Regular Meeting of the Santa Fe River Commission
April 9, 2026 at 6:00 PM
City of Santa Fe Transit Center, Room #117
2931 Rufina St., Santa Fe
MINUTES

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1. Call to Order

The Regular Meeting of the Santa Fe River Commission was called to order by Chair Commissioner Bill Carey at 6:01 PM, on Thursday, February 12 , 2026, 2931 Rufina St, Santa Fe, NM 87507.

2. Roll Call

Roll Call was taken by Staff Liaison, Zoe Isaacson. Commissioner William Hutchinson had an excused absence. All other Commissioners were present. Commissioner Klingel attended through Zoom. In attendance were City of Santa Fe Water Division Staff Alan Hook and Levi Newell, Public Works Staff Daniel Alt and Claire Jordy, and members of the public.

3. Approval of Agenda

MOTION A motion was made by Riesterer, seconded by Price, to Amend the Agenda to include Mike Hart under Informational Items

VOTE The motion Passed on a roll call vote.

MOTION A motion was made by Price, seconded by Klingel, to Approve the Agenda as Amended.

VOTE The motion Passed on a roll call vote.

4. Approval of Minutes

    a. Approval of the February 12, 2026, Meeting Minutes

MOTION A motion was made by Riesterer, seconded by Price, to Amend the Minuets to correct a Misspelled Name.

VOTE The motion Passed on a Roll Call vote.

MOTION A motion was made by Price, seconded by Riesterer, to Approve the Agenda as Amended.

VOTE The motion Passed on a voice vote.

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 with the Santa Fe Watershed Association provided updates on upcoming events, including Love Your Watershed Day on May 2nd, a river cleanup, and Wildfire Preparedness Day in partnership with the Fire Department. She also noted ongoing field trips and a potential new trail adoption south of Siler Road.

b. Update on Love Your Watershed Day (Daniel Alt, Project Specialist, dralt@santafenm.gov)

Dan Alt provided additional details for Love Your Watershed Day, including educational outreach using the Enviroscape model and coordination with partner organizations such as the Acequia Association. Commissioners discussed event logistics, including materials, staffing, and the need to post, a public notice announcing the potential presence of a quorum at the event.

6. Informational Items

Mike Hart from Santa Fe County presented an update on the Santa Fe River repair project, including the completion of a pedestrian bridge and ongoing work on access roads, landscaping, and channel restoration. The project includes soil amendments, native vegetation planting, and installation of larger stone to improve channel stability and flow distribution. Construction challenges related to contractor coordination and material sourcing were noted, but adjustments are underway. The project is expected to be completed by late July, with a tentative ribbon cutting scheduled for August 10. Commissioners asked questions regarding debris removal, vegetation plans, irrigation, and long-term maintenance, including a one-year warranty and five-year monitoring plan. Required by the Army Corps of Engineers.

7. Discussion and Action Items

a. Approval of the 2026- 2027 Target Flow Hydrograph (Bill Carey, SF River Commission Chair, billcarey.tellus@gmail.com)

The Commission reviewed the proposed 2026–2027 Target Flow Hydrograph under critically dry conditions, informed by low snowpack and runoff forecasts. Three flow options were presented, and discussion focused on balancing ecological benefits, groundwater recharge, and efficient use of limited water resources. Commissioners noted that sustained lower flows may provide greater overall benefit than short-duration peak flows, particularly for downstream reaches and system stability. Operational readiness of infrastructure, including flow meters and system controls, was also discussed.

MOTION A motion was made by Jackson, seconded by Montoya, to Approve Option 2 initiating flows at 2 CFS beginning April 21 for a duration of 39 days.

VOTE The motion Passed on a voice vote.

8. Matters from Staff

a. Erosion Control Workshop – April 11, 2026, 9:00 AM–12:00 PM, Meeting Location: Santa Fe River Rd at Calle Don Jose (Zoe Isaacson, Staff Liaison,

zrisaacson@santafenm.gov)

Zoe Isaacson reported that the Erosion Control Workshop scheduled for April 11 was postponed due to weather and will be rescheduled before June 30.

b. Invasive Weed Removal Event April 15 and April 18, 2026 (Zoe Isaacson, Staff Liasion, zrisaacson@santafenm.gov)

Zoe announced upcoming invasive weed removal events on April 15 and April 18 as part of the Great American Cleanup, along with a River Commission-led cleanup effort requiring quorum notice.

c. Updates on the River Talk Series (Claire Jordy, Project Manager II, csjordy@santafenm.gov)

Claire Jordy shared updates on the River Talk Series, highlighting a successful first event and announcing the next session on May 14 focused on wildfire and water quality. Additional updates included new Stormwater Santa Fe outreach platforms, upcoming public meetings on stormwater projects, and ongoing infrastructure and restoration work throughout the watershed.

d. Other Business

Dan Alt provided an update on the Junior Ranger Booklet, noting it is in draft form and nearing completion, with discussions on age appropriateness and content refinement.

9. Matters from the Public

Mori Hensley invited Commissioners to visit the Santa Fe County trail section near Siler Road and provide feedback.

Alan Hook raised questions regarding the need for a downstream transducer to verify flow measurements now that new dam meters are in place, prompting discussion about calibration and future Commission input.

10. Matters from the Commission

a. Subcommitee Breakout Session (Zoe Isaacson, Staff Liaison, zrisaacson@santafenm.gov)

Due to limited time, members did not conduct subcommittee breakout sessions.

11. Next Meeting:

a. June, 11th, 2026

The commission discussed the next regularly scheduled meeting that will be held on June 11th, 2026.

12. Adjourn

Zoe Isaacson, Staff Liaison

Attested To By:

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Bill Carey, Santa Fe River Commission Chair