



VILLAGE OF HATCH BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Minutes

Tuesday, May 12, 2026 at 6:00 pm

Attendees: Mayor Torres, Mayor Pro Tem Atencio, Trustee Martinez, Trustee Chairez, Trustee Olvera, Eric Hamilton, Alfredo Holguin, Concha L. Benavidez, Andrea Legarreta, Bernadette Acosta, Louis Edwards, Elizabeth Soto, Angel Soto, Lisa Neal, Mike Castillo, 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 Martinez led all in attendance in the pledge of allegiance and Mayor Pro Tem Atencio gave the opening prayer.

2. * Approval of Agenda

Minutes:

Mayor Pro Tem Atencio 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, Museum, Planning & Zoning, Parks & Rec, Library, Cemetery, Court Reports, Approved Bills List, Delinquent Bill List, Utility Applications, Travel & Training, Regular Meeting Minutes April 14, 2026).

Minutes:

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

Vote results:

Ayes: 4 / Nays: 0 / Abstains: 0

4. Public Input

Minutes:

Bernadette Acosta, President of the Chamber of Commerce, reported that tickets for the June 13, 2026 Cash Party are still available. She stated that the Chamber has secured seven sponsors for the Chile Festival. This year's theme is "Rooted in Tradition." Ms. Acosta also reported that planning for the Fourth of July celebration is underway.

a. Chantal Orosco, Business Manager with Caballo Soil & Water Conservation District

Minutes:

Chantal Orosco did not attend the meeting.

5. Bohannan Huston Report

Minutes:

Eric Hamilton, Vice President Transportation and Drainage, and Alfredo Holguin Senior Project Manager provided a status update for all ongoing services provided by Bohannan Huston.

6. Wilson & Company Report

Minutes:

Louis Edwards, Project Architect provided a status update for all ongoing services provided by Wilson & Company.

7. *Consideration and approval to amend the Code of Ordinances of the Village of Hatch by adding Chapter 5.18 to Title 5, Business Licenses and Regulations, to regulate the casual sale of motor vehicles within the Village of Hatch.

Minutes:

Trustee Martinez moved to approve to amend the Code of Ordinances of the Village of Hatch by adding Chapter 5.18 to Title 5, Business Licenses and Regulations, to regulate the casual sale of motor vehicles within the Village of Hatch. Seconded by Trustee Olvera. The Board was polled as follows: Mayor Pro Tem Atencio — nay, Trustee Martinez — aye; Trustee Chairez — aye; Trustee Olvera — aye. Motion carried.

Vote results:

Ayes: 3 / Nays: 1 / Abstains: 0

8. *Consideration and approval of Inter-Governmental Service Agreement between New Mexico Department of Public Safety and Hatch Police Department 26-79000-9200-IGSA000052.

Minutes:

Mayor Pro Tem Atencio moved to approve the Inter-Governmental Service Agreement between New Mexico Department of Public Safety and Hatch Police Department 26-79000-9200-IGSA000052. Seconded by Trustee Martinez. Motion carried.

Vote results:

Ayes: 4 / Nays: 0 / Abstains: 0

9. *Personnel

- a. ***Ratify the approval to hire Manuel Hernandez as a Police Officer effective May 11, 2026, contingent upon successful completion of required pre-employment testing, with a one year probationary period and a starting hourly salary of \$24.00.**

Minutes:
Trustee Chairez ratified the approval to hire Manuel Hernandez as a Police Officer, effective May 11, 2026, contingent upon the successful completion of all required pre-employment testing, with a one-year probationary period and a starting hourly wage of \$24.00. Seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Atencio. Motion carried.

Vote results:
Ayes: 4 / Nays: 0 / Abstains: 0

- b. ***Ratify the approval to hire Miguel Gonzalez as a Police Officer effective May 11, 2026, contingent upon successful completion of required pre-employment testing, with a one year probationary period and a starting hourly salary of \$24.00.**

Minutes:
Mayor Pro Tem Atencio ratified the approval to hire Miguel Gonzalez as a Police Officer, effective May 11, 2026, contingent upon the successful completion of all required pre-employment testing, with a one-year probationary period and a starting hourly wage of \$24.00. Seconded by Trustee Martinez. Motion carried.

Vote results:
Ayes: 4 / Nays: 0 / Abstains: 0

- c. ***Approval to hire a Pool Supervisor and lifeguards for the 2026 summer season, effective immediately, at the following hourly rates, contingent upon successful completion of required pre-employment testing and lifeguard certification: Pool Supervisor: Erika Whitlock – \$17.50/hour; 3rd-year re-hires: Priscilla Ramirez Escalante – \$15.00/hour; 2nd-year re-hires: Leslie Porras; Sophia Holguin – \$14.25/hour; 1st-year new hires: Monserrat Puentes; Sofia Rodriguez; Guadalupe Gomez; Valeria A. Garcia; Alondra J. Ramirez, Ariadne M. Dominguez – \$14.00/hour.**

Minutes:
Trustee Olvera moved to approve to hire a Pool Supervisor and lifeguards for the 2026 summer season, effective immediately, at the following hourly rates, contingent upon successful completion of required pre-employment testing and lifeguard certification: Pool Supervisor: Erika Whitlock – \$17.50/hour; 3rd-year re-hires: Priscilla Ramirez Escalante – \$15.00/hour; 2nd-year re-hires: Leslie Porras; Sophia Holguin – \$14.25/hour; 1st-year new hires: Monserrat Puentes; Sofia Rodriguez; Guadalupe Gomez; Valeria A. Garcia; Alondra J. Ramirez, Ariadne M. Dominguez – \$14.00/hour. Seconded by Trustee Martinez. Motion carried.

Vote results:
Ayes: 4 / Nays: 0 / Abstains: 0

- d. ***Consideration and possible approval to hire Beveto Carlos V. Perez as Sports Director for the season, with a stipend of \$4,000.**

Minutes:

Trustee Martinez moved to approve to hire Beveto Carlos V. Perez as Sports Director for the season, with a stipend of \$4,000. Seconded by Trustee Olvera. Motion carried.

Vote results:

Ayes: 4 / Nays: 0 / Abstains: 0

- e. ***Ratify the approval to transition Anita B. Gomez from probationary to non-probationary status, with an hourly rate increase of fifty-cents, effective March 30, 2026.**

Minutes:

Mayor Pro Tem Atencio ratified the approval to transition Anita B. Gomez from probationary to non-probationary status, with an hourly rate increase of fifty-cents, effective March 30, 2026. Seconded by Trustee Martinez. Motion carried.

Vote results:

Ayes: 4 / Nays: 0 / Abstains: 0

- f. ***Accept the resignation of Alice Soto, effective April 30, 2026.**

Minutes:

Trustee Chairez moved to accept the resignation of Alice Soto, effective April 30, 2026. Seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Atencio. Motion carried.

Vote results:

Ayes: 4 / Nays: 0 / Abstains: 0

10. Department Head Input

Minutes:

Lisa Neal, Library Director, provided a brief update on library activities. She reported that a formal funding request was submitted to Doña Ana County, and preliminary indications suggest the County may award the Library a grant in the amount of \$50,000. Final confirmation is still pending. The Foam Party today was a successful event, with strong attendance and participation, food and refreshments were provided. Mike Castillo, Public Works Director, reported that preparations for the municipal pool are nearly complete. He noted that the project is temporarily delayed pending the delivery and installation of replacement grates, which are expected to arrive later this week. Once installed, staff will begin filling the pool and preparing it for inspection and permitting.

11. Mayor & Trustees Input

Minutes:

Mayor Torres commended Trustee Olvera for organizing the Village of Hatch Cemetery Cleanup Day held on April 18, 2026. The event was a success, with volunteers working together to clean and beautify the cemetery grounds. More than 70 bags of trash and debris were collected and removed. The Village expressed its appreciation to Trustee Olvera and all community members who participated in this community effort.

12. * Adjourn

Minutes:

In the absence of further business, Mayor Pro Tem Atencio moved to adjourn at 6:54 p.m. The motion was seconded by Trustee Martinez, 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: June 9, 2026.

Contact: Elizabeth Porras (eporras@villageofhatch.org 575-267-5216) | Minutes published on 05/13/2026, adopted on 06/09/2026