

# MINUTES

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

9:00 A.M. – WEDNESDAY, November 2, 2016

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, November 2, 2016 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/Treas. John Bruciak, Cameron County  
Mr. Jim Riggan, Willacy 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. Roel Rodriguez, Municipal  
Mr. Ricardo Gutierrez, Starr County  
Mr. Jim Darling, Hidalgo County  
Mr. Luis Perez Garcia, Webb County

### Others

Mr. Sergio Contreras, RGVP  
Ms. Dulce Martinez, RGVP  
Ms. Sandra De Los Santos, RGVP  
Mr. Pablo Martinez, TCEQ  
Ms. Kristina Leal, Half Associates  
Mr. Quintin Anderson, Long Chilton, LLP.  
Mr. Johnathan Hall, Long Chilton, LLP.

### 1. Call to Order & Roll Call

President Jim Darling called the meeting to order at 9:08 a.m. and announced that a quorum of the Board was present.

### 2. Consider Approval of September 7, 2016 Minutes

Mr. Ricardo Gutierrez moved to accept the September 7, 2016 board meeting minutes as presented.  
Mr. Roy Rodriguez seconded, the motion carried.

### 3. Election of Officers.

Mr. Roy Rodriguez moved to elect Sonia Lambert as President, Brian Macmanus as Vice- President, and John Bruciak as Sec/Treasurer. Mr. Ricardo Gutierrez seconded, the motion carried.

### 4. Appointment of Jim Darling as General Manager

President, Sonia Lambert informed the board that the contract for General Manager is in their packets for review. She informed the board that Jim Darling will be an independent contractor and not a direct employee. Mr. Troy Allen moved to approve Jim Darling as General Manager for the RGRWA. Mr. Roy Rodriguez seconded, the motion carried.

**5. Discuss and take possible action to authorize staff to travel to Ciudad Juarez, Chihuahua, Mexico for interaction with Border Environment Cooperation Commission regarding funding for real-time water quality analysis and reporting system for the Rio Grande River.**

Vice-President, Brian Macmanus informed the board on the opportunity for real-time water quality analysis funding by BECC. He mentioned that visiting BECC in Ciudad Juarez is crucial to the funding of this project. Mr. Roy Rodriguez moved to authorize General Manager, Jim Darling to travel to Ciudad Juarez, Chihuahua, Mexico as a fact finding mission regarding BECC's funding for real-time water quality analysis and reporting system for the Rio Grande River. Mr. Ricardo Gutierrez seconded, the motion carried.

**6. Status Reports**

**A. Report from TCEQ**

Mr. Pablo Medrano informed the board of the water levels of the U.S. combined ownership at Amistad and Falcon stood at 61.04% of normal conservation capacity, 2,700,583 acre-feet.

**B. Report from IBWC**

Mr. Francisco Martinez sent in a report informing the board that they have 1 pump running with a gate height of 29.53 with no spill into the river.

**7. Committee Reports**

**A. Community Outreach**

There was no new information to report.

**B. Finance and Planning**

1. Financial Report

Mr. Ricardo Gutierrez moved to accept the bills as presented. Mr. Roy Rodriguez seconded, the motion carried.

2. Consider Approval of 2015 Audit Report by Long Chilton, LLP

Mr. Quintin Anderson with Long Chilton, LLP, reported on the 2015 audit findings for the RGRWA. Mr. Jim Darling moved to approve the 2015 audit for the RGRWA. Mr. Ricardo Gutierrez seconded, the motion carried.

**C. Personnel and Professional Services**

There was no new information to report.

**D. Legislative Committee**

There was no new information to report.

**E. El Morillo Drain**

President, Sonia Lambert asked for an update on the invoice for the repairs on El Morillo Drain. Mr. Ricardo Gutierrez asked if we can get a group tour to see El Morillo Drain in 2017.

**F. Groundwater Management Committee**

There was no new information to report.

**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 informed the board that he will work on the following: El Morillo Drain assessment, FRGWA EDC, IBWC, Regional Study, TCEQ, Website and keeping track of any legislation regarding water.

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

It was the consensus of the Board to schedule the next regular meeting on Wednesday, January 4, 2017 at 9:00 a.m.

**9. Adjourn**

There being no further business to come before the Board the meeting was adjourned at 9.38 a.m.

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Jim Darling, President, RGRWA

ATTEST:

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Brian Macmanus, Secretary-Treasurer, RGRWA