existing reuse systems that we have in place. Storm
23 water capture was not on our original portfolio but
24 as we went out to the customer conversations and the
25 town hall, this was something that our customers

1 really liked. They really grabbed ahold of and had
2 a really hard time understanding when it rains and
3 that water rushes to the river why can't we use some
4 of that. Why isn't that available for us. And it
5 is available but there is a significant amount of
6 issues that have to be dealt with. So we added that
7 back into the plan, and indirect potable reuse which
8 is reusing our wastewater effluent to drink and
9 watershed management which was discussed earlier
10 about the Rio Grande water fund and the need to
11 restore our watersheds and keep our watersheds
12 clear, protect them from future catastrophic fires.

13 So when you put that Portfolio 1 on top of
14 the gaps, we have filled the gap. So on the left
15 side of the graphic you see the old -- the triangle
16 which was represented now by the dotted line, it is
17 gone. If you look at the low supply, that's the
18 triangle to the right of it which is the pink which
19 is if we anticipated a medium supply -- medium
20 demand and a low supply, that is the worst-case
21 climate change, we would have a gap that would start
22 somewhere around 2090. Now when we worked with the
23 Technical Customer Advisory Committee we worked with
24 alternatives to fill that gap. So we know that we
25 can fill that gap, if requested.

1 So the timeline of the projects and the
2 estimated cost are, we would continue to do aquifer
3 storage and recovery. We think that between now and
4 2020 or so and we invest in about \$10 million in
5 that in 2035, which is about 20 years from now, we
6 need to connect the two reuse systems. We think
7 that cost is around 23 million. In 2045 we would
8 add to the first phase of indirect potable reuse and
9 storm water, and you can see the cost there. I
10 don't need to go through each of the individual
11 costs, but the point is we are going to be
12 implementing new supplies over a period of time and
13 as those new projects come online we will reduce our
14 gap in the future.

15 Now I am going to turn it over to Paul
16 Cassidy and Erik Harrigan who are going to talk
17 about their review of the financial part of this
18 strategy.

19 MR. CASSIDY: Thank you, John. Madam
20 Chair and Members of the Governing Bored, good
21 evening. Erik Harrigan and I were asked as your
22 municipal advisor to review the cash flow model that
23 the Water Authority has in place and has had in
24 place for a number of years but in the last several
25 years has really modified its revenue requirements

1 in turning it into a true revenue requirements model
2 for the purpose of extending it and looking at
3 future needs including capital items likely being
4 presented in this plan.

5 Erik Harrigan is the guy in our office who
6 was charged with meeting our team and so I am going
7 to turn it over to Erik to summarize that and we
8 will be happy to answer any questions.

9 MR. HARRIGAN: Thank you, Paul. Madam
10 Chair, Members of the Authority, Councilors and
11 Commissioners, my name is Erik Harrigan with RBC
12 Capital Markets. I will walk you through the next
13 couple of slides. Based upon the 30-year model that
14 we developed, the cash flow model and the
15 information presented today, we believe that there
16 will be no impact to the Authority's existing rate
17 and revenue plan.

18 It also has some other impacts and
19 accomplishes two important goals relating to the
20 rating agencies, and that is it has a long-term
21 capital improvement plan. It also has a long-term
22 water supply.

23 We will cover a little bit of those in
24 more detail.

25 The plan and the forecast of rate revenue

1 structure will maintain and/or increase the strong
2 financial ratios that the Authority has, liquidity
3 and reserves and potentially the credit ratings.

4 It also decreases the risk of large
5 unexpected capital expenditures. One of the things
6 that the rating agencies look at, one of the largest
7 costs and risks to utilities in the Southwest is the
8 cost of where they are going to get -- where they
9 are going get their water from and this plan
10 addresses this, so it is a huge credit positive for
11 the -- for the Authority.

12 As I have mentioned, too, that the
13 implementation of the plan is not only -- does
14 not -- not only meets the best practices but exceeds
15 the best practices of the rating agencies. From a
16 capital planning standpoint Moodys looks at a more
17 than, you know, ten years; Standard & Poor's looks
18 at it for five years. This obviously exceeds that
19 by quite a wide margin. And also from a water
20 supply standpoint, 40 years is really considered
21 very, very strong to excellent and this obviously
22 far exceeds that as well.

23 And with that I would be happy to answer
24 any questions before I turn it back over to John.

25 CHAIRWOMAN JONES: Councilor Sanchez.

1 COUNCILOR SANCHEZ: Thank you, Madam
2 Chair. My question is regarding our bond rating, we
3 have a AA plus rating now. Will this hundred-year
4 plan in place in looking at some of the projections
5 that we see in the future and the positive outlook,
6 are we looking at the possibility of going back to
7 the rating agency and possibly looking at a AAA
8 rating once again.

9 MR. HARRIGAN: Madam Chair, Councilor
10 Sanchez, that is a possibility. Standard & Poor's
11 on their bond ratings, they look at from a kind of a
12 macroeconomic standpoint. This type of a plan
13 really helps to push the Authority's bond rating up.
14 Obviously that would be Standard & Poor's decision
15 on the rating, but that certainly makes -- gives a
16 very strong case to the Authority.

17 COUNCILOR SANCHEZ: I know we currently
18 have a AA plus rating, which is very good for
19 utility companies, but if we have that opportunity
20 to get that AAA plus rating for the ratepayers, I
21 think that would be great for the utility and the
22 ratepayers of our community.

23 MR. HARRIGAN: Absolutely. And that will
24 further reduce the Authority's interest costs in the
25 future by having a higher bond rating.

1 COUNCILOR SANCHEZ: Thank you.

2 CHAIRWOMAN JONES: So if I may simplify
3 that, that means it would be a huge cost savings for
4 the customers?

5 MR. HARRIGAN: Correct.

6 CHAIRWOMAN JONES: Thank you.

7 MR. STOMP: In summary, we did an analysis
8 for you and we showed this matrix for you to show
9 you the difference between the policies that are in
10 this 2017 strategy versus the policies that were in
11 the 2007 strategy. So the green represents that we
12 have an identical policy so we have not changed the
13 policy but we have broaden the language. The blue
14 means there was absolutely no change to that
15 existing policy. The new policy is to add storage
16 and the opportunity for us to evaluate the need for
17 and address a storage plan and then rate ordinance,
18 all of those elements of the rate ordinance that
19 were called for in the previous strategy have been
20 adopted and they are actually in the rate ordinance.

21 One of the struggles we had as we went
22 through the 2007 strategy, there was about 70
23 recommendations. There was a lot of duplication
24 with the recommendation, a lot of them were things
25 that were outside of our control, and so we tried to

1 develop these sub-policies working with the TCAC to
2 reduce the overlap, stop that and then make sure
3 that when we address the sub-policy something that
4 we actually can do so we don't come to you next year
5 when we are giving you an update on the strategy and
6 say, well, we really didn't make any progress on the
7 sub-policy because we can't really do those things,
8 it is outside of our control. So we're aware of
9 those things and we try to reduce that.

10 In your handouts and the staff reports and
11 also, of course, you have a copy of the adopted --
12 or I'm sorry, of the proposed strategy here. We are
13 not done yet. As people have talked about before,
14 what is the next steps. We need to develop a
15 groundwater management plan, following the adoption
16 of this strategy. We need a long-term reuse and
17 recycling plan. These are all things that we are
18 going to take before the public and take before the
19 TCAC. We clearly need a new conservation plan. If
20 we adopt a new goal, we need to go out to the public
21 and address the goal. We have proposed an adaptive
22 management approach. We actually need to work
23 through what that is going to look like on a storage
24 plan, environmental plan, all of these things,
25 including the public model development to be able to

1 take out to our school children and teach our high
2 school kids and our college students about water
3 resources and what we do here at the Water Authority
4 with our strategy. And we are planning an event in
5 September, September 15, the United States Water
6 Alliance is doing a Day Without Water and so we are
7 going to be participating in that event to try to
8 highlight the need for addressing infrastructure
9 issues associated with failing water and sewer
10 symptoms in the United States.

11 Which is not what we have here in the
12 Authority.

13 I will be glad to answer any questions.
14 In this presentation there is a whole group of the
15 policy statements and I don't know that you want me
16 to go through each individual policy and each
17 individual sub-policy. You clearly have all of
18 those, but I will be glad and I think Mr. Sanchez
19 and I would both be glad to answer any questions
20 that you might have unless you want me to go through
21 those painstakingly.

22 CHAIRWOMAN JONES: Probably not,
23 Mr. Stomp. Thank you very much.

24 Commissioner O'Malley.

25 COMMISSIONER O'MALLEY: Thank you, Madam

1 Chair. You have mentioned -- it was mentioned that
2 when the stock acquiring in 1907 water rights --
3 are -- do you feel that our water future is secure
4 without having to acquire water rights? I mean,
5 that is a big change so, I mean for somebody else is
6 going buy them what does that mean for our water
7 supply?

8 MR. STOMP: Madam Chair, and Commissioner
9 O'Malley that is an excellent question, and that is
10 a question we have been faced with the customers
11 when we have gone out to the customers, that is the
12 same question that was asked by the Technical
13 Customer Advisory Committee. Why aren't we going to
14 continue to do that, at least as an insurance
15 policy. We believe very strongly that using the
16 existing resources that we have right now,
17 particularly over this ten-year horizon are enough
18 for us to get through and be able to see what the
19 needs are going to be in the future. We will be
20 adopting this policy coming back to you in ten years
21 and we will be able to readdress that policy, if we
22 needed to readdress that policy, and get back into
23 the business. I think what it is going to do, I
24 think the market for 307 water rights is going to
25 reduce, the cost of those or the value of those is

1 going to reduce as a result of us getting out of the
2 marketplace. But people are still going to sell
3 their water rights. There are people out there that
4 will buy them but our goal, of course, is to work
5 with the ag community, try to make the ag community
6 as viable as we possibly can working with the Middle
7 Rio Grande Conservancy District and it's kind of
8 hypocritical for us to say we want to work with you
9 and oh, by the way, we are going to be buying all
10 these water rights and transferring them out of the
11 district at the same time. I think it is a good
12 step forward in looking regionally, but I don't
13 think it is going to have much effect on our water
14 resources at least in the next ten years and
15 possibly for several decades to come.

16 COMMISSIONER O'MALLEY: My concern would
17 be that there would be either competition somehow,
18 you know, other jurisdictions or other agencies that
19 acquire water rights would somehow challenge, you
20 know, our resources, not sure how that would work,
21 but that would be my concern. So that was one of
22 the questions I had.

23 And then I just have sort of a quick
24 question because, you know, we really highlighted
25 the injection into the groundwater, you know, we are

1 injecting water that was treated into the
2 groundwater. The question I have is, you know, of
3 course, groundwater is different throughout the
4 county. You have areas where groundwater is very,
5 very clean and it is actually ancient water and
6 there is some areas, of course, that are
7 contaminated. What does injected water do to the
8 quality of the water where you're injecting it?

9 MR. STOMP: Madam Chair, Commissioner
10 O'Malley, that is also a very good question. We
11 would not be injecting anything other than drinking
12 water quality. So whatever the source water is, we
13 will be cleaning that water up to the Safe Drinking
14 Water Act standards and we will be looking at that
15 chemical compatibility. We are not going to degrade
16 the aquifer by putting water into the aquifer, we
17 are going to make sure that we are protecting the
18 quality of the water that is already there. There
19 is varying qualities of water as you have mentioned.
20 There is high arsenic in some areas. Those will not
21 be the areas that we will be injecting water into
22 because we don't want the arsenic to overwhelm it
23 and have to treat it again. We will be looking at
24 those water quality issues and chemical
25 compatibility. What I can say is it will be clean

1 water, clean drinking water before we put it back
2 into the aquifer.

3 COMMISSIONER O'MALLEY: Just one final
4 question. In terms of water quality is that part of
5 this, you know, plan moving forward? I am sure the
6 technology changes, probably more expensive, but can
7 we expect in the future cleaner water?

8 MR. STOMP: Madam Chair, Commissioner
9 O'Malley, I think the answer is yes. I think the
10 regulatory requirements are getting more stringent,
11 so we are going to be doing that. The State is
12 looking at adopting new standards for -- just
13 recently adopting new standards for protecting our
14 drinking water and this Board has been amazing at
15 looking at the big picture and looking at protecting
16 the existing resources from the contamination that
17 already exists and making sure that that gets
18 cleaned up. So it is upon us to make sure we are
19 providing a clean supply, but also the sources that
20 are available we need to keep them clean, too, and
21 that is Policy H in our document with respect to
22 protecting our water quality.

23 CHAIRWOMAN JONES: Thank you.

24 Councilor Davis.

25 COUNCILOR DAVIS: Thank you, Madam Chair.

1 Briefly I wanted to go back, for just a second. You
2 mentioned sort of down the middle of the road,
3 middle, middle scenario allows us to pass along
4 about two-thirds of our current groundwater aquifer
5 supply sort of not to the next generation but four
6 to five down the road. I wonder, you know, did the
7 committee, the TCAC include discussion of scenarios
8 to get back to passing along 100 percent of the
9 aquifer as we were working on recharge? Is there an
10 option in there that we get to a place where we pass
11 along 100 percent of that resource, supply and
12 conservation?

13 MR. STOMP: Madam Chair, and Councilor
14 Davis that is a great question. We did look at
15 alternatives to look at what would the various
16 levels in the aquifer be, and one of the challenges
17 with what you're suggesting is that we would be
18 foregoing the use a lot of the existing assets that
19 we already have. So all of the wells that we have
20 if we didn't use the groundwater that way we would
21 propose it here, we would sort of forego those
22 assets and we would stop using them. In addition to
23 that we would forego the use of a lot of our water
24 rights. So there was challenges associated with
25 that but, yes, we can actually keep that line as

1 high as you would possibly want it, but what it
2 means is an influx in new infrastructure and new
3 water supplies to substitute for the water that we
4 are saving in the aquifer. So you're going to go
5 out and get new water supplies or like we are
6 prosing here, use the ones that we have. So, yes,
7 it is possible to do that, it's just going to cost
8 us more money and then make us go out to the market
9 sooner to get more water.

10 COUNCILOR DAVIS: I want to give a huge
11 credit to Councilor Sanchez and others, to award
12 some other committee and a huge amount of award to
13 the staff and the technical side of this to get us
14 to the place where we can have those discussions,
15 but I'm anxious to have those at our next meeting
16 when we get to looking at this evaluation.

17 One final question. Did we look at
18 expanding conservation options as a growing part of
19 our portfolio and what are the impacts for customers
20 at home? Right now we are seeing fewer lawn, we are
21 seeing more environmentally friendly conscious home
22 fixtures as we are building and those building
23 codes, but really what is the daily impact for our
24 customers, let's say, ten years down the road if we
25 adopt this as a conservation expand, what will they

1 see?

2 MR. STOMP: Madam Chair, and Councilor
3 Davis, if you don't mind I would love to call
4 Katherine Yuhaus down here to answer that question.
5 And frankly that is a question that many of our
6 customers asked us when we are in the public
7 meeting, what is Albuquerque going to look like when
8 we're done with this. So I think she can help to
9 address this.

10 MS. YUHAS: Madam Chair, Councilor Davis,
11 I am really glad you asked that because one of the
12 things that I looked at as we were evaluating this
13 plan is what is a reasonable amount of conservation
14 that we could achieve. And 10 gallons per capita
15 per day is what I think we can achieve with the
16 current technology that exists, you know, the types
17 of toilets we have, xeriscaping, those sorts of
18 things. And what we are really going to be focusing
19 on is getting greater efficiency. So what we might
20 see as a result of greater efficiency would be
21 putting a walking path around some of our parks so
22 that rather than having sprinklers that go all the
23 way up to the edge of the park and spraying into the
24 street, we are reducing the turf a little bit,
25 adding an amenity. I mean, that is just one

1 example. We would also be targeting programs not
2 for our residential customers. Our residential
3 customers have done a fabulous job with
4 conservation. If they -- if residential customers
5 continue to use the amount that they are using right
6 now, that would be fine into the future and we
7 really want those other classes of customer, our
8 commercial customers, industrial, institutional,
9 that is where we want to see the rest of the savings
10 coming from. So that will be a part of the new
11 conservation plan is targeting those other customers
12 with programs that will help them in the future.

13 CHAIRWOMAN JONES: If you would like to go
14 to the park up in the northeast section of the
15 state, you will see one of those parks that has
16 that. We were a real water waster and it now works.
17 Thank you.

18 Mr. Sanchez?

19 MR. SANCHEZ: Madam Chair, can I add one
20 more perspective to Councilor Davis' question in the
21 aquifer? I think what we are doing is much more
22 than what we have done in the past and that is why I
23 mention it. So we will now measure the instructions
24 of groundwater and California would be the best
25 example of what happens when you do not measure. So

1 we are not going to extract more groundwater. I
2 think the other challenge is going to be we know the
3 aquifer is rising and will continue to rise based on
4 what we are doing, but we have no control about what
5 the surrounding jurisdictions will do with that
6 aquifer, despite our efforts to conserve. That will
7 be the greater challenge.

8 COUNCILOR DAVIS: Thank you.

9 CHAIRWOMAN JONES: Thank you, Mr. Sanchez.
10 Are there any more questions?

11 Commissioner De La Cruz.

12 VICE CHARIMAN DE LA CRUZ: Thank you,
13 Madam Chair. I have to say that as far back as 2005
14 when then Mayor Chavez was an officer, had just been
15 elected, actually, he put together what we called
16 sustainability teams or positional teams because he
17 was continuing as mayor but at that time I was the
18 chair of sustainability team at Parks and
19 Recreation. And that far back they were
20 recommending that activity of cutting back the lawn
21 away from the sidewalks and the streets be
22 implemented. So I am glad to hear that it is being
23 done. It took a little while but thank you. Thank
24 you, Madam Chair.

25 CHAIRWOMAN JONES: Thank you.

1 Councilor Sanchez.

2 COUNCILOR SANCHEZ: Thank you, Madam
3 Chair. I was looking at the year 2120 and I will be
4 164 years young when this plan is fully implemented
5 and looked at. As we look back into the past I just
6 want to thank our team. I was very skeptical about
7 a hundred-year plan when we first started to talk
8 about it over a year ago. And when I talked to John
9 and to Mark, they made statements that this plan
10 will be updated as years go on because technology
11 will change and hopefully that technology will
12 improve more water conservation and it will be
13 beneficial to this community. I think that one of
14 the first water utility companies in the country
15 that is now looking at a 100-year plan and I've
16 looked at this plan and I am very pleased in ways
17 that we are looking at securing our water future. I
18 think it's critically important and also looking at
19 the groundwater reserves and management plan for the
20 next 100 years, you know, I think we are going a
21 real good job. I know Elaine has some concerns
22 about it but I think working with this technical
23 team and as we move into the future, I think this is
24 really going to be a document that will stand the
25 test of time. And we will not be here when this

1 document in the 300-year plan is done, but again, I
2 want to thank our team for their work. I am
3 incredibly impressed from what has been done and
4 like I said, I was a real skeptic at first but, you
5 know, I think we are moving in the right direction
6 and I feel very good that this document will
7 withstand the test of time.

8 CHAIRWOMAN JONES: Thank you, Mr. Stomp.

9 MR. STOMP: Thank you. I just want to
10 mention one thing. The actual name of the plan came
11 from our customers. When we went to the customer
12 conversations, we asked them what they thought the
13 name of this plan should be. We gave them several
14 options and then they came up with their own and
15 that is where the plan name came from. So I just
16 want to give the kudos to our customers for the
17 name.

18 CHAIRWOMAN JONES: Thank you. We are very
19 pleased to hear about this plan. I hope everyone
20 enjoys it and understands how much work and how long
21 this is taking and how much involved. I think it is
22 great as a City to see us leading the rest of the
23 country and perhaps the world in this type of
24 conservation and so thank you, if I may, to the
25 entire staff, to the TCAC, to everyone who has had

1 input in this. Quite frankly I would like to
2 applaud.

3 (Applause.)

4 CHAIRWOMAN JONES: There are no items on
5 the consent agenda this evening so we are going to
6 move to approvals.

7 The first on agenda is R-16-8, which is
8 authorizing an agreement with Pulte Homes of
9 New Mexico for the Montecito Vistas Units 1 through
10 4 subdivision for water and sewer service.

11 VICE CHARIMAN DE LA CRUZ: So move.

12 CHAIRWOMAN JONES: There is a motion for
13 approval. Is there a second?

14 COUNCILOR SANCHEZ: Second.

15 CHAIRWOMAN JONES: There is a motion and a
16 second. Go ahead, please.

17 MR. DAVE: Chris Dave again with the
18 utility development here to present the development
19 agreement for a subdivision entitled Montecito
20 Vistas Units 1 through 4, located west at Tevata
21 Drive in the north side of the Vista.

22 What the project consists of 136
23 residential lots. The developer will be extending
24 water and sewer lines to serve the development and
25 the developer is also responsible for paying the

1 UBCs and water supply charges as well.

2 CHAIRWOMAN JONES: Thank you. Are there
3 any questions? Comments? There is a motion and a
4 second to approve R-16-8. All those in favor say
5 yes.

6 ALL MEMBERS: Yes.

7 CHAIRWOMAN JONES: Opposed?

8 Motion carries.

9 (6/0 Vote. Agenda Item 9A approved.)

10 CHAIRWOMAN JONES: Next on the agenda is
11 C-16-19, which is authorizing contract with RBC
12 Capital Markets, LLC, for financial advisor
13 services.

14 VICE CHARIMAN DE LA CRUZ: To move --

15 CHAIRWOMAN JONES: There is a motion and a
16 second for approval. Mr. Allred, would you like to
17 tell us what this is?

18 MR. ALLRED: Madam Chair, Members of the
19 Board, this is a contract with RBC Capital Markets
20 to provide financial advisory services to the
21 Authority. We piggyback the offering the Bernalillo
22 County contract. They did an RFP for the services
23 in April, and we just ask you for approval.

24 CHAIRWOMAN JONES: Thank you. Are there
25 any questions or comments from the Board? Councilor

1 Sanchez.

2 COUNCILOR SANCHEZ: Thank you. They did
3 not ask for a 30-day deferral on this item.

4 MR. ALLRED: Councilor Sanchez, Madam
5 Chair, they did a very nice presentation so...

6 CHAIRWOMAN JONES: Thank you, Mr. Allred.
7 There is a motion and a second to approve C-16-19.
8 All those in favor say yes.

9 ALL MEMBERS: Yes.

10 CHAIRWOMAN JONES: Opposed?

11 Motion carries.

12 (6/0 Vote. Agenda Item 9C approved.)

13 CHAIRWOMAN JONES: And under other
14 business is a Water Protection Advisory Board 2016
15 update. If Dr. Thatcher would like to come forward
16 and tell what is up.

17 DR. THATCHER: Good evening. Madam Chair,
18 Members of the Board, my name is Jennifer Thatcher.
19 I am a member of the Economics Department of the
20 University of New Mexico. I am speaking today as
21 the Vice Chair of the Water Protection Advisory
22 Board.

23 I want to start out by just reminding you
24 about the mission of the Water Protection Advisory
25 Board. It is a four-fold mission. The first is to

1 advise the Water Authority, the City and the County
2 on surface and groundwater protection.

3 So each of those groups designates members
4 to belong to the Board, I am one of your designees,
5 and the practice, the way this works is you
6 sometimes contact us and ask us to look at a
7 specific issue and come back to you with a
8 recommendation. Sometimes in learning about a
9 particular issue we will write a memo to you and let
10 you know our thoughts on the issue.

11 Our second part of our mission is to
12 oversee water quality protection policy in action
13 plan.

14 The third, we try to promote consistency
15 and agency efforts to protect surface and
16 groundwater quality.

17 So as you are well aware, there's many
18 different groups focused on water issues in the
19 Middle Rio Grande and we try to enhance and
20 encourage communication across those groups.

21 And finally we try to advocate for
22 effective protection for water quality and so that
23 means beyond you, we are often sending letters to
24 different groups.

25 I want to tell you a little bit about some

1 of our 2015 accomplishments. So the first is that
2 we served as a public venue for presentations
3 regarding the status of contents of the mixed waste
4 landfill. So as part of that we had presentations
5 from the New Mexico Environment Department and the
6 Department of Energy regarding citizen action
7 New Mexico's claims about high-level waste in the
8 landfill. We received update status on cleanups for
9 a number of Superfund sites as well as potential
10 future Superfund sites. Although I would like to
11 say we are a very protective board, we haven't in
12 fact submitted our 2016 annual report but we did
13 submit our 2015 report.

14 In terms of in that report one of the
15 things that comes across is our three priorities for
16 the year. So the first is protection of groundwater
17 quality in the Albuquerque basin. So that means we
18 are going to continue to monitor the progress of
19 groundwater remediation and investigation projects
20 in the Middle Rio Grande, including the bulk fuel
21 facility and Superfund sites. It also means we are
22 starting to focus on what might be potential issues
23 in the future such as oil and gas and looking at
24 implementation of Bernalillo County's new septic
25 ordinance.

1 The second priority that was identified by
2 the group is protection of surface water quality and
3 watershed protection. So there we are focusing both
4 on the MS4 permit as well as the issue that was
5 brought up by Laura about the connection between
6 forced land that have fire and their impacts on
7 water quality.

8 And finally we are going to continue to
9 try and foster inter-government coordination
10 cooperation and communication.

11 In terms of things that we have been
12 working on so far in 2016 of the things has been
13 review of oil and gas operations and regulations.
14 So we have had several protections including from
15 the New Mexico Oil and Conservation Division and the
16 citizen representative from San Miguel County. We
17 also have been reviewing environmental restoration
18 activities, Sandia and upcoming the Water Protection
19 Advisory Board is going to serve as a venue for an
20 MS4 permit public meeting for the County and City.

21 And finally just ending with top areas for
22 water quality protection. We are going to continue
23 to look at and be aware of groundwater contamination
24 sites, storm water quality, so discharges above the
25 San Juan-Chama diversion dam, septic systems, Sandia

1 National Labs and, again, we are keeping our eye on
2 oil and gas operations. So I would be pleased to
3 take any questions.

4 CHAIRWOMAN JONES: Thank you. Are there
5 any questions? Thank you. Thank you for a great
6 presentation. Thank you for sitting out your
7 evening to do that.

8 Are there any other business? Councilor
9 Sanchez?

10 COUNCILOR SANCHEZ: Real quickly, Madam
11 Chairwoman, I want to thank Mark Sanchez, David
12 Morris, Patty Watson, John, and TLC representatives.
13 We had a meeting this morning with West Central
14 Merchants regarding some of the construction work
15 that is going on along West Central. I was wearing
16 a white tie when I went into the meeting, now it is
17 red. We took a few bullets. They did a really good
18 job in working with the community. There is still a
19 lot of issues that are outstanding. As this project
20 progresses forward, they will be moving the work
21 along the central corridor, hopefully through some
22 of the work that has been done now we can improve
23 the project and make it much better for the business
24 community. Again, I want to thank you Director
25 Sanchez for your work.

1 CHAIRWOMAN JONES: Commissioner De La
2 Cruz.

3 VICE CHARIMAN DE LA CRUZ: Thank you,
4 Madam Chair. I would like to request that staff do
5 a news release that the comprehensive plan securing
6 our water future is now available so that the
7 citizenry can read the draft and be familiar with
8 it. Thank you, Madam Chair.

9 CHAIRWOMAN JONES: Thank you,
10 Commissioner. Seeing no other business, this
11 meeting is adjourned.

12 (Proceedings concluded at 6:57 p.m.)

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1 STATE OF NEW MEXICO
2 COUNTY OF BERNALILLO
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