The Nominating Committee of the NM Water & Wastewater Association has submitted the following names to be voted on for State Officers of the Association for 2027. Please mark your ballot and return it in the self-addressed envelope no later than *December 21, 2026.*

OFFICIAL BALLOT

(Mark only one for each office)

PRESIDENT ELECT:

/ / **CRAIG BYERS**: Craig Byers has served the Village of Los Lunas Wastewater Division for 18 years and is currently its Wastewater Superintendent, with experience in wastewater operations, facility management, regulatory compliance, infrastructure improvements, and leadership. He holds New Mexico Level 4 Wastewater Operator and Level 3 Wastewater Laboratory Technician certifications. A 16-year NMWWA member, Craig has served two terms as Association President and held Central Section leadership roles, including President and Treasurer. His contributions have earned him the Caroline Sanchez Award and the Arthur Torrez Outstanding Facility Manager Award. He is committed to operator education, professional development, and workforce training, and is completing a Bachelor of Individualized Studies at New Mexico State University, with graduation anticipated in December 2026.

DIRECTOR:

/ / **VIRGIL TAYLOR:** A member and active contributor to NMWWA since 2018, Virgil Taylor has served as an instructor at NMWWA short schools, teaching safety and certification test-preparation classes, and has developed study materials to help operators prepare for certification exams. He is a recipient of the Instructor of the Year Award. His professional experience with the City of Bloomfield's MOC and Wastewater Reclamation teams dates to 2017. He holds Level III Wastewater Certification (2018), Level IV Water Certification (2023), a Class B CDL, and MSHA underground and surface certifications. He currently serves as a director on the NMWWA Executive Board and respectfully asks for your vote to retain the Director position.

/ / **SHAWN ZACHARY:** Shawn Zachary is a dual Level 4 operator, Wastewater Senior Operator for the City of Alamogordo, and current Southwest Section Secretary-Treasurer. As a U.S. Army veteran, Shawn is running for State Director with a clear vision: leveraging the collective strength of New Mexico's operators to build an organization that delivers undeniable financial backing to its members. By banding together, he believes the NMWWA can use its statewide numbers to secure serious, tangible assets, starting with a group term life insurance policy. Alongside expanding member value, his platform tackles the industry's workforce shortage by establishing a direct recruitment pipeline targeting transitioning military veterans. Shawn is a boots-on-the-ground operator stepping up to transform the NMWWA into a unified force that pays off for the operators doing the hard work.

Mail to: NMWWA, PO Box 819 Espanola, NM 87532

Vote Online: VOTE HERE: 2027 NMWWA State Officers Official Ballot