



**BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
TOWN OF MESILLA  
MEETING  
MONDAY, AUGUST 11, 2014  
6:00 P.M.**

**TRUSTEES:** Nora L. Barraza, Mayor  
Carlos Arzabal, Mayor Pro Tem  
Sam Bernal, Trustee  
Linda L. Flores, Trustee  
Stephanie Johnson-Burick, Trustee

**STAFF:** Cynthia Stoeher-Hernandez, Town Clerk/Treasurer  
Kevin Hoban, Fire Chief  
Debbie Lujan, Public Works Director  
Chris Mangusing, Marshal  
Gloria Maya, Reporter

**PUBLIC:**

**1. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Mayor Barraza led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**2. ROLL CALL & DETERMINATION OF A QUORUM**

**Roll Call.**

**Present:** Mayor Barraza, Mayor Pro Tem Arzabal, Trustee Bernal, Trustee Flores, Trustee Johnson-Burick.

**3. PRESENTATION:**

Update on Vector Control – **Matt Lee, Vector Control & Debbie Lujan, Public Works Director.**

Ms. Lujan stated vector control was started in March. The town is attempting to be proactive but has encountered many issues. She explained the process that is followed.

Mr. Lee stated historical the population peak determined late August/September. The problem we are encountering is with private property owners; orchards. There is an issue with flood water mosquitos in the south west quadrant. Growers took a late irrigation and with the rain we have been getting, there has been an increase weed growth. All this is a receipt for disaster. He explained the process being followed in order to be proactive. He requested a meeting with the mayor because he was so frustrated. We have to get creative. There are some property owners who are receptive and then you have some that are not.

1 We will go until the end of November; there will still population until late October. He ask that everyone  
2 be proactive; cover up their bodies when outdoors, drain standing water. He indicated that private  
3 properties cannot be treated since there is no budget and it is against the anti-donation law. He is out all  
4 the time and invites anyone to do a ride along.

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6 Trustee Flores asked Mr. Lee to explain larva sighting.

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8 Mr. Lee responded it is treating the larval aquatic stage of the insect. This stage is more successful and is  
9 more benign. We can kill more mosquitos with one larval application than allowing them to hatch and  
10 then fog. We work the water to prevent the hatches.

11  
12 Trustee Flores asked if they will be making available the fish that kill the larva.

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14 Mr. Lee responded yes but it is affective but not as effective as others. We will have an issue around the  
15 plaza and the EBID lateral because the water deoxygenizes and the fish will die. We are here to educate  
16 people and in turn that will help us manage the mosquitos.

17  
18 Trust Flores stated she understands West Nile is out in the morning and in the evening.

19  
20 Mr. Lee responded we go out for three species; Aedes Bexans, Culex Parsalis, Culex Qunquesasciatus.  
21 We look at their population in the environment and base our management decisions on that.

22  
23 Trustee Flores asked if West Niles has been found.

24  
25 Mr. Lee responded there have not been any cases this year. Testing has gone down due to funding. We  
26 know it is her from March to November. With the first human case I can get 80 calls within this region.  
27 It did not just show up; it is here. Larva virus occurs without warning.

28  
29 Mr. Garcia asked if they can get the chemicals so they can spray themselves. The property is not willing  
30 to pay for the chemicals.

31  
32 Mr. Lee responded he cannot give anyone anything as it will violate the anti-donation clause. He looks at  
33 the property owner being steward of the community; doing something to help yourself as well as your  
34 neighbor.

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36 Mr. Garcia inaudible

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Mr. Lee stated the fact of the matter is if you are breeding mosquitos on private property due to neglect; you are violating state law.

Mr. Garcia inaudible

Mr. Lee stated mowing decreases the breeding sites and day time resting sites.

Marshal Mangusing stated Mr. Lee has been out spraying and is being hasseled by residents. He asked that residents contact him and he will get the answer from Mr. Lee. This program is for the benefit for the Town of Mesilla. He asks that they don't give Mr. Lee a hard time when you see him spraying.

Mayor Barraza stated there is a level of frustration when residents do not want to cooperate. He is going beyond the call of duty. We compensate him to spray once a week and he is coming out three, four times a week. In the evening when he is spraying he has to advise people to not run into the fog. Ms. Lujan has direct contact with Mr. Lee to get the answers to your questions. She thanked Mr. Lee for everything that he does for the community.

Trustee Flores thanked Mr. Lee for doing more than what he is contracted for. She asked if the scheduled is posted on our website.

Mr. Lee responded the website only reaches a small amount of residents.

Ms. Lujan stated she is aware of where he is spraying since she is in constant contact with Mr. Lee.

Ms. Lozano stated she came in to speak to Ms. Lujan regarding the standing water on Calle de Picacho and she has not seen Mr. Lee. She feels we are cooperative and feels Mr. Lee should go up every single street in Mesilla and not just the fields. Her father use to make a fire that consisted of green leafs to keep the mosquitoes away; asked if that would be allowed.

Fire Chief Hoban responded that recreational fires do not require permits. If it creates smoke and residents start complaining....

Ms. Lozano asked if the chemical has an odor.

1 Mr. Lee responded he will be happy to provide her with information on the product used and she can  
2 decide for herself. The odor varies from person to person. We try to do our applications at night where  
3 there is minimal public disturbance and we are targeting the mosquitos when they are flying. To her first  
4 comment of she has not seen him; he has not seen her as well. It is not an economical, viable position to  
5 go door to door. He would love to but he does not have the manpower or the budget to go door to door.  
6 People need to understand the amount of control delivered is direct in proportion to the amount financed.  
7 We need to pay attention to the areas outside the core since mosquitos have a flying range of five miles.  
8 What happens out there in large proportions could influence your residence if we are not taking care of  
9 those areas. We have gone door to door with codes and historically it is the same residence. He has no  
10 problem letting residents know where he is.

11

12 Ms. Lozano inaudible She reiterated that Mesilla should be doing something with the water on Calle  
13 de Picacho.

14

15 Mr. Lee responded he does treat the water for larva. There is no larva breeding inside that water. The  
16 perception is that larva is breeding in pooled water; they come from areas that are vegetated and do not  
17 have direct sunlight. Reiterated he has no problem showing residents what he does.

18

19 Ms. Lujan stated when she spoke to Mr. Lee he indicated he had already treated the area.

20

21 Ms. Lozano stated she was expecting a call.

22

23 Mr. Burick asked if the Town of Mesilla and Dona Ana County are in cooperation with adjacent  
24 properties.

25

26 Mr. Lee responded the county has a belief that the Town of Mesilla does nothing to control mosquitos.  
27 We work in the county as a buffer as well as the county with Mesilla.

28

29 Ms. Krueger asked if there is short term or long term impact on the honey bees.

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31 Mr. Lee responded bees are not out at night; we are not targeting honey bees.

32

33 Mr. Garcia inaudible

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35 Mayor Barraza recommends the meeting with Mr. Lee to discuss individual issues.

36

1 Mr. Alexander asked if the county addresses standing water.

2

3 Mr. Lee responded it may be the county's right of way but it is in the Town of Mesilla so it is within his  
4 jurisdiction to manage the water.

5

6 Mayor Barraza stated the county does not come into the town to do vector control; if they are called we  
7 will get billed. The Town of Mesilla is contracted with Mr. Lee to take care of those issues. She asked  
8 that issues be brought to Ms. Lujan who in turn will contact Mr. Lee.

9

10 Ms. Hall inaudible

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12 Mr. Lee stated ¼ inch; 5 to 7 days depending on the species.

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14 Ms. Hall inaudible

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16 Mr. Lee responded to dump them out. There are multiple products sold that can be used.

17

18 Mayor Barraza thanked Mr. Lee for all he does for the town.

19

20 **4. PUBLIC INPUT** – The public is invited to address the Board for up to 3 minutes. The Board  
21 will take all comments under advisement for potential action at a later date if warranted.

22

23 Mr. Burick stated the most recent minutes on the website are from the May 12<sup>th</sup> meeting. He would like  
24 clarification on the hiring process. On the July 14<sup>th</sup> meeting there was a motion to approve the hiring of a  
25 deputy; then there was a motion to postpone. At the July 28<sup>th</sup> meeting there was discussion whether the  
26 item was tabled or postponed. The decision was that the item had been tabled but in reality the item was  
27 postponed. Those two things are different. According to State Statute a temporary employee must be  
28 confirmed at the next meeting. If the temporary employee is not confirmed they must be relieved of these  
29 duties until the next meeting. He hopes to get some clarification. There is a link on the Dona Ana  
30 County website with good information regarding vector control.

31

32 Judge Fritze indicated the court will be closed on Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> as they will be interviewing for the part-  
33 time positon.

34

1 Ms. Krueger stated she is glad to see the change and approach to the Open Meetings Act and how much  
2 more it is to educate than castigate. Safe Routs To School begins this Wednesday and ask that the public  
3 right of ways are kept clear. Children need to stay in the public right of way and not in the street.  
4

5 Ms. Hall stated she has been a resident of the historic district for 30 years. She is concerned the residents  
6 are not given the opportunity to speak on items when they are presented. Residents are only given three  
7 minutes at the start of the meeting; how can you speak to an issue before it has been brought up? She  
8 always learns something about areas she is not familiar with. She is here to learn and misses the  
9 opportunity to speak. Residents say the board does not care what they have to say so attend the meetings.  
10 She hopes the board will reconsider the removal of public input on individual agenda items otherwise  
11 how do you know what we think; if you care. She hopes the town will revitalize the Dark Sky Ordinance.  
12 She and Mr. Willoughby worked very hard on this and believe it did become an ordinance. There is no  
13 enforcement. Every year she brings this forward and is told it is budget time, etc.  
14

15 Ms. Lozano asked that Mr. Mangusing run a background check in New Mexico as well as other states  
16 when hiring a new employee. We should be aware of anything that may have happened in other states.  
17

## 18 **5. CHANGES/APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA**

19 **Motion:** To approve the agenda, **Moved by** Trustee Flores, **Seconded by** Mayor Pro Tem Arzabal.  
20

21 **Roll Call Vote:** Motion pass, (summary: Yes = 4).

22 Mayor Pro Tem Arzabal Yes

23 Trustee Bernal Yes

24 Trustee Flores Yes

25 Trustee Johnson-Burick Yes  
26

## 27 **6. \*APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA – The Board will be asked to approve by one** 28 **motion the following items of recurring or routine business. The Consent Agenda is** 29 **marked with an asterisk \*:** 30

31 **Motion:** To approve the consent agenda, **Moved by** Mayor Pro Tem Arzabal, **Seconded by** Trustee  
32 Flores.  
33

34 **Roll Call Vote:** Motion pass, (summary: Yes = 4).

35 Mayor Pro Tem Arzabal Yes

36 Trustee Bernal Yes

1 Trustee Flores Yes  
2 Trustee Johnson-Burick Yes

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4

5 **a. \*BOT MINUTES** – Regular Meeting of July 28, 2014 *Approved by consent agenda*

6 **b. \*PZHAC Case #012298**– 2231A Calle de Parian; submitted by Sun Vista Construction  
7 for Eric and Teresa Sanchez, a request for a permit to replace a door on the commercial  
8 structure at this address. Zoned: Historical Commercial (HC). *Approved by consent*  
9 *agenda*

10 **c. \*PZHAC Case #012301**- 2488 Calle de Guadalupe: submitted by Patrizia Gregory, a  
11 request for a permit to install two signs (one on each frontage), for a business located at  
12 this address. Zoned: Historical Commercial (HC). *Approved by consent agenda*

13

14 **7. CLOSED SESSION** - pursuant to NMSA 10-15-1 (H) (2) for discussion related to limited  
15 personnel matters of the Marshal’s Department and limited personnel matters of the Finance  
16 Department. – **Nora L. Barraza, Mayor.**

17

18 **Motion:** To approve entering closed session pursuant to NMSA 10-15-1 (H) (2) for discussion related  
19 to limited personnel matters of the Marshal’s Department and limited personnel matters of the  
20 Finance Department, **Moved by** Trustee Bernal, **Seconded by** Arzabal Mayor Pro Tem Arzabal.

21

22 **Roll Call Vote:** Motion pass, (summary: Yes = 4).

23 Mayor Pro Tem Arzabal Yes

24 Trustee Bernal Yes

25 Trustee Flores Yes

26 Trustee Johnson-Burick Yes

27

28 **Entered Closed Session at 6:40 p.m.**

29

30 **Motion:** To approve entering regular session after limited discussion related to limited personnel matters  
31 of the Marshal’s Department and limited personnel matters of the Finance Department, **Moved by**  
32 Trustee Flores, **Seconded by** Mayor Pro Tem Arzabal.

33

34 **Roll Call Vote:** Motion pass, (summary: Yes = 4).

35 Mayor Pro Tem Arzabal Yes

36 Trustee Bernal Yes

1 Trustee Flores Yes  
2 Trustee Johnson-Burick Yes

3 **Enter regular session at 7:50 p.m.**

4

5 **7. NEW BUSINESS:**

6 **a.** Selection of a Voting Delegate and Alternate for the 2014 New Mexico Municipal League  
7 Annual Conference to be held in Albuquerque August 27 – August 29 – **Nora L. Barraza.**

8

9 Mayor Barraza indicated she will be attending the 2014 New Mexico Municipal League Annual  
10 Conference and would like to be the voting delegate; Trustee Flores will be the alternate.

11

12 **Motion:** To approve the selection of a Voting Delegate and Alternate for the 2014 New Mexico  
13 Municipal League Annual Conference to be held in Albuquerque August 27, **Moved by** Mayor Pro Tem  
14 Arzabal, **Seconded by** Trustee Bernal.

15

16 **Roll Call Vote:** Motion pass, (summary: Yes = 4).

17 Mayor Pro Tem Arzabal Yes

18 Trustee Bernal Yes

19 Trustee Flores Yes

20 Trustee Johnson-Burick Yes

21

22 **b.** For Approval: appointment of a deputy to the Mesilla Marshal's Department – **Nora L.**  
23 **Barraza, Mayor.**

24

25 Mayor Barraza stated the reconsideration is for Mr. Jesse Lujan as Deputy to the Mesilla Marshal's  
26 Department.

27

28 **Motion:** To reconsider the appointment of a deputy to the Mesilla Marshal's Department, **Moved by**  
29 Trustee Flores, **Seconded by** Mayor Pro Tem Arzabal.

30

31 **Roll Call Vote:** Motion pass, (summary: Yes = 3, No - 1).

32 Mayor Pro Tem Arzabal Yes

33 Trustee Bernal Yes

34 Trustee Flores Yes

35 Trustee Johnson-Burick No

36

1           **8. \*STAFF REPORTS**

- 2           • Community Development Office  
3           • Community Programs  
4           • Finance Department.  
5           • Fire Department.  
6           • Public Works Department  
7           • Marshal's Department

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9           **9. BOARD OF TRUSTEE COMMENTS**

10          Trustee Johnson-Burick stated she will be hosting a Trustee Community Meeting on Wednesday, August  
11          20<sup>th</sup> from 6:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. at the Community Center and invites all the community members.

12  
13          Trustee Bernal no comments

14  
15          Mayor Pro Tem Arzabal stated a colleague told him what a wonderful job the Fire and Marshal's  
16          Department during a call to the Clark residence. He is sad to say Mr. Clark did pass away.

17  
18          Mrs. Clark indicated the departments had been assisting them since their situation started in January. The  
19          residents of the Town of Mesilla do not know how good they've got it.

20  
21          Mayor Pro Tem Arzabal stated this goes to show what a good job Public Safety is doing for the town.

22  
23          Trustee Flores stated the light poles on Calle de Santiago/Calle de Principal and at the church have  
24          cardboard around the bottom which may cause bigger problems. The light pole on Calle de Santiago and  
25          Calle de Guadalupe has a nest on the top. She congratulated the four cadets that were certified. She  
26          thanked Judge Frieze for his letter commending Fire Chief Hoban and Sergeant Herval.

27  
28          Mayor Barraza stated she is hoping the trustees will be able to attend the New Mexico Municipal League  
29          Conference. She read a letter from Judge Frieze thanking Fire Chief Hoban and Sergeant Herval for  
30          their professional demeanor. There will be a celebration Mr. John Paul Taylor on August 24<sup>th</sup> at  
31          Josefina's. They are proposing to close the street from Yanez Hall to Josefina's. She has checked with  
32          the Fire Chief and will be speaking to the Marshal. The Dark Sky Ordinance is one of the ordinances that  
33          Mr. Shannon will be working on in the near future. At the current time we are stressing Code  
34          Enforcement with the mosquito situation going on and the banners around the town. She will continue to  
35          have Public Comments at the beginning of the meeting. All agenda items are listed and comments can be  
36          made during the Public Comments portion of the meeting.

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**10. ADJOURNMENT**

**Motion:** To adjourn, **Moved by** Mayor Pro Tem Arzabal, **Seconded by** Trustee Johnson-Burick.

**Roll Call Vote:** Motion pass, (summary: Yes = 4).

Mayor Pro Tem Arzabal Yes

Trustee Bernal Yes

Trustee Flores Yes

Trustee Johnson-Burick Yes

**MEETNG ADJOURNED AT 8:08 P.M.**

**APPROVED THIS 25<sup>TH</sup> DAY OF AUGUST, 2014.**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Nora L. Barraza  
Mayor

**ATTEST:**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Cynthia Stoechner-Hernandez  
Town Clerk/Treasurer