STATE OF NEW MEXICO
Harold Runnels Building, 1190 St. Francis Drive
Santa Fe, New Mexico 87505

MEETING MINUTES
MEETING OF THE UTILITY OPERATORS CERTIFICATION ADVISORY BOARD
October 9, 2025

Present:	Cathie Eisen, Chair Maria Gilvarry, Vice Chair Bobby Towle Sydney Hoke Michael Alvidrez Ivan "Mike" Abell Jennifer Cortez
Absent:	Craig Byers Rick Mitchell
Others present:	Pam Jones, Board Administrator Luis Lopez, Paralegal, Office of Public Facilitation Brian Bennon Joe Martinez Jason Martinez Robert George Susan Lucas Kamat

The Chair called the Board into order at 9:00 A.M.

Item 1. Roll call.

Action: Chair Eisen called the roll and a quorum was present. Guests were introduced.

Item 2. Approve October 9, 2025 agenda.

Action: The Board reviewed the October 9, 2025 meeting agenda. A motion was made by Member Abell, Member Towle seconded, and approved to accept the agenda as presented. The motion passed.

Item 3. Approval of the July 24, 2025 regular meeting minutes.

Action: The Board reviewed the July 24, 2025 meeting minutes. A motion was made by Member Towle, Member Alvidrez seconded, and approved to accept the minutes. The motion passed.

Item 4. Public Comment.

Action: There was no public comment.

Item 5. **Welcome New Advisory Board Member – Jennifer Cortez**

Action: Chair Eisen welcomed Jennifer Cortez to the Utility Operators Certification Advisory Board.

Item 6. **Discussion of Board Function and Framework**

Action: The Board discussed the role, responsibilities, and overall framework of the Advisory Board. Discussion included clarification of advisory versus decision-making authority, expectations for member participation, and the importance of maintaining consistency with adopted bylaws and procedures.

Item 7. **Drinking Water Bureau Update**

Action: Representatives from the Drinking Water Bureau provided an update on current activities and program matters. Topics discussed included staffing, program coordination with the Operator Certification Program, and ongoing regulatory priorities.

Item 8. **New Mexico Water and Wastewater Association Update**

Action: A representative from the New Mexico Water and Wastewater Association was called upon by the Chair and no one was present.

Item 9. **NM Surface Water Quality Bureau – Point Source Pollution Program Update**

Action: Representatives from the Surface Water Quality Bureau provided an update on Point Source Pollution Program activities, including regulatory developments and coordination with certified operators.

Item 10. **NM Ground Water Quality Bureau – Domestic Waste Team Update**

Action: A representative from the Ground Water Quality Bureau Domestic Waste Team was called upon by the Chair and no one was present.

Item 11. **NM Operator Certification Program Update**

Action: The Operator Certification Program Manager provided an update on certification activities, examinations, renewals, staffing, and ongoing program improvements. Board members asked clarifying questions and discussed operator outreach and support.

Item 12. **Other Business (Including Next Meeting Date)**

Action: The Board discussed other business. The next meeting date was discussed and will be scheduled for January 22, 2026. A motion was made by Vice Chair Gilvarry to hold the next meeting on January 22, 2026, Member Abell seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Item 13. Adjournment

Action: The Chair adjourned the meeting by roll call vote. The meeting adjourned at approximately 11:13 A.M.

Cathie R Eisen
Board signature

1/22/2026
Date