

**TYRONE WATER & WASTEWATER ASSOCIATION BOARD MEETING**  
**December 17, 2025 – 6:30 P.M. – TYRONE COMMUNITY CENTER**  
**DRAFT MINUTES**  
**Website: tyronewater.org**

1. Board President Alan Berg called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. Doug Gorthy and Alan Berg present at 50 Malachite Avenue and Elizabeth Gonzales was present on Zoom. Berg declared that a quorum was present as there are only three board members at this time.
2. Berg entertained a motion to approve the agenda. Doug Gorthy made the motion and the motion was seconded by Elizabeth Gonzales. Berg asked if there was any discussion on the motion and hearing none, called for a voice vote to approve the agenda. The motion was approved unanimously.
3. Berg entertained a motion to approve the November Statement of Financial Position. Doug Gorthy made a motion to approve the November Statement of Financial Position. The motion was seconded by Elizabeth Gonzales, Berg asked if there was any discussion on the motion and Doug Gorthy had a question on a specific interest charge. Berg explained that it was the interest portion of the NMFA PPRF-6799 loan and the interest and principle were identified separately. Doug Gorthy also asked about revenue/collection issues and Eddie Mendoza offered to discuss the methodology of how we are currently tracking late assessment payments. The Accounts Receivable list is published each month and the list is sorted by amount owed and Eddie and Alan Berg work through the issues related to each property and either call the owner, send a 30 day letter or send a 60 day letter if the 30 day letter did not trigger a response by the property owner. Due to the change in accounting firms, Alan Berg and Eddie Mendoza will be contacting delinquent property owners and working out payment plans. There are 5 property owners who have sent hardship requests to TWWA. The hardship requests will be considered by the Board and recommendations on how to proceed will be developed. Berg called for the question and the motion to approve the November 2025 Statement of Financial Position was approved unanimously by a voice vote.
4. **Old Business**
  - a. Berg and Mendoza discussed the ongoing issues with the altitude valve at the water tower. A technician with \_\_\_\_\_ has been onsite and took the specifications of the current plumbing to his office in order that their engineers could develop a repair plan. There have been five incidents where the valve from the water source was stuck

shut and one incident where the valve opened and did not shut resulting in an overflow of water. Berg installed a water pressure gauge at his house and monitors it regularly. He also put a webcam on the gauge so he can monitor it remotely. Berg reports the pressure to Eddie Mendoza at least once a day. The difficulty with the altitude valve is one of the reasons that TWWA asked for funds in CIF-6444.

- b. Berg reported on CIF-6443 the water system construction bidding and bid award schedule. Bid walk will be on December 18, 2025 and the bid will be awarded on January 15, 2026.
- c. Berg reported that CIF-6444, water tower rehabilitation project will be going out for bid after the water system project has started construction.
- d. Berg entertained a motion to approve High Desert CPA as a bridge accounting entity to manage the day-to-day accounting activities of TWWA. Doug Gorthy made a motion to approve High Desert CPA and the motion was seconded by Elizabeth Gonzales. Berg asked for discussion on this topic and it was determined that SWNMCOG has engaged the firm on our behalf and High Desert CPA will invoice SWNMCOG for work done on our behalf. The SWNMCOG has allocated up to \$20,000 for this support function. After additional discussion on how to proceed, Berg called for the question and the motion failed unanimously with three nay votes.

## **5. New Business**

- a. Berg entertained a motion to approve Budget Adjustment Request BAR 2026-01. Increase in line item related to attorney fees. An upward adjustment of \$10,000 is proposed. These funds will reduce the contingency funds from \$30,000 to \$20,000. This will be an internal BAR as we will not exceed our approved fiscal year 2026 budget of \$313,000. Doug Gorthy made a motion to approve BAR 2026-01. Elizabeth Gonzales seconded the motion. Berg asked if there was any further discussion on the motion. Hearing none, he called for a roll call vote. Elizabeth Gonzales voted yes. Doug Gorthy voted yes, and Alan Berg voted yes. The motion to approve BAR 2026-01 was approved unanimously.
- b. Berg entertained a motion to approve the donation of two parcels within the Townsite by Freeport McMoRan Inc.

- i. The parcels are: Grant County Assessor's Parcels: 3083107050453 and 3083107008409 and front Copper Drive.
- ii. Tyrone Community Association (TCA) has approved the donation

Doug Gorthy made a motion to accept the two real estate parcels and Elizabeth Gonzales seconded the motion. Berg went over the proximity of the parcels to the waterline and wastewater line projects. No further discussion was offered by any Board member and the motion carried by a unanimous voice vote.

- c. Berg entertained a motion to fund a grant coordinator to apply for a funding source for wastewater lines in Tyrone. Maximum amount for grant coordinator will be \$10,000.00.
  - i. Interstate Stream Commission (ISC) has funds for water and wastewater projects
  - ii. TWWA should closely follow the ISC schedules
  - iii. TWWA should engage a company to submit grant applications
  - iv. Approve/disapprove a motion to allocate funds to monitor and apply for ISC funding

Doug Gorthy made a motion to fund a grant coordinator up to \$10,000 to apply to the Interstate Stream Commission for a wastewater project within the range of \$10,000,000 to \$12,000,000. Seconded by Elizabeth Gonzales. Berg called for the question and the motion passed unanimously by a voice vote.

6. Doug Gorthy made a motion to move into executive session. Alan Berg seconded the motion. Berg asked if there was any discussion about moving into executive session and heard none. Berg called for a voice vote to move into executive session and the motion passed unanimously by a voice vote. Approval/disapproval of motion moving into executive session in accordance with 2024 New Mexico Statutes Chapter 10 - Public Officers and Employees Article 15 - Open Meetings Section 10-15-1 H (6) and (7) Formation of public policy; procedures for open meetings; exceptions and procedures for executive session.

Doug Gorthy made a motion to end the executive session and move back in the regular session. Alan Berg seconded the motion, which passed unanimously by a voice vote.

- a. Reconvene in open session after executive session
  - b. Any action taken in executive session
- 7. Report of actions taken in executive session. Alan Berg reported that five requests for a hardship consideration were discussed in executive session and the Board is requesting additional financial information from the petitioners before the Board will consider the requests. A note to the record is that the Board is not forgiving any debt, only extending the period that the debt will be repayed outside the 24 month schedule.
- 8. Berg entertained a motion to adjourn the regular meeting. Doug Gorthy made the motion. Elizabeth Gonzales seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

No reports were made by the TWWA Board members

- 9. Report and Approval of Officers and Committees
  - a. President's Report
  - b. Doug Gorthy-member
  - c. Elizabeth Gonzales-member
  - d. Water Operator - Eddie Mendoza
  - e. Public Input (limited to 3 minutes/person)

**STATE OF NEW MEXICO  
SPECIAL DISTRICT OF TYRONE WATER & WASTEWATER ASSOCIATION  
BUDGET ADJUSTMENT REQUEST (BAR 2026-01)  
\$10,000 BUDGET ADJUSTMENT  
For 2026 FISCAL YEAR**

**WHEREAS**, the Governing body in and for Tyrone Water & Wastewater Association, State of New Mexico has identified the need to adjust the approved budget for fiscal year 2026 and

**WHEREAS**, the fiscal year 2026 budget was approved in July 2025 based on need and through cooperation with all user departments, elected officials and other department supervisors; and

**WHEREAS**, the official meetings for the review of said documents were duly advertised, in compliance with the State Open Meetings act, and

**WHEREAS**, it is the majority opinion of this Board that the recognition of the referenced funds are within the approved fiscal year 2026 budget will not impact the financial condition of the TWWA; and

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED** that the Governing Body of the Tyrone Water & Wastewater Association, State of New Mexico hereby adopts the budget adjustment hereinabove described and attached.

**RESOLVED:** In session this 17<sup>th</sup> Day of December 2025.

**Tyrone Water and Wastewater Association Board of Directors**

**Tyrone, New Mexico 88065-0570**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Alan G. Berg President**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Doug Gorthy Member**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Elizabeth Gonzales Member**

**(seal)**

## Notes from Interstate Stream Commission

As the New Mexico Interstate Stream Commission prepared for the second round of its pilot funding cycle for the New Mexico Unit Fund, commissioners met in a Dec. 1 work session to discuss how to ensure its policies are equitable but not too restrictive.

The N.M. Unit Fund was established from New Mexico's \$66 million share of the 2004 Arizona Water Settlements Act, a federal law that resolved water-use claims among Arizona, New Mexico and Native American nations. By law, the funds are to be used for water projects in Catron, Grant, Hidalgo and Luna counties. A state law passed in 2021 directed the ISC and the state Water Trust Board to prepare a process to distribute those funds to projects.

That work finally started this year, with a pilot funding cycle that was preceded by public listening sessions. In October, the Stream Commission approved funding for 11 projects in all four counties totaling \$4.2 million — each recommended by a scoring system. Only projects in the planning phase were eligible in the first round, with many of them for planning and design of projects or asset management plans. Agreements for those funds are currently in process.

During their Dec. 1 session, the ISC discussed the next phase of funding, which is still considered a pilot program as the ISC learns from its stakeholders how to improve the process, said Jesse Shapiro, the commission's manager for the Arizona Water Settlements Act.

"We want to use this cycle to learn more and figure out ways to do this better, but we also do need to add new things to the policy like construction, which wasn't eligible last time," he said.

Shapiro reported the value of the fund as \$130 million as of November, a gain of \$12 million since last year thanks to the fund's investments.

He presented commissioners with a suggested calendar for the coming year, with the staff preparing a draft of the policies for the second round of pilot funding through next spring. Listening sessions for public input in the four counties along with one online session will be scheduled in the spring, along with a public comment period for the policy document.

Applications for the second round of the pilot cycle will likely be open in June and July, with the Water Trust Board making its recommendations in October and the ISC giving its approval to applications next November.

Among the possible changes to the policy discussed by commissioners and staff were whether to place any caps or limits on funding requests, what the long-term strategy for the N.M. Unit Fund should be and updating evaluation criteria.

Not having caps or limitations on applications created some challenges in the first pilot cycle, Shapiro said. The 11 projects that were awarded in October went to eight entities, with the city of Bayard getting two projects funded and the village of Columbus getting three.

Commissioners discussed potential limits, such as allowing just one project per entity per funding cycle, capping the amount funded in a cycle at 10 percent of the fund value or creating tiered project caps.

An example of the tiered caps would be allowing for funding four projects up to \$500,000, three projects up to \$2 million and one project up to \$5 million in each cycle.

Adding such limitations could help with other issues raised by stakeholders, such as competition for small versus large projects, or geographically diverse projects versus a more focused one, Shapiro said.

“This was an attempt on our part to address the equity issue we heard from stakeholders about smaller entities competing against larger, better resourced entities in the application process,” said Colleen Cunningham, environmental coordinator for the ISC. “We were trying to figure out a process that might work well for everyone, realizing that although the fund is large, it’s not large enough we could fund every large construction project.”

Commissioner Paula Garcia agreed with such an approach, saying it would keep the smallest entities, such as community acequia associations, from having to compete with larger municipalities.

Commissioner Greg Carrasco expressed concern that too many limitations could reduce the flexibility of the fund and its ability to have an impact across the four counties.

“There may be one good, big project that would make a huge difference, or there may be way more than four little less-than-\$500,000 projects that would make a difference, too,” he said. “If we’re going to make an impact, I just think we want to be a little careful about making it too restrictive as to how we would expend these funds. I think it ought to be less restrictive than more restrictive.”

Commissioner Phoebe Suina said she would be in favor of the policy being more flexible. Projects are usually funded piecemeal through various sources as they proceed through different phases of design and construction, she said, and many of those sources are not flexible in their policies, requiring lots of work to manage them all throughout the project. Personnel turnover in the entities receiving the funds can complicate those issues.

The commission also discussed the potential for allowing higher education institutions to enter the application process. Colleges and universities were not eligible in the first pilot cycle, although one from outside the four-county area did submit an application, said Julia Bowman, attorney for the ISC.

The application process could be opened to universities outside the region, such as New Mexico State University or the University of New Mexico, for studies or assessments within the region, Cunningham said.

Commissioner Peter Russell recommended allowing the outside universities to apply as fiscal agents for smaller entities, such as mutual domestic water associations that want to collaborate on assessments of their systems.

“I think that ability to provide fiscal agents for beyond studies, but for projects themselves, is important,” he said.

Carrasco said having a university provide that support makes sense, but expressed concern that the policy should specify any university from outside the region should have to tie its application to a specific project within the four counties.

That could be written into the policy, said Hannah Riseley-White, ISC director, adding that eligibility is one of the areas of the policy where stakeholders had asked for more clarification.