



County of Los Alamos

Minutes

Board of Public Utilities

1000 Central Avenue
Los Alamos, NM 87544

Robert Gibson, Chair; Matt Heavner, Vice Chair
Eric Stromberg,, Charles Nakhleh and Jennifer Hollingsworth, Members
Philo Shelton, Ex Officio Member
Anne Laurent, Ex Officio Member
Ryn Herrmann, Council Liaison

Wednesday, February 18, 2026

5:30 PM

Municipal Building, Council Chambers

Public Participation ~ in person or <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/82180323960>

1. CALL TO ORDER

This regular meeting of the Incorporated County of Los Alamos Board of Public Utilities was held on Wednesday, February 18, 2026. Chair Gibson called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m. Members of the public were notified of the ability to participate and provide public comment in-person, remotely, or via email.

The following board members were in attendance:

Present - 6: Members Gibson, Heavner, Stromberg, Hollingsworth, Shelton and Laurent

Remote - 0:

Absent - 1: Member Nakhleh

Others in attendance in Chambers:

Vice Chair Ryn Herrmann, Council Liaison

Mr. Thomas Wymann, Assistant County Attorney

Mr. James Alarid, Deputy Utility Manager - Engineering

Mr. Clay Moseley, Deputy Utility Manager - GWS Services

Mr. Dennis Astley, Acting Deputy Utility Manager - Electrical Distribution

Mr. Ben Olbrich, Deputy Utility Manager - Power Supply

Ms. Joann Gentry, Deputy Utility Manager - Finance & Administration

Ms. Cathy D'Anna, Public Relations Manager

Ms. Kathy Casados, Executive Assistant

Mr. Richard Valerio, Business Operations Manager

Ms. Paula Nelson, Management Analyst

Mr. Zac Parlman, IM Technical Support Specialist

Zoom participants:

1. James Martinez, DPU Senior Engineer

2. David Reagor, Citizen

2. PUBLIC COMMENT

Chair Gibson provided an opportunity for public comment on the Consent Agenda or those not otherwise included on the agenda. There was none

No action was taken on this item.

3. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Chair Gibson asked board members for amendments to the agenda, discussion or a motion.

1. Member Gibson requested that item 4.b. be moved from the Consent to Department Business as the first item.

Chair Gibson then called for further discussion or a motion.

Member Stromberg moved and Member Hollingsworth seconded that the agenda be approved as amended.

The motion passed by the following vote:

YES - 4: Members Hollingsworth, Heavner, Stromberg, and Gibson

NO - 0:

ABSENT - 1: Member Nakhleh

4. CONSENT AGENDA

Chair Gibson asked board members for further amendments to the consent agenda, discussion or a motion.

Member Stromberg moved and Member Hollingsworth seconded that the consent agenda be approved as amended.

The motion passed by the following vote:

YES - 4: Members Hollingsworth, Heavner, Stromberg, and Gibson

NO - 0:

ABSENT: Member Nakhleh

4.a. Approval of Board of Public Utilities Meeting Minutes - January 2026

I move that the Board of Public Utilities approve the minutes of the January 15, 2025 Regular Session as presented.

5. PRESENTATIONS

None scheduled.

No action was taken on this item.

6. PUBLIC HEARINGS

None scheduled.

No action was taken on this item.

7. DEPARTMENT BUSINESS

4.b. Approval of Budget Revision No. 2026-41 for Task Order No. 4 with Souder Miller & Associates under AGR22-67b for Potable Water Storage Tank Inspection and Maintenance Services

Mr. James Alarid, Deputy Utility Manager - Engineering presented. Chair Gibson provided

an opportunity for comments or questions from the Board. The following individuals spoke:

1. Member Gibson

Chair Gibson provided an opportunity for Public Comment; there was none. He then called for additional discussion or motion.

Member Hollingsworth moved and Member Heavner seconded that the Board of Public Utilities approve Task Oder No. 4 with Souder Miller & Associates under AGR22-67b for Potable Water Storage Tank Inspection and Maintenance Services in the amount of \$149,212 plus applicable GRT and including a 15% project contingency, and recommend Budget Revision 2026-41 in the amount of \$185,441.00, and forward to Council for approval.

The motion passed by the following vote:

YES - 4: Members Hollingsworth, Heavner, Stromberg, and Gibson

NO - 0:

ABSENT: Member Nakhleh

7.a.

Presentation of the DPU FY2027 Budget

Ms. Joann Gentry, Deputy Utility Manager - Finance & Administration presented.

Supporting documents were included in the meeting packet. Chair Gibson provided an opportunity for comments and questions from the board. The following individuals spoke:

1. Member Gibson - Electric Production Fund question
2. Mr. Ben Olbrich responded
3. Member Gibson - Electric Distribution Fund question
4. Mr. Ben Olbrich responded
5. Member Heavner - Gas Distribution Fund question
6. Ms. Gentry responded
7. Mr. Philo Shelton responded
8. Member Hollingsworth - Gas Distribution Fund question
9. Mr. Philo Shelton responded
- No questions regarding Water Distribution Fund*
10. Member Gibson - Water Production Fund question
11. Ms. Gentry responded
- No questions regarding Wastewater Treatment & Collection Fund*
- No questions regarding Administrative Fund*
- No questions regarding FTE Summary*
- No questions regarding CIP Summary*
- No questions regarding Revenue Transfer Budget Option*
12. Mr. Shelton commented on Revenue Transfer
13. Member Gibson - Ten Year Forecast Electric Utility question
14. Ms. Gentry responded
15. Member Gibson - Reserve Targets question
16. Ms. Gentry responded
17. Member Gibson - Ten-Year Fund Forecasts questions
18. Ms. Gentry responded
- No questions regarding Gas Fund graph*
- No questions regarding Water Distribution Fund graph*
- No questions regarding Water Production Fund graph*
- No questions regarding Wastewater Fund graph*

Mr. Richard Valerio then presented the Debt Coverage Ratio 2027 - 2036. Chair Gibson

provided an opportunity for comments and questions from the board. The following individuals spoke:

1. Member Hollingsworth - ReserveTarget question
2. Ms. Gentry responded
3. Mr. Shelton responded
4. Member Gibson - Debt Ratio question
5. Ms. Gentry will research and provide additional information
6. Mr. Shelton responded
7. Member Gibson - Electric Distribution grant question
8. Mr. Astley responded

Ms. Gentry continued the presentation and discussed the Schedule of Funds. When the budget presentation concluded Chair Gibson provided an opportunity for comments and questions from the board. The following individuals spoke:

1. Member Heavner
2. Mr. Shelton
3. Member Gibson
4. Mr. Shelton

No action was taken on this item. The budget will be presented in March for approval.

- 7.b. Approval of Task Order No.3, AGR24-04d for the Purpose of White Rock Substation Transformer Project with Sanbros Corp. in the Amount of \$299,719.24, plus Applicable Gross Receipts Tax for the Term of 120 Days

Mr. Dennis Astley, Acting Deputy Utility Manager - Electric Distribution presented. Supporting documents were included in the meeting packet. Chair Gibson provided an opportunity for comments and questions from the board. The following individuals spoke:

1. Member Stromberg
2. Member Hollingsworth
3. Member Gibson

Chair Gibson provided an opportunity for Public Comment; there was none. He then called for additional discussion or motion.

Member Stromberg moved and Member Hollingsworth seconded that the Board of Public Utilities approve Task Order No.3, AGR24-04d for the Purpose of White Rock Substation Transformer Project with Sanbros Corp. in the Amount of \$299,719.24, plus Applicable Gross Receipts Tax for the Term of 120 days.

The motion passed by the following vote:

YES - 4: Members Hollingsworth, Heavner, Stromberg, and Gibson

NO - 0:

ABSENT - 1: Member Nakhleh

8. BOARD BUSINESS

8.a. Chair's Report

Chair Gibson spoke:

1. He thanked Vice Chair Heavner for running the last meeting.

2. He reminded members to inform Ms.Casados of upcoming travel and BPU meeting availability.

Chair Gibson provided the opportunity for comments or questions from the board. There were none.

No action was taken on this item.

8.b. Board Member's Reports

There were none

No action was taken on this item.

8.c. Utilities Manager's Report

Mr. Philo Shelton reviewed his report which was included in the meeting packet. Chair Gibson provided an opportunity for comments or questions from the board. The following individuals spoke:

1. Member Stromberg
2. Mr. Olbrich
3. Member Gibson
4. Member Stromberg
5. Member Hollingsworth

No action was taken on this item.

8.d. County Manager's Report

Ms. Anne Laurent provided highlights from the recent Council Meetings/Work Sessions.

1. Closing Aquatic Center except for Leisure Lagoon.
2. Bid out for Fire Station 4 - will rebuild next to existing structure.
3. Council has Special Meeting with the LAPS Board on February 26th.
4. LAC is in the final stages of selling bonds for the broadband project.
5. CMO recently met with Tim Walsh, DOE - Mr. Shelton joined them.
6. March 23 staff from the CMO's office will be in Washington, D.C.
7. NMED was fined by DOE-EM.

Chair Gibson provided an opportunity for comments and questions from the board. There were none.

No action was taken on this item.

8.e. Council Liaison's Report

Vice Chair Herrmann provided highlights from the February 17th Council Meeting:

1. Recognized F&A for continued accomplishments.
2. Short term PPA approved.
3. Passed bonds for broadband.

Chair Gibson provided an opportunity for comments and questions from the board. There were none

No action was taken on this item.

8.f. Environmental Sustainability Board Liaison's Report

Both Ms. Sue Barns and Ms. Shannon Blair were out of town. No written report was

submitted.

No action was taken on this item.

8.g. General Board Business

8.g.1. Appointment of Board Member to County Audit Committee for 2026

Chair Gibson introduced the topic *(Member Heavner shared that he was the BPU representative for the audit committee for Fiscal Year 2025. He summarized his involvement and shared kudos to everyone involved in the audit. Only two meetings and reading.*

Chair Gibson called for volunteers or nominations to serve on the committee. The following board members spoke:

1. Member Hollingsworth volunteered.

Chair Gibson then asked members whether he could appoint a member rather than call for a motion. Members agreed to an appointment.

Chair Gibson appointed Member Hollingsworth to fill the vacant position on the County's Audit Committee and appoint them for remainder of Calendar Year 2025. He further recommended that the Utilities Manager notify the Chief Financial Officer of the nominee.

8.h. Board Expenses

None.

No action was taken on this item.

9. STATUS REPORTS

9.a. Status Reports - January

Chair Gibson opened the floor for comments and questions on the status reports. There were none

No action was taken on this item.

10. UPCOMING AGENDA ITEMS

10.a. Tickler File: March - June

Chair Gibson opened the floor for comments and questions on the tickler. The following individuals spoke:

1. Mr. Shelton
2. Member Stromberg
3. Member Hollingsworth

CORRECTIONS TO TICKLER:

1. March 4th - remove UAMPS Presentation
2. EV Plan delayed to April Regular Meeting
3. Remove Broadband item
4. Gibson will be remote for April 1st. - delay performance planning to April 15 and final to May 6th.

5. Member Hollingsworth will be on travel the week of April 15th and will be absent from the BPU Regular meeting. .

NEW ITEMS FOR TICKLER:

1. March 4th - Add a Budget Review item.

Chair Gibson reminded Vice Chair Heavner that they would meet with Mr. Shelton on Friday, February 27 to review the tickler and agenda items for March.

No action was taken on this item.

11. PUBLIC COMMENT

Chair Gibson provided an opportunity for public comment on any topic. There were none .

12. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 8:02 p.m.

APPROVAL

Board of Public Utilities Chair

Date Approved by the Board

Minutes transcribed by: Kathy Casados, Executive Assistant

ATTACHMENTS

(in agenda order):

8.c. Utilities Manager Report 2/18/26