

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 Liaison, 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

Oct 16, 2025

Zoe Isaacson, Staff Liason

Attested To By:

Bill Carey

Oct 16, 2025

Bill Carey, Santa Fe River Commission Chair

Signature: Bill Carey

Bill Carey (Oct 16, 2025 21:21:57 MDT)

Email: billcarey.tellus@gmail.com