



Town of Mesilla, New Mexico

THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES (BOT) OF THE TOWN OF
MESILLA WILL HOLD A REGULAR MEETING AT THE
MESILLA TOWN HALL, 2231 AVENIDA DE MESILLA

MONDAY, JANUARY 26, 2026 ~ 6:00 P.M.~

MINUTES

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

STAFF: Ben Azcarate, Marshal
Lorenzo Astorga, Public Works Director
Eddie Salazar, Econ & Com Development Director
Greg Whited, Fire Chief
Gloria S Maya, Town Clerk/Recorder

PUBLIC: Mary F. Lucero Geronimo Garcia
Edward Martinez Martha Mulvihill
Trina Witter Catharine Walkinshaw
Rob Ceballo Ben Young
Lori Miller Crystal Whited
Dasa

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 Johnson-Burick, Trustee Cadena, Trustee Garcia, Trustee Nevarez.

Mayor Hernandez read statement.

3. CHANGES TO THE AGENDA & APPROVAL

Motion: To approve agenda, Moved by Trustee Nevarez, Seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Johnson-Burick.

Motion passed unanimously

4. PUBLIC INPUT ON CASES – The public is invited to address the Board as allowed the chair.

Ms. Lucero commented

5. 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** – Minutes of BOT, January 12, 2025
Mayor Hernandez reviewed corrections.

Motion: To approve consent agenda with corrections, Moved by Trustee Nevarez, Seconded by Trustee Cadena.

Trustee Garcia commented

Mr. Young commented

Roll Call Vote: Motion passed (summary: Yes-3; No-1)

Mayor Pro Tem Johnson-Burick Yes

Trustee Cadena Yes

Trustee Garcia No

Trustee Nevarez Yes

6. PRESENTATION: none

7. NEW BUSINESS

a) **DISCUSSION: Review of the Branches and duties**

Mayor Hernandez reviewed Branches and duties.

Trustee Nevarez commented

b) **DISCUSSION/APPROVAL: Remaining Bench Warrants not absorbed by Magistrate (listing handed out and picked up at meeting)**

Motion: To approve Remaining Bench Warrants not absorbed by Magistrate Court, Moved by Mayor Pro Tem Johnson-Burick, Seconded by Trustee Cadena.

Mayor Hernandez commented

Ms. Molina commented

Mayor Pro Tem Johnson-Burick commented

Trustee Cadena commented

Trustee Garcia commented

Trustee Nevarez commented

Mr. Young commented

Mr. Cabellos commented

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

Mayor Pro Tem Johnson-Burick Yes

Trustee Cadena Yes

Trustee Garcia Yes

Trustee Nevarez Yes

c) **APPROVAL: Public Safety Position**

Motion: To approve Public Safety Position, Moved by Mayor Pro Tem Johnson-Burick,

Seconded by Trustee Garcia.

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

Mayor Pro Tem Johnson-Burick Yes

Trustee Cadena Yes

Trustee Garcia Yes

Trustee Nevarez Yes

d) APPROVAL: Appointment for Public Safety Position

Motion: To approve appointment for Public Safety Position, Moved by Mayor Pro Tem Johnson-Burick, Seconded by Trustee Garcia.

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

Mayor Pro Tem Johnson-Burick Yes

Trustee Cadena Yes

Trustee Garcia Yes

Trustee Nevarez Yes

e) APPROVAL: Board of Trustees Committee/Board Appointments

Motion: To approve Board of Trustees Committee/Board Appointments, Moved by Mayor Pro Tem Johnson-Burick, Seconded by Trustee Cadena.

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

Mayor Pro Tem Johnson-Burick Yes

Trustee Cadena Yes

Trustee Garcia Yes

Trustee Nevarez Yes

f) APPROVAL: 2026-04 Record of Proceedings (Comp Plan)

Motion: To approve 2026-04 Record of Proceedings (Comp Plan), Moved by Mayor Pro Tem Johnson-Burick, Seconded by Trustee Cadena.

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

Mayor Pro Tem Johnson-Burick Yes

Trustee Cadena Yes

Trustee Garcia Yes

Trustee Nevarez Yes

g) DISCUSSION: Review of Wireless Ordinance

Mayor Hernandez commented

Mr. Cabellos reviewed the Wireless Ordinance.

Trustee Nevarez commented

Trustee Garcia commented

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

Ms. Mulvihill commented

Ms. Wittern commented

Ms. Dasa commented

Ms. Lucero commented

Mayor Hernandez commented

9. CLOSED EXECUTIVE SESSION

- a) Discussion concerning attorney/client privilege matters pertaining to Tort Claims and pending threatened litigation in which the public body is or may become a participant pursuant to NMSA 1978, Section 10-15-1(H)(7).

-Marshal Department

-Economic Development

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

Motion passed unanimously

Entered Closed Executive Session at 7:08 p.m.

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

Motion passed unanimously

Entered Regular Meeting at 7:44 p.m.

10. BOARD OF TRUSTEE COMMITTEE REPORTS

Trustee Nevarez: Farm and Ranch Museum and Taylor Museum joint meeting

Trustee Garcia: communication with Andrew regarding a meeting/worksession on February 11th

Mayor Pro Tem Johnson-Burick: MPO meeting February 11th

Mayor Hernandez: MPO meeting February 11th, SCRITD meeting Wednesday

11. BOARD OF TRUSTEE/STAFF COMMENTS

Marshal Azcarate gave a department (Marshal) update.

Trustee Garcia commented

Fire Chief Whited gave a department (Fire) update.

Trustee Garcia commented

Mayor Hernandez commented

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

Mayor Hernandez commented

Trustee Garcia commented

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

Trustee Garcia commented

Ms. Maya gave a department (Finance) update.

Trustee Garcia commented

Mayor Hernandez commented

Trustee Nevarez commented

Trustee Garcia commented

Trustee Cadena commented

Mayor Pro Tem Johnson-Burick commented

Mayor Hernandez commented

12. ADJOURNMENT

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

MEETING ADJOURNED AT 8:39 P.M.

APPROVED THIS 12th DAY OF FEBRUARY, 2026.



Russell Hernandez
Mayor

ATTEST:



Gloria S. Maya
Town Clerk/Treasurer



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

**Comments to the Town of Mesilla
Board of Trustees
February 13, 2026**

Re: Resolution No. 2026-04

As the closest neighbor I ask you to approve the resolution.

Section III. D.

I am concerned about the mixed use including a large parking area. Given the mixed use may include outdoor equipment and educational/recreational use to include children, a large open parking area may be needlessly hazardous.

Section IV. B.

See above comments. 

Section V. A.

As the Town of Mesilla has a stated interest in resident involvement, I am the closest resident, am retired and have a Master's Degree in Urban & Regional Planning I ask that you consider me for the Advisory Committee. For this purpose, I am providing my contact information.

Mail: PO Box 160, Mesilla, NM 88046;

telephone (254) 386-1296;

Email MlinNM@proton.me

Thank you for your time.

Michael Langford

