



Village of Cuba

PO Box 426
Cuba, NM 87013
575.289.3758

Mayor

Denny Herrera

Mayor Pro Tem

Gilbert Dominguez

Council Members

Rebecca Salazar

Kyle Sandoval

Monica Olivas

Administrative Offices

Village of Cuba
Regular Council Meeting
Wednesday, April 29, 2026
214 SR 197, Fire Station
Cuba, New Mexico

MINUTES

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 6:14 p.m.

Pledge of Allegiance was recited**Roll Call by Ms. Jacquez**

Mayor Herrera-Present

Mayor Pro Tem Dominguez-Present

Council Member Salazar-Present

Council Member Sandoval-Present

Council Member Olivas -Not Present

Approval of Agenda

Council Member Sandoval makes a Motion

Council Member Salazar Seconds

Public Comment Two Minute Limit:

Aj Pacheco: "With the Nacimientto community foundation Just a reminder to the Village and everyone in attendance since we've organized a trash clean update Saturday, May 2nd. So, to re-invite everyone if you already have it or you're not already planning on attending please join us. Still collecting donations for waters and snacks, trash bags for volunteers and also looking for folks to potentially hand out waters even if you don't feel like picking up trash we'll find a place to use you and then the County Commissioner Jones was kind enough to donate the dumpsters that we're using for the cleanup day. We don't anticipate that we'll fill them up. So, if the Village has anything that needs to dispose of or the fire department. The Police Department please use those dumpsters. They'll be there for a couple of days and a good opportunity to get rid of some stuff for free.'

Member of the public: "Where are they going to be at?"



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Aj Pacheco: "They're going to be at the Eichwald Center. I need to touch base with those leadership about where specifically because as I understand there's also a cornhole tournament happening to that day and I don't want to be..."

Mayor Hererra: "I think if you put it out there by the baseball field on the on that side, you'll be fine cuz there's a cement crossing there for them to get them over when they go over the walking path. Yeah."

Member of the public: "How big are the dumpsters?"

Aj Pacheco: "They're the 40 yard."

Member of the public: "The big ones?"

Aj Pacheco: "Yeah, Yeah, the big ones."

Mayor Hererra: "And you're going to coordinate with Austin, correct?"

Aj Pacheco: "That's right, yes."

Member of the public: "What are the hours for that cleanup day?"

Aj Pacheco: "9:00 AM to 1:00 PM some of us may stay later depending on if we find a problem area or whatnot, but that's kind of the way, yes."

Member of the public: "On the 2nd?"

Aj Pacheco: "On Saturday the 2nd."

Council Member Sandoval: "You're planning with him on the tractor?"

Mayor Hererra: "Yeah."

Council Member Sandoval: "OK."

Aj Pacheco: "That's all I had. Thank you."

Mayor Hererra: "Any other comment?"

Matt Gerkin: "My name is Matt Gerkin, and I live out on the other side of the Village out by Brenda Sears in that area by the road to La Jara I just, this is my first time coming to the meeting. I just wanted to introduce myself and tell you how much I enjoyed being in the area. I started coming up here when I was about eighteen, I have friends who do chilis and have a place up in dear lake. I'm grateful to be a member of the community and I, I'm hoping to become a part of it and contribute to things like this trash cleanup day. Hopefully as I've gotten a little older, I'll actually be able to spend a little more time at my house instead of in Albuquerque working. Grateful to be here, thank you."

Mayor Hererra: "Welcome to Cuba."

Council Member Salazar: "Welcome."

Unknown Female: "We are taking applications for the fire department."

Matt Gerkin: "I'm a sixty-year-old broken bodied man."

Mayor Hererra: Any other public comment?



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Council Member Sandoval: “So, uh, speaking as a community member, Cuba Health Hustle We're starting to brainstorm and put together something for the 4th of July. Since it is the does fall on the Saturday the 25th, we're hoping that we can make it an all-day event at the Eichwald Center. We've already tied in with the Cuba Police Department; we will tie in with the fire department and just kind of give an idea of like what we're thinking of and see if you guys would be able to like if you could delegate some of this stuff to you guys. So, if there's anybody that wants that has anything in mind, we're thinking of trying to put on like a kickball tournament, maybe see if we can get some horseshoe tournaments going. Just I'm already working on trying to get some food trucks to come in, so just hopefully make it an all-day thing. And we're also going to work on the doing the Light Your Own Firework show for that night. So, I'm going to work on going around the businesses and seeing who would be willing to help out with that as well. And AJ, we're going to be donating a bunch of trash bags also so.”

Aj Pacheco: “Thank you.”

Mayor Hererra: “Next item on the agenda item number 6, 7 and 8, we're going to table to the next meeting because we do not have the minutes. So, we'll move on to item number 9, Discussion, Consideration, Action of the approval oh, let's have a vote.”

Council Member Salazar makes a motion.

Council Member Sandoval Seconds.

Mayor Hererra: “Any discussion on this matter? Roll call vote Mrs. Jacquez.”

Mrs. Jacquez: Uh, Mayor Pro Tem Dominguez-Yes

Council Member Sandoval-Yes

Council Member Salazar-Yes

Motion carries

Mayor Herrera: “Next Item is the Discussion, Consideration, and Action on the approval of the minutes for the Special Council meeting held on April 16, 2026.”

Council Member Sandoval makes a Motion

Council Member Salazar Seconds

Mayor Hererra: “Any discussion from the Council on this matter? No further discussion, roll call vote Mrs. Jacquez.”

Mayor pro-Tem Dominquez-Yes

Council Member Sandoval-Yes



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Council Member Salazar-Yes

Motion carries

Mayor Herrera: "Next item is the Discussion, Consideration and Action of the approval of the monthly warrants for the Village of Cuba for the month of February 2026."

Council Member Salazar makes a Motion.

Council Member Sandoval Seconds

Mayor Hererra: "Any discussion from the Council on this matter?"

Council Member Sandoval: "When did Ms. Buttry?"

Council Member Salazar: "This is nine"

Council Member Sandoval: "Oh, this is nine, oh I thought we were one ten, sorry."

Mayor Herrera: "We are."

Council Member Sandoval: "We are on ten?"

Council Member Salazar: "No. OH, sorry."

Council Member Sandoval: "OK. So, when did Mrs. Buttry leave? Do you guys remember or Mrs. Jacquez do you know when Miss Buttry left?"

Council Member Salazar: "She left end of January."

Council Member Sandoval: "End of January. So as of February, there was still a charge on the credit card."

Chief Huckeby: "She left some time in February. I started on January 28th and I was still working with her sometime after January 28, so she left sometime probably in the middle of February."

Council Member Sandoval: "OK so, that makes sense."

Mayor Hererra: "Any further discussion from the Council on this matter?"

Council Member Sandoval: "Mrs. Linville, are you the one who put these together?"

Jeanette Linville: "Yes, Patricia and I worked together on it."

Council Member Sandoval: "This is very helpful, and the way the bank statements coincide with the warrants to where we can see we can see the check number and then go to the bank account..."

Jeanette Linville: "OK."



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Council Member Sandoval: “And see where you know, or see the check number or the bank account and then go to the warrant and then if they don't you know they don't match, then obviously there's questions to be asked but this is...”

Jeanette Linville: “So, this does work and it's, it's helpful?”

Council Member Sandoval: “Yeah, I think it's.”

Mayor Hererra: “Way better.”

Council Member Sandoval: “Yeah way better than what we had been getting in the past.”

Jeanette Linville: “Perfect, we'll continue with that.”

Council Member Salazar: “It would be a little more helpful if we could get it prior to a couple of days before the meeting to go over it, but I understand the situation.”

Jeanette Linville: “OK.”

Mayor Hererra: No further discussion on this matter from the Council, roll call vote Mrs. Jacquez.

Mayor Pro-Tem Dominquez-Yes

Council Member Sandoval-Yes

Council Member Salazar-Yes

Motion Carries

Mayor Hererra: “Next item is Discussion, Consideration and Action of the approval of the monthly warrant for the Village of Cuba for the month of March 2026.”

Council Member Sandoval made a Motion

Council Member Salazar Seconds

Mayor Hererra: “Any discussion from the Council on this matter?”

Council Member Salazar: “The Starlink Internet. Remind me, who went to Starlink? Is that housing? Did you go to Starlink?”

Rod Hererra: “I paid my own, you guys took it to the AMI.”

Mayor Hererra: “Yeah, the AMI that's Starlink.”

Council Member Salazar: “We did?”

Council Member Sandoval: Check 21160 South West Accounting.



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Jeanette Linville: "That's the audit."

Mayor Herrera: "The audit."

Council Member Sandoval: "That's the audit, OK. And then on that same page, one of the General Fund, Check number 21174, for 1,529 it says Frontline Outfitting 2021 Dodge D I'm assuming that's a Dodge Durango?"

Chief Huckeby: "Yes."

Council Member Sandoval: "Is there, if it's with you guys, wouldn't that come out of the LEPF?"

Chief Huckeby: "The LEPF will pay for vehicles, but it won't pay for internal components or repairs?"

Mayor Herrera: "That comes out of the general."

Council Member Sandoval: "That comes out of the general, OK."

Mayor Herrera: "And we're working on getting actual copies of checks to go with these also, that way you can look at that too, and you can match them up with the name that's on the paid."

Council Member Sandoval: "On some of these accounts like Uh, just for instance, like a Cube and water and sewer. Checks paid so it goes 5106, 5107, 5108 and then it jumps to 8229 and there's a notation saying gap in check sequence. Is there a reason why?"

Jeanette Linville: "That I don't know. Patricia would be able to answer that question, but I can't answer that."

Council Member Sandoval: OK. I'll have to ask her. Yeah, yeah. Like on this particular page, there's like 3 different astrics that note that there's a gap in the sequence. There's like two checks missing another two checks missing. And like, of course, that big jump from the 5000 to 8000.

Council Member Salazar: "That would be a question for Mrs. Martinez."

Jeanette Linville: "Council Member Sandoval if you could, on a piece of paper write down your questions for Patricia and I will get it to her."

Mayor Herrera: "Just write down the number and turn over the whole thing."

Council Member Sandoval: "Yeah."

Mayor Herrera: "Any further discussion from the Council on this matter? Roll call vote Mrs. Jacquez."

Mayor Por-Tem Dominquez-Yes

Council Member Sandoval-Yes

Council Member Salazar-Yes



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Motion Carries

Mayor Herrera: “Next Item on the agenda is the Discussion, Consideration, and Action for the approval of monthly warrant for the Cuba Housing Authority for the month of February 2026.”

Council Member Salazar makes a Motion

Council Member Sandoval Seconds

Mayor Hererra: “Any discussion from the Council on this matter? No further discussion from the council. Roll call vote Mrs. Jacquez.”

Mayor Pro-Tem Dominquez-Yes

Council Member Sandoval-Yes

Council Member Salazar-Yes

Motion Carries

Mayor Herrera: “Next item on the agenda is the Discussion, Consideration, and Action of the approval of the monthly warrants from Cuba Housing Authority for the month of March 2026.”

Council member Sandoval makes a Motion

Council Member Salazar Seconds

Mayor Hererra: “Any discussion from the Council on this matter?”

Council Member Sandoval: “Was there no security deposits on the for the last? Is that why there is an extra page? So, like on this one on this one for this month I have the Village of Cuba Housing Authority security deposit and then village of Cuba housing Steve Gurule housing development for the last months.”

Mayor Hererra: “On twelve you mean”?

Council Member Sandoval: “Yeah, twelve there's no security deposits”

Jeanette Linville: “That I don't know; that would be a question for Patricia.”

Council Member Sandoval: “Ok.”

Mayor Hererra: “So, number twelve no security, the ones that's missing the security deposit thing?”

Rod Herrera: “For what month?”

Council Member Salazar: “April.”



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Jeanette Linville: "It would be February."

Council Member Salazar: "Oh, the 28th yeah."

Council Member Sandoval: "Yeah, so that would be for February. There was no security deposit."

Mayor Hererra: "From the from the bank."

Rod Herrera: "The statement or whatever."

Council Member Sandoval: "Yeah."

Rod Herrera: "Pilar sends everything to "Inaudible: so, I don't know where it's coming from."

Mayor Hererra: "Any further discussion from the Council on this matter? Roll call vote Mrs. Jacquez."

Mayor Pro-Tem Dominquez-Yes

Council member Sandoval-Yes

Council Member Salazar-Yes

Motion Carries

Mayor Herrera: "Next item on the agenda is a Discussion, Consideration and Action of the approval Payroll Register for the Village of Cuba for pay period 4/4/26-4/17/26."

Council Member Sandoval makes a Motion

Council Member Salazar Seconds

Mayor Hererra: "Any discussion from the Council on this matter?"

Council Member Salazar: "Couple of officers had overtime?"

Chief Huckeby: "Yes."

Mayor Hererra: "Was that over time covered through the general fund or was it covered through some special funding?"

Chief Huckeby: "Some of that's going to be a vast majority of it is going to be through the special grants that we have. There's a little bit of it that comes in the general due to we have to pay that in regard to court appearances stuff like that."

Mayor Hererra: "Any further discussion with the Council on this matter? Roll call vote Mrs. Jacquez."

Mayor Pro-Tem Dominquez-Yes

Council Member Sandoval-Yes



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Council Member Salazar-Yes

Motion Carries

Mayor Herrera: “Next item on the agenda is Discussion, Consideration and Action of the approval Payroll Register for the Cuba Housing Authority pay for the period of 4/6 to 4/17/26.”

Council Member Sandoval makes a Motion

Council Member Salazar Seconds

Mayor Hererra: “Any discussion from the Council on this matter?” No further discussion. Roll call vote Mrs. Jacquez.”

Mayor Pro-tem Dominguez: “On this. I have a question for you on this pay stubs. Does anybody really record how much annual leave or what kind of leave employees have?”

Jeanette Linville: “I believe so.”

Council Member Sandoval: “Yeah, It shows on here.”

Mayor Herrera: “You mean on the actual pay stubs? Does yours have it Rod when you get your check? “

Rod Hererra: Yeah, but there's a glitch in their system; they're taking. They're taking the accruals, but they're not giving you accrued. So, every, every pay period I have to tell them, tell them you know, this is what we should be at because I keep a running track of how much accruals we have for sick or vacation, so there's a glitch in the system. But yeah, at the bottom, that says accrued It always say's zero. It says taken, they always take out but they never match up right. So, there is a glitch in their system, but it does show on the pay stub.

Mayor Hererra: “I know Mrs. Martinez is working on reconciling all the, make sure all the hours and stuff are correct. Any further discussion from the Council? Roll call vote Mrs. Jacquez.”

Mayor Pro-Tem Dominquez-Yes

Council Member Sandoval-Yes

Council Member Salazar-Yes

Motion Carries

Mayor Herrera: “Next item on the agenda is the Discussions Consideration, and Action of the approval of Resolution number VOC-04292026 of approving the State of New Mexico Annual Financial Audit for the Village for the Cuba of Cuba for Fiscal Year 2025.”

Council Member Salazar makes a Motion

Council Member Sandoval Seconds



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Mayor Hererra: “Any discussion from the council on this matter? No further discussion from the council. Roll call vote Mrs. Jacquez.”

Mayor Pro-Tem Dominquez-Yes

Council Member Sandoval-Yes

Council Member Salazar-Yes

Motion carries

Mayor Herrera: “Next Item is the Discussion, Consideration and Action of the approval of the Cuba Volunteer Fire Department Bylaws and Standard Operating Policy SOP Number V FD-2026 within the effective date of May 1st, 2026.”

Council Member Sandoval makes a Motion

Council Member Salazar Seconds

Mayor Hererra: “Any a discussion from the Council on this matter?”

Mayor Pro-tem Dominquez: “Maybe from the Chief.”

Chief Morales: “You know, we just put things in there. We have; we decided to put different how do I say this? We separated the EMS and the Fire, so now we have an EMS Chief and a Fire Chief, so that because having one person doing all of that work was too much. You know, the reports that either one of them have is horrendous sometimes so we separated that. We have just one assistant Chief and then we have different Captains and Lieutenants that just go for that certain types of rolls that are needed out there.”

Mayor Hererra: “And you pretty much just followed the whatever the state does on these types of situations for creating the SOP?”

Chief Morales: “Yes, exactly, we did. So, everything is in there that the way we wanted to put it. We also put a cap on our stipends of \$500 a month so that we wouldn't run out of money at the end of the fiscal year, and we would have to have money for that?”

Council Member Salazar: “So did their stipend then go up to \$20 now or it's still at \$15?”

Chief Morales: “It went up to \$20. Meetings are still \$20; trainings are up to \$50 for the one main training that we have and that's because of to get our ISO ratings up. We have to have a certain amount of training for everyone to be attending and that's how we're trying to get this into training because that's one of our main objective is getting that training.”

Mayor Hererra: “Any questions from the Council on this matter?”



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Council Member Sandoval: “The stipend is capped at \$500, but if somebody was very eager, wanted to keep going to the calls, they could they just wouldn’t get that stipend right?”

Chief Morales: “Right. And they are aware of that. I did let them know that you know we are capping it. If you still want to go, they can still go and it's fine, but we're not going to pay up over that \$500 because we had the last time that we were had the \$20, we had a little bit of abuse with that and we noted it and we've decided this is the way that you could make sure that that wouldn't happen again.”

Mayor Hererra: “And with that \$500 rate that'll be exactly what you'll use for your budget for the whole year.”

Chief Morales: “Mmmhum.”

Mayor Hererra: “Any further questions from the Council? Roll call vote Mrs. Jacquez.”

Mayor Pro-Tem Dominquez-Yes

Council Member Sandoval-Yes

Council Member Salazar-Yes

Motion Carries

Mayor Herrera: “Next item is the Discussion, Consideration and Action of the approval of the Memorandum of Understanding MOU with Sandoval County and the Village Cuba under which Cuba Village of Cuba Police Department personnel will be assigned to train with and deploy as members of Sandoval County Emergency Service Team EST.”

Council Member Sandoval makes a Motion

Council Member Salazar Seconds

Mayor Hererra: “Any discussion from the council on this matter?”

Mayor Pro-Tem Dominquez: I was going to ask the Chief, are you OK with that?”

Chief Huckleby: “Yes. So, this was worked out between me and the EST commander. So, this does not state that every member of the Cuba Police Department is going to be part of this so whoever wants to volunteer for it has to try out and pass qualifications and maintain a rigorous training program and they will train two times a month with the Sandoval County regional emergency services team.

Council Member Sandoval: “What is the EST?”

Chief Huckleby: “It is a very politically correct way of saying swat. So, with that Sandoval County will have one of our members to be part of that and also that gives them some extra training and experience. I've spent a lot of my time in career in swat in larger agencies, but that brings some experience for the officer to bring to the



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patrol section to maybe help make our officers safer actually conduct operations maybe a little bit more tactically and for safety reasons.”

Mayor Herrera: “Is our officer going to respond to out of obviously out of the city limits and stuff all the way into Bernalillo all of Sandoval County?”

Chief Huckaby: “They can, yes because they will be public protected with the MOU with Sandoval because they operating with them under that. So...”

Mayor Herrera: “That's for training and for response. So, you'll have some type of backup plan if one of the officers gets called there will be someone to fill his slot, correct?”

Chief Huckaby: “That's why I'm here also.”

Mayor Herrera: “OK.”

Council Member Salazar: “I just have a question. Have they been, I know that they're cross training with Sandoval or cross Commission with Sandoval. Have they been certified by the Sandoval County Sheriff?”

Chief Huckaby: “Yes, yes, everything's been certified. Everything's good to go.”

Council Member Salazar: “Som, all of them are certified?”

Chief Huckaby: “Yes, every one of our officers so far. So, everything's good.”

Council Member Salazar: “OK. Awesome.”

Mayor Herrera: “Any further discussion on this matter from the council? Roll call vote Mrs. Jacquez.”

Mayor Pro-Tem Dominquez-Yes

Council Member Sandoval-Yes

Council Member Salazar-Yes

Motion carries

Mayor Herrera: “Next item on the agenda is Discussion, Consideration, Action of the approval of the Memorandum of Understanding, MOU with Sandoval County and the Village of Cuba of which the Village will loan one 308 caliber rifle equipment to the County. This equipment is provided exclusively for official law enforcement operations, specialized tactical response or training purposes as authorized by the Sandoval County Sheriff's Office.”

Council Member Sandoval Makes a Motion

Council Member Salazar Seconds

Mayor Herrera: “Any discussion from the council on this matter? Chief if you would like to...”



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Chief Huckeby: “Yes, so the previous Chief administration purchased a series of 308 Barrett caliber rifles which were issued to the patrol officers due to not having a need for any of the officers to have those I seized those and now I'm trying to find any kind of function for those rifles or sell some of them so we can get some of that money back. So, after speaking with Lieutenant Brian Peters at the Sandoval County emergency service team, they have a sniper element within their team, and they can use this rifle for high-risk situations. So, this memorandum basically allows us to loan our item to them and part of the New Mexico Tort claims act section 41 through 4-1 if they utilize it, such as if they have to shoot somebody with it for lack of a better term they assume liability over that Tort claims act so that doesn't come back on the PD.”

Council Member Salazar: “They didn't wanna buy it?”

Chief Huckeby: “Uh, No trust me that's the first thing I tried to do. But there are some buyers for the others. We have two others rifles to sell. I just have hesitated to sell them until the audit, but there's some buyers such as Firearms license individuals in the Albuquerque area that would be willing to purchase those firearms so we can put some money back into the LEPP.”

Mayor Hererra: “And the issue with these firearms is there were sniper rifles we had nobody trained in our department for those, those rifles, correct?”

Chief Huckeby: “That's correct. Just for clarification right, I was part of a recon team in Afghanistan, and I used this rifle in Afghanistan so,

Council Member Salazar: “The Police Department didn't have use for them.”

Chief Huckeby: “No. Not for standard operations. For a SWAT team, yes, absolutely. For certain occasions not every occasion but not for standard operation use no.”

Council Member Sandoval: “The only thing I saw I guess maybe it's applied maybe I missed it, but uh so on the obligations second paragraph, any significant repairs or modifications must receive prior written approval from the village. So, we approve of those, but I, I just didn't see anything saying that the county would be paying for them.”

Chief Huckeby: “They would either be paying for it, or they actually have their own armors.”

Council Member Sandoval: “OK.”

Chief Huckeby: “So, they have their own armors, and they send their people to those trainings to be able to do that themselves.”

Council Member Sandoval: “So, like that's implied under this MOU, they're under, they know that.”

Chief Huckeby: “Basically once they have that rifle. It's theoretically theirs by ownership. We can nullify that by saying, hey, we want our rifle back and take it at any point, but while they're operating it you know it's under their responsibility.”



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Mayor Hererra: "And at that point if any modifications have been done the modifications become property of the village, if we ever got to that point, correct?"

Chief Huckeby: "That is correct."

Council Member Sandoval: "I just didn't, like I said, I didn't see it. new sheriff can come in and kind of throw something out of left field and Yeah."

Chief Huckeby: "Yes, I understand."

Mayor Hererra: "Any further discussion from the Council on this matter? Roll call vote Mrs. Jacquez."

Mayor Pro-Tem Dominquez-Yes

Council Member Sandoval-Yes

Council member Salazar-Yes.

Motion Carries

Mayor Herrera: "Next item on the agenda is the Discussion, Consideration and Action of the Approval of the Proposal to convert one Police Officer position to Sergeant."

Council Member Salazar makes a Motion

Council Member Sandoval Seconds

Mayor Hererra: "Any further discussion from the Council on this matter? Chief if you'd like to"

Chief Huckeby: "Of course. So, one of the reasons why we want to do this is so that we could have some more supervision in between myself and the officers, but also includes us being able to have a supervisor for whenever I'm not here. So, the intent is to make sure that our officers have supervisory staff there whenever I'm not here so that in case a supervisor's decision needs to be made that are frontline supervisor can make, we have one available. They would also take over some of the duties such as approving reports and things from a very professional level. While I maintain full control over administrative and some of the operations as well. And that's also does not come with a pay increase. I've already talked to the people inside of the PD right now who are interested and I assure I told them listen it comes with more responsibilities with the same pay. This is just converting one of the existing positions of officers we have into a Sergeant for additional supervising. As the PD grows and we gain more officers, hopefully in the future, this is going to become very necessary."

Council Member Salazar: "So, in the budget, will you get, um, a pay increase for them? Would you be adding that to your budget for next year?"

Chief Huckeby: "So, my plan for next year is right now, I've been working with the accountant and I worked the budget. So basically, one of the line items, we have a line item for police service other costs for 75,000. That money had not been used for the entire year, so we still had \$75,000 in that item. So, I shifted some of that



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Cuba, NM 87013
575.289.3758

Mayor

Denny Herrera

Mayor Pro Tem

Gilbert Dominguez

Council Members

Rebecca Salazar

Kyle Sandoval

Monica Olivas

Administrative Offices

money to French benefits and toward officer salaries along with a few other items such as overtime. I cut our overtime budget from \$110,000 to \$40,000 and that goes towards French benefits and officers' salaries so that should give us approximately 4 officer positions, three certified and one uncertified that we send to the Academy to where we can have additional officers out there on the street. Now when it comes to officers increased pay and everything there's, there's, going to be a law, a law enforcement recruitment fund that comes, or, retention fund that comes out now that is issued by the State and we will apply with that and what that does is it gives us the ability, depending on the officers years of service, to issue a retention bonus and they will get a certain amount of money from the State depending on the amount of years of service that they have had in total in law enforcement. Now with that if they accept that bonus, I will be generating it back in the states upon accepting this bonus you are obligated to stay at the PD for an additional 2 years, but if you should leave under that two years, you will pay back the rest of that bonus to the PD."

Council Member Salazar: "Go ahead and let the community know why you want more officers."

Chief Huckeby: "So, with, you know, do y'all mind if I stand up here. It's kinda hard to sit. So, with this, I think a lot of people understand that we have that water project coming for the budget \$11.7 million right now. That is going to bring some jobs, it's going to bring some extra revenue, and with that, I know that there's been companies outside of the State that are want to invest in low-income housing. Now with additional businesses, especially something as big as this project and the additional housing, what are we probably going to get more people, the community is going to grow and I'm just going to be very I'm going to be very honest with everybody as a concern of mine because I try to think at least three to five years ahead of time. My concern is that eventually we're going to grow. We're going to grow to where we're going to have 20,000 people, but we'll grow more and the PD's not going to be able to respond to calls effectively, and it's going to put community members in danger. So, I'm trying to prepare for the future. So that we can have at least two officers on per shift. Work 12 hours and that way we are 24/7 PD, and the community has Police presence in the community 24 hours a day. Now with that having two officers, none of my officers will be allowed to take off at the same time. They're already required to fill out a calendar which states their desired time for vacation, and they have to go ahead and prebook that. Now if somebody has that spot, they're shift partners not allowed to have it. Now if sick comes up, we have two officers out, well, you know what we got Sandoval County we also have me. So, it kind of comes with the territory."

Council Member Salazar: "And you're Sergeant."

Chief Huckeby: "Yes and the Sergeant, yes, Sergeant very important. So yes. So that is and that's also why I want this sergeant's position is because once that starts to grow. I'd like to think I'm decent at my job, but I'm, I'm not a miracle worker and eventually these duties will become too much for one person and that's when mistakes happen. So, I'm also trying to prevent any further, any kind of mistakes in the future which could cause us liability issues."

Council Member Salazar: "Thank you."

Mayor Hererra: "Roll Call vote Mrs. Jacquez."



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Mayor Pro-Tem Dominquez: "So, I was going to ask you, are you planning to have interviews or?"

Chief Huckeby: "Yes. So, we'll go with me. Patricia. Miss Linville here, a lot of us and Miss Salazar we've all worked with and the mayor, Kyle, everybody. You know what, everybody I haven't mentioned, I mentioned them. So y'all heard me. So, we did work with the hiring committee per the policy with the Village of Cuba. So, we have an established hiring procedure now with the Village which goes by policy, and we will do that with the PD as well. So that goes with the PD. So, there will be interviews, there will be background investigations, drug testing. If they are uncertified officer, they will be required to take a physical standards test so we know that they can pass the police Academy, psychological exam, drug exam, background investigation along with anybody that gets hired on the PD has to serve a year probationary period and that gives us the Village a chance to assess you are you are you the right fit for the village Now if that person ends up becoming a costing individual costing problems for the village and the community members and I'm not saying they're arresting people everybody's complaining, legitimate complaints. Then we can let him go. So yes, a full hiring procedure and interviews. Everything will take place in which any member of the council or the hiring committee "inaudible"

Council Member Salazar: "And you're going to go in house ,offer it in house first?"

Chief Huckeby: "Yeah. So, we're going to it's going to be offered anybody if anybody in the Village wants to apply, like I said, we will have three positions open for certified and then we're going to have one uncertified position. So that uncertified position is going to be offered to anybody that doesn't have a, a been to the police Academy yet. As long as they come prepared and ready to, you know, they don't have to be perfect. They just have to have integrity and shows us they have some kind of some kind of ethics. They will be given any kind of serious consideration."

Council Member Salazar: So, I was pertaining to the Sergeant position it's gonna go in house?"

Chief Huckeby: "Yeah, no, that's, that's in house completely. I'm sorry. Yes, the Sergeant is, uh, so I have five officers under me right now. It was offered to every one of them and I've had two show interest right now. So there will be an interview process for the sergeant's position and everything. And I read the policy manual today for the Village of Cuba and I think that is basically the same way as the hiring committee. And then it comes down to council approval over if they approve this individual being promoted to Sargent."

Mayor Hererra: "Back to what you were talking about before the other three positions."

Chief Huckeby: "Yes, sir."

Mayor Hererra: "On the third position, you were saying that you let somebody go to the Academy. What are you gonna do to try and recruit somebody within the community to fill that, that third spot?"

Chief Huckeby: "Will definitely be advertising it to the community, especially Facebook. I've been very active on it. So, anybody within the community welcome to apply. It is 21 and up. I would say I would go to the school and try to pick up any of these seniors, sadly we can't. But what I can do also is I can work with our PIO



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to help get the message out there. Put them up at some of the businesses and just do good old-fashioned community policing and talking and talking to people so.”

Mayor Herrera: “Ok. Any further discussion from the council on this matter? Roll call vote Mrs. Jacquez.”

Mayor Pro-Tem Dominquez-Yes.

Council Member Sandoval-Yes.

Council Member Salazar-Yes.

Motion Carries

Mayor Herrera: “Next item is the Discussion, Consideration Action of Resolution #VOC-04292026-1 A Resolution Authorizing the submittal of an application for the FY 2027 NMDOT Transportation Project Fund Program for the Village of Cuba main street Safety Improvement Project.”

Council Member Salazar makes a Motion

Council Member Sandoval Seconds

Mayor Herrera: “Any discussion from the Council on this matter?”

Mayor Pro-tem Dominquez: This is the grant you've been working on Mrs. Linville?

Jeanette Linville: “Yes. Yes, Sir. Yes, Sir. Mayor Pro-tem is actually the construction piece for the lighting project. We already have the funds to do the design, and this application will take that design and do construction. It'll put the lights in and, and all that. So that's what this is.”

Mayor Herrera: “And the construction of this end of it, is for the for the Dark Sky lights, for that.”

Jeanette Linville: It will include that piece in it. Yeah, we had a gentleman by the name of Buddy. Buddy, what's his last name? Huh? Yeah.”

Carey Beam: “Buddy the light guy.”

Jeanette Linville: “He presented to the mayor and I and myself. How would that work anyway? So, he told us he gave us a quote on, on the dark skies lighting. So, we just got that quote right?”

Mayor Herrera: “I didn't, yeah, I haven't seen it, no”

Jeanette Linville: “I, I looked at it today, and so we'll have to discuss that later. But this project will include the dark skies aspect of it.”

Mayor Herrera: “And we talk to him also about redesigning the actual light polls themselves, to, what this company does, they do just the lighting fixture that is itself to be dark sky compliant. But they have another,



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other companies they work with if we want to switch out the whole fixture, which I think we need to with the age of the ones that are here.”

Carey Beam: “Buddy Stephanauph.”

Mayor Herrera: “Stephanauph, I would have never guessed that one.”

Jeanette Linville: “It was at the tip of my tongue. Yeah right. Thank you, Carey.”

Mayor Herrera: “Any further discussion from the Council on this matter? Roll call vote Mrs. Jacquez.”

Mayor Pro-Tem Dominguez-Yes

Council Member Sandoval-Yes

Council Member Salazar-Yes

Mayor Herrera: “Next item on the agenda is Discussion, Consideration, and Action of Resolution #VLC-04292026-2 A Resolution Approving Participation in Transportation Project Fund Program Administered by the New Mexico Department of Transportation to Waive the match sharing of 5% for the Village of Cuba.”

Council Member Sandoval makes a Motion

Council Member Salazar Seconds

Mayor Herrera: “Any discussion from the council on this matter? And this is, this is the, the, the dollar amount for the lighting project correct Mrs. Linville?”

Jeanette Linville: “Yes.

Mayor Herrera: “And we're, we're asking for the, them to give us a 5% match waiver.”

Jeanette Linville: “And the figures are on the resolution. It's 5% of that two point some million. I should have kept the copy of the resolution with me, but this is the waiver piece. They awarded us the waiver for design piece. I think that was like 23,000. This was quite a bit more than this resolution will help us get that, waive get that 5% waive.

Mayor Herrera: “And I'll be going to the DOT in Grants. Is it..”

Jeanette Linville: On the 5th.”

Mayor Herrera: “On the 5th, to present the project to the, the board there for them to vote on it for funding and stuff.”

Jeanette Linville: “Yes sir.”

Mayor Herrera: “Any further discussion from the Council on this matter? Roll call vote Mrs. Jacquez.”



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Mayor Pro-Tem Dominquez-Yes

Council Member Sandoval-Yes

Council Member Salazar-Yes

Motion Carries

Mayor Herrera: “Next Item is the Discussion, Consideration, Action of Resolution #VOC-04292026-3 A Resolution Approving the submission of an application with the New Mexico Finance Authority for funding through Local Solar Access Fund and Authorizing Designating Officials to Execute all necessary documents.”

Council Sandoval makes a Motion

Council Member Salazar Seconds

Mayor Hererra: “Any discussion from the Council on this matter? You wanna discuss on this”?

Jeanette Linville: “This is actually tied into the, the desalinization project. So, what Aubry Howard the CEO of this is doing, He and I are cowriting this grant. Basically, we're going to be working with Jemez Electric and we're going to, he wants to make the fertilizer plant as green as possible, but he wants to put in a solar project to run, run the plant. And that's what this grant will do. It will provide all of the funds that we need to develop a solar I don't know Project or solar panels, everything that we would need to be able to run that fund.”

Mayor Hererra: “And we run our, our end of it off the water filterization plant of these same solar panels also too.”

Jeanette Linville: “So that's what this grant is, it's through the New Mexico Finance Authority.”

Mayor Hererra: “Any further discussion from the conflict doesn't matter? Roll call vote Mrs. Jacquez.”

Mayor Pro-Tem Dominquez-Yes

Council Member Sandoval-Yes

Council Member Salazar-Yes

Motion Carries

Mayor Herrera: “Next item is the review of the Municipal Court Report for the month of February and March 2026.”

Council Member Sandoval: “Does the court not give, I don't know if you guys would know, but do they not give community service as sentences anymore? for I don't know if it's a sentence, but.”

Mayor Hererra: “In lieu of fines, do you mean?”



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Administrative Offices

Council Member Sandoval: “Yeah. Because I would imagine that there's plenty of young kids that get pulled over within the community. I mean, not saying that I was a troublemaker, but I did a lot of community service.”

Mayor Herrera: “You got caught.”

Council Member Salazar: “You weren't sneaky enough.”

Mayor Herrera: I never did community service.

Council Member Sandoval: “As you go up 126 the fence on the South baseball field was done by...”

Council Member Salazar: “Kyle Sandoval.”

Council Member Sandoval: “Council Member Sandoval.”

Council Member Salazar: “So, as far as I know, they still do because I know Mr. Herrera from housing usually has a couple people working.”

Mayor Herrera: “Ohh, that's right. Doing service in the past you had people working there, They've had them working not even through the housing, but through the through the maintenance.”

Council Member Salazar: “Yes.”

Council Member Sandoval: “I just feel like that would be a mean being tied into court, with the municipal court be a good way to get little things within the village done that we need, you know, maintenance getting stuff raked up, getting stuff picked up.”

Mayor Herrera: “Low on labor, people if you'd like to call up on Mr. Mr.”

Council Member Sandoval: “Yeah, I'll reach out to, Judge.”

Mayor Herrera: “Next item is a brief update from Jeanette Linville of Stillwater Consulting.”

Jeanette Linville: “I'll make it very brief. So, we're working on finishing up the La loma tank, getting enough construction funds to actually construct the tank. Uh, so we had a meeting with U.S. Army Corp, and it looks like we're going to have to apply for more construction funds, so I'm going to do what's called an LOI, a letter of interest, and update it. So, we're trying to work through those details right now. We have the design piece almost completely done, and now we need to figure out how we're going to make the dollars we currently have for construction stretch. We don't know what's going to stretch. I took a, a training through DFA and it's a training on cost estimates and you use that training when you're gonna do your ICIP and these cost estimates incorporate cost of water lines, cost of tanks, costs of what wastewater, all kinds of infrastructure costs. And this year they, they advised us to put in our budget at least 70 percent Contingency cost increases. And so, I think we're gonna run into some shortfalls with our construction plans, but we're working on trying to get more funding for our La Loma tank. We're going to move forward with construction see how far our current fund goes. And then if we have to get more, we'll do.”



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Administrative Offices

Mayor Hererra: "Were you able to go, We'll be able to go out to bid and then as long as we use, uh, the construction phase, for usable construction correct that we do have.""

Jeanette Linville: Yeah, we got that definition the other day."

Council Member Salazar: "Remind me what the amount is before you send it out to bid."

Jeanette Linville: "We're at 1.3 right now."

Council Member Salazar: "But like any bids that we do?"

Council Member Sandoval: "60, I think."

Council Member Salazar: "Is it 60?"

Council Member Salazar: "60 before you have to go out for bids?"

Mayor Hererra: "Ohh, no, it's going out."

Jeanette Linville: "It's going out to RFP."

Council Member Salazar: "No, I know, but remind me what the

Mayor Hererra: "60."

Jeanette Linville: "60."

Council Member Salazar: "60 for any office."

Jeanette Linville: "For any kind of project."

Council Member Salazar: "OK, thank you."

Jeanette Linville: "Sure. Ohh, ok I go some more OK. I'm the one reporting. Uh, DOT grant, OK. So, we just talked about that, the grant for the construction of the, of the lighting and then the waiver request. So, we talked about that. We already talked about the local solar access fund. I just talked about that with in in getting that solar, the solar panels to run our desal project. The one thing I do want to let you guys know is that. So, we just received the grant agreement from the Strategic Water Supply, which is fund, they're the ones who funded the 11.7 almost the 12 million for our desalination project. So, one of the requirements for this grant agreement, I'm working closely with Aubrey Howard, the CEO of Newco. Deciphering this grant agreement, which is pretty robust, it's one of the most complex and difficult grant agreements that I've ever seen. So, we're working through it right now. So, we do have to adopt A resolution. The Village Council does. The only problem is, is that I got the, I got the resolution from Aubrey, too late to include it into this meeting. You have to have 72 hours in order to put it on the agenda, and I was only left with 48 hours, so I didn't want to jeopardize this resolution. We have to make sure we do it correctly. So, what I've done is called for a special meeting for May



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the Fourth, which is next Monday. On the OMA Open Meetings Act policies for special meeting, you have to advertise at least 72 hours before the meeting. So, Carrie, I sent you the

Carey Beam: "It's on website."

Jeanette Linville: "Is it OK? Will you check something for me? Would you make sure I put May the 4th and not April the 4th?"

Carey Beam: "I think we are good."

Jeanette Linville: "OK, because I downloaded some minutes has April 4th does it anyway, So she could correct that. But yeah."

Mayor Hererra: "And we just need to have this meeting. We need to get this resolution passed because we're on a deadline."

Jeanette Linville: "We're on a deadline so, I apologize."

Mayor Hererra: "For the application for the strategic water so..."

Jeanette Linville: "We're having to set another meeting, but this is absolutely crucial for us to get this grant agreement"

Mayor Pro-Tem Dominquez: "Can you change the date?"

Jeanette Linville: "Pardon me."

Mayor Pro-tem Dominquez: "Could you be possible change the date May 4th and 5th and, I won't be here."

Jeanette Linville: "As long as we have a quorum and all we're going to do is just..."

Mayor Hererra: "Just that. There's nothing else going be on the agenda.""

Jeanette Linville: Nothing else, It's just there's a special meeting that has that. If you prefer me to change the date and have that, we have to have it to Aubry by Thursday so we can sign this grant agreement. That's why I'm trying to rush it and get this done."

Council Member Salazar: "What is the time?"

Council Member Sandoval: "A quorum is 2, right?"

Council Member Salazar: "What would be the time?"

Jeanette Linville: "6:00"

Carey Beam: "It's correct on the website."

Jeanette Linville: "Ohh. Thank God. Thank you. Ohh, so I've already posted it Mayor Pro-Tem."



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Chief Huckeby: "Stop worrying so much."

Jeanette Linville: "Pardon me. Ohh.

Mayor Hererra: "Could Mr. Dominguez, call in to the meeting."

Jeanette Linville: "I don't think is that possible"

Council Member Salazar: "Yes"

Jeanette Linville: "it is. Mayor you can call in, Mayor Pro-Tem. And we can put you on speaker or have..."

Council Member Salazar: "We'll he be available to call."

Victoria Dominquez: "Yeah."

Council Member Salazar: "OK."

Jeanette Linville: "I'll talk to Patricia and make sure that the meeting is available for it. And I apologize, I know this is"

Council Member Salazar: "He's done it before."

Jeanette Linville: "He has, OK. I'm not sure about the policies Patricia usually does. And thank you for understanding what we need to get this grant agreement. We need to get this resolution done and adopted ASAP. And like I said, Aubry got it to me on I can't remember what day it was, and I went and I checked the policy and my gosh darn it, we missed it by 24 hours. But we have to comply with the Open Meetings Act, especially on this grant. So, to make sure that we did, that's when I set the meeting as soon as I could, which would be Monday at 6:00. And Mayor Pro-tem we will have you call in if that's ok."

Mayor Pro-Tem Dominquez: "I don't know if I'll be available, but."

Jeanette Linville: "I can get you a copy of the resolution as well."

Mayor Hererra: "I had a copy and it's already posted."

Jeanette Linville: "I'll make sure of it. So anyway, that's what that is and that's all I have. Any questions..."

Mayor Hererra: Next item, oh no I was already moving on. No other questions. Next item is a brief update from Police Department Chief Linda Morales.

Council Member Salazar: "You said Police."

Mayor Hererra: "Oh I said police?"

Chief Huckeby: "She can be the Chief."

Mayor Hererra: "Cuba Volunteer Fire Department."



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Linda Morales: “Yes, Thank You. So, we've already gone through nominations last month. So well, this month actually and this will be ready to get in all our officers on May 5th. That's our, our next meeting. So, we will have officers at that time. We're still waiting for whatever I need to do so that I can get the, going on that grant for the hydrants. That's really important and high on my list. I don't want to leave anything without having get at least started and getting it done.”

Council Member Salazar: “Are you helping her with that?”

Mayor Hererra: “you're working on the matching grant?”

Jeanette Linville: “Let's talk next week, because...”

Chief Morales: “OK.”

Jeanette Linville: “So, I can now that I got this all this other stuff done and and, I lets you and I sit down because I'm in contact with the gal from USDA because it's the fiscal agent for that match. the match piece USDA and what I need from her is. A document saying that, that they're going to provide the funding as soon as I get that you and I could sit down and work on the match grant.”

Chief Morales: “OK.”

Jeanette Linville: “And, and so if you and I can get together next week.”

Mayor Hererra: “I mean put it out to bid also, correct.”

Chief Morales: “That's my understanding that we were going to put it out for bid.”

Jeanette Linville: “Well, I'll get you the funding. You guys take care of the procurement. Yeah, I don't think I don't do the procurement.”

Mayor Hererra: “Well the procurement are Patricias.”

Chief Morales: “And that's about it. We're just trucking along.”

Mayor Hererra: “Next Item Brief update from the Cuba Police Department chief Huckaby.”

Chief Huckaby: “I said everything I was gonna say. Just want to let everybody know, uh, business watch program that the Cuba Police Department has put on is very successful so far. I appreciate the communities involvement in that also brings some community awareness for something that has just completed today, an investigation. So, if anybody comes into contact with Victorio Maestas, please use caution and contact Cuba police Department. She currently has multiple warrants out for her arrest for aggravated battery with a deadly weapon, interference with communication device and False imprisonment. We found probable cause that she slashing up a girl with a box cutter and hit her with a bat. So, she is considered armed dangerous. So, everybody's use caution. Thank you.”

Carey Beam: “Next business meeting.”



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Chief Huckeby: “So it's gonna be in June. So, I'll be putting out that information probably in May for the next business meeting.”

Carey Beam: “Thank you.”

Chief Huckeby: “Yes.”

Announcement Our next regular Council meeting is “scheduled for May 27th, 2026, at 6:00 PM. Thank you everybody for attending tonight.

Council Member Sandoval: “If I could just say a couple of things. Thank you. Thank you to Chief Morales, thank you to Chief Huckaby. Thank you, Carey. You guys have done, I think I don't know if it's, I mean there's always bashing on Facebook of the community, which you guys I think are doing awesome job. With Facebook letting people know and you know, working together like that. When we did uh, Cuba health hustle when we did our Easter egg hunt, Scramble thing, you guys all showed up, and I think it to me it shows and I appreciate you guys.”

Chief Morales: “Thank you.”

Chief Huckeby: “Thank you.”

Carey Beam: “Thank you, here here.”

Mayor Hererra: “So, thanks everybody. We're gonna be having an Executive Session so. Yeah. We will be entering the executive session at 7:19 PM.

Exiting the executive session 7:59 PM and no action taken.

Meeting Adjourned: 7:59 PM