

Minutes of NM WARN Executive Committee Meeting 12-20-07

Attendees: Matt Holmes, NM Rural Water Association – matt@nmrwa.org
Jerry Lewis, NMED/DWB – jerome.lewis@state.nm.us
Evonne Gantz, NMDHSEM – evonne.gantz@state.nm.us
Erick Farley, City of Lovington – wastewater@valornet.com
Louis Martinez, ABCWUA – lmartinez@abcwua.org

1. Introduction of new Members of the Executive Committee
 - A. Evonne Gantz, Erick Farley and Louis Martinez
2. Gave brief overview of the WARN process and the NM WARN for the 3 new members of the Executive Committee.
2. Discussion of the NM IMA Act and how it affects the development of the NM WARN. Several potential discrepancies were discovered in the last meeting between the NM IMA Act and the state WARN templates we are considering.
 - A. The NMDHSEM will request that one of their lawyers review the NM IMA Act compared with the Utah, Florida and the model WARN agreements we are considering following.
 - B. The lawyer will be asked to evaluate the following:
 - 1) Whether or not there is a discrepancy or conflict between the NM IMA Act and the three WARN agreements;
 - 2) Whether or not NM water and wastewater utilities that are covered by the NM IMA Act would be able to join and participate in the NM WARN if we adopted one of the 3 WARN agreements.
 - 3) If there are conflicts between the NM law and these agreements, how can they be resolved?
 - 4) If conflicts are not resolvable, how to amend one of the 3 WARN agreements to be compliant with NM state law?
3. Brief discussion of the NM WARN website. At this point, we are not ready to address this issue. Various agencies (ABCWUA, NMRWA, NMDHSEM) are considering hosting and maintaining this website.
4. Jerry Lewis will represent the NM WARN at the AWWA sponsored WARN Chairperson Forum that will be held in Denver, Colorado Jan. 17 and 18, 2008. Hopefully he will bring back some useful ideas and information that will help us develop the NM WARN mutual aid agreement, website and policies.
5. Decided that the NM WARN chairperson should be nominated and selected by the NM WARN Steering Committee when it holds its initial meeting.
6. The next meeting of the NM WARN Executive Committee will be held on February 12 at 1:30 PM at the NMED offices at 5500 San Antonio Dr. NE in Albuquerque.

7. Homework for the next meeting
 - A. Familiarize ourselves with the Utah, Florida and model WARN agreements
 - B. Review the comparative WARN agreement spreadsheet that is being sent with these minutes. Please make any proposed changes, additions comments in “Track Changes”.

Acronyms

ABCWUA – Albuquerque-Bernalillo County Water Utility Authority
AWWA – American Water Works Association
CWS – Community Water Systems
EMAC – Emergency Management Assistance Compact (interstate mutual aid)
NM IMA Act – NM Intrastate Mutual Aid Act
NM IMAS – NM Intrastate Mutual Aid System
NM DPS – NM Department of Public Safety
NMED/DWB – NM Environment Department, Drinking Water Bureau
NMDHSEM – NM Department of Homeland Security and Emergency Management
NMRWA – NM Rural Water Association
WARN – Water Wastewater Alert Response Network