

**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 May 13, 2019
5:30 p.m.**

MINUTES

A Regular Meeting of the Camino Real Regional Utility Authority was held on Monday, May 13, 2019 at 5:30 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. Joshua Orozco
Mr. Alex Sierra
Councilor Olga Nunez

ALSO PRESENT

Mr. Brent Westmoreland, CRRUA Executive Director
Ms. Liliana Arevalo, CRRUA Office Manager
Ms. Clara Franco, CRRUA Utility Service Clerk
Mr. Ernie Carranza, CRRUA Water Lead
Mr. Rafael Leos, SCSWA
Mr. Miguel Fernandez, SCSWA
Mr. Gerald Smola, Camino Real Media Services
Ms. Marisela
State Representative Ray Lara

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Mayor Javier Perea called the meeting to order at 5:30 pm.

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Chair Mayor Javier Perea led the audience in the pledge of allegiance.

3. ROLL CALL

Ms. Clara Franco, CRRUA Utility Service Clerk called roll call. A quorum was present.

4. CHANGES TO THE AGENDA

Mr. Joshua Orozco moved to approve the agenda with no changes; the motion was seconded by Commissioner Ramon Gonzalez. The motion carried a 7-0 vote.

5. APPROVE MINUTES

A. April 8, 2019

Mr. Joshua Orozco moved to approve the minutes for April 8, 2019; the motion was seconded by Commissioner Ramon Gonzalez. 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. Joshua Orozco	aye
Mr. Alex Sierra	aye
Councilor Olga Nunez	aye

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

Mr. Rafael Leos, SCSWA introduced Mr. Miguel Fernandez SCSWA new employee to the CRRUA board members.

7. STAFF COMMENTS

Mr. Brent Westmoreland, CRRUA Executive Director informed the board members that Mr. Eric Lopez, Bridel Facility Ops was in Santa Fe giving water and wastewater classes. Mr. Lopez will presenting the April and May monthly report in June's meeting.

8. BOARD COMMENTS

Mr. Joshua Orozco informed the board members that they have federal funds available for training. Commissioner Ramon Gonzalez asked how much is in the budget for training.

Mr. Joshua Orozco replied that there was almost 4 million dollars available for training and covers the area from Dona Ana to North of Socorro.

Mr. Brent Westmoreland, CRRUA Executive Director informed the board members that Secretary McCamley from Work Force Solutions wants to get involve in the water and wastewater operations certification testing also with Dona Ana Community College branch, private and public sectors. He also informed the board members that four of the employees had tested to upgrade their water and wastewater levels.

Vice-Chair Commissioner Isabella Solis asked for a report or update on the UDC plan on the agenda. She also stated that she would like to come together with the JK assignment and CRRUA and have a discussion on the land use and ETZ zone because we need to be more prepare for the future. I would like to see Dona Ana County, City of Sunland Park, CRRUA leaders and land owners to come to the meeting to discuss land use prioritize and make a plan.

Mr. Brent Westmoreland replied that he would get that organized. He also stated that CRRUA and Dona

Ana County are having regular meetings every Thursday at the County. The Community Development Department is working on tiring the UDC proposal to CRRUA's consideration and a resolution adopting 2040 Comprehensive Plan and zoning map. Also the City of Sunland Park Community Development Department is taking interest on this role. We should be able to put something together with the County for our June's meeting.

Vice-Chair Commissioner Isabella Solis stated that she would also like to visit the JPA.

Commissioner Ramon Gonzalez ask Mr. Westmoreland that before the UDC there was another code involved.

Mr. Brent Westmoreland replied that it was chapter 250 and that CRRUA was still working under that code.

Commissioner Ramon Gonzalez ask Mr. Westmoreland for a copy of chapter 250 code.

Councilor Olga Nunez stated that she notice on the minutes for the last meeting that the small commercial and HOA rates was postpone and stated that several of the business in Sunland Park were going to be affected and asked why it was postpone.

Chair Mayor Javier Perea replied that after going over the presentation the board's decision was to postpone the item.

9. PRESENTATIONS & REPORTS

A. MONTHLY REPORTS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

None

B. SPECIAL REPORTS OR PRESENTATIONS

None

10. ACTION ITEMS

- A. APPROVE A RESOLUTION APPROVING FISCAL YEAR 2020 PRLIMINARY BUDGET
Mr. Joshua Orozco moved to approve; 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. Joshua Orozco	aye
Mr. Alex Sierra	aye
Councilor Olga Nunez	aye

PUBLIC COMMENTS ON ITEM 10A

Vice-Chair Commissioner Isabella Solis asked what the Special Purpose Fund was
Ms. Liliana Arevalo, CRRUA Office Manager replied the funds are recap fees that are coming in from Dona Ana County.

Commissioner Ramon Gonzalez asked what was La Union Water OM Mr. Brent Westmoreland, CRRUA Executive Director replied that CRRUA processes the liquid waste from la union, the county pays CRRUA to process that it's about 40,000 gallons a day and it currently goes to our new north plant it's an agreement that CRRUA has with the Dona Ana County. Commissioner Ramon Gonzalez asked is, Anthony in charge of La Union water, Mr. Brent Westmoreland, CRRUA Executive Director replied, La Union mutual domestic farmer consumer association pays Anthony to provide their certified operator service that is required by EPA the wastewater is a Dona Ana County issue, but CRRUA process it.

Vice-Chair Commissioner Isabella Solis asked if CRRUA applies for grants Mr. Brent Westmoreland, CRRUA Executive Director replied yes. Commissioner Ramon Gonzalez asked what the projection for the FY for 2020 revenues is. Ms. Liliana Arevalo, CRRUA Office Manager replied 3.2 is for the water fund revenues. Mr. Joshua Orozco commented that is good to see that the deficit scenarios are not as high as they were last year; it is not so great because of course you do not want an operating deficit. He also commented on the operating expenditures decreases for both water and wastewater and moving in a positive direction. He asked about the projected expenditures for FY2019 in relation to the adopted budget and noting that we are under budget for the current he asked if we are projecting to be under budget for FY2019. Liliana Arevalo, Office Manager stated that the projected amount of \$1.6 million for FY2019 is, based on expenditures as of March 2019 and there was, a few months left in the fiscal year. Therefore additional expenditures and final figures are expected to change between now and June 30, 2019 the end of the fiscal year. Mr. Joshua Orozco commented that he was hoping to see an \$800,000 surplus to which Liliana Arevalo stated that by the time the final budget was, presented and adopted staff would have final FY2019 expenditures and revenues.

Mr. Joshua Orozco closed, by stating that the reports they were provided last year are extremely difficult to read and understand; however that he understands that they are in the DFA required format, and how very thankful he was a much easier format to make it easy to understand, and it was good step forward but believes that is improvement to be made. He stated that what he really wanted to know is whether CRRUA is meeting the operational expenses of utility to see if the rate study was effective and achieved the goal of meeting current operational expenditures and projecting for the future. Office Manager, Liliana Arevalo stated that the second phase of providing financial information is to have monthly or quarterly financial projections and status reports presented to the CRRUA board. He stated a concern for revenues as they are currently shown as being down from the year before given the rate increase and conservation efforts by customers. He asked if there was plan to cover revenue shortfalls in order to make sure CRRUA is charging the appropriate rates and/or cover the deficit at the end of year. Mr. Westmoreland stated that by industry expectations customer will conserve water in the industrial/commercial climate and that within six months to year the customers will start to creep up to the levels they had before. That it may be temporary element that will rectify within six to eight months. Commissioner Solis stated that she would like to have the quarterly reports.

Chair Mayor Javier Perea stated he understands the budget includes pay adjustment/increase for employees and asked staff to provide information on it. Mr. Brent Westmoreland, CRRUA Executive Director responded the last time CRRUA employees had an increase in pay it was the first half of 2016. He stated that staff are performing well, testing, achieve higher operator certifications levels, and have not had a cost of living increase in over three years. Mayor Perea asked about the impact to the bottom line for the increase. Brent Westmoreland stated that the budget included a 9% increase and Liliana Arevalo stated that the cost of the increase was about \$90,000 split 50/50 between the Water and Wastewater Funds. This will result an overall average hourly rate of \$21 and at the 9%, rate increase employees will receive at least receive a \$1.00 per hour increase in pay. If the rate is less than that then employees are looking at seeing an increase of cents per hour in pay.

11. ADJOURNMENT

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

The meeting adjourned at 7:07 p.m.

APPROVED AND ADOPTED on this 10th day of June, 2019.

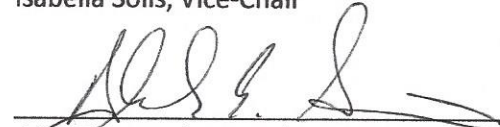
CAMINO REAL REGIONAL UTILITY AUTHORITY

ABSENT

Javier Perea, Chair



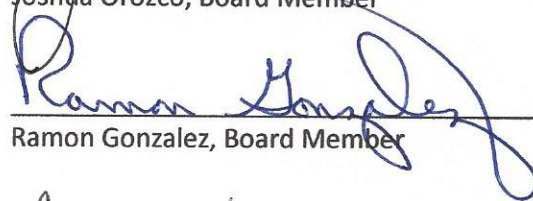
Isabella Solis, Vice-Chair



Alex Sierra Delegate of State Senator Joseph Cervantes,
Board Member



Joshua Orozco, Board Member



Ramon Gonzalez, Board Member

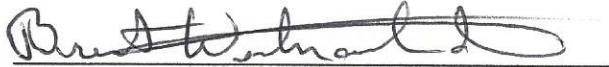
ABSENT

Gerardo Ibarra Delegate of State Representative Ray Lara,
Board Member



Olga Nunez, Board Member

ATTEST:



Camino Real Regional Utility Authority