

**MINUTES OF A SPECIAL MEETING
OF THE
BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE
MIDDLE RIO GRANDE CONSERVANCY DISTRICT
ON THE WATER BANK
January 9, 2017**

Directors having been duly notified, Chairman Lente called the special meeting to order at 2:03 pm at the MRGCD General Office. The following Directors and Staff were present:

DIRECTORS:

Derrick J. Lente	Chair
Adrian Oglesby	Vice-Chair
Glen Duggins	Director
Karen Dunning	Director
John P. Kelly	Director
Chris Sichler	Director
Beverly Romero	Director

STAFF:

Michael A. Hamman	Chief Engineer/CEO
Tanya Scott	Chief Water Counsel
Bruce & Lorna Wiggins	General Legal Counsel
David Ferguson	Secretary/Treasurer
Jeanette Bustamante	Administrative Officer
David Gensler	Water Operations Manager
Doug Strech	GIS Supervisor
Sarah Avallone	Assessment Officer
Lorenzo Benavidez	Socorro Division Manager
Sloan Washburn	Belen Division Manager
Ray Gomez	Engineer Supervisor
Jason Casuga	Engineer I
Alicia Lopez	Engineering Technician

The following names of individuals were interested viewers and/or participants:

Margene Harris	Matthew D. Chaves
Dennis Harris	Teresa Chaves
Mario Rosales	Kathy Luna
Linda Rosales	Martin Haynes
Paula Sichler	Jennifer Faler, Area Manager, USBOR
CT Sanchez	Pablo Padilla, Legal Counsel, Pueblo of Isleta
Dale Jones	Pat McCraw, South Valley Ink
Michael T. Sandoval, Pueblo of San Felipe	Martin Anaya
John Thompson, MRGCD Lobbyist	Paul M. Torres
Jeff Willis, AMAFCA	Robert Torres
Ed Donoghue	Jimmy Pareo, Pareo Farms, Inc.
Gail Armstrong	Harvey Crowley, Mesa Verde Farms
John Sorrell, Sorrell Consulting, LLC	Jericho Sanchez, Tres Hermanos Dairy
Elaine M. Padilla	Daniel Ivey-Soto, NM State Senator, District 15
Ernie Marquez, Automated Election Services	Alfred Gabaldon, Gabaldon Farm
Aaron Anaya Dow, Dow Farms	Cody B. Walker, Pueblo of Isleta
Jessica Tracy, Pueblo of Sandia	

AGENDA ITEM NO. 1 – PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Chairman Lente requested Director Duggins to lead the Pledge of Allegiance.

Chairman Lente welcomed the guests and declared a quorum.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 2 – APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Chairman Lente called for approval of the agenda. There were no additions, deletions or revisions to the agenda.

Director Dunning made the **MOTION TO APPROVE THE AGENDA AS PRESENTED**. Director Oglesby seconded the motion. The **MOTION CARRIED** unanimously.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 3 – WATER AVAILABILITY REPORT – David Gensler, MRGCD Water Operations Manager

Mr. Gensler reported that the good news is the river is still flowing and, at the present time, there is a good snowpack and it is January and there is a lot of winter left and a lot can happen. He said it is good to see 17 inches of water already at Cumbres Trestle and in a normal year there is approximately 27-28 inches of water come May and so the 17 inches is a good part of the way there. Mr. Gensler then gave an update on the Rio Grande Basin SNOTEL Snow/Precipitation report; these are not forecasts, but probabilities. He said what has happened so far this winter seems to favor a below normal, however, the storm tracks the last several weeks suggest a bit wetter than normal; see what happens in February, March and April. Mr. Gensler said there is 100 cfs coming out of El Vado; none of that is natural flow and it's all water going down stream for various uses. He said there is roughly 500 cfs at Embudo today, 650 coming out of Cochiti and about the same amount moving down through the valley to Elephant Butte. Mr. Gensler said he doesn't have the Rio Grande Compact number yet and according to the ISC phone message he received the morning, it's not that good. He said in terms of Article VII status, he thinks the Rio Grande Project storage has about 230,000-235,000 ac-ft. total in Elephant Butte with another 170,000 ac-ft. predicted as inflow. Mr. Gensler said it is still early in the season and, at this point, it doesn't look too bad with snowpack numbers.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 4 – MRGCD IRRIGATION/WATER BANK COMMITTEE REPORT & RECOMMENDATIONS ON WATER BANK LEASE RATES & FEES – Chairman Lente, Directors Sichler & Duggins

Director Sichler reported the committee met as required by the Water Bank policy and he read from the policy regarding factors required to set the lease rates. He said the committee in looking at the different factors; they made the decision to recommend the lease rate remain the same for the 2016 season. He said as far as fees, there was discussion and recommendations from staff, and the committee made the decision to leave the fees the same as well. Mr. Hamman gave a brief explanation of the \$100/per lease administrative fee. Director Duggins said the committee discussed the triggers and stream flow conditions that would affect a curtailment and based on the recommendation from staff, they made the decision to leave the current factors in place. Chairman Lente said he concurs with the reports from Directors Sichler and Duggins. Director Dunning asked how many applications in the Water Bank with less than an acre and Mr. Hamman responded there is a significant number of those; of the approximately 3,500 acres in the Water Bank, there are about 100 small parcel owners. Discussion followed on the \$50 per acre irrigation fee for small irrigators and it was concluded that those with less than an acre pay a pro-rate share of this fee.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 5 – ITEMS FROM THE FLOOR (Comments are limited to three (3) minutes)

There were no Items From the Floor.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 6 – SET WATER BANK LEASE RATES & FEES

Director Dunning made the **MOTION TO ACCEPT THE WATER BANK LEASE RATES & FEES AS RECOMMENDED BY THE MRGCD IRRIGATION/WATER BANK COMMITTEE**. Director Oglesby seconded the motion. The **MOTION CARRIED** unanimously.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 7 – CONSIDERATION OF RESOLUTION M-01-09-17-116.5 – ADOPTION OF WATER BANK RATES & FEES FOR 2017 IRRIGATION SEASON

RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS
OF THE MIDDLE RIO GRANDE CONSERVANCY DISTRICT
ADOPTION OF WATER BANK RATES & FEES FOR 2017 IRRIGATION SEASON

M-01-09-17-116.5

WHEREAS, the Board of Directors (Board) of the Middle Rio Grande Conservancy District (District), has reviewed a recommendation from the Board's Water Bank Committee for fees for the 2017 irrigation season; and

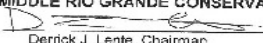
WHEREAS, at a Special Meeting of the Board held January 9, 2017 called for the purpose of establishing Water Bank rates and fees, the Board approved the following for the 2017 irrigation season:

Administration Fee	\$100/per lease
Water Service Charge (per acre)	\$37/acre/year
Lease Rate (per acre)	\$50/acre/year


NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED that the Governing Body of the Middle Rio Grande Conservancy District, hereby approves the fees and lease rates for the Water Bank hereinabove described.

RESOLVED in session this 9th day of January, 2017.

MIDDLE RIO GRANDE CONSERVANCY DISTRICT


Derrick J. Lente, Chairman

ATTEST:


David M. Ferguson, Secretary/Treasurer

Chairman Lente called for approval of the resolution.

Director Kelly made the **MOTION TO APPROVE RESOLUTION M-01-09-17-116.5 – ADOPTION OF WATER BANK RATES & FEES FOR 2017 IRRIGATION SEASON**. Director Duggins seconded the motion. The **MOTION CARRIED** unanimously.

With no further comments, questions or concerns, Director Oglesby made the **MOTION TO ADJOURN THE MEETING**. Director Duggins seconded the motion and the **MOTION CARRIED** unanimously.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:15 pm.

Approved to be the correct Minutes of the Middle Rio Grande Conservancy District Board of Directors Special Meeting-Water Bank of January 9, 2017.

Attested:

David M. Ferguson
Secretary/Treasurer

Derrick J. Lente, Chairman
MRGCD Board of Directors