

# MINUTES

## RIO GRANDE REGIONAL WATER AUTHORITY (RGRWA) BOARD MEETING

9:00 A.M. – WEDNESDAY, January 4, 2017

Rio Grande Valley Partnership  
322 S. Missouri Ave., WESLACO, TX

The Rio Grande Regional Water Authority (RGRWA) Board of Directors held a meeting at 9:00 a.m. on Wednesday, January 4, 2017 at the Rio Grande Valley Partnership in Weslaco, Texas.

In attendance were:

### RGRWA Board Members

President, Sonia Lambert, Irrigation Districts  
Vice- President, Brian Macmanus, Water Supply Corps  
Sec/Treasurer John Bruciak, Cameron County  
Mr. Arturo, Cabello, Irrigation Districts  
Ms. Sonny Hinojosa, Irrigation Districts  
Mr. Bobby Sparks, Irrigation Districts  
Mr. Paul Heller, Irrigation Districts  
Mr. Troy Allen, Irrigation Districts  
Mr. Ricardo Gutierrez, Starr County  
Mr. Jim Darling, Hidalgo County  
Ms. Karran Westerman, Zapata County  
Mr. D.V. Guerra, Public  
Mr. Joe Pennington, Irrigation Districts

### Others

Ms. Dulce Martinez, RGVP  
Ms. Sandra De Los Santos, RGVP  
Ms. Georgina Bermea, TCEQ  
Mr. Ray Longoria, Fresse and Nichols  
Mr. Francisco Martinez, IBWC  
Mr. Juan Uribe, IBWC  
Mr. Moises Martinez, City of San Benito  
Mr. Adan Gonzalez, City of San Benito  
Ms. Debby Truman, City of San Benito

### **1. Call to Order & Roll Call**

President, Sonia Lambert called the meeting to order at 9:01 a.m. and announced that a quorum of the Board was present.

### **2. Consider Approval of November 2, 2016 Minutes**

Mr. D.V. Guerra moved to accept the November 2, 2016 board meeting minutes with corrections. Vice-President, Brian Macmanus seconded, the motion carried.

### **3. Consideration and action, if any on the 2017 Municipal Water Right Current Market Value in Accordance with TWC § 49.509(a)**

Vice-President, Brian Macmanus moved to accept the 2017 Municipal Water Right Current Market Value as \$3,716 per acre foot in accordance with TWC, provided that the water sales are verified by obtaining a copy of the contract from TCEQ. Mr. Bobby Sparks seconded, the motion carried.

### **4. Consideration and action, if any on hiring Long Chilton, LLP for the RGRWA 2016 Audit**

Vice-President, Brian Macmanus moved to approve Long Chilton, LLP for the 2016 RGRWA audit. Mr. Bobby Sparks seconded, the motion carried.

### **5. Consideration and action, if any on supporting the Bureau of Reclamation application by North Alamo WSC for reverse osmosis efficiency assessment.**

Mr. Raymond Longoria from Freese and Nichols asked the board to support North Alamo Water WSC in their application to the Bureau of Reclamation. Vice-President, Brian Macmanus moved to create a resolution in support of NAWSC's efforts. Mr. Sonny Hinojosa seconded, the motion carried.

## **6. Consideration and action, if any on Rio Grande River water quality monitoring and pursuit of BECC funding.**

After board discussion no action was taken. Mr. Jim Darling moved to table this discussion until the next board meeting in March of 2017. Mr. Paul Heller seconded, the motion carried.

## **7. Status Reports**

### **A. Report from TCEQ**

Ms. Georgina Bermea informed the board that the water levels of the U.S. combined ownership at Amistad and Falcon is at 5,922,348 acre-feet. Normal conservation capacity of U.S. is at 3,391,883 acre-feet which is 57.27%.

### **B. Report from IBWC**

Mr. Francisco Martinez reported to the board that El Morillo pumping station has 1 pump running with a gage height of 30.04 with .70CMS spilling into the river.

## **8. Committee Reports**

### **A. Community Outreach**

There was no new information to report.

### **B. Finance and Planning**

#### **1. Financial Report**

Mr. Troy Allen moved to accept the bills as presented. Mr. Ricardo Gutierrez seconded, the motion carried.

#### **2. Consideration and action, if any on the removal of Julian Alvarez from RGRWA's bank account and the addition of John Bruciak.**

Vice-President, Brian Macmanus moved to remove Julian Alvarez from the RGRWA account and add Sec./Treasurer John Bruciak to the RGRWA account. Mr. Ricardo Gutierrez seconded, the motion carried.

### **C. Personnel and Professional Services**

There was no new information to report.

### **D. Legislative Committee**

Mr. Jim Darling informed the board that he will be sending emails with updates on legislative items that pertain to water.

### **E. El Morillo Drain**

There was no new information to report.

### **F. Groundwater Management Committee**

Mr. Jim Darling asked the Groundwater Management Committee to present their ideas on how to put the Regional Water Facility Plan into action.

### **G. Scholarship Committee**

There was no new information to report.

**H. Drainage Committee**

There was no new information to report.

**I. Aquatic Weed Ad Hoc Committee**

There was no new information to report.

**J. Managers' Report**

Mr. Jim Darling updated the board on the letter of support to the Border Security and Texas Water and Soil Development Board (TWSDB) in September. Mr. Darling presented the board the 2016 Basin study and the Food and Drug Administration food safety modernization act rules. After discussion, board Vice-President, Brian Macmanus moved to create the Water Quality subcommittee (Paul Heller, Jim Darling, Troy Allen and Bobby Sparks), and dissolve the scholarship committee. Mr. Ricardo Gutierrez seconded, the motion carried.

**9. Discussion and Possible Action RE: Meeting Schedule**

It was the consensus of the Board to schedule the next regular meeting on Wednesday, March 8, 2017 at 9:00 a.m.

**10. Adjourn**

There being no further business to come before the Board the meeting was adjourned at 10:00 a.m.

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Jim Darling, President, RGRWA

ATTEST:

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Brian Macmanus, Secretary-Treasurer, RGRWA