



VILLAGE OF HATCH BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Minutes

Tuesday, September 8, 2026 at 6:00 pm

Attendees: Mayor Torres, Trustee Chairez, Trustee Martinez, Trustee Olvera, Angel Soto, Elizabeth Soto, Amanda Bowen, Alfredo Holguin, Andrea Legarreta, Concha L. Benavidez, Bernadette Acosta, Brigitte Fuller, Trey Gimler, 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-Absent, 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 Trustee Olvera gave the opening prayer.

2. * Approval of Agenda

Minutes:

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

Vote results:

Ayes: 3 / Nays: 0 / Abstains: 0

3. *Consent Agenda (Police, Museum, Planning & Zoning, Parks & Rec, Library, Cemetery, Court Report, Approved Bills List, Delinquent Bill List, Utility Applications, Travel & Training, Regular Meeting Minutes August 11, 2026).

Minutes:

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

Vote results:

Ayes: 3 / Nays: 0 / Abstains: 0

4. Public input

Minutes:

Bernadette Acosta, President of the Chamber of Commerce, reported that the 2026 Chile Festival was a success, with a large number of vendors and tourists in attendance, as well as a successful parade and festival activities. She reported that the committee is now working on participating in the Chile Challenge, with approximately 250 participants already registered. Ms. Acosta also reported that the Chamber will work with the schools on the upcoming Turkey Trot and that the U.S. Army Band has expressed interest in returning to Hatch this year to perform. Mayor Torres thanked Ms. Acosta and her team for their efforts in organizing the 2026 Chile Festival and commended them for their work.

5. *Resolution No. xxx - A Resolution of the Village of Hatch Adopting the 2026 Dona Ana All-Hazard Mitigation Plan.

Minutes:

Amanda Bowen, Emergency Manager with the Office of Emergency Management, gave a brief presentation on the 2026 Doña Ana County Multi-Jurisdictional All-Hazard Mitigation Plan. She explained that the plan represents a significant regional effort and that adoption is an important step in moving the plan from planning to implementation. Ms. Bowen stated that once all participating jurisdictions have completed the adoption process, the mitigation actions identified in the plan can be advanced, funding opportunities can be pursued, and the identified strategies can be implemented.

Trustee Martinez moved to approve Resolution No. 1132 Adopting the 2026 Dona Ana County All-Hazard Mitigation Plan. Seconded by Trustee Olvera. The Board was polled as follows: Mayor Pro Tem Atencio — absent; Trustee Martinez — aye; Trustee Olvera — aye; Trustee Chairez - aye. Motion carried.

Vote results:

Ayes: 3 / Nays: 0 / Abstains: 0

6. Bohannon Huston Report

Minutes:

Alfredo Holguin, Senior Project Manager provided a status update for all ongoing services provided by Bohannon Huston.

7. *Consideration and approval of Aviation Grant Agreement E05-27-01 between the NMDOT, acting through its Aviation Division (Department), and the Village of Hatch.

Minutes:

Trustee Chairez moved to approve the Aviation Grant Agreement E05-27-01 between the NMDOT, acting through its Aviation Division (Department), and the Village of Hatch. Seconded by Trustee Martinez. Motion carried.

Vote results:

Ayes: 3 / Nays: 0 / Abstains: 0

8. Wilson & Company Report

Minutes:

Brigitte Fuller, Project Engineer provided a status update for all ongoing services provided by Wilson & Company.

9. *Resolution No. xxx - Participation in Capital Outlay Program Administered through New Mexico Department of Transportation.

Minutes:

Trustee Martinez moved to approve Resolution No. 1133 Participation in Capital Outlay Program administered through New Mexico Department of Transportation. Seconded by Trustee Olvera. The Board was polled as follows: Mayor Pro Tem Atencio — absent; Trustee Martinez — aye; Trustee Olvera — aye; Trustee Chairez - aye. Motion carried.

Vote results:

Ayes: 3 / Nays: 0 / Abstains: 0

10. *Personnel

- a. ***Ratify the approval to hire Andy R. Lerma as a Police Officer effective August 22, 2026, contingent upon successful completion of required pre-employment testing, with a one-year probationary period and a starting hourly salary of \$26.00.**

Minutes:

Trustee Chairez moved to ratify the approval to hire Andy R. Lerma as a Police Officer effective August 22, 2026, contingent upon successful completion of required pre-employment testing, with a one-year probationary period and a starting hourly salary of \$26.00. Seconded by Trustee Martinez. Motion carried.

Vote results:

Ayes: 3 / Nays: 0 / Abstains: 0

- b. ***Accept the resignation of Officer Adrian Garcia, effective August 30, 2026.**

Minutes:

Trustee Olvera moved to accept the resignation of Officer Adrian Garcia, effective August 30, 2026. Seconded by Trustee Martinez. Motion carried.

Vote results:

Ayes: 3 / Nays: 0 / Abstains: 0

11. Department Head Input

Minutes:

Mike Castillo, Public Works Director, provided a brief report on ongoing issues and activities within the Utilities Department. He reported that the pool facility has officially closed for the season. Maverik appears to be preparing to begin operations in the Village and has turned on its water service. Pure Ops is scheduled to resume work next week and has been completing approximately 35 meters per day. He also reported that the disinfection by-products testing results were satisfactory.

Trey Gimler, Police Chief, reported that the Police Department was extremely busy throughout the Chile Festival weekend due to the numerous activities, large crowds, parade, and increased traffic. He reported that there were no major issues and that the department successfully managed the weekend. Chief Gimler stated that the festival was a success.

12. Mayor & Trustees Input

Minutes:

Mayor Torres commended the Police Department for its hard work and dedication to the Village, especially during the Chile Festival weekend.

13. CLOSED SESSION - PERSONNEL MATTERS

Pursuant to NMSA 1978, Section 10-15-1(H)(2), Discussion of Limited Personnel Matters Regarding an Employee's Leave Status and Related Employment Matters.

Minutes:

6:46 p.m. Trustee Martinez moved to convene in closed executive session Pursuant to NMSA 1978, Section 10-15-1(H)(2), Discussion of Limited Personnel Matters Regarding an Employee's Leave Status and Related Employment Matters, as authorized by the Open Meetings Act, respectively. The motion was seconded by Trustee Olvera. The Board was polled as follows: Trustee Martinez — aye; Trustee Chairez — aye; Trustee Olvera — aye; Mayor Pro Tem Atencio — absent. Motion carried.

7:10 p.m. Trustee Martinez moved to reconvene in open session. The Board stated that no decisions were made during the closed executive session; however, guidance was provided to Village Clerk regarding the limited personnel matters discussed. The motion was seconded by Trustee Chairez. The Board was polled as follows: Trustee Martinez — aye; Trustee Chairez — aye; Trustee Olvera — aye; Mayor Pro Tem Atencio — absent. Motion carried.

Vote results:

Ayes: 3 / Nays: 0 / Abstains: 0

14. * Adjourn

Minutes:

In the absence of further business, Trustee Martinez moved to adjourn at 7:11 p.m. The motion was seconded by Trustee Olvera, and it carried.

Signed: _____

ATTEST: _____

Date: _____

Vote results:

Ayes: 3 / 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: October 13, 2026.

