

**Interbasin Compact Committee Basin Roundtables
Rio Grande Basin Roundtable**

MEETING Minutes

Tuesday, July 11, 2017 at 2:00 – 5:00 P.M.
San Luis Valley Water Conservancy District
623 Fourth Street, Alamosa

The Meeting was called to order at 2:00 p.m.

Introductions: Those who signed/present in were: Keith Holland, Charles Spielman, Robert Getz, Gordon Bosa, Wayne Schwab, Cathy Garcia, Erin Minks, Cary Aloia, Nathan Coombs, Jim Ehrlich, Larry Sven, Nicole Langley, James Henderson, Amber Pacheco, Greg Higel, Travis Smith, Bethany Howell, Terry Chiles, Adam Moore, Matt Hildner, Lawrence Crowder, Kevin Terry, Rick Basagoitia, Ralph Curtis, Donald Valdez, Mike Gibson, Larry Crowder, Scot Schaefer, Chuck Finnegan, Edward Vigil, Charlotte Bobicki, Ruth Heide, Heather Dutton, Peter Clark, Dwight Martin, Ed Nielsen, Craig Cotten, Rio de la Vista, Ann Bunting, Gene Farish, Juanita Martinez, Mac McFadden, Anne Steinhage, Wayne Nash, Andrea Bachman, and Helen Smith.

Chairman Coombs announced that Travis Smith held a proxy for Cleave Simpson.

Approve Agenda: The funding request for Mosca Hooper Conservation has been postponed and Amber Pacheco will give the Subdistrict update for Cleave Simpson. A motion to approve the agenda as amended was made by Mike Gibson. Second by Judy Lopez. The motion carried.

Approve June 13, 2017 Minutes: Motion to approve the minutes as presented by Greg Higel. Second by Travis Smith. The motion carried.

Public Comment: Erin Minks gave an update on the Rio Grande Forest Plan revision. The draft will be available to the public in August of 2017.

Two letters of opposition to the five ditches project from Scott and Megan Dugan and Steve Massey were read by Gordon Bosa and submitted to the Roundtable.

Lawrence Crowder of the Commonwealth Irrigation Company spoke in support of the 5 ditches project.

Funding Request – Five Ditches Improvement Project - Emma Reesor, RGHRP: The proposal is a result of much planning and collaboration. The scope of work is provided in the Grant Application. A brief summary includes: Rio Grande #2 - Replacement of Diversion and Headgates; Consolidated and Pace - Replacement of Diversion and Headgates; SLV Canal - Replacement of headgate; Centennial Diversion - Replacement of the diversion. There will also be stabilization of streambanks at each diversion structure.

CPW Area Manager, Rick Bassigotia, provided input regarding fish habitat. He has concluded that this would have no negative impact on the Rio Grande Chub population and is beneficial for other

native species. Mike Gibson suggested that the Roundtable could reach out to landowners in response to the letters of opposition.

Following further discussion, Travis Smith made a motion for the approval of the request. A second was given by Mike Gibson. The motion carried. The project will be submitted to the CWCB along with a mention of the letters of concern.

CWCB Update - Megan Holcomb: Rebecca Mitchell has been selected as the new CWCB Director. There are also three new board members including Heather Dutton, who is the new Rio Grande Basin Director. The Colorado Water Plan Grant Program has just been released. The first deadline August 1st. The SWSI analysis is currently behind schedule. WRSF application deadlines are rapidly approaching. Prospective applicants for any of the grant options CWCB offers are encouraged to visit the CWCB website.

DWR Update - Craig Cotten: Rules and Regulations are still set to go to court in January 2018. DWR has been able to reach stipulations with many of the objectors and the number of objectors is now down to 15. Flows are dropping very quickly and this is a concern. The new State Engineer is set to be named in mid-July. With all of the transition taking place things have gone relatively smoothly. Elephant Butte is still above 400,000 acre ft. and it is expected to be out of Article 7 restrictions until September.

IBCC Update - Travis Smith/Cleave Simpson: Members were encouraged to watch for a survey on the Roundtable process. The date for the next meeting is unknown. Keith Holland and Ann Bunting both expressed interest in filling Travis Smith's IBCC position. Travis made the motion to appoint Keith Holland to the position. A second was made by Jim Ehrlich. The motion passed. Keith Holland will be the new IBCC Representative. Chairman Coombs thanked Ann Bunting for her interest in serving.

Subdistrict Update - Amber Pacheco: Subdistrict #1 has been revising its Plan of Water Management to address inefficiencies. Subdistrict #2 is in the process of public meetings and is nearing formation. Subdistrict #3 has formed its board and their 1st meeting was held. The hearing for Subdistrict #4 is being finalized. Subdistrict #6 has yet to be formed.

The Meeting was adjourned.

Next Executive Committee Meeting: September 12, 2017 at 1:00pm
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Next Roundtable Meeting: September 12, 2017 at 2:00pm
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