

Big Mesa MDWCA

Minutes from April 11, 2026

BOD Attending: Jeff Mechenbier, Dave Artery, Jeff Strom, Rhiannon Peterson, Steve Jones

Meeting called to order at 8:00 AM

The members recited the Pledge of Allegiance to our flag.

Minutes: Minutes of the March 14, 2026, meeting was posted on the website and sent to members of the Board. There were no additions or corrections to the Draft Minutes.

Motion to approve Steve Jones, second Dave Artery. Vote was Unanimous.

Treasure's Report: Beate Merkert reported total of all accounts as of March 31 ,2026 was \$388,935.93. Misc. Trash Sales of \$444.90.

Motion to approve Jeff Strom, second Dave Artery. Vote was Unanimous.

Water Managers Report: Jay Allen reported total gallons pumped 1,090,252 with total gallons billed of 831,390. Microbiologic sample 3/9, 2026 was Absent. HAA5 as of 3/18/2026 was ND and TTHM was 86.1. There were no installations and no lockouts with no tampering fee imposed. There were no unbilled leaks.

Motion to approve the Water Managers Report made by Dave Artery, second Steve Jones. Vote was Unanimous.

Business Managers Report: Beate Merkert reported total amount billed for March was \$42054.08 including \$558.00 in penalties and \$100 in membership fees with \$150 in transfer fees. Monthly Expenses including payroll were \$31,921.55. Beate reported the meter insulation project is completed. The Budget Adjustmment request was submitted and approved by DFA. Motion to approve Office Managers Report Jeff Strom, second Dave Artery. Vote was Unanimous.

RAIL

- Big Mesa Capitol Projects – Jeff Mechenbier reported work is progressing with in person meetings continuing Thursdays. All material is onsite and West Tech is here until completion May 29, 2026. The May completion date is approaching and on schedule. OPEN

- Water Meter Insulation- Completed. CLOSED
- Gateway Platform/ payment- In progress OPEN
- BAR RIP Loan/ Grant- Submitted and Approved OPEN
- Water Leak Adjustment- Don Garcia submitted photos and Adjustment was made to his account. CLOSED

NEW BUSINESS

- Kelly McFarland CPA- Presentation at next Meeting OPEN
- Board Training- NM Rural Water @ Isleta April 14 to 16. OPEN
- AT&T Cell Phone Service-\$135/ Month for two phones not being used and Beate recommends cancelation of contract. CLOSED
- Sample Schedule notification to customers- Suggestion is to put schedule in Newsletter. CLOSED
- Unemployment Claim- Bruce has filed for unemployment. CLOSED
- Audit Bid- Nine bids were submitted and one from DeAun Willoughby was received. OPEN
- BURN PILE- San Miguel County Burn Ban is in effect. OPEN

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Adjourn Regular Session at 8:41
 Adjourn Executive Session at 8:51 Staff and Legal action were discussed and no actions were taken.

ADJOURNMENT- Motion Dave Artery, second Steve Jones. Vote was Unanimous Time 8:52 AM

