

*New Mexico Finance Authority*  
207 Shelby St. Santa Fe, NM 87501  
(505) 984-1454

**Minutes of Colonias Infrastructure Board Meeting**  
**September 19, 2024**  
**111 Sierra Blanca Dr. Room 2+3**  
**Ruidoso, NM 88345**

**Voting Members Present:**

Mary Kay Papen, Chair	Appointee, President Pro Tempore of the Senate
Janice Baca-Argabright (via zoom)	Appointee, Minority Leader of the Senate
Marquita Russel, Secretary (via zoom)	CEO, NM Finance Authority
Jose Luis Segura	Appointee, Speaker of the House of Representatives
Rebecca Dow (via zoom)	Appointee, Minority Leader House of Representatives
Wesley Billingsley	Designee, NM Dept. of Finance and Administration
Steven Deal	Designee, NM Environment Dept.

**Non-Voting Members Present:**

Joy Esparsen (via zoom)	Director, NM Counties
Jay Armijo (via zoom)	Director, South Central Council of Governments
Priscilla Lucero	Director, Southwest NM Council of Governments
Dora Batista (via zoom)	Director, Southeastern NMED District
Donna Maestas DeVries	Designee, NM Mortgage Finance Authority

**Voting Members Absent:**

**Non-Voting Members Absent:**

**New Mexico Finance Authority Staff:**

Angela Quintana	Fernando Martinez (via zoom)
Charlotte Larragoite (via zoom)	Michael Vonderheide

**Guests:**

Patricia Bolliger	Stantec
Michael Garza	Dona Ana County Flood Commission
Andrea Montoya	Grant County
Loren Gushman	Catron County

1. **Call to Order and Roll Call.** Chair Mary Kay Papen called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. A quorum was established.

2. **Approval of Agenda. Member Deal moved, seconded by Member Billingsley, to approve the agenda. The motion passed 7-0.**

3. **Approval of Board Minutes.**

**3.1 Member Deal moved, seconded by Member Segura to approve the May 16, 2024, Board meeting minutes. The motion passed 7 - 0.**

4. **Recommendation of Change of Scope and Time Extension: Dona Ana County Project No. CIF-5762.**

4.1 Ms. Angela Quintana presented Dona Ana County's ("County") request for a scope change and time extension for CIF-5762. The County is requesting another property acquisition for a future project and construction scope be combined with Colonias La Union project #CIF-6418. The County is also requesting an extension of 12 months till October 21, 2025, for project final completion.

Staff does not recommend approval of the expansion of the scope to include land acquisition for a future project. Due to timing considerations of design completion, bid award, the current funding expiration date of October 21, 2024, and the next regularly scheduled Colonias Board meeting, staff recommends approval of a scope change to include construction costs for the drainage improvements to La Union combined with Colonias 2024 project CIF-6418 and a time extension of 7 months until May 31, 2025, to fully expend the remaining balance for project CIF-5762. The Project Review Committee has reviewed this request and concurs with staff's recommendation.

**Member Deal moved, seconded by Member Billingsley, to deny the County the use of the funding for land acquisition of future projects and to approve an expansion of a scope change to include construction and a time extension until May 31, 2025, for project CIF-5762. The motion passed 7 - 0.**

5. **Reconsideration of Village of Columbus 2024 Colonias application Project No. CIF-6411.**

5.1 Ms. Quintana presented the Village of Columbus' ("Village") request for reconsideration of their 2024 Colonias application project CIF-6411. The Village seeks to use a 2018 design as a reference to redesign a 2024 project. The design will revise the initial channel size to a smaller channel due to the installation of a 70-ft metal fence encroaching on the Village's 80-ft wide drainage easement. It is unclear as to why the Village decided to redesign around an easement that has been encroached upon. The Village's request to redesign the same project due to easement encroachment does not appear to be justifiable.

Staff does not recommend the Village's 2024 project #CIF-6411 for funding consideration to redesign the same project awarded from Colonias in 2018. The Project Review Committee has reviewed this request and concurs with staff's recommendation.

**Member Deal moved, seconded by Member Segura, for approval of staff's recommendation to not reconsider the Village of Columbus' 2024 application for funding consideration. The motion passed 7 - 0.**

**6. Consideration and Approval of the 2024 2nd Iteration Colonias Infrastructure Fund Awards.**

**6.1** Ms. Quintana presented for approval the 2nd Iteration of Funding recommendations for the 2024 Colonias Infrastructure Project Fund application cycle. For the 2024 Colonias Application cycle, \$63,168,682 was available for awards from severance tax bonds issued by the State Board of Finance.

On May 16, 2024, the CIB awarded 31 projects in the amount of \$42,390,515. Three applicants (7 applications) could not be awarded and certified due to not meeting regulatory compliance. Due to the timing of the Project Review Committee's recommendations and the CIB award decisions, the Board extended the compliance deadline until August 5, 2024, for these applicants to meet regulatory compliance. The Board postponed the funding decision for the remaining balance (\$20,778,167) until its meeting in September. In addition, the following applications funding decisions were also postponed: Village of Columbus-project duplication and Camino Real RUA – project readiness. The City of Deming ("City"), due to their ongoing special FY2023 audit, could not meet the August 5th deadline. The City anticipates submission of the special audit by December 2024. The remaining projects except for the Village of Columbus are recommended for funding for their requested amounts.

Ms. Quintana presented the spreadsheet of the 5 projects recommended for funding as part of the 2<sup>nd</sup> iteration of the 2024 Colonias funding cycle. With the remaining balance of \$3,591,563, staff recommends an additional postponement on the funding decision till March 2025, to allow the City of Deming to submit their audit. Staff will bring forward a recommendation on the remaining balance at that time. The Project Review Committee reviewed this request and concurred with staff's recommendations.

**Member Deal moved, seconded by Member Russel, for approval of the five projects as presented. The motion passed 7-0.**

**7. Consideration and Approval of Resolution, Notification and Certification of Need of Issuance of Severance Tax Revenue Bonds for Additional Qualified Projects.**

**7.1** Ms. Quintana presented for approval the Resolution, Notification, and Certification of need for issuance of severance tax revenue bonds for additional qualified projects.

**Member Deal moved, seconded by Member Billingsley, for approval of agenda item 7.1. The motion passed 7-0.**

**8. Consideration and Approval of the Colonias 2025 Application Timeline.**

**8.1** Ms. Quintana presented the 2025 application timeline. The 2025 Colonias application will open with the submittal of a notice of intent beginning January 6, 2025. The on-line application will be open from January 27 through March 6, 2025. Compliance and technical review and scoring will be conducted, and proposed awards by the Board are anticipated to take place on May 15, 2025. NMFA staff requests approval of the application timeline.

**Member Deal moved, seconded by Member Segura, for approval of agenda item 8.1. The motion passed 7-0.**

**9. Next Board Meeting.**

- November 26, 2024, CIB Project Review Committee (tentative)
- December 5, 2024, Colonias Infrastructure Board Meeting – Santa Fe

**10. Public Comment.** Catron County thanked the Board for the County’s funding consideration. The City of Deming provided an update on their current audit.

**11. Adjournment.** The meeting adjourned at 11:00 a.m.

*Margueta R. Mendez*

02 / 26 / 2025

Secretary

Date