

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF
THE BOARD OF WATER AND SEWER COMMISSIONERS
FEBRUARY 15, 2024, AT 8:30 A.M.,
IN THE PLANNING ROOM AT THE MUNICIPAL BUILDING, 101 N. HALAGUENO
STREET, CARLSBAD, NM**

VOTING MEMBERS PRESENT:	Fred Beard John Bowen Dennis Miehl Gary Perkowski	Member Member Member Member
VOTING MEMBERS ABSENT:	Craig Stephens	Chairman
EX-OFFICIO MEMBERS PRESENT:	Wendy Austin	Interim City Administrator/Secretary
EX-OFFICIO MEMBERS ABSENT:	Richard D. Lopez	Mayor
OTHERS PRESENT:	K.C. Cass Ivan Abell Melissa Salcido Denise Madrid-Boyea Ron Myers Wes Nichols Matt Warner Richard Aguilar Olga Ramirez Eddie Rodriguez Nathan Taylor	Deputy City Administrator Director of Utilities Director of Finance City Attorney Water Superintendent Deputy Director of Utilities WWTP Superintendent Environmental Services Superintendent Assistant to City Administrator City Councilor Water Runner LLC

1. Roll Call and Determination of Quorum

F. Beard called roll and it was determined that there was a quorum of voting members.

2. Approval of Agenda

The motion was made by J. Bowen and seconded by D. Miehl to Approve the Agenda. The vote was as follows: Yes: F. Beard, J. Bowen, D. Miehl, G. Perkowski No: None. Absent: C. Stephens. The Motion passed.

3. Approval of Minutes of the Board of Water and Sewer Commissioners Regular Meeting held January 18, 2024

The motion was made by D. Miehl and seconded by J. Bowen to Approve the Minutes of the Regular Board of Water and Sewer Commissioners Meeting held on January 18, 2024. The vote was as follows: Yes: F. Beard, J. Bowen, D. Miehl, G. Perkowski No: None. Absent: C. Stephens. The Motion passed.

4. Consider Approval of request for Water Service from Water Runner Inc

Nathan Taylor, owner of Water Runner Inc., said the company is a bulk potable hauling company that services West Texas and Southeastern New Mexico. The reason for this request is over the last few years they have seen an increase in requests for emergency water service. They would like to develop a network of supply points across the region into New Mexico. Currently they do not have a dedicated potable water source in New Mexico. He would like to develop an agreement to purchase water to fill tankers.

D. Miehl asked if this was an as needed emergency basis. N. Taylor responded they supply potable water to man camps, rigs, chemical blenders and mid-stream gas processing facilities. They have a diverse population to whom they supply water to. They would like to start focusing on supplying for emergency services. They would like to expand their services outside of West Texas.

J. Bowen asked where they were currently getting their water. N. Taylor responded a combination of sources. They have a few purchase agreements with small cities; they also have some Public Water Supply (PWS) wells. J. Bowen asked what the size of their company was. N. Taylor said they sell about 40 to 50 million gallons a year, which is a combination of commercial and industrial water. He said for this area, they see about five to ten loads a month which equals to about 60,000 gallons. D. Miehl asked if they had trucks here or if they bring trucks from Texas. N. Taylor said in the future they would like to develop and position themselves here and supply the areas from Carlsbad.

G. Perkowski asked to clarify whether they would be getting about 100,000 to 300,000 barrels a year from Carlsbad and move it to Texas. N. Taylor stated no, if they get water from Carlsbad it will stay in the local area and it will not cross state lines.

I. Abell stated this business plan is similar to other water haulers that are in the state. Currently, the state has four listed on their website, only one is consider local and they are located out of Alamogordo. Councilor Rodriguez asked if they would be required to get a state license. I. Abell stated yes. I. Abell said he believes this would be a benefit to the city, and would be helpful in emergencies. He said this water would be going out of the servicing district.

Councilor Rodriguez asked if they are asking for city potable water or well water that they turn into potable water. N. Taylor said they have the capability but right now, they are asking for a meter and a tap location. Councilor Rodriguez asked if they tested the water, he is concerned if they receive a violation that it will come back on the city. I. Abell said if a sample comes back positive, that would trigger the city to go sample our sources.

G. Perkowski asked if the city were to agree, what the advantages are to the city and the citizens of Carlsbad. I. Abell stated if they do open up their business here, that will add revenue and increase in the GRT. It will also allow the neighboring communities to have a potable water source in case of an emergency. G. Perkowski stated so basically we are just doing this for our neighbors. I. Abell said yes and the revenue for the city. G. Perkowski asked how much revenue it would bring in. I. Abell responded he didn't have the amount at this time. Councilor Rodriguez mentioned there are several water service rates, the city would have to determine which rate they would fall under. N. Taylor stated they are usually billed at the highest rate.

W. Austin stated there is a large variance between the commercial and industrial rates. They will have to look at the rates. D. Boyea mentioned the city doesn't have a rate for this, she suggested updating the Ordinance to address specific issues. K.C. Cass stated he agrees the Ordinance needs to be updated, they need to get more answers before the board votes on this request. F. Beard agreed there are too many unknown questions and they need to get some details worked out before they vote. G. Perkowski said he's concerned with the city giving away water. The city water sources are more important than the revenue it will bring into the city.

G. Perkowski made the motion to table the item until the details have been worked out and put into an Ordinance and/or Agreement. D. Miehl seconded the motion. The vote was as follows: Yes: F. Beard, J. Bowen, D. Miehl, G. Perkowski No: None. Absent: C. Stephens. The Motion passed.

5. Utilities Department Monthly Reports presented by Ivan Abell

I. Abell reported they pumped about 436 acre-feet from the Sheep Draw wellfield, which is about 4.7 million gallons a day, which is up about 105 acre-feet. In the Double Eagle Water System, they pumped about 66 acre-feet and delivered about 14 acre-feet to the City. Customers on the Double Eagle water system used about 1.8 million gallons. The WWTP treated about 48 million gallons of sewage and treated about 117 thousand gallons of septage. They delivered 4.9 million gallons of Effluent to the Municipal Golf Course and had about 61 acre feet of Effluent Sales.

There was about .47 inches of precipitation for the month of January and to date there has been about 1.73 inches for the month of February.


Councilor Rodriguez asked how many meters were not being used. I. Abell stated there are about 12,800 meters in the system; he does not know how many are not being used.

6. Old Cavern Highway Water and Sewer Project Update presented by Ivan Abell

I. Abell gave an update on the Old Cavern Highway Water and Sewer project. He stated they should begin around March 4 and they will be shutting down Old Cavern Highway. They did get a traffic control plan and have distributed it to various City Departments. Councilor Rodriguez stated his concern was with the heavy trucks not able to turn around. I. Abell stated they would put out a PSA out to the citizens to take alternative routes. Estimated completion time is about 120 days.

7. Adjourn

The motion was made by G. Perkowski and seconded by J. Bowen to Adjourn. The vote was as follows: Yes: F. Beard, J. Bowen, D. Miehl, G. Perkowski. No: None, Absent: C. Stephens. The Motion passed.



Chairman