



THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES (BOT) OF THE TOWN OF MESILLA

REGULAR MEETING

**AT THE MESILLA TOWN HALL,
2231 AVENIDA DE MESILLA**

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 8, 2025 – 6:00 P.M.

MINUTES

TRUSTEES: Russell Hernandez, Mayor
Adrianna Merrick, Mayor Pro Tem
Biviana Cadena, Trustee
Stephanie Johnson-Burick, Trustee
Gerard Nevarez, Trustee

STAFF: Ben Azcarate, Marshal
Cole Morris, Fire Captain
Edward Salazar, Econ & Com Development Director
Greg Whited, Fire Chief
Gloria S Maya, Town Clerk/Recorder

PUBLIC: Andrea Bryan Rafael Ruiz
Greg Lester Lori Miller
Crystal Whited Roman Prieto
Janice & Bill Cook Mary H Ratje

1. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mayor Hernandez led the Pledge of Allegiance.

2. ROLL CALL & DETERMINATION OF A QUORUM

Roll Call.

Present: Mayor Hernandez, Mayor Pro Tem Merrick, Trustee Cadena, Trustee Nevarez, Trustee Johnson-Burick.

3. CHANGES TO THE AGENDA & APPROVAL

Motion: To approve agenda, Moved by Mayor Pro Tem Merrick, Seconded by Trustee Nevarez.

Motion passed unanimously

4. APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA: (The Board will be asked to approve by one motion the following items of recurring or routine business. The Consent Agenda is marked with an asterisk *)

a) *BOT MINUTES – August 25, 2025 - BOT Regular Meeting

Motion: To approve consent agenda, Moved by Mayor Pro Tem Merrick, Seconded by Trustee Cadena.

Motion passed unanimously

- 5. PUBLIC INPUT ON CASES – The public is invited to address the Board as allowed by the chair.**

No Public Input

6. ACTION AND CONSIDERATION

NEW BUSINESS

- a) PZHAC CASE #062041 – 3260 Avenida de Mesilla, submitted by Roman Prieto.
Requesting approval lot line adjustments. ZONE: Residential Agricultural (RA)**

Mr. Salazar gave an overview of PZHAC Case #062041.

Motion: To approve PZHAC Case #062041 – 3260 Avenida de Mesilla, submitted by Roman Prieto. Requesting approval lot line adjustments. ZONE: Residential Agricultural (RA). Moved by Mayor Pro Tem Merrick, Seconded by Trustee Nevarez.

Trustee Nevarez commented

Trustee Johnson-Burick commented.

Roll Call Vote: Motion passed (summary: Yes-4)

Mayor Pro Tem Merrick	Yes
Trustee Cadena	Yes
Trustee Johnson-Burick	Yes
Trustee Nevarez	Yes

- b) PZHAC CASE #062045 – 2270 Calle de Principal, submitted by Basilica de San Albino.
Requesting approval to expand public bathroom (addition). ZONE: Historical Commercial (HC).**

Mr. Salazar gave an overview of PZHAC Case #062041.

Motion: To approve PZHAC Case #062045 – 2270 Calle de Principal, submitted by Basilica de San Albino. Requesting approval to expand public bathroom (addition). ZONE: Historical Commercial (HC). Moved by Mayor Pro Tem Merrick, Seconded by Trustee Johnson-Burick.

Trustee Johnson-Burick commented.

Trustee Nevarez commented.

Roll Call Vote: Motion passed (summary: Yes-4)

Mayor Pro Tem Merrick	Yes
Trustee Cadena	Yes
Trustee Johnson-Burick	Yes
Trustee Nevarez	Yes

- c) APPROVAL – Ripple Fiber Franchise Agreement**

Mr. Salazar gave an overview of the Ripple Fiber Franchise Agreement.

Motion: To approve Ripple Fiber Franchise Agreement, Moved by Mayor Pro Tem Merrick, Seconded by Trustee Nevarez.

Trustee Nevarez commented

Roll Call Vote: Motion passed (summary: Yes-4)

Mayor Pro Tem Merrick	Yes
Trustee Cadena	Yes
Trustee Johnson-Burick	Yes
Trustee Nevarez	Yes

d) APPROVAL – Muni-Link Utility Billing Agreement

Mayor Hernandez gave an overview of the Muni-Link Utility Billing Agreement.

Motion: To approve Muni-Link Utility Billing Agreement, Moved by Mayor Pro Tem Merrick, Seconded by Trustee Johnson-Burick.

Trustee Nevarez commented.

Trustee Johnson-Burick commented.

Trustee Cadena commented.

Roll Call Vote: Motion passed (summary: Yes-4)

Mayor Pro Tem Merrick	Yes
Trustee Cadena	Yes
Trustee Johnson-Burick	Yes
Trustee Nevarez	Yes

e) APPROVAL – Purchase UTV with dump bed

Mayor Hernandez gave an overview of the purchase – UTV with dump bed.

Motion: To approve purchase UTV with dump bed, Moved by Trustee Nevarez, Seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Merrick.

Trustee Nevarez commented.

Trustee Cadena commented.

Trustee Johnson-Burick commented.

Amended Motion: To approve the purchase of UTV with Dump Bed as amended, Moved by Trustee Nevarez, Seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Merrick.

Amended Roll Call Vote: Motion passed (summary: Yes-4)

Mayor Pro Tem Merrick	Yes
Trustee Cadena	Yes
Trustee Johnson-Burick	Yes
Trustee Nevarez	Yes

Original Roll Call Vote: Motion passed (summary: Yes-4)

Mayor Pro Tem Merrick	Yes
Trustee Cadena	Yes
Trustee Johnson-Burick	Yes
Trustee Nevarez	Yes

f) **APPROVAL** – Resolution – 2025-52 Electric Vehicle Infrastructure Project
Mayor Hernandez reviewed Resolution 2025-52 – Electric Vehicle Infrastructure Project.

Motion: To approve Resolution 2025-52 – Electric Vehicle Infrastructure Project, Moved by Mayor Pro Tem Merrick, Seconded by Trustee Johnson-Burick.

Roll Call Vote: Motion passed (summary: Yes-4)

Mayor Pro Tem Merrick Yes
Trustee Cadena Yes
Trustee Johnson-Burick Yes
Trustee Nevarez Yes

g) **APPROVAL** – Resolution – 2025-53 TPF Grant Award with Match Waiver Request
Mayor Hernandez reviewed Resolution 2025-53 TPF Grant Award with Match Waiver Request.

Motion: To approve Resolution 2025-53 TPF Grant Award with Match Waiver Request, Moved by Mayor Pro Tem Merrick, Seconded by Trustee Johnson-Burick.

Roll Call Vote: Motion passed (summary: Yes-4)

Mayor Pro Tem Merrick Yes
Trustee Cadena Yes
Trustee Johnson-Burick Yes
Trustee Nevarez Yes

h) **APPROVAL** – Resolution – 2025-54 Recreation Center & Quality of Life Grant
Mayor Hernandez reviewed Resolution 2025-54 Recreation Center & Quality of Life Grant.

Motion: To approve Resolution 2025-54 Recreation Center & Quality of life Grant, Moved by Mayor Pro Tem Merrick, Seconded by Trustee Johnson-Burick.

Roll Call Vote: Motion passed (summary: Yes-4)

Mayor Pro Tem Merrick Yes
Trustee Cadena Yes
Trustee Johnson-Burick Yes
Trustee Nevarez Yes

i) **APPROVAL** – Resolution – 2025-55 Water Trust Board Grant Application #1
Mayor Hernandez reviewed Resolution 2025-55 Water Trust Board Grant Application #1.

Motion: To approve Resolution 2025-55 Water Trust Board Grant Application #1, Moved by Mayor Pro Tem Merrick, Seconded by Trustee Johnson-Burick.

Roll Call Vote: Motion passed (summary: Yes-4)

Mayor Pro Tem Merrick Yes
Trustee Cadena Yes
Trustee Johnson-Burick Yes
Trustee Nevarez Yes

j) **APPROVAL** – Resolution – 2025-56 Water Trust Board Grant Application #2
Mayor Hernandez reviewed Resolution 2025-56 Water Trust Board Grant Application #2.

Motion: To approve Resolution 2025-56 Water Trust Board Grant Application #2, Moved by Trustee Nevarez, Seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Merrick.

Roll Call Vote: Motion passed (summary: Yes-4)

Mayor Pro Tem Merrick Yes
Trustee Cadena Yes
Trustee Johnson-Burick Yes
Trustee Nevarez Yes

k) DISCUSSION – Community Engagement & Mutual Respect

Mayor Hernandez opened a discussion on Community Engagement and Mutual Respect.

Trustee Nevarez commented

Trustee Johnson-Burick commented.

Mayor Pro Tem Merrick commented.

7. PUBLIC INPUT – The public is invited to address the Board as allowed by the chair.

Ms. Miller commented

Ms. Ratje commented

Mr. Lester commented

8. CLOSED EXECUTIVE SESSION

a) Discussion concerning the purchase of land and shall be closed to the public pursuant to NMSA 1978, Section 10-15-1(H)(8) – Acquisition or disposal of real property.

b) Discussion concerning limited personnel matters; and shall be closed to the public pursuant to NMSA 1978, Section 10-15-1(H)(2) – Fire Department

Motion: To enter Closed Executive Session, Moved by Trustee Nevarez, Seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Merrick.

Motion passed unanimously.

Enter Closed Executive Session at 7:14 p.m.

Motion: To enter Regular Meeting, Moved by Mayor Pro Tem Merrick, Seconded by Trustee Johnson-Burick.

Motion passed unanimously.

Enter Regular Meeting at 7:34 p.m.

9. Any Actions that may arise as a result of Closed Executive Session

Motion: To approve the hiring of a Mesilla Fire Rescue AEMT for the Fire Department, Moved by Mayor Pro Tem Merrick, Seconded by Trustee Johnson-Burick.

Roll Call Vote: Motion passed (summary: Yes-4)

Mayor Pro Tem Merrick Yes
Trustee Cadena Yes
Trustee Johnson-Burick Yes
Trustee Nevarez Yes

Motion: To approve the hiring of a Mesilla Fire Rescue AEMT for the Fire Department, Moved by Mayor Pro Tem Merrick, Seconded by Trustee Cadena.

Roll Call Vote: Motion passed (summary: Yes-4)

Mayor Pro Tem Merrick Yes
Trustee Cadena Yes
Trustee Johnson-Burick Yes
Trustee Nevarez Yes

10. BOARD OF TRUSTEE COMMITTEE REPORTS & LIASION UPDATES

Mr. Nevarez: Friends of Taylor Advisory Board meeting was cancelled, Telecommunication Draft Ordinance status, Jupiter Project meeting.

Trustee Johnson-Burick: MPO meeting Wednesday – 1:00 p.m.

Mayor Pro Tem Merrick: MPO meeting Wednesday – 1:00 p.m., Liaison meeting

Mayor Hernandez: MPO meeting to discuss Trails, South Central Regional Transit Executive meeting, Capital Projects Training Wednesday, NMML Conference will be held next week in Ruidoso.

11. BOARD OF TRUSTEE/STAFF COMMENTS

a) *Ongoing Projects Listing*

b) *Calendar of Events*

Marshal Azcarate gave a department (Marshal) update.

Fire Chief Whited gave a department (Fire) update.

Mr. Astorga gave a department (Public Works) update.

Mr. Salazar gave a department (Com/Economic Development) update.

Ms. Maya gave a department (Finance) update.

Trustee Johnson-Burick commented.

Trustee Cadena commented

Mayor Pro Tem Merrick commented.

Mayor Hernandez commented

12. ADJOURNMENT

The Town of Mesilla Trustees unanimously agreed to adjourn the meeting. (Summary: Yes-4).

MEETING ADJOURNED AT 8:05 P.M.

APPROVED THIS 22nd DAY OF SEPTEMBER, 2025.



Russell Hernandez
Mayor

ATTEST:


Gloria S. Maya
Town Clerk/Treasurer



****BOT MEETINGS ARE AVAILABLE ON TOWN OF MESILLA'S YOUTUBE**

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