CITY OF TRUTH OR CONSEQUENCES
PUBLIC UTILITY ADVISORY BOARD
MONDAY, JULY 20, 2026

REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

Regular meeting of the Public Utility Advisory Board of the City of Truth or Consequences, New Mexico to be held in the City Commission Chambers, 405 W. Third, Truth or Consequences, New Mexico, on Monday, July 20, 2026 at 3:30 pm.

CALL TO ORDER:

The meeting was called to order by Vice-Chairman Armijo.

ROLL CALL:

Don Armijo, Vice-Chairman
Gil Avelar, Member
Chris Sisney, Member

ALSO PRESENT:

Traci Alvarez, Assistant City Manager
Bo Easly, Public Works Director
Katy Martinez, Deputy Clerk

1. **APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Member Sisney made a motion to approve the agenda.
Member Avelar seconded the motion.
Motion carried unanimously.

2. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**
    a. Regular meeting of June 15, 2026.

Member Sisney made a motion to approve the minutes.
Member Avelar seconded the motion.
Motion carried unanimously.

3. **COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC: (3 Minute rule applies)**

There were no comments at this time.

4. **NEW BUSINESS:**
    a. Discussion/Action: Recommendation to appoint Andrew Curry to serve as a member on the board.

Andrew Curry Applicant: I would like the opportunity to really make a difference in this town. I live here. I have grown roots here. The utilities affect every resident and small businesses in town. I think its an opportunity to represent my community.

Member Sisney made a motion to approve the Appointment of member Andrew Curry.

Member Avelar seconded the motion.

Motion carried unanimously.

b. Discussion/Action: Re-Organization of Chairman and Vice-Chairman

Member Sisney made a motion to table the recommendation of Chairman and as Vice-Chairman until the next meeting.

Member Avelar seconded the motion.

Motion carried unanimously.

5. REPORTS FROM THE BOARD:

There were no reports from the board at this time.

6. REPORTS FROM STAFF:

Bo Easly Public Works Director: The electric car charging station has proceed with ground breaking and is moving along pretty good. The water line replacement with Smith Co and J&H is moving along pretty good. As far as the department of Sanitation they are doing a good job of picking up trash. The service center is doing with repairs and oil changes. Water department is moving along with the water leaks. Their biggest problem right now is the vac station. They are working in that constantly trying to keep it going. The electric department is busy doing multiple things. They where outlast week putting the blades on the helicopter. They have been replacing poles and doing services. The streets department has been busy taking care of weeds and working on the streets. The utility side Sonya is doing a good job of getting the bills sent out.

Member Avelar: How are the substation transformers doing?

Bo Easly Public Works Director: Good. Just problems with birds. As much bird protection they put on we are still getting birds up there finding a way to blow a cut out. The sub station transformers are doing good they where here in March and they tested the transformers.

Member Avelar: What was that big water leak they had over there off ninth or seventh?

Bo Easly Public Works Director: We had 2. We had one on Yucca and Marie a 6-inch water main leak. We had one on Monday on Kopra between 9th and Marie an old cast iron pipe.

Member Avelar: I saw the water all over the place. They got to have a valve somewhere closer to close that off.

Bo Easly Public Works Director: We couldn't find the one valve on Kopra so we had to go back further and close valves. We even had to open up a fire hydrant to relieve pressure so we could fix the leak. We had to cut out a 6-foot section of that cast iron and put in a PVC pipe in there.

Member Avelar: Do you have any idea how the statics levels are doing?

Bo Easly Public Works Director: I do not.

Assistant City Manager Alvarez: Not off the top of my head. That is a good Jamie question.

Member Sisney: I would like to say that my interest when I joined the board was to learn where all the valves are so that when people turn that I would hopefully still be alive and I would hopefully remember where those valves where. Im still interested in learning where all these valves are.

Bo Easly Public Works Director: Over the years when they have patched holes and relayed pavement on the streets sometimes they over lay them. With this new water line projects that are coming in they are replacing valves and they are doing a GIS so they will know where all these valves are.

Member Sisney: With the new system it will be all new?

Bo Easly Public Works Director: Yes, sir.

Member Sisney: Ok thank you. I wont bother learning the old stuff then. Ill wait for the new stuff.

Vice-Chairman Armijo: Before when we redid a street we had to go out and mark everything and dig them back up and lift them up to make sure they where even with the street. Has that fallen off or?

Bo Easly Public Works Director: Its hard to say what has happened over the years.

Vice-Chairman Armijo: How about Foch Street.

Bo Easly Public Works Director: Foch Street looks like its handling up pretty good.

Vice-Chairman Armijo: I seen on Facebook with the rain its crating a mess.

Assistant City Manager Alvarez: For the new construction?

Bo Easly Public Works Director: I have been working with Brendan and Manger Whitehead we are going out for a lot for grants to fix a lot of streets. Hopefully we can start getting more money into repair streets and start cleaning them up.

Assistant City Manager Alvarez: To tie in on Foch Street. The current construction has some water diversion so once they are done with the paving hopefully in the next 2 weeks and by the end of the month that road should be open. You will be able to walk it and you will see that a lot of those bump outs there is cut outs so that is going to help direct the flow into those cut outs. Then there is the landscaping in there that will slow the flow before it gets all the way down to Broadway. They did design that to help slow the flow from that water that is coming flying down Foch Street.

Vice-Chairman Armijo: That's good to see. I know back in the day they had they guy come up from Silver City and started showing us how to get the water off of the street.

Assistant City Manager Alvarez: There is some really cool channel areas. I was out there looking at it today because they finished some of the landscaping. They have some plants in there. They have irrigation in there to water them but they will also water during monsoon season when that water is coming through. Its going to look nice.

Member Avelar: I'm surprised how many people I still see trying to walk across that.

Assistant City Manager Alvarez: Yes all the time. It slowed down a little bit but we have our shovel ready project that is in the works. I think they are over by Second Street and we have our Wispi1 project which is up there by the schools right now both big water projects. People don't care they drive and walk through the construction areas. We have had to get some extra police patrol to help keep an eye with the contractors and direct the contractors that if it's a repeat person that keeps driving through. We did

have somebody doing that. But we advised the contractors to reach out to the PD. Im thinking if the board is ok with it especially with a new member coming on. You guys haven't had a really good project update on all of them. Especially the water and wastewater ones. We have 2 big water projects that are going on right now. We have our Wispi2 project that is ready to go to bid. As soon as USDA approves the bid documents. Because they are our funder they have final concurrence. Unfortunately there is 1 man in Utah their engineer for USDA that oversees the entire southwest region so he is pretty busy. We are trying to get that pushed through right away. We also have what we call our Critical Water Line project which is going to address all of the metal streets over there by Veater. That one there is about ready to go to bid but because Wispi1 is going to attack Veater Street we need Wispi1 to go out to bid first so they can get Veater Street taken care of. So then when we go to Critical Water Line and all those metal streets are tying in to a new line at Veater. Those 2 are right around the corner to go out to bid and be in construction here really soon. We have also got more funding both on the water line as well as the waste water projects going on. I'm going to reach out to our engineers and maybe see if they can do an in person presentation or an online presentation to you guys at the next meeting and talk to you especially with the water lines. Mark with our water lines can really talk to you guys about all this replacement stuff and how its going to impact the city. The funding areas and everything. He is extremely knowledgeable in our water system. He has been working really closely with myself, the water department, City Manager and now Bo as well. We have been identifying high priority lines for the funding sources.

Member Avelar: Is the funding time sensitive?

Assistant City Manager Alvarez: Some of it is but like USDA recognizes that its their fault that they haven't gone through so extensions can be processed through as needed. It's the same with Colonias Water Trust Board as long as you actively spending the money then you can request extensions and they are usually granted. I think about the only time they wouldn't grant us an extension is if you haven't moved on a project and the project is just sitting there. We are sitting right around 50 million dollars worth of water projects that are either going on now or getting ready to go hopefully by the end of the calendar year they will all be in construction. Then we will be designing and preparing for the next spot.

Member Avelar: Are we finished with waste water?

Assistant City Manager Alvarez: No we have some waste water funding. We recently received some for our Clancy lift station and force main improvements. We are working with EPA right now on that grant agreement. That will be coming down the line. That is a little over a million dollars and that is the main line that pumps everything from the north end of town over the hill behind the Veterans center and sends it to our waste water treatment plant. That's a main transmission line. That is going to get some work. We have received over a million dollars through a couple different pots of money for some improvements at the waste water treatment plant. That is going to address our wears. We are going to address the bar screen. Some of the issues that we had when we received the compliance order through NMED. Its going to address all those issues. All that stuff is being worked on right now. We just started kick off and design with Bohan and Houston to start on that stuff.

Member Avelar: Do we need more work at the lift station also for this project to proceed?

Assistant City Manager Alvarez: They will asses that when they get over that way. The main thing was getting that force main because its so old. I think Clancy lift station for the most part is operating fine but with some of the other funding we got with the Waste Water Improvements its broad enough that we can kind of combine funds were we need. If we replace that force main and we see something that needs to be at the lift station it self. If there is not enough funding in the funding for the force main than we can potentially look at funding in one of the other Waste Water pots or remember we do have the GO Bonds that we are trying to use for cash match for some of these. There is some other options for funding.

7. ADJOURNMENT:

Member Sisney made a motion to adjourn the meeting.
Member Avelar seconded the motion.
Motion carried unanimously.

PASSED AND APPROVED ON THIS 19th DAY OF OCTOBER 2026.

Don Armijo, Vice-Chairman