

MINUTES - SPECIAL MEETING
Board of Directors of Timberon Water and Sanitation District
Friday November 14, 2025 at 6:00 pm
Timberon Volunteer Fire Station
33 Merlin Drive, Timberon, NM 88350

At the start of the meeting, Director Robb was not present. Without a quorum, it was agreed that the board would proceed informally. The audience remained seated as Vice Chair Hardesty provided background information on Alex Salas and his qualifications. Alex holds a Bachelor of Science in Civil Engineering, an Associate of Science in Water Technology, and is currently an instructor of Water Technology courses at Doña Ana Community College. He is a licensed Civil Engineer, has extensive experience with construction and water supply projects, has worked as a water quality technician in both water and wastewater for the City of Las Cruces Utilities Department, and serves as a lab analyst with NMSU's Civil Engineering Department conducting field testing of ground and surface water.

His certifications include: Licensed Professional Engineer, New Mexico Water Systems Operator Level 4, Wastewater Systems Operator Level 2, and Lab Technician Level 2. All transcripts and certifications were provided to TWSD immediately upon signing his contract. Since coming onboard, Alex has worked diligently with state and federal agencies and maintains strong communication with TWSD's administrative staff and field crew. He is consistently available to answer questions and provide support.

Director Robb arrived shortly thereafter, establishing a quorum. The board then continued with the formal meeting as originally scheduled.

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 6:07 PM by Chairman David Cruey

Pledge of Allegiance

Salute to the New Mexico Flag *"I salute the flag of the state of New Mexico, the Zia symbol of perfect friendship among united cultures."*

ROLL CALL

Present: Chairman David Cruey, Vice Chair Edward Hardesty, Director Derenda Robb

Absent: Treasurer Jesse "JJ" Duckett, Director Allen Burmeister

Staff Present: General Manager Wendy Case, Level 4 Water Operator Alex Salas, Board Secretary Nanette Thorell

A quorum was established.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Vice Chair Hardesty moved to approve the agenda with the addition of three discussion items requested by Alex Salas:

- (A) Storage Tank Replacement
- (B) Water Loss Discussion
- (C) Fence Design

Director Robb seconded. All voted in favor. The motion passed.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Question & Answer Session with Alex Salas, TWSD Level 4 Water Operator.

Prior to the meeting, Alex provided a handout to board members expanding on his requested agenda items (noted in italics).

(A) Storage Tank Replacement: *Sanitary Survey identified the storage tank that needs replacement. We need to decide if we need the tank and if we do, begin the process of applying for a construction application / design / bids for construction. As you know, I am a Licensed Professional Engineer and can facilitate that process.*

Audience member Arden asked about Tank 3, a large metal tank no longer in use, and whether Alex had experience with poly tanks. Alex clarified that the state will not approve a poly tank for this purpose, as it is not considered an adequate structure. A metal tank will be required.

(B) Water Loss Discussion: *Need to discuss the water loss and how we intend to mitigate this issue. I have a few methods but will require some discussion and approvals.*

Alex addressed the ongoing water loss issue and outlined potential mitigation methods. Suggestions included pilot pressure testing conducted by TWSD water operators Travis and JoeBob to help identify leaks. Another option would be hiring a third-party contractor. Alex will explore these possibilities and return to the board with specific recommendations requiring approval.

(C) Fence Design: *Need approval to send out the fence design for bids and subsequently construction. All these topics are time sensitive, NMED will want a response from the board.* Alex requested approval to move forward with sending out the completed fence design for the Surface Water Plant to bid. The fence is considered a security concern, and the matter is time-sensitive due to NMED's expected follow-up. He noted that the Sanitary Survey approved the design on its first submission without redlines and commended Leo for preparing the drawings.

Vice Chair Hardesty asked for clarification on state deadlines. Alex explained that the next step lies with the state's Compliance Officer, but TWSD should be prepared to act quickly once contacted.

Vice Chair Hardesty also referenced the Administrative Order addressing violations dating back to 2022, with a hearing scheduled for December 3rd and settlement discussions on December 5th. Alex and GM Case will manage that process and can demonstrate that some violations have already been resolved.

Alex added that he intends to evaluate the entire system for efficiency improvements and already has several ideas based on observations and feedback from TWSD staff. As those concepts develop, he will bring them to the board.

Vice Chair Hardesty commented on the strong rapport Alex has built with the field crew and expressed appreciation for the progress made since his arrival. Chairman Cruey added that Alex has re-established communication with the state and is working closely with GM Case, noting positive momentum.

Audience member Arden asked about the Ultra Filter System for the surface water plant. Chairman Cruey stated that the goal is to bring the surface water plant online, and also utilize other wells to supplement the system. Alex noted that his target for having the surface water plant operational is

early next year, allowing extra time for potential issues. Additional discussion followed regarding flow meters, SCADA, and reporting requirements.

Audience member Tim inquired about the status of the main well. Chairman Cruvey reported that the new equipment has arrived, but an electrical issue occurred, requiring the crew to pull the equipment again on Monday. The hope is to reinstall by Tuesday so that water testing can begin.

Audience member Harmony thanked the TWSD crew and expressed appreciation for the community's support throughout the challenges.

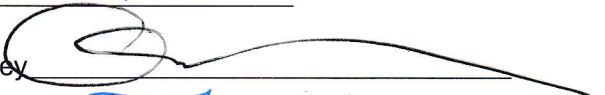
Chairman Cruvey publicly recognized GM Case for her exceptional work in locating U.S.-certified pipe and managing the numerous issues arising during this emergency. The audience responded with applause.

Additional discussion followed regarding grants, audits, and system instrumentation.

MOTION TO ADJOURN

Vice Chair Hardesty moved to adjourn the meeting. Director Robb seconded the motion. A vote was called. All voted in favor, none opposed. The motion carried and the meeting adjourned at 6:45 PM.

Approved December 9, 2025

Chairman David Cruvey 

Secretary Nanette Thorell 

{SEAL}

