



Agenda **Regular Meeting of the Santa Fe
River Commission
October 9, 2025 at 6:00 PM
City of Santa Fe Transit Center,
Room #117
2931 Rufina St., Santa Fe**

Procedures for Santa Fe River Commission Meeting

Join on Zoom: <https://santafenm.gov.zoom.us/j/84309864154>

The agenda and packet for the meeting will be posted at
<https://santafenm.portal.civicclerk.com/>

1. Call to Order
2. Roll Call
3. Approval of Agenda
4. Approval of Minutes
 - a. Approval of the June 12th, 2025, Meeting Minutes
 - b. Approval of the August 14th 2025, Meeting Minutes
5. Communications from Other Agencies/Committees
 - a. Santa Fe Watershed Association Adopt Programs Update (Mori Hensley, Executive Director Santa Fe Watershed Association, Mori@santafewatershed.org)
6. Informational Items
 - a. Discussion Regarding the Removal of Elms, (Ryan Pitcher, City of Santa Fe IPM Manager rspitcher@santafenm.gov)
7. Discussion and Action Items
 - a. Santa Fe River Commission SubCommittee Updates (Subcommittee Chairs, Santa Fe River Commission)
8. Matters from Staff
9. Matters from the Public
10. Matters from the Commission

- a. Subcommittee Breakout Session (Zoe Isaacson, Staff Liaison, zisaacson@santafenm.gov)

11. Next Meeting:

12. Adjourn

Persons with disabilities in need of additional accommodations, contact the City Clerk's office at 505-955-6521, five (5) working days prior to meeting date.

Regular Meeting of the Santa Fe River Commission
June 12, 2025 at 6:00 PM
City of Santa Fe Transit Center, Room #117
2931 Rufina St., Santa Fe
MINUTES

1. Call to Order

The Regular Meeting of the Santa Fe River Commission was called to order by chair Bill Carey at 6:00 PM, on Thursday, June 12, 2025, 2931 Rufina St, Santa Fe, NM 87507.

2. Roll Call

Roll Call was taken by Staff Liaison, Zoe Isaacson. City of Santa Fe, Counciler Carol Romero-Wirth attended and, Water Division Water Resource Coordinator, Alan Hook participated in this meeting.

3. Approval of Agenda

MOTION A motion was made by Jackson, seconded by Hutchinson, to move item 6A before item 5 in the agenda.

VOTE The motion on a voice vote.

4. Approval of Minutes

- a. Approval of the April 10, 2025, Meeting Minutes

MOTION A motion was made by Hutchinson, seconded by Reisterer, to Approve.

VOTE The motion on a voice vote.

5. Communications from Other Agencies/Committees

- a. City of Santa Fe Water Division Update (Taylor Jurgens, Engineer City of Santa Fe Water Division, trjurgens@santafenm.gov)

Taylor Jurgens from the City of Santa Fe Water Division provided an update on the Nichols Outlet Rehab Project, which includes replacing the existing raw water pipeline from Nichols to the Canyon Road Water Treatment Plant. A \$300,000 amendment was approved to remove old HDPE and steel pipelines from the channel, pending coordination with TNC and Audubon for better access. Volunteers, through SFWA (Santa Fe Watershed Association), will assist with replanting near Nichols Dam, though larger re-vegetation efforts are not currently scoped. The transition to the new pipeline in the roadway is planned for August, allowing for removal of the old lines before the project wraps in October. A site walk with contractors and R&W is scheduled to determine access, restoration needs, and equipment impacts.

- b. Santa Fe Watershed Association Adopt Programs Update (Mori Hensley, Executive Director Santa Fe Watershed Association, Mori@santafewatershed.org)

Mori Hensley from the Santa Fe Watershed Association (SFWA) shared updates on

their Adopt-Your-Watershed program, which currently includes 22 steward teams helping clean and care for the Santa Fe River. Engagement has evolved since COVID, with fewer formal team outings but more flexible, high-impact efforts like monthly workshops, "Cleanup and Coffee" events, and one-time cleanups. Despite no increase in steward numbers, the amount of trash removed has more than doubled, aided by business sponsors and expanded outreach options. SFWA is exploring ways to recruit and support more active stewards, including schools, local businesses, and everyday river users. Additionally, they received a three-year, \$200,000 USBR grant to develop a watershed restoration plan in coordination with the River Commission and other planning efforts.

6. Informational Items

- a. Two Mile Pond Draft Resolution (Zoe Isaacson, Staff Liason, zisaacson@santafenm.gov)

Councilor Romero-Wirth and City staff brought a draft resolution related to Two Mile Pond before the River Commission for feedback. This resolution is meant to create a path forward for the management of Two Mile Pond, first by conducting deeper analyses of the area, and second, by engaging with the public and key stakeholders. This resolution does not create a set vision for what management will look like but seeks to gather more information and input to create that future vision cooperatively, given existing constraints. The initial feedback on the resolution provided by the River Commission included:

- To include more stakeholders in the list of people to engage with regarding future management options
- In the preamble of the resolution, mention "why" this study and community engagement are important.
- Include more language about no diminishment of downstream Living River flows, regardless of what happens with Two Mile Pond.
- Call out Acequia Cerro Gordo because their headgate would be affected by management decisions.
- Consider historical infrastructure of the area and involve SHPO early in the process.
- Look to SFWA stakeholder assessment from 2023 for how to unify priorities across diverse interest groups.
- The term "historical channel" can be confusing. Instead, use the language of "lowest point in the valley"
- Provide a geographic boundary for the area in question

Councilor Romero-Wirth reiterated that this resolution is meant to provide a path forward for how to create a community vision for the Two-Mile Complex with the existing engineering and legal constraints. The River Commission is invited to submit any additional comments on the resolution by June 23, with an endorsement letter by June 30.

- b. Brief Report from the Love Your Watershed Day (Bill Carey, SF River

Commissioner, billcarey.tellus@gmail.com)

Bill Carey reported that the Love Your Watershed Day was a success, drawing 350 attendees—up from 200 last year. Organizers are considering improvements for next year, including possibly moving the event.

7. Discussion and Action Items

8. Matters from Staff

- a. Approved 2025-2026 Target Flow Hydrograph, Zoe Isaacson (Staff Liason zrisaacson@santafenm.gov)

Zoe Isaacson and Alan Hook from the City of Santa Fe provided an update on the Target Flow Hydrograph. It was unanimously approved and is now available on the website. The system is currently in a steady summer flow state of 0.5 cfs (cubic feet per second), with updates being tracked through various tools, including transducer pump data and the NM OSE Real Time Water Measurement site. A spreadsheet is being used to monitor Acequia flows, LR (Living River) inputs, and dam discharge, with average LR flows around 0.58 cfs weekly. Recent rain has improved Acequia flows, helping balance allocations, and adjustments will be made once pumping ends. While actual flows don't perfectly match the target day-to-day, the total volume is expected to align by season's end.

9. Matters from the Public

10. Matters from the Commission

- a. Subcommittee Updates (Bill Carey, SF River Commissioner, billcarey.tellus@gmail.com)

Zoe Isaacson stated the subcommittee sign-up sheets will be circulated to assess current participation and involvement. There's also a need to update these lists by removing former commissioners. Zoe Isaacson will distribute the updated sheets and ensure this item is added to the next River Commission agenda.

11. Next Meeting:

- a. August 14, 2025, 6:00 PM

12. Adjourn

Adjourn at 8:05 pm

Zoe Isaacson, Staff Liason

Attested To By:

Bill Carey, Santa Fe River Commission Chair

Regular Meeting of the Santa Fe River Commission
August 14, 2025 at 6:00 PM
City of Santa Fe Transit Center, Room #117
2931 Rufina St., Santa Fe
MINUTES

1. Call to Order

The Regular Meeting of the Santa Fe River Commission was called to order by chair Bill Carey at 6:02 PM, on Thursday, August 14, 2025, 2931 Rufina St, Santa Fe, NM 87507.

2. Roll Call

Roll Call was taken by Staff Liaison, Zoe Isaacson. All Commissioners were present, except for Jacob Lyon. In attendance were City of Santa Fe Water Division Staff Alan Hook and William Schneider, Public Works Staff, Daniel Alt and Claire Jordy, and members of the public.

3. Approval of Agenda

MOTION A motion was made by Klingel, seconded by Hutchinson, to Approve.

VOTE The motion Passed on a roll call vote.

4. Approval of Minutes

a. Approval of the July 12, 2025, Meeting Minutes

Approval of the previous meeting's minutes was postponed due to an agenda error and will be addressed at the next meeting on October 9, 2025.

5. Communications from Other Agencies/Committees

a. Santa Fe Watershed Association Adopt Programs Update (Mori Hensley, Executive Director Santa Fe Watershed Association, Mori@santafewatershed.org)

Mori Hensley was unable to attend the meeting. Amara May and Jaclynn Behringer from the Santa Fe Watershed Association (SFWA) reported significant growth in its Adopt Program, with 135 reaches maintained by 1,815 volunteers, resulting in 2,400 service hours and 337 bags of trash removed.

A cleanup hosted by the River Commission yielded 17 bags of trash and seven piles of green waste, with ongoing challenges related to invasive Siberian elm management.

SFWA also announced the upcoming Confluence Santa Fe event in September.

In addition, the Association and City Park Rangers presented their new Junior Ranger Booklet initiative, funded by the Que Linda grant, which will provide interactive environmental education for children ages 5-12 through booklets, badges, and school presentations.

6. Informational Items

- a. Return Flow Pipeline Project William Schneider (Water Resource Conservation Manager, whschneider@santafenm.gov)

William Schneider from Public Utilities, provided an update on the Return Flow Pipeline Project, which aims to strengthen Santa Fe's water supply by fully utilizing San Juan Chama water and securing return flow credits. The project design is 75% complete, permits have been secured, and environmental assessments are underway, with a public comment period anticipated in fall 2025.

Schneider highlighted the benefits of the project, including the creation of a fifth water supply source, reduced groundwater pumping, and a drought reserve in local aquifers. Discussion focused on the feasibility of alternatives such as direct potable reuse, risks from emerging contaminants like PFAS, and projected impacts on Santa Fe River flows, which may see reductions but are not expected to dry completely.

7. Discussion and Action Items

MOTION A motion was made by Klingel, seconded by Jackson, to amend the agenda and swap items 9 and 8 in the order of discussion.

VOTE The motion Passed on a roll call vote.

8. Matters from Staff

- a. Two Mile Pond Resolution Update Zoe Isaacson (Staff Liaison zrisaacson@santafenm.gov)

Staff liaison Zoe Isaacson updated the Commission on the draft Two Mile Pond Resolution currently moving through City Council. She clarified that references to a "free-flowing river" are not meant to preclude the possibility of maintaining a pond, but rather to ensure all options remain open. The City's priorities include recognizing cultural significance, maintaining safe flood conveyance, and engaging the community in determining the best long-term outcome. The River Commission will have opportunities to provide input through committee and Council review.

- b. 2025 River Talks Schedule (Claire Jordy, River and Watershed Project Manager csjordy@santafenm.gov)

River and Watershed Project Manager Claire Jordy presented the 2025 River Talks schedule, noting several events are planned, with more details forthcoming.

9. Matters from the Public

- a. Two Mile Pond White Paper (Tom [Willmoth Canyon Road Neighborhood Association, tom@bwjlawgroup.com](mailto:tom@bwjlawgroup.com))

Community member Tom Willmoth, representing the Canyon Road Neighborhood, presented a white paper in support of retaining Two Mile Pond as a community and ecological asset. He cited benefits such as wildlife habitat, flood mitigation, and

alignment with resiliency goals, while also acknowledging current challenges including shrinking pond size, mosquito breeding, and outdated flood studies. Willmoth proposed that the resolution include language requiring evaluation of a sustainable two-acre pond option. Additional comments raised questions about flood modeling, dam removal, and the cultural significance of the site, highlighting the need for further study before decisions are finalized.

10. Matters from the Commission

- a. Subcommittee Break-Out Session (Bill Carey, SF River Commission Chair, billcarey.tellus@gmail.com)

Due to time constraints, the planned subcommittee breakout session was not conducted. Commissioners expressed continued interest in being engaged with the Two Mile Pond discussions as they progress.

11. Next Meeting:

October 9th, 2025

12. Adjourn

Adjourn at 8:11 pm

Zoe Isaacson, Staff Liaison

Attested To By:

Bill Carey, Santa Fe River Commission Chair