

Court Chambers  
820 Highway 478  
Anthony, NM 88021

**City of Anthony, NM**  
**Board of Trustees: Regular Meeting**  
**MINUTES**

**Wednesday, April 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2025**

**6:00pm**

Diana Murillo, Mayor  
Gabriel I. Holguin, MPT  
Jose Garcia, Trustee  
Daniel Barreras, Trustee  
Fernando Herrera, Trustee

**You can join meeting using your phone  
by dialing.**

**United States: +1(469)312-8116**  
**Access Code: 190 050 480#**

**Please join TEAMS meeting from your  
computer, tablet or smartphone.**

**Meeting ID: 211 197 180 28**

**Passcode: kN7vK36a**

*All members of the public entity participating remotely must identify themselves whenever they speak and must be clearly audible to the other members.*

**1. CALL TO ORDER** by Mayor Diana Murillo **at 6:06pm**

**2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE** led by Trustee Herrera.

|                     |          |                          |     |    |
|---------------------|----------|--------------------------|-----|----|
| <b>3. ROLL CALL</b> | Present: | MPT Gabriel I. Holguin   | YES | NO |
|                     |          | Trustee Jose Garcia      | YES | NO |
|                     |          | Trustee Daniel Barreras  | YES | NO |
|                     |          | Trustee Fernando Herrera | YES | NO |
|                     |          | Mayor Diana Murillo      | YES | NO |
|                     |          | Quorum Established       | YES | NO |

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*Traduccion del ingles al español y del español al ingles esta disponible a petición.*

*Si necesita un traductor, informe la Secretaria de la Ciudad a más tardar una semana antes de la fecha programada de la reunión*

**4. APPROVAL OF AGENDA ORDER**

*MPT Holguin informed that Board he will be recusing himself from the Executive Session regarding the Gutierrez v. City of Anthony matter.*

**1<sup>st</sup> Motion:** MPT Holguin

**2<sup>nd</sup> Motion:** Trustee Garcia

**Roll Call Vote:**

|                  |     |    |
|------------------|-----|----|
| MPT Holguin      | YES | NO |
| Trustee Garcia   | YES | NO |
| Trustee Barreras | YES | NO |
| Trustee Herrera  | YES | NO |

4-0 Vote, Motion Passes.

**5. PUBLIC COMMENTS** (3-minute limit for each person)

*Adrian Perez*

*Genaro Soriano*

*Cecilia Acosta*

**6. CLOSED SESSION**

- a.** NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the City of Anthony Board of Trustees will meet in Executive Session Pursuant to NMSA 1978, Section 10-15-1(H)(7) regarding pending litigation concerning Gutierrez v. City of Anthony and Perez v. City of Anthony.

**1<sup>st</sup> Motion:** Trustee Barreras

**2<sup>nd</sup> Motion:** Trustee Garcia

**Roll Call Vote:**

|                  |     |    |
|------------------|-----|----|
| MPT Holguin      | YES | NO |
| Trustee Garcia   | YES | NO |
| Trustee Barreras | YES | NO |
| Trustee Herrera  | YES | NO |

4-0 Vote, Motion Passes at 6:19pm

**b. Return to Open Session**

**1<sup>st</sup> Motion:** Trustee Barreras

**2<sup>nd</sup> Motion:** Trustee Herrera

**Roll Call Vote:**

|                  |     |    |
|------------------|-----|----|
| MPT Holguin      | YES | NO |
| Trustee Garcia   | YES | NO |
| Trustee Barreras | YES | NO |
| Trustee Herrera  | YES | NO |

4-0 Vote, Motion Passes at 6:55pm.

**7. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**a. Regular Meeting: 03/19/2025**

**w/ amendments 1<sup>st</sup> Motion:** MPT Holguin

**2<sup>nd</sup> Motion:** Trustee Barreras

**Roll Call Vote:**

|                  |     |    |
|------------------|-----|----|
| MPT Holguin      | YES | NO |
| Trustee Garcia   | YES | NO |
| Trustee Barreras | YES | NO |
| Trustee Herrera  | YES | NO |

4-0 Vote, Motion Passes.

**b. Budget Workshop: 03/24/2025**

**1<sup>st</sup> Motion:** MPT Holguin

**2<sup>nd</sup> Motion:** Trustee Barreras

**Roll Call Vote:**

|                  |     |    |
|------------------|-----|----|
| MPT Holguin      | YES | NO |
| Trustee Garcia   | YES | NO |
| Trustee Barreras | YES | NO |
| Trustee Herrera  | YES | NO |

4-0 Vote Motion Passes.

**8. PROCLAMATION**

**a. Proclamation to proclaim April 13<sup>th</sup>-April 19<sup>th</sup> as National Public Safety Telecommunications Week, *Presented by MVRDA Executive Director and MVRDA Board Chairperson.***

*The yearly proclamation honors the dedicated dispatchers who serve as first responders and the first point of contact during many emergency situations throughout the county. Ms. Jennifer Gorham, Executive Director of MVRDA, took a moment to speak with the Board and the public about the ongoing challenges they face, particularly being short-staffed. She emphasized the need for more telecommunicators and shared that they're actively working to improve workflow and support their team in order to boost retention. Ms. Gorham also gave an overview of new technologies MVRDA is looking to implement tools designed to enhance safety not just for officers in the field, but for the entire community.*

**1<sup>st</sup> Motion:** Trustee Garcia

**2<sup>nd</sup> Motion:** Trustee Barreras

**Roll Call Vote:**

|                  |     |    |
|------------------|-----|----|
| MPT Holguin      | YES | NO |
| Trustee Garcia   | YES | NO |
| Trustee Barreras | YES | NO |
| Trustee Herrera  | YES | NO |

4-0 Vote, Motion Passes.

**b. Proclamation to rename the City of Anthony Public Library to 'The Maria Belen Flores "Enriquez" Memorial Library', *Presented by MPT Gabriel I. Holguin.***

*MPT Holguin read the proclamation and, together with Trustee Garcia, spoke further about the impact Ms. Enriquez had on the community.*

**1<sup>st</sup> Motion:** Trustee Garcia

**2<sup>nd</sup> Motion:** Trustee Barreras

**Roll Call Vote:**

|                |     |    |
|----------------|-----|----|
| MPT Holguin    | YES | NO |
| Trustee Garcia | YES | NO |

Trustee Barreras YES NO 4-0 Vote, Motion Passes.

Trustee Herrera YES NO

- c. Proclamation proclaiming April 12<sup>th</sup> as Child Abuse Prevention Day, **Presented by Executive Director of Borderland Family Ties, Vanessa Mobley-Knox.**

*Ms. Mobley-Knox spoke to the Board and the community about the importance of raising awareness around child abuse prevention. She also invited everyone to an upcoming event, to be held on April 12<sup>th</sup> at the DACC in Anthony, that is being hosted with several other local agencies, focused on educating, supporting, and empowering families in the community.*

**1<sup>st</sup> Motion: Trustee Barreras**

**2<sup>nd</sup> Motion: MPT Holguin**

**Roll Call Vote:**

MPT Holguin YES NO

Trustee Garcia YES NO

Trustee Barreras YES NO 4-0 Vote, Motion Passes.

Trustee Herrera YES NO

**9. PRESENTATION**

- a. Update on the newly implemented Overpayment Policy, **Presented by HR/CPO.**

*The HR Director/CPO gave a quick update on the policy, mentioning that only one employee, three elected officials and the alternate judge still need to sign.*

- b. Update on requested lighting along the City of Anthony Walking Path, **Presented by Mayor Murillo.**

*The HR Director/CPO gave an update and noted that since this quote was received she has spoken with NMDOT which advised that they will provide lighting on Acosta/Anthony Dr. and Landers/Anthony Dr. which should bring down cost. She did note that she will reach out to RT Electric to get an updated quote. She also mentioned she spoke with the Finance Director and mentioned that currently there are no funds available when the quote was at \$112k, with the quote potentially being lower it can financially be reevaluated.*

**10. DISCUSSION**

- a. Board of Trustees Attendance Policy, **Presented by Trustee Herrera.**

*Trustee Herrera expressed his frustration over the lack of clarity regarding an attendance policy, which, he recalls, had been approved during his previous term. After receiving a response from the City Clerk indicating that no policy could be found, he shared that he reached out the New Mexico Municipal League and plans to submit a formal IPRA request to seek further answers.*

**11. CONSIDERATION AND ACTION**

- a. Consideration and Action to approve the Easement Agreement between the City of Anthony and Anthony Water & Sanitation District regarding the new construction of Gadsden Middle School, **Presented by the City Attorney and Josue Magana.**

*Mr. Josue Magana, an engineer with BHI contracted by the district for the reconstruction of Gadsden Middle School, provided a brief overview of the project and the related easement request. Trustee Garcia inquired about the project's start date, to which Mr. Magana responded that construction could begin within the next month or two. Trustee Garcia also asked about traffic management during construction, and Mr. Magana explained that a traffic control plan is in place to help mitigate the impact on traffic flow. The City Attorney reviewed some of the legal details in the agreement.*

**1<sup>st</sup> Motion: MPT Holguin**

**2<sup>nd</sup> Motion: Trustee Barreras**

**Roll Call Vote:**

MPT Holguin YES NO

Trustee Garcia YES NO

Trustee Barreras YES NO 4-0 Vote, Motion Passes.

Trustee Herrera YES NO

- b. Consideration and Action to approve Task Order from Bohannon Huston for design services for the Grant St. Roadway Reconstruction project, using Capital Outlay Grant Agreement 24-13279, **Presented by HR/CPO.**

*The HR Director/CPO shared with the Board that the funds being utilized for the reconstruction of Grant St. in the amount of \$66,665.34 comply with the agreement for the Capital Outlay that was awarded to the City last year, which stated that 5% must have been obligated within 6 months. BHI will work to stay within the limit of the awarded amount which was \$250,000.*

**1<sup>st</sup> Motion:** Trustee Barreras

**2<sup>nd</sup> Motion:** MPT Holguin

**Roll Call Vote:**

MPT Holguin **YES** NO

Trustee Garcia **YES** NO

Trustee Barreras **YES** NO

Trustee Herrera **YES** NO

4-0 Vote, Motion Passes.

- c. Consideration and Action to approve the past due invoices, totaling \$5,329.91 for EAP Services, **Presented by HR/CPO. (POSTPONED)**

*The HR Director/CPO explained that during the process of transitioning to a new vendor for EAP services and requesting to terminate the existing contract, she was informed of outstanding balances totaling the amount above. MPT Holguin questioned about whether paying these invoices which go back several fiscal years, could result in a potential audit finding. The Finance Director responded that, with proper documentation, it should not. Further discussion revealed that the contract had been set to automatically renew each year, and the invoices had been sent to the former City Clerk. The HR Director/CPO also expressed concern over the delay in notification, questioning why the invoices were only now being brought to the City's attention and why no one from the company had followed up earlier regarding the unpaid amounts. Due to some hesitation from a few trustees, the item was postponed to allow time for the City Attorney to review the contract.*

**Postpone: 1<sup>st</sup> Motion:** Trustee Garcia

**2<sup>nd</sup> Motion:** Trustee Barreras

**Roll Call Vote:**

MPT Holguin **YES** NO

Trustee Garcia **YES** NO

Trustee Barreras **YES** NO

Trustee Herrera **YES** NO

4-0 Vote, Motion Passes.

**Original 1<sup>st</sup> Motion:** Trustee Barreras

**2<sup>nd</sup> Motion:** MPT Holguin

- d. Consideration and Action to approve the Budget Workshops/Meetings schedule for April, May and June 2025, **Presented by the Finance Director.**

*Following up on the previous discussion during the last budget workshop, the dates being presented comply with the three required meeting for the development of the new fiscal year budget. MPT Holguin suggested amending the Finance Policies, as they currently reflect dates that may no longer align with these approved dates.*

**1<sup>st</sup> Motion:** Trustee Barreras

**2<sup>nd</sup> Motion:** Trustee Garcia

**Roll Call Vote:**

MPT Holguin **YES** NO

Trustee Garcia **YES** NO

Trustee Barreras **YES** NO

Trustee Herrera **YES** NO

4-0 Vote, Motion Passes.

- e. Consideration and Action to approve Public Works pending expenditures, **Presented by Mayor Murillo.**

*Motion was not seconded, item died on the floor. No discussion was had.*

**1<sup>st</sup> Motion:** Trustee Barreras

- f. Consideration and Action to approve the rental of an excavator and loader for the removal of dirt on Fourth St., in the amount of \$9,300, **Presented by Mayor Murillo. (POSTPONED)**  
*The Governing Body had some questions regarding the equipment being requested, in agreement with several other members it was motion to postpone until the Public Works Director is present to answer the questions. MPT Holguin spoke on the Finance Policies regarding the amount of this request, which required 3 quotes.*

**To Postpone 1<sup>st</sup> Motion:** Trustee Herrera

**2<sup>nd</sup> Motion:** Trustee Garcia

**Roll Call Vote:**

MPT Holguin YES NO

Trustee Garcia YES NO

Trustee Barreras YES NO

Trustee Herrera YES NO

4-0 Vote, Motion Passes.

**Original 1<sup>st</sup> Motion:** Trustee Barreras

**2<sup>nd</sup> Motion:** Trustee Garcia

- g. Consideration and Action to appoint Noe Juarez, Michael Meerbott, Martha Gutierrez and Arnulfo Castañeda as Planning & Zoning Commissioners, **Presented by the City Clerk.**  
*The City Clerk shared that, after several months, the City had finally received enough letters of interest to fill the vacant positions on the Planning and Zoning Commission. Trustee Herrera brought up a concern about an individual who was allegedly turned away from applying. The City Clerk clarified that she had spoken with the individual and explained that, unfortunately, she was not eligible because she currently resides in California. While this is not specified in the ordinance, the City Clerk noted that there had been prior discussions suggesting applicants should live within 30 miles of the City. Trustee Herrera disagreed and stated that this was inaccurate, pointing out that the ordinance only requires three out of five commissioners to be residents, meaning the remaining two can live outside the City and there is no limit as to how far away. MPT Holguin then requested that each applicant be voted on individually.*

**Consideration and Action to approve Noe Juarez for Planning & Zoning Commissioner**

**1<sup>st</sup> Motion:** MPT Holguin

**2<sup>nd</sup> Motion:** Trustee Herrera

**Roll Call Vote:**

MPT Holguin YES NO

Trustee Garcia YES NO

Trustee Barreras YES NO

Trustee Herrera YES NO

4-0 Vote, Motion Passes.

**Consideration and Action to approve Michael Meerbott for Planning & Zoning Commissioner**

**1<sup>st</sup> Motion:** MPT Holguin

**2<sup>nd</sup> Motion:** Trustee Garcia

**Roll Call Vote:**

MPT Holguin YES NO

Trustee Garcia YES NO

Trustee Barreras YES NO

Trustee Herrera YES NO

4-0 Vote, Motion Passes.

**Consideration and Action to approve Martha Gutierrez for Planning & Zoning Commissioner**

**1<sup>st</sup> Motion:** Trustee Herrera

**2<sup>nd</sup> Motion:** Trustee Garcia

**Roll Call Vote:**

MPT Holguin YES NO Abstained

Trustee Garcia YES NO

Trustee Barreras YES NO

Trustee Herrera YES NO

3-0 Vote, Motion Passes.

**Consideration and Action to approve Arnulfo Castañeda as Planning & Zoning Commissioner:**

**1<sup>st</sup> Motion:** Trustee Herrera

**2<sup>nd</sup> Motion:** Trustee Barreras

**Roll Call Vote:**

MPT Holguin            YES NO  
Trustee Garcia        YES NO  
Trustee Barreras      YES NO  
Trustee Herrera       YES NO

4-0 Vote, Motion Passes.

**Original 1<sup>st</sup> Motion:** Trustee Barreras

**2<sup>nd</sup> Motion:** Trustee Herrera

**12. ITEMS FROM THE MAYOR AND TRUSTEES**

**Trustee Herrera:** Brought up concerns regarding oil spills on 700 St. Anthony and throughout the City. He suggested speaking with the Codes Enforcement due to the time it took to contact him and the time it was going to take to generate the report. Requested the BHI presentation be set for the upcoming meeting.

**Trustee Barreras:** Advised the public of an individual gathering trash and dumping it the Loma Linda property.

**Trustee Garcia:** Update on the Municipal Soccer Field bleachers. Inquired about a special permit to allow a farmers market at the VFW. Requested assistance from the City Attorney to assist with the unpaid Fireworks fees that haven't been paid in the last few years.

**MPT Holguin:** Requested the following items to be placed on the upcoming meeting:

- Executive Session on the Herrera v. Murillo case particularly the unpaid Stelzer invoice.
- Executive Session in regard to the City Clerk with review of the City Clerk job description with possible action.
- Executive Session the Timecard for every individual city employee per the policy approved in June of 2024.
- Discussion on the CDC position and select a scoring committee to align with the current policy.

**1<sup>st</sup> Motion:** MPT Holguin

**2<sup>nd</sup> Motion:** Trustee Garcia

**Roll Call Vote:**

MPT Holguin            YES NO  
Trustee Garcia        YES NO  
Trustee Barreras      YES NO  
Trustee Herrera       YES NO

3-1Vote, Motion Passes.

**13. ADJOURNMENT**

**1<sup>st</sup> Motion:** Trustee Barreras

**2<sup>nd</sup> Motion:** Trustee Herrera

**Roll Call Vote:**

MPT Holguin            YES NO  
Trustee Garcia        YES NO  
Trustee Barreras      YES NO  
Trustee Herrera       YES NO

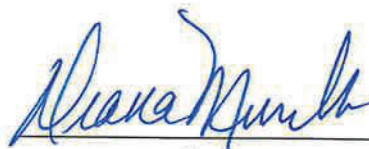
4-0 Vote, Motion Passes at 9:08pm

{SEAL}

Attest:



Karla Oropeza, City Clerk



Diana Murillo, Mayo