



**Albuquerque Metropolitan Arroyo Flood Control Authority  
Regular Meeting Minutes  
September 24, 2020**

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**1. Call to Order and Roll Call**

Chair Thomson called the Board Meeting to order at 10:02 a.m., Thursday, September 24, 2020 at the AMAFCA Office in Albuquerque, NM. The call was hosted via Zoom in order to comply with AMAFCA Resolution No. 2020-05, a Resolution of the Governing Body of the Albuquerque Metropolitan Flood Control Authority, Authorizing the application, by Board of Directors, of Amended Procedures for the Conduct of Public Meetings During the Effective Period of Executive Order No. 2020-004, Issued by the Governor of New Mexico on March 11, 2020.

Directors present via Zoom and /or in person	Chair Bruce M. Thomson – at AMAFCA Director Deborah L. Stover Director Ronald D. Brown Director Tim Eichenberg Director Cynthia D. Borrego
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Directors excused:	None
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Attorney present via Zoom:	Marcus J. Rael, Jr., Robles, Rael & Anaya
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Others present via Zoom and / or in person:	Jerry M. Lovato, P.E., Executive Engineer Staff Other attendees on file at AMAFCA
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A quorum was present.

**2. Approval of Agenda**

Director Brown made a motion to approve the agenda. Director Stover seconded the motion, which passed (5-0).

**3. Meetings Scheduled**

- a. October 22, 2020, 10:00 a.m. – Regular Meeting**
- b. November 19, 2020, 10:00 a.m. – Regular Meeting**
- c. December 10, 2020, 10:00 a.m. – Regular Meeting and Board Holiday Luncheon**

There was a brief discussion regarding the December meeting with a luncheon to follow. The Board concurred to wait until November to decide if a luncheon would occur. There were no changes to the dates listed above.

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### 4. Items from the Floor / Public Comments

Chair Thomson recapped AMAFCA's Open Meetings requirements. He stressed that while the Board does not expect oral presentations three individuals had submitted public comment prior to the submission deadline. He asked that those individuals stay within the time allotted and that questions from the Directors be held until after the constituent(s) had finished so that time is not dragged out or taken away from any constituent.

Mr. Lovato reminded those present that some questions that are brought up are considered information requests that are to go through the AMAFCA office and other questions such as contracts and property purchasing would be an AMAFCA staff and legal staff conversation which may concern privileged information and / or closed session item(s).

Chair Thomson provided Messrs. Hoffman, Ransom, and Edward the opportunity to speak. Comments are part of the record for the meeting. Responding to the comments and the questions presented, Mr. Lovato noted the following: He would be responding with a letter to Mr. Hoffman regarding the four items in his comments. The Board and Mr. Lovato acknowledged that AMAFCA staff would get all the information together to include the required access and construction easements from the City of Albuquerque (CoA); this could bring the utilities / parties together; and after all the information had been compiled this project would be put on the agenda as an official agenda item. It was noted that AMAFCA has a Drainage Management Plan (DMP) for the area; it is the responsibility of CoA to take care of the local drainage; Piedras Marcadas (PM) Dam is east of the project; PM is the only facility that AMAFCA has in the area which needs protection and was what necessitated the DMP and the reason AMAFCA has an interest in the project. He continued to stress that it is CoA's responsibility to get drainage done and they have their own process which AMAFCA will follow. He reminded those present that the Board was very clear regarding the two projects that are being talked about in the area which are outfalls for drainage and AMAFCA would not be putting any infrastructure further into the 400 +/- acres, it is only for the drainage outfall. Mr. Lovato briefly referenced the guidelines of the Open Meetings Act, NMSA 1978, Chapter 10, Article 15 and noted AMAFCA Board minutes are condensed, not verbatim as allowed by the Act, and noted the minimum requirements. The Board referenced the fact minutes had been voluminous over the years (20+/- pages); at the request of the Board the minutes were to be shortened with a focus on the actions items and not verbatim; meetings are recorded, and the public is provided an opportunity to listen to them.

### 5. Approval of Minutes

#### a. August 27, 2020

Director Borrego made a motion to approve the minutes of August 27, 2020, noting that minutes are a summary of the meeting. Director Brown seconded the motion, which passed (5-0), on a roll-call vote.

Chair Thomson stated **Agenda Items 6 a through 6 c** were on the Consent Agenda. Director Stover made a motion that the Board accept the items on the Consent Agenda.

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The motion approved the following:

- Post Fire Sediment Risk Assessment for AMAFCA Dams along the Sandia Mountains – Agreement with RESPEC, Inc.; and
- AMAFCA Miscellaneous Construction Projects X - Advertisement for Construction Bids; and
- Agency & Area-Wide Flood Control Rehabilitation XI Project – Amendment Three for Design and Construction Services with Conley Engineering.

Director Borrego seconded the motion, which passed (5-0), on a roll-call vote.

Responding to a question regarding the Tijeras Arroyo not being included in the Post Fire Sediment Risk Assessment, Mr. Lovato advised dams with the highest risk were noted; the Tijeras Arroyo does not have a dam; AMAFCA is currently working with Kirtland Air Force Base and the Department of Defense on a project; and due to the current work with these partners there might be the possibility of a future assessment of flows from the Manzano and Sandia Mountains. It was noted that the USGS did a debris study three-four years ago that looked at fires throughout the regions and one of the areas noted as most vulnerable is the Four Hills Road which is the only way in and out of that neighborhood.

## **7. Executive Engineer's Report**

### **a. Notification of Past Month's Activities**

Mr. Jerry M. Lovato, AMAFCA Executive Engineer, referenced the late mailout which highlighted significant activities from the last couple of months and answered questions from the Board.

- **General & Administrative**

*COVID-19:* AMAFCA instituted COVID-19 safety precautions along with continuing to update its COVID-19 Operational Policy to adhere to new CDC and State of New Mexico Health Department recommendations.

*AMAFCA Personnel Manual:* The AMAFCA Personnel Manual will address changes in FMLA requirements and other policies which have occurred within the last five years. Staff is currently working on edits that will be vetted by legal staff before being presented to the Personnel and Salary Committee (PSC). Staff hopes to have the revised document to the AMAFCA PSC in October and the Board for approval at years end.

- **Project Management**

*UNM North Golf Course Flood Plain Removal:* The project scope is to remove flood plain on four lots east of the UNM North Golf Course, that currently have mapped FEMA floodplain due to deficiencies in the City of Albuquerque (CoA) storm drain system. Work is progressing with UNM to design a project on the North Golf Course, in addition, staff

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is evaluating the use of the Letter of Map Amendment (LOMA) process to reduce the cost of flood insurance to the effected homeowners.

### *Joint Projects:*

*KAFB* – Survey and geotechnical evaluations are complete for the two proposed drop structures. The project is currently trying to complete the 30% design.

*CoA* – Design work on the International District Library located at the former Caravan site is complete. The design work on the regional flood control facility located east of the library will start before years end. AMAFCA staff are to provide technical assistance. Once the design is complete a draft funding agreement will be developed for Board approval.

*GandyDancer Default Update:* The AMAFCA Board of Directors entered into a tender agreement with the Surety and a completion contractor. Work on both the Agency and Area-Wide and Lower Bear Contracts have started with AUI, Inc., as the completion contractor. Both projects are on schedule but have been affected by recent rain events.

- **Facilities Operations & Maintenance**

*Zuni-Penn:* AMAFCA has been removing homeless camps, weeds, and trash from the property. AMAFCA staff is working with APD staff to clear the area and maintain safe conditions.

*Ladera Golf Course:* AMAFCA has been working with CoA staff to address vegetation control in the Ladera Dam Pool (golf course). Due to recent rain events, weeds and vegetation have grown along fence lines and drainage pathways resulting in complaints. AMAFCA staff used herbicide to “knock down” vegetation and CoA staff mowed and removed the vegetation. AMAFCA received complaints about that work. In order to provide more information to constituents, AMAFCA will be sending email updates on AMAFCA general maintenance activities to registered Neighborhood Associations. AMAFCA is helping CoA with their golf course. In the past, if there is vegetation that that homeowner would like to keep, they would enter into a landscaping license with AMAFCA (to plant trees, tomatoes, etc.) as long as AMAFCA is not responsible for the complaints associated with that vegetation.

*Raven Pond:* Since August 31, 2020, more than 25 syringes had been found along the north side of the pond next to the road and fence. Staff removed and disposed of the syringes in a safe manner and contacted the Bernalillo County Sheriff’s Department for assistance in the area.

*Boca Negra Dam:* AMAFCA staff installed the memorial plaque along the CoA trail located on top of Boca Negra Dam.

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Responding to a question regarding the underpass under Indian School, Mr. Lovato stated CoA has a contract with RMCI for the project (Indian School Bike Notch). They are negotiating with AMAFCA due to the time limit to go in and break the concrete channel and would like to use the property next to the UNM golf course as a staging area. This may cause some problems due to a multi-use trail on AMAFCA property put in by BernCo which is not licensed. The project should start by the end of October.

### **b. Notification of On-Call Services Task Orders**

Mr. Jerry M. Lovato, AMAFCA Executive Engineer, referred to the memo for task orders issued over the last month and answered questions from the Board.

## **8. Financial Matters**

### **a. Financial Matters – Approval of Expenditures and Forecast**

Mr. Herman Chavez, AMAFCA Finance and Administration Manager, summarized information provided in the memo. Responding to a question from the Board, it was noted that the graph had been amended for the cash analysis to more accurately reflect the funds from the Bond sale in mid-July.

Director Borrego made a motion to approve the July & August 2020 Expenditure Report, noting that an amended graph had be utilized for the presentation. Director Brown seconded the motion, which passed (5-0), on a roll-call vote.

### **b. Other Matters**

Mr. Herman Chavez, AMAFCA Finance and Administration Manager, summarized information provided in the memo and answered questions from the Board.

## **9. Legal**

### **a. Status Report**

Attorney Marcus J. Rael provided a verbal report. There were no questions.

## **10. Southeast Valley Drainage and Stormwater Quality Management Plan – Update to Alternative 2 for the Far Southeast Valley Watershed - Discussion**

Mr. Bradley L. Bingham, AMAFCA Drainage Engineer, summarized information provided in the memo and answered questions from the Board. The Board was provided an overview of the proposed modifications; various watersheds; the proposed railroad crossing at 2nd Street and Valle de Oro may require two to three of the 30-inch pipes to allow the right amount of discharge; smaller discharge requires a bigger pond; it would be appropriate to vet changes at this stage; various ponds for the area; project would make it easier for MRGCD to work with AMAFCA on the storm water solutions by utilizing a portion of their right-of-way; staff will be coming to the Board to

seek right-of-way at some point; MRGCD approached AMAFCA regarding the possibility to store irrigation water in facilities within Bernalillo County that could be used downstream in times of drought; right now, AMAFCA does not have those types of facilities but the project might lend itself to the actual storage of irrigation water in addition to storm water; if able to work out, MRGCD could be a financial, technical, and operations partner as well as have a possible location for future development regarding regional water quality cleanup. Regarding pulling water off the Tijeras – it was thought of about 20 years ago and with the Tijeras Sediment Reduction Structure working as it does, those plans may need to be revisited. A Resolution to approve the Update would be forthcoming; a public meeting would happen prior to the bringing a Resolution to the Board; AMAFCA utilized the On-Call Engineering services of Huitt-Zollars to update the Southeast Valley Drainage Management Plan HEC-HMS; model hydrology had been looked at to make sure the basin sizes were realistic; and information pertaining to drainage at Mesa Del Sol was discussed.

Audio interference was noted during this subject which cleared up.

## **11. Joint Projects**

### **a. Project Update for Black Mesa Phase V**

Ms. Nicole M. Friedt, AMAFCA Development Review Engineer, summarized information provided in the memo and answered questions from the Board. Notice to proceed for the pipe had been sent as well as the second notice to proceed for permitting; work should begin on November 2, even though they are authorized to start November 1; and upcoming work tasks were recapped. Ms. Friedt had worked with Compass on the Hawk's Land Subdivision Turnkey; she is familiar with some of their personnel; it will be challenging for Compass as they are new AMAFCA in direct contrast; AMAFCA / Wilson would need to be more active in project management in order to stay on track and bring along those lessons learned from the other phases so that Compass could benefit and the project would stay in a positive direction.

### **b. Agreement to Provide Funding, Design, Construction, and Project Management and Transfer Property for Gun Club Lateral Realignment near McCoy Dam – Draft Agreement**

Ms. Nicole M. Friedt, AMAFCA Development Review Engineer, summarized information provided in the memo and answered questions from the Board. The project would take out a lot of the sharp bends; smooth the curvature of the Gun Club Lateral; require replatting due to changing property lines; would not change the length of the ditch by much; cost of construction is expected to be minimal if we can get ahead of the contractor before they break ground; the draft agreement was being presented for Board input ; the total cost of the replatting effort is \$60K to be divided equally between MRGCD, BernCo, and AMAFCA; the realignment would allow both BernCo and AMAFCA to use MRGCD right-of-way as a staging area; and both MRGCD and AMAFCA would be able to use the BernCo facility near the railroad crossing that would be installed in the Gun Club Lateral. The Board concurred that AMAFCA staff should proceed.

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### c. Isleta Drain Trail Master Plan – Project Introduction

Mr. Nolan Bennett, AMAFCA Field Engineer, summarized information provided in the memo and answered questions from the Board. BernCo approached AMAFCA; MRGCD requested that BernCo manage the project; Mr. Richard Meadows with BernCo Public Works requested to take control of the project; some of the previous projects that both AMAFCA and BernCo worked on in the area were recapped; there are very few bike trails in the South Valley and this one has been pending for over 20 years and is a good solution; the cost share breakdown would be \$35K from MRGCD from their State Grant, BernCo is putting in \$35K, and \$20K from AMAFCA; the trail plan would look at the entire stretch from Central down to I-25; it is a large area with a lot of complicating factors. Responding to a question for the Board, Mr. Lovato stated the reason AMAFCA want to be involved with the Isleta Drain Trail Master Plan was that the Isleta Drain is to AMAFCA a conveyance of storm water and AMAFCA needs to comply with the Operation Maintenance Repair Replacement and Rehabilitation (OMRRR) which is the overreaching agreement with the Bureau of Reclamation, AMAFCA, BernCo and the MRGCD; there are specific things that need to be done to comply with the OMRRR and our agreement with the Pueblo of Isleta; there are certain facilities that need to be in to make sure the storm water is clean, maintained, etc. There will be areas of the Isleta Drain that are going to be a big concrete structure(s) to take out trash and debris and / or bring in storm water and we need to make sure the Trail System is not in the way. This follows the Second Street Alameda Drain project, which conveys storm water within MRGCD facilities and rights-of-way. AMAFCA was involved in the Alameda Drain Project to make sure the trail system did not negate the use of the system for storm water and storm water quality. This Isleta Drain Trail project is not a direct storm water flood control project but effects drainage indirectly and could impact how efficient projects in the future as well as AMAFCA's future maintenance. Responding to a question from the Board, Mr. Bennett advised it is hoped the project can be started as soon as possible so that the State Funding (from MRGCD) could be encumbered.

## 12. AMAFCA Field Highlights

### a. Field Report

Mr. Nolan Bennett, AMAFCA Field Engineer, gave a report of various projects and events over the last few months and answered questions from the Board.

### b. Construction Report

Mr. Nolan Bennett, AMAFCA Field Engineer, referred the Board to the various charts. There were no questions.

## 13. Unfinished Business

None.

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**14. New Business**

None.

**15. Adjourn**

There being no further business to come before the Board, Chair Thomson adjourned the meeting at 11:57 a.m.

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Deborah L. Stover, Secretary-Treasurer, 10/22/2020

*If Draft is noted as a watermark, the minutes are in draft form, are not the official minutes of record, and are subject to approval by the AMAFCA Board of Directors.*