

## **RICO TOWN BOARD MEETING MINUTES**

Date: November 20, 2024  
Call to Order 7:00PM

**Trustees Present:** Mayor Nicole Pieterse  
Mayor Pro Tem Patrick Fallon  
Trustee Joe Dillsworth  
Trustee Benn Vernadakis  
Trustee Cristal Hibbard  
Trustee Chris Condon (zoom)

**Trustees Absent:**

**Staff Present.** Chauncey McCarthy, Anna Wolf (Zoom),

### **Approval of the Minutes**

Spelling error in October 15<sup>th</sup> meeting under managers' report.

#### **Motion**

To approve the minutes of October 7<sup>th</sup> an October 15<sup>th</sup> meeting with the correction.

**Moved by** Trustee Benn Vernadakis, seconded by Trustee Cristal Hibbard.

**Vote.** A roll call vote was taken and the motion was approved, 6-0.

### **Consent Agenda**

#### **Payment of the Bills**

##### **Motion**

To approve payment of the bills.

**Moved by** Mayor Nicole Pieterse, seconded by Trustee Benn Vernadakis.

**Vote.** A roll call vote was taken and the motion was approved, 6-0.

### **Public Comment:**

Skip Zeller: Rico land collaborative update on Town cleanup.

Nicole Pieterse give s reminder regarding the VCUP meeting at the Enterprise.

Pat Fallon recommends the existing board closes old business before the new Board is sworn in. Existing Board to address the second reading of Ordinance 2024-05 before swearing in the new Board members.

Chris Condon no longer on zoom.

Second reading of Ordinance 2024-05 an Ordinance of the Town of Rico, Colorado adopting the year 2025 Town budget; appropriating sums of money; and setting and certifying Town mill levies  
Town Manager Chauncey McCarthy gives Summary.  
Board has discussion.

Public comment was taken: Skip Zeller, Allyn Svoboda  
Board discussion was had on the public comment.

**Motion**

To approve Second reading of Ordinance 2024-05.

**Moved by** Trustee Benn Vernadakis, seconded by Trustee Cristal Hibbard.

**Vote.** A roll call vote was taken and the motion was approved, 5-0.  
Chris Condon not present to vote.

Swearing in of the new members of the Rico board of trustees

Mayor Nicole Pieterse swears in:

Trustee Gerrish Willis

Trustee Benn Vernadakis

Trustee Scott Poston

Trustee Cristal Hibbard

Mayor Patrick Fallon

Mayor Patrick Fallon thanked Nicole Pieterse for her service to Town.

**Trustees Present:**

Mayor Patrick Fallon

Trustee Joe Dillsworth

Trustee Benn Vernadakis

Trustee Cristal Hibbard

Trustee Gerrish Willis

Trustee Scott Poston

Trustee Chris Condon

**Trustees Absent:**

**Approval of the Agenda**

**Motion**

To approve the agenda with the change that Ordinance 2026-05 was already addressed by the old Board.

**Moved by** Trustee Cristal Hibbard, seconded by Trustee Benn Vernadakis

**Vote.** A roll call vote was taken and the motion was approved, 5-0.  
Chris Condon not present to vote.

**Action Items:**

Appointment of a Mayor Pro Tem

Mayor Patrick Fallon gives summary.

Interested Trustees are Benn Vernadakis and Trustee Cristal Hibbard.

Board has discussion.

**Motion**

Move to approve Cristal Hibbard as Mayor Pro Tem.

**Moved by** Trustee Gerrish Willis, seconded by Trustee Scott Poston.

**Vote.** A roll call vote was taken and the motion was approved, 5-0.  
Chris Condon not present to vote.

Approval of Dolores State Bank authorized check signers

Mayor Patrick Fallon gives summary.

Board had discussion.

**Motion**

Move to approve the following authorized check signers at Dolores State bank for all of the Town of Rico accounts Patrick Fallon, Benn Vernadakis, Cristal Hibbard, and Scott Poston. Also to remove from the list of authorized signers Nicole Pieterse and Brandy Randall.

**Moved by** Mayor Pro Tem Cristal Hibbard, seconded by Trustee Gerrish Willis.

**Vote.** A roll call vote was taken and the motion was approved, 6-0.

First reading of Ordinance 2024-06 an ordinance of the Town of Rico, Colorado extending the temporary moratorium on the acceptance of new land use applications for major or minor subdivisions, and residential or commercial planned unit developments

Town Manager Chauncey McCarthy gives summary.

Board of Trustees has discussion.

Trustee Chris Condon in person 7:40PM

Swearing in of Trustee Chris Condon

Mayor Patrick Fallon swears in Trustee Chris Condon.

Board has more discussion on first reading of Ordinance 2024-06

Public Comment: Skip Zeller.

**Motion**

Move to approve Ordinance 2024-06.

**Moved by** Trustee Benn Vernadakis, seconded by Trustee Cristal Hibbard.

**Vote.** A roll call vote was taken and the motion was approved, 6-0.

Consideration of participating as a consulting party and concurring in the memorandum of agreement for the proposed construction of 1.7 miles of new trail along the Rio Grande Southern Railroad right-of-way south of the Town of Rico

Mayor Patrick Fallon gives summary.

Nicole Pierse from the Trails alliance gives summary.

Board has discussion.

**Motion**

Move to approve as a consulting party and concurring in the memorandum of agreement for the proposed construction of 1.7 miles of new trail along the Rio Grande Southern Railroad right-of-way south of the Town of Rico.

**Moved by** Trustee Joe Dillsworth, seconded by Trustee Benn Vernadakis.

**Vote.** A roll call vote was taken and the motion was approved, 6-0.

## **Staff Report**

### Clerk's report:

New floors are complete in the Clerk's office.  
Clerk's conference recap.  
Preparing for closing 2024.

### Manager's report

CML packets distributed to new trustees. CML attendance for trustees.  
Staff can print resources for Board members.  
Dennis had his procedure, it went well. Still recovering.  
Substantial water leak was caught and back to normal usage.  
Town Manager will be out of the office for Thanksgiving week.  
CIRSA training to come to the Board early 2025

Mayor Patrick Fallon brings to the Board the resource that Town Staff is to Board members.

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## **Discussion Items**

### Town project updates


Town manager Chauncey McCarthy gives update  
Reviewing PNA for the water system. Working on an asset manager plan.  
Storm water management documents reconfigured with Board comments taken into consideration.  
Sewer system working on the environmental assessment.  
Parks project on hold until next spring. Skate Park project, accommodations for the crew is a high cost. The crew may come to the Town to get a special permit to stay in RVs during the build.  
Town shop update.  
Fiber project: Boring under the highway complete.  
Chauncey discusses ADA plan for the website.

## **Motion**

Move to adjourn.

**Moved by** Trustee Chris Condon, seconded by Trustee Benn Vernadakis.

**Vote.** A roll call vote was taken and the motion was approved, 6-0.



Anna Wolf  
Rico Town Clerk



Patrick Fallon  
Mayor