

OFFICIAL MINUTES

VILLAGE OF MELROSE

P.O. Box 235

Melrose, New Mexico 88124

The Village Council met in regular session on, April 27, 2026 at 5:00pm at Melrose Village Hall.

Board members present: Alan Daugherty, Ronald Moore, William Frazier, James Mitchell, and Richard Swopes (via phone).

Staff Present: Jennifer Swopes – Clerk/Treasurer, Brian Fulkrod- Public Works Director, Amanda Vineyard – Assistance Water Clerk, Jamie Stagner – Clerk Assistant (via phone).

Prayer by Ronald Moore

Pledge of Allegiance by James Mitchell

Guests: Michael Brockett – Curry County Sheriff, Harvey Park – Curry County SO, Mark Latham, Brian Stacy, Viki Lee, Virginia Wood and Regina Garcia

Absent: None

Melrose Fire Department Report

William Frazier nothing new to report. Thankful for lack of activity with the current drought.

Approval of April 13, 2026 Minutes

Motion: James Mitchell

Second: Ronald Moore

Roll Call

William Frazier- Aye

Richard Swopes- Aye

Ronald Moore- Aye

James Mitchell- Aye

Motion Carried: 4-0

Discussion of employee cost of living raises. Discussed inflation rates.

Motion to increase employee wages by 3.5%: Ronald Moore

Second: James Mitchell

Roll Call

William Frazier- Aye

Richard Swopes- Aye

Ronald Moore- Aye

James Mitchell- Aye

Motion Carried: 4-0

Discussed need to move May 25th meeting to May 18th due to Memorial Day.

Motion: James Mitchell

Second: Richard Swopes

Roll Call

William Frazier- Aye

that we are on schedule for renewal. Added that the state is happy with our performance. Other municipalities are not ready.

Still waiting on estimate for public works service truck. Hope to have a better answer at the next meeting.

Brian asked that the council consider an annual retention bonus to employees. He asked that if approved that the disbursement of this bonus happen in early December.

Jennifer Swopes reports that MVD has been steady and is running smoothly. Amanda Vineyard has been busy with our Grants. Submitted 2 request for payments to DFA.

Phyllis Broeder and Jennifer are still waiting on CPO certificates.

The new payroll software has been installed. It will be updated and ready to use by next payroll.

The mayor inquired about the status on Monkia Garrett. Jennifer reported that PERA said that if she is drawing her pension from Clovis, she can continue to work part time for the Village but she will have to contribute.

Monika told Jennifer that if that is the case then she will resign from the Village. Monika said she will contact PERA directly and notify Jennifer from there.

Nobody has heard anything from Lacey Fields. Since she is no longer a resident of Melrose she cannot act as the judge. Her resignation will be required. Once she moves back to Melrose her reinstatement can be visited. This provides the opportunity for us to work out the ordinances.

Council Reports

Councilman Richard Swopes: Asked for update on Senior Center freezer. Jennifer reported that a replacement unit has been shipped and should be received in May. She estimated within the first 2 weeks

Councilman James Mitchell: Stated a need for exercise equipment for Senior center. Virginia Wood informed council that such equipment already exists and not used regularly. Mark Latham added that walking trails at the park would be utilized more that equipment at the center.

Councilman Ronald: Loved the way the Village look post clean-up day. Said bins were full at 1:00pm and new ones here at 1:30pm

Councilman William Frazier: Will be leaving the village and the council for Tennessee. He will be resigning his 4-year term in months to come.

Mayor's Report

Mayor Alan Daugherty reports that clean up day was a huge success. Highschool kids picked up close to 100 bags of trash around the community. The beautification project provided all the equipment needed. Their mascot was in town too.

Waste water compliance studies expense assistance can be provided through EPCOG. Hoping for minor issues and minimal studies.

School news: last track meet is this weekend and the last baseball game is Friday. 1 month of school left.

BPA sending parliamentary procedure team to national competition. FFA banquet upcoming.

Rotary news: August 8th – Old Timers Day 2026. Vendors wanted. Grandstand and playground projects should be completed by then.

Memorial Day Cemetery activities – Mark Latham said they would accept volunteers. Discussed new ap that helps find a grave. It is a national data base. His team is working to get GPS coordinates for the new cemetery and the north cemetery entered into this system. A sign would be installed at the cemetery with QR code that when scanned will help find the right grave at either cemetery. Goal is to mark every grave with its GPS coordinates

Topics For Next Agenda: requested limited personnel session to discuss employee retention bonuses.

Being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 5:40 pm.

Respectfully submitted:

Jennifer Swopes
Jennifer Swopes
Clerk/Treasurer

Approved:

Alan Daugherty
Alan Daugherty
Mayor
Date: 5/11/20

