NEW MEXICO WATR DIALOGUE-----Minutes of the Meeting, November 10, 2016

The meeting was called to order at 10:10 by President Jason John. Other Board members present were Aaron Chavez, Conci Bokum, John Brown, Sharon Hausam, Eileen Dodds, Dael Goodman, and Michael Benson. Joining by phone were Janice Varela and Alex Puglisi.

Announcements: Mr. Brown announced a lecture at UNM on November 17th from 7 to 8 p.m., part of the School of Public Administration Speaker Series. Ms. Jami Nelson Nunez will discuss local governance of natural resources—water and sanitation.

The Agenda was approved as presented.

ONGOING BUSINESS

1. Minutes of the October 2016 meeting were approved as presented
2. The Financial Statement as of October 31, 2016 was approved as presented.

It was discussed that we obtain a credit card, possibly through Bank of America where our bank account is located, to comply with RegOnline account requirements. Ms. Bokum will ask Yana Merrill if she will contact the bank for their requirements, and the possibility of requesting a low credit limit for safety.

1. Annual Meeting:
2. The date is set for January 12, 2016
3. Agenda/Speakers/Facilitators: The agenda will be finalized within the next two weeks. Mr. Chavez agreed to get the agenda, the State Statute on state water planning, and it’s appendix C of the 2003 State Water Plan printed with enough copies (130) for the attendees.

* John Fleck will be one of two keynote speakers, along with someone (to be announced) from the Bureau of Reclamation.
* John Leeper has accepted for the morning panel on characteristics of good state water plans. Mr. Brown will contact Adrian Oglesby as to his willingness to address the meeting since he is currently contracted with the ISC to look at SWP’s from surrounding states.
* Mr. Chavez has asked James Egland of the Colorado Water Board in Denver to speak, and he will know within the next week if Mr. Egland will be able to attend.
* ISC Director Deborah Dixon has agreed to speak in the 4:00 slot, and she will address concerns that come out of the breakout sessions held mid-afternoon.
* Those breakout sessions will be facilitated by members of the WD Board (11 have agreed), and possibly Emily Geery from the ISC, Heather Balas, NM First Director, and Hanna Risley-White. Lucy Moore will hold one or two training sessions on facilitating when she returns to the U.S.
* Rosemary Romero has also asked for an opportunity to speak on “Lessons Learned” in the regional planning process.

1. Registration and Scholarships: Mr. Brown expressed concern that registrations don’t seem to be coming in as quickly as in the past. He agreed to e-mail the WD list to remind people to register.

Joaquin Baca is the point-of-contact for the scholarship requests, and his phone number is on the WD website and the registration form. We decided that the first 10 will be “first-come-first-served”, and the last 5 will be held for special cases. Several members said they have interested people and will follow up with them.

Sharon and John will assist with registration. Joaquin may help as well.

1. Facilitation Training: As previously discussed, Lucy Moore will set training sessions when she returns to the U.S.
2. State / Regional Water Plans:
3. Drafts and Finalized Plans: Several of the draft regional plans have been accepted by the ISC, maybe as many as 6 or 7 of the 16. The rest are scheduled to be heard over the next three months. Ms. Goodman said the Lower Rio Grande Steering Committee will refuse to accept their plan because what they have been presented isn’t what was agreed to in their meetings. Ms. Hausam said the Northwest and Middle Rio Grande meetings are scheduled for January, and they may not have enough time to review the plans before meeting with the ISC.

Mr. Chavez said the San Juan plan didn’t incorporate any of their comments into their final plan, and that not everyone can speak at the approval meeting with the ISC and the State Engineer.

b) Meetings: No discussion

c) Governance Study Group: Mr. Brown announced that Bob Wessely had addressed the Water and Natural Resources Committee in Socorro in October, where Mr. Wessely and Ms. Dixon discussed the regional water planning update process and its inherent problems with the abbreviated timeframe in which to do the job. Ms. Dixon gave the WD a plug for our annual meeting in January.

NEW BUSINESS

There was no discussion.

There being no other business to come before the Board, it was moved and seconded to adjourn.

Motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 11:38.

Our next meeting is scheduled for December 8th.