

Interbasin Compact Committee Basin Roundtables

Rio Grande Basin Roundtable

Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, May 8th, 2018, 2:00-5:00 p.m.

San Luis Valley Water Conservancy District

623 Fourth Street Alamosa, CO 81101

Chairman Coombs called the meeting to order at 2:00 p.m.

Introductions:

Those who were signed in/present were:

Judy Lopez, Megan Holcomb, Rio de la Vista, Travis Smith, Chet Tokarsky, David Marquez, Stan Moyer, Brenda Anderson, Larry Sveum, Mario Curto, Keith Holland, Wayne Schwab, Blake Osborn, Peter Clark, Robert Getz, Chuck Finnegan, Leland Swenson, Nicole Langley, Ann Bunting, Heather Dutton, Charles Spielman, Brenda Felmlee, Kevin Terry, Virginia Christensen, Emma Reesor, Ronda Lobato, Jim Erlich, Cindy Medina, Steve Crosby, Bethany Howell, and Helen Smith.

Chairman Coombs announced that he held proxies for both James Henderson and Dwight Martin and Travis Smith held a proxy for Ron Brink. It was determined that a quorum was reached with 24 members accounted for.

Approve Agenda

There were no changes aside from the removal of item 6, the IBCC update which will be provided by Cleave Simpson in June. Judy Lopez made the motion to approve the agenda with the change and was seconded by Kevin Terry. The motion carried.

Approve April 10, 2018 Minutes

Charles Spielman made the motion to approve the April minutes and was seconded by Peter Clark. The motion carried.

Public Comment

Judy Lopez encouraged all members to not forget to sign in.

Emma Reesor announced the Runoff Runoff which the annual fundraiser for the Rio Grande Headwaters Restoration Project. The event will be held on June 9th, 2018 in Creede, CO.

Leland Swenson announced that he will be retiring from his position with Senator Michael Bennet's office at the end of May. Erin Minks will assume the role of Area Representative for the San Luis Valley.

Chairman Coombs brought attention to the fact that the contract for the Education Intern, Helen Smith will be expiring at the end of June and that the Rio Grande Roundtable has been in need of someone to continue to take minutes as well as oversee the IT duties. The Executive Committee had discussed this and proposed to hire Smith to continue with these duties provided the funds available to the Roundtable through the CWCB could be obtained. Rio de la Vista made the motion to hire Smith and was seconded by Jim Erlich. The motion carried with an abstention from Travis Smith.

The Water Education Colorado Tour will be June 11th-12th. There will be a dinner on the Monday night of the event. Cindy Medina proposed that the Roundtable pay for members to attend as a way of showing appreciation. This idea is considered a possibility. Heather Dutton pointed out that numerous members of the Water Resource Review Committee will also be in attendance.

Chairman Coombs closed the Public Comment period.

Funding Request: Subdistrict #1 Pressure Transducer Project, Chet Tokarsky, Rio Grande Water Conservation District

Chet Tokarsky presented the final budget and scope of work for the project. The final application has not yet been submitted. The Executive Committee had already discussed the issue extensively and Chairman Coombs recommended a motion of support pending the application for \$75,000 in funding. Following extensive questions and discussion Rio de la Vista made the motion and was seconded by Cindy Medina. The motion carried.

Rio de la Vista took a moment to introduce Steve Crosby as the new Director for the Rio Grande Headwaters Land Trust.

CWCB Update: Megan Holcomb

Holcomb invited those present to participate in an informational poll via text messaging.

Governor Hickenlooper has activated the Drought Response Plan for the Agriculture Sector and the 34 Southern Counties including all of the Rio Grande Basin.

The SWASI fact sheets are now available on the CWCB website.

The required updates for Basin Implementation Plans are coming soon. Also, 1051 reporting will be due on June 30th.

The May CWCB meeting will be the 23rd and 24th in Salida.

There are also updated snowpack and hydro base tolls available on the CWCB website.

The current balance of the Rio Grande Basin Account is \$85,604.00 with approval of the RGWCD request the balance would be 14,252.00.

Chairman Coombs stepped away for a conference call and Emma Reesor took over Chair duties.

DWR Update Craig Cotten

The State Engineer, Kevin Rein will be in the San Luis Valley May 9th-11th. He will be at the Conejos Water Conservancy District meeting and there will be open forum meeting at the Rio Grande Water Conservancy District.

The Rio Grande is projected to be at 300,000 acre ft. and 46% of average with a 75,000 acre ft. downstream obligation and 0% delivery during irrigation season.

The Conejos is projected to be at 135,000 acre ft. and 44% of average. The obligation of 14,000 acre ft. has already been met and there will be 0% delivery during irrigation season.

The meeting was adjourned. The next meeting will be the Water Education Colorado Tour.