

**MINUTES OF THE  
2,230th REGULAR MEETING OF THE  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE  
MIDDLE RIO GRANDE CONSERVANCY DISTRICT**

**DECEMBER 8, 2025**

Directors having been duly notified; Chairman Kelly called the regular meeting to order at 3:01 pm. The following Directors and Staff were present:

**DIRECTORS**

John P. Kelly, Chairman	Present
Colin T. Baugh, Vice Chairman	Present
Brian Jiron, Director	Present
Stephanie Russo Baca, Director	Present
J. Chris Lopez, Director	Present
Micheal T. Sandoval, Director	Present
Karen Dunning, Director	Present

**STAFF**

Jason Casuga	Chief Engineer/CEO
Lorna Wiggins	General Counsel
Jeff Wechsler	Chief Water Counsel
Pamela Fanelli	Secretary-Treasurer/CFO
Eric Zamora	Director of Technical Services
Christine Nardi	Director of Human Services
Amanda Molina	Director of Communications
Casey Ish	Director of Lands & Conservation

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

Anne Marken, MRGCD	John Fleck, Utton Center	Vincent Sanchez
Matt Martinez, MRGCD	Santiago Candelaria	Jeanette Welther, BHI
Richard DeLoia, MRGCD	Gwen Baldwin, Los Ranchos	Ryan Cook, EMRGY
Josh Hind, MRGCD	Chris Perea, W&C	

**AGENDA ITEM NO. 1 – PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Jeff Wechsler led the Pledge of Allegiance at today's meeting.

Chairman Kelly declared a quorum, and the meeting was publicly noticed. This meeting was a hybrid meeting with Directors Jiron and Sandoval joining remotely. Rollcall votes will be necessary for regular motions.

**AGENDA ITEM NO.2 - APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA.**

Mr. Casuga noted that there would be no reports from the Department of Interior.

Vice Chairman Baugh made the **MOTION TO APPROVE THE MEETING AGENDA WITH THE ABOVE CHANGES.** Seconded by Director Dunning. Rollcall vote was administered with all members voting yes. The **MOTION CARRIED.**

Chairman Kelly	Yes	Vice Chairman Baugh	Yes
Director Dunning	Yes	Director Russo Baca	Yes
Director Lopez	Yes		

**AGENDA ITEM NO. 3 - CONSENT AGENDA**

- a. **Consideration/Approval of Payment Ratification – November 2025**
- b. **Consideration/Approval of November 2025 Invoice for Wiggins, Williams & Wesenberg, PC**

- c. **Consideration/Approval of November 2025 Invoices for Spencer Fane LLP**
- d. **Consideration/Approval of the Minutes for the Regular Board Meeting – November 10, 2025**
- e. **Memo on MRGCD Approved Licenses for November 2025 (For Informational Purposes Only)**

Director Dunning commented that the item that says “Dunning Letters” in the checkbook has nothing to do with her.

Director Dunning made the **MOTION TO APPROVE THE CONSENT AGENDA**. Seconded by Director Lopez. Rollcall vote was administered with all members voting yes. The **MOTION CARRIED**.

Chairman Kelly	Yes	Vice Chairman Baugh	Yes
Director Dunning	Yes	Director Russo Baca	Yes
Director Lopez	Yes		

#### **AGENDA ITEM NO. 4 - REPORT(S) FROM THE WATER OPERATIONS**

- a. **Report on Water Supply Conditions - Anne Marken, River Operations & Telemetry Manager**

Anne Marken presented on water supply conditions. She explained that part of the reason for increased river flows moving through the Middle Valley this month was due to diversions for the communities north of them no longer occurring, as well as the riparian corridor using less water right now. She said flows are also higher because of the release of unused prior and paramount water from Abiquiu being delivered to Elephant Butte through the State of New Mexico, BOR, and the Corps coordination. She shared there was about 28,000 acre feet of water needing to be moved out of Abiquiu before the end of the calendar year, and releases began on November 30th, which have been increasing in planned increments. Currently, there is 1400 CFS being released from Abiquiu, which is the highest release the Corps has been able to achieve since 2024. She added that the release of the unused prior and paramount water is scheduled to be completed by December 17th. Ms. Marken stated that Otowi Gage is reporting 2,000 CFS today. She said the current SNOTEL map shows snowpack in the basin is below average, but it is still too early to know what the runoff will look like in 2026. The NWS Seasonal Outlook shows above average temperatures and below average precipitation through March. She voiced that she did not see a scenario where MRGCD could store any native Rio Grande water next year, and preliminary estimate for the 2025 Compact is that it likely grew by 10,000 acre feet. She explained that without the ability to store native water, the only storage water MRGCD will have next year is the San Juan Chama Allocation, which will not be enough to supplement river flows through the summer. Therefore, farmers need to be prepared for limited irrigation deliveries next year.

Director Dunning was confused about the reservoir storage status, saying the total precipitation water for year 2026.

Ms. Marken responded that they start the new water year in October instead of January.

*See Also Appendix I.*

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

**Vincent Sanchez**

Mr. Sanchez shared that he has been seeing a trend with other bureaucracies, such as Office of the State Engineer and the Village of Los Ranchos, where they are throwing MRGCD under the bus and say they are the problem. He said they do not do anything to defend MRGCD's position on their easements. He felt that it was highly problematic that every municipality or agency are punting the responsibility to MRGCD when it is not their issue to deal with. He said there needed to be some kind of action to define those limitations. Mr. Sanchez also thanked MRGCD for being helpful and providing him a lot of information.

Director Dunning suggested that she and Chairman Kelly set up a meeting with somebody from the Village of Los Ranchos to give their side.

Chairman Kelly agreed that having a meeting with the Mayor was appropriate.

Mr. Casuga shared he was not surprised to hear this, as it happens regularly. He stated that MRGCD is a governmental entity that is highly accessible, which makes them a target a lot of the time.

**Elaine Heberd**

*See Appendix II.*

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

- a. **Bureau of Reclamation - John Irizarry-Nazario, Deputy Area Manager**  
John Irizarry-Nazario was not present at today's meeting.  
*See Appendix III.*
- b. **Bureau of Indian Affairs - Patrick Taber, Acting Designated Engineer**  
Patrick Taber was not present at today's meeting.

**AGENDA ITEM NO. 7 - REPORT(S) FROM THE CHIEF PROCUREMENT OFFICER - Richard DeLoia**

- a. Consideration/Approval of the Loretta Rd/Alameda Intersection, Boat Ramp Parking Lot Construction Management

Mr. DeLoia presented approval for the Loretta Road Alameda Intersection Traffic Signal and Boat Ramp Parking Lot Construction Management Task Order, which is funded through a Capital Appropriation Grant. MRGCD recommended award to Bohannon Huston for \$111,179.42, with tax, and the task order will be awarded through the MRGCD on-call engineering contracts.

Mr. Casuga expressed that MRGCD will retain the bidding, but the County will be participating in the award process, as they will be managing the actual construction.

Director Dunning made the **MOTION TO APPROVE THE LORETTA ROAD ALAMEDA INTERSECTION TRAFFIC SIGNAL AND BOAT RAMP PARKING LOT CONSTRUCTION MANAGEMENT TASK ORDER**. Seconded by Director Russo Baca. Rollcall vote was administered with all members voting yes. The **MOTION CARRIED**.

Chairman Kelly	Yes	Vice Chairman Baugh	Yes
Director Dunning	Yes	Director Russo Baca	Yes
Director Sandoval	Yes	Director Lopez	Yes

**AGENDA ITEM NO. 8 - REPORT(S) FROM THE HUMAN RESOURCES DEPARTMENT -**  
**Christine L. Nardi, MBA**

**a. Introduction of MRGCD New Hires**

Ms. Nardi introduced MRGCD's new hires, which include three new field maintenance technicians and a new medium equipment operator in the Albuquerque Division, and a senior GIS analyst in the General Office.

**AGENDA ITEM NO. 9 - REPORT(S) FROM THE DIRECTOR OF LANDS & CONSERVATION**  
**- Casey Ish**

**a. Consideration/Approval for the Hoey Irrigation Pipeline On Farm Project**

Mr. Ish presented on the Hoey Irrigation Pipeline On Farm Project, an MRGCD cost-sharing project with the landowners, who will contribute just under \$10,000 directly to the contractor. MRGCD's portion will be just under \$60,000. He explained that MRGCD expects to recoup portions of the cost share over time through conserve water leasing contracts with third parties. He stated that 15 acres of Ag land fed off of an 18-inch turnout using an open farm ditch on the south side of Diebold Lane, which this homeowner is at the end of, and they had significant maintenance obligations and issues with the neighbors. This made it take almost 72 hours to irrigate 15 acres. He said there was significant water savings to this project, and the project will consist of a 15-inch pipeline directly off the Chamisal. Lopez Precision was the lowest qualified bidder for the project, and they are ready to move forward.

Chairman Kelly expressed that on-farm efficiency project money was put into the budget for things like this, so they do not have to ask for approval and proof of benefits to the state engineer. He asked how many hours this project will take their irrigation down to.

Mr. Ish answered between 12 and 14 hours.

Director Dunning inquired how much water they think will be saved from this project.

Mr. Ish responded that right now they are seeing somewhere between 125 and 130 acre feet applied over the course of an irrigation season, and if this property were irrigating within their policy, they expect it to be closer to 47 acre feet, which is why MRGCD was willing to front some of the cost.

Vice Chairman Baugh asked how big they see this project growing into and what volume of water savings are they looking to save.

Mr. Ish said there are more projects out there than there is funding, and the water savings are on a broad spectrum. He stated they have gone through the bidding process on other potential on-farm projects where the water conserved did not justify the cost of the project, but there are a lot of projects where it will be cost-effective and have a good return on investment.

Vice Chairman Baugh inquired what the cost share is.

Mr. Ish answered it is 14% cost share, but the end goal is that MRGCD will contribute no more than \$30,000 on this project in hard contributions and the rest will be recouped over leasing.

*See also Appendix IV.*

Vice Chairman Baugh made the **MOTION TO AWARD THE HOEY IRRIGATION PIPELINE ON FARM PROJECT CONTRACT TO LOPEZ PRECISION**. Seconded by Director Dunning. Rollcall vote was administered with all members voting yes. The **MOTION CARRIED**.

Chairman Kelly	Yes	Vice Chairman Baugh	Yes
Director Dunning	Yes	Director Russo Baca	Yes
Director Sandoval	Yes	Director Jiron	Yes
Director Lopez	Yes		

**b. Update on San Acacia Micro Grid Project with Emrgy**

Mr. Ish gave an update on the San Acacia Micro Grid Project with Emrgy. He reminded the Board that in July 2024 they approved a site hosting agreement with Emrgy, a company that partners with water providers to install hydrokinetic and solar energy systems inside of canals for renewable energy. He said they have successfully installed their first microgrid at the San Acacia Dam, and they have two turbines installed, along with a panel of floating solar, just downstream of that. He shared that they hope to be generating power by the next irrigation season. He voiced they also have a special condition kind of work agreement with Emrgy that contemplates the revenue share for this microgrid project and a staff negotiated revenue sharing agreement with Emrgy for not only the credits but revenue credits going toward their account and reducing their overall electric bill with Socorro Co-Op. He added that when Emrgy takes a portion of those credits and turns them into renewable tax credits, MRGCD will receive 20% of those renewable tax credits.

Vice Chairman Baugh asked the size of the floating panel.

Mr. Ish responded 30 feet by 15 feet. He added that the solar panels will generate power year-round.

Chairman Kelly asked how many providers they will have to deal with.

Mr. Ish answered just two. Mr. Ish voiced that as they continue to move forward with the phased approach of lining the Socorro Main, Emrgy will help identify sites for renewable energy generation as part of the canal lining process and potentially find revenue to help cover the cost of that work.

Chairman Kelly inquired if they are also doing something up at the Angostura Diversion Dam.

Mr. Ish answered yes, but they are waiting until the title transfer is complete and any other issues that need to be resolved there.

**AGENDA ITEM NO. 10 - REPORT(S) FROM THE DIRECTOR OF TECHNICAL SERVICES - Eric Zamora, PE**

**a. Update on Field Operations**

Mr. Zamora gave a brief update on field operations. He said a lot of the projects are just getting started, but they conducted a pre-construction conference on Friday at Wilson & Company regarding the Corrales Siphon, and they will meet with the Pueblo of Sandia and the contractor tomorrow to discuss accessibility and staging areas for the project on Sandia property. He stated there would be more updates next month on capital projects. He talked about some stakeholder projects. He noted that they have a Bernalillo to Belen Levee Meeting with the Corps tomorrow. He said the Life Station 20 project at Harrison Middle School will be crossing their facilities in a couple locations, so they will stay in coordination with them and their contractor through that process. He discussed the River Mile 199 Bureau Project in the Corrales Siphon area, and how they coordinate to ensure the Corrales Siphon Project does not interfere with their clearing and vegetative operations. He went over some of their other in-house projects, including the complete culvert replacement on Tribal Road 7 on Isleta Pueblo starting January 12th. They will also assist with the COABQ Field 5 and Field 12 projects in the Los Poblanos area.

Director Dunning asked if the COABQ field projects were for the open space to deliver and help the farmlands there.

Mr. Zamora answered yes, which is one of the things they are helping assist conservation with and working with City Open Space to improve irrigation efficiency.

Director Dunning commented it was always a problem that they did not have water rights and did a long-term lease.

Mr. Ish responded that there are portions of the open space that do not have water rights, but fields 5 and 12 do.

Chairman Kelly inquired if Tribal Road 7 requires de-watering.

Mr. Zamora responded he did not think so. He added they are close to the water table in that area and will be working with them to install a casing that will likely be installed in groundwater.

*See also Appendix V.*

**AGENDA ITEM NO. 11 - REPORT(S) FROM THE SECRETARY-TREASURER/CFO - Pamela Fanelli, CMA, CGFM**

**a. Review/Approval of Resolution M-12-08-25-231 for the Water Project Fund Loan/Grant Agreement for the Feeder 3 Pump Station**

Chairman Kelly referred the Directors to their board packets and asked for a motion to approve items 11a and 11b.

**b. Consideration/Approval of Resolution BA-12-08-25-109 Adoption of Amended Budget for Fiscal Year 2026 (07-01-25 to 06-30-26) Grant Fund**

Chairman Kelly referred the Directors to their board packets and asked for a motion to approve items 11a and 11b.

Director Dunning made the **MOTION TO APPROVE RESOLUTION M-12-08-25-231 FOR THE WATER PROJECT FUND LOAN/GRANT AGREEMENT FOR THE FEEDER 3 PUMP STATION AND BA-12-08-25-109 ADOPTION OF AMENDED BUDGET FOR FY2026 GRANT FUND**. Seconded by Director Russo Baca. Rollcall vote was administered with all members voting yes. The **MOTION CARRIED**.

Chairman Kelly	Yes	Vice Chairman Baugh	Yes
Director Dunning	Yes	Director Russo Baca	Yes
Director Sandoval	Yes	Director Jiron	Yes
Director Lopez	Yes		

**c. Report from the Finance Committee Meeting, November 19, 2025 - Directors Dunning and Russo Baca**

Director Dunning said they covered the 5-year Plan, where they went through almost every line item and gave their best guess where it might be heading in the next 5 years.

Mr. Casuga added that typically the 5-year forecast will not be presented at the board meeting. He said they cannot be posting those until they get approved by the Board and then sent to DFA, so it is really just a planning tool.

Chairman Kelly shared that the total list of identified projects totals over a half billion dollars, and they have gathered about \$200 million for critical projects they need to move on.

Mr. Casuga responded that is correct.

**d. Schedule Special Meeting to Determine Water Service Charge & Water Bank Lease Rates for 2026 (proposed date: January 12, 2026, at 2:00 p.m.)**

Ms. Fanelli recommended a Special Meeting on January 12th, at 2 p.m., to determine water service charge and water bank lease rates for 2026.

Chairman Kelly asked if they would have a recommendation from staff and the appropriate committee to go along with that.

Ms. Fanelli answered yes.

Chairman Kelly stated a Special Meeting will be scheduled on January 12, 2026 at 2 p.m.

**AGENDA ITEM NO. 12 - REPORT(S) FROM THE CHIEF ENGINEER/CEO**— Jason M. Casuga, PE

**a. Status Update on Urban Advisory Committee Charter, Jason M. Casuga, CE/CEO and Casey Ish, Director of Lands & Conservation**

Chairman Kelly expressed that they did not get their committee together due to timing conflicts. They will schedule that after today's meeting.

**b. Update on MRGCD's Centennial Community Outreach, Jason M. Casuga, CE/CEO and Amanda Molina, Director of Communications**

Ms. Molina stated that one of their major focuses was figuring out how to strengthen relationships and support within the communities they serve. She said they have been successful in that and participated in many events and invested into several memberships throughout the District, which has been a wise investment.

Vice Chairman Baugh thanked Ms. Molina for her efforts and getting MRGCD out into the community in more deliberate and engaging ways outside of the water delivery model. He shared that he was moved by how great the Valle Vista documentary was.

Chairman Kelly echoed those comments.

Director Dunning recommended having at least one Pueblo event on the list, maybe something like an arts and craft fair.

Ms. Molina responded that was a great point. She added they made some good headway in relationships with the Pueblos, and there is an opportunity to make positive change and increase attendance.

*See also Appendix VI.*

**c. Information on Upcoming Events:**

1. **National Water Resources Association Policy Conference, April 27-29, 2026: Washington, D.C.**
2. **MRGCD's Farmers and Irrigators Informational Meetings 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.**
  - a) **January 8, 2026, Sandoval County - Martha Liebert Public Library**
  - b) **January 15, 2026 Bernalillo County - Los Duranes Community Center**
  - c) **January 22, 2026 Valencia County - Belen Community Center**
  - d) **January 29, 2026 Socorro County - City of Socorro Convention Center**

Mr. Casuga stated they have started to publish the first sets of their county meetings for the off-season but have not published the agendas for those yet. He shared they have a coordination meeting with the State of New Mexico Monday, and there is a chance that the Office of the State Engineering may participate.

3. **Bureau of Reclamation Public Comment Meetings on the Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) for the Lower San Acacia Reach Improvements Project (LSARI)**
  - a) **January 7, 2026 from 5 to 7 p.m., Erna Ferguson Public Library, 3700 San Mateo Blvd NE, Albuquerque, NM 87110**
  - b) **January 8, 2026 from 5 to 7 p.m., Socorro Public Library, 401 Park St, Socorro, NM 87801**

Chairman Kelly expressed it was important to have as many board members as possible at both these meetings to show support for the project.

**AGENDA ITEM NO. 13 - REPORT(S) FROM THE MRGCD ATTORNEY(S) - Chief Water Counsel or General Counsel**



MRGCD Attorney's did not have any reports to share during open session.

**AGENDA ITEM NO. 14 REPORT(S) FROM THE BOARD**

- a. **Report on the Farmers for Future Farmers Meeting, November 11, 2025 - Director Russo Baca**  
*See Appendix VII.*
- b. **Report on the Mid-Region Council of Governments Executive Board Meeting, November 13, 2025 - Director Russo Baca**  
*See Appendix VII.*
- c. **Report on the Water & Natural Resources Legislative Committee, November 17-18, 2025 - Jason M. Casuga, CE/CEO, John Thompson, MRGCD Lobbyist, Vice Chairman Baugh, Director Russo Baca**  
*See Appendix VII.*
- d. **Report on the Centennial Film Screening/Valle Vista Fundraiser, November 20, 2025 - Chairman Kelly, Vice Chairman Baugh, Directors Lopez, and Russo Baca**  
*See Appendix VII.*
- e. **Report on the New Mexico Interstate Stream Commission Work Session Meeting, December 1, 2025 - Director Russo Baca**  
*See Appendix VII.*
- f. **Report on the Middle Rio Grande Flood Control Authority Annual Breakfast, December 2, 2025 - Chairman Kelly, Vice Chairman Baugh, and Director Russo Baca**  
*See Appendix VII.*
- g. **Report on the Valencia County Soil and Water Conservation District Board Meeting, December 3, 2025 - Director Russo Baca**  
*See Appendix VII.*
- h. **Report on 6-Middle Rio Grande Pueblos Coalition, December 4, 2025 - Director Russo Baca**  
*See Appendix VII.*
- i. **Report on the Congreso de las Acequias - Agua y Justicia, December 5-6 - Vice Chairman Baugh and Director Russo Baca**  
*See Appendix VII.*

Director Russo Baca stated she would also like to report out on the South Valley Regional Acequia Association meeting on December 1<sup>st</sup>. They need to keep an eye out for the Acequias Limpias, a celebration with local schools and Acequia organizations to organize cleanup events by the end of February. She stated there is a Primera Agua Event planned for the end of March or beginning of April, and a goal to have a South Valley Middle Rio Grande Irrigators Meeting to create a forum where MRGCD can present its seasonal plan and irrigators can share concerns and ask questions. She expressed that Jorge Garcia with CESOSS asked to possibly be on January's agenda to talk about how to collaborate more with the South Valley Regional Acequias and CESSOS.

Handwritten reports were provided for all other reports from the Board.

Director Dunning asked to include approval of the Finance Committee Meeting in with the Reports from the Board motion.

Director Dunning made the **MOTION TO APPROVE THE REPORTS FROM THE BOARD AND THE FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING**. Seconded by Director Lopez. Rollcall vote was administered with all members voting yes. The **MOTION CARRIED**.

Chairman Kelly	Yes	Vice Chairman Baugh	Yes
Director Dunning	Yes	Director Russo Baca	Yes
Director Lopez	Yes	Director Jiron	Yes

**AGENDA ITEM NO. 15 EXECUTIVE SESSION**

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

**1. Limited Personnel Matters**

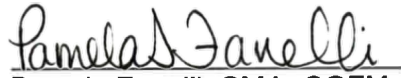
**b. NMSA 1978 Open Meetings Act, Section 10-15-1(H)7**

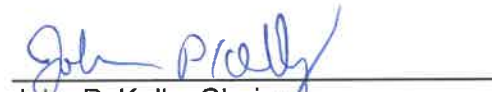
**1. Threatened or Pending Litigation**

With Executive Session not needed and no further comments, questions, or concerns, Chairman Kelly adjourned the meeting at 3:54 pm.

Approved to be the correct Minutes of the Board of Directors of December 8, 2025.

**ATTESTED:**

  
 Pamela Fanelli, CMA, CGFM  
 Secretary-Treasurer/CFO

  
 John P. Kelly, Chairman  
 MRGCD Board of Directors

# **Water Supply Update**

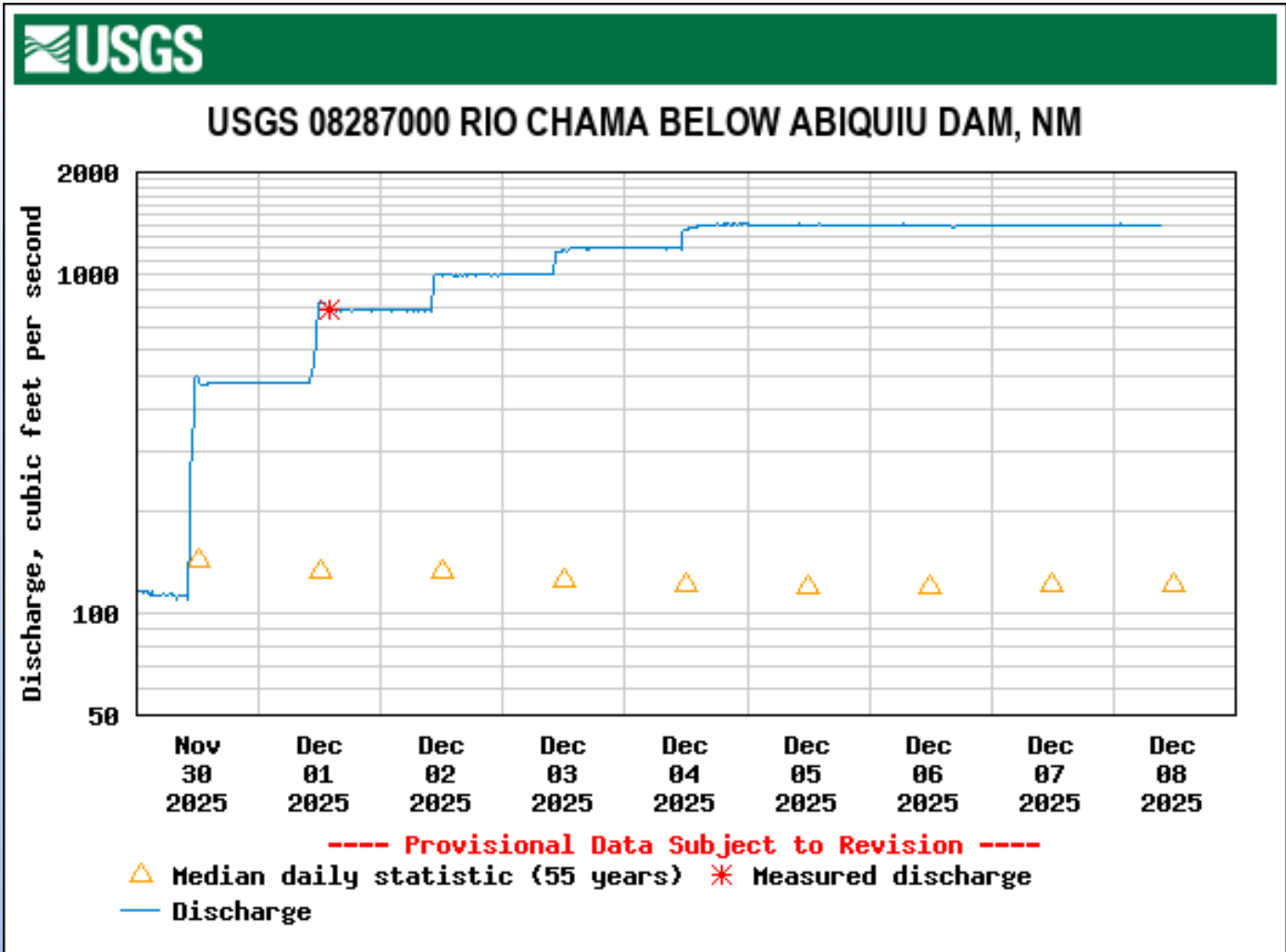
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## **Middle Rio Grande Conservancy District Board of Directors Meeting**

Prepared and Presented by: Anne Marken

Date: 12/08/2025

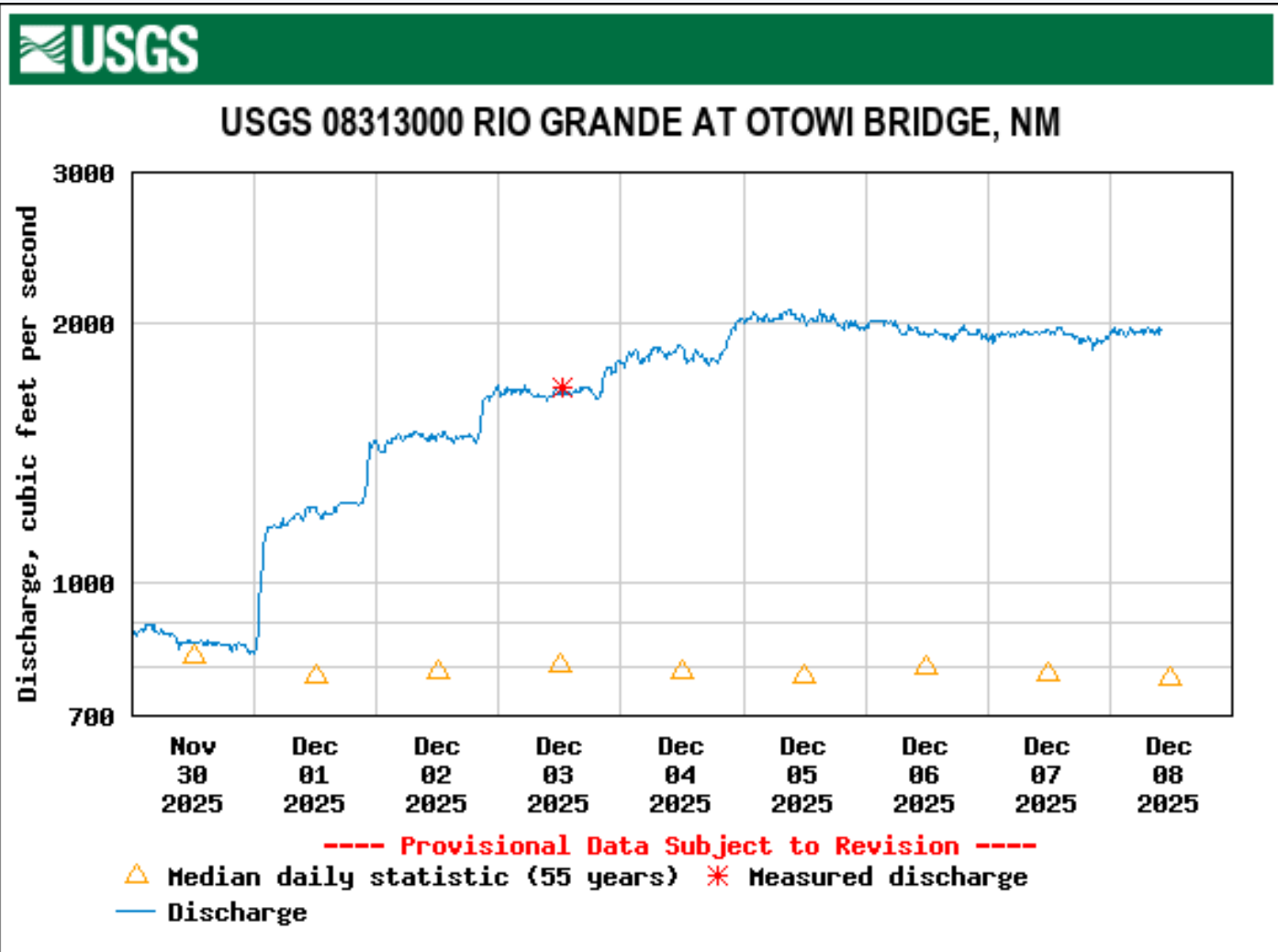




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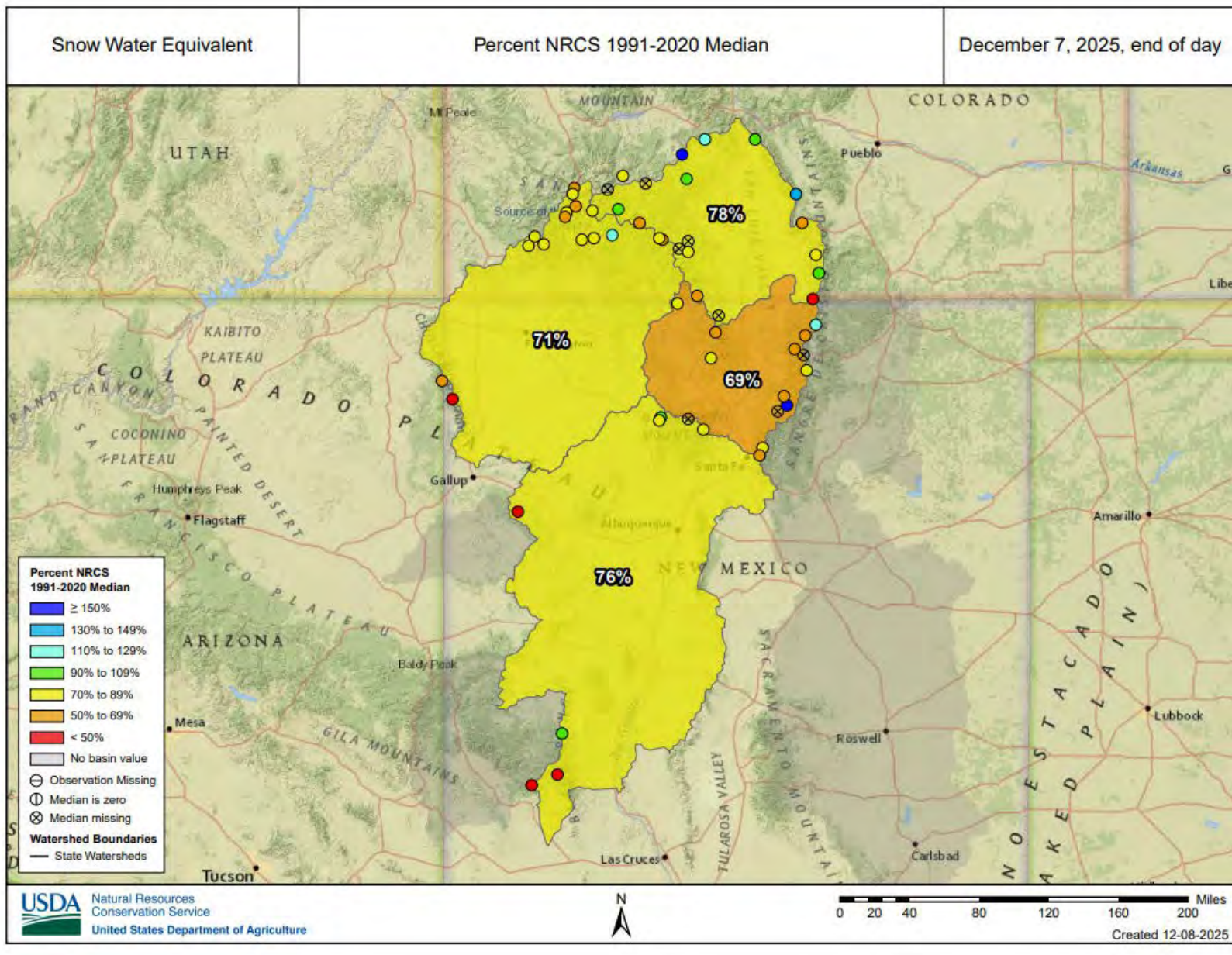






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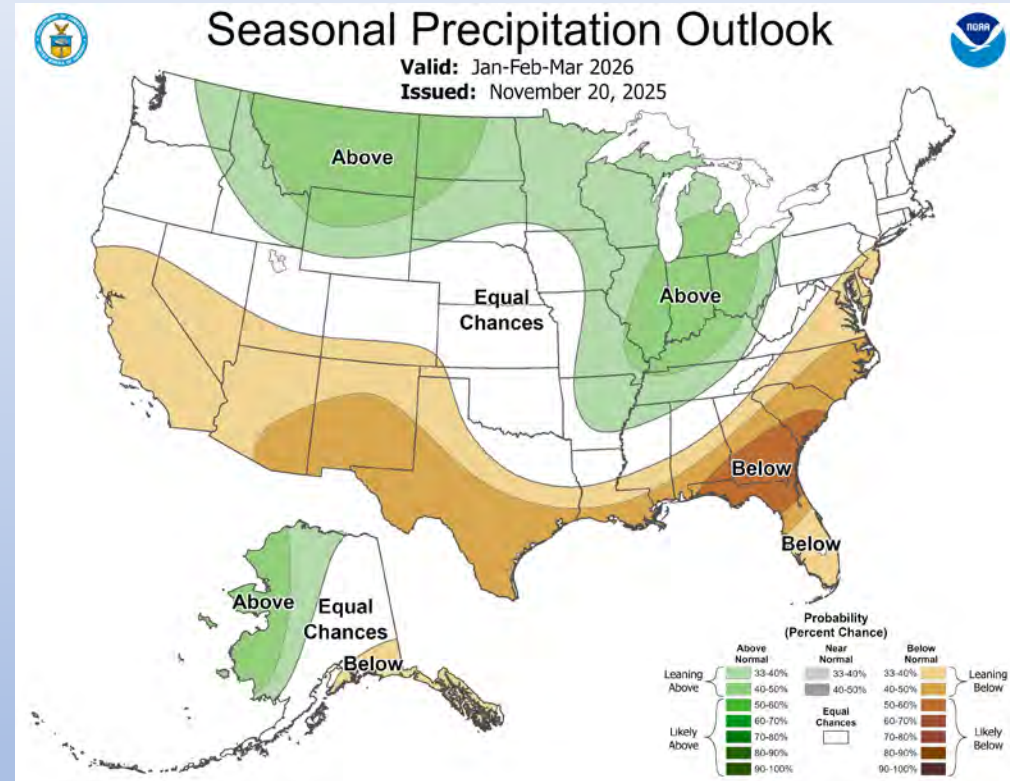
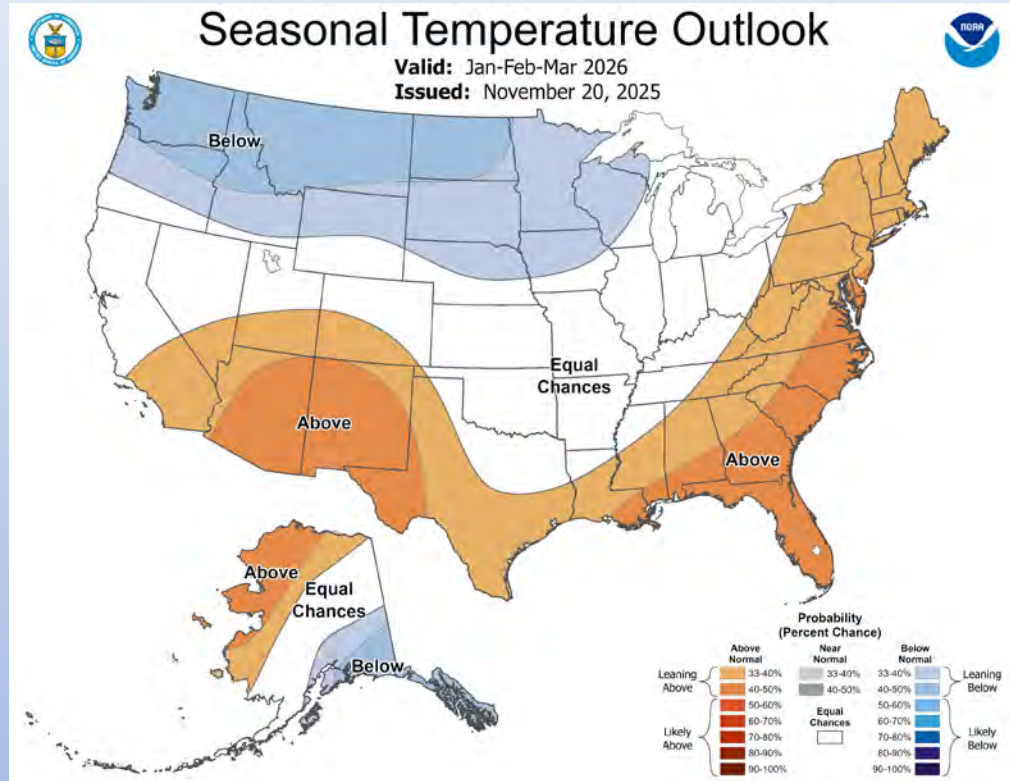




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# NWS Seasonal Outlook



[https://www.cpc.ncep.noaa.gov/products/predictions/long\\_range/seasonal.php?lead=1](https://www.cpc.ncep.noaa.gov/products/predictions/long_range/seasonal.php?lead=1)



# Questions?





## Appendix II

**From:** [Elaine Hebard](#)  
**To:** [Tarah Jaramillo](#)  
**Subject:** Re: Regular Meeting of the MRGCD Board of Directors ~ December 8, 2025  
**Date:** Monday, December 8, 2025 4:32:29 PM  
**Attachments:** [image003.png](#)

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Hi Ms. Jaramillo,

Evidently the zoom isn't working? At any event, although I am logged on, I have no video or audio.

My short comment today was to ask the Board to urge the State Engineer to write a letter, like Mr. Hamman wrote in June 2023 to the MRGCD, urging all other water providers to also reduce depletions.

Thank you,

Elaine Hebard

On Thursday, December 4, 2025 at 09:29:03 AM MST, Tarah Jaramillo <tarah@mrgcd.us> wrote:

Good morning,

Attached is the agenda for the Regular Meeting of the MRGCD Board of Directors to be held **Monday, December 8, 2025, at 3:00 pm**. This and the electronic packet can also be found on our [website](#). Please note the electronic packet is large and must be downloaded to view. Please let me know if you have any trouble accessing.

Join Zoom Meeting and please provide First and Last Name, and Organization:  
<https://zoom.us/j/2765069278?pwd=V2d0SWppTkxGTTFMb0g5RFhmeERjZz09>

Meeting ID: 276 506 9278  
Passcode: 504470

If not able to use the link above:

1. Call +1 669 444 9171
2. Enter Meeting ID: 276 506 9278 followed by #

Enter the passcode 504470, if prompted, followed by

*Have a nice day.*



**Tarah Jaramillo**

Executive Assistant/Records & IPRA Specialist

**Middle Rio Grande Conservancy District**

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Direct Line [505-336-1184](tel:505-336-1184) | cell [505-420-9431](tel:505-420-9431)

[505-247-0234](tel:505-247-0234) ext. 1329

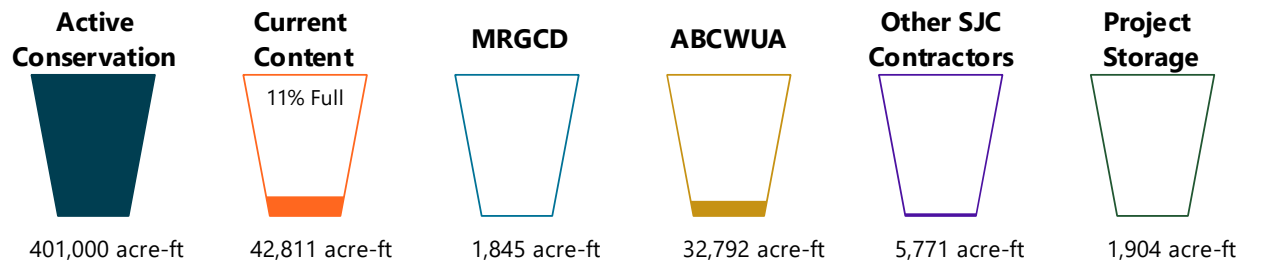
# Reservoir Storage Status

Dec 2, 2025 data

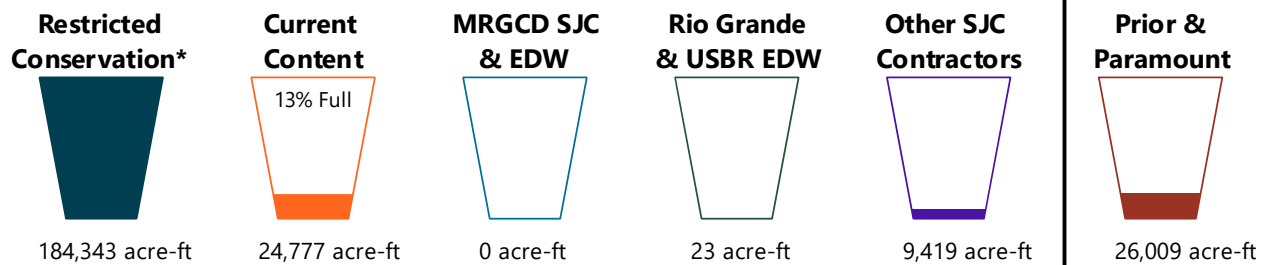


— BUREAU OF —  
RECLAMATION

## Heron

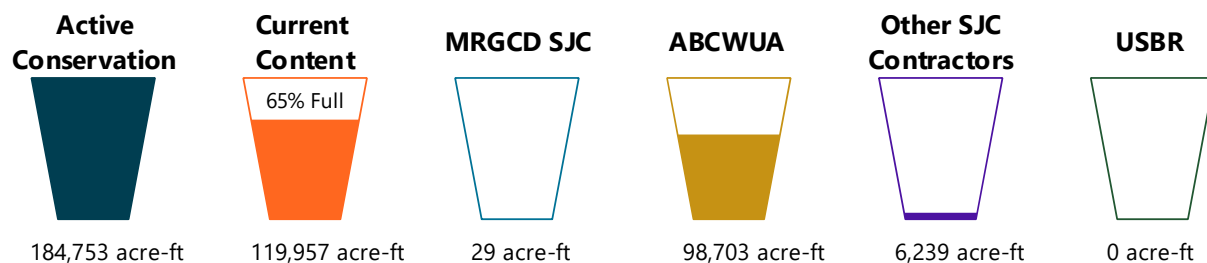


## El Vado



## Combined\*\*

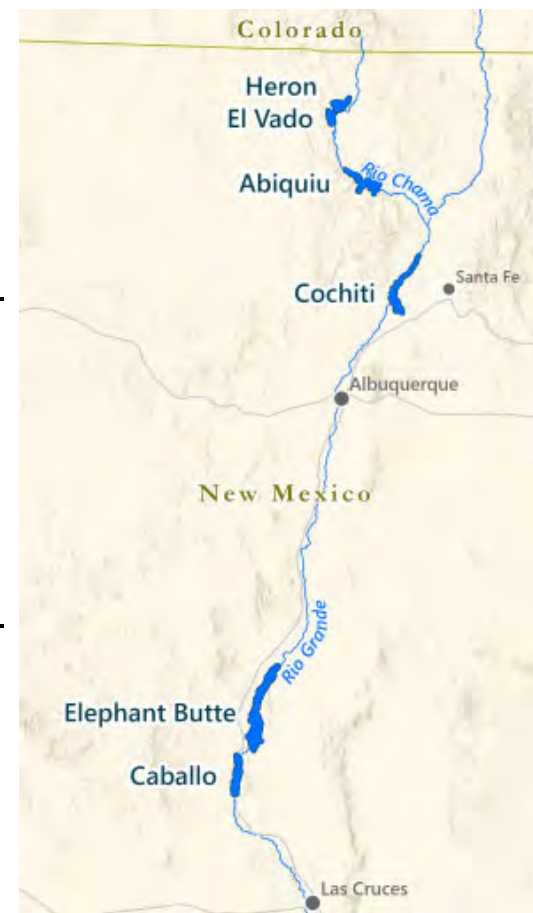
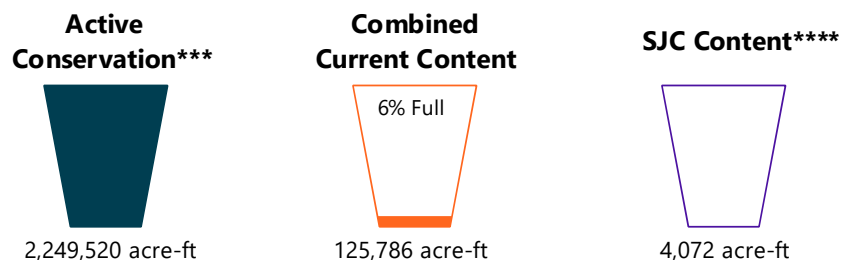
## Abiquiu



## Cochiti



## Elephant Butte and Caballo



\* Currently restricted to 25,678 acre-ft.

\*\* Includes storage in both El Vado and Abiquiu

\*\*\* Varies by time of year. Reported number is for 04/01 - 09/30.

\*\*\*\* Max San Juan-Chama storage in Elephant Butte is 50,000 acre-ft.

Total reservoir content may include incidental storage of water in transit.

### MRGCD BOARD MEETING (12-3-2025)

1. Heron Summary

Content:	42,811	ac-ft	(12/3/2025)
Azotea Tunnel:	0	cfs	
Total SJ-C Inflow (2025):	45,417	ac-ft	
Currently Releasing:	700	cfs	
Current MRGCD Storage:	1,845	ac-ft	

2. El Vado Summary

Content:	24,777	ac-ft	(12/3/2025)
Rio Grande Storage:	15,359	ac-ft	
MRGCD SJ-C Storage:	0	ac-ft	
P&P:	15,336	ac-ft	
Other SJ-C Contractors:	9,419	ac-ft	
Current Release:	700	cfs	RG Inflow: 40 - 75 cfs

3. Abiquiu Summary

Content:	118,741	ac-ft	(12/3/2025)
MRGCD SJ-C Storage:	30	ac-ft	
P&P:	10,674	ac-ft	

Total Supplemental Water Released (2025): 7,202 ac-ft

Total Precipitation for Water Year 2026 to 12/3 (% Median; NRCS SNOTEL)

Rio Chama Basin.....	113%
Upper Rio Grande Basin.....	160%
Sangre de Cristo Basin.....	90%
Jemez Basin.....	122%
San Juan River Basin.....	178%

- End of year compact deliveries began from Abiquiu on Sunday, November 30.
- Elephant Butte Reservoir elevation and storage remain offline. Storage was at 111,426 ac-ft on November 25. If the results from a verification survey are good, transmission of elevation should resume this week.

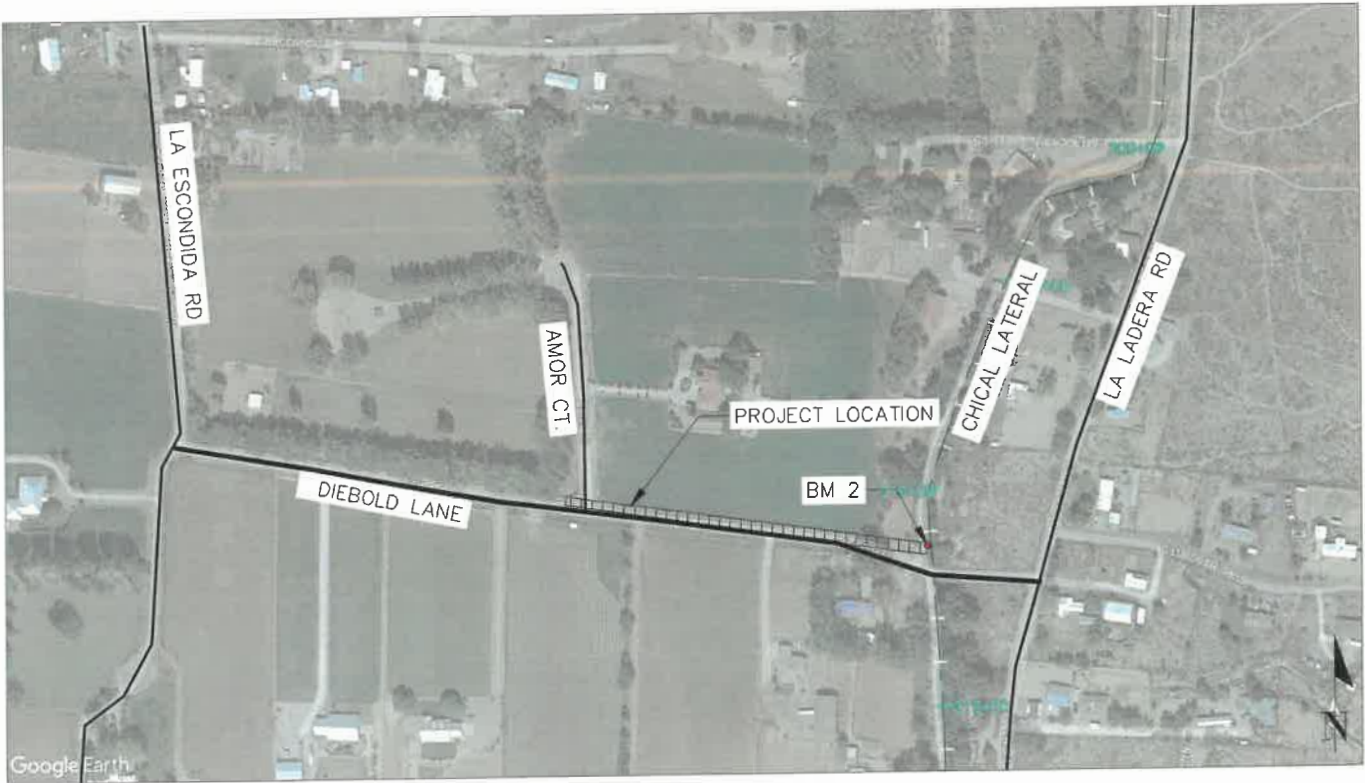
Appendix IV

MIDDLE RIO GRANDE CONSERVANCY DISTRICT

CONSERVATION PROJECT- HOEY PIPELINE


CHICAL LATERAL STA. 310+00±

ENGR25-046



VICINITY MAP

SHEET	DESCRIPTION
1	COVER SHEET
2	PLAN AND BENCHMARKS
3	PROFILE
4	DETAILS

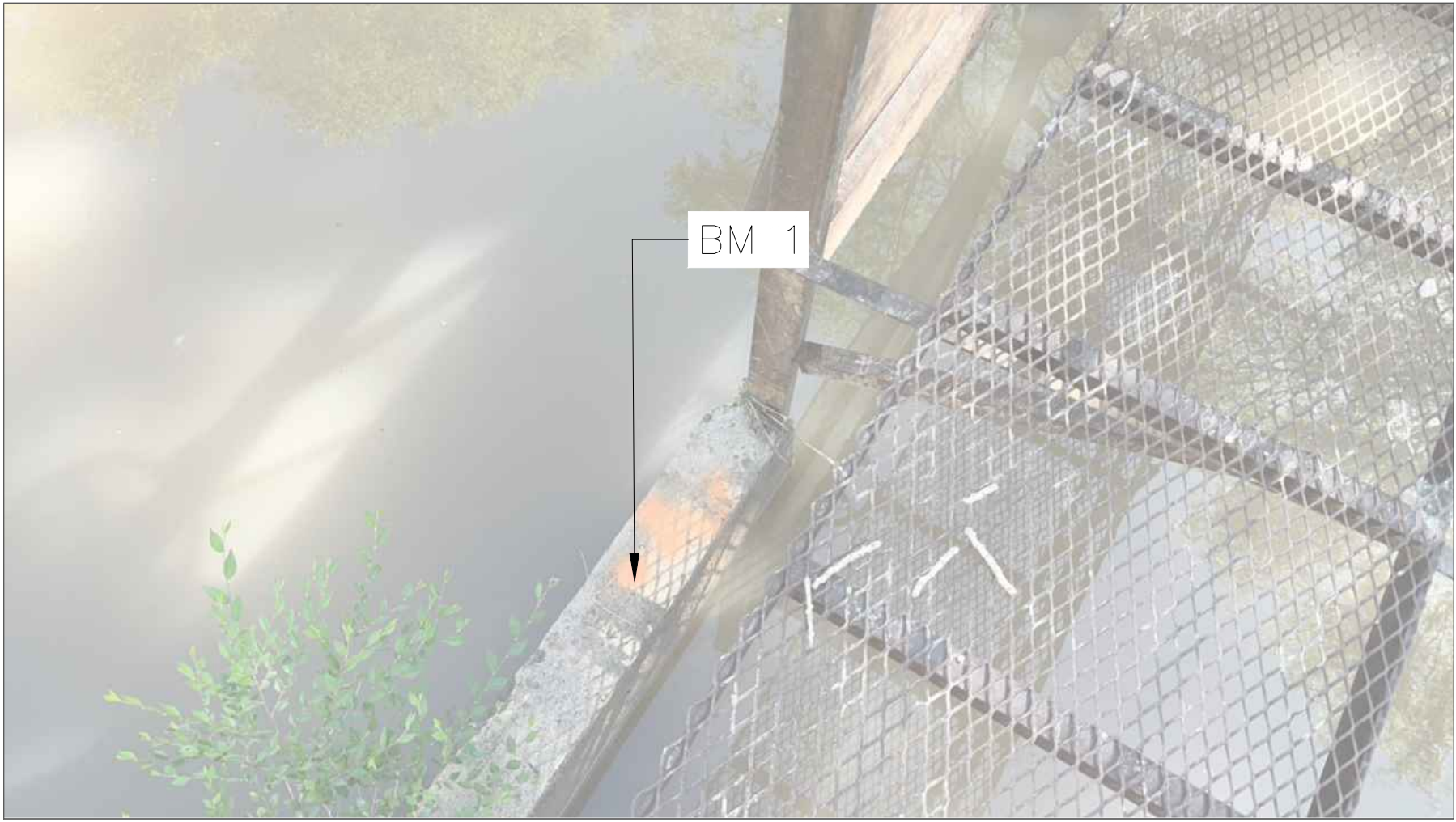
  
APPROVED BY:  
Eric Zamora, PE  
DIRECTOR OF TECHNICAL SERVICES  
MRGCD

DRAWN BY: AM	CHECKED BY: EZ	DATE	DESCRIPTION
MIDDLE RIO GRANDE CONSERVANCY DISTRICT	COVER SHEET 1/4		CHICAL LATERAL STA. 310+00
	ENGR25-046		
			





PIPELINE PLAN VIEW  
SCALE 1"= 30'



**BENCHMARK 1 (BM1):**  
DESCRIPTION: BM1 IS LOCATED ON EXISTING CONCRETE SKIMMER WALL OF CHECK STRUCTURE LOCATED ON THE CHICAL LATERAL AT STATION 342+75. THE BENCHMARK IS MARKED BY AN ORANGE DOT ON WEST SIDE OF CHECK, AS SHOWN IN THE PHOTO ABOVE.  
NORTHING: 1392878.9722'  
EASTING: 1515023.8426'  
ELEVATION: 4870.82'



**BENCHMARK 2 (BM2):**  
DESCRIPTION: BM2 IS LOCATED NEAR THE WEST BANK OF CHICAL LATERAL AT STATION 311+50. THE BENCHMARK IS MARKED BY A REBAR WITH ORANGE FLAGGING AS SHOWN IN THE PHOTO ABOVE.  
NORTHING: 1395857.3639'  
EASTING: 1514634.7485'  
ELEVATION: 4875.08'

LEGEND	
	TOWN OF PERALTA ROW
	MRGCD RIGHT OF WAY
	CHICAL LATERAL
	15" PIPELINE ALIGNMENT



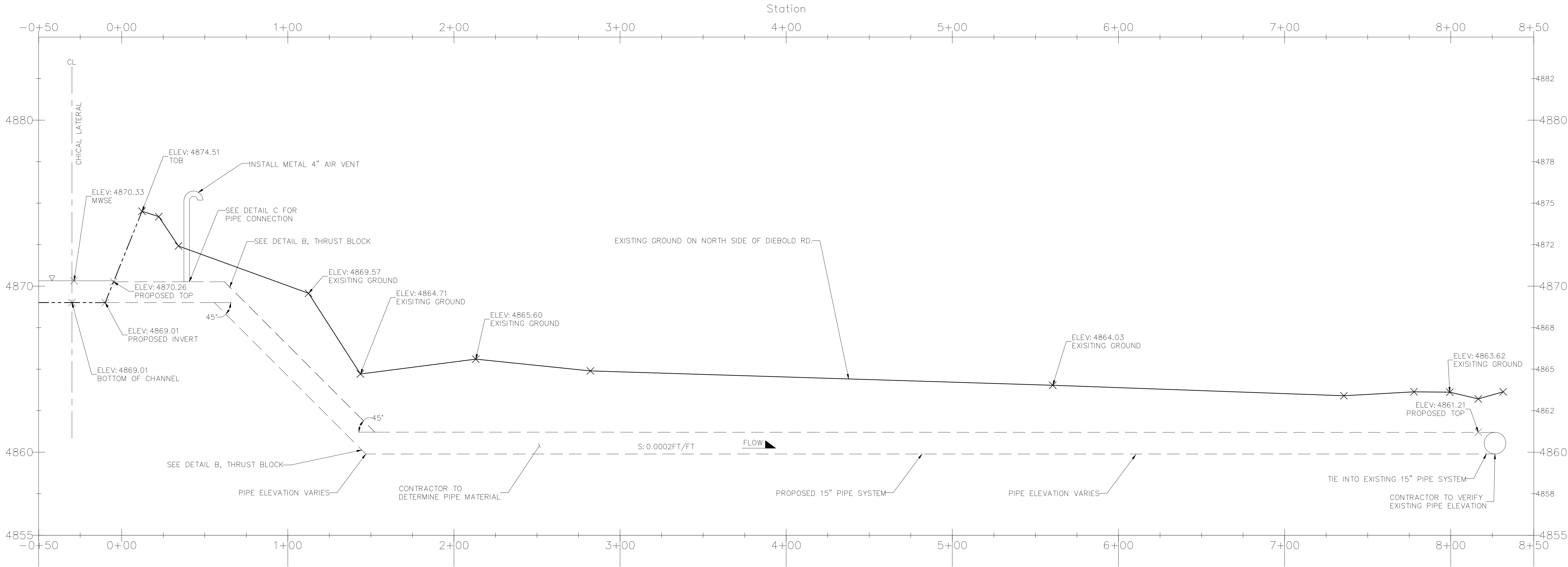


- NOTES
1.

CONTRACTOR TO MEET AND CONNECT TO EXISTING 15" PIPE SYSTEM ELEVATION.
2.

CONTRACTOR TO MAINTAIN A MINIMUM OF 2' OF COVER OVER PROPOSED PIPE.
3.

CONTRACTOR TO ENSURE PIPE SYSTEM WILL BE PLACED TO WHERE MRGCD CAN CONNECT NEW PROPOSED 15" TURNOUT.

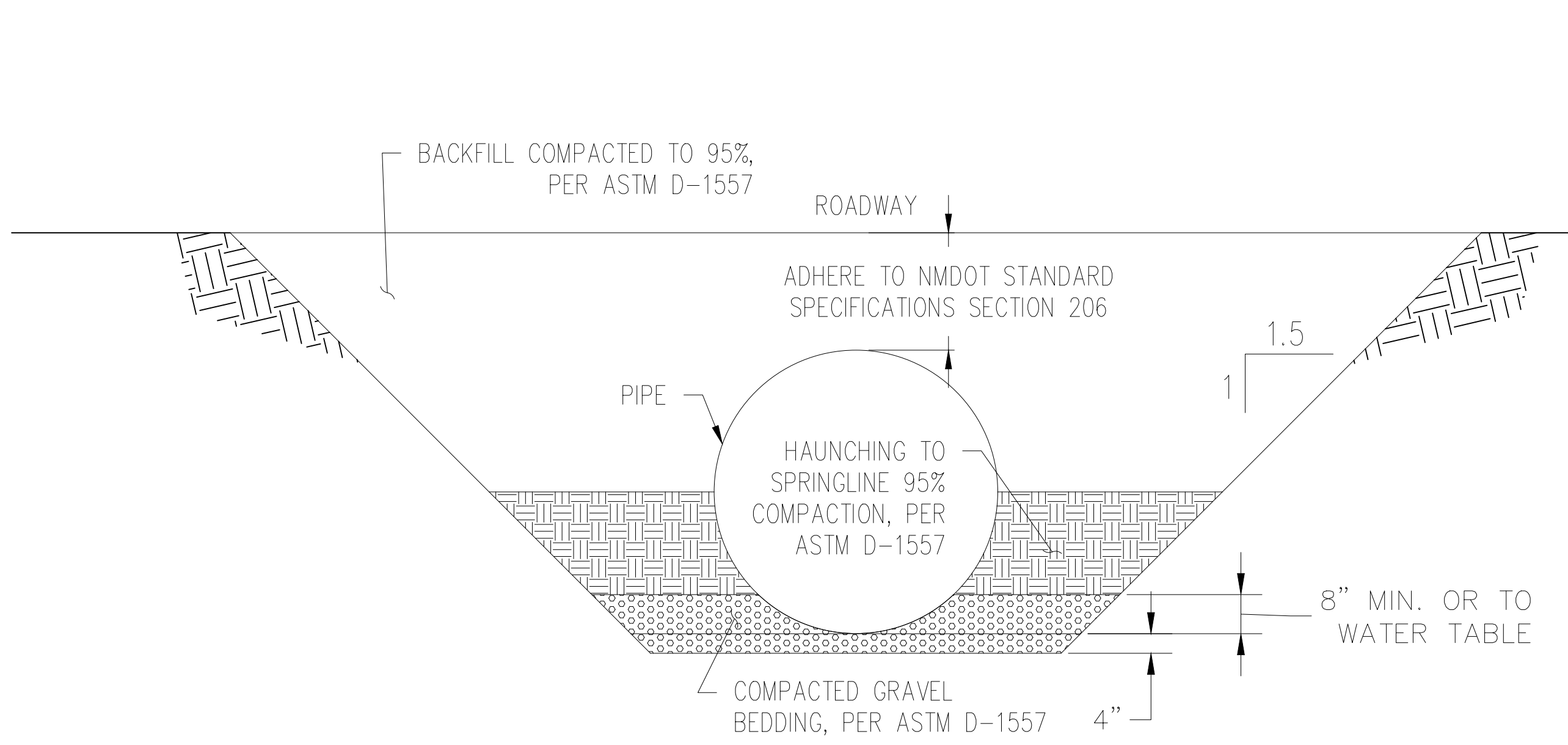


PIPE SYSTEM PROFILE  
SCALE 1"= 30'

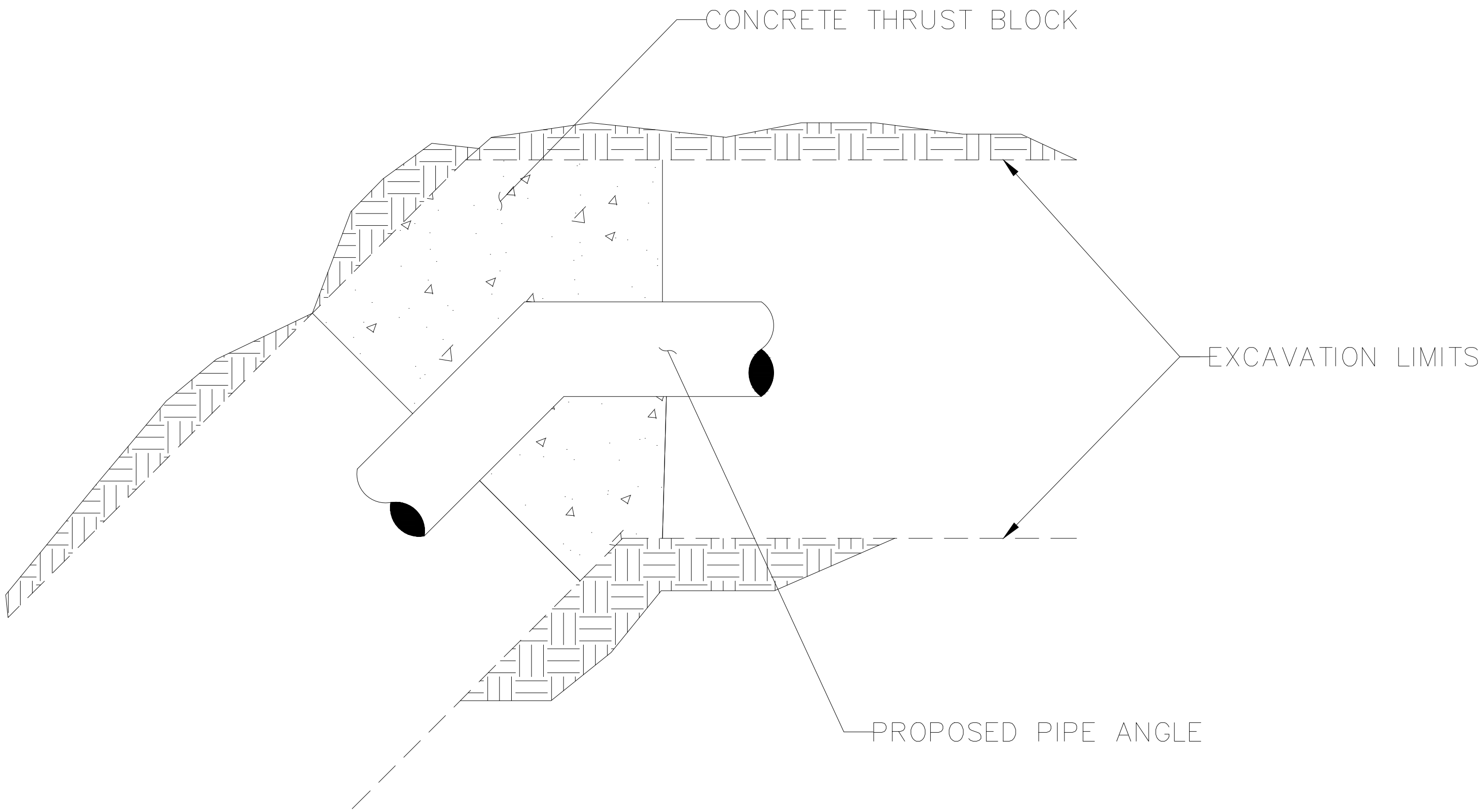
- LEGEND
- FACILITY CENTERLINE
- CHICAL LATERAL
- 15" PIPE SYSTEM
- EXISTING GROUND

MIDDLE RIO GRANDE CONSERVANCY DISTRICT

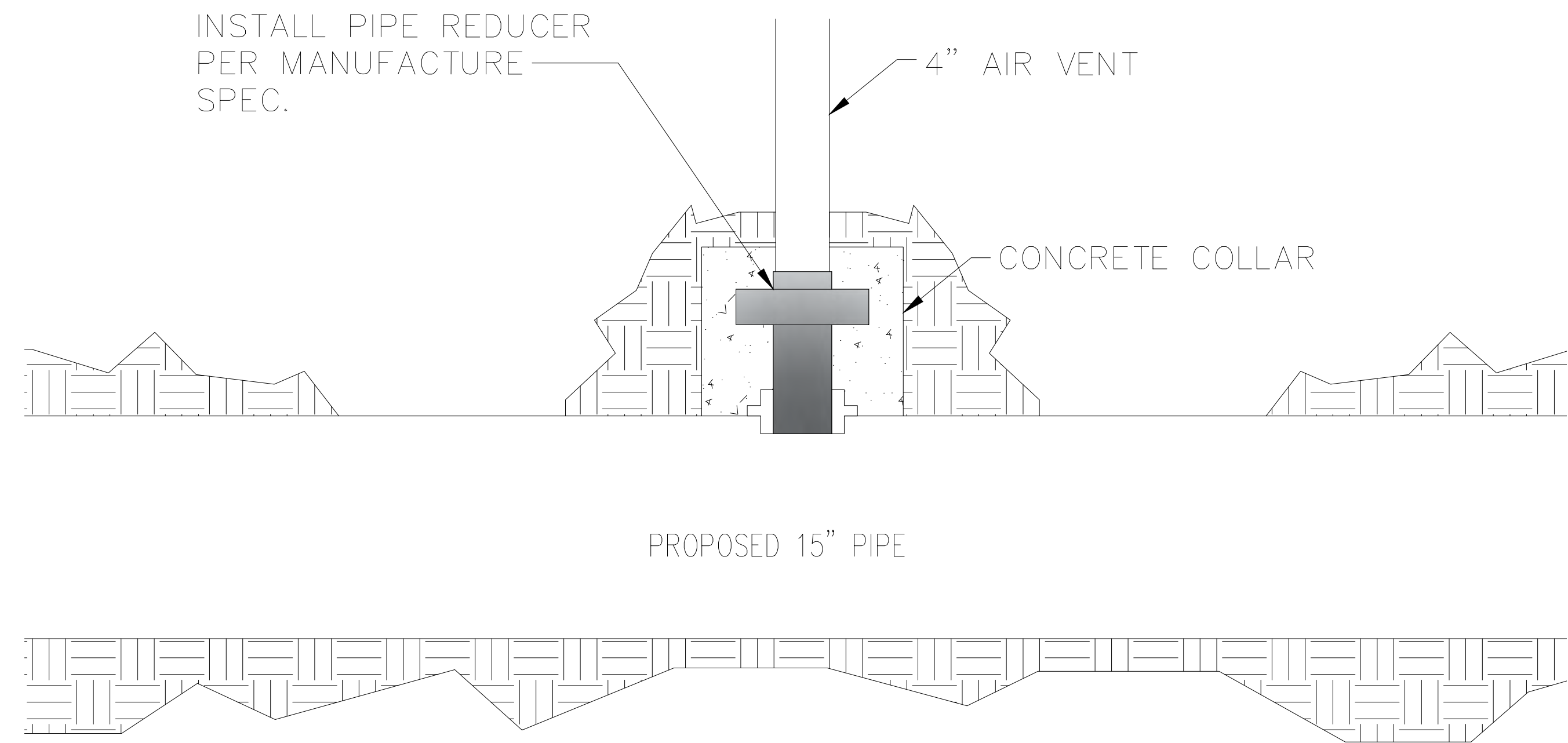
PROFILE SHEET 3/4  
ENGR 25-046  
CHICAL LATERAL STA.310+00



**DETAIL A: PIPE BEDDING DETAIL**



**DETAIL B : THRUST BLOCK (ANGLE) DETAIL**



**DETAIL C: PIPE REDUCER DETAIL**

<p>MIDDLE RIO GRANDE CONSERVANCY DISTRICT</p>	<p>DETAILS SHEET 4/4</p>
	<p>CHICAL LATERAL STA.310+00</p>



# *Appendix V*

## **Engineering Department 2025/2026 Off-Season Work**

### **Capital Projects-**

- Corrales Siphon - **\$7,727,166**
- Belen Highline Canal Overflow #2- **\$1,074,065**
- Socorro Main Canal Channel lining phase 2B-**\$6,878,359**
- Feeder 3 pump station Phase 1-**\$3,932,831**
- Loretta Road - **\$938,000**
- Low Flow Conveyance Channel Phase 2- **5,844,440**
- Acequia Madre – **\$800,000**
- ALGAA Project - **\$40,000**

### **Stakeholder Projects**

- NM500 Rio Bravo
- Los Lunas Corridor
- Bernalillo to Belen Levee
- LS 20
- River Mile 199

### **In-house Projects**

- Private Culvert Crossings
- Turnouts
- Butte Heading Design
- Allison Lateral
- New Belen Wasteway Rehab
- Sili Main Canal Check Structure
- Cochiti East main Canal Crossing replacement
- New Check Structure Garcia Extension
- Tribal Road 7 Culvert replacement

### **Conservation Projects**

- COABQ Field 5
- COABQ Field 12
- Schmittle Road pipe
- Hoey Pipeline
- NRCS Projects

## Appendix VI

# 2025 MRGCD Centennial Community Outreach & Support



- **World's Largest Matanza**
- **2nd Annual Socorro Community Conversation on Water**
- **Annie's Project Graduation**
- **Earth Day with Camels at Whitfield**
- **Corrales Heritage Day**
- **Bosque Farms Elementary Ag Day**
- **NMSU Chile Field Day**
- **Touch a Truck Day**
- **Lavender in the Village**
- **Valencia County Fair**
- **Socorro County Fair**
- **Valencia County Hispano Chamber of Commerce**
- **Corrales Harvest Festival**
- **New Mexico Chile Taste-off**
- **Valle Vista Elementary School Fundraiser**
- **Desert Willow Festival**

**Nearly \$12,000  
in Community Support**

# *Appendix VII*

## **Director Russo Baca Board Reports December 2025**

### **Report on the Farmers for Future Farmers Meeting, November 11, 2025**

This meeting is open to the public and occurs usually every second Tuesday of the month at 6 pm at 3211 Highway 47, Los Lunas, NM 87031. At the last meeting, the topic of how the organization can better assist local farmers came up. It was discussed that bringing more resources and information to everyone would be beneficial for all. The organization has decided to start an informational series and will be bringing a new topic to each of our meetings. Topics of discussion will include things like regenerative soil solutions, selective crops for drought conditions, co-op pricing for supplies like twine/fertilizer/seed, etc. The organization will be having guest speakers as well as sales reps that can assist us all with various needs. For the upcoming December 9th meeting, the organization will be having Sam Ruhala from Biomimetic Soil Solutions.

### **Report on the MRCOG Executive Board Meeting, November 13, 2025**

This meeting was primarily focused on the FY 2-25 budget adjustment as well as the approval of MRCOG's FY 2026 Interim Budget Adjustment. The 2026 Budget was adopted on June 12, 2025. After June 2025, there were additional changes in funding sources and planned expenditures that require additional adjustments to the FY26 Budget. The total 2026 authorized budgeted expenditures will increase from \$33,083,765 to \$34,761,855. Total 2026 budgeted revenues will increase from \$32,524,028 to \$34,202,118. Fund balance will decrease from \$695,148 to \$145,758. The full agenda and minutes can be found at <https://www.mrcog-nm.gov/AgendaCenter>.

### **Report on the Water and Natural Resources Committee, Nov 17-18, 2025**

Jason Casuga Chief Engineer and Senator Elizabeth "Liz" Stefanics presented regarding [ISC Funding 232521.1](#) Which is a Senate Bill Discussion Draft for an act making an appropriation to the interstate Stream Commission for Bosque Management Projects in the Middel Rio Grande Valley.

The full agenda and handouts can be found here:

[https://www.nmlegis.gov/committee/Interim\\_Committee?CommitteeCode=WNR](https://www.nmlegis.gov/committee/Interim_Committee?CommitteeCode=WNR)

### **Report on the Centennial Film Screening/Valle Vista Fundraiser, Nov 20, 2025**

This year, the Middle Rio Grande Conservancy District proudly celebrates 100 years of service in the Middle Rio Grande Valley. As part of this centennial milestone the MRGCD held the premier of The Rio Grande: A Century of Water, Land & People in the Middle Valley, a documentary by award-winning filmmaker, Arcie Chapa at the National Hispanic Cultural Center. This premiere marked the first showing of this documentary and also served as a fundraiser for the Outdoor Acequia Classroom at Valle Vista Elementary School. This visionary project will be APS's first outdoor acequia classroom, providing students in Albuquerque's South Valley with hands-on learning experiences rooted in acequia culture, agriculture, ecology, and conservation.

### **Report on the Finance Committee, November 19, 2025**

The committee met to discuss the FY 2026 budget and discussion of Amended Budget for Fiscal Year 2026 (07-01-25 to 06-30-26) Grant Fund.



## **Report on the Farmer Survey Advisory Committee Meeting, November 20, 2025**

A draft of the MRGCD Agricultural Water Users Survey was completed in mid-October in time for farmer focus groups to trial the survey. These trials occurred on October 22 in the North Valley with 17 participants and October 29 in Socorro with 7 participants. Changes were made to the survey after the October 29 focus group, and the revised survey was then done during one-on-one sessions with 3 different farmers. Changes were made to the survey after each of the interviews. During the interviews, each farmer was instructed to think out loud and provide feedback as they completed the survey. The focus groups and interviews were very helpful in revising the survey to get the highest response rate possible. Feedback from the focus groups was that the survey was too long and complicated. The feedback was varied from the farmers, but it was clear that the survey needed to be shorter, less technical, and more straightforward. Texting important information, especially from trusted ditch riders, seemed to be a preferred form of communication

## **Report on the ISC Work Session meeting, December 1, 2025**

Informational presentation by NMISC staff and Commission on the NM Unit Fund status and draft Arizona Water Settlements Act (AWSA) Program. There were also updates to a future funding policy for water utilization projects in the Southwest Region through the New Mexico Unit Fund based on lessons learned from the Pilot Cycle for planning and design projects. Additionally, there was discussion on Policy questions for NMISC approach to funding water utilization projects in the Southwest Region through the New Mexico Unit Fund to inform drafting of a future funding policy. The full agenda and presentations can be found here:

[https://www.ose.nm.gov/ISC/isc\\_meetings.php](https://www.ose.nm.gov/ISC/isc_meetings.php)

## **Report on the MRGFCA Annual Breakfast Meeting, December 2, 2025**

Jason Casuga presented to the MRGFCA and highlighted how flooding has impacted the MRGCD and how MRGCD is thankful for the partnerships with flood control authorities and looks forward to working with the newly formed Valencia County Arroyo Flood Control District (VCA FCD).

## **Report on the Valencia County Soil and Water Conservation District Board Meeting, December 3, 2025**

During this meeting the Supervisors discussed and reviewed funding for financial assistance applicants as well as the NRCS-Hub membership and the Rio Abajo Conservation Area (RACA) demo contract. This link explains all the financial assistance programs offered by VCSWCD as well as the application process:

<https://valenciaswcd-nm.gov/assistance-programs/>.

## **Report on the 6-Middle Rio Grande Pueblos Coalition, December 4, 2025**

Jason Casuga, Pam Fanelli and Eric Zamora were all in attendance and gave quick updates on off-season work on Pueblo Land. Pam Fanelli presented the budget calculations for operation and maintenance on Pueblo Land.

## **Report on the Congreso de las Acequias- Agua y Justicia, December 5-6, 2025**

As always this is a wonderful event hosted by the New Mexico Acequia Association. I went up in person both days to the event. The first day consisted of workshops and panels and the second day was the blessing of the water brought by various Acequias throughout New Mexico, as well as short theatre performances, and recognitions. The full agenda can be found here: <https://lasacequias.org/congreso/>