



VILLAGE OF HATCH BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Minutes

Tuesday, February 10, 2026 at 6:00 pm

Attendees: Mayor Torres, Mayor Pro Tem Atencio, Trustee Martinez, Trustee Chairez, Trustee Olvera, Mike Castillo, Concha L. Benavidez, Alice Soto, Angel Soto, Elizabeth Soto, Lisa Neal, Eric Hamilton, Rhonda Gimler, Trey Gimler, 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 Martinez-Present, Trustee Chairez-Present, Trustee Olvera-Present. There being a quorum, Mayor Torres called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. Trustee Chairez led all in attendance in the pledge of allegiance and Mayor Pro Tem Atencio gave the opening prayer.

2. * Approval of Agenda

Minutes:

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

Vote results:

Ayes: 4 / Nays: 0 / Abstains: 0

3. *Consent Agenda (Police, Museum, Planning & Zoning, Parks & Rec, Library, Cemetery, Court Reports, Approved Bills List, Delinquent List, Utility Applications, Travel & Training, Group Health Benefits Renewal, Regular Meeting Minutes January 13, 2026).

Minutes:

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

Vote results:

Ayes: 4 / Nays: 0 / Abstains: 0

4. Public input

Minutes:

Elizabeth Soto requested that the Board of Trustees consider the possibility of extending sewer services to East Canal Road and adding the project to the Village's ICIP. It was noted that approximately five families would benefit from the extension. Staff explained that additional research is required, as the East Canal Road area currently has only a force main and no available gravity sewer service. Bohannon Huston will evaluate the area and determine what potential infrastructure improvements may be feasible.

5. Bohannon Huston Report

Minutes:

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

6. *Resolution No. xxx - A Resolution by the Board of Trustees, the Governing Body of the Village of Hatch, Dona Ana County, New Mexico, whereby the Board of Trustees authorized and approves submission of completed applications for financial assistance and projects approval to the New Mexico Finance Authority for the Colonias Infrastructure Fund.

Minutes:

Mayor Pro Tem Atencio moved to approve Resolution No. 1110 A Resolution by the Board of Trustees, the Governing Body of the Village of Hatch, Dona Ana County, New Mexico, whereby the Board of Trustees authorized and approves submission of completed applications for financial assistance and projects approval to the New Mexico Finance Authority for the Colonias Infrastructure Fund. Seconded by Trustee Martinez. The Board was polled as follows: Mayor Pro Tem Atencio — aye; Trustee Martinez — aye; Trustee Chairez — aye; Trustee Olvera — aye. Motion carried.

Vote results:

Ayes: 4 / Nays: 0 / Abstains: 0

7. *Resolution No. xxx - A Resolution by the Governing Body of the Village of Hatch, New Mexico, whereby adopts and approves the commitment to implement an asset management plan as required by the New Mexico Water Trust Board.

Minutes:

Mayor Pro Tem Atencio moved to approve Resolution No. 1111 A Resolution by the Governing Body of the Village of Hatch, New Mexico, whereby adopts and approves the commitment to implement an asset management plan as required by the New Mexico Water Trust Board. Seconded by Trustee Chairez. The Board was polled as follows: Mayor Pro Tem Atencio — aye; Trustee Martinez — aye; Trustee Chairez — aye; Trustee Olvera — aye. Motion carried.

Vote results:

Ayes: 4 / Nays: 0 / Abstains: 0

8. Wilson & Company Report

Minutes:

There was no representative from Wilson & Company in attendance at this month's meeting.

9. *Approval of Grant Agreement between the NM Department of Transportation and the Village of Hatch for Selective Traffic Enforcement Program (STEP), Project No. 06-PT-RF-043, \$4,995.00.

Minutes:

Trustee Martinez moved to approve the Grant Agreement between the NM Department of Transportation and the Village of Hatch for Selective Traffic Enforcement Program (STEP), Project No. 06-PT-RF-043, in the amount of \$4,995.00. Seconded by Trustee Olvera. Motion carried.

Vote results:

Ayes: 4 / Nays: 0 / Abstains: 0

10. *Resolution No. xxx - Adopting a Budget Adjustment for FY2025-2026.

Minutes:

Trustee Martinez moved to approve Resolution No. 1112 Adopting a Budget Adjustment for FY2025-2026. Seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Atencio. The Board was polled as follows: Mayor Pro Tem Atencio — aye; Trustee Martinez — aye; Trustee Chairez — aye; Trustee Olvera — aye. Motion carried.

Vote results:

Ayes: 4 / Nays: 0 / Abstains: 0

11. Personnel

a. *Ratify the approval to accept the resignation of Richard P. Garcia, effective January 14, 2026.

Minutes:

Mayor Pro Tem Atencio moved to ratify and accept the resignation of Richard P. Garcia, effective January 14, 2026. Seconded by Trustee Martinez. Motion carried.

Vote results:

Ayes: 4 / Nays: 0 / Abstains: 0

b. *Ratify the approval to accept the resignation of John L. Rubio, effective January 14, 2026.

Minutes:

Trustee Chairez moved to ratify and accept the resignation of John L. Rubio, effective January 14, 2026. Seconded by Trustee Olvera. Motion carried.

Vote results:

Ayes: 4 / Nays: 0 / Abstains: 0

c. *Ratify the approval to hire Isabel Perez-Gonzalez as a Police Officer effective January 29, 2026, contingent upon successful completion of required pre-employment testing, with a one year probationary period and a starting hourly salary of \$21.00.

Minutes:

Trustee Chairez moved to ratify and approve the hiring of Isabel Perez-Gonzalez as a Police Officer, effective January 29, 2026, contingent upon the successful completion of all required pre-employment testing, with a one-year probationary period and a starting hourly wage of \$21.00. Seconded by Trustee Martinez. Motion carried.

Vote results:

Ayes: 4 / Nays: 0 / Abstains: 0

12. Department Head Input

Minutes:

Lisa Neal, Library Director, provided a brief report on ongoing library matters. She stated that January was a slower month and staff continue working with family groups while preparing for the upcoming summer reading program.

Mike Castillo, Public Works Director, reported that a major water leak on a fourteen-inch water line on Tepache Street in Milagro was repaired over the weekend. Advance notice was provided to businesses and residents. Although water pressure was reduced during repairs, water service was not completely shut off, and customers maintained access to water throughout the process.

Trey Gimler, Chief of Police, reported that due to staffing shortages, the Sheriff’s Department and State Police are assisting with patrol coverage. DASO is also assisting with investigations. Recruitment efforts are ongoing, with an emphasis on conducting thorough background research to hire qualified officers for Hatch. The Chief also expressed concerns regarding salary levels for both new hires and current staff, noting that potential adjustments could help attract and retain officers. He suggested beginning discussions on this matter.

13. Mayor & Trustees Input

Minutes:

Mayor Torres reported that he attended the legislative session in Santa Fe, where he met with Representative Dow and Senator Steinborn. He was informed that the Village of Hatch will receive \$4.9 million for the Canal Bridge Project, as well as an additional \$850,000 for parking lots at Village of Hatch properties.

14. * Adjourn

Minutes:

In the absence of further business, Trustee Martinez moved to adjourn at 7:02 p.m. The motion was seconded by Trustee Chairez, 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 March 10, 2026.

Contact: Elizabeth Porras (eporras@villageofhatch.org 575-267-5216) | Minutes published on 02/17/2026, adopted on 03/10/2026