

# Meeting Minutes January 14, 2025

## City Council Regular Meeting

Tuesday, January 14, 2025, at 10:00 am

The meeting was held at Blue Hole Convention Center, 1085 Blue Hole Road, Santa Rosa NM 88435.

### A. CALL MEETING TO ORDER

By the honorable Mayor Nelson Kotiar – 10:01 am

### B. ROLL CALL

Taken by City Clerk Amy Campos

<u>Governing Body</u>	<u>Present</u>
Nelson Kotiar, Mayor	X
Erasmio Bravo, Councilman	X
Joey Silva, Councilman	X
Joseph Romero, Councilman	X (Via Telephone)
Roberta Blea, Councilwoman	X

### C. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mayor Kotiar led the Pledge of Allegiance; it was recited by everyone present.

### D. APPROVAL OF AGENDA - Agenda for Regular Meeting January 14, 2025

*Mayor Kotiar asked for a motion to approve the agenda. Motion was made by Councilman Bravo and second by Councilman Silva. Motion carries.*

**Roll Call Vote: Bravo: Aye Romero: Aye Blea: Aye Silva: Aye**

### E. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Regular Meeting Minutes December 9, 2024

*Mayor Kotiar asked for a motion to approve the meeting minutes. Motion was made by Councilman Silva and second by Councilwoman Blea. Motion carries.*

**Roll Call Vote: Bravo: Aye Romero: Aye Blea: Aye Silva: Aye**

### F. PUBLIC COMMENTS

1. Comments open to the public
2. No Public Comments at this time

### G. DEPARTMENT REPORTS

1. Finance Department – Annual Audit was submitted on time; Quarterly Report is in process; Senior Center had a surprise inspection from the State this week; Senior Center Annual Audit is scheduled for January 21, 2025.
2. Police Department – Pablo Chavez going to the Law Enforcement Academy on January 26, 2025; VIN inspections continue; Call volume is steady; Hoping to hire one more officer which is certified; Perla Serrano asked if pay was an issue in retaining officers; She also asked if we thought about making them sign a contract to stay for a specific period of time; Captain Pacheco explained we are working on the pay and he does not see any of the

Erasmio Bravo  
Councilman

Joey Silva  
Councilman

Nelson Kotiar  
Mayor

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Roberta Blea  
Councilwoman

current officers leaving to other departments.

3. Fire Department – 10 calls for the month of December; Participated in Toys for Joy and Light Parade in Santa Rosa; Participated in the Christmas Festivities in Vaughn; Upcoming trainings – CPR & AED, Structure Fires, and Patient Care.
4. Project Manager – Progress Report Updates; Power Dam Update; Blue Hole Restrooms – awaiting fixtures and panels; Had to adjust schedule and had change orders; Street Lighting is in the design phase; El Rito/Park Lake Pedestrian Bridges are set to start in March; 5<sup>th</sup> Street Project – upcoming construction; Emergency Repair to Sewer Line – should be finalized this week; Barela Road is in the design phase; Design should be completed by March.
5. Steve Farmer (Grants Consultant) – Blue Hole Parking Lot Solar Project Update (gave packet to Council); 2 funding options available for this project; Wetlands Restoration planned for Power Dam; Dog Valley – Funding \$1.1 million; EPA Grant being pursued currently for this project; Dog Park – Spoke with engineer and plans are done; Money for Golf Course – Seeking Private Initiatives (PGA); Route 66 Commission – Golf Course Spotlight on four throughout New Mexico; Clean up efforts on Route 66 are ongoing.
6. Rebecca Stair (EMNRD Director) – Electricity is an economic driver; Federal funding is available for Solar Project; Tax credits are available for municipalities; Size of the project would depend on billing; Councilman Bravo asked if she thought about the job impact in this community; She stated that is something to look into as far as what type of project to consider; Do not want to have anyone lose their job.
7. Animal Control – 3 dogs taken in for December; 55 animals taken in for 2024 (46 dogs and 9 cats); 9 pet adoptions for 2024; 1 dog euthanasia; Straw program is ongoing; Conducted a vaccine clinic on January 11, 2025; 44 animals received vaccinations; Looking to schedule another vaccine clinic in March.

#### H. EXECUTIVE SESSION

1. Approval to Adjourn to Executive Session

*Mayor Kotiar asked for a motion to approve adjournment to Executive Session. A motion was made by Councilwoman Blea and second by Councilman Silva. Motion Carries.*

**Roll Call Vote: Bravo: Aye Romero: Aye Blea: Aye Silva: Aye**

Adjourned to Executive Session at 11:04 pm.

2. Approval to Return from Executive Session

*Mayor Kotiar asked for a motion to approve the return from Executive Session. A motion was made by Councilwoman Blea and second by Councilman Bravo. Motion Carries.*

**Roll Call Vote: Bravo: Aye Romero: Aye Blea: Aye Silva: Aye**

Returned from Executive Session at 12:28pm. Only the items listed under Executive Session were discussed and no final action was taken. *Motion to approve this statement was made by Councilman Bravo and second by Councilwoman Blea. Motion Carries.*

**Roll Call Vote: Bravo: Aye Romero: Aye Blea: Aye Silva: Aye**

#### I. ACTION ITEMS

1. Approval/Disapproval of Termination of Maintenance Technician presented by Mayor Kotiar

*Councilman Bravo read the 3 charges that the Council found Estevan Chavez in violation of. Mayor Kotiar asked for a motion for this action item. A motion for one week suspension and anger management classes was made by Councilwoman Blea. No second was made. A motion for termination was then made by Councilman Silva. Mayor Kotiar called for a vote and 4 out of 4 councilors voted yes. Motion Carries.*

**Roll Call Vote: Bravo: Aye Romero: Aye Blea: Aye Silva: Aye**

2. Approval/Disapproval of Hire of Pablo Chavez as a Police Officer presented by Amy Campos

*Mayor Kotiar asked for a motion to approve the action item. A motion was made by Councilman Bravo and second by Councilman Silva. Motion Carries.*

***Roll Call Vote: Bravo: Aye Romero: Aye Blea: Aye Silva: Aye***

3. Approval/Disapproval of Hire of Felipe Campos as a Police Officer presented by *Amy Campos*

*Mayor Kotiar asked for a motion to approve the action item. A motion was made by Councilman Silva and second by Councilwoman Blea. Motion Carries.*

***Roll Call Vote: Bravo: Aye Romero: Aye Blea: Aye Silva: Aye***

4. Approval/Disapproval of Hire of Leah Anaya as a Dispatcher presented by *Amy Campos*

*Mayor Kotiar asked for a motion to approve the action item. A motion was made by Councilman Bravo and second by Councilman Silva. Motion Carries.*

***Roll Call Vote: Bravo: Aye Romero: Aye Blea: Aye Silva: Aye***

5. Approval/Disapproval of Hire of Jason Lopez as a Maintenance Technician presented by *Amy Campos*

*Mayor Kotiar asked for a motion to approve the action item. A motion was made by Councilman Bravo and second by Councilman Silva. Motion Carries.*

***Roll Call Vote: Bravo: Aye Romero: Aye Blea: Aye Silva: Aye***

6. Approval/Disapproval of Hire of Patrick Velasquez as a Police Officer presented by *Amy Campos*

*Mayor Kotiar asked for a motion to approve the action item. A motion was made by Councilman Silva and second by Councilman Bravo. Motion Carries.*

***Roll Call Vote: Bravo: Aye Romero: Aye Blea: Aye Silva: Aye***

7. Approval/Disapproval of Purchase of HVAC System for Animal Control with Grant Funds presented by *Amy Campos*

*Mayor Kotiar asked for a motion to approve the action item. A motion was made by Councilman Bravo and second by Councilwoman Blea. Motion Carries.*

***Roll Call Vote: Bravo: Aye Romero: Aye Blea: Aye Silva: Aye***

8. Approval/Disapproval of Closure of Wildland Fire Bank Account presented by *Amy Campos*

*Mayor Kotiar asked for a motion to approve the action item. A motion was made by Councilwoman Blea and second by Councilman Silva. Motion Carries.*

***Roll Call Vote: Bravo: Aye Romero: Aye Blea: Aye Silva: Aye***

9. Approval/Disapproval of Award of Power Dam Project to Moltz Constructors Inc. presented by *Amy Campos*

*Mayor Kotiar asked for a motion to approve the action item. A motion was made by Councilman Bravo and second by Councilman Silva. Motion Carries.*

***Roll Call Vote: Bravo: Aye Romero: Aye Blea: Aye Silva: Aye***

10. Approval/Disapproval of Purchase of Water Park Equipment presented by *Amy Campos*

*Mayor Kotiar asked for a motion to approve the action item. A motion was made by Councilman Romero and second by Councilwoman Blea. Motion Carries.*

***Roll Call Vote: Bravo: Nay Romero: Aye Blea: Aye Silva: Nay Mayor Kotiar: Aye***

11. Approval/Disapproval of Resolution 25-08 First Amendment to Local Government Road Fund Municipal Arterial Program Cooperative Agreement for Barela Road presented by *Amy Campos*

*Mayor Kotiar asked for a motion to approve the action item. A motion was made by Councilman Bravo and second by Councilwoman Blea. Motion Carries.*

***Roll Call Vote: Bravo: Aye Romero: Aye Blea: Aye Silva: Recuse***

12. Approval/Disapproval of Resolution 25-09 to Enter into a Loan Agreement with the State of New Mexico Environment Department presented by *Amy Campos*

*Mayor Kotiar asked for a motion to approve the action item. A motion was made by Councilman Bravo and second by Councilwoman Blea. Motion Carries.*

***Roll Call Vote: Bravo: Aye Romero: Aye Blea: Aye Silva: Aye***

**J. COMMUNICATIONS** – Councilman Bravo reminded everyone that ballots will be sent out to the community in regard to the Guadalupe County Hospital Mill Levy; Please support; Taxes will remain the same – not going up

**K. NEXT MEETING** – Regular Meeting February 11, 2025 – 10:00 am at Blue Hole Convention Center

**L. ADJOURNMENT** – 1:04 pm