

**MINUTES OF THE
2,181st REGULAR MEETING OF THE
BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE
MIDDLE RIO GRANDE CONSERVANCY DISTRICT**

NOVEMBER 8, 2021, 3:00 P.M.

Directors having been duly notified; Madam Chair Dunning called the regular meeting to order at 3:03 pm at the MRGCD General Office. The following Directors and Staff were present:

DIRECTORS		STAFF	
Karen Dunning, Madam Chair	Present	Mike Hamman	Chief Engineer/CEO
Stephanie Russo Baca, Vice Chair	Present	Dr. Chuck DuMars	Chief Water Counsel
Barbara Baca, Director	Present	Lorna Wiggins	General Counsel
John Kelly, Director	Present	Jason Casuga	Chief Operating Officer
Joaquin Baca, Director	Present	Pamela Fanelli	Secretary-Treasurer/CFO
Glen Duggins, Director	Present	Anne Marken	Acting Water Operations Mgr.
Michael T. Sandoval, Director	Present	Mike Lopez	Water Distribution Div. Mgr.
		DeAnna Phillips	GIS Tech / Board Liaison

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

Nolan Meadows, Peralta	Anders Lundahl, NM ISC
Mitchell Vergeer, Los Lunas	Matthew Aragon
Samantha Valentine	Julian Avalos, MRGCD
Theresa Davis, Albuquerque Journal	Judith McSweeney, MRGCD
Anthony J. Martinez, Chief, Corrales Fire Dept.	Casey Ish, MRGCD
Tricia Snyder, WildEarth Guardians	Estella Gamboa, MRGCD
Isabela Nicole Nellos	Daniel Arquero, MRGCD
Max Henkels, NMDA	Yasmeen Najmi, MRGCD
Jennifer Faler, USBR	Adrienne Martinez, MRGCD
Andrew Hautzinger, Director, VSWCD	Willie West, MRGCD
Santiago Maestas	Matt Martinez, MRGCD

AGENDA ITEM NO. 1 – PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Director Joaquin Baca led the Pledge of Allegiance.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 2 – APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Director Joaquin Baca asked that two meetings be added to the Reports from the Board: item 10f Meeting with Indivisible Albuquerque on October 18th and item 10g Thornburg Foundation trip on November 2nd.

Madam Chair Dunning asked the Urban Affairs Committee (Directors Joaquin Baca, Barbara Baca, and Russo Baca) if they could meet before next month's meeting to look at things like the film and other matters before it comes to the Board.

Madam Chair Dunning also that the word "resolution" be stricken from item 8.g. as the discussion is not about the actual resolution and requested that announcements be added to the agenda at next month's meeting to introduce new staff. Mike Hamman agreed.

Director Baca made the **MOTION TO APPROVE THE MEETING AGENDA with the above changes**. Director Kelly seconded the motion. The **MOTION PASSES UNANIMOUSLY**.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 3 – CONSENT AGENDA

- a. Consideration/Approval of Payment Ratification - November 8, 2021
- b. Consideration/Approval of October 2021 Invoice for Wiggins, Williams & Wiggins
- c. Consideration/Approval of October 2021 Invoice for Law & Resource Planning Associates
- d. Consideration/Approval of the Minutes for the Regular Board Meeting - October 11, 2021
- e. Memo on MRGCD Approved Licenses for October 2021 (For Informational Purposes Only)

Director Kelly stated that they should appreciate how much new equipment costs now and what a big fiscal impact it has on the District. He also reiterated that the grader is owned by MRGCD and to be used up and down the valley where needed; not just at the Cochiti Division.

Director Kelly made the **MOTION TO APPROVE THE CONSENT AGENDA**. Director Baca seconded the motion. The **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 4 – REPORT ON THE TITLE TRANSFER SIGNING CEREMONY - US BUREAU OF RECLAMATION, Jennifer Faler, Sharon Wirth, and Mike Hamman, CE/CEO

Mike Hamman displayed the maps of all land below Isleta down to north boundary of Bosque Del Apache (excluding the Low Flow Conveyance Channel). He proclaimed it's a red letter day for the District! (Dialog was not audible in recording.)

Director Kelly inquired about separate approvals from the Bureau. Mr. Hamman stated the District is no longer required preapproval from the Bureau of Reclamation for some license agreements. He also stated that some licenses to ingress/egress they have granted have a clause that they can now come forward to negotiate the purchase of that ingress/egress easement as a permanent part of their property.

Dr. DuMars stated the litigating/ruling listings will be given to the Board of Directors. (Dialog was not audible in recording)

AGENDA ITEM NO. 5 - ITEMS FROM THE FLOOR (Comments are limited to six (6) minutes)

No items from the floor.

Director Duggins wanted it noted in the minutes that he feels we all play on one team and that we're very unique, such as pueblos, city people that enjoy the water, and farmers. Director Duggins stated that it is harmful when they start putting one group against another. He stated we are a group, and we speak as one.

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

- a. **Bureau of Reclamation - Jennifer Faler, Area Manager**

Ms. Faler stated that she has spent her entire federal career working to prove government can be efficient and work for the people they serve. She said she is proud of her office for getting through the many hurdles in the title transfer process and thanked the Board for their acknowledgement.

Ms. Faler expressed she attended the El Vado Seepage Reduction Modification Project meeting. She stated they have an excellent group of contractors and subs. She also said the Albuquerque and Provo offices are coordinating on the effort. She was optimistic and feels they are off to a good start.

Ms. Faler also discussed Reclamation and that they are spending a significant effort to try and work with different agencies to figure out how to store water for the prior and paramount lands for the six Middle Rio Grande pueblos. She stated they are hoping some of the P&P water can be some of the first native water stored in Abiquiu following the authorization from the US Congress. Ms. Faler did mention that they are running into challenges with the (US Army) Corps of Engineers, so they are looking into other alternatives to store the insurance water for the pueblos.

Ms. Faler expressed she visited with Tanya Trujillo who informed her the expectations are high and that her office will be able to bring in large sums of money in the drought, infrastructure, and reconciliation bills. Ms. Faler mentioned their focus has been in the lower reach, where they have done some river realignments.

Ms. Faler said there is good news on the fish catch per unit effort numbers. She stated they are around a 0.3, which is a population target that they don't want to go below this year. She announced they are very short handed at her area office and are expected to lose more employees over the next couple months due to the federal mandate. She stated people are retiring and that it is hard to recruit. BOR has decided to divide the area office between herself focusing on the south and Jim Wilber will be focusing on the middle valley.

Director Kelly asked for the completion date of the dam face modifications at El Vado. Ms. Faler stated that they are optimistic that we will be able to store water in 2023. She also stated the spillway modifications will immediately follow that and will also take a couple of years to complete.

b. Bureau of Indian Affairs - Viola Sanchez, Designated Engineer

Ms. Sanchez expressed they are down to very low flow conditions. She stated four of the pueblos have already shutdown, with Cochiti being the only one remaining but with very minimal flow. She stated Isleta has a little bit of irrigation on the west side. She stated they are trying to get started on the eastside construction.

Ms. Sanchez reminded them she is retiring at the end of the year, and her position will probably be posted within the week for a replacement. She stated the pueblos have been working on their O&M lists and should be in order.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 7 – REPORT FROM THE SECRETARY-TREASURER/CFO - Pamela Fanelli, CMA, CGFM

- a. **Consideration/Approval of NMFA Resolution #M-11-08-21-177 for Authorizing a Loan Agreement Between the MRGCD and the New Mexico Finance Authority to Purchase Heavy Equipment and respective Apparatus (Roll call Vote)**

No discussion or questions were had.

Director Kelly made the **MOTION TO APPROVE THE NMFA RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING A LOAN AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE DISTRICT AND NMFA TO PURCHASE HEAVY EQUIPMENT AND RESPECTIVE APPARATUS**. Director Barbara Baca seconded the motion. **The MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

AGENDA ITEM NO. 8 – REPORT(S) FROM THE CHIEF ENGINEER/CEO - Mike A. Hamman, PE

- a. **Wrap Up of 2021 Irrigation Season - Anne Marken, Water Operations Division Manager**

Ms. Marken stated that as of Friday most of the irrigation was concluded except for the small amount in Cochiti. Diversions at Angostura Dam and Isleta were shutoff. She said they are seeing flows come up. She stated Elephant Butte has gained a little over 8,000-acre feet since the October 1st shutdown.

Ms. Marken expressed there is no MRGCD San Juan Chama water to carry over to the next year and the water stored at El Vado must be evacuated by the end of the calendar year due to compact restrictions. She stated they have coordinated with the Bureau of Reclamation to develop a plan to maximize how much water gets to Elephant Butte. Ms. Marken stated there is optimism that New Mexico will not have grown its debit in 2021. She stated the NWS's 90-day seasonal outlook or forecast shows a 60 to 70% chance for above average temperatures and 40 to 50% chance of below average precipitation this winter.

Director Kelly congratulated Ms. Marken as the new Water Operations Division Manager.

- b. **Report on Preparation for Off-season Activities and Workplan - Mike Lopez, Water Distribution Division Manager and Jason Casuga, COO**

Mr. Lopez stated they are still making some pueblo deliveries in primarily Cochiti and parts of Isleta. He said they calculate the flows based on acreage and current P&P demand. He stated all of the ISO books have been reviewed, dated, and turned in. Mr. Lopez expressed they have done internal training over the last several weeks and that has been really good. He stated they have a good portion of ISOs working on the infrastructure assessment project. He stated he's formed two crews, the North Valley and the South Valley, who will be installing turnouts, headwalls, concrete work and also helping the different division offices.

Director Kelly likes that the ISOs will be calculating the elevation. Director Duggins expressed they did a beautiful job on the turnouts by his land; however, still does not like the elevation.

Mr. Casuga mentioned the infrastructure assessment. He said they are going to first focus on moving division by division, with the primary focus being the Albuquerque area first. He stated he expects this to last for the next three years. Mr. Casuga expressed the District made a commitment that any turnout request that came in prior to last Friday will be in by the irrigation season. Mr. Casuga expressed they would be doing much in the maintenance category this year, such as patching concrete and areas that need to be recut. He also stated they would be focusing on commitments, grant funding projects such as the Peralta project started at Isleta pueblo.

Mr. Casuga introduced the newest staff member, Matthew Chavez, the Drafter/Field Technician. Mr. Chavez stated he graduated from NM Tech and is excited to join the District. The Board welcomed him.

c. Report on the Corrales Levee Vegetation Management Plan Approved by the Village Council, October 12, 2021 - Yasmeen Najmi, Conservation Program Manager and Mike Hamman, CE/CEO

Ms. Najmi stated this project's objectives are to selectively thin trees and shrubs along the flood control levee and enhance existing fuel breaks within the Bosque. She and Chief Anthony Martinez came up with a work plan originally intended to be more thinning to provide access to the levee that's inaccessible. She stated that they went out with some members of the Bosque Commission and discussed their needs along the levee. She stated they presented a compromise work plan and it passed unanimously. She stated the first 10 feet provides minimal access for our staff to address our needs, but we did agree to keep some of the bigger trees that we could work around, and the second 10 feet is more for prior risk management. She also stated those trees would be marked.

Director Kelly asked who would be responsible for marking the trees. Ms. Najmi responded Chief Martinez would mark trees that were healthy and mature that he felt were not a risk to be kept in that location.

Chief Martinez stated on behalf of the Village of Corrales Fire Department, they are looking forward to working closely with the District on this project.

Director Barbara Baca commended Ms. Najmi and the chief for working together on this as it's a difficult thing regarding a compromise.

d. Report on Meeting with Senator Heinrich's New Mexico staff, October 21, 2021 - Mike Hamman, CE/CEO and Jason Casuga, COO

Mr. Hamman stated Senator Heinrich's staff reached out to us regarding involvement in discussing the recent flooding impacts in the Belen area with local governments. He stated they organized a meeting and toured the area. Mr. Hamman said Jason (Casuga) showed them the rain event sequence that made MRGCD a victim just like everybody else. He expressed that he also mentioned the issues with the Rio Grande Compact Debit and the lower channel to the office. Mr. Hamman said they agreed that the answer to the flooding problem is an approach of a flood control authority and said they would be informing the senator as such.

Mr. Casuga expressed Senator Heinrich's team may attend some meetings with the City of Belen and the public to explain what the problem is and why damage keeps occurring.

e. Report on the 2nd Annual Congreso, Latino Farmers & Ranchers “Agriculture in Crisis: the Age of COVID19 & Climate Change”, October 28-30, 2021 - Mike Hamman, CE/CEO & Gabriella Coughlin, Agronomist/Agroecologist

Mr. Hamman stated Mr. Eugene Pickett, who has gotten flooded a couple times near Interstate 25. Mr. Pickett invited Gabriella (Coughlin) and himself to make a presentation at the conference.

Ms. Coughlin stated it was mainly targeted on our soil and water conservation partnerships and programming coming out. She stated they received some great feedback, and good contacts were made from DC. She said she was asked to help develop some of the resolutions for next year’s Congreso. Ms. Coughlin said she was able to help target next year’s focused area with emphasis on soil health and climate smart agriculture.

f. Report on Fall Outreach - Gabriella Coughlin, Agronomist/Agroecologist

Ms. Coughlin reported live from Salt Lake City at the Soil Science, Crop Science, and Agronomy Science Society’s Conference. Ms. Coughlin stated she spent time in Los Ranchos getting the soil, water, and compost testing lab up and running. Ms. Coughlin stated CNM offered to donate equipment to our soil water in compost testing labs to learn to use higher end equipment. She also did a soil health workshop in Pena Blanca and attended the Quivira Coalitions Regenerate 2021 Conference. Ms. Coughlin said she is facilitating a network event for women in grazing for Western Landowner’s Alliance, and then will be starting the first of the ISO trainings.

Director Duggins expressed working with Ms. Coughlin is a pleasure as she works well and understands what is going on at the farm level.

9/23/2021	MRGCD at the Village of Los Ranchos Agri-Nature Center: learn about the MRGCD’s Conservation Program and our new technical and financial assistance programs including our new Soil, Water, and Compost Testing Lab. Get your soils tested for free at the soft launch of the lab Saturday, Oct. 23rd from 12-6 pm.
Oct 2021 - April 2022	Creating Our Agri-Futures: Soil, Water, and Compost Testing Lab Team
10/6/2021	NRCS Soil Health Management Systems Training
10/7/2021	MRGCD at the Village of Los Ranchos Agri-Nature Center: learn about the MRGCD’s Conservation Program and our new technical and financial assistance programs including our new Soil, Water, and Compost Testing Lab. Get your soils tested for free at the soft launch of the lab Saturday, Oct. 23rd from 12-6 pm.
10/19/2021	NM Healthy Soil Working Group: Learn the personal and professional soil health journeys traveled by our new Agronomist, Gabby Coughlin
10/21/2021	MRGCD at the Village of Los Ranchos Agri-Nature Center: learn about the MRGCD’s Conservation Program and our new technical and financial assistance programs including our new Soil, Water, and Compost Testing Lab. Get your soils tested for free at the soft launch of the lab Saturday, Oct. 23rd from 12-6 pm.
10/23/2021	The Village of Los Ranchos Fall Festival: In support of Rio Grande Community Farms Annual Maize Maze, the Agri-Nature Center will be hosting family-friendly educational activities from 12pm-6pm.
10/25/2021	CNM Environmental Science Lab
10/27/2021	Pena Blanca Soil Health Workshop
10/28 - 10/30/2021	National Latino Farm and Ranch Congress at Isleta Hotel and Casino
11/3 - 4/2021	Regenerate 2021 Conference: at Old Town Farm
11/10/2021	NM Envirothon Workshop: at Whitfield Wildlife Center
11/12 - 13/2021	Western Landowners Alliance
11/13/2021	Discover Your Great Big Holistic Farm Life: at Rio Grande Community Farm
11/17/2021	MRGCD North Valley ISO Training
11/15/2022	CNM Environmental Science Lab

g. Discussion on the Local Elections Act - Mike Hamman, CE/CEO

Mr. Hamman stated that he and the legislative committee met to discuss the Local Elections Act and how it’s going to affect the District. He said there is a 50/50

probability something may happen as early as the 30-day session of the legislature, but a greater possibility something will occur the following 60-day session if they are successful in moving things forward.

Mr. Hamman explained what the Local Election Act requires of the District currently, such as, the election date of 2023 will be the first Tuesday after the first Monday in November. The qualified elector is property owners at this point in time. The election will be run by the county clerks, and all four county clerks will be required to develop a list of qualified electorate based on the information that the District provides to them including the pueblos. Those clerks will be required to develop specialized voting ballots for precincts within each of the counties. If people have multiple properties across county lines, they will have to declare which particular property they will use for their vote.

Dr. DuMars discussed the pueblos, land grants and how they do not have to live on the land. Mr. Hamman stated that the governing body of each pueblo develops a qualified voter list from their enrollment lists of people 18 years and older which is then submitted to MRGCD and is used for our elections.

Madam Chair Dunning said that if you're currently an LLC (Limited Liability Company), you cannot vote and asked since most farms have gone to LLC due to tax advantages how can that come about to be eligible to vote.

Dr. DuMars reported that past board members stated that an LLC is not a person; but is a business structure that protects its owners from personal responsibility for its debts or liabilities. (Dialog was inaudible)

Madam Chair Dunning wished that is reviewed, because she feels that to be unfair for LLCs not allowed to vote in MRGCD elections.

Mr. Hamman stated the upside of the Act is the only cost MRGCD would bear is the tallying of the qualified electors list; that each County Clerks would absorb the election costs. Mr. Hamman said they have been put on notice by Senator Ivey-Soto that he plans to amend the Local Elections Act. Mr. Hamman reported that we should be prepared, and the discussion was had of possibly redistricting to address the registered voter component of equalizing the voting population in various districts within the Board. He also stated this resolution talks about how MRGCD would comply with both the state constitution requirements and the Federal Election Act rules and regulations. Lorna Wiggins and Patty Williams helped the committee think that through. Also, the senator isn't dictating how the District should do it.

Director Kelly commented there will be a huge issue going from our election to dealing with the four county clerks, getting them a list of qualified electors from six pueblos and other property owners, and dealing with the LLC issue. He suggested to focus on what we have to do on the initial election. Mr. Hamman stated he mentioned in the beginning to have a workshop for the county clerks, but the secretary of state and Mr. Ivey-Soto were against it.

Dr. DuMars discussed an article past regarding pueblo registered voters. (Dialog was inaudible)

h. Report on the DeSmet's Dairy & Creamery Farm Tour, October 28, 2021 - Jason Casuga, COO, Chair Dunning, Vice Chair Russo Baca and Director Barbara Baca

Madam Chair Dunning reported the tour was attended by Vice Chair Russo Baca, herself, and Director Barbara Baca, and several staff members. She thanked the organizers for the tour. She said Jason (Casuga) got some very good feedback.

Vice Chair Russo Baca felt it was a great event, although not many irrigators from the public showed. She hopes to move forward with the suggestions; also requested to have the next meeting at her family's home in Bosque.

Director Barbara Baca thanked the staff for coordinating and the hosts as she felt that it was a really good thing to meet and speak to people.

Mr. Casuga expressed the importance of these meetings. He stated this gives us an opportunity to allow people who maybe wouldn't feel comfortable speaking before a board meeting the chance to express their questions and issues. Discussions on the 2020 irrigation season, the Rio Grande Compact purposes led to 2021 issues. Hearing the effects put farmers in middle of two seasons. He stated the farmers would rather get the water in March and take a chance on the monsoon rains for the latter part.

Mr. Casuga stated that the District has to think about things in board meetings that may affect farmers in the future, not just today. Discussion was had on the carrot and stick tactics for identifying, contacting, and eventually enforcing the water policy as well as asking those that do not need to irrigate for a living if they would consider making sure the water gets to those who need it.

Mitch Vergeer, a Los Lunas farmer, thanked everybody who attended. He thought the discussion turned out very well although the tour ended short since they didn't get to the actual ditch. He said they tried to bring solutions to the farmers to help. He also expressed that the Board needs to get out there and visit with these farmers to see what they're going through.

Director Kelly made the **MOTION TO APPROVE THE REPORTS(S) OF THE CHIEF ENGINEER/CEO**. Vice Chair Russo Baca seconded the motion. The **MOTION PASSES UNANIMOUSLY**.

i. Announcements - Mike Hamman, CE/CEO

1. Tour of the Harris Farm in San Antonio, November 10, 2021.

Mr. Hamman stated they will tour the Harris Farm on Wednesday, at 10 a.m. He also said that he and Gabriella (Coughlin) were invited by Director Duggins to join him at his farm to meet with Senator Lujan.

2. Middle Rio Grande Flood Control Association Annual Breakfast Meeting at Albuquerque Country Club, December 8, 2021

Mr. Hamman stated they were invited to attend this meeting on December 8th, from 7 to 9 a.m. at the Albuquerque Country Club.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 9 – REPORT(S) FROM THE MRGCD ATTORNEY(S) - Chief Water Counsel or General Counsel

Dr. DuMars commented on Dave Lerwill is appointed as a special master to supreme court in State of Texas case. *(Dialog was not audible in the recording)*

Vice Chair Russo Baca asked if the Middle Rio Grande pueblos have requested the Indian Water Rights Negotiation Team federally. Mr. Hamman confirmed that they have requested MRGCD for support.

Dr. DuMars reported on the WildEarth Guardians, the extension of time for Permit No. 1690 (not 0620) which the OSE challenged. It's going to District Court mediation session on November 15. *(Dialog was not audible in the recording)*

AGENDA ITEM NO. 10 – REPORT(S) FROM THE BOARD

a. Report on the Corrales Equestrian Advisory Commission Meeting, September 17, 2021 - Director Sandoval

Director Sandoval met with Janet Blair and Ellen Robb that expressed their concerns of the heavy traffic that was within the acequia access roads and the old, illegible signage. He said he received a phone call thanking him for the replacement signs. They also discussed installation of gates to which he suggested they go online to the District's website. He will follow up.

Corrales Equestrian Advisory Commission

Oct. 11th, 2021

To: Michael Sandoval, member MRGCD Board of Directors
Middle Rio Grande Conservancy District
PO Box 581
Albuquerque 87103



Dear Mr. Sandoval:

The Corrales Equestrian Advisory Commission members have been taking an increasing number of complaints about motorized traffic on the ditch/acequia access roads in Corrales. It is becoming a serious threat to pedestrians, equestrians and bicyclists. Not only are we seeing car traffic, but ATVs, motorcycles and heavy trucks. There have been many near misses and close calls in particular to pedestrians and horses, all of which point to increasing danger to public safety. This could also mean increasing liability for the MRGCD.

The signage that was once in place on these access roads have rusted away, fallen down or been removed. It is time for new signage that makes it clear that the access roads are not to be used as vehicular recreation trails. We understand that in some areas of high abuse, installation of gates is the only alternative to prevent such usage. The CEAC would rather see signage first before the Conservancy installs gates in our Village.

We urge you to give this plan consideration. We have been calling the Corrales Police Department to confront violators, but this can be difficult, given the speeds they use to careen around on the ditch roads. We believe well-placed signage might reduce the number of incidents and make it clear that vehicular use is prohibited.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,
Janet Blair
Janet Blair
Co-Chair
Corrales Equestrian Advisory Commission

Cc: Michael Hamman

Thank you again for meeting w us. We hope you can help w signage.
B

b. Report on the Mid-Region Council of Governments Executive Board Meeting, October 14, 2021 - Director Barbara Baca

Director Barbara Baca requested a correction from the Executive Board to being the Metropolitan Transportation Board on the 15th. She stated it was an hour-long meeting where they deferred election of officers to the beginning of next year and gave a presentation on the prioritization project.

c. Report on the Valencia Water Watchers Meeting, October 18, 2021 - Vice Chair Russo Baca

Vice Chair Russo Baca stated this was a group of individual who were interested in water in Valencia County, so not necessarily directly related to MRGCD discussing the Facebook data center water issues as well as the Niagara bottling and how the groundwater use might affect our surface diversion. She presented the video and slides that Jason (Casuga) provided about the history of MRGCD. Discussion on the flooding issues as well. She felt it was a good and informative meeting.

d. Report on the 66th Annual NM Water Conference, October 26-28, 2021 - Vice Chair Russo Baca

Vice Chair Russo Baca expressed this meeting was hosted by WRRRI. She stated they were very curious about the Compact and what happened to irrigation season this year. She stated she took some screenshots about the reservoir levels. Vice Chair stated Steve Irsum, a UNM student, is doing an analysis between the Nile and the Middle Rio Grande, which she will forward to the Board.

e. Report on the Personnel Committee Meetings, November 1 and November 4, 2021 - Chair Dunning and the Directors Kelly and Barbara Baca

Chair Dunning explained that both meetings confidential topics will be covered in Executive Session.

f. Report on speaking to Indivisible Albuquerque - October 18, 2021

Mr. Baca stated he was invited on October 8th by the Indivisible Albuquerque Group to speak. He stated he gave a presentation on the history of MRGCD, what we currently do, how they benefit even if they don't live in the District, some of the challenges, and what the future looks like.

g. Report on the Trip with Thornburg Foundation - November 02, 2021

Director Joaquin Baca along with Casey Ish, Gabby Coughlin and Yasmeen Najmi met with the Foundation's CEO, Allan Oliver, and Patrick McCarthy, lead on their water policy. Their objective was to build a partnership with them. He stated they visited some of the sites, such as, the Isleta Diversion Dam. Due to time constraints, they had to skip the outfalls in Belen, but he felt was a good trip overall.

Madam Chair Dunning asked if there was any hope they could get a grant from Thornburg Foundation in the future, and Director Joaquin Baca expressed that was his hope. He'll defer that to Mike (Hamman) and Casey (Ish).

Director Duggins mentioned if they want a healthy Bosque, it needs to be thinned out.

Director Barbara Baca made the **MOTION TO APPROVE THE REPORTS FROM THE BOARD**. Director Kelly seconded the motion. The **MOTION PASSES UNANIMOUSLY**.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 11 – EXECUTIVE SESSION

a. NMSA 1978 Open Meetings Act, Section 10-15-1(H)2

- 1. Limited Personnel Matters

b. NMSA 1978 Open Meetings Act, Section 10-15-1(H)7

- 1. Threatened or Pending Litigation

Madam Chair Dunning requested a motion to move into Executive Session.

Director Kelly made the **MOTION TO GO TO INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION TO DISCUSS LIMITED PERSONEEL MATTERS AND THREATENED OR PENDING LITIGATION**. Director Sandoval seconded the motion. Rollcall vote was administered with all members voting yes. The **MOTION CARRIED**.

Director Barbara Baca	Yes	Vice Chair Russo Baca	Yes
Director Sandoval	Yes	Director Duggins	Yes
Director Kelly	Yes	Director Joaquin Baca	Yes
Madam Chairwoman	Yes		

Madam Chair Dunning Adjourned the meeting at 5:25pm.

Madam Chair Dunning reconvened the meeting at 5:52pm.

Director Duggins made the **MOTION TO GO BACK INTO REGULAR SESSION**. Director Kelly seconded the motion. Rollcall vote was administered with all members voting yes. **The MOTION CARRIED**.

Director Barbara Baca	Yes	Vice Chair Russo Baca	Yes
Director Sandoval	Yes	Director Duggins	Yes
Director Kelly	Yes	Director Joaquin Baca	Yes
Madam Chairwoman	Yes		

During Executive Session, updates were given on a personnel matter and threatened or pending litigation. No decisions were made, nor any votes taken during Executive Session.

With no further comments, questions or concerns, Madam Chair Dunning adjourned the meeting at 5:53pm.

Approved to be the correct Minutes of the Board of Directors of November 8, 2021.

ATTESTED:

 Pamela Fanelli, CMA, CGFM
 Secretary/Treasurer

 Karen Dunning, Madam Chair
 MRGCD Board of Directors