Regional Water Commons Meeting

Tuesday, October 6, 2026

3:00 PM – 4:00 PM

Microsoft Teams

Presented by the Northwest New Mexico Council of Government's Regional Water Planning & Development Organization (RWPD)

Agenda

WELCOME	*Angelina Grey, COG/RWPD*
PRESENTATIONS *Federal Resources for Capital Infrastructure Projects* *Drinking/Clean Water State Revolving Funds*	*Nick Derda, New Mexico Congressional Delegation* *Vyoma Ritchie, New Mexico Environment Department, Drinking Water Bureau*
WATER SYSTEMS UPDATES	*Participating Small Water Systems*
STANDING PARTNERS UPDATES	*NMED, RCAC, SWEFC*
RWPO UPDATES	*Angelina Grey, COG/RWPD*
CLOSING	*Angelina Grey, COG/RWPD*

Federal Resources for Capital Infrastructure Projects

Nick Derda, Grants Coordinator

New Mexico Congressional Delegation

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Drinking/Clean State Revolving Funds

Vyoma Ritchie, Infrastructure Outreach Coordinator

New Mexico Environment Department, Drinking Water Bureau

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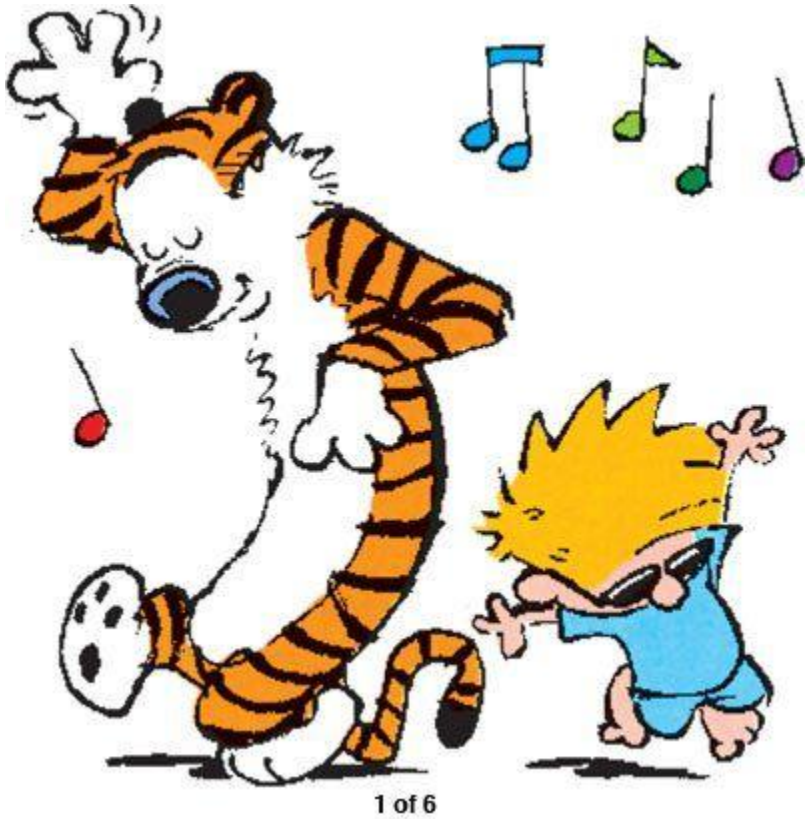
Water Systems Updates

Standing Partners Updates



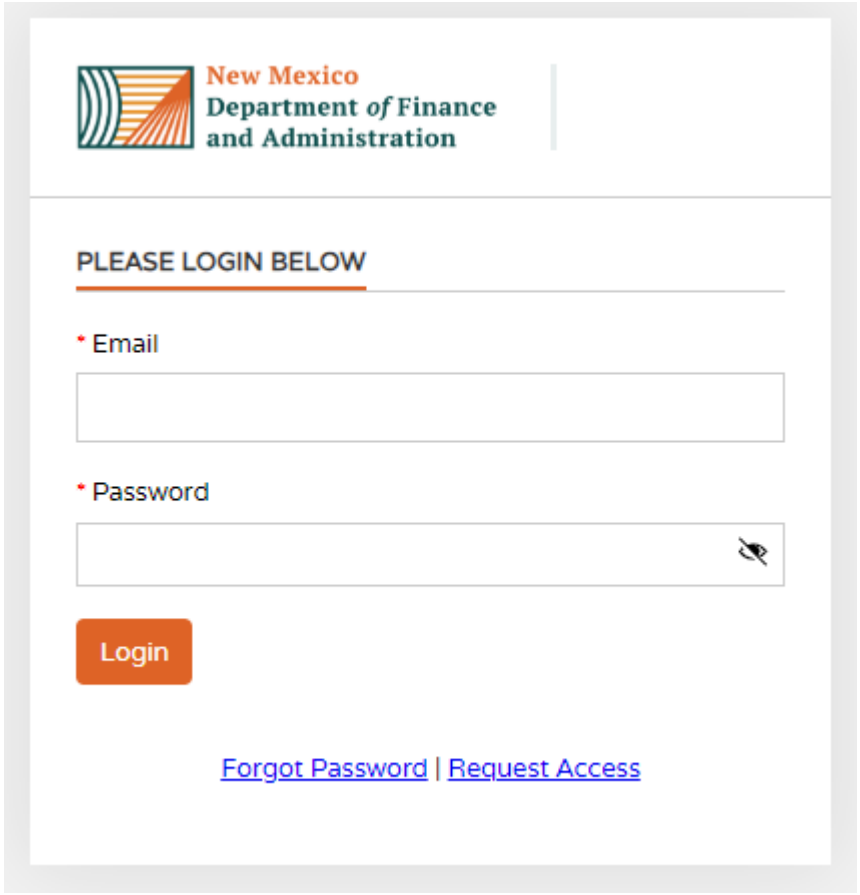
Shelved Projects to Shovel-Ready

- Project planning over a 5-year period
  - Based on available local resources… What can your system fund each year?
- Do you need a Preliminary Engineering Report?
  - Planning grants available year-round
- Go through each section to make sure every information is correct; Do this for all listed and active projects
- Save often!
- Pay close attention to:
  a. Scope of work should be detailed
  b. Project phasing
     - Planning
     - Design
     - Construction
  c. Project cost estimates
  d. Secured funding
  e. Fiscal agency

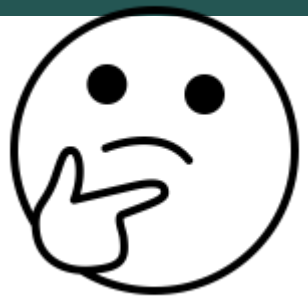
Accessing Online CAPS Portal

- Getting access to the CAPS online
  - If you need access, please contact the RWPO Office at (505) 722-4327
- What you need to access the portals:
  a. **Email Address**
  b. **Password**
- 2-point verification system = code texted or emailed
- Ensure all authorized office staff have access to your district's account

ICIP is where you list all of your local project priorities (i.e. waterline replacement, new construction of infrastructure, community facilities)



Projecteering



Projecteering is taking a look at your project priorities, determining what activities need to be completed, determining timelines, and identifying suitable funding programs to tap for funding.

1. What does each project require?
   - ❑ **Phase I** — PLANNING
   - ❑ **Phase II** — DESIGN
   - ❑ **Phase III** — CONSTRUCTION

<u>Depends on the type of project</u>:

a. New construction of infrastructure or facilities
b. Extension projects
c. Rehabilitation projects
d. Replacement of parts and equipment
e. Upgrades

*If unsure of what tasks need to be completed:
- Refer to Certified Operator
- Contact RWPO, RCAC or SWEFC

Updating Your ICIP Project Priorities

Create Project | Export Projects CSV

Search Title... | Search ICIP #... | Filter by Status | Filter by Submission | Filter by Date Creat | Filter by Start Date | Active Projects

Filter by Type/Sub-type | Entities... | Clear Filters

Project Title	Project Number	Status	Submission Year	Appropriations	Date Created	Start Date	Recommendation	Project Details	Deactivate
Water Supply Improvements-Whitecliffs	16442	Archived (2025)	2025	I2402	8/29/2025	7/01/2025	--	Edit	Deactivate
New Sewer Line	39714	Archived (2025)	2025		8/29/2025	7/01/2025	--	Edit	Deactivate
Wastewater Improvements	39715	Archived (2025)	2025		8/29/2025	7/01/2027	--	Edit	Deactivate
White Cliffs Drainage Study	39849	Archived (2025)	2025		8/29/2025	7/01/2028	--	Edit	Deactivate
Natural Gas Line and Connections	42249	Archived (2025)	2025	F2341, I3010	8/29/2025	6/01/2025	--	Edit	Deactivate
3-Phase Transmission Line	42706	Archived (2025)	2025		8/29/2025	7/01/2025	--	Edit	Deactivate
White Cliffs Community Solar Project	42703	Archived (2025)	2025		8/29/2025	7/01/2025	--	Edit	Deactivate
Water Supply- Improvements	43865	Archived (2025)	2025		8/29/2025	7/01/2026	--	Edit	Deactivate

1

1 - 8 of 8 items

Projecteering

Here is a sample of activities and estimated costs your system has to consider to each project:

ACTIVITY	ESTIMATED COST	TIMELINE	POTENTIAL FUNDING SOURCE
Phase I - Planning			
Acquire Land/Permits/Leases	~ $5K – $100K	1 – 3 months	
Environmental/Archeological	$5K – $15K	3 – 6 months	
Preliminary Engineering Report/ Technical Memo	$30K - $80K	3 – 9 months	Planning Grants - $50K (max) *Match Funding: 5% - 50%
Phase II - Design			
Project Design	$60K - $200K	9 – 12 months	Water Trust Board – 100% grant + local match% (*can apply cost of PER*)
Phase III – Construction/Furnishing/Equipment			
Equipment/Materials	$200K - $10M (*depending on project scope*) Can project be phased down further?	9 – 18 months (*depending on project scope*)	• Community Development Block Grant ($500K or $750K • WTB (full construction cost + loan% + match%)
RFP/Bidding			
Construction Management			
Labor			
Contingency			
Local/State Taxes			

Funding Programs (Phase I)

Planning Grants are eligible for planning activities of a project, including:

a. Environmental study
b. Archeological study
c. Land Acquisition
d. Permitting and Leases
e. Right of Way
f. Preliminary Engineering Report
g. Technical memo
h. Environmental Information Document
i. Energy audits
j. Long-term master plans, including:
    - Conservation plan
    - Comprehensive plan
    - Asset management plan
    - Affordable housing plan
    - Economic development plan

Available Funding for these activities

- Apply to determine eligibility that is based on:
    - Local census information on Medium Household Income
    - Executive Order 2013-006 Compliant (in compliance with financial budget/audit and have grant management capacity)
    - Number of connections (number could qualify for a local match waiver.

(NM Finance Administration) Local Government Planning Fund

1) Open year-round
2) May require match funding (5% - 10%)
3) Maximum request of $50,000

(Community Development Block Grant) Planning Grant

1) Open year-round
2) May require match funding (5% - 10%)
3) Maximum request of $50,000

Funding Programs (Phase II)

Design Grants are eligible for developing project design of a project.

a. Engineering plans
   - Approval letter
   - Stamped

b. Engineering specifications
   - Approval letter
   - Stamped

c. Environmental Assessment reporting

d. Environmental Permitting

Available Funding for these activities

- Apply to determine eligibility

(NM Finance Administration) Water Project Fund

1) Annually (July through January)
2) Application process
   - Notice of Intent (July)
   - Project Application (August)
   - Readiness Application (December)
3) 100% grant
   - Resources used to develop Preliminary Engineering Report or Technical Memo
   - Capital outlay funding is not an acceptable source

(NM Environment Department) Rural Infrastructure Program

1) Open year-round
2) Receive funding within 8 weeks from applying
3) Eligible projects include:
   - Engineering studies
   - Engineering design
   - Easements and right-of-way

Funding Programs (Phase III)

Construction Grants are eligible for final construction of a project.

a. Approved plans & specs
b. Secured permits, ROW, etc.
c. Construction Management costs
    - A cost that small systems need to consider, if the contract engineer can not
d. Grant Administration costs
    - Small systems need to secure additional funds to cover these expenses (typically, 5% of total project cost)
    - Some funding programs do not have this factored in funding mechanisms

Available Funding for these activities

(NM Finance Administration) Water Project Fund

1) Annually (July through January)
2) Application process
    - Notice of Intent (July)
    - Project Application (August)
    - Readiness Application (December)
3) **Grant + Loan + Match/Leverage** components
    - Resources used to develop Preliminary Engineering Report/Technical Memo and Project Design can be applied
    - Capital outlay funding is not an acceptable source

(Community Development Block Grant) Construction Grant

1) Annually (March through September)
2) Match funding (5% - 10%)
3) Non-certified Cost Estimate
    - Maximum request of $500,000
4) Certified Cost Estimate (from an engineer)
    - Maximum request of $750,000

Water Trust Board Updates – Awarded Projects

Water Trust Board Projects (FY2026 Funding and Earlier)

- Williams Acres WSD — New Water Distribution System (2022)
  - Phase II Construction, new water distribution system, INCOMPLETE
- Catalpa WA — New Water Distribution System (2023)
  - Phase II Project Design: 70% complete
- Ramah WSD — Water Distribution System Improvements (2024)
  - Phase II Project Design: 90% complete
- White Cliffs MDWUA — Water Storage Tank and Connecting Lines (2023)
  - Phase III Construction: 100% complete; closeout in progress
- Allison (Water Association) — New Water Distribution System (2026)
  - Phase II Project Design: Readiness to Proceed submitted 9/30/2026

Water Trust Board Updates – FY2027

Water Trust Board Projects (FY2027 Funding)

- Yahtahey WSD — Wastewater System Improvements
  - Phase II Project Design requested $200,000
- San Rafael WSD — Wastewater System Improvements
  - Phase II Project Design requested $200,000
- Whispering Cedars MDWUA — new wastewater distribution system
  - Phase II Project Design requested $200,000 — Denied
  - Incomplete Water Preliminary Engineering Report (PER)
- Allison (Water Association) — New Wastewater System
  - Phase II Project Design; requested $266,000
  - WTB Resolution approved today at the McKinly CO Commission Meeting
  - Projected project start date January 2027

Northwest NM Utility Authority Updates

Northwest New Mexico Utility Authority ("Utility Authority")

- Member Systems: Gamerco WSD, Yahtahey WSD, ~~White Cliffs MDWUA~~
- Senate Bill 1 Regional Small Systems Resiliency Act (SB1)
  - Completed public participation process
  - Revised Articles of Incorporation, Bylaws, Service Area Map
  - Filed with the New Mexico Secretary of State – approved, received certification (June 2026)
  - Hired a new Executive Director
  - Merger Plan in progress; anticipating to complete by 12/31/2026
  - Number
- Utility Authority: a number of contract services to be offered to small systems across the region
  - Accounting
  - Billing and Customer Service
  - Certified Operators
  - Heavy Equipment Rentals
  - Procurement, etc.

RWPD Updates

Wastewater Financial Management Training (Gallup, NM)

- Thursday, October 22, 2026, 9AM to 3PM
- McKinley County Fire Office (413 Bataan Memorial, Gallup, New Mexico 87301)

29th Annual New Mexico Infrastructure Finance Conference (Farmington, NM)

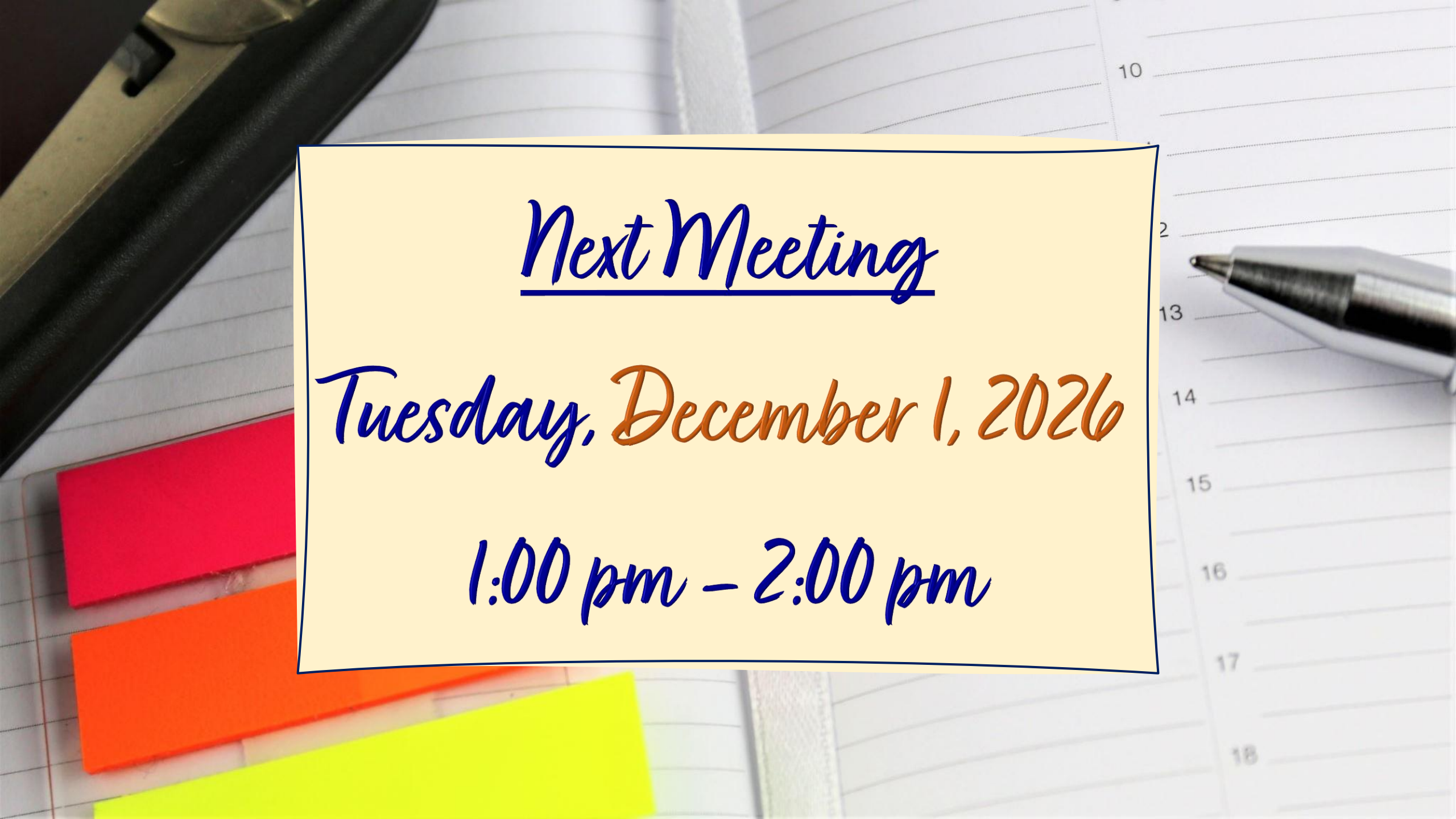
- Monday, November 16 through Thursday, November 19, 2026
- Registration still open

6th Annual Rural Water Summit (September 9, 2026)

- Agenda packets forthcoming!

To stay up to date with regional news and events, please check out the COG/RWPD webpage at: https://www.nwnmcog.org/regional-water-planning--development-organization.html

Any Last
Thoughts or
Questions??


Next Meeting
Tuesday, December 1, 2026
1:00 pm – 2:00 pm

Contact Information

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https://www.nwnmcog.org

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