



# VILLAGE OF HATCH BOARD OF TRUSTEES

## Minutes

**Tuesday, October 14, 2025 at 6:00 pm**

Attendees: Mayor Torres, Mayor Pro Tem Atencio, Trustee Crist, Trustee Martinez, Trustee Franzoy, Angel Soto, Elizabeth Soto, Alice Soto, Flor Rodriguez, Roxanne Rios, Randy Lopez, Ami Rios, Amanda Martinez, Anna Salazar, Emilia Barraza, Corina Barrera, Mireya Moreno, Amparo Olvera, Maria E. Legarreta, Bertha C. Torres, Rhonda Gimler, Trey Gimler, Andrea Legarreta, Concha Benavidez, Lisa Neal, Sergio Grajeda Jr., Tim Jackson, Vonda Jackson, San Juana Olvera, Monica Baquera, Mike Castillo, Fabiola Perez, Yesenia Diaz, Virginia Chavez, Lorenzo Ramos, Teresa Trujillo, Samantha Barncastle (via phone), 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, Trustee Crist-Present, Trustee Martinez-Present, Trustee Franzoy-Present. There being a quorum, Mayor Torres called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. Trustee Martinez led all in attendance in the pledge of allegiance and Trustee Franzoy gave the opening prayer.

#### **2. \* Approval of Agenda**

##### **Minutes:**

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

##### **Vote results:**

Ayes: 4 / Nays: 0 / Abstains: 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 September 9, 2025).**

##### **Minutes:**

Trustee Martinez moved to approve the consent agenda as presented. Seconded by

Trustee Crist. Motion carried.

**Vote results:**

Ayes: 4 / Nays: 0 / Abstains: 0

**4. Public input**

**Minutes:**

Mayor Torres gave some opening comments. Each person who wants to address the board will have 3 minutes to speak.

**a. Randy Lopez**

**Minutes:**

Randy Lopez: Reported concerns regarding the Fire Department and actions taken by the Mayor differing from prior suggestions. He mentioned issues related to police department information, vendor fees, and vehicle sales in the Village. Lopez also referenced the recent termination of the Chief of Police and stated he will provide certified mail documentation to the Mayor and Village Clerk.

**b. Other Public Input**

**Minutes:**

Flor Rodriguez: Inquired about the salary of the Village Clerk-Treasurer relative to others in New Mexico. The Mayor stated that comments on this matter would not be addressed.

Virginia Chavez: Expressed concern regarding the recent house fire across the street from her property, the availability of emergency services, and potential reinstatement of the Fire Department. She requested follow-up responses to her concerns and noted issues with ambulance services during recent incidents.

Amy Rios: Raised questions regarding vendor fees at the baseball park, rental of the airport for events, and the condition of public spaces including restroom availability. She also noted that agenda meeting minutes on the website have not been updated since 2022 and requested that records be made available as required by law.

Teresa Trujillo: Discussed concerns regarding the take home police vehicles and employee responsibilities for commuting, and that shouldn't be the burden of the Village of Hatch.

Lorenzo Ramos: Expressed concerns regarding public safety services, including fire and police operations. Referred to past incidents and questioned staffing and equipment needs. Emphasized the need for appropriate oversight and support for Village personnel.

**5. Bohannon Huston Report**

**Minutes:**

Eric Hamilton, Project Manager provided a status update for all ongoing services provided by Bohannon Huston.

**6. \*Consideration and approval of Davis Street Construction Contract Award.**

**Minutes:**

A bid opening was held on October 14, 2025, at 10:00 a.m. for the Davis Street Construction Project, which includes new sidewalks, ADA-accessible ramps, concrete drive pads, paving, utility adjustments, and permanent signage. The base bid covers work from School Street to Franklin Street, with an additive alternate extending to Main Street to provide budget flexibility.

Four bids were received from J29 Enterprises, LLC; Las Cruces Construction, LLC; Highland Enterprises, Inc.; and RY Construction, LLC. The lowest bid was submitted by J29 Enterprises, LLC in the amount of \$448,384.00 for the base bid and \$637,599.50 including the additive alternate. These amounts do not include New Mexico Gross Receipts Tax.

Mayor Pro Tem Atencio moved to award the Davis Street Construction Project to J29 Enterprises, LLC for the base bid in the amount of \$448,384.00, excluding NMGRT. Seconded by Trustee Martinez. Motion carried.

**Vote results:**

Ayes: 4 / Nays: 0 / Abstains: 0

**7. \*Ratify the approval of grant offers for Hatch Municipal Airport improvements, as follows:**

- a. **Airport Improvement Program (AIP) Project No. 3-35-0021-020-2025**
- b. **Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA) Airport Infrastructure Grant (AIG) Project No. 3-35-0021-018-2025**
- c. **Airport Improvement Program (AIP) Project No. 3-35-0021-019-2025**

**Minutes:**

Mayor Pro Tem Atencio moved to ratify the approval of grant offers for the Hatch Municipal Airport Improvements, as follows:

E05-SWG-3-35-0021-020-2025 Grant Agreement;

E05-SWG-3-35-0021-018-2025 Grant Agreement; and E05-SWG

3-35-0021-019-2025 Grant Agreement. Seconded by Trustee Martinez. Motion carried.

**Vote results:**

Ayes: 4 / Nays: 0 / Abstains: 0

**8. \*Consideration and approval to Amend Ordinance No. 414 for Storm Pump funding grant to amend section 12 only, as follows:**

Section 12. OTHER OBLIGATIONS. Nothing in the Ordinance shall be construed to prevent the Borrower from issuing bonds or other obligations payable from the Pledged Revenues and having a lien thereon on parity with or subordinate to the liens of the Loan Agreement and the Note. The Borrower must obtain the written consent of the NMED before issuing additional parity or subordinate obligations secured by the Pledged Revenues.

**Minutes:**

Trustee Martinez moved to approve the amendment to Ordinance No. 414 Section 12. Seconded by Trustee Crist. The Board was polled as follows: Mayor Pro Tem Atencio-aye, Trustee Crist-aye, Trustee Martinez-aye, Trustee Franzoy-aye. Motion carried.

**Vote results:**

Ayes: 4 / Nays: 0 / Abstains: 0

**9. \*Resolution No. xxx - A Resolution Authorizing the execution and delivery of a Colonias Infrastructure Project Fund Loan/Grant Agreement**

A Resolution Authorizing the execution and delivery of a Colonias Infrastructure Project Fund Loan/Grant Agreement ("Agreement" or "Loan/Grant Agreement") by and between the New Mexico Finance Authority ("NMFA or "Lender/Grantor") and the Village of Hatch, Dona Ana County, New Mexico ("Borrower/Grantee") for the benefit of the designated Colonias of Hatch, Rodey, El Milagro and Placitas in the total amount of three hundred fifty thousand dollars (\$350,000), evidencing an obligation of the Borrower/Grantee to utilize the loan/grant amount solely for the purpose of financing the costs of planning for the Village's Wastewater Collection System, including a Preliminary Engineering Report ("Project"), and solely in the manner described in the loan/grant agreement; providing for the pledge and payment of the administrative fee and loan amount of thirty-five thousand dollars (\$35,000) solely from the net revenues of the sewer system of the borrower/grantee and acceptance of a grant amount of three hundred fifteen thousand dollars (\$315,000) certifying that the loan/grant amount, together with other funds available to the borrower/grantee, is sufficient to complete the project; approving the form of and other details concerning the loan/grant agreement; ratifying actions heretofore taken; repealing all action inconsistent with this resolution; and authorizing the taking of other actions in connection with the execution and delivery of the loan/grant agreement.

**Minutes:**

Trustee Crist moved to approve Resolution No. 1101 Authorizing the execution and delivery of a Colonias Infrastructure Project Fund Loan/Grant Agreement ("Agreement" or "Loan/Grant Agreement") by and between the New Mexico Finance Authority ("NMFA or "Lender/Grantor") and the Village of Hatch, Dona Ana County, New Mexico ("Borrower/Grantee") for the benefit of the designated Colonias of Hatch, Rodey, El Milagro and Placitas in the total amount of three hundred fifty thousand dollars (\$350,000). Seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Atencio. The Board was polled as follows: Mayor Pro Tem Atencio-aye, Trustee Crist-aye, Trustee Martinez-aye, Trustee Franzoy-aye. Motion carried.

**Vote results:**

Ayes: 4 / Nays: 0 / Abstains: 0

**10. \*Resolution No. xxx - A Resolution Authorizing the execution and delivery of a Colonias Infrastructure Project Fund Loan/Grant Agreement**

A Resolution Authorizing the execution and delivery of a Colonias Infrastructure Project Fund Loan/Grant Agreement ("Agreement" or "Loan/Grant Agreement") by and between the New Mexico Finance Authority ("NMFA or "Lender/Grantor") and the Village of Hatch, Dona Ana County, New Mexico ("Borrower/Grantee") for the benefit of the designated Colonias of Hatch, Rodey, El Milagro and Placitas in the total amount of five hundred ninety-two thousand dollars (\$592,000), evidencing an obligation of the Borrower/Grantee to utilize the loan/grant amount solely for the purpose of financing the costs to design and construct the Replacement of the Disinfection System ("Project"), and solely in the manner described in the loan/grant agreement; providing for the pledge and payment of the administrative fee and loan amount of fifty-nine thousand two hundred dollars (\$59,200) solely from the net revenues of the sewer system of the borrower/grantee and acceptance of a grant amount of five hundred thirty-two thousand eight hundred dollars (\$532,800) certifying that the loan/grant amount, together with other funds available to the borrower/grantee, is sufficient to complete the project; approving the form of and other details concerning the loan/grant agreement; ratifying actions heretofore taken; repealing all action inconsistent with this resolution; and authorizing the taking of other actions in connection with the execution and delivery of the loan/grant agreement.

**Minutes:**

Mayor Pro Tem Atencio moved to approve Resolution No. 1103 Authorizing the execution and delivery of a Colonias Infrastructure Project Fund Loan/Grant Agreement ("Agreement" or "Loan/Grant Agreement") by and between the New Mexico Finance Authority ("NMFA or "Lender/Grantor") and the Village of Hatch, Dona Ana County, New Mexico ("Borrower/Grantee") for the benefit of the designated Colonias of Hatch, Rodey, El Milagro and Placitas in the total amount of five hundred ninety-two thousand dollars (\$592,000). Seconded by Trustee Martinez. The Board was polled as follows: Mayor Pro Tem Atencio-aye, Trustee Crist-aye, Trustee Martinez-aye, Trustee Franzoy-aye. Motion carried.

**Vote results:**

Ayes: 4 / Nays: 0 / Abstains: 0

**11. \*Resolution No. xxx - A Resolution Authorizing the execution and delivery of a Colonias Infrastructure Project Fund Loan/Grant Agreement**

A Resolution Authorizing the execution and delivery of a Colonias Infrastructure Project Fund Loan/Grant Agreement ("Agreement" or "Loan/Grant Agreement") by and between the New Mexico Finance Authority ("NMFA or "Lender/Grantor") and the Village of Hatch, Dona Ana County, New Mexico ("Borrower/Grantee") for the benefit of the designated Colonias of Hatch, Rodey, El Milagro and Placitas in the total amount of two hundred seventy thousand five hundred dollars (\$270,500), evidencing an obligation of the Borrower/Grantee to utilize the loan/grant amount solely for the purpose of financing the costs to design the Wastewater Treatment Plant Improvements ("Project"), and solely in the manner described in the loan/grant agreement; providing for the pledge and payment of the administrative fee and loan amount of twenty-seven thousand fifty dollars (\$27,050) solely from the net revenues of the sewer system of the borrower/grantee and acceptance of a grant amount of two hundred forty-three thousand four hundred fifty dollars (\$243,450) certifying that the loan/grant amount, together with other funds available to the borrower/grantee, is sufficient to complete the project; approving the form of and other details concerning the loan/grant agreement; ratifying actions heretofore taken; repealing all action inconsistent with this resolution; and authorizing the taking of other actions in connection with the execution and delivery of the loan/grant agreement.

**Minutes:**

Trustee Franzoy moved to approve Resolution No. 1102 Authorizing the execution and delivery of a Colonias Infrastructure Project Fund Loan/Grant Agreement ("Agreement" or "Loan/Grant Agreement") by and between the New Mexico Finance Authority ("NMFA or "Lender/Grantor") and the Village of Hatch, Dona Ana County, New Mexico ("Borrower/Grantee") for the benefit of the designated Colonias of Hatch, Rodey, El Milagro and Placitas in the total amount of two hundred seventy thousand five hundred dollars (\$270,500). Seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Atencio. The Board was polled as follows: Mayor Pro Tem Atencio-aye, Trustee Crist-aye, Trustee Martinez-aye, Trustee Franzoy-aye. Motion carried.

**Vote results:**

Ayes: 4 / Nays: 0 / Abstains: 0

**12. Wilson & Company Report**

**13. \*Resolution No. xxx - A Resolution approving participation in the Local Government Road Fund Program and Authorizing the Mayor to sign the Cooperative Agreement, including Exhibit B.**

**Minutes:**

Mayor Pro Tem Atencio moved to approve Resolution No. 1104 approving participation in the Local Government Road Fund Program and Authorizing the Mayor to sign the Cooperative Agreement, including Exhibit B. Seconded by Trustee Crist. The Board was polled as follows: Mayor Pro Tem Atencio-aye, Trustee Crist-aye, Trustee Martinez-aye, Trustee Franzoy-aye. Motion carried.

**Vote results:**

Ayes: 4 / Nays: 0 / Abstains: 0

**14. \*Consideration and approval of Grant Agreement between the New Mexico Department of Transportation (Department) and Village of Hatch (Grantee) for Selective Traffic Enforcement Program (STEP), project NO. 06-PT-RF-043, \$4,995.00.**

**Minutes:**

Trustee Franzoy moved to table the Grant Agreement between the New Mexico Department of Transportation (Department) and the Village of Hatch (Grantee) for the Selective Traffic Enforcement Program (STEP), Project No. 06-PT-RF-043, in the amount of \$4,995.00, for further research. The motion was seconded by Trustee Martinez and carried.

**Vote results:**

Ayes: 4 / Nays: 0 / Abstains: 0

## 15. Department Head Input

### Minutes:

Lisa Neal, Library Director, gave a brief update on activities at the library, including: Twinkling Tuesday at 10:30 a.m. for toddlers and story time. After-school Science & Tech program. Spooky story time for all ages. Planning for the Fifth Annual Trunk or Treat, open to everyone.

Mike Castillo, Public Works Director, provided an update on the Utilities Department: The crew has started preparing Christmas lights and hopes to have them installed before Thanksgiving, with activation planned for the first week of December.

Winterization of the pool is underway. The sewer operator is working on testing. Crew is performing yard clean-up. The marquee sign needs repairs. Exploring the possibility of a new truck for the sewer department. Only one pump is currently operational on Carr Street; repairs are underway, with an estimated cost of approximately \$10,000.

Trey Gimler, Chief of Police, reported on the Police Department: Since returning, he has been working to get acquainted with new officers and stabilize operations. A serious issue is that the department is running low on citations due to a citation software upgrade still in progress. Contact has been made with the vendor to expedite the order.

## 16. Mayor & Trustees Input

### Minutes:

Mayor Torres reported on continued efforts to obtain funding to complete the Canal Bridge Project. He also stated that he attended a meeting in Santa Fe, with Matt Thompson of BHI regarding the submission of the WTB application.

Mayor Pro Tem Atencio addressed the issue of the Fire Department and Emergency Services to provide clarification to the public. He explained that the Village's consideration of an MOU with the County for these services was primarily due to a lack of volunteers and the safety of residents. He emphasized that there were insufficient volunteers, and the Village requires 24/7 coverage, which had not been consistently available. This change was therefore critical to ensure the well-being of the Village of Hatch community.

## 17. \*Personnel

- a. **Approval to accept the resignation of Manuell Shreves, effective September 17, 2025.**

### Minutes:

Trustee Franzoy moved to accept the resignation of Manuell Shreves, effective September 17, 2025. Seconded by Trustee Martinez. Motion carried.

### Vote results:

Ayes: 4 / Nays: 0 / Abstains: 0

- b. **Ratification of approval to hire Anita Gomez as part-time Museum Attendant at an hourly rate of \$12.50, effective September 30, 2025.**

### Minutes:

Trustee Martinez moved to ratify the approval to hire Anita Gomez as part-time Museum Attendant at an hourly rate of \$12.50, effective September 30, 2025. Seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Atencio. Motion carried.

**Vote results:**

Ayes: 4 / Nays: 0 / Abstains: 0

- c. **Ratification of approval to hire Dave Sment as part-time Planning & Zoning Director at an hourly rate of \$20.00, effective September 30, 2025.**

**Minutes:**

Trustee Crist moved to ratify the approval to hire Dave Sment as part-time Planning & Zoning Director at an hourly rate of \$20.00, effective September 30, 2025. Seconded by Trustee Franzoy. Motion carried.

**Vote results:**

Ayes: 4 / Nays: 0 / Abstains: 0

- d. **Ratification of termination of Chief of Police Aurora Hernandez for cause, effective September 22, 2025.**

**Minutes:**

Trustee Franzoy moved to ratify the termination of Chief of Police Aurora Hernandez for cause, effective September 22, 2025. Seconded by Trustee Martinez. Motion carried.

**Vote results:**

Ayes: 4 / Nays: 0 / Abstains: 0

- e. **Ratification of Professional and Expert Services Contract Between Trey Gimler and the Village of Hatch for professional services related to expertise as a law enforcement officer and police department administrator to perform the functions of acting police chief, and to further perform functions as an expert witness and expert consultant regarding all threatened or pending litigation Hatch may encounter from time to time as it relates to the Police Department and Police Department matters.**

**Minutes:**

Mayor Pro Tem Atencio moved to ratify the approval of the Professional and Expert Services Contract Between Trey Gimler and the Village of Hatch for professional services related to expertise as a law enforcement officer and police department administrator to perform the functions of acting police chief, and to further perform functions as an expert witness and expert consultant regarding all threatened or pending litigation Hatch may encounter from time to time as it relates to the Police Department and Police Department matters. Seconded by Trustee Crist. Motion carried.

**Vote results:**

Ayes: 4 / Nays: 0 / Abstains: 0

- f. **Extension of probationary status for all current probationary employees of the Police Department.**

**Minutes:**

Trustee Franzoy moved to approve extending the probationary period from six months to one year for all current probationary employees in the Police Department. Trustee Crist seconded. Motion carried.



**Vote results:**

Ayes: 4 / Nays: 0 / Abstains: 0

- g. **Resolution No. xxx - A Resolution directing the Mayor to re-establish and maintain executive control over Village Departments to ensure alignment with Board priorities, policies, and community goals.**

**Minutes:**

Mayor Pro Tem Atencio moved to approve Resolution No. 1105 directing the Mayor to re-establish and maintain executive control over Village Departments to ensure alignment with Board priorities, policies, and community goals.

Seconded by Trustee Martinez. The Board was polled as follows: Mayor Pro Tem Atencio-aye, Trustee Crist-aye, Trustee Martinez-aye, Trustee Franzoy-aye. Motion carried.

**Vote results:**

Ayes: 4 / Nays: 0 / Abstains: 0

18. **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.**

- a. **Update from Legal Counsel regarding Personnel Matters.**

**Minutes:**

\*7:07 p.m. Trustee Crist moved to convene in closed executive session to discuss limited personnel matters and threatened/potential 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. Seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Atencio. The Board was polled as follows: Mayor Pro Tem Atencio-aye, Trustee Crist-aye, Trustee Martinez-aye, Trustee Franzoy-aye. Motion carried.

\*8:33 p.m. Mayor Pro Tem Atencio moved to reconvene in open session from closed executive session where no decisions were made, but where guidance was provided to Village Counsel regarding moving forward with the limited personnel matters and threatened/potential litigation that were discussed. Seconded by Trustee Martinez. The Board was polled as follows: Mayor Pro Tem Atencio-aye, Trustee Crist-aye, Trustee Martinez-aye, Trustee Franzoy-aye. Motion carried.

**Vote results:**

Ayes: 4 / Nays: 0 / Abstains: 0

19. **\* Adjourn**

**Minutes:**

In the absence of further business, Trustee Franzoy moved to adjourn at 8:34 p.m. The motion was seconded by Trustee Crist, and it carried.

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_

ATTEST: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**Vote results:**

Ayes: 4 / Nays: 0 / Abstains: 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: Monday, November 10th, 2025 @ 6 p.m. (Due to Veteran's Day)

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Contact: Elizabeth Porras (eporras@villageofhatch.org 575-267-5216) | Minutes published on 10/17/2025, adopted on 11/10/2025