

**Regular Meeting of the Drought Contingency Task Force
Roswell City Hall
425 N. Richardson
Tuesday, March 11, 2025**

Notice of this meeting was given to the public in compliance with Section 10-15-1 through 10-15-4 NMSA 1978 and Resolution 24-23.

FOR THE RECORD: Prior to the meeting Councilman Chris Cortez spoke about the artesian aquifer and their rechargeability. Councilman Chris Cortez advised due to the rechargeability of the aquifer the current triggers are misguided and needed some professional guidance to ensure effectiveness. He suggested having an independent contractor assist with finalizing the drought triggers for the Drought Contingency Plan. This independent contractor would be a hydrologist or someone in a related field, where they have a mastery in this area and could provide much needed guidance. These triggers are what will call the plan into action.

CALL TO ORDER

Meeting was called to order at 5:18 P.M. by Judy Stubbs

FOR THE RECORD: The meeting was conducted late due to the previous discussion.

ROLL CALL

Members present: Judy Stubbs (Residential Consumer), and Darrell Johnson (City Councilor), Aron Balok (Pecos Valley Conservancy District), Tom Jennings (Residential Consumer), and Water Conservation Specialist Chantel Longway

Members absent: Jonathon McGary (Supervising Ranger, Bottomless Lakes State Park- Ex Officio Member), Todd DeKay (Commercial Consumer), Sean Benedict (Roswell Independent Schools), and Nathan Cobb (Commercial Consumer).

Guest Present: Councilman Chris Cortez, Elizabeth Prichard (Grant Coordinator), George Peterson (Superintendent of Water Maintenance), Naomi Steward (Wastewater Superintendent), and Andrew Valadez (Utilities Director).

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

A motion was made by Darrell Johnson to approve the agenda for the March 11, 2025 meeting, a second was made by Aron Balok. The motion passed with a voice vote of 4-0, with Todd DeKay, Sean Benedict, Nathan Cobb, and Johnathon McGary being absent.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM FEBRUARY 11, 2025 MEETING

The minutes were approved for the February 11, 2025, minutes with change showing 2025 opposed to 2024, with a voice vote of 4-0.

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NON-ACTION ITEMS

1. Advertising

Elizabeth Prichard stated the grants advertising was schedule and needed a quarterly report from the Water Conservation Specialist Chantel Longway so it could be submitted upon her resignation from the City of Roswell. Water Conservation Specialist Chantel Longway updated the task force that Todd DeKay was about to incorporate a water conservation section on the school's webpage.

2. Grant/Budget Update

During the grant and budget update, stemming from the discussion given by Counselman Chris Cortez, Aron Balok made a motion for Counselman Chris Cortez to right a scope of work to get a Hydrologist to help narrow down the trigger points for the Drought Contingency Plan and budget up to \$7,000. Darrell Johnson seconded the motion and the motion passed with a voice 4-0. Once the scope of work is completed, the scope of work will be submitted for a bid. After the bids are received the proposal will come back to the task force to determine the Hydrologist to be used. The proposal will be given to the task force on the April 8, 2025, meeting.

Elizabeth Prichard advised she is currently training a replacement for her position. Judy Stubbs asked if the municipal code is required in the plan per the grant. Elizabeth advised the code is not required, but would make the plan enforceable. Elizabeth Prichard stated she was submitting the plan to the Bureau of Reclamation as proposed.

3. Update from Judy Stubbs on Hotel Contacts

Judy Stubbs advised she needed a prop to show the hotels on what we made use.

4. Drought Contingency Plan

Discussion was on trying to get legal involved sooner. Legal had the Drought Contingency Plan with municipal code since January.

FOR THE RECORD: Aron Balok left the meeting at 5:33 p.m., during this discussion.

ADJOURN

Meeting was adjourned at 5:45 p.m. with the next meeting to be held on Tuesday, April 8, 2025, at 4:00 P.M. at City Hall.