



Jennifer Thacher, *Chair*  
Steve Glass, *Vice-Chair*  
Suzanne Busch  
John S. Derr  
Kerry J. Howe

Roland Penttila  
Russell D. Pederson  
Caroline Scruggs

**Water Protection Advisory Board**  
**c/o ABCWUA**  
P.O. Box 568  
Albuquerque, NM 87103

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Minutes: March 10, 2017  
Location: Bernalillo County Public Works Division, 2400 Broadway  
Time: 8:35 a.m. – 10:23 a.m.

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**Board Members Present:** Chair Jennifer Thacher, Vice Chair Steve Glass, Russell Pederson, Roland Penttila, Suzanne Busch, and John Derr.

**Board Members Absent (excused):** Caroline Scruggs and Kerry Howe

**PIC Members Present:** Mark Kelly, Kali Bronson, Jane DeRose-Bamman, Ken Ziegler, Bart Faris, and Kali Bronson

**Guests:** Connor Kelley (CDM Smith), Julia Templin, Adria Bodour (AFCEC), Diane Agnew (NMED), Kate Lynnes (KAFB), Lisa Mathias (KAFB/AFCEC), Holly O'Grady (KAFB), and Mariana Padilla (Office of Rep. Lujan Grisham)

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## **I. Call to Order**

Chair Dr. Jennifer Thacher called the meeting to order at 8:30 a.m.

## **II. Approval of Agenda**

Chair Thacher requested a motion to approve the agenda.

Motion was made by member Dr. John Derr and seconded by member Mr. Roland Penttila to approve the agenda, and carried unanimously.

## **III. Approval of Minutes**

Chair Dr. Jennifer Thacher requested a motion to approve the draft January meeting minutes.

Motion was made by Vice Chair Steve Glass and seconded by member Ms. Suzanne Busch. Motion to approve the draft January minutes carried unanimously.

#### **IV. Presentation: Update on the Kirtland Air Force Base Bulk Fuels Facility Leak Site**

Dr. Adria Bodour of the Air Force Civil Engineering Center (AFCEC) and Ms. Diane Agnew of the New Mexico Environment Department (NMED) provided the board with an update on the interim measures occurring at the Kirtland Air Force Base (KAFB) Bulk Fuels Facility (BFF) Leak Site.

Before the presentation, Ms. Kate Lynnes, Senior Executive Services member and the senior program manager for office of the Deputy Assistant Secretary of the Air Force for Environment, Safety and Infrastructure, assigned to the KAFB BFF Spill site introduced herself to the board. Ms. Lynnes noted that she serves as the U.S. Headquarters point of contact for the KAFB BFF Leak site project and her position is intended to serve as the consistent presence leadership of the project through command changes at KAFB.

Ms. Agnew told the board that the New Mexico Environment Department (NMED) released their “2017 Strategic Plan” for the Kirtland Air Force Base (KAFB) Bulk Fuels Facility (BFF) Leak earlier this year, incorporating three strategies to protect the Water Authority’s drinking water supply in the area of the contamination plume. Ms. Agnew added that the strategies include implementing a robust monitoring and wellhead protection program, deploying multiple cleanup strategies simultaneously and sequentially, and to meet or exceed all requirements for public involvement.

Dr. Bodour told the board that “capture” of the dissolved phase EDB plume has been demonstrated through water-level and plume concentration data collected during 2016. Ms. Agnew explained that AFCEC’s contractor, EA Engineering, performed an evaluation on the data following a U.S. Environmental Protection Agency protocol for capture data analyses, concluding that the existing capture wells are effectively influencing the EDB plume to move toward the extraction wells and away from the Water Authority’s production wells. Dr. Bodour added that this is despite the forced temporary shut-down of one of the extraction wells due to biofouling and as of mid-March over 150 million gallons of EDB contaminated water have been treated through the groundwater treatment system (GWTS).

Dr. Bodour told the board that an additional extraction well will be made operational this year, making a total of four operating cleanup wells sending water to the recently expanded GWTS for treatment. Dr. Bodour noted that additional interim measures will be implemented this year that will address the concentrated contamination below the source of the leak, including an in situ biodegradation pilot test of the remediation of EDB in the light nonaqueous phase plume below KAFB, and bioventing that will address the residual fuel in the vadose zone.

The presenters also shared with the board that the U.S. Air Force Civil Engineering Center (AFCEC) and Kirtland Air Force Base (KAFB) recently submitted a Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA) Facility Investigation Report, or RFI, to NMED for approval. They explained that the RFI, outlining the nature and extent of the contamination at the KAFB BFF Site, will be followed by a RFI addendum to be submitted in 2018. Dr. Bodour added that approval of the RFI and Addendum, if granted by NMED, will transition the corrective action activities to a "Corrective Measures Evaluation" Phase.

## **V. Board Discussion of Presentation**

Board members discussed the progress at the KAFB BFF Leak site, and were encouraged with the status report. Members agreed to prepare a letter to be read at the next Water Authority Governing Board meeting, recognizing the significant progress that has been made at the site over the last two years.

## **VI. Board Business**

### Board Discussion during the Feb. Meeting Presentation Regarding the Risk of Pipeline Exposure and Catastrophic Releases in the Middle Rio Grande

Members discussed the request by Ms. Jodilynn Ortiz of the Eastern Sandoval Citizens Association to the WPAB to sign on to a letter to the U.S. Department of Transportation requesting that regulations dealing with interstate pipelines be changed for several safety reasons. Board members expressed that although the topic is supportable, they were uncomfortable signing on to the letter in its current form. Board members suggested that proposed regulatory language changes be clarified, and that confirmation of state agency support be documented.

### Legislative Update

Mr. Rick Shean (Water Authority) provided a handout of 2017 state legislation regarding environmental and water quality related topics. Board members discussed HB 468, a bill that would replace the Water Authority's current board structure to a board of elected officials, and SM 78 that was inspired by the WPAB's recommendation for Bernalillo County and City of Albuquerque to promulgate oil and gas industry ordinances. Mr. Shean said that this memorial was currently in the Senate Rules committee.

**VIII. Other Board Business – None**

**IX. Public Comment Period – None**

**X. Adjourn – 10:23 a.m.**