



# Agenda

For Presentation at the  
2,197<sup>th</sup> Regular Meeting of the Board of Directors of the  
Middle Rio Grande Conservancy District

March 13, 2023 – 3:00 p.m.

Zoom Meeting Link:

<https://zoom.us/j/2765069278?pwd=V2d0SWppTkxGTTFMb0g5RFhmeERjZz09>

Meeting ID: 276 506 9278 and Passcode: 504470



MRGCD General Office \* 1931 Second Street SW \* Albuquerque, New Mexico  
Meetings are held on second Mondays/month. Any questions please call the Board Liaison at (505) 247-0234.  
For more information, visit our website at [www.mrgcd.com](http://www.mrgcd.com)

*All items on Agenda are Subject to Action and times shown are approximate and are subject to change.*

- 3:00 1. **Pledge of Allegiance**
- 3:01 2. **Approval of the Agenda**
- 3:03 3. **Consent Agenda**
- Consideration/Approval of Payment Ratification – March 13, 2023
  - Consideration/Approval of February 2023 Invoice for Wiggins, Williams & Wiggins
  - Consideration/Approval of February 2023 Invoice for Law and Resource Planning Assoc.
  - Consideration/Approval of the Minutes for the Special Meeting (Closed Session) – February 13, 2023
  - Consideration/Approval of the Minutes for the Special Meeting (Water Bank) – February 13, 2023
  - Consideration/Approval of the Minutes for the Regular Board Meeting – February 13, 2023
  - Consideration/Approval for the New Annual Willow Harvesting License Fee Schedule
  - Memo on MRGCD Approved Licenses for February 2023 (For Informational Purposes Only)
- 3:05 4. **Updates on the NM Legislature** – John Thompson, MRGCD Lobbyist
- 3:10 5. **Holly Dietz's Appeal regarding Denial of MRGCD License for Vehicular Access of the Barr Interior Drain**
- Presentation from MRGCD – Jason Casuga, CE/CEO and Lorna Wiggins, General Counsel
  - Comments from Holly Dietz
  - Items from the Floor (regarding the Appeal only)
  - Determination of whether MRGCD staff followed Rule 28 when it denied Ms. Dietz's request to use MRGCD ROW for her and her customers' access to her private equine business
- 3:30 6. **Consideration/Approval for a Surplus Land Designation for Property Located on MRGCD Map 167 (Tracts 36, 37 and 38) for a Land Sale Request by Nettie Jones** – Ashley Veihl, Right of Way Specialist
- 3:40 7. **Items from the Floor (Comments are limited to six (6) minutes)**
- 3:55 8. **Report(s) from the Human Resources Department** – Christine L. Nardi, MBA
- Introduction of MRGCD New Hires
- 4:00 9. **Update on the Upcoming 2023 Irrigation Season**
- Report on the Water Supply Conditions – Anne Marken, Water Ops Division Manager
  - Status Report on Water Distribution – Matt Martinez, Water Distribution Division Manager
- 4:15 10. **Report(s) from the Department of the Interior**
- Bureau of Reclamation – Jennifer Faler, Area Manager
  - Bureau of Indian Affairs – Roland Becenti, Acting Designated Engineer

- 4:25 11. **Report(s) from the Secretary-Treasurer/CFO – Pamela Fanelli, CMA, CGFM**  
 a. Report on the Five Year Forecast and the Finance Committee Meeting – Director Kelly, Vice Chair Dunning and Director Barbara Baca
- 4:45 12. **Updates from the Office of State Engineer – Mike Hamman, State Engineer**
- 5:00 13. **Report(s) from the Chief Engineer/CEO – Jason M. Casuga, PE**  
 a. Consideration/Approval for SunZia Transmission Line Crossings of Riverside Drains and the Rio Grande Floodway – Eric Zamora, COO and Rhett Sanders-Spencer, Right-of-Way Specialist  
 b. Corrales Siphon Updates – Alicia Lopez, Engineering & Mapping Manager  
 c. Report on the Family Farm Alliance Annual Conference, February 23-24, 2023 – Jason M. Casuga, CE/CEO and Chair Russo Baca  
 d. Report on the Land & Water Summit, March 2-3, 2023 – Rhett Sanders-Spencer, Right of Way Specialist, Chair Russo Baca and Directors Joaquin Baca and Sandoval  
 e. Report on the Six Middle Rio Grande Pueblo Coalition Meeting, March 9, 2023 – Jason M. Casuga, CE/CEO  
 f. Discussion on the 100-year Anniversary of the Conservancy Act of 1923 – Jason M. Casuga, CE/CEO  
 g. Upcoming Events  
 1. Farming in The Flyway Series, Soil Health Strategies for Salt-Affected Middle Rio Grande Soils Workshops, 164 NM-116, Bosque, NM | March 17 & May 12, 2023  
 2. Agriculture Appreciation Day, Valencia County Soil & Wildlife Conservation District, March 25, 2023  
 3. NWRA Federal Water Issues Conference, Washington, DC | April 17 – 19, 2023
- 6:00 14. **Report(s) from the MRGCD Attorney(s) – Chief Water Counsel or General Counsel**
- 6:10 15. **Report(s) from the Board**  
 a. Report on the Conservation Advisory Committee Meeting, February 16, 2023 – Chair Russo Baca  
 b. Report on the CEO's Performance Meeting, February 14, 2023 – Chair Russo Baca and Vice Chair Dunning  
 c. Report regarding the La Joya MOU, February 27, 2027 – Chair Russo Baca  
 d. Report on Water Measurement and Reporting Needs for Water Markets, March 1, 2023 – Chair Russo Baca  
 e. Report on the Site Visit to the Holly Dietz' property, March 6, 2023 – Director Barbara Baca  
 f. Report regarding WEG Settlement Discussion, March 8, 2023– Chair Russo Baca
- 6:35 16. **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

THE PUBLISHING OF THIS AGENDA DOES NOT PRECLUDE THE CONSIDERATION OF OTHER MATTERS.

*If you are an individual with a disability who is in need of a reader, amplifier, qualified sign language interpreter, or any other form of auxiliary aid or service to attend or participate in the hearing or meeting, please contact the Board Liaison at (505) 247-0234 at least one (1) week prior to the meeting or as soon as possible. Public documents, including the agenda and minutes can be provided in various formats.*