

MINUTES

RIO GRANDE REGIONAL WATER AUTHORITY (RGRWA) BOARD MEETING

9:00 A.M. – WEDNESDAY, January, 2016

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

PRESIDING: JIM DARLING, PRESIDENT

The Rio Grande Regional Water Authority (RGRWA) Board of Directors held a meeting at 9:00 a.m. on Wednesday, January 6, 2016 at the Rio Grande Valley Partnership in Weslaco, Texas.

In attendance were:

RGRWA Board Members

President, Jim Darling, Hidalgo County
Vice-President, Sonia Lambert, Irrigation Districts
Sec/Treas. Brian Macmanus, Water Supply Corps
Mr. D.V. Guerra, Irrigation Districts
Mr. Troy Allen, Irrigation Districts
Mr. Sonny Hinojosa, Irrigation Districts
Mr. Arturo Cabello, Jr., Irrigation Districts
Ms. Karran Westerman, Zapata County
Mr. John Bruciak, Cameron County
Mr. Ricardo Gutierrez, Starr County
Mr. Jimmy Riggan, Willacy County
Mr. Roy Rodriguez, Municipalities

Others

Mr. Julian Alvarez, Interim RGRWA Executive Director
Ms. Sandra De Los Santos, RGV Partnership
Ms. Dulce Martinez, RGV Partnership
Mr. Phil Cook, Black and Veatch
Mr. Tito Nieto, CCID#6
Mr. Pablo Medrano, Watermasters Office
Mr. Mark Vega, McAllen PU

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 November 11, 2015 Minutes

Sec/Treasurer, Brian Macmanus moved to accept the November 11, 2015 board meeting minutes as presented. Vice-President, Sonia Lambert seconded, the motion carried.

3. Public Comment

There was no public comment.

4. Update on Regional Water Facility Plan

Mr. Phil Cook informed the board that the Regional Water Facility Plan is almost finished. Black and Veatch has created a plan to build 100 miles of pipeline throughout the Rio Grande Valley to distribute water when needed (droughts, emergencies). Mr. Cook will provide a detailed overview during the next board meeting. Sec/Treasurer, Brian Macmanus moved to give the Executive Committee the authority to move ahead with the remaining portion of the project based on the collection of funds. Ms. Karren Walker seconded, the motion carried.

5. Calculate Municipal Water Right Current Market Value in Accordance with TWC§ 49.509(a)

President, Jim Darling informed the board that we did not receive the information necessary to

calculate the Municipal water right current market value. Sec/Treasurer, Brian Macmanus moved to table this item until the next RGRWA Board meeting. Mr. Ricardo Gutierrez seconded, the motion carried.

6. Election of Officers

Mr. John Bruciak moved to keep the same slate of Officers: President, Jim Darling, Vice- President, Sonia Lambert and Sec/Treasurer, Brian Macmanus. Mr. Jimmy Riggan seconded, the motion carried.

7. Status Reports

A. Report from TCEQ Watermaster

Mr. Pablo Medrano informed the board of the water levels in the U.S. and Mexico reservoirs. U.S. combined ownership at Amistad and Falcon stood at 65.59% of normal conservation capacity, impounding 2,224,588 acre-feet. The Mexican reservoirs report shows a total of 70.33% average capacity.

8. Committee Reports

A. Community Outreach

There was no new information to report.

B. Finance and Planning

1. Financial Report

Vice-President, Sonia Lambert moved to accept the bills as presented. Mr. Ricardo Gutierrez seconded, the motion carried.

2. Status of Assessments

There was no new information to report.

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

Mr. Julian Alvarez informed the board that Willacy County had given a partial payment for the maintenance of El Morillo Drain. He stated that we are pending payment from Hidalgo and Cameron Counties.

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. Surge Valve Committee

There was no new information to report

K. Commodities Committee

There was no new information to report.

L. Nueces Rio Grande Coastal Basin Water Permit Committee

There was no new information to report.

M. Managers' Report

Mr. Julian Alvarez informed the board that Rodolfo Montero is no longer with the IBWC.

Mr. Tito Nieto presented the letter that he sent to the Governor's Office with the nominees for appointment to the RGRWA board. Mr. Nieto named the nominees as: Othal Brand, Jr. (HCWID#3), Paul Heller (HCID#16), Joe Hinojosa (Santa Cruz ID#15), Tom McLemore (Harlingen IDCC#1), and Bobby Sparks (Valley Acres WD).

7. Discussion and Possible Action RE: Meeting Schedule

It was the consensus of the Board to schedule the next regular meeting on Wednesday, March 9, 2016 at 8:30 a.m.

8. Adjourn

There being no further business to come before the Board the meeting was adjourned at 9.57 a.m.

Jim Darling, President, RGRWA

ATTEST:

Brian Macmanus, Secretary-Treasurer, RGRWA