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Danny M. Garrett Sr. – Interim
City Manager

City of Eunice



Candy Brito - City Clerk
Rocio Garcia - Finance Director

New Mexico

CITY MANAGER'S COMMENTS

Eunice City Council Update August 10, 2026

Golf Course Cleanup and Reconstruction

I met on-site with Justin Thompson of Xccelerated Construction Unlimited (XCU) to review the golf course property and develop a plan for the cleanup and forensic collection process. Jazden Paul, a crime scene technician working with the insurance company, will be flying in to assist with the forensic portion of the investigation.

Cleanup activities at the golf course are scheduled to begin Saturday, August 8. As part of that process, two golf carts will be extracted from the site and shipped for further analysis. Once the necessary evidence has been collected, the surrounding area will be cleaned.

At the same time, we are actively searching for a general contractor to assist with the next phase of the project, including the future construction of a new pro shop and cart sheds. I will continue to update the Council as we move from the investigation and cleanup phase into planning and reconstruction.

Lake Improvement Project

On Wednesday, August 12, Chalo and I are scheduled to meet with Ramirez and Sons at the lake to begin work associated with the lake improvement project. This phase will include development of the walking trail, kayak launch, floating dock, and solar lighting. We will be walking the project area and coordinating the initial construction activities to ensure the improvements move forward as planned.

New Fire Station Funding

Fire Chief Dudley, Billy Hobbs, and I recently met with Emily Hartshorn, Senior Legislative Assistant with the Office of Congressman Gabe Vasquez, (via Microsoft Teams) to discuss potential funding opportunities for the construction of a new fire station. This was our second meeting with Congressman Vasquez's staff regarding this project. Their office expressed confidence that there may be opportunities to assist the city in

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pursuing capital funding for the project. These discussions are ongoing, and we will continue working with their office to identify available funding sources and determine the appropriate next steps.

Police Interceptor Funding

During the same discussion, Ms. Hartshorn also provided an update regarding our request for funding for new police interceptor units. At this time, the request continues to progress favorably. We were advised that we should anticipate receiving final authorization or additional confirmation regarding the funding sometime around December.

Rodeo Arena Project

Over the next several weeks, I will begin focusing additional attention on the rodeo arena project. As part of that process, I intend to reach out to community stakeholders and individuals familiar with the arena and its operations to gather additional input. The goal will be to identify areas where improvements can be made and ensure that future plans for the facility reflect both the needs of the community and the long-term interests of the city (events).

Trash Truck Rental

We will be ending our rental service agreement for the currently rented trash truck at the end of this month. Chalo is coordinating the necessary preparations for the return of the vehicle. With our existing equipment operational, continuing the rental is no longer necessary, and terminating the agreement will eliminate that ongoing rental expense.

TPWR Water Pipeline Easement

Chalo and I recently met with Chad Hollier regarding a TPWR water pipeline easement that has been requested from the city. Our initial discussion identified several aspects of the proposed project that could potentially present beneficial opportunities for the city. We are scheduled to meet with Mr. Hollier in person within the next several days to walk the proposed project area and discuss the scope, easement requirements, and potential benefits in greater detail. Once that meeting has been completed and we have a clearer understanding of the proposal, I will report back to the Council with additional information.

Water Tank Restoration Project

The water tank restoration project in Hobbs continues to move forward and is progressing as expected. I will continue monitoring the project and will advise the Council of any significant developments or changes to the anticipated schedule.

Eunice Police Department Staffing

I am also pleased to report that we have a new police officer, Juan Reza, who will be joining the Eunice Police Department shortly. Officer Reza is currently completing his two-week notice with his present employer

and will begin with EPD following the completion of that obligation. His addition will further strengthen our staffing and operational capabilities within the Police Department.

URENCO 9/11 Community Project – MVD Building

As part of URENCO's 9/11 community service project, representatives from URENCO will be visiting the MVD building on August 11 with Deputy Chief Burleson. The purpose of the visit will be to assess the building and determine the materials, preparation, and other requirements necessary for URENCO to move forward with painting the facility as part of the project.

Administrative Staffing and IPRA Operations

IPRA compliance continues to be a significant administrative bottleneck within City operations. The volume of public records requests, combined with the time required to properly review, process, redact, and respond to those requests within statutory requirements, and legal counsel, continues to place considerable demands on our existing IPRA administrator.

Based on our current workload, there is a need for one additional IPRA Technician dedicated to assisting with public records requests and related administrative responsibilities. This position would help improve response times, maintain compliance requirements, and reduce the workload currently being absorbed by other administrative personnel.

Additionally, I have identified a need for an additional office staff position within the Finance Department. As we continue evaluating our internal processes and workload distribution, this position would provide needed support to improve *efficiency*, strengthen *internal controls*, and allow Finance staff to more effectively manage their primary responsibilities.

I will continue evaluating these staffing needs, including the associated budgetary impact, and will bring forward future recommendations to the Council for consideration as appropriate.

All department heads have been busy reviewing compliance and ensuring their staff attended city trainings. Overall, we have several projects moving forward simultaneously across the city. My focus continues to be on keeping these projects progressing, identifying outside funding opportunities whenever possible, controlling unnecessary expenses, and ensuring that the Council remains informed as projects move from planning into implementation. I will continue to provide updates as additional information becomes available.

Respectfully submitted,

D. Garrett

