

Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees
Monday, April 15, 2024, Immediately Following Budget Workshop

Municipal Building, 513 Williams Avenue, Estancia, NM 87016

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/86393092038?pwd=hHyH9E1pMZGTUNNhZabMhTZZbmMOR6.1>

Meeting ID: 863 9309 2038

Passcode: 146819

Find your local number: <https://us06web.zoom.us/u/kdUa1JUKHA>

Minutes

Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance

The meeting was called to order at 6:26pm and Roll Call was taken :

Trustee May - Present

Trustee Lovato - Present

Trustee Sanchez - Present

Trustee Hall - Present

Mayor Dial - Present

1.0 Approval/Disapproval of Agenda - Action Item

Mayor Dial requested that agenda items 6 and 7 be moved to 3 and 4. **ACTION TAKEN:** Trustee Hall made a motion to approve the 4.15.2024 Agenda as amended above. Trustee May seconded the motion. All in favor. **MOTION CARRIED**

2.0 Approval of the April 1, 2024 Regular Meeting minutes - Action Item

ACTION TAKEN: Trustee Lovato made a motion to approve the 4.1.2024 Regular Meeting minutes as written. Trustee Sanchez seconded the motion. All in favor. **MOTION CARRIED**

3.0 Discussion/Approval of the April 15, 2024 Bill List - Action Item

ACTION TAKEN: Trustee May made a motion to approve the 4.15.2024 Bill list. Trustee Hall seconded the motion. All in favor. **MOTION CARRIED**

Public Comment - Marcie Wallen from the Torrance County Fair Board told all present that August 6 will be the first night of the Fair. She also talked about moving Old Timers back to the Fair Grounds.

6.0 Proclamation declaring April Alcohol Awareness Month- Deana Lopez- Torrance County DWI Coordinator

Deana Lopez read the attached Proclamation into the record :

TOWN OF ESTANCIA PROCLAMATION

PROCLAIMING APRIL AS "ALCOHOL AWARENESS MONTH"

WHEREAS, addiction is a major public health concern; and

WHEREAS, over 67,000 people die by drug overdose each year in the United States. New Mexico had the 11th highest drug overdose death rate in the United States in 2020; and

WHEREAS, in 2020 1,878 New Mexicans died from excessive alcohol related causes, and of those, 112 involved alcohol poisoning; and

WHEREAS, alcohol abuse costs the State of New Mexico more than \$2 billion a year. With around 2 million people in the State of New Mexico, which adds up to more than \$1,000 in costs per New Mexican each year; and

WHEREAS, 16.7% of adults in New Mexico report binge drinking, which is four or more drinks for women and five or more for men on one occasion in the past 30 days. New Mexico has a high percentage of heavy drinkers, with eight or more drinks per week for women and fifteen or more for men; and

WHEREAS, New Mexico has the highest alcohol-related death rate in the United States. New Mexico sits at 86.6 deaths per 100,000 people, compared to 41.5 nationally, in 2020. Alcohol kills New Mexicans at a higher rate than anywhere in the United States and that statistic has not changed since 1997; and

WHEREAS, a New Mexico Department of Health study shows alcohol abuse killed more than 1,800 New Mexicans under age 65 in 2020, which means more people died from alcohol abuse than from COVID in the first year of the pandemic. One in five New Mexicans die every day from alcohol use; and

WHEREAS, a state Department of Health study estimated in 2018, the latest year for which figures are available, that 101,012 New Mexicans were living with an alcohol abuse disorder, with 73,178 unable to get treatment mostly due to cost; and

WHEREAS, the risk of adverse outcomes, such as overdose death and addiction, increases from combined use of drugs and alcohol; and

WHEREAS, New Mexico has ranks as one of the weakest states regarding alcohol policy safeguards, it was among the states that had the least amount of improvement since the early 1990s; and

WHEREAS, strong alcohol policy safeguards, such as limiting where, when, and how alcohol is sold, in addition to preserving government oversight of alcohol sales, can contribute to lower excessive drinking rates among New Mexicans and can help to reduce alcohol-involved drug overdoses; and

WHEREAS, we resolve as a community to continue to support those struggling with substance use disorders enter and participate in treatment and to support strong alcohol policy safeguards to encourage their recovery; and

NOW, THEREFORE, we, the Estancia Board of Trustees, do hereby proclaim the month of April, as **ALCOHOL AWARENESS MONTH** in the **TOWN OF ESTANCIA** and call this observance to the attention of all our citizens.

APPROVED, ADOPTED, AND PASSED ON THIS 15TH DAY OF APRIL 2024.

Nathan Dial, Mayor

Attest: Michelle Jones, Clerk/Treasurer

ACTION TAKEN: Trustee Hall made a motion to approve the April is Alcohol Awareness Month Proclamation. Trustee May seconded the motion. All in favor. **MOTION CARRIED**

7.0 Presentation of the FY23 Audit- Patillo, Brown & Hill, LLP

Chris Garner from Patillo, Brown & Hill, LLP presented the FY22 Audit to the Board. He said that, as our Auditor, he was able to give the Town of Estancia an Unmodified Opinion, a 'Clean Opinion'. Meaning that the Financial statements were presented fairly in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the US. He said that Town had resolved the one finding from the prior year and had one new finding for FY23. He said the finding addressed collateralization and that he was confident that the Town would resolve the finding. He said that the Town Board of Trustees can be comfortable with the accuracy of their financial statements. Mr. Garner was sincerely thanked for his time and presentation. **NO ACTION, INFORMATION ONLY**

Old Business

4.0 Approval of the Contract for work on the Baseball field- Action Item In compliance with State procurement, the Town submitted an RFB for work on the baseball field. We received one bid that was compliant and responsive. **ACTION TAKEN:** Trustee Lovato made a motion to approve the contract with Accent Landscape Contractors for work on the new Baseball Field. Trustee Sanchez seconded the motion. All in favor. **MOTION CARRIED**

5.0 Discussion of Town Clean-Up- Discussion/Possible Action The Town will suggest two dates in June for Town Cleanup to the EVSWA. **NO ACTION, INFORMATION ONLY**

New Business

8.0 Approval of Resolution 2024-07 Acceptance and Approval of the FY23 Audit- Action Item Roll Call Vote

ACTION TAKEN: Trustee Hall made a motion to accept and approve the FY23 Audit as presented. Trustee May seconded the motion. Roll Call Vote: Trustee May- Yes, Trustee Lovato – Yes, Trustee Sanchez – Yes, Trustee Hall – Yes. **MOTION CARRIED**

9.0 Discussion/Approval of Xpress Bill Pay – Action Item

More information is needed concerning fees, etc. **ACTION TAKEN:** Trustee Lovato made a motion to TABLE this item. Trustee Sanchez seconded the motion. All in favor. **ITEM TABLED**

10.0 Mayor/Council:

Trustee Hall asked where the EMW Gas meeting was actually held- He went to the Willard Cantina- 😊
Trustee Hall also said that Highland road looks great!

Trustee May said that the Roberts Rules meeting was great; very informative! She also asked that dirt be placed in the alley of Willams and Allen.

Trustee Lovato said that he is very glad that the contract for the Baseball field has been approved and is moving forward. He asked about the fish in the pond. Mayor Dial said that the delivery of fish will happen soon. Trustee Lovato reminded all that maintenance of the new Baseball field will have to be considered and added to the budget.

Trustee Sanchez- said that he is aware of an entity right outside of Estancia that is hooking up a well and is trying to sell water to the windfarm. We must continue to try to keep our water in the Estancia basin. All thanked Trustee Sanchez for this information. Mayor Dial will continue to work to keep our water in the basin.

Mayor Dial reminded the Trustees to not REPLY ALL to emails. This can create a rolling quorum that violates the Open Meetings Act. This is a good reminder. He also congratulated Ms. Michelle Jones for being nominated for Clerk of the Year. Ms. Jones thanked Mayor Dial.

11.0 Executive Session- As per Motion and Roll Call Vote- Pursuant to NMSA 1978 10-15-1 Sections (H)(2), personnel.

ACTION TAKEN: Trustee Lovato made a motion to go into Executive Session, Pursuant to NMSA 1978 10-15-1 Sections (H)(2) to discuss personnel. Trustee Hall seconded the motion. ROLL CALL VOTE: Trustee May – Yes, Trustee Lovato – Yes, Trustee Hall- Yes. Trustee Sanchez- Yes. **MOTION CARRIED**

Executive Session began at 7:25pm.

Return to Regular Session. **ACTION TAKEN:** Trustee Lovato made a motion to return to Regular Session, stating that the only item discussed in Executive Session was the item listed on the agenda, and no action was taken. Trustee Hall seconded the motion. All in favor. **MOTION CARRIED**

Regular Session reconvened at 8:16 pm

Adjournment

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

The meeting adjourned at 8:16 pm.

Approved: Nat Dial

Date: 5/7/2024

Attest: Michelle Jones

Date: 5/7/2024