

**Flood Recovery Task Force Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, May 27, 2026, 10:00 AM
City Hall – Mike Mathews Conference Room,
425 North Richardson
Roswell, New Mexico 88201**

Chair: Chris Cortez
Vice Chair: Brian Houghtalin
Committee Members: Mike Espiritu, Gordon Patton
Non-Voting Member: Jon Hitchcock
Staff Liaison: Mac Rogers

Notice of this meeting was given to the public in compliance with Sections 10-15-1 through 10-15-4 NMSA 1978 and Resolution 26-12

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 10:04 A.M. by Chris Cortez

ROLL CALL

Members present: Brian Houghtalin, Chris Cortez, Gordon Patton, John Hitchcock, Mike Espiritu

Members absent: **NONE**

Staff present: Amalia Martinez, Angela Garcia, Caroline Brooks, Hess Yntema, Mac Rogers, Zach Scott

Online Guests: Deb Gallagher, DRS, Jeb McPherson, DRS, 2 Guests, VRV

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

1. Member Mike Espiritu made a motion to approve the agenda. Member Gordon Patton was the second.

MOTION PASSED: 4-0

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1. Member Gordon Patton made a motion to approve the minutes from the April 15, 2026, Flood Recovery Task Force meeting. Member Brian Houghtalin was the second.

MOTION PASSED: 4-0

ACTION ITEMS

1. Election of Chair and Vice Chair – Member Mike Espiritu made a motion to appoint Member Chris Cortez as Chair. Member Brian Houghtalin was the second. Chair Chris Cortez made the motion to appoint Member Brian Houghtalin as Vice Chair. Member Mike Espiritu was the second.

MOTION PASSED: 4-0

NON-ACTION ITEMS

FEMA Project Tracker – Ms. Gallagher, DRS, appeared via GoTo, discussed FEMA Projects,

providing an overview of the FEMA process and the progress the city has made to date. The overview included a detailed breakdown of obligated project costs and key milestone dates.

Financial Plan – Mr. Rogers discussed the financial plan presenting, GRT revenues collected to date. Discussed timeline for selling flood-recovery bonds to fund needed repairs. Discussed potential ordinances to issue bonds to stay on track through NMFA's loan process.

FEMA Substantial Damage Claims –Mr. McPherson, DRS, appeared via GoTo, discussed significant damage claims, 50% rule projects, and project time extensions. Discussed the Convention Center & Museum. Repair versus replacement options were discussed. Mitigation options and key actions that need to be taken were discussed.

Drainage Study – Mr. Rogers stated that a hydrologist provided by NM DHSEM has analyzed portions of the data and mapped a 100-year event layered with other data to provide more accurate information. Chair Chris Cortez presented a GIS map of the 100-year flood plain showing damage inventory and the existing national flood layer. Discussed for sale city owned properties in the flood plain zone as areas where flood mitigation structures could be placed. Discussed other city owned properties where flood mitigation structures could be placed; drainage study needed.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

ADJOURN

The meeting adjourned at 11:03 A.M.