

**El Valle de Los Ranchos
Water and Sanitation District**

P.O. Box 2797
Ranchos de Taos, NM 87557

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STAFF

- Sarah C. Backus, Director/Attorney
- Melene Montañó, Business Manager
- Sandra Gonzales, Administrative Assistant
- Ivan Valerio, Project Manager

UP-COMING BOARD MEETINGS

Wednesday, December 15, 2010
Wednesday January 12, 2011
Wednesday February 9, 2011

All regular meetings are held at 4 p.m. at the District Office located at #8 Miranda Canyon Road, Llano Quemado. Meetings may be rescheduled by the Board. Call 751-1700 for up-to-date information.

Interested individuals are encouraged to attend. Meeting agendas are posted at the office 3 days prior to meetings.

The office will be closed on:

December 24th and December 31st, 2010
January 17, 2011

For more information about the District see
El Valle's Website:
www.elvalledelosranchos.org

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EL VALLE NEWS

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*"Sin agua no hay vida."
"Without water,
there is no life."*



BOARD OF DIRECTORS

- F.R. Bob Romero, Chairman
- Andrew Chavez, Vice-Chairman
- Meliton Struck, Secretary
- Mario Barela, Treasurer
- Gabriel Romero, Member at Large
- Alipio Mondragon, Non-voting Member

If you have comments about this newsletter, please call the office at (575) 751-1700

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OFFICE BUILDING TO BE COMPLETED THIS MONTH

El Valle's office building, located at # 8 Miranda Canyon Road, in Llano Quemado is in final completion stages. The District will move its administrative functions into the office building on December 10, 2010. The first Regular Board Meeting at the new office will be on December 15, 2010.

The funds for the construction of the building were provided through a loan from the U.S.D.A.

Grand Opening and Ribbon Cutting

A grand opening and ribbon cutting ceremony for the new office building will take place on January 12, 2011 at 2 p.m. at the new building, #8 Miranda Canyon Road, Llano Quemado. The State Director of USDA, Rural Development, staff from USDA, the Board and Staff of El Valle and local dignitaries will attend. Representatives from Senator Udall's and Congressman Lujan's office will also attend. The public is invited to celebrate the building's opening. Refreshments will be offered after the event in the new building.

Mission Statement of El Valle de los Ranchos Water and Sanitation

El Valle de los Ranchos Water and Sanitation District promotes and preserves the quality of the surface and groundwater for the health and safety of residents now and for future generations in the communities of Los Cordovas, Cordillera, Ranchos de Taos, Llano Quemado and Talpa. To accomplish this mission the District will:

- Provide water and wastewater service to residents and businesses within the district;
- Construct wastewater collection lines to eliminate individual on-site liquid waste disposal systems;
- Construct a water distribution system to provide safe and clean domestic water;
- Improve the status and welfare of its members by annual water testing of well-water quality;
- Encourage water conservation through education and communication;
- Provide education and information regarding water related issues; and
- Maintain vital communication links with constituents and local, state and federal governments.

“Sin agua, no hay vida.”
“Without water there is no life.” *



El Valle's new office building (above) is scheduled for completion on December 6, 2010. The staff (below) will be moving to the new location on December 10, 2010. From left to right: Melene, Sarah, Sandra and Ivan.



*** In case of backup or blockage of sewer service, contact the office at 751-1700. If the blockage occurs after hours, call Ivan Valerio at 770-6367.**

BOARD OF DIRECTORS ELECTION

The Board of Directors' elections will be held on January 11, 2011. There are three positions on the Board that are scheduled for election. They are:

- Position 1 – currently held by Vice-Chairman Andrew Chavez;
 - Position 2 – currently held by Chairman F.R. Bob Romero and
 - Position 3 – currently held by Secretary Meliton Struck
-
- Nominations for these positions will be open until December 13, 2010. Anyone interested in having his/her name placed on the ballot should submit a letter of interest to the District. Individuals who live within the District limits and who are registered to vote in New Mexico are eligible to run for election.
 - The three highest vote-getters are elected to the Board. Each Board Member serves a four-year term. There are regular Board meetings every month, plus special meetings as needed.
 - The names of nominated individuals will be advertised in the Taos News on December 23 and 30, 2010 and January 6, 2011.
 - The election will be held on January 11, 2010 at the Llano Quemado Community Center located at #6 Miranda Canyon Road in Llano Quemado. Polls will be open from 8 a.m. until 5 p.m.
 - For additional information, please contact Sarah Backus, District Director at 751-1700.

**HAPPY HOLIDAYS FROM THE BOARD
AND STAFF OF EL VALLE DE LOS
RANCHOS WATER AND SANITATION
DISTRICT!**