

# **Santa Fe River Commission Agenda**

Thursday, May 12, 2016 (Round House Room), 6 pm to 8 pm City Offices at the Market Station Building at the Rail yard 500 Market Street, Suite 200, Santa Fe, NM 505-955-6840

- 1. ROLL CALL
- 2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA
- 3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM April 14, 2016
- 4. Communication from other Agencies/Committees
  - a) Informational Item: Living River Target Flow, Hydrograph Update 2016-2017 (Alan Hook)
- 5. INFORMATION/DISCUSSION/ACTION:
  - a) Scorecards (FM Patorni)
  - b) Reports from sub-committees
    - Watershed Revitalization, Emile Sawyer
    - o Promoting a Living River, John Buchser
    - o Species Resiliency, Zoe Isaacson
    - Outdoor Economy, Luke Pierpont
- 6. MATTERS FROM COMMISSIONERS
- 7. MATTERS FROM SUBCOMMITTEES
- 8. MATTERS FROM STAFF 2016 Fishing Derby, Project Updates, Stormwater Resolution, etc...
- 9. SUB-COMMITTEE BREAKOUT SESSION (optional)
- 10. CITIZENS' COMMUNICATION FROM THE FLOOR
- 11. ADJOURN

Next Scheduled for the River Commission is June 9, 2016
Packet Material due by June 1, 2016
Persons with disabilities in need of accommodations, contact the City Clerk's office at (505) 955-6521 five (5) working days prior to the meeting date.

# Santa Fe River Commission Meeting Index May 12, 2016

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Adjourn	There being no further business to come before the Santa Fe River Commission Ms. Hansen moved to adjourn at 7:59 p.m. with a second from Ms. Doremus which passed by voice vote.	5
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# Santa Fe River Commission Meeting Minutes-May 12, 2016 500 Market Street Santa Fe, New Mexico 6:00-8:00 p.m.

### Call to Order

Mr. Phil Bove, Vice Chair called the meeting of the Santa Fe River Commission to order at 6:02 p.m. at 500 Market Station, Santa Fe, NM. A quorum was established by roll call.

#### 1. Roll Call

### Present

Phil Bové, Vice Chair Jerry Jacobi F.M. Patorni Luke Pierpont Anna Hansen Zoe Isaacson Dale Doremus

### Not Present/Excused

Emile Sawyer John R. Buchser, Chair

#### **Others Present**

Melissa McDonald, Santa Fe River Watershed Coordinator, City of Santa Fe Staff Andy Otto, Santa Fe Watershed Association Alan Hook, Santa Fe Water Division Linda Vigil, Stenographer

# 2. Approval of the Agenda

<u>MOTION:</u> Ms. Isaacson moved to approve the agenda as presented with a second from Mr. Pierpont which passed by voice vote.

### 3. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES FROM April 14, 2016

Ms. McDonald explained that the Clerk's Office was behind on minutes so she was unable to send the minutes for review ahead of time. It was decided to approve the minutes at the next meeting.

Ms. McDonald presented changes to the stenographer before the meeting. See below:

Page 2-strike last sentence The Parks department will help install those.

Page 3, Paragraph 4- Ms. McDonald stated it is not included and will be addressed.

Page 3 Paragraph 6-Mr. Coffman change to Mr. Kaufman

#### 4. COMMUNICATION FROM OTHER AGENCIES/COMMITTEES

a.) Informational Item: Living River Target Flow, Hydrograph Update 2016-2017

Mr. Hook discussed and presented the updated Hydrograph. (See Exhibit A) Mr. Hook reported that there will be a special event for the San Isidro Blessing of the River, the water will be raised to 7 CFS for that event. The Upper Canyon Treatment Plant is available and willing to help. By Monday it will be reduced to 3 CFS. Ms. McDonald states this request was accommodated because of the Historical aspect of it.

Mr. Hook reported that in previous years there was not enough flow, for the last few years there has been more. The next event when the water will need to be released at 7 CFS is the Fishing Derby on June 4th. The next event will be May 27 and will last until after the fishing derby.

Ms. Hansen thanked the Water Division on behalf of the Agua Fria Village Association. Mr. Hook suggested they thank Mr. Shiavo.

### 5. INFORMATION/DISCUSSION/ACTION:

# a.) Scorecards-FM Patorni

Mr. Patorni has researched information on scorecards and has found many cities use the system to get feedback on watershed management. (See Exhibits B-1 and B-2)

A discussion was held about the possibility of creating a subcommittee to get this done and approved by the Mayor. Mr. Patroni explained it could have good results or bad results.

Mr. Patorni explained the purpose of the Commission is to make recommendation and policies for water management. Ms. Isaacson agrees and states it can be useful to know what the community understands about water management.

Mr. Otto states a survey was done in 2013 on the management of the Watershed by Natures Conservatory, they collected interesting data. It was decided that Andy could bring the survey information to the next meeting.

Mr. Hook stated that a professional firm was hired to conduct the survey as part of forming the management plan. There was a phone survey and an interest group. There was great feedback and it was paid for entirely by the Natures Conservatory Group.

A discussion was held and it may be best to see what information was gathered from the survey. Ms. McDonald reviewed a slideshow on scorecards from the EPA she previously emailed it to Commissioners. Surveys take a lot of effort and funds, Ms. McDonald will look into getting a grant.

Ms. McDonald stated the Sustainable Santa Fe Commission is considering doing a poll and perhaps some questions can be related to water management. She will find out where they are in the process.

Mr. Bove states the public needs to be aware of the projects being done surrounded water. Ms. Hansen reported she has picked up on the public's awareness of water quality. Ms. Hanses explained the different pollutants that Santa Fe deals with.

Ms. McDonald will also get information on the arroyo assessment for a meeting in the future.

A brief discussion was held about forming a subcommittee for the scorecards or perhaps allowing it to fall under one already formed. It was decided to allow the Commission to review the findings of the survey then determine where it will fall.

# b.) Reports from Subcommittees

Watershed Revitalization-Emile Sawyer

Ms. Isaacson stated she and Mr. Sawyer have been working on the Species Resiliency project.

Ms. McDonald would like to show the group some drawings she has come up with for the Rain Gardens and designs for the slope. Perhaps she will bring those to the next meeting.

Promoting a Living River-John Buchser

Mr. Bove states the lease for the Acequia Madre School has gone to the Central Office for review and approval. Meanwhile, there are some neighboring properties who have signed leases.

A brief discussion was held about the Acequia de Analco that runs behind the San Miguel Mission.

Species Resiliency-Zoe Isaacson

Ms. Doremus reported there was a talk last weekend at the Garden Show by Mr. Kerry.

Mr. Kerry emailed a list of flowers and plants that return every year that are deep rooted and can withstand the winter. He also gave some names of flowering plants for patternating.

Ms. Doremus will send the list via email. Mr. Kerry also suggested the group take a trip to the Galisteo Creek to see what grows there, that creek is high in salt content.

Ms. Hanses\will bring a picture of a bush that grows in her yard that the bees love. It does not take a lot of water.

A brief discussion was held about native plants and those that are specific to pollenating.

A discussion was held about gathering lists of plants to give to the contractors. Ms. McDonald states when projects have to get cut, the first thing to get cut is the landscape budget. But it is always a good idea to have a list.

Ms. Bove discussed reseeding. Ms. McDonald states the best thing to do is mix grass seeds and wildflower seeds.

Ms. Isaacson discussed the alternatives to salt that she found through research. She found the City is using the best mix possible. There are other cities that use bi products but are high in chloride.

A discussion was held about the ways the City can use less of the mix and perhaps with new equipment it can reuse the excess material. Ms. McDonald recommended setting up a meeting with the City to discuss.

Outdoor Economy-Luke Pierpont

Mr. Pierpont reported the grant he wrote was awarded to put in 5 benches and bike racks along the river.

Ms. McDonald will bring the map with the 5 proposed locations for them to be placed. The grant was \$9,550. Mr. Otto states once the plans are in they will be presented to the Commission for approval.

6. MATTERS FROM COMMISSIONERS

Ms. Hansen reported she attended a meeting concerning the Parks Department using chemicals in the City Parks. The Parks have been chemical free for the last ten years. There is a concern for the Parks near the River if the contaminants reach the river.

Ms. McDonald will discuss with the director of Parks and the IPM Manager.

Mr. Jacobi discussed his concern with the trash in the River. He would like to educate the public on the issue. Mr. Bove discussed an incident where he witnessed a contractor who was told to dump buckets where tools were cleaned into the river. The matter is being addressed.

Mr. Bove discussed the process of building permits on the Acequia Madre that now require a letter from him. This has been in place for the last 10 years and worked well.

Ms. Isaacson asked if the Living River Fund can help pay someone to clean the river. Ms. McDonald stated the ordinance was for water quantity and quality.

A discussion was held about trash and the issues with it.

Ms. McDonald reminded the Commission that the media coordinator with the City, is willing to help with a PSA perhaps they can film one on trash.

Ms. McDonald reported that Mr. Pike was able to get the county to pay for trash racks in the river to collect the floatables. Also, the Water Division holds an annual Water Fiesta for the youth. There are presentations and games to help learn about water. Perhaps the Commission can come up with something to teach them about trash in the river.

A discussion was held about a green waste amnesty day and when that is. Ms. McDonald will find out.

# 7. MATTERS FROM SUBCOMMITEES

These matters were discussed earlier.

8. MATTERS FROM STAFF- 2016 Fishing Derby, Project Updates, Stormwater Resolution, etc.

Ms. McDonald reported the Fishing Derby is June 4th and all members are encouraged to attend and bring their families.

Ms. McDonald reported that all projects are moving along.

Ms. McDonald will present part of the Stormwater Resolution for those interested, she will email.

Ms. McDonald reviewed items for the next agenda.

# 9. SUBCOMMITTEE BREAKOUT SESSION (optional)

There was not time allotted for subcommittee breakout.

### 10. CITIZEN'S COMMUNICATION FROM THE FLOOR

Mr. Hook reported there is 685 feet left in the Living River for the year.

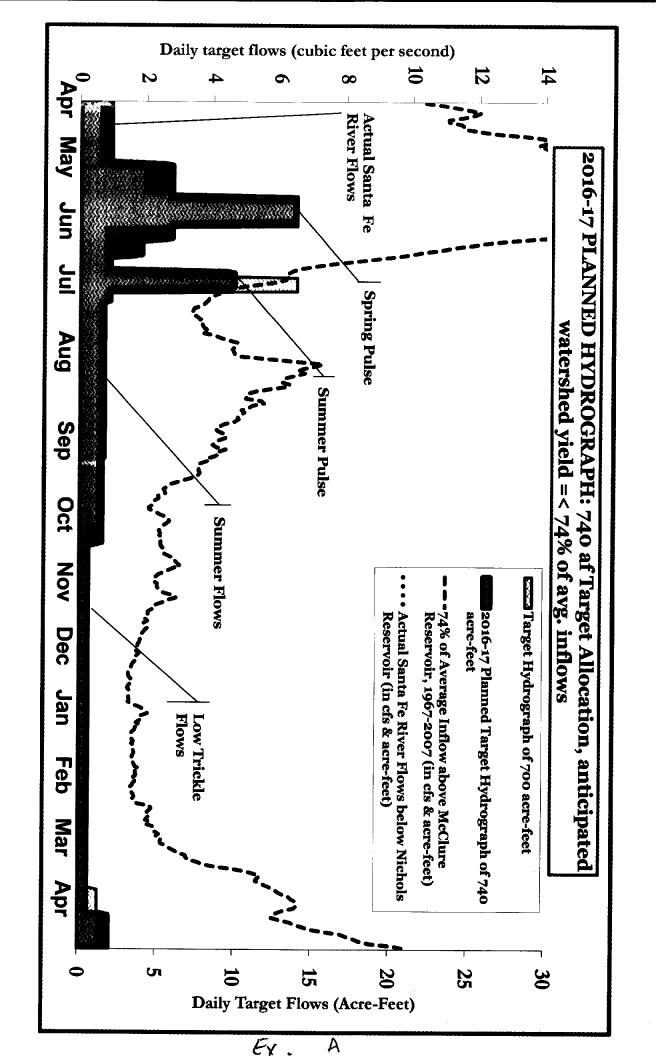
Mr. Hook also reported that the Buckman Diversion Plant will shut down for 2 weeks to repair the screens. This will begin May 29, 2016.

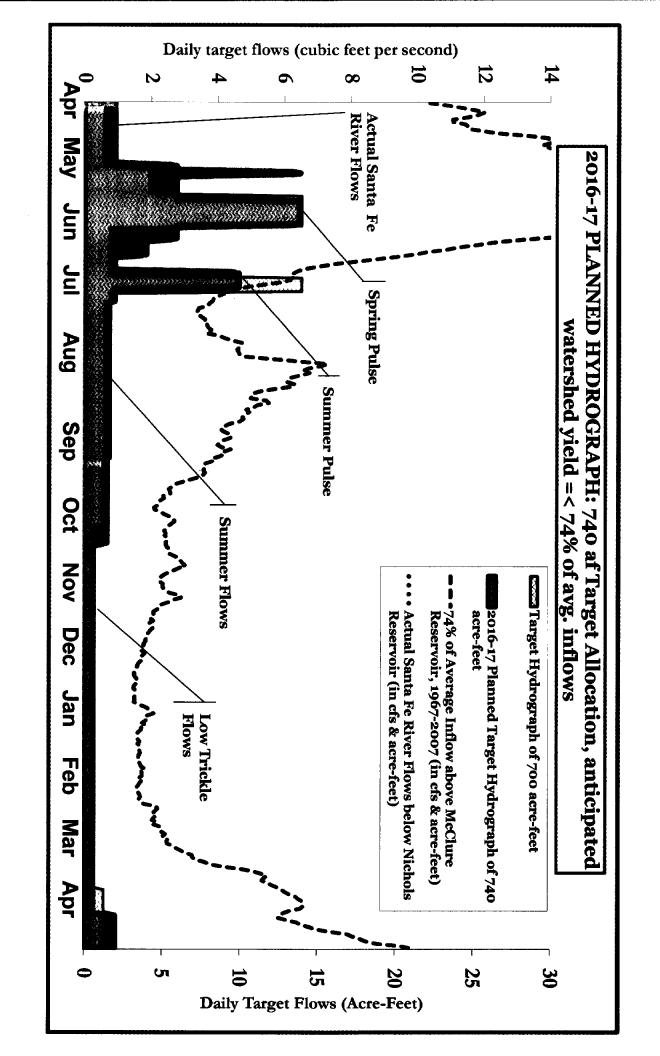
# 11. ADJOURN

<u>MOTION</u>: There being no further business to come before the Santa Fe River Commission Ms. Hansen moved to adjourn at 7:59 p.m. with a second from Ms. Doremus which passed by voice vote.

**SIGNATURES** 

Linda Vigil Stenographer





#### **SCORECARDS**

# Suggestions for discussion about scorecards at the Santa Fe River Commission

#### What are scorecards?

Scorecards are a tool to provide to help all stakeholders to (1) give feedback to the authorities on how they perceive the quality and effectiveness of the management of their watershed, and (2) to receive, in an easily understandable format, information that is needed for adaptive, responsive, and transparent watershed management.

Scorecards have been used productively in the U.S. and numerous other countries. Publicizing their results has led to a substantial improvement of many services run by public agencies as well as private or non-profit organizations. See EPA recommendations and examples later in this note.

Some scorecards can be designed and used without extensive research or additional expertise, particularly in simple watersheds such as the Santa Fe watershed.

### Issues for discussion at the River Commission:

Are there already some forms of scorecards used in Santa Fe City or County? Should we design a simplified scorecard for the Santa Fe watershed? If so, who/when would do it?

Should be River Commission be more involved in making policy recommendations (as contrasted with project matters along the river)?

#### Reasons to use scorecards

Across the country, communities have been asking for ways to analyze and rate the policies and regulations that determine their development patterns. Various organizations and municipalities have developed scorecards to help communities assess policies and proposed development projects.

Most city and county planning issues involve water management: the SF River, land use planning and urban sprawl, water supply and sanitation, safety (fires, floods and drought), long-term sustainability, etc. Therefore water policy recommendations should be formulated in an integrated manner at the watershed level.

According to local newspapers, there is discontent among the population about how the City (and the County) manage water.

Scorecards could provide feedback to the authorities on how the public perceives their performance and identify priorities, and improve water management practices.

### Reasons for not using scorecards

The main reason for shying away from using scorecards is that they could be politically sensitive, because they might expose weaknesses in water governance and chart a bumpy road to progress.

Other reasons might be of bureaucratic nature, such as the fragmentation and isolation of the various City commissions.

#### References

EPA has collected and organized this set of sample scorecards. See at <a href="http://www.epa.gov/smartgrowth/smart-growth-scorecards">http://www.epa.gov/smartgrowth/smart-growth-scorecards</a>

Below are two example or scorecards which could be simplified and re-focused on water issues for use in Santa Fe:

The Vermont "smart growth" Scorecard surveys urban sprawl and most other quality of life aspects.

http://www.epa.gov/sites/production/files/2014-02/documents/vtscorecardytfonsprawl 0.pdf

The Colorado "smart growth" Scorecard is similar to the Vermont card but not identical. http://www.epa.gov/sites/production/files/2014-02/documents/colorado\_scorecard.pdf

### XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX

To show the format, for instance from the Vermont Scorecard:



Promote healthy communities by directing business and housing development toward compact, mixed-use centers, at a scale of growth that fits the community and the region.

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Look at audid photos

A.	. How visible is the edge of your town center (or centers, if your municipality has more than	onej?
	It is clearly visible.	. ;
	The edge of the town center is still recognizable, but it has begun to blend with outlying development.	. O (
	There is no distinction between the town center and outlying development	
8.	. Where is most commercial and industrial growth occurring?	
	Within the town center	
	Both in and outside the town center	
	Outside the town center, in strip patterns and/or large lots	••
C.	. Where is most new residential growth occurring?	
	Mostly within the town center	
	Partly within the town center and partly in outlying areas, often in clustered developments	:
	Mostly in areas outside the town center, on large lots	. ".
D.	. Where are your town's public buildings, and where are they planned?	
	Most existing and planned public buildings are in the town center.	. 75
	Most existing public buildings are in the town center, but some planned buildings are outside	
	Most existing and planned public buildings are outside the town center.	

**Topic: Scorecards** 

Presenter: François-Marie Patorni, 505-984-9125, www.newmexicofrenchhistory.com

Meeting: May 12, 2016

Below are some thoughts about Scorecards, with suggestions for discussion at the end.

#### **Purpose – Scorecards and Scoresheets**

The purpose of Scorecards is to provide to all stakeholders, in an easily understandable format, information that is needed for adaptive, responsive, and transparent watershed management. They are not intended to help detailed planning or precisely guide interventions in the watershed. "Scorecard" refers to the cards used to collect information, Scorecards normally result in an easy to read "scoresheet"

#### Scorecards to be simple

Given that (1) the Santa Fe Watershed is relatively simple (practically no irrigation, to thermal or hydropower, no industries using or polluting the water, no substantial sub-watershed, and actually little water), and that (2) the Santa Fe River Commission has limited resources, Scorecards should be kept simple. Their preparation should not require extensive surveys or technological support.

#### Examples

Scorecards have been used productively in the U.S., India, Brazil, and numerous other places. Publicizing their results led to a substantial improvement of many services run by public agencies as well as by private or non-profit organizations.

The EPA has collected and organized a set of sample scorecards. See at <a href="http://www.epa.gov/smartgrowth/smart-growth-scorecards">http://www.epa.gov/smartgrowth/smart-growth-scorecards</a>
EPA examples of Municipal Scorecards are here: <a href="http://www.epa.gov/smartgrowth/smart-growth-scorecards">http://www.epa.gov/smartgrowth/smart-growth-scorecards</a>
Scorecards Level Scorecards

The Vermont "smart growth" Scorecard surveys urban sprawl and most other quality of life aspects, it could be simplified for use in Santa Fe:

http://www.epa.gov/sites/production/files/2014-02/documents/vtscorecardvtfonsprawl 0.pdf

The Colorado "smart growth" Scorecard is similar to the Vermont card but not identical. http://www.epa.gov/sites/production/files/2014-02/documents/colorado scorecard.pdf

New Jersey Future has a set of scorecards organized by topics in clear attractive formats. This could provide interesting templates, but there is not much on water. http://www.nifuture.org/smart-growth-101/your-town/

EcoCity Cleveland focuses on neighborhoods. http://www.epa.gov/sites/production/files/2014-02/documents/ecocitycleveland.pdf

There are many other Scorecards on the EPA website.

Suggestions for discussion at the Santa Fe River Commission

Should we design a simplified Scorecard for the Santa Fe watershed?

If so, who/when to do it? Perhaps through a public forum.

Are there already some forms of Scorecards used in Santa Fe City or County?

#### **Species Resiliency**

Issue: Promoting species resilency as climate change alters local ecology

Strategic Goal	Improve species resiliency along the Santa Fe River Corridor by encouraging the use of rain gardens		
Objectives	Enhance the presence of adapatble, climate change resistent native species by implementing rain gardens, while working to limit the establishment of exotic species. Native species should serve to help buffer the river corridor against climate change while providing a diverse selection for local pollinator species.		
Tasks	PHASE 1:		
	·Create a collaboration with rain garden experts with the city and representatives to identify ways the SFRC can help with the development and implementation of rain gardens.		
	Develop task list with rain garden developers to ensure the species resiliency group helps in an efficent manner		
	<ul> <li>Promote introduction of drought tolerant and native flowering species to rain gardens</li> <li>Work with Watershed Revitalization Committee to identify areas of ideal rain garden locations</li> </ul>		
	Research snow and ice removal protocals to work with city managers in finding alternative de-icers to		
	reduce salts specifically along W. Alameda  • Educate community members on importance of rain gardens and native species		
Members	Emile Sawyer, Dale Doremus, Zoe Isaacson		
Notes	N/A		
Reference Material	· City and County GIS and Water Consumption Data		
	Santa Fe County BISON Species of Concern Report		
	· Santa Fe Watershed Association Adapatation Report		
	· Santa Fe Basin Reports and Studies		
	· Santa Fe River Watershed Restoration Action Strategy (WRAS), Paige 2002		
	· Lower Santa Fe River: A Study in Contrasts, Skowran 2015		
	Michigan.gov (Emerging Technologies in Winter Road Maintenance (2006))		
Fiscal Impact	TBD		

#### <u>Update</u>:

Zoe Isaacson is researching alternatives to salt in winter road maintenance to help improve salinity levels along the West Alameda Corridor. She will report her findings at next meeting

Zoe reviewed seeding and planting list to be used in the W. Alameda Rain Garden and provided Andy Otto of the Watershed Association a list of additional species to consider. Dale contacted Steve Cary and requested he review the list and advise SRG on reliable pollinator species.

SRG continues seeking non-commissioned committee members

SRG will continue to explore ways to increase community interest and awareness of challenges facing Santa Fe River Corridor,