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.

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The following board members were in attendance:
Present - 6: Members Gibson, Heavner, Stromberg, Hollingsworth, Shelton and Laurent
Remote - 0:
Absent - 1: Member Nakhleh

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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 Parliman, 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.

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Member Stromberg_______________ moved and Member llingsworth_______________ seconded that the agenda be approved as presented -OR- amended.

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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 amendments to the consent agenda, discussion or a motion. There were none -OR- The following individuals spoke:
1.
2.
3.

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Member Stromberg_______________ moved and Member Hollingsworth_______________ seconded that the consent agenda be approved as presented -OR- amended.

****

The motion passed by the following vote:
YES - 4: Members Hollingsworth, Heavner, Nakhleh, Stromberg, and Gibson
NO - 0:

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

5:33 p.m.
Mr. James Alarid presented.
The following individuals spoke:
1. Member Gibson

Public Comment? None
Additional discussion? or motion.

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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.

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The motion passed by the following vote:

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 Dsitribution 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 suggested that the Board begin discussion the next budget cycle in the next 3 - 4 months.
4. Mr. Shelton - suggested a reserve discussion at the March Work Session -REmove UAMPS presentation to Parking Lot

ENDED AT 7:04 pm

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

7:05 PM
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. There were none -OR- The following individuals spoke:
1. Member Stromberg
2. Member Hollingsworth
3. Member Gibson

Public Comment? None

Called for discussion or a motion.

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Member Stromberg _______ moved and Member Holiingsworth _______________ 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.
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The motion passed by the following vote:
YES - 4: Members Hollingsworth, Heavner, Nakhleh, Stromberg, and Gibson
NO - 0:
ABSENT - 1: Member Nakhleh

8. BOARD BUSINESS

8.a. Chair's Report

7:22 p.m .
Chair Gibson reported:
1. Thanked Vice Chair Heavner for running the last meeting.
2. Reminded members to inform Ms.Casados of travel and BPU meeting availability.
3.
4.

Chair Gibson provided the opportunity for comments or questions from the board. There were none -OR- The following individuals spoke:
1.
2.
3.

No action was taken on this item.

8.b. Board Member's Reports

7:22 p.m. There were none

No action was taken on this item.

8.c. Utilities Manager's Report

7:23 p.m.
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. There were none -OR- 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 [DATES] _________________________ Council Meetings/Work Sessions.
1. Closing Aquatic Center except for Leisure Lagoon

2. Fire Station 4 - Rebuild next to Existing Strucgture - Bid
3. Feb 26 Special Meeting with LAPS Board
4. Final stages for selling bonds for broadband project
5. Recently met with Tim Walsh, DOE - Mr. Shelton joined them.
6. Martch 23 - visit to D.C.
7. NMED fined by DOE-EM
8.

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 reported: Council Meeting on 2/17/26
1. Recognized F&A for continued accomplishments
2. Short ter PPA approved
3. Passed bonds for broadband
Chair Gibson provided an opportunity for comments and questions from the board. There were
none -OR- The following individuals spoke:
1.
2.
3.

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

7:51 p.m.
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.

Public Comment?
Chair Gibson then called for discussion or a motion.

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.

They 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. There were none -OR- The following individuals spoke:
1. Mr. Shelton
2. Member Stromberg
3. Member Hollingsworth

CORRECTIONS TO TICKLER:
1. March 4th no UAMPS
2. EV Plan delayed to April Regular Meeting
3. Remove Broadband item - or move to parking lot
4. Gibson will be remote for April 1st. - delay performance planning to April 15 and final to May 6th. Hollingsworth on Travel April 15th - Australia. - ABSENT.

NEW ITEMS FOR TICKLER:
1. Check earlier minutes...
2. March 4th more budget discussion
3.

Friday, February 27 for agenda setting meeting.in Philo's Office.

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.

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APPROVAL

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Board of Public Utilities Chair

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Date Approved by the Board

Minutes transcribed by: Kathy Casados, Executive Assistant

ATTACHMENTS
(in agenda order):
8.c. Utilities Manager Report 01/14/26