



## City of Rio Communities Council Regular Business Meeting

City Council Chambers - 360 Rio Communities Blvd

Rio Communities, NM 87002

Monday, October 14, 2025, 6:00 PM

Minutes

*Please silence all electronic devices.*

**Mayor - Joshua Ramsell**

**Mayor Pro Tem - Lawrence R. Gordon**

**Council - Arthur Apodaca, Thomas Nelson, Matthew Marquez**

### Call to Order

Mayor Ramsell called the meeting to order at 6:01

### Pledge of Allegiance

Councilor Marquez led the pledge of allegiance.

### Roll Call

#### Governing Body

Mayor Joshua Ramsell

Councilor Matthew Marquez

Councilor Lawrence Gordon

Councilor Thomas Nelson

Councilor Arthur Apodaca

#### Staff

Manager Dr. Martin Moore

Randy Van Vleck

### Approval of Agenda.

Motion made by Councilor Nelson to move action item 8 (Approval of Amended Joint Powers Agreement Between the City of Rio Communities and the Valencia Regional Emergency Communications Center) to action item number 6. Seconded by Councilor Apodaca.

Voting Yea:

Councilor Gordon

Councilor Apodaca

Councilor Nelson

Councilor Marquez

Motion passed with a 4-0 vote.

**Motion made by Councilor Nelson to approve agenda as amended. Seconded by Councilor Gordon.**

Voting Yea:

Councilor Gordon

Councilor Apodaca

Councilor Nelson

Councilor Marquez

Motion passed with a 4-0 vote.

### **Consent Agenda**

Motion made by Councilor Nelson to approve the consent agenda. Seconded by Councilor Apodaca.

#### **Voting Yea:**

Councilor Marquez

Councilor Gordon

Councilor Nelson

Councilor Apodaca

Motion passed with a 4-0 vote.

#### **Public Comment:**

Alan Sinclair at 1104 Vista del monte Place asked if the city has supplied a dumpster for Western Drive after the storm flooding in the previous week. He also spoke about the Veterans Memorial that he feels it should be placed in a city park.

Monica Marquez at 410 Western spoke about an unofficial meeting she had with the residents on Horizon Vista and Western Drive regarding the streetlights in high-risk areas and also the flooding.

Jody Skelton at 604 Brown Dr spoke about Maverick and how they need to clean up the property.

#### **Manager Report**

City Manager Dr. Moore discussed the update on the bypass road stating that the HDR engineers who are doing the construction oversite and the public works director did a walk-through of the city's portion; that would be the portion that the DOT isn't directly controlling. There will be another inspection on the interconnections next week by the Department of Transportation traffic engineers. We will be doing a follow up and check the punch list: a list of items that need to be followed through. The tentative date to bring back to council on October 27, 2025, as long as the punch list has been completed and the road has been completed. There will be no name placed on this road until it is approved by council.

Dr. Moore discussed the update on Don Diego Reconstruction. He stated we are ready on our side to go out to bid.

Dr Moore discussed the update on Maverick. He explained he did talk to the DOT and also a representative of Maverick and expressed concerns about cleaning up the area and the rubble on the property. They stated that they will do that once they are cleared for construction. Dr. Moore asked them when will the permit application for Construction be approval and they answered they are reviewing it. He stated that we are waiting on the permit approval from the State department of Transportation.

Dr Moore discussed an update on the Storm Water Flood. He stated that Western Drive is one example of several that were affected by the storm water floods. One of the issues with Western Drive and Horizon Vista is that there is supposed to be a bigger flow coming for drainage from Carmel along the

side of the golf course. The shame and condition of what looks like drainage but is mostly torn up concrete or thick with brush. There is a design that is ready to commence as late as this week or next week.

Councilor Nelson stated that on the bypass road we should do solar signing on both ends that are stop signs to make it clear that there is a stop sign there.

Dr. Moore stated that we can make that request to the state.

Councilor Nelson stated that we should make the bypass road a safety corridor and have fines doubled.

Dr. Moore stated we can do an amendment to the uniform traffic ordinance.

Councilor Nelson stated that on Western Drive we should put some dumpsters up to help residents to get rid of the wet debris.

Dr. Moore explained that he is looking in to doing that not only on Western Drive but other areas in the city.

Councilor Apodaca asked on the bypass road, can we get any guarantee of the life of the highway.

Dr. Moore stated that he is not sure, but he will ask and find out.

Councilor Marquez asked if there is a date the bypass road will be open.

Dr. Moore explained they have not given an exact date, and the projected date of completion will be the acceptance of the City Council of the road.

#### **Action Items:**

#### **Discussion, Consideration, and Decision – Approval of Amended Joint Powers Agreement Between the City of Rio Communities and the Valencia Regional Emergency Communications Center.**

Tommy Sanchez, the director of Valencia Regional Emergency Communications (VRECC) stated on July 24, 2025, the VRECC board passes a resolution to amend the JPA. It is required that he goes to all the governing bodies in the county to get it amended. The Resolution states 3 things; designate a new physical agent for VRECC, the town of Peralta wants to become a new signatory on the JPA which would give them representation on the VRECC board, and the third one would be they would get state and federal tax identification numbers for the center. Which will help untangle any finances from any municipalities or counties. All the vendors will belong to VRECC and not the physical agent going forward. There is also plans to introduce legislation so they can get their own ICIP and not get mixed up what other cities or counties need to do, and they can take care of the center better and serve the entire county and municipalities better.

Motion made by Councilor Nelson to approve Amended Joint Powers Agreement Between the City of Rio Communities and the Valencia Regional Emergency Communications Center. Seconded by Councilor Marquez.

#### **Voting Yea:**

Councilor Gordon

Councilor Apodaca

Councilor Nelson

Councilor Marquez

Motion passed with a 4-0 vote.

**Discussion, Consideration, and Decision – Approval Resolution 2025-27 requesting New Mexico Department of Transportation Approval to Repair up to an additional 300 ft of Damon Street Utilizing Available Grant Funds (Grant Agreement number HW2L300355)**

Motion made by Councilor Gordon to approve Resolution 2025-27 requesting New Mexico Department of Transportation Approval to Repair up to an additional 300 ft of Damon Street Utilizing Available Grant Funds (Grant Agreement number HW2L300355). Seconded by Councilor Apodaca.

**Voting Yea:**

Councilor Nelson

Councilor Marquez

Councilor Gordon

Councilor Apodaca

Motion passed with a 4-0 vote.

**Discussion, Consideration, and Decision – Approval to Proceed with Phase 1 of the Veterans Memorial Park.**

Motion made by Councilor Gordon to approve to Proceed with Phase 1 of the Veterans Memorial Park. Seconded by Councilor Apodaca.

**Voting Yea:**

Councilor Gordon

Councilor Apodaca

**Voting No:**

Councilor Marquez

Councilor Nelson

Motion passed with a 3-2 vote. Mayor breaks tie.

**Executive Session - pursuant to §10-15-1(H)(7) and subject to attorney-client privilege, for the limited purpose of discussing threatened or pending litigation in which the public body is or may become a participant.**

**Motion with a roll call to go into a closed session made by Council Nelson. Seconded by Councilor Gordon**

**Voting Yea:**

Councilor Marquez

Councilor Apodaca

Councilor Nelson

Councilor Gordon

Motion passed with a 4-0 vote at 7:10pm

**Motion with a roll call to go into back in regular business meeting session made by Council Nelson. Seconded by Councilor Gordon**

Voting Yea:  
Councilor Marquez  
Councilor Apodaca  
Councilor Nelson  
Councilor Gordon

Motion passed with a 4-0 vote at 7:16pm

### **Statement from the Mayor**

Mayor Ramsell Stated that on Monday October 14, 2025, City of Rio Communities City Council did hold an Executive Session - pursuant to §10-15-1(H)(7) and subject to attorney-client privilege, for the limited purpose of discussing threatened or pending litigation in which the public body is or may become a participant and no other items were discussed at this time.

Motion made by Councilor Gordon to approve the statement by the mayor. Seconded by Councilor Nelson.

Voting Yea:  
Councilor Marquez  
Councilor Apodaca  
Councilor Nelson  
Councilor Gordon

Motion passed with a 4-0 vote.

### **Council Discussion**

Councilor Marquez stated to Dr. Moore that there has been a lot of complaints from residents about a loud humming noise coming from Arcosa Wind Towers Facility.

Councilor Marquez asked where we are at with replacing the streetlights.

Dr. Moore stated that we have 4 streetlights that were in the last quote and we are still working on getting quotes from other companies. As soon as we have those, we will be bringing it back to council.

Councilor Gordon stated that the Police department will be doing The Grinch stole Christmas on December 5, 2025. They would like everyone to fill out the form and return it to the box in city hall so the kids can get a gift.

Councilor Nelson stated that we need to set a schedule for the remaining of the year so all the councilors can plan for the holidays.

Councilor Nelson asked where we are with scheduling interviews for the police chief.

Mayor Ramsell stated that we will be having a special meeting on Monday the 20<sup>th</sup> at 10:00am and also Monday the 27<sup>th</sup> at 3:00pm

Councilor Apodaca stated that this Saturday the Chamber of commerce is sponsoring an October Fest and will be held in Los Lunas at the outdoor theater park, it starts at 9:00am and will go till mid-afternoon.

Motion made by Councilor Apodaca to Adjourn. Seconded by councilor Gordon Motion carried out at 7:27pm.

Respectfully submitted,



Dr. Martin Moore (acting as Municipal clerk)  
(Taken and Transcribed by Patricia McCloskey)

Date: 10/16/2024

Approved:

  
Joshua Ramsell,  
Mayor  
Lawrence R. Gordon,  
Mayor Pro-tem/Councilor  
Arthur Apodaca,  
Councilor

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Thomas Nelson,  
Councilor

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Matthew Marquez,  
Councilor