

Job Title: Attorney**Job Status:** Full-Time**Department:** Legal**Job Grade:** 310**Reports To:** Sr. Attorney – Mgr of Legal**Work Setting:** On-Site**Pay Status:** Exempt**Date Created/Updated:** 2/4/2025**Location:** Main Office

Position Summary

The Attorney is responsible for providing legal counsel and support to New Braunfels Utilities (“NBU”). NBU, as an agency of the City of New Braunfels, is subject to a wide-range of local, state, and federal rules and regulations. The Attorney must be knowledgeable in municipal law, procurement law, public finance, real estate, construction law, regulatory compliance, and city ordinances. The Attorney should possess transactional experience. The Attorney is expected to give practical advice and recommendations to NBU management and staff.

Essential Duties & Responsibilities

DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

- Maintains the highest level of professional ethics.
- Assists the Manager of the Legal Department in managing the legal department.
- Provides legal counsel and support to NBU and conducts legal research.
- Assists with drafting, reviewing, and negotiating numerous purchasing contracts on a regular basis.
- Ensures that NBU operates within the appropriate legal governance framework, and takes responsibility for the identification and management of legal risks across all areas.
- Views issues and concerns through NBU's perspective and focuses on the right outcome for NBU at all times.
- Identifies key issues and proposes multiple possible solutions or resources needed to reach optimum solution for NBU.
- Thinks first from principles rather than being solely guided by pre-established documents, procedures, processes, or historical practices.
- Understands and respects NBU's standards, policies, City ordinances, and local, state, and federal regulations; reviews and/or provides legal direction for NBU policies.
- Reads and reviews statutes, legal opinions, ordinances, and other documents to maintain knowledge of local, state, and federal legislation and jurisprudence affecting municipal utility operations, programs, and activities.
- Investigates claims based upon applicable laws in a timely manner.
- Assists with contract and business negotiations; drafts agreements that minimize risks and maximize NBU's legal rights.
- Assists in handling ethics inquiries, conducting ethics investigations, developing department materials, and conducting training.
- Assists with legislative matters, including tracking proposed federal and state bills, analyzing proposed legislation, and collaborating with NBU's legislative team.
- Assists with overseeing all aspects of litigation, including directing outside counsel, coordinating responses to discovery requests, and contributing to NBU's litigation tracking system.
- Provides proactive advice in connection with areas such as purchasing, finance, contracts, real estate, labor and employment issues, litigation, government regulations, and technology agreements and licensing; anticipates issues and estimates risks strategically.
- Coordinates and collaborates with outside counsel on legal matters requiring specialized legal expertise, ensuring that delivery, quality and budgetary standards are maintained.
- Demonstrates legal and ethical stature, maturity, sound judgment, competence and confidence to operate with credibility at the Board, Executive, and management levels.
- Possesses strong organizational, administrative, and time-management skills and excellent follow-up to ensure adherence to deadlines and efficient task completion.
- Possesses excellent writing and oral communication skills.

- Maintains objectivity while driving appropriate outcomes, manages multiple stakeholder requests, and promotes high business and legal standards.
- Develops and utilizes peer group networks and external legal partners, ensures that all such relationships are effective, cost efficient, and fosters constructive outcomes on behalf of NBU.
- Examines legal information to determine the advisability of prosecuting or defending lawsuits.
- Reviews agendas for public meetings to ensure compliance with the Texas Open Meetings Act for public and executive session meetings.
- Attends board meetings to stay informed about NBU.
- Attends significant committee meetings, evening meetings, conferences, workshops, and other professional meetings which may require overnight travel.
- Uses safe work practices at all times and in all situations.
- Oversees the drafting and formalization of NBU resolutions.
- Answers questions and provides training regarding the Public Information Act.
- Prepares and submits requests for open records letter rulings and Attorney General opinions as needed.

SUPERVISORY

- Assists Manager with supervising two legal assistants

KNOWLEDGE, SKILLS, AND ABILITY

- Possesses strong critical analysis skills.
- Positive energy, enthusiasm, flexibility, and confidence.
- Possesses a strong sense of teamwork; ability to work effectively on multidisciplinary teams.
- Prioritizes and organizes work effectively to meet deadlines and rapidly changing priorities.
- Understands municipal codes and applicable state laws and federal statutes; draws distinctions of municipal requirements and application in all situations.
- Exercises attention to detail and exhibits a strong work ethic.
- Possesses excellent writing and oral communication skills.
- Possesses knowledge of legal references and limitations.
- Demonstrates proficiency with technology.
- Highly developed skills including issue identification, analysis and resolution through supervision, coordination, and use of internal and external staff and counsel.
- Self-directed with the ability to work independently.
- Ability to quickly assimilate role, responsibilities, and organization culture.
- Commitment and adherence to the mission of NBU.

GENERAL RESPONSIBILITIES

- Maintain regular attendance; leave schedule should be managed so as not to interfere with ability to accomplish tasks, including special projects and assignments with deadlines or negatively affect direct reports' ability to do their jobs when applicable
- Adhere to NBU safety guidelines and practices at all times and in all situations
- Maintain a clean and safe work area, office, field site and vehicle as applicable
- Maintain strict confidentiality of business, employee, and customer information in written and oral communications and safeguard sensitive documents
- Develop and maintain effective customer service skills for communications with co-workers, customers, and the public in general
- Adhere to NBU policies and procedures
- Exemplifies NBU Core Values of Stewardship, Team, Integrity, Culture, and Safety
- Participate in and support initiatives to accomplish strategic goals, annual priorities, key performance measures, and levels of service

Formal Education and Work Experience Requirements

Degree/Diploma Obtained: Bachelors and Juris

Work Experience Time Frame: Three Years or More

Doctor

Field of Study: Law

Other: Must submit a legal writing sample

Certification and Licensures Requirements

Licensed to practice law in the State of Texas

Other Minimum Qualifications

- Excellent writing and oral communication skills
- No adverse disciplinary history
- Experience in municipal law or public utilities is helpful
- Member in good standing of the State Bar of Texas
- Valid Texas Driver's License

Knowledge of Computer Software

	No Knowledge	Beginner	Intermediate	Expert
ArcGIS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
AutoCAD	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Crystal Reports	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Microsoft Access	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Microsoft Excel	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Microsoft Word	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Microsoft Publisher	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Microsoft PowerPoint	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Other Software Knowledge

Click or tap here to enter text.

Experience with Machines, Tools, Equipment and Other Work Aids

Click or tap here to enter text.

Physical Demands

Standing: Occasionally

- Making Presentations
- Observing Work Sites
- Observing Work Duties
- Communication with Co-Workers

Fine Dexterity: Constantly

- Computer Keyboard
- Telephone Keypad
- Calculator
- Calibrating Equipment

Walking: Occasionally

- To Other Departments/Office/Office Equipment
- Around Worksite

Carrying: Occasionally

- Supplies
- Equipment
- Files

Sitting: Constantly

- Desk Work
- Meetings
- Driving

Reaching: Frequently

- For Supplies
- For Files

Handling: Constantly

- Paperwork
- Monies

Kneeling: Occasionally

- Filing in Lower Drawers
- Retrieving Items from Lower Shelves/Ground

Pushing/Pulling: Occasionally

- File Drawers
- Equipment
- Table and Chairs
- Hose

Climbing: Occasionally

- Stairs
- Ladder
- Step Stool
- Onto Equipment

Vision: Constantly

- Reading
- Computer Screen
- Driving
- Observing Worksite

Foot Controls: Rarely

- Driving
- Operating Heavy Equipment

Other: [Click or tap here to enter text.](#)

- Dictaphone

Balancing: Never

- On Ladder
- On Equipment
- On Step Stool

Bending: Occasionally

- Filing in Lower Drawers
- Retrieving Items from Lower Shelves/Ground
- Making Repairs

Crouching: Occasionally

- Filing in Lower Drawers
- Retrieving Items from Lower Shelves/Ground

Crawling: Rarely

- Under Equipment
- Inside Attics/Pipes/Ditches

Hearing: Constantly

- Communication Via Telephone/Radio/To Co-Workers/Public
- Listening to Equipment

Twisting: Frequently

- From Computer to Telephone
- Getting Inside Vehicle

Talking: Frequently

- Communication Via Telephone/Radio/To-Co-Workers/Public

Environmental Factors

	Never	Seasonally	Several Times Per Year	Several Times Per Month	Several Times Per Week	Daily
Extreme Temperature (Heat, cold, extreme temp. change)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Wetness and/or humidity (bodily discomfort from moisture)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Respiratory Hazards (Fumes, gases, chemicals, dust, and dirt)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Noise and Vibration (sufficient to cause hearing loss)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Physical Hazards (High voltage, dangerous machinery, aggressive Customers)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Health and Safety Conditions

	Never (Never Occurs)	Rarely (Less than 1 hour per week)	Occasionally (1/3 or more of the time)	Frequently (From 1/3 to 2/3 of the time)	Constantly (2/3 or more of the time)
Mechanical Hazards	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Chemical Hazards	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Electrical Hazards	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Fire Hazards	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Explosives	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Communicable Diseases	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Physical Danger or Abuse	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Other: Click or tap here to enter text.

Primary Work Environment: Office Environment

Other: Click or tap here to enter text.

Overall Strength Demands

- Sedentary - Exerting up to 10 pounds occasionally or negligible weight frequently, mostly sitting
- Light - Exerting up to 20 pounds occasionally, 10 pounds frequently, walking or standing often
- Medium - Exerting 20 - 50 pounds occasionally, 10 - 25 pounds frequently, or 10 pounds constantly
- Heavy - Exerting 50 - 100 pounds occasionally, 25 - 50 pounds frequently, or 10 - 20 pounds constantly

Very Heavy - Exerting 50 pounds constantly

Non-Physical Demands

	Never	Rarely	Occasionally	Frequently	Constantly
Time Pressure	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Emergency Situations	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Frequent Change of Task	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Irregular Schedule/Overtime	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Performing Multiple Tasks Simultaneously	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Working Closely with Others as Part of a Team	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Tedious or Exacting Work	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Noisy/Distracting Environment	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Other: Click or tap here to enter text.

Employee Statement of Understanding

THIS JOB DESCRIPTION DOES NOT CONSTITUTE AN EMPLOYEE AGREEMENT BETWEEN NEW BRAUNFELS UTILITIES (NBU) AND THE EMPLOYEE. Nothing in this position description restricts NBU's ability to assign, reassign or eliminate duties and responsibilities of this job at any time.

I HAVE READ AND RECEIVED A COPY OF THIS JOB DESCRIPTION.

Employee's Signature

Employee's Printed Name

Date