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MINUTES

RIO GRANDE REGIONAL WATER AUTHORITY (RGRWA)
BOARD MEETING
9:00 A.M. – WEDNESDAY, MAY 1, 2019
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, May 1, 2019 at the Rio Grande Valley Partnership in Weslaco, Texas.

In attendance were:

RGRWA Board Members
President, Sonia Lambert
Vice- President, Brian Macmanus
Mr. Sonny Hinojosa, Irrigation Districts
Mr. Troy Allen, Irrigation Districts
Mr. Jim Darling, Hidalgo County (by phone)
Mr. Joe Pennington, Irrigation Districts
Mr. Alvaro Martinez, Irrigation Districts
Mr. Jose Hinojosa, Irrigation Districts
Mr. Arturo Cabello, Irrigation Districts
Ms. Karran Westerman, Zapata County
Mr. Ricardo Gutierrez, Starr County

Others
Mr. Joel Saldivar, U.S. IBWC
Mr. Pablo Medrano, TCEQ
Ms. Sandra De Los Santos, RGVP
Mr. Ray Longoria, Freese & Nichols, Inc.

1. Call to Order & Roll Call
President Lambert called the meeting to order at 9:01 a.m. and announced that a quorum of the Board was present.

2. Public Comment
No public comment.

3. Consider approval of April 3, 2019 meeting minutes
Mr. Jose Hinojosa moved to accept the April 3, 2019 board meeting minutes with the correction of the spelling of Mr. Thomas Michalewicz. Ms. Karran Westerman seconded the motion. President Lambert called for a vote and the motion passed unanimously.

4. Status of Board of Directors
Mr. Jim Darling informed the board that the all board of directors are active until the end of the session. He also informed the board that the Governors office has requested all nominees submit an application which is available online. Mr. Darling will follow up with the Governors office on the submission of the WSC nominee Brian Macmanus and municipal nominee Mark Vega.

5. Investment policy review and approval
President Sonia Lambert informed the board to review the current investment policy. Mr. Darling requested to add section (C). labeled Government Pool Funds to Article 5. Vice-President Macmanus requested to correct typos and spelling error in the policy. President Lambert requested that the new
Secretary/Treasurer be added to the policy. Vice-President Macmanus moved to approve the investment policy with the addition to Article 5, new Secretary/Treasurer and the corrections of typos and spelling. Mr. Arturo Cabello seconded the motion. President Lambert called for a vote and the motion passed unanimously.

6. **RGRWA’s funds, budget and future assessments**

President Sonia Lambert reviewed the RGRWA financials with the board. Mr. Sonny Hinojosa proposed that the RGRWA refund those entity’s that paid the assessment fees as the board will not be using the funds for a project. After board discussion Mr. Sonny Hinojosa moved to keep 2 years’ worth of expenses without special projects or sponsorships for a total of $85,000 and return the rest of the money in the account to those that have paid assessment fees. Mr. Troy Allen seconded the motion. President Lambert called for a vote and the motion passed unanimously. Vice-President Brian Macmanus moved to amend Mr. Hinojosa’s motion to cease all future assessments until the next RGRWA board is fully formulated. Mr. Troy Allen seconded the motion. President Lambert called for a vote and the motion passed unanimously.

7. **El Morillo agreement between the RGRWA and IBWC**

Mr. Darling informed the board that we had not received the invoice with the final cost of maintenance for the El Morillo Drain. Mr. Sonny Hinojosa asked the board if they wanted to keep the responsibility of collecting the money for the maintenance of El Morillo from the Counties. President Lambert asked that we add an item to the next board meeting for the RGRWA to consider moving the responsibility of El Morillo Drain to the Lower Rio Grande Water Committee. Mr. Darling asked the board for permission to send out the invoices to the Counties as soon as we receive them from IBWC and as we receive the money from the Counties to make the check out to IBWC. Vice-President Brian Macmanus moved to authorize payment to IBWC for El Morillo maintenance for 2018. Mr. Troy Allen seconded the motion. President Lambert called for a vote and the motion passed unanimously.

8. **Status Reports**

   A. **Report from TCEQ**

   Pablo Medrano reported that the combined storage of Amistad and Falcon Reservoirs is at 64.73%. U.S. combined ownership at Amistad/Falcon stood at 64.73% of normal conservation capacity, impounding 2,195,403 acre-feet.

   B. **Report from IBWC**

   Joe Saldívar reported that one pump is running at El Morillo drain. The spill over the weir is 3.2 cubic meters and the salinity at Anzalduas dam was at 630 parts per million. He informed the board that they are not running any of the other pumps.

9. **Committee Reports**

   A. **Community Outreach** - There was no new information to report.

**Finance and Planning**

1. Mr. Ricardo moved to approve to pay the bills to Good Honest Tech for the RGRWA website upkeep and the General Managers salary to Mr. Jim Darling. Mr. Sonny Hinojosa
seconded the motion. President Lambert called for a vote and the motion passed unanimously.

B. Personnel and Professional Services
There was no new information to report.

C. Legislative Committee
President Lambert informed the board on SB911 authorizing the State to inquire on the officers or directors for any district or authority. President Lambert informed the board that there are several bills regarding elections. She mentioned that the bills would require that elections be held at voting at uniform election times and irrigation districts should have a voting place at every location where the Counties have them.

D. El Morillo Drain
Information was presented in item 7.

E. Groundwater Management Committee
There was no new information to report.

F. Water Quality Subcommittee
There was no new information to report.

G. Drainage Committee
President Sonia Lambert reported that Cameron County intended to create a Flood Control District. This would overlap jurisdiction with irrigation and drainage districts in those areas where these districts currently provide drainage. President Lambert testified and proposed language to exclude the irrigation and drainage district areas who currently provide drainage.

H. Aquatic Weed Ad Hoc Committee
There was no new information to report.

I. Manager's Report
Mr. Jim Darling informed the board that the North American Development Bank (NADB) has invited the RGRWA to the public meeting on May 30, 2019 at Ciudad Juarez, Chihuahua.

10. Other Business
There was no new information to report.

11. Discussion and Possible Action RE: Meeting Schedule
The next meeting will be scheduled for May 21, 2019

12. Adjourn
There being no further business to come before the Board, President Lambert adjourned the meeting at 10:01 a.m.

Sonia Lambert, President, RGRWA

ATTEST:

John Bruciak, Secretary-Treasurer, RGRWA