

**Town of Estancia**  
**Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees**

**TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 21, 2023 6:15pm**

**Municipal Building, 513 Williams Avenue, Estancia, NM 87016**

**Minutes**

**Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance**

The meeting was called to order at 6:16pm and Roll Call was taken:

Trustee Lovato – Present  
Trustee Sedillo – Present  
Trustee Chavez – Present  
Trustee Hall – Present  
Mayor Dial – Present

**1.0 Approval/Disapproval of Agenda – Action Item**

**ACTION TAKEN:** Trustee Sedillo made a motion to approve the February 21, 2023 agenda as written. Trustee Hall seconded the motion. All in favor. **MOTION CARRIED**

**2.0 Approval of the February 6, 2023 Regular Meeting minutes – Action Item**

**ACTION TAKEN:** Trustee Sedillo made a motion to approve the February 6, 2023 Regular Meeting minutes as written. Trustee Hall seconded the motion. All in favor. **MOTION CARRIED**

**3.0 Discussion/Approval of the February 21, 2023 Bill List – Action Item**

**ACTION TAKEN:** Trustee Hall made a motion to approve the February 21, 2023 Bill list. Trustee Sedillo seconded the motion. All in favor. **MOTION CARRIED**

**Public Comment** – Resident and Town of Estancia EMW Gas representative Sylvia Chavez addressed the Board.

She presented the Mayor and Board of Trustees with the letter attached here:

**Mayor Dial & Town Trustee's**

Estancia NM 87016

Dear Mayor Dial & Town Trustee's,

I would like to thank you for allowing me to represent the Town of Estancia for the last 5+ years as your EMW representative. On March 31, 2023 my term will expire, I am asking the Town to consider me as your representative for the next 3 years. My knowledge of the gas company has grown and I have been able to assist EMW with some area's that they needed clarification and guidance. I am the Secretary of the board and I sit on various different committees within the company.

I have been a committed representative for the Town, in the years that I have served, I have only missed a handful of meetings and in the past I did come to give updates to the Town. Until Trustee Lovato was appointed to the board, I am sure he was able to give you an update.

Again, thank you for allowing me to be the Town's representative and I hope to continue to do so.

Thank you for your consideration,

Sylvia Chavez

CHIEF DEPUTY CLERK & TOWN OF ESTANCIA EMW REPRESENTATIVE

**No Old Business**

**New Business**

- 4.0 Discussion and approval of annual contract with Envision IT for IT services- Action Item**  
The Board reviewed the proposed contract and asked for Legal review before proceeding any further.  
**ACTION TAKEN:** Trustee Lovato made a motion to TABLE this item. Trustee Sedillo seconded the motion. All in favor. **ITEM TABLED**
- 5.0 Approve contract with Mr. Steven Ferguson from Wildlife, Fisheries, and Habitat Services LLC for Pond Services- Action Item** Mr. Ferguson presented his annual contract for pond services. This contract is the same as last year; Mr. Ferguson did not raise his prices. The Board is happy to renew his contract.  
**ACTION TAKEN:** Trustee Sedillo made a motion to approve the contract with Mr. Steven Ferguson from Wildlife, Fisheries, and Habitat Services LLC for Pond Services. Trustee Lovato seconded the motion. All in favor. **MOTION CARRIED**
- 6.0 Discuss proposal for Fire/EMT staff positions- Discussion/Possible Action**  
Volunteer Fire Chief Chris Wolonsky and Volunteer Fire/EMT Jonathan Barela addressed the Board. They, along with the Mayor, are proposing the following: Chief Wolonsky, under the direction of the Mayor, would directly supervise the volunteer firefighters. EMT Jonathan Barela, under the direction of the Mayor, would be appointed to the new position of EMT Chief and would directly supervise the full-time and volunteer EMTs. Mr. Barela would receive a monthly stipend in the same amount that the Volunteer Fire Chief is receiving now. The starting pay for the EMT's would be \$18.75 and hour. EMT job descriptions have already been reviewed and established. Trustee Sedillo said he would like to see a compensation schedule, an organization chart, a list of job duties and a review by Legal. The information Trustee Sedillo was requesting was not readily available. Chief Wolonsky said that if we did not move more quickly, our EMT candidates might not be available for hire when we were ready to move forward. Chief Wolonsky said that he did not have time to accomplish everything that Trustee Sedillo was asking for and said, in summary, that he was very close to quitting. Trustee Sedillo said, in summary, that maybe that he should do that. Chief Wolonsky told Mr. Barela that he would be giving him his keys, etc. and left the meeting. The Board decided to TABLE this item and call a Special Meeting to discuss this item further; tabling would allow time to gather the information that Trustee Sedillo was requesting, and a Special Meeting would allow for more expeditious action to be taken. **ACTION TAKEN:** Trustee Lovato made a motion to TABLE this item and call a Special Meeting for Monday, February 27, 2023 to allow for legal review and more research to be conducted on this item. Trustee Hall seconded the motion. All in favor. **ITEM TABLED**
- 7.0 Review letter of Interest for EMWT representative- Possible Action**  
Resident David Talley submitted a letter of interest to represent the town on the EMWT Board. He attended the meeting and answered questions from the Board. Mr. Talley said that he lived in Estancia and that his priority, if appointed to this Board, would be to safeguard the water for this town and the Estancia Valley. Mayor Dial appointed Mr. Talley to the EMWT Board. **ACTION TAKEN:** Trustee Hall approved the Mayor's appointment of Mr. David Talley to represent the Town of Estancia on the EMWT Board. Trustee Lovato seconded the motion. All in favor. **MOTION CARRIED**
- 8.0 Schedule a hiring committee to conduct interviews for EMTs - Action Item**  
**ACTION TAKEN:** Trustee Lovato made a motion to schedule a hiring committee to interview EMT candidates on Thursday, March 2, 2023 here at Town Hall beginning at 6:00pm. Trustee Sedillo seconded the motion. All in favor. **MOTION CARRIED**

**9.0 Executive Session- As per Motion and Roll Call Vote- Pursuant to NMSA 1978 10-15-1 Sections (H)(2)(8) personnel and the purchase, acquisition, or disposal of real property.**

**ACTION TAKEN:** Trustee Hall made a motion to go into Executive Session- As per Motion and Roll Call Vote- Pursuant to NMSA 1978 10-15-1 Sections (H)(2)(8) to discuss personnel and the purchase, acquisition, or disposal of real property. Trustee Chavez seconded the motion. Roll Call Vote: Trustee Lovato- Yes, Trustee Sedillo- Yes, Trustee Chavez – For, Trustee Hall- Yes. **MOTION CARRIED**

**Executive Session began at 7:32pm.**

**Reconvene Regular Session:**

**ACTION TAKEN:** Trustee Sedillo made a motion to go back into Regular Session and stated that the only item discussed in Executive Session was the item listed on the agenda and no action was taken. Trustee Lovato seconded the motion. All in favor.

**Regular Session resumed at 7:57pm.**

**10.0 Mayor/Council:**

**Trustee Hall** commented about the pond being too full. He is concerned about the trees dying near the pond.

**Trustee Chavez** wished Good Luck to those of us going to DC on March 6 to request Federal Funding for our town.

**Trustee Lovato** thanked those of us going to DC for our efforts on the town's behalf. He said that he will send us a letter of support and request for funding to take with us to our representatives. He said EYDG has been an incredible success. He said it was unfortunate to see what happened with our Fire Chief earlier this evening. He said that Trustee Sedillo has asked for something in writing from Chief Wolonsky three times and there has been no correspondence to the Mayor. He said that Chief Wolonsky's actions were uncalled for.


**Trustee Sedillo** thanked Mr. Ferguson for working so well with the town and for attending this evening's meeting. He said that he was approached by Mr. Andrew Gutierrez with the Chilili Land Grant and asked if the town would be willing to donate one of our older fire trucks. Mayor Dial will look into this.

**Mayor Dial** said that he was happy to report that the town broke ground on the new Animal Shelter behind the P&Z office.

**Adjournment**

Trustee Lovato made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Trustee Sedillo seconded the motion. All in favor. **MOTION CARRIED**

The meeting adjourned at 8:22 pm.

Approved: 

Date: 3/20/2023

Attest: 

Date: 3/20/2023