

Jesus Ruiz
Mayor

Rene Rodriguez
At Large

Sergio Cox
District 1



Gloria M. Rodriguez
District 2

Victor Perez
District 3 / Mayor-Pro Tem

Joseph E. Bowling
District 4

Willie Norfleet, Jr.
City Manager

**SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
JUNE 18, 2014 at 5:00 P.M.**

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Mayor Jesus Ruiz
Rene Rodriguez
Joseph E. Bowling
Sergio Cox

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Victor Perez
Gloria M. Rodriguez

STAFF PRESENT:

Willie Norfleet, Jr., City Manager
David Mirazo, City Attorney
Olivia Navarro, Assistant City Clerk
Sam Leony, Planning and Zoning Director
Doug Lobdell, Public Works Director
Anibal Olague, Grants Director

1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at: 5:01 p.m.

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE AND A MOMENT OF SILENCE

Pledge of Allegiance was led by Mayor Jesus Ruiz

3. ESTABLISHMENT OF QUORUM

A roll call was held and a quorum was established with four members present.

4. PUBLIC COMMENT

No speakers for Public Comment.

**5. DISCUSSION AND ACTION IMPLEMENTING A FLOOD CONTROL PLAN.
MAYOR JESUS RUIZ**

Presentation made by Willie Norfleet, see Exhibit "A."

No action on this item.

- 6. DISCUSSION AND ACTION ON ADVICE RECEIVED FROM CITY ATTORNEY IN CLOSED SESSION, AND ACTION TO APPROVE REAL ESTATE TRANSACTION; AUTHORIZE FILING OR SETTLEMENT OF LEGAL ACTION; AUTHORIZE EMPLOYMENT OF EXPERT WITNESSES AND CONSULTANTS, AND EMPLOYMENT OF SPECIAL COUNSEL WITH RESPECT TO PENDING LEGAL MATTERS. WILLIE NORFLEET, JR.**
- 7. DISCUSSION AND ACTION ON QUALIFICATIONS OF INDIVIDUALS FOR EMPLOYMENT AND FOR APPOINTMENT TO BOARDS & COMMISSIONS, JOB PERFORMANCE OF EMPLOYEES, REAL ESTATE ACQUISITION AND RECEIVE LEGAL ADVICE FROM CITY ATTORNEY REGARDING LEGAL ISSUES AFFECTING THESE MATTERS. WILLIE NORFLEET, JR.**
- 8. REGARDING PENDING LITIGATION AND RECEIVE STATUS REPORT REGARDING PENDING LITIGATION. WILLIE NORFLEET, JR.**

A motion was made by Rene Rodriguez seconded by Sergio Cox, to *delete items number six (6), seven (7), and eight (8)*. Motion passed.

Ayes: Rene Rodriguez, Joseph Bowling, and Sergio Cox

Nays:

Absent: Victor Perez and Gloria M. Rodriguez


9. ADJOURN

A motion was made by Rene Rodriguez seconded Joseph Bowling to *adjourn at 6:52 p.m.* Motion passed.

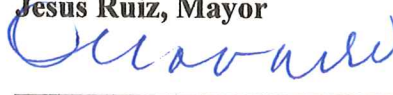
Ayes: Rene Rodriguez, Joseph Bowling, and Sergio Cox

Nays:

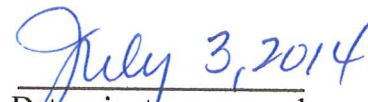
Absent: Victor Perez and Gloria M. Rodriguez



Jesus Ruiz, Mayor



Olivia Navarro
Assistant City Clerk



Date minutes approved

C

Exhibit "A"

Special mtg
June 18, 2014
@ 6pm

JUNE 18, 2014 at 6:00 P.M.
CITY OF SOCORRO
FLOOD PLAN

WHEN IT RAINS

When it rains for 1/2 hour, the Police Department will notify the Public Works Director, Public Works Supervisor, Planning and Zoning Director and City Manager to meet at Stockyard Road Arroyo, within 1 hour of the call to evaluate the potential water accumulation and flow.

The water flow from the first two culverts at I-10 will be reviewed. The water flow from the second covert needs to be flowing west to the bridge on Stockyard Road.

The berm on Rio Vista and Thunder Road will be the next area to review. A determination must be made of the berm, if it is going to fill up and/or breach.

If the berm is going to fill up and possible breach, preparations will be made to open the berm and allow the water to fill the empty lot at Rio Vista and Thunder Road. Before opening the berm, a barrier should be created across Thunder Road to direct the water flow from the berm to the empty lot.

Before the berm is open, Thunder Road will be closed off from Rio Vista Road and Horizon Blvd. The closing of Thunder Road will be the Police Department's duty.

Public Works Staff will review the Mesa Spur Drain going east of Rio Vista Road and across Horizon Blvd to determine if the water in the drain is flowing. The staff is to try to locate any obstruction by driving the length of the drain, if possible. If there appears to be any obstruction in the flow of water, the El Paso Water Irrigation District Number 1 will be notified to remove the obstruction.

A second Public Work Staff will review the Mesa Spur Drain in the Coker and Worsham area to determine if the water is flowing. If the water is not flowing, the El Paso County Water Irrigation District Number 1, Socorro Police Department, Parks Department, and Fire Department should be contacted. The Socorro Police Department, and Fire Department are to notify the residents on the north side of the drain to evacuate or to help them to evacuate. It will be the Police Department responsibility to evacuate the residents from that area.

The Parks Department is to open the Rio Vista Community Center so people can be transported there.

EVACUATION SITE

The Rio Vista Community Center, 860 Rio Vista Road will be the evacuation site.

People can be transported to the Rio Vista Community Center until a shelter is declared by the Red Cross.

The Border Patrol can be involved with the evacuation of people in the Coker and Worsham area, if necessary.

PUBLIC RELATION OFFICER

If a decision is made to open the berm or evacuate people, the Public Relation Officer will be notified of the situation. The Public Relation Officer needs to start notifying the press and the City Council of what is happening. Residents are to be notified of the situation.

EMERGENCY OPERATION CENTER

The City Council Chambers will become the Emergency Operation Center. The City Council Chambers will be open by the Parks Department.

SAND BAGS

The filled sand bags will be at the Socorro Recycling Center, 241 Old Hueco Tanks Road.

The Public Works Department is responsible for issuing out sand bags during and after heavy rains. This process should start after 2 hours of heavy rain. There should be at least two staff members issuing bags. The oldest bags shall be issued out first.

The City of Socorro shall maintain at least 2,000 sand bags filled at all time.

The City of Socorro will have at least 3,000 empty sand bags at all times.

The Volunteer Fire Fighters can assist with issuing and filling sand bags.

STREET REVIEW

There are several streets that needs to be reviewed each time it rains. Several streets are low and accumulate water. This list needs to be expanded each time there are requests made to remove water.

When the rain stops and when it is day light, the following streets are to be reviewed:

Nancy Road
Arlene Circle
Arlene Drive
Patty Jo Drive
Stedham Circle
Telop Road
Favila Road
Fray Vargas
Lisa Diana
Valley Ridge
Buford in front of Bulldog Champions Park
Horizon right of way north of the City Hall
Soya near Paradise Park

Alameda at the Distribution Center will need sand bags. This is a TxDOT Street.

Each time there is a heavy rain Nancy Road fills with sand. It will require the tractor to move the sand from the street.

With the liquid vacuum truck, water truck, street sweepers, and pumps with hoses start removing standing water from the streets and right of ways.

The parking lot on south side North Loop that serves the shopping plaza will fill with water. The owner will be notified by Code Enforcement to remove the water.

SHELTERS

The Red Cross is to be notified to declare and open up shelters.

After the shelters close there may be a need to provide additional housing, The Grant Administrator will be responsible for helping to coordinate housing.

To receive an apartment with the help of the Housing Acquisition Corp., a subsidiary of the Housing Authority of the City of El Paso. The Housing Acquisition Corp. will help financially qualifying families that are referred to it by the America Red Cross.

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT CENTER

If El Paso City and County declare the opening of the Emergency Management Center. The Mayor will be required to go to the Emergency Management Center. The address is 200 North Kanas, El Paso, Texas.

Emergency Management Coordinator of El Paso City and County Emergency Management phone number is 838-3263.

Mr. Ricard Gonzalez, Lieutenant, EMC Assistant Coordinator phone number is 838-3266. The cell number is 240-3172.

Mr. Steve Cordova, Ysleta Del Sur Pueblo, Emergency Management Planner phone number is 859-7913. The cell number is 487-5777.

DISASTER DECLARATION

Issuing a declaration of emergency allows The City to receive State and Federal assistance. To get funds from the Federal Government there must be \$25 million worth of damage to public property. To get funds from the State there must be \$2.8 million of damage to public property. This declaration allows the City to work on private streets like Coker, Worsham, Kennstrom and Fray Olguin for a 7 day period. The Mayor has 10 days of the incident to declare an emergency.

REASONS FOR DECLARING

A local disaster may be declared for any of the following reasons:
To exercise extraordinary powers; To formally implement provisions of emergency plans; To provide additional liability protection to government agencies and special or volunteer emergency workers; To formally request general assistance from the state and federal governments; and To activate preparedness, response, and recovery aspects of any and all applicable local emergency management plans.

EFFECTS OF DECLARING

Economic stabilization measures such as price, wage, and rent controls; Curfews; Commandeering of facilities, equipment, materials, etc; Controlling access to specific geographical areas; Issuing time warrants for the payment of the cost of any equipment, construction, or improvements; and Suspension of selected codes and ordinances.

DAMAGE ASSESSMENT

To receive federal and state grant, the City must have a damage assessment. The damage assessment starts the second day of when a storm ends. The Parks Department will provide an damage assessment of the buildings and the Public Works Department will provide an assessment of the Damage to the Streets. The Grant administrator, Chief Financial Officer, and Director of Planning and Zoning will be sure that the format is proper for reimbursements and grants.

Damages to private property should be reported to the City Clerk. The City Clerk will maintain the list of damages to private property.

AFTER THE STORM

The Parks Department will review the status of the various ponding area. Which ponding area are nearly filled? Which ponding areas can Public Works deposit water into, if need be? Ponds with standing water needs to be spayed for mosquitoes.

The streets are to be reviewed for potholes that developed because of the storm. The staff should document the problems.

The Public Works staff will repair the berms and move out debris.

The Public Works Department and Parks Department will clean the vacant lot at Rio Vista and Thunder Road.

The Public Works Department and Parks Department will fill sand bags until there are 2000 bags on hand.

The Public Works Department will order bags to maintain 3000 bags on hand.

The Public Works Department, Planning and Zoning Department and the Parks Department will proceed with damage assessment.

The City Manager will conduct a meeting with all departments involved to determine what went well or not and what adjustments has to be made to the Flood Plan.

The communication list must be updated.

A report will be prepared for the City Council concerning the Storm.

Two weeks after the storm, if sand bags were issued, volunteers will be organized to fill sand bags. This activity will be organized by the Public Relation Officer.

Quick Reference Sheet

If your home is uninhabitable, please do not stay in your home.
Call your insurance company to confirm your coverage, and document your damages.
For general information on available social services, dial 2-1-1
Emergency Issues, dial 9-1-1:

Emergency Shelter

Call the Red Cross 915- 592-0208 x223 or City Hall at 858-2915. For updated shelter information – Dial 2-1-1.

SANDBAG DISTRIBUTION SITES

East

Album Park

Corner of Wedgwood Drive and Lockerbie Ave. ([map](#))

Mon-Sun 2 – 8 pm

City of Socorro

Socorro Street Department

241 Old Hueco Tanks Road

Fabens Area

El Paso County

1331 N. Fabens

Sat until 7p.m.

Property Damage

Citizens are asked to report private property damages to the Red Cross at the Shelter or call 915- 592-0208 x223. In Socorro, also contact City Hall at 915-858-2916 to report damage.

Casework/Assistance

Red Cross caseworkers will be available at the Shelter between the hours of 9am and 6pm until it closes. After that, please call the Red Cross at 915-592-0208 x223.

Supplies for Clean-up

Mops, brooms and other bulk supplies, and guide books in English and Spanish, are available contact American Red Cross 915-592-0208 x226.

Property Clean up

Cleaning teams will be available soon. Staff will assess needs on a case-by-case basis. Contact Jim Conway, Texas Baptist Men – 915-252-5939, or txirishmen@iglide.net

Pumping water out of property: Please be advised that government entities are not authorized to go into private property (i.e. homes, businesses) to pump water out of a building. Government is only responsible for public rights of way and structures. Non-Governmental or Private organizations are able to perform this service for private property.

For helpful tips in selecting a contractor for this service, contact the Better Business Bureau – 915-577-0191 or elpaso.bbb.org.

Emergency Alerts

Sign up for emergency alerts at www.elpasotexas.gov, click on Emergency Preparedness.

Download free Red Cross apps to your smartphone at Google Play or the iTunes Store.

Basic Needs:

For basic needs, such as food, clothing, personal hygiene and other supplies – stop by the Shelter or contact one of the agencies providing assistance:

Red Cross at 915-592-0208 x223

Salvation Army 915-544-9811

St. Vincent de Paul 915-564-4357 or 915-872-8407 x3.

Safe and Well: People looking for missing loved ones can check at the Red Cross SAFE AND WELL site. www.redcross.org/safe-and-well

Donation and Volunteer Information:

American Red Cross: Monetary donations are requested; click, text, call or come by: Click www.redcross.org to make a secure online donation

Text RED CROSS to 90999 to make a \$10.00 contribution (added to your cell phone bill).

Call 1-800-733-2767 or 915-592-0208 x231

Come by the local American Red Cross at 3620 Admiral Street, El Paso, TX 79925.

We have a blue Goodwill bin outside the front door of our office for donations of clothing. We are not accepting any other goods at this time.

Volunteers: begin your application and orientation in Volunteer Connection at www.redcross.org/tx/el-paso/volunteer. Please call the office at 915-592-0208 x222 after you have completed your orientation so we can expedite your application.

Salvation Army:

Monetary donations: Please send to: Salvation Army, P.O. Box 10756, El Paso, TX 79905

To volunteer to help with client services, please call 915-544-9811

Accepting rebuilding supplies (i.e. dry wall, roofing shingles, clean-up supplies) only

Online donations: please go to www.salvationarmyelpaso.tx.org

Texas Baptist Men:

Monetary donations: please go online to www.texasbaptistmen.org, or email mickey.lenamon@texasbaptistmen.org for info

To volunteer to help with client services, please call 915-252-5939.

El Paso VOAD (Voluntary Organizations Active in Disaster) – Long-Term Recovery Assistance:

Please mail checks to El Paso VOAD, P.O. Box 972236, El Paso, TX 79997-2236

SAMPLE DISASTER DECLARATION
DECLARATION OF DISASTER

WHEREAS, the CITY OF SOCORRO on the (DAY) of (MONTH), (YEAR),
has suffered widespread or severe damage, injury, or loss of life or property
(or there is imminent threat of same) resulting from

(BRIEFLY DESCRIBE THE DISASTER SITUATION) And

WHEREAS, the MAYOR of CITY OF SOCORRO has determined that
extraordinary measures must be taken to alleviate the suffering of people
and to protect or rehabilitate property,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT PROCLAIMED BY THE MAYOR OF CITY OF
SOCORRO:

That a local state of disaster is hereby declared for CITY OF SOCORRO
pursuant to 418.108(a) of the Texas Government Code.

Pursuant to 418.108(b) of the Texas Government Code, the state of
disaster shall continue for a period of not more than seven days from the
date of this declaration unless continued or renewed by the CITY
COUNCIL OF CITY OF SOCORRO.

Pursuant to 418.018(c) of the Texas Government Code, this declaration of
a local state of disaster shall be given prompt and general publicity and
shall be filed promptly with the CITY CLERK.

Pursuant to 418.018(d) of the Texas Government Code this declaration of a
local state of disaster activates the CITY OF SOCORRO emergency
management plan.

That this proclamation shall take effect immediately from and after its
issuance.

ORDERED this (DAY) of (MONTH), (YEAR).

MAYOR