

**MINUTES OF THE
TWO THOUSAND NINETY THIRD REGULAR MEETING
OF THE
BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE
MIDDLE RIO GRANDE CONSERVANCY DISTRICT
July 25, 2016**

Directors having been duly notified, Chairman Lente called the regular meeting to order at 3:02 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 Absent

STAFF:

Michael A. Hamman	Chief Engineer/CEO
Patrick Redmond	Chief Water Counsel
Bruce & Lorna Wiggins	General Legal Counsel
David Fergeson	Secretary-Treasurer
Jeanette Bustamante	Administrative Officer
Mary D'Ornellas	HR Director
David Gensler	Hydrologist
Tom Thorpe	Public Information Officer
Doug Strech	GIS Supervisor
Joe Brem	Albuquerque Division Manager
Sloan Washburn	Belen Division Manager
Jason Casuga	Engineer
Alicia Lopez	Engineer Technician
Anne Marken	Hydrologist Tech

The following individual(s) were interested viewers and/or participants:

Pat McCraw, South Valley Ink Jeff Willis, AMAFCA John Thompson, MRGCD Lobbyist	Frank Chaves, Pueblo of Sandia Veronique Richardson, Pueblo of Santa Ana
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AGENDA ITEM NO. 1 – PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Chairman Lente requested that Director Kelly 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. He said the BIA would not be in attendance at the meeting and to remove agenda item 6b.

Director Dunning made the **MOTION TO APPROVE THE JULY 24, 2016 AGENDA AS AMENDED**. Director Kelly seconded the motion. The **MOTION CARRIED** unanimously.

AGENDA ITEM NO.3 – APPROVAL OF MRGCD PAYMENT RATIFICATION & ATTORNEY INVOICES

a. Consideration/Approval of Payment Ratification – July 25, 2016

Chairman Lente called for approval of the July 25, 2016 Payment Ratification. Director Dunning had a question and Director Kelly made one comment.

Director Dunning made the **MOTION TO APPROVE THE PAYMENT RATIFICATION OF JULY 25, 2016 AS PRESENTED**. Director Kelly seconded the motion. The **MOTION CARRIED** unanimously.

b. Review FY16 3rd Quarter Financials

Mr. Fergeson said he is required to send to the NM Department of Finance and Administration (DFA) certain financial information and he is just advising the Board of the status of the 3rd quarter financials. He said the MRGCD had about 40% of the budget remaining for the last quarter of the fiscal year and he is asking the Board to acknowledge that they have received the financials and he will then get the acknowledgement off to the DFA.

c. Consideration/Approval of FY16 4th Quarter Financials

Mr. Fergeson reported the Board has copies of the Budget to Actual Comparison which shows the MRGCD has collected \$1.7 million more in revenues than had been budgeted. He said on the expenditure side, the MRGCD spent \$2.9 million less than budgeted i.e. personnel services, fuel expenses, monies budgeted for San Acacia and concrete savings. He said he also provided a document that shows the MRGCD went into the budget cycle thinking there would be a deficit of \$2.678 million and actually came out positive \$1.113 million. Mr. Fergeson said the other document, requested by the DFA, is a comparison of FY15 to FY16. He said in looking at the cash, the Board will see from June 30, 2015 to June 30, 2016, the MRGCD increased by \$1.120 million and that coincides with the budget savings that were anticipated.

Director Kelly said he and Director Sichler met with Mr. Fergeson as the MRGCD Finance Committee prior to this meeting and as usual Mr. Fergeson provided more detail; line item by line item. He said in the FY17 budget, the MRGCD has made a forecast on the assessments coming in at a higher rate, they have budgeted salary savings and put in a close number for fuel; \$2.50/gallon. He said they shouldn't expect to see these kinds of savings in next year's budget, either on the revenue side or the expense side because it has been built into the new budget. Director Kelly said the committee requested that Mr. Fergeson report back to them with background information on some various checking accounts that might be considered inactive even though there is money in those accounts. Director Sichler said he would like to make it clear that last year the budget had a shortfall of \$2.5 million and it ended up they ran a surplus of \$1.1 million. He said the bank accounts went from \$18.451 million to \$19.573 million and that is a pretty good leap. Director Sichler said as Director Kelly pointed out, the budget is a lot tighter this year and we will probably not see this again. Director Dunning had questions regarding the ad valorem in each of the four counties and Mr. Fergeson gave the budget to actual numbers for each of the counties. Mr. Hamman said there was also a higher recovery of delinquency collections and Mr. Fergeson said they were up by \$96,000 from the budgeted amount.

d. Consideration/Approval of Resolution BA-07-25-16-71 Fiscal Year 2016 Fourth Quarter Unaudited Financial Report and Unaudited Cash Balance Review as of July 1, 2016

Mr. Fergeson said he is recommending approval of the budget resolution.

Director Kelly made the **MOTION TO APPROVE RESOLUTION BA-07-25-16-71 FISCAL YEAR 2016 FOURTH QUARTER UNAUDITED FINANCIAL REPORT AND UNAUDITED CASH BALANCE REVIEW AS OF JULY 1, 2016**. Director Oglesby seconded the motion. The **MOTION CARRIED** unanimously.

RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS
OF THE MIDDLE RIO GRANDE CONSERVANCY DISTRICT
FISCAL YEAR 2016 FOURTH QUARTER UNAUDITED FINANCIAL REPORT AND
UNAUDITED CASH BALANCE REVIEW AS OF JULY 1, 2016

BA-07-25-16-71

WHEREAS, in accordance with Section 6-6-2 NMSA 1978, the State of New Mexico Department of Finance – Local Government Division (NMDFA-LGD) has examined the proposed (Interim) Fiscal Year 2017 budget of the Middle Rio Grande Conservancy District; and,

WHEREAS, in accordance with Section 6-6-2 NMSA 1978, the NMDFA-LGD granted the Middle Rio Grande Conservancy District approval and certification for use pending its Board of Governance fourth quarter Fiscal Year 2016 unaudited financial report review including unaudited cash balances as of July 1, 2016; and,

WHEREAS, on July 25, 2016 at its regularly scheduled Board of Directors meeting, the Secretary/Treasurer of the Middle Rio Grande Conservancy District presented to the Board of Directors, the fourth quarter Fiscal Year 2016 unaudited financial report including unaudited cash balances as of July 1, 2016; and,

WHEREAS, the Secretary/Treasurer of the Middle Rio Grande Conservancy District hereby certifies that the content of the fourth quarter Fiscal Year 2016 unaudited financial report, including unaudited cash balances as of July 1, 2016, to be true and correct to the best of his knowledge.

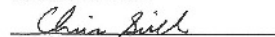
NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

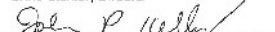
The Middle Rio Grande Conservancy District's Board of Governance hereby approves the Fiscal Year 2016 fourth quarter unaudited financial report including unaudited cash balances as of July 1, 2016 and respectfully requests final approval and certification from the State of New Mexico Department of Finance – Local Government Division of the Middle Rio Grande Conservancy District Fiscal Year 2016 budget in accordance with Section 6-6-2 NMSA 1978.

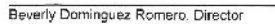
RESOLVED in session this 25th day of July 2016.

MIDDLE RIO GRANDE CONSERVANCY DISTRICT


Derrick J. Lente,
Chairman of the Board


Chris Stihler, Director

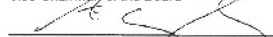

John P. Kelly, Director


Beverly Dominguez Romero, Director

ATTEST:

David M. Ferguson, CPA, CGMA
Secretary/Treasurer


Glen Duggins,
Vice Chairman of the Board


Adrian Oglesby, Director


Karen Dunning, Director

AGENDA ITEM NO. 4 – APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

- a. Consideration/Approval of Minutes for Regular Board Meeting – July 11, 2016

Chairman Lente called for approval of the minutes for the Regular Board Meeting July 11, 2016.

Director Dunning made the **MOTION TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE REGULAR BOARD MEETING JULY 11, 2016 AS PRESENTED.** Director Duggins seconded the motion. Director Kelly abstained. The **MOTION CARRIED.**

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

Pat McCraw said for the most part Ditch Riders do a great job and she appreciates all the hard work they do. She then shared that she feels that Ditch Riders need training in how to be polite with constituents and most importantly they need to learn that when they go to a farmer that does a large amount of farming and has been farming for 40-50 years, there's two things you don't do. She said number one is when the farmer is told he can have water; you give him the water and you don't let someone jump in ahead and drain all the irrigation water to feed a smaller property. She said it took the farmer two days to irrigate rather than the usual 8-12 hours. Ms. McCraw said the Ditch Rider then tells the farmer that he doesn't know how to farm and not doing a good job and should not be in the farming business. She said these are comments that are inappropriate for a Ditch Rider to be saying and there needs to be a discussion about that at some point. She said maybe this situation has been resolved and she is just letting the Board know so they can discuss training of the Ditch Riders.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 6 – REPORT(S) FROM THE DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

a. Bureau of Reclamation – Jennifer Faler, Area Manager

Ms. Faler was not at the meeting to give a report. The following summary report was received electronically from the Bureau of Reclamation.

1. Heron Summary

Content = 136,421 ac-ft. (07/21)
 Azotea Tunnel: 7 cfs
 Total SJ-C inflow year-to-date: 84,865 ac-ft.
 Currently releasing: 40 cfs
 Current MRGCD storage: 19,336 ac-ft.

2. El Vado Summary

- A. Total storage (all contractors and natural) in El Vado as of 07/21:
81,316 ac-ft.
- B. Native in El Vado
42,267 ac-ft.
- C. MRGCD SJ-C storage in El Vado
15,222 ac-ft.
- D. MRGCD EDWA:
5,008 ac-ft.
- E. NMISC EDWA:
1,165 ac-ft.
- F. P&P:
14,047 ac-ft.
- G. All other SJ-C contractors:
3,607 ac-ft.

Current release is 800 cfs RG Inflow is 50-60 cfs

3. Storage in Abiquiu

Content = 117,437 ac-ft. (07/21)
 MRGCD SJ-C storage = 1,701 ac-ft.

Total water for minnow released to date in 2016: 5,793 ac-ft.

Snowpack Data
 Melted Out

b. Bureau of Indian Affairs

The Bureau of Indian Affairs advised Chairman Lente they would not be at today's meeting and this item was removed from the agenda.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 7 – REPORT(S) FROM THE CHIEF ENGINEER (Michael A. Hamman, MRGCD CEO/CE)

Mr. Hamman said he would like to introduce Ms. Christine Nardi who has been hired as the Human Resources Director. He said she comes to the MRGCD from the Village of Los Lunas and will be working with Ms. D'Ornellas over the next two weeks prior to Ms. D'Ornellas' retirement. Director Kelly asked if Ms. Nardi would give a bit of her background and she complied.

a. Water Report – David Gensler, MRGCD Hydrologist

Mr. Gensler said there is really no news and the weather has been hot, hot, & hotter. He said the MRGCD started releasing from storage just after the 3rd of July and went from zero release to full throttle in the span of about three days. He said the natural flows of the river today are approximately 100-150 cfs and it is very dry out there. Mr. Gensler said since they started releasing they have gone through about 19,000 ac-ft. of water; a lot of water in a very short period of time. He said as of this afternoon there is approximately 78,000 ac-ft. in storage and at the present rate of release there is enough water to last 45 more days, and could run out by mid-September. Mr. Gensler said he is an optimist and there are almost always some periods of rain and cooler temperature later in August and early September. He said with these kinds of temperatures everyone in the valley wants water and they want it now and so they have used a bunch. He said the current demand, the order placed with Reclamation, is about 975 cfs and that is 100-150 cfs higher than they would normally run at this time of year. Mr. Gensler said the MRGCD is currently diverting 155 cfs from Cochiti, 115 from Angostura, 155 at Isleta and 50 at San Acacia and 165 in Socorro Main. He said these are normal diversions for this time of year, however, the storage releases are much higher; due to the effects of higher temperatures and water riparian consumption and the MRGCD has to offset for the losses.

Mr. Gensler said the only other issue he has is about the minnow operations. He said this is a critical factor this time of year and it began about 2 ½ weeks ago. He said Reclamation is releasing water to make this happen; the release started at around 250 cfs and has been reduced to 100 cfs as of this morning out of Cochiti. He said there are currently about 65-70 cfs passing by San Acacia Dam and Reclamation is pumping down at the bottom of the reach in the San Marcial area. Mr. Gensler said there would probably be another change next week with the drying of the Isleta Reach and a change in the minnow release down to 75 cfs. He said this week they are in the process of trying to arrange some more outfall locations and create habitat areas.

Director Sichler said he crossed at Bernardo and there is still quite a bit of water and is that due to the outfall and how long will that go on. Mr. Gensler said that is still water that is coming down from the Isleta Reach and the current bypass at Isleta is 125 cfs and that gets 35-40 cfs at Bernardo. He said by Thursday there should be just a trickle. Director Kelly asked if they are running up against a Water Bank trigger and Mr. Gensler said no that if that happens, it would probably be the September 1st trigger. Mr. Hamman asked if the 78,000 ac-ft. in storage is that inclusive of the 2016 allocation of San Juan Chama water and Mr. Gensler said yes it is. Mr. Hamman said there was a special request from Pueblo of San Felipe this morning and Mr. Gensler said Reclamation moved 100 ac-ft. of San Juan Chama water that was in the possession of Pueblo of San Felipe from El Vado to Abiquiu to Cochiti on Sunday afternoon and passed through the Pueblo this morning; the MRGCD will benefit from the movement of this water. Director Duggins said that Socorro got pretty short on water and he wanted to show the Board what happens when the farmers don't get their scheduled water. He then showed examples of chili and what happens when there are high temperatures and no water. He said when farmers are scheduled for water, they need communication from the Ditch Riders and they can adjust accordingly. Director Duggins said Ditch Riders need the skills and training on human relations to deal with farmers that are "hot" headed when there are these types of conditions. Mr. Gensler said he understands and the MRGCD does devote time in the annual Ditch Rider training courses and if they are new, then he sits and speaks with them individually about what to expect when the water is not there. He said they try to express to them that this is a difficult time and irrigators are very dependent on their crops for their livelihood. Director Duggins said scheduling of the water and setting the date gives false hope to the irrigator and when that date comes and there is no water and perhaps there was water in the time between scheduling and the Ditch Rider needs to be more flexible in getting the water to the irrigator and would Mr. Gensler work with the Ditch

Riders on this and Mr. Gensler responded that he would. Chairman Lente asked what happened with this shortage of water and Mr. Gensler said what happened at San Acacia happens every year. He said it happens when the MRGCD makes the transition from full flow in the river to not enough water and it's related to the Silvery Minnow issue and he went on to give additional details.

b. Update – Legislature Activities – John Thompson, MRGCD Lobbyist

Mr. Thompson reported that he recently attended the NM Legislature Water & Natural Resources Committee in Alamogordo and it was very interesting to listen about the Jumping Mouse and the Endangered Species Act and how it is having implications on ranchers. He said the next meetings will be in Clovis and in Tucumcari in the third week of August. He said if the Board has questions or concerns in regard to Worker's Comp, there will be a meeting tomorrow at Isleta to discuss this. He said he will also travel to Ruidoso on Wednesday to listen to the NM State Engineer speak on various projects in the State. Director Sichler asked who was sponsoring the Worker's Comp hearing and Mr. Thompson responded the NM Health and Human Services.

Chairman Lente asked Mr. Thompson for his report on the MRGCD Legislative Committee meeting that took place prior to this Board meeting. Mr. Thompson said the committee discussed legislation having to do with election reform. He said there have been some developments on that front and there will not be a collaborative effort on the bill that was presented, but the legislators will be presenting two different efforts. He said Representative Paul Bandy and Senator Daniel Ivey-Soto will be presenting two different bills and this will change the complexity and face of the bill. He said they also discussed attending the next Pueblo Coalition meeting to inform them of the situation. Director Dunning said that Bandy's bill will have the MRGCD election combined with other elections and would change the date of the election to November of the years when there is not a general election and the election would be run by County Clerks. She said Ivey-Soto's bill was much more comprehensive and would change who would vote in an MRGCD election. Director Dunning said the election would be just like elections for AMAFCA where only registered voters would vote. She said there was discussion that once a bill is introduced that changes something in the election code, then can you change the number of representatives for a particular county and open the election up to other things. She said Mr. Thompson thinks it probably wouldn't and this may be more of a danger to the MRGCD than who gets to vote and how do you deal with that. Director Dunning said one of the strategies they discussed was getting with the NM Farm Bureau and this election would change how it affects farmers and look at it as a boarder agricultural issue. She said they discussed speaking with the Bandy and Ivey-Soto and possibly the Pueblo Coalition. Director Kelly asked if these two legislators are aware of the definition of a qualified elector and Mr. Thompson said yes and Senator Ivey-Soto's thought was if a constituent was within a boundary, whether you rent or own a property, that you are affected and, therefore, should be able to vote. Director Duggins said he is still in hopes the MRGCD and the Pueblos can come together and work on this and he would like to see it defeated completely. Chairman Lente said the Pueblos do come into play because it affects them in regards of how they vote and being a registered voter and the committee felt it would be a good thing to attend a Coalition meeting, along with Mr. Thompson, and perhaps the Pueblos would be willing to join the MRGCD in this effort. Mr. Hamman said that he and Mr. Thompson will also be contacting other soil and water conservation districts that would be affected by the legislation to see if there may be a coalition in terms of combating the process as it is currently structured and the realities of the impact these bills would have.

c. Update – Conditions on the Corrales Siphon Report – Mike Hamman, MRGCD CEO

Mr. Hamman said he would like to give the Board a full review of the Corrales Siphon project showing the Corrales Siphon through the various phases of the project. He began the PowerPoint presentation with a slide of the total project and said the project was designed to install rip rap around the edge of the bank and tie it into the sides of the bank to prevent water from getting around the structure and also to place a large blanket of rip rap in the river downstream of the Corrales Siphon to prevent the water energy from further undermining the siphon itself. He then went on to show slides at the different stages of the project. He said when the project was completed the MRGCD constructed a pipe fence in collaboration with the Corrales Fire Department and the Village of Corrales to make it a safe area for parking and recreation. He said this was a very successful project

and it will give years of time to deal with the problem. Mr. Hamman said there is one phase of the project left and that is replacing the cottonwood trees that will be donated to the Village and Director Kelly asked why they would be replacing cottonwoods when they should be re-creating the mosaic of the Bosque that use to exist and would hope they would have this discussion with the Village of Corrales so they are aware of the Bosque Restoration and not replacing water thirsty cottonwoods.

- d. Report – Upper Rio Grande Basin Study Kick-Off Meeting – Mike Hamman, MRGCD CEO & Anne Marken, MRGCD Hydrologist Technician

Mr. Hamman said as a reminder, the MRGCD has partnered with Reclamation, in a Rio Grande Basin study under the WaterSMART program and he went on to give some specifics on the study. He said the first step of this program is the planning study to set things up and encourage folks to come in and assist with the full scale project which is roughly \$1 million and so you need a significant number of cost share partners to make it work. He said that he and Mr. Gensler worked on this and then asked Anne Marken to help with the logistics and she did a great job of putting the kick-off meeting together. He said they got some additional letters of interest issued by the Audubon Society, the Nature Conservancy, the Pueblo of Sandia and others. Mr. Hamman said the meeting was conducted by Reclamation and the MRGCD and introduced all the requirements of developing and structuring in a way that would allow this study to serve as a big portion of what the MRGCD needs to do to actually apply for the full basin study. He said they got feedback from the attendees which included several local jurisdictions, NM Bureau of Mines, Socorro County Soil & Water Conservation District, the Socorro Sierra Regional Water Planning group and several other agencies and there was a good outcome of representation. Ms. Marken said she feels there was a good turnout and she listed some of the other attendees. She said they reviewed what will be expected over the next year and what is actually needed to get the study going. She felt the kick-off meeting was very productive and there are other agencies that have expressed interest in participating. Mr. Hamman said it is of extreme interest to Reclamation and other agencies because of the potential of the impact and for the MRGCD to be in a position to identify the adaptive strategies for the future.

Director Kelly asked if there were participants from Elephant Butte and Ms. Marken responded no that the invitations went to those from the Colorado border to Elephant Butte which was the designated area set by Reclamation. Director Sichler said what is being experienced for water supply conditions is likely what is normal as what was experienced in the 80's & 90's was abnormally wetter and may not be happen again . Director Oglesby said the players in this program are basically the same as in the Collaborative Program and will the laundry list in this program be different and will there will some new fresh ideas. Mr. Hamman said they will reach out to acequia associations, the Pueblos and get other groups involved and he thinks that will be helpful in getting new information. He said Reclamation will not fund the process if it falls apart and he said the MRGCD will take a leadership role and will collaborate with the folks that will give their perspective on what they would like to see in a broader basin study.

- e. Status Report from the MRGCD Public Information Officer – Tom Thorpe, MRGCD PIO

Mr. Thorpe reported that he has placed a new application on the website called the Notification System and he wanted to show the Board how it works. He gave some background on why the information system is needed and he demonstrated how it will work. Mr. Thorpe said this is a way to drive information to constituents and over time the MRGCD will build the base and be able to communicate with constituents on an as needed basis. He said in the next week or so he will send out a mass e-mail regarding the availability of the system. Mr. Thorpe said there is a button on the front page of the website that constituents can subscribe to the Notification system with various options.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 8 – REPORT(S) FROM THE MRGCD ATTORNEY(S) (Chief Water Counsel and/or General Counsel)

- a. Update – ESA/Biological Opinion Matters – Patrick Redmond, Chief Water Counsel, Law & Resource Planning Associates

Mr. Redmond said he had two items. The first is an update is the current date for a draft file of the Biological Opinion (BO) is sometime in mid-August; although it could be pushed back again by the Fish & Wildlife Service (Service) should they need additional time. He said there have been on-going discussions with the Biological Assessment (BA) partners which include Reclamation, State of NM, NM Interstate Stream Commission and the MRGCD, regarding information requests from the Service to Reclamation, which is the consulting agency, and the BA partners have been informed that they have been involved in discussions and the process is ongoing; I'm sure it's going to take at least a year including the review and comment period and it will probably be several months before a final BO is issued.

Mr. Redmond said the second item is the litigation with WildEarth Guardians v. Bureau of Reclamation and the US Army Corps of Engineers; in which the MRGCD has intervened as a defendant. He said at the last Board meeting, Dr. DuMars informed the Board there was some disagreement about the administrative record issues. He said WildEarth Guardians have made a proposal about how they foresaw the process going forward and the Federal defendants and the MRGCD did not agree with that process; they have now reached an agreement on how the administrative record issues should be dealt with. He said the WildEarth Guardians have filed a motion to supplement the administrative record and has lodged as exhibits their suggested list of documents that should be included in the administrative record. He said most of them deal with the issue of the Corps' discretionary authority as to whether or not they should be ordered by the Court to consult with the Service on their proposed actions. Mr. Redmond said there are some other documents that have to do with the MRGCD and the Middle Rio Grande Project and presumably involve issues of the scope of Reclamation's discretionary authority over MRGCD operations; those issues are not really a part of the case right now, however, they might be in the future as the case morphs with the release of the Biological Opinion. He said for now basically the process is that those documents have been lodged by WildEarth Guardians and the MRGCD will file a response to WildEarth Guardians' motion to supplement the record, as will the Federal defendants. The responses will be due on August 31st.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 10 – REPORTS FROM THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

- a. Discussion – Letter from Six Middle Rio Grande Pueblo Coalition Regarding Proposed Elimination of Pueblo Polling Locations – Chairman Lente

Chairman Lente said he is in receipt of a letter from Chairman Scott Paisano, Coalition of Six Middle Rio Grande Basin Pueblos regarding the possible elimination of polling locations within Sandoval County. He said he was not at the June 13th meeting when this discussion took place. He said the letter expresses the concern of the Coalition regarding the elimination of possible sites on the Pueblos. He said Ms. Bennett, MRGCD Election Officer has furnished a comparison of the 2013 & 2015 polling locations and it depicts the deletions that were discussed at the June 13th meeting for Sandoval County. Chairman Lente said those suggested to be eliminated are the Pena Blanca Senior Center, Algodones Elementary and the Sandoval County Voting Machine Warehouse. He said there was a discussion at a recent Pueblo Coalition meeting where information was shared and perhaps incorrect information was communicated. Director Oglesby said he thinks they represented the information accurately and they reported to the Coalition that the Board had a discussion where the notion was raised that Cochiti and Santa Ana might be eliminated, they discussed the polling numbers and the outcome of that was the Board should probably include the Pueblos in that discussion going forward. Chairman Lente said those polling locations the Board is recommending for elimination do not include any of the Pueblos. Director Sichler said his recollection is that the Board discussed not only Sandoval County, but Bernalillo County and Socorro County and eliminated sites. He said there was no decision made; there was just discussion. He said there were one or two Pueblo locations that had low turnout and the Board discussed eliminating as well as those low numbered sites in the other counties. He said it was discussed and there has been no decision at this point. He said in 2015 there were eight votes at Cochiti and that is pretty hard to justify a site there and then in 2013 when there was a position open there were quite a few votes cast. Chairman Lente asked about the timeline and the Ms. Bennett, MRGCD Election Officer responded this review

was done at the request of the Board so the polling locations could be set prior to candidates declaring candidacy. Director Kelly said at that June 13th meeting, Mr. Hamman was tasked to talk with the Pueblo Coalition and express to the Pueblos of Cochiti and Santo Domingo is there an option of alternating the elections at one Pueblo vs. the other. He said if the At-Large election and the Sandoval County seat election were held at the same time, the MRGCD could eliminate a whole bunch of positions every other election and maybe that is a question to pose. He said next time should there be a two year term for Sandoval County and tweak the schedule of positions in the election schedule to where just by structure you get rid of elections in Sandoval County every other election cycle. Director Kelly said someone would have to accept a two year term to get this started and maybe this could be placed in the new legislation. Director Dunning said there was also discussion on the possibility of setting a bar at this election that puts people on notice that if there isn't a certain turnout this election, then the next time there is an MRGCD election, the voting location may be eliminated. Chairman Lente said it was recommended in the letter that there should be more discussion on working with the Pueblos on ways to increase turnout. Director Sichler said the discussion also did center on the budget and the budget for the election at \$250,000 rather than the \$300,000 for other years. He said one thing they may need to consider is some of the polling locations that don't have a lot of voters and are sensitive areas the Board should consider renting a van to shuttle voters to other sites and there are other options to consider. He said eight votes cost the MRGCD \$1,000 a vote.

- b. Report – MRGCD Legislative Committee Meeting – July 25, 2016 – Chairman Lente, Directors Dunning & Duggins

This report on this agenda item was given earlier in this meeting.

Chairman Lente said because this meeting was held the same day as a regular meeting, directors would not be receiving per diem and an approval would not be required.

- c. Report – MRGCD Budget Committee Meeting – July 25, 2016 – Directors Kelly & Sichler

This report on this agenda item was given earlier in this meeting.

Chairman Lente said because this meeting was held the same day as a regular meeting, directors would not be receiving per diem and an approval would not be required.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 10 – EXECUTIVE SESSION

- a. NMSA 1978 Open Meetings Act, (Section 10-15-1(H)7)
 1. Threatened or Pending Litigation
- b. NMSA 1978 Open Meetings Act, (Section 10-15-1(H)2)
 1. Limited Personnel Matters

Chairman Lente requested a motion to move into Executive Session.

Director Dunning **MADE THE MOTION TO MOVE INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION PURSUANT TO NMSA 1978 OPEN MEETINGS ACT (SECTION 10-15-1(H)7) & (SECTION 10-15-1(H)2).** Director Oglesby seconded the motion.

Chairman Lente requested a roll call vote:

Director Duggins	Yes	Director Dunning	Yes
Director Oglesby	Yes	Chairman Lente	Yes
Director Kelly	Yes	Director Sichler	Yes
Director Romero	Absent		

The **MOTION CARRIED** unanimously.

Chairman Lente adjourned the meeting at 4:30 pm.

Chairman Lente reconvened the meeting at 4:45 pm.

Chairman Lente requested a motion to move back into the regular Board meeting. Director Oglesby made the **MOTION TO MOVE BACK INTO REGULAR SESSION**. Director Dunning seconded the motion.

Chairman Lente requested a roll call vote:

Director Duggins	Yes	Director Dunning	Yes
Director Oglesby	Yes	Chairman Lente	Yes
Director Kelly	Yes	Director Sichler	Yes
Director Romero	Absent		

The **MOTION CARRIED** unanimously.

Chairman Lente said discussion was had and no decisions were made.

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 4:46 pm.

Approved to be the correct Minutes of the Board of Directors of July 25, 2016.

Attested:

David M. Ferguson
Secretary/Treasurer

Derrick J. Lente, Chairman
MRGCD Board of Directors