



VILLAGE OF HATCH BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Minutes

Tuesday, June 10, 2025 at 6:00 pm

Attendees: Mayor Torres, Mayor Pro Tem Atencio, Trustee Crist, Trustee Martinez, Kirk Scott, J. Day, Louis Edwards, Melissa Mata, Danielle Vargas, Aurora Hernandez, John Rubio, Richard Garcia, Moises Ruiz, Loranzo Ramos, Matt Thompson, Elizabeth Porras

Trustees Chambers - 133 North Franklin St, Hatch New Mexico

1. Call to Order/ Roll Call/ Pledge of Allegiance/ Moment of Silence

Minutes:

A regular meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Village of Hatch was held in the Trustees Chambers located at 133 N. Franklin Street, Hatch, NM, on the above date. Mayor Torres asked the Clerk Treasurer for roll call as follows: Mayor Torres-Present, Mayor Pro Tem Atencio-Present (late arrival), Trustee Crist-Present, Trustee Martinez-Present, Trustee Franzoy-Absent. There being a quorum, Mayor Torres called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. Trustee Crist led all in attendance in the pledge of allegiance and Trustee Martinez gave the opening prayer.

2. * Approval of Agenda

Minutes:

Trustee Martinez moved to approve the agenda as presented. Seconded by Trustee Crist. Motion carried.

Vote results:

Ayes: 3 / Nays: 0

3. *Consent Agenda (Police, Fire, Museum, Planning & Zoning, Parks & Rec, Library, Cemetery, Court Reports, Approved Bills List, Delinquent List, Utility Applications, Travel & Training, Regular Meeting Minutes May 13, 2025).

Minutes:

Trustee Crist moved to approve the consent agenda as presented. Seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Atencio. Motion carried.

Vote results:

Ayes: 3 / Nays: 0

4. Public input

a. Kirk Scott, SBLBF, LLC – Public Outreach Session Presentation for the South Central

Regional Transit District.

Minutes:

South Central Regional Transit District (SCRTD) Kirk Scott provided a public outreach presentation to inform attendees about the South Central Regional Transit District (SCRTD) and its transit services. He discussed plans for future improvements and provided background information, noting that SCRTD was formed in 2006 to provide public transportation across the south-central New Mexico region, covering three counties. Transit operations began in 2016, and since then, SCRTD has expanded from four to eight bus routes and now operates in three counties.

SCRTD has invested in new buses, including both full-sized and small battery-electric vehicles. The transit system connects communities throughout south-central New Mexico and El Paso County, with connections to other transit providers in El Paso, Las Cruces, and Anthony.

Mr. Scott also provided an overview of the current routes:

Blue Route: Truth or Consequences to Hatch

Green Route: Hatch to Las Cruces

Copper Route: Chucky's Store/Gas Station to Mesilla Valley Transfer Terminal

Red Route: Anthony Transfer Station

Purple Route: Sunland Park City Hall

Turquoise Route: Sun Metro Northgate Transfer Center

Silver Route: Westside Transfer Center

Yellow Route: Doña Ana County to El Paso County

Mr. Scott concluded by inviting the public to complete the SCRTD survey to provide input and feedback on transit services and future improvements.

Lorenzo Ramos provided input regarding the bus routes. He suggested that instead of using Interstate 25, the buses should be re-routed along Highway 187 to better serve residents in the valley. He proposed starting in Caballo and traveling down Highway 187 through Arrey, Derry, Garfield, Salem, and Hatch to pick up passengers in those communities

La Casa, Inc. Melissa Mata, Director of Support Services with La Casa, Inc., gave a brief presentation on the services offered by the organization in southern New Mexico. La Casa is a nonprofit organization focused on addressing domestic violence. It provides emergency shelter, legal advocacy, counseling, youth education, long-term housing, and intervention programs for individuals and families in need.

5. Bohannon Huston Report

Minutes:

Matt Thompson, Senior Vice President provided a status update for all ongoing services provided by Bohannon Huston.

6. Wilson & Company Report

Minutes:

Louis Edwards , Project Architect provided a status update for all ongoing services provided by

7. *Consideration and approval of MOA between the Village of Hatch and Hatch Valley Public School District.

Minutes:

Trustee Crist moved to approve the Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) between the Village of Hatch and Hatch Valley Public School District. Seconded by Trustee Martinez. Motion Carried.

Vote results:

Ayes: 3 / Nays: 0

8. *Consideration and approval of Concession Stand Agreement and Liability Waiver between the Village of Hatch and Our Lord of Mercy Church Group.

Minutes:

Mayor Pro Tem Atencio moved to approve the Concession Stand Agreement and Liability Waiver between the Village of Hatch and Our Lord of Mercy Church Group. Seconded by Trustee Crist. Motion carried.

Vote results:

Ayes: 3 / Nays: 0

9. *Consideration and approval to amend Village of Hatch Code Ordinance Chapter 15.16 – Flood Hazard Prevention the following sections: Section 15.16.070 – Basis for Establishing Areas of Special Flood Hazard Section 15.16.140 – Duties and Responsibilities of the Floodplain Administrator Section 15.16.180 – Flood Hazard Reduction – Specific Standards

Minutes:

Trustee Martinez moved to approve to amend Village of Hatch Code Ordinance Chapter 15.16 – Flood Hazard Prevention the following sections: Section 15.16.070 – Basis for Establishing Areas of Special Flood Hazard Section 15.16.140 – Duties and Responsibilities of the Floodplain Administrator Section 15.16.180 – Flood Hazard Reduction – Specific Standards. Seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Atencio. The Board was polled as follows: Mayor Pro Tem Atencio-aye, Trustee Martinez-aye, Trustee Crist-aye, Trustee Franzoy-absent. Motion carried.

Vote results:

Ayes: 3 / Nays: 0

10. *Resolution No. xxx - Adopting a Budget Adjustment for FY2024-2025.

Minutes:

Trustee Crist moved to approve Resolution No. 1092 Adopting a Budget Adjustment for FY2024-2025. Seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Atencio. The Board was polled as follows: Mayor Pro Tem Atencio-aye, Trustee Martinez-aye, Trustee Crist-aye, Trustee Franzoy-absent. Motion carried.

Vote results:

Ayes: 3 / Nays: 0

11. *Approval of the FY26 Interim Budget as submitted to DFA in advance of the June 1, 2025 deadline.

Minutes:

Trustee Martinez moved to approve the FY26 Interim Budget as submitted to DFA in advance of the June 1, 2025 deadline. Seconded by Trustee Crist. Motion Carried.

Vote results:

Ayes: 3 / Nays: 0

12. *Personnel

- a. ***Consideration and approval to hire Moises Ruiz as a Police Officer, contingent upon successful completion of required pre-employment testing, with a six-month probationary period and a starting hourly salary of \$21.00 effective June 10, 2025.**

Minutes:

Mayor Pro Tem Atencio moved to hire Moises Ruiz as a Police Officer, contingent upon successful completion of required pre-employment testing, with a six-month probationary period and a starting hourly salary of \$21.00 effective June 10, 2025. Seconded by Trustee Martinez. Motion carried.

Vote results:

Ayes: 3 / Nays: 0

- b. ***Acceptance of the resignation of Police Officer Paul Sanchez, effective June 27, 2025.**

Minutes:

Mayor Pro Tem Atencio moved to accept the resignation of Police Officer Paul Sanchez, effective June 27, 2025. Seconded by Trustee Martinez. Motion carried.

Vote results:

Ayes: 3 / Nays: 0

13. Department Head Input**Minutes:**

Aurora Hernandez, Chief of Police, reported a total of 173 citations issued, including 9 penalties, 48 court appearances, and 116 warnings. There were a total of 8 arrests—7 for misdemeanors and 1 warrant arrest. Chief Hernandez also introduced the new officer, Moises Ruiz, who brings extensive experience from his work with the District Attorney's Office and as a former detective. She noted that an increased presence of Border Patrol agents is expected over the next two days. In addition, the department has advertised the position to replace Officer Sanchez, who will be retiring.

14. Mayor & Trustees Input**Minutes:**

Mayor Torres informed the Board of Trustees that he has been meeting with various agencies in an effort to identify and apply for any available funding to complete the construction of the Canal Bridge. He also stated that he plans to meet with the Governor during her upcoming visit to Silver City to request any possible funding she can allocate to the Village of Hatch for this critical infrastructure project.

Lorenzo Ramos expressed concern about stray dogs in the Village, stating that they pose a safety risk and that the Village should consider taking action to address the issue, even if it involves some cost.

15. ***CLOSED SESSION to discuss limited personnel matters; threatened or pending litigation, as authorized by the Open Meetings Act 10-15-1(H) (2), 10-15-1 (H) (7) and 10-15-1 (H) (5)**

respectively.

Minutes:

Mayor Torres informed the Board of Trustees that the closed session scheduled for this meeting will be postponed, as the City Attorney was unable to attend for the discussion regarding the upcoming FOP arbitration.

a. Discussion of upcoming FOP Arbitration

16. * Adjourn

Minutes:

In the absence of further business, Trustee Crist moved to adjourn at 7:19 p.m. The motion was seconded by Trustee Martinez, and it carried.

Signed: _____, Mayor

ATTEST: _____

Date: _____

Vote results:

Ayes: 3 / Nays: 0

THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES MAY CONVENE IN CLOSED SESSION to discuss limited personnel matters; threatened or pending litigation, as authorized by the Open Meetings Act 10-15-1(H) (2), 10-15-1 (H) (7) and 10-15-1 (H) (5) respectively.

If you are an individual with a disability who is in need of a reader, amplifier, qualified sign language interpreter, or any other form of auxiliary aid or service to attend or participate in the hearing or meeting, please contact the Village of Hatch office at (575)-267-5216 at least one (1) week prior to the meeting or as soon as possible. Public documents, including the agenda and minutes, can be provided in various accessible formats.

Next Regular Meeting: July 8, 2025.