



# BIG MESA SUMMER 2025 NEWSLETTER



We are saddened to share that Lorraine Trnka, who formerly worked at the Big Mesa office, passed away peacefully on May 25. Lorraine was a steady and reliable presence during times of transition, and her contributions to Big Mesa will not be forgotten. We extend our heartfelt condolences to her family and loved ones.

At the April Board meeting, independent auditor DeAun presented the Annual Financial Report, issuing Big Mesa an unmodified opinion—the highest level of assurance available. Although the organization reported an operating loss of \$65,000, primarily due to increased operational costs and one-time expenses, we maintained positive cash flow after accounting for depreciation. This reflects ongoing financial stability. We remain focused on minimizing operating expenses, including maintaining reduced staffing levels at this time.

A special thank-you to Daniel Mares for relocating the boulders above our storage tank. Had they fallen, they could have caused significant damage.

Big Mesa held its Annual Meeting on July 19. As there were three Board vacancies and three candidates, an election was not required this year. We are pleased to announce that Steve Jones and Jeff Strom will continue their service on the Board, and Rhianna Petersen will be joining as Member at Large, replacing Steve Morgan. We thank Steve Morgan for his many years of dedicated service and leadership. Steve has been a valuable leader and an influential figure within both the organization and the community. Big Mesa will certainly miss him!

Additionally, the Big Mesa Bylaws were updated and approved at the meeting to reflect revised job responsibilities for Board positions, ensuring clearer roles and better alignment with current organizational needs.

Construction of the new water treatment plant is well underway. You may have noticed the white semi-trailer parked at the Big Mesa Office in June. This trailer housed a pilot version of the treatment system, which was operated around the clock for approximately two weeks. The purpose was to fine-tune the filtration process and collect water samples to help finalize the plant's design.

The new water treatment plant is scheduled for completion by July 2026. We'll continue to keep you informed as the project progresses.

We also like to thank the San Miguel County for the recent road reconstruction work completed in our community. These improvements have made a meaningful difference to the safety, accessibility, and overall quality of our roads. If you can please extend a thank you to our County Commissioner District 4 Martin Sena. We know that there are additional roads that will need further repairs as budget allows.

Please attend our monthly meetings the second Saturday of the month. Our next meeting is August 9<sup>th</sup> at 8:00am. We hope to see you soon in August!

Sincerely,

Your Big Mesa Board and Staff