

**Camino Real Regional Utility Authority**  
**City of Sunland Park/Dona Ana County Joint Utility Authority**  
**Gadsden Independent School District- Board Room**  
**4950 McNutt Rd, Sunland Park, New Mexico 88063**  
**Monday November 18, 2019**  
**5:30 p.m.**

**MINUTES**

A Regular Meeting of the Camino Real Regional Utility Authority was held on Monday, November 18, 2019 at 5:31 p.m. at the Gadsden Independent School District-Board Room at 4950 McNutt Road in Sunland Park, New Mexico 88063.

**PRESENT**

Chair Mayor Javier Perea  
Vice-Chair Commissioner Isabella Solis  
Commissioner Ramon Gonzalez  
Mr. Gerardo Ibarra  
Mr. Alex Sierra  
Councilor Olga Nunez  
Mr. Joshua Orozco

**ALSO PRESENT**

Mr. Brent Westmoreland, CRRUA Executive Director  
Ms. Liliana Arevalo, CRRUA Office Manager  
Mr. Tom Figart, Dona Ana County/CRRUA Attorney  
Mr. Enrique Palomares, CRRUA Attorney  
Mr. Eric Lopez, Bridel Facility Ops  
Ms. Mary De Avila, CRRUA Administrative Assistant  
Mr. Ernie Carranza, CRRUA Water Lead  
Dr. Letty Mora, Psychologist Services and Translation/Interpretation Services  
Mr. Rafael Leos, SCSWA  
Mr. Gerald Smola, Camino Real Media Services  
Ms. Marisela Villanueva, Camino Real Media Services  
Senator Joseph Cervantes  
Mr. Orlando Cervantes, Resident  
Ms. Isabel Santos, Resident  
Mr. Alberto Jaramillo, Resident  
Mr. Enrique Gallegos, Resident  
Ms. Lourdes Rojero, Resident  
Ms. Mirna Acosta, Resident  
Ms. Maria Saldana, Resident  
Ms. Socorro Romero, Resident  
Ms. Yolanda Cereceres, Resident  
Ms. Cecilia Gonzalez, Resident  
Mr. Rafael Carrillo, Resident  
Mr. Luis Renteria, Resident

Ms. Rita Carrillo, Resident  
Ms. Maria Teresa Garcia, Resident  
Mr. Rogelio Arzate, Resident  
Ms. Juana Garcia, Resident  
Ms. Lourdes Gonzalez, Resident  
Ms. Alicia Webb, Resident  
Mr. Rumelio Garcia, Resident  
Mr. David Hernandez, Resident  
Ms. Sandra Pyle, Resident  
Ms. Diana Sanchez, Resident  
Ms. Margarita Polan, Resident  
Mr. Cesar Escamilla, Resident  
Ms. Lou Delgado, Resident  
Ms. Sylvia Paz, Resident  
Ms. Josefina Ramirez, Resident  
Ms. Desire Paz, Resident  
Mr. Edgar Perez, Resident  
Ms. Veronica Rodriguez, Resident  
Ms. Susan Benson, Resident  
Ms. Teresa Perez, Resident  
Mr. Robert Salcedo, Resident  
Ms. Mary Gonzalez, Resident  
Mr. Ruben Campos, Resident  
Ms. Martha Munoz, Resident  
Mr. Fidel Briones, Resident  
Ms. Violeta Briones, Resident  
Mr. Ken V Giove, Resident  
Ms. Gabriela Cardiel, Resident  
Mr. Humberto Cardiel, Resident  
Mr. Manuel Lara, Resident  
Ms. Carmen Marquez, Resident  
Ms. Andrea Navarete, Resident  
Ms. Evelyn Ferniza, Resident  
Mr. Marin Gomez, Resident  
Mr. Emiliano Diaz, Empowerment Congress Dona Ana County  
Ms. Maria H. Blanco, Resident  
Ms. Lorena Rodriguez, Resident  
Ms. Gloria Pimentel, Resident  
Ms. Delia Velasquez, Resident  
Ms. Maia Montoya, Resident  
MS. Yamel Montoya, Resident  
Mr. Charles Nickels, Resident  
Ms. Carmen Nickels, Resident  
Mr. Robert Amaya, Resident  
Mr. Dave Bruce, Resident  
Mrs. Eleanor Bruce, Resident  
Ms. Myrna C. Albin, Resident  
Ms. Manuela Soto, Resident

Ms. Rosa Castro, Resident  
Ms. Diana G, Resident  
Mr. Jose G. Gutierrez, Resident  
Ms. Rosa Guerreio, Resident  
Ms. Maria E. Herrera, Resident  
Ms. Marina Chavez, Resident  
Mr. Tomas R De Rojas, Resident  
Ms. Anabel Rojas, Resident  
Mr. Arturo Quinones, Resident  
Ms. Concepcion Quinones, Resident  
Ms. Manuela Quinones, Resident  
Mr. Jorge Motta, Resident  
Mr. Victor Sifuentes, Resident  
Ms. Yolanda Luebker, Resident  
Mr. Jose A. Rueda, Resident  
Mr. Cesar Montalvo, Resident  
Ms. Joana Jacquez, Resident  
Mr. Rudy Flores, Resident  
Ms. Melissa Ontiveros, Resident  
Mr. Martin G, Resident  
Ms. Mary Sue Erramouspe, Resident  
Mr. Rafael Rangel, Resident  
Mrs. Emma Rangel, Resident  
Mr. Jose Villagrana, Resident  
Ms. Nelly Villagrana, Resident  
Ms. Maria Burciaga, Resident  
Ms. Dora Fernandez, Resident  
Ms. Nora Gonzalez, Resident  
Ms. Maria Gonzalez, Resident  
Ms. Ofelia Garcia, Resident  
Mr. Manuel Garcia, Resident  
Dr. Benson, Resident

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Mayor Javier Perea called the meeting to order at 5:31 pm.

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mr. Joshua Orozco led the audience in the pledge of allegiance.

3. ROLL CALL

Ms. Mary De Avila, Administrative Assistant called roll call. A quorum was present.

4. CHANGES TO THE AGENDA

Commissioner Ramon Gonzalez moved to approve the agenda; the motion was seconded by Mr. Joshua Orozco. The motion carried a 7-0 vote.

5. APPROVE MINUTES OF THE SEPTEMBER 9, 2019 BOARD MEETING

Commissioner Ramon Gonzalez moved to approve the minutes for September 9, 2019 with the

correction on item 13, Adjournment to state Vice-Chair Commissioner Isabella Solis adjourn the meeting; the motion was seconded by Vice-Chair Commissioner Isabella Solis. The motion carried a 7-0 vote.

Chair Mayor Javier Perea	aye
Vice-Chair Commissioner Isabella Solis	aye
Mr. Gerardo Ibarra	aye
Commissioner Ramon Gonzalez	aye
Mr. Alex Sierra	aye
Councilor Olga Nunez	aye
Mr. Joshua Orozco	aye

6. PUBLIC COMMENTS: Limited to 3 minutes per person.

Senator Joseph Cervantes thanked the board for welcomed him to the meeting and stated that he remembered when CRRUA was created, a long time ago when he was on the County Commission. He stated he saw tonight's agenda and saw that maybe the board was going to lower rates and congratulate the board for doing their job. He stated that Mr. Alex Sierra was an appointee by law and by the creation of CRRUA. He stated that he wanted to see the CRRUA board in action and take with him a few tips to Santa Fe. He informed CRRUA board members that there is a lot of capital outlay money coming up this year so they need to know what is CRRUA's needs are throughout the county and stated that it is a privilege to represent the area. He also congratulated Chair Mayor Javier Perea on his election.

7. STAFF COMMENTS

None

8. BOARD COMMENTS

Councilor Olga Nunez asked Mr. Westmoreland when CRRUA is going to revisit the commercial rates. Mr. Brent Westmoreland, CRRUA Executive Director replied that in any agenda that the board wishes to.

Councilor Olga Nunez asked Mr. Westmoreland to have them on December's agenda. She also added that she had talk to Mr. Westmoreland on having a program to help residents with a limited income because It is getting harder for them to pay their water bill. This kind of programs do exist in other utilities. Mr. Westmoreland said he would look in to it but he has not found any. Maybe with our help we can come up with something. The contract CRRUA offers help you not to get your service disconnected but you end up paying twice as much as you did before. My district is one of the poorest in New Mexico and for us to increase the water rates with them being in a limited income, that is a challenge for them. There are residents with a water bill of \$600 and their monthly income is \$400. Councilor Olga Nunez stated that she have informed customers that it is not the clerks fall that the rates have increase; however CRRUA's customers need to be treated with respected by CRRUA office staff because she had several customers complain of the way they get treated when they come in to pay their bills or have questions on their bills.

9. PRESENTATIONS & REPORTS

A. MONTHLY REPORTS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

1. BRIDEL FACILITY MONTHLY REPORT FOR SEPTEMER 2019 & OCTOBER 2019.

Eric Lopez, Bridel Facility Operations presented to the board members and the public present the September 2019 and October 2019 operations monthly reports of the CRRUA water and wastewater system.

2. PRESENTATION BY RAFAEL LEOS, DEPUTY DIRECTOR-SCSWA  
Rafael Leos, South Central Solid Waste Authority Deputy Director presented to the board members and the public present the Sunland Park curbside collections program overview report.

#### 10. DISCUSSION/ACTION ITEMS

- A. APPROVE RESOLUTION AMENDING THE MONTHLY USER CHARGES OF RATE SCHEDULE 2 OF THE CAMINO REAL REGIONAL UTILITY AUTHORITY WASTE WATER ORDINANCE NO. 2011-02 BY REDUCING THE MONTHLY USER CHARGE VOLUME FLOW FORMULA USED IN DETERMINING THE MONTHLY VARIABLE CHARGES EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2019 FOR RESIDENTIAL WASTEWATER CUSTOMERS.

Mr. Joshua Orozco moved to approve; the motion was seconded by Commissioner Ramon Gonzalez. The motion carried 7-0 vote.

Chair Mayor Javier Perea	aye
Vice-Chair Commissioner Isabella Solis	aye
Mr. Gerardo Ibarra	aye
Commissioner Ramon Gonzalez	aye
Mr. Alex Sierra	aye
Councilor Olga Nunez	aye
Mr. Joshua Orozco	aye

Mr. Joshua Orozco moved to approve an amendment to amend the resolution and revisit any increase within three months for wastewater rate; the motion was seconded by Vice-Chair Commissioner Isabella Solis. The motion carried 7-0 vote.

Chair Mayor Javier Perea	aye
Vice-Chair Commissioner Isabella Solis	aye
Mr. Gerardo Ibarra	aye
Commissioner Ramon Gonzalez	aye
Mr. Alex Sierra	aye
Councilor Olga Nunez	aye
Mr. Joshua Orozco	aye

#### BOARD COMMENTS ON ITEM 10B

Councilor Olga Nunez asked who is this related to residents

Mr. Brent Westmoreland, CRRUA Executive Director replied that it would be a net reduction in customer billing of approximately 13,000 gallons per month. There will be a net reduction to all residential customers who have a current bill above the minimum Councilor Olga Nunez asked how soon will this be reflected.

Mr. Brent Westmoreland replied in the next billing.

Chair Mayor Javier Perea asked Mr. Westmoreland what is what EPA expects from

CRRUA.

Mr. Brent Westmoreland replied that the administrative order that EPA handed down in 2015 asked that CRRUA conduct a rate study and bring the rates more in line with area utility companies and promote conservation on the water side and to bring CRRUA's coffers up to a reasonable levels so that the utility can maintain and continue to grow. This is an administrative order hand out by the Environmental Protective Agency Region 6.

Chair Mayor Javier Perea stated that one has transpire since we received that EPA mandate.

Mr. Brent Westmoreland replied that what EPA provide was the funds and the mandate to conduct the rate study and that was done and completed. This are the results of the rate study. Visiting with EPA as this had been a big bite for our customers they concurred that reducing this to 80% and pre-describe an incremental increase until reaching the 100% is acceptable to them. Mr. Westmoreland stated that the 80% was already applied unless the board votes different as per Liliana Arevalo, CRRUA Office Manager.

Mr. Joshua Orozco stated that yes it was a big jump from 75% to 100% and that we should find something more equitable for the customers; however, he also had a concern if they are not bringing enough money to treat the wastewater do we end up harming the customers. If CRRUA has a line break and there is not enough money to maintain the system then do we harm the community.

Mr. Brent Westmoreland replied that it is a factor of the overall rate structure the water and wastewater.

Vice-Chair Commissioner Isabella Solis stated that the rates can be modified by the board every two years?

Chair Mayor Javier Perea stated that was a decision of the board how frequent the rates will change.

Councilor Olga Nunez stated that she is concern because last year they were told that the residents will be paying less and they move forward with this. I believe that if we move forward with this we must be sure that it appears in the agenda as such and the people are informed prior us making a vote. Because Mr. Gonzalez remember that this was presented in the agenda as a rate study not an increase and it was postpone. We need to put our heads together and see how we can increase the rates, we need experts that can give us options we cannot do the decision.

Mr. Brent Westmoreland replied it is inherited upon us to make those decisions EPA and their consultants told us where ideal we needed to be. I discuss with EPA about reducing some of this rates and increasing over a period of time and they have agreed but they have not offer any middle ground to it. It is up to the board to find that middle ground unless we engage the services of additional rate study companies.

Mr. Gerardo Ibarra stated that in support of Councilor Nunez comment he agreed that they are not experts but he is certain that CRRUA have proper data that they can base themselves and make a decision. Inform the residents of any coming rate changes.

Commissioner Ramon Gonzalez stated that 75% was okay because ones it jump to 100% that was not good. He also stated that he understood the rate change because when something breaks who is going to pick up the cost of the repair. If we increase it to 80% what is the gallon use?

Mr. Brent Westmoreland replied that the minimum was from 0 to 7,000 gallons. The 80% would be for those who use more than the minimum.

Ms. Liliana Arevalo, CRRUA Office Manager informed the board members that is over 80% of CRRUA customers that pay the minimum for wastewater.

Chair Mayor Javier Perea asked Ms. Liliana Arevalo that at the end of the budget year how much would it be the decrease if adapted as is?

Ms. Liliana Arevalo, CRRUA Office Manager informed the board that the estimated decrease would be \$109,770.

Chair Mayor Javier Perea stated that \$109,770 would be the decrease on the general fund budget for the wastewater service.

Mr. Joshua Orozco stated that he feels good dropping it to 80% but as Mr.

Westmoreland suggested let us put a schedule similar to what we did with water.

Instead of hitting, everybody with 100% at ones let us scheduled it for four-year period and increase 5% until reaching the 100%. This way we are certain we are covering the cost of the utility to provide quality wastewater service.

Mr. Joshua Orozco proposed an amendment to schedule up to 100% over four years.

Councilor Olga Nunez stated that she was not comfortable with the time.

Chair Mayor Javier Perea stated that before they continue he had an amendment on the floor and requested a second motion. No other motion was done the amendment failed.

Commissioner Ramon Gonzalez proposed an amendment for five years plan.

Councilor Olga Nunez second the motion.

Chair Mayor Javier Perea stated that he was comfortable going down to the 80% and if we are going to proposed any additional link increases that we look at it in a more detail fashion rather than just the top of our head because right now we don't know what those numbers signify. I would recommend against the amendment at this time.

Councilor Olga Nunez stated that her concern is that it gets to be anything less than the proposed.

Mr. Joshua Orozco stated that understand his concerns but right now the amendment would benefit fiscal position so he is more comfortable with the amendment attached.

Chair Mayor Javier Perea stated that another amendment can be made to revisit the issue and consider the increase at a separated time ones they have data behind.

Mr. Joshua Orozco asked that if it would be more appropriate to postpone the entire vote on the motion until they have the data information. If Chair Mayor Perea intent is to keep looking at this I'm comfortable with that.

Chair Mayor Javier Perea stated that his intent is to take action on the item today but not on the amendment, that's his recommendation. I would recommend another amendment if one of the board members want to make it to revisit this issue and discuss the progression of the increase, if any.

Commissioner Ramon Gonzalez stated that he would like to move forward with the amendment and have something in place and follow it because if we do this over and over we will never come to a conclusion.

Chair Mayor Javier Perea asked Commissioner Ramon Gonzalez to repeat the Amendment.

Commissioner Ramon Gonzalez stated to increase up to 100% in a five-year period.

Chair Mayor Javier Perea stated that the amendment fail to a 2-5 vote.

Chair Mayor Javier Perea recommended to the board to amend the resolution to include that they will revisit the issue again in the next three months.

Councilor Olga Nunez stated that this notice should be posted with enough time to let the people know.

#### BOARD COMMENTS

Vice-Chair Commissioner Isabella Solis stated that she hears that there are many very high utility bills and she wants to know how can this bills be addressed, review for any mistakes.

Mr. Brent Westmoreland replied that before getting back to the customer with bill question they issue work orders and reviewed reports that can tells us how may gallons are been use hour by hour this way we have a concrete answer for them.

Commissioner Ramon Gonzalez asked that if there is staff available to help answer billing questions.

Mr. Brent Westmoreland replied yes Ms. Liliana Arevalo, Office Manager and myself.

Commissioner Ramon Gonzalez stated that he got complains where customers come in to get their bill questions answered and have been turn away. We need to get their questions answered.

Mr. Brent Westmoreland replied CRRUA staff are there to help the customers and he is also available over the phone at any time to set up an appointment.

Councilor Olga Nunez stated that she has been working with Mr. Westmoreland since the rate increase. She has come in to his office almost daily with customers and understand the set of complains. We need to address the issue with the front area office staff, they are the ones turning customers away. She thanked Ms. Liliana Arevalo for the help offered to the customer and suggested to create a list were people can sign in to talk about billing issues.

#### PUBLIC COMMENTS ON ITEM 10B AMENDMENTS

Ms. Teresa Perez asked that ones the percentage get to 100% what would the quality of the water be, because we do not have good quality water in the area.

Chair Mayor Javier Perea remind the people present that comments should be on the amendment only.

Ms. Maria Burciaga stated that when she flushes the toilet or showers the water comes out yellow is that quality of water going to change.

Ms. Isabel Santos stated in Spanish to think on the benefit in behalf of the people of Sunland Park.

Ms. Carolina Renteria asked in Spanish for an explanation of what is wastewater.

Mr. Nichols stated that he is a longtime resident and that all this time he has had many problems with the water but was never like this out of control. CRRUA do not have a meter in the wastewater who do you know how many gallons are wasted. The community has grown and that is the reason you are getting more wastewater and now you want to raise the rates it is not far to the public. My bill is so high now, we are a poor community you are in the board to help us. He also added that Mr. Westmoreland has being very helpful and cooperative with the residents complains. Mr. Nichols thank the board and Mr. Westmoreland for their time.

Ms. Catherin Gonzalez asked what is going to happened between that time are they still going to pay 100%.

Ms. Luz Maria Cardenas stated in Spanish the all weekend long the water was coming out yellow and could not be use. If they are raising their fee they need to work on the quality of the water. I called the office to get information on why the water was coming out yellow and they told me a supervisor will return my call but no one has contacted me.

Mr. Manuel Lara asked what is lowering 80% the water or wastewater. Mr. Lara

stated that there are many people with fix income that cannot afford paying the bill now. They will not be getting 5% increase yearly in their income to afford the next coming years of increase on the rates.

#### PUBLIC COMMENTS ON ITEM 10B

Ms. Mirna Acosta complain in Spanish about her bill and office staff attitude.

Mr. Rafael Carrillo complained of his high water bill, office staff attitude and stated that transparency is the key, inform the customers of any changes. Have experts available to explain, educate the people before the change, work with your customers.

Chair Mayor Javier Perea informed the people present that he would listen to the public comments but that there will not be a decision made on water rates.

Ms. Margarita Polan complained in Spanish of her mother's high water bill and the CRRUA staff attitude.

Mr. Mario Mora stated that communication is very important in all aspects and that he doesn't understand his utility bill. I came and paid my bill and asked the clerk some billing questions and did not get answers. The clerk said that if I wanted answers to come to the meeting and I am here to get answers.

Ms. Myrna Albin stated that she had spoken to Mr. Westmoreland and Liliana a month ago in reference to her high water utility bill. She wants to know if they are going to do corrections to her bill. She also stated that she was there to inform the board members of her issue.

Ms. Lorena complain in Spanish about her high bill and the quality of the water.

Mrs. Carmen Nichols stated that she had been trying to contact Mr. Westmoreland or Ernie to go out to her property and see if they have a leak, no response. I called the office, no response. We have bad water, bad customer service and bad trust in you all. My question is what are we paying for? I do not hear you telling us we are getting Extensions or a credit. The office staff needs to stop their attitude and their comments and start figuring out how they are going to help us.

Mr. Orlando Cervantes stated that if new developers plan to come to Sunland Park to develop but are hearing all the water issue, they wouldn't come. He stated that CRRUA needs to work on another rate study with another firm that can compare with other communities.

Mr. Nichols stated that CRRUA need staff that take the customers complain and review the account carefully and explain to the customer in detail. Have staff that can go out to the property and check for leaks or if the meter is not working properly. They are never available to go out to properties and check. How do you measure the wastewater is there a meter for that to. We wait patient for issues to get resolve and the only one out there to hear us is Mr. Brent you all need to joint in and help.

Ms. Carolina Renteria stated that back in the years the wastewater fee was a lot less in winter but now is higher, it's even higher than the water cost. What can be done to lower the wastewater cost. I also want to congratulate you all for been in the CRRUA board at no cost.

Ms. Maria Burciaga stated that CRRUA is increasing the water and wastewater fees but who credit the customer when they are left out of water service due to a major line break. Can someone notify us when the services are going to be disconnected and for how long because it is very frustrating specially if we have kids.

Ms. Daisy Lira asked what is this 80% going to do for us if in three months you are going

to revisit this item. Please lower the water cost as well not only wastewater.

Mr. Nestor Lezama complained in Spanish of his high water bill.

Mr. Emiliano Dias complained in Spanish of the high water bill.

Mr. Cesar Montalvo complained in Spanish of his high water bill.

Ms. Yolanda stated that her water bill is very high and asked when is this fees are going to stop increasing.

Ms. Isabel Santos complained in Spanish about her dogs health due to the water and asked where was the people from EPA.

Ms. Roxana Monje complained in Spanish of her high water bill and a permit approved to a developer to build 180 homes by City of Sunland Park. She also stated in English that how is CRRUA suppling water for this new area if they cannot supply clean safe water to the existing residents.

Ms. Edna Campos stated she does not live in the area but she owns a home in the area. The property is vacant since May and she continues paying the water bill so they do not have to pay a reconnection fee. Their bill was always in between \$50 and \$60 dollars and now its \$300.00 and the property is empty. I do not understand how the rates went up if there is no use of water in the property. I suspect some kind of fraud because no one live there. I need to know what they are going to do about this bill am I going to get a credit.

Dr. Benson stated that he was not getting his bills and when he did, it was a high water bill. He and his wife came to the CRRUA office to complain and get answers and the only answer was he had a leak. He contact the water meter manufacture and one of the experts there informed him that the meter is build to be able to read if there is a leaks. Dr. Benson looked at the audience present and asked many people here came to talk about their bill.

#### BOARD COMMENTS

Vice-Chair Commissioner Isabella Solis stated that the biggest complain she has hear in the meeting is the high water bills and the people concern of getting their water cut off. Is there anything that we can do to help these residents with this \$400 water bills and not have the service cut off until some something can be made.

Mr. Brent Westmoreland, CRRUA Executive Director replied that when the customer come to the office with is kind of issue they are ask to pay what they can at the moment and wait until their issue is resolve. We send out a work order, run an hour by hour water use report and do any adjustment if necessary before contacting the customer.

Vice-Chair Commissioner Isabella Solis asked Mr. Westmoreland if the residents know of this.

Mr. Brent Westmoreland replied yes as they come in but CRRUA has not send any of this information to the customers.

Councilor Olga Nunez informed Vice-Chair Commissioner Isabella Solis that the customers can come in to the office and sign a contract to pay their bill in payment, but this only leave the customer with a bigger bill because the following month they need to pay their bill plus the contract payment. At this point it is up to us to come up with a solution. In some cases, we are over charging the customer. We need to address this pattern also.

Vice-Chair Commissioner Isabella Solis stated that she know that this is not an agenda item but if they can work together and address a solution to help this customers.

Chair Mayor Javier Perea stated that every customer situation is different and that he is

open to look over policies. He stated that they have talk briefly about having a policy for when there is a leak how can it be address.

Councilor Olga Nunez stated that she does not know how is CRRUA and the City manager going to handle the issues that the people have with their water bill on one to one bases.

Chair Mayor Javier Perea stated that there is room for more discussion on the subject from the board in a future meeting and encourage the board members and Mr.

Westmoreland to look over other utility policies maybe that can help.

Vice-Chair Commissioner Isabella Solis stated that this is an ongoing issue that has to be address as soon as possible.

Mr. Brent Westmoreland stated that he will develop a report to present to the board members on how may complains were solve and work on between today's meeting and the upcoming meeting.

Chair Mayor Javier Perea thank the people present for their feedback and invite them to future meetings.

Commissioner Ramon Gonzalez asked the people present to bring their bills to the CRRUA office as soon as they see a change, don't wait months to bring the issues to CRRUA staff attention.

**B. DISCUSSION ON RESIDENTIAL CHARGES AND RATES ADOPTED BY THE BOARD ON DECEMBER 17, 2018.**

Mr. Brent Westmoreland, CRRUA Executive Director informed the board members that this item was requested to be put back on the agenda by Councilor Olga Nunez.

Councilor Olga Nunez stated that she would like to go back to five thousand gallons instead of the three thousand gallons as a starting point. Also to approve a plan to a schedule for when people have a leak. How much of the water wasted can be forgiven or what other options they can have and as Vice-Chair Commissioner Isabella Solis stated we need to act on this fast and address the issue were the people are getting over charge.

Mr. Brent Westmoreland stated that they also need to consider that not only the gallons were lowered but also the minimum charge to \$15.00.

Chair Mayor Javier Perea stated that no action will be taken on this particular item.

Mr. Brent Westmoreland replied that if the board is seeking for changes he can have the item put on the next agenda with a formal resolution.

Chair Mayor Javier Perea stated that if the board want to revisit the item he suggest to have the consultants that work with the rate study present the date and how are we going to be affected. Also if someone from EPA can be present because I hate to put this organization doing a decision that it might be a violation. We need to remember that some of this was done to come in to compliance with EPA administrative order. So I want to make sure we are in good communication with EPA.

Councilor Olga Nunez stated that is issue need to be address now and requested for the item to be put on the December's agenda.

Chair Mayor Javier Perea asked Mr. Westmoreland to have the water rate study presentation they had last year in the December meeting and look for the best option.

11. CLOSED SESSION

- A. THE CRRUA BOARD MAY GO INTO CLOSED SESSION TO DISCUSS TWO PERSONNEL ISSUES INVOLVING THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR AS PROVIDED FOR IN SECTION 10-15-1 H (2) OF THE NM OPEN MEETINGS ACT.

Commissioner Ramon Gonzalez moved to approve; the motion was seconded by Mr. Joshua Orozco. The motion carried 6-0 vote.

Chair Mayor Javier Perea	aye
Vice-Chair Commissioner Isabella Solis	aye
Mr. Gerardo Ibarra	aye
Commissioner Ramon Gonzalez	aye
Mr. Joshua Orozco	aye
Mr. Alex Sierra	aye
Councilor Olga Nunez	(step out)

12. OPEN SESSION

- A. THE BOARD MAY RECONVENE IN OPEN SESSION TO TAKE ACTION ON THE CLOSED SESSION ITEMS.

Chair Mayor Javier Perea stated for the records that no subject were discussed in closed session other than the matters that were announced.

All board members agreed to go back in open session.

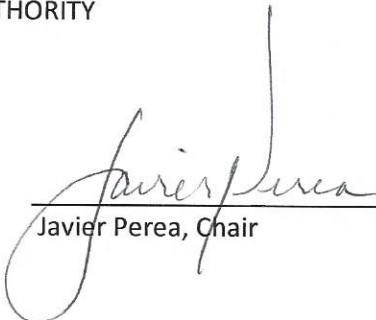
13. ADJOURNMENT

Chair Mayor Javier Perea moved to adjourn the Camino Real Regional Utility Authority meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 9:45 p.m.


**APPROVED AND ADOPTED** on this 9<sup>th</sup> day of December 2019.

CAMINO REAL REGIONAL UTILITY AUTHORITY

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Javier Perea, Chair


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Isabella Solis, Vice-Chair

  
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Alex Sierra Delegate of State Senator Joseph Cervantes,  
Board Member

  
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Joshua Orozco, Board Member

  
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Ramon Gonzalez, Board Member

  
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Gerardo Ibarra Delegate of State Representative Ray Lara,  
Board Member

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Olga Nunez, Board Member

ATTEST:

  
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Camino Real Regional Utility Authority