NEW MEXICO WATER DIALOGUE---Minutes of the Meeting, May 18, 2017

The meeting was called to order by President Jason John at 10:06. Also present were Vice-President Aaron Chavez, Secretary-Treasurer Eileen Dodds, Bob Wessely, Conci Bokum, John Brown, Sharon Hausam, and new board members Stacy Timmons and Katharine Yuhas. Joining by phone was Dael Goodman.

Announcements:

1) Eileen announced a NM Aquifer Conference, “Groundwater in New Mexico”, to be held at the offices of the State Bar of New Mexico on Wednesday, July 12th, from 8:00 to 5:00. Access [www.agwt.org/events](http://www.agwt.org/events) for details.

2) Aaron announced a seminar on “The Environmental Condition of the Animas and San Juan Watershed”, with emphasis on the Gold King and other mine waste to be held on June 20th thru 22nd. It will be held at San Juan College, the Henderson Fine Arts Center, in Farmington. To register, go to https://animas.nmwrri.nmsu.edu/2017/

3) Stacy announced the WRRI conference this year will be hosted by NM Tech at the Macey Center, on August 15th and 16th. It is titled “Hidden Realities of New Water Opportunities”, and one panel will discuss the drilling application on the San Agustin Plains. She will lead a field trip to the Plains on the 14th before the conference begins. Please check the WRRI website for details as they are posted, as registration begins June 1st.

Agenda: After discussion to remove some items from our next meeting agenda, the agenda for this meeting was approved as presented.

ONGOING BUSINESS

1. Approval of the Minutes of the December 2016 and April 2017 meetings:

It was discussed that both sets of minutes had been corrected. It was moved and seconded to approve both sets of minutes. Motion carried.

1. Approval of the Financial Statements for April, 2017: John said he will work with Yana (our accountant) to separate the annual meeting report into an “income” and “expenses” report, in order for a better accounting of collections from the meeting. Member donations from the meeting were also requested to be included as a separate line item. It was moved and seconded to approve the financial statement as presented. Motion carried.
2. Update on Board Membership: Conci said there are still 5 openings on the Board. Katharine and Stacy joined us today. Paul Tashijan also agreed to be on the board, but was unable to attend today.

Additional representation from the Southwest Region is needed, and Conci agreed to contact Allyson Siwik for suggestions. Likewise, Eileen will contact Priscilla Lucero for her input. Both are in Silver City.

Jeffrey Samson, a recently-graduated professional engineer, is also interested in joining the board.It was moved and seconded to add Jeffrey Samson to the board at this time. Motion carried.

John Leeper has expressed interest previously. Michael Benson had agreed to contact John, and Sharon will check on his interest.

The Northeast Region and Colfax have no board representation at this time. Stacy suggested contacting Kate Zeigler, who does soil and water conservation work in the region. Stacy agreed to contact her.

We will ask John Leeper and Kate Zeigler to the July 13th meeting. We will vote them to board membership at that time, if they are interested in joining.

John asked us to provide short bios for the website if we have not done so already.

Dael suggested formulating a list of questions for potential board members to determine their interest. She has an example of such questions she will forward to the board.

1. Next Annual Meeting—January 11, 2018:Lucy Moore has offered to help with planning the 2018 meeting. Conci will invite her to the July 13th meeting to start our planning. Our tentative theme will be “The State Water Plan”. The focus will be on topics like adjudication and inter-basin transfers.
2. State/Regional Water Plans: ( “a” and “b” were deleted)

c) Governance Study Group Report: Bob reported that the ISC gave a document to the GSG last month, the “Charter for the State Water Plan”. He will distribute it to the board after this meeting. He described the ISC’S oral presentation as “an education tool for the regions, and as providing advice and education for state water planners”.

The ISC presented a financing and work plan by Lucia Sanchez, and a majority of the funds ($350,000) was earmarked for contracted services. There will be a public involvement plan in June.

The GSG met with the ISC and Deborah Dixon on April 19th to discuss how the taskforce created in HM-l might work. Deborah provided a list of water planners the GSG will contact about joining the taskforce. The GSG is crafting a letter to be sent to the Steering Committee members from the 16 regions, Tribal Governors and Presidents, the NM Municipal League, the NM Assn. of Counties, directors of water utilities, flood control, and irrigation districts, business groups, rural water assns., Councils of Government, the Water Assembly, Amigos Bravos, the Gila Coalition, the NM Acequia Assn., NM Local Government Div., the OSE, the NMED, the Dept. of Agriculture, EM&NRD, IAD, and the Water Trust Board. There are about 500 people on their list, and they are looking for participants for the taskforce who will work on “how to do water planning”.

The GSG asked if they could access the WD e-mail list, the Sevilleta meeting list, and WD annual meeting attendance lists for inclusion in their invitations.

It was moved and seconded, subject to approval of the final draft of the Taskforce Invitation Letter written by the GSG, to allow use of the WD e-mail list to this effort. Motion carried.

1. Historical Items: The Chris Nunn Garcia archives are still being sorted and catalogued. There has been no contact with the SW Center yet, but everyone agrees that it is the most appropriate place for it. The WD will receive an index to the collection upon completion of the project.

It was discussed that there should be an archive of the complete collection of WD newsletters. At present, they are on the website back to 2003 only. Conci said she had copies of all back issues, and would make them available for scanning to the website.

1. Newsletter: The newest issue is posted on the website, and it has been sent to the e-mail list. It was mentioned that the Fall issue should have a regional focus.
2. Board member updates: None

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Topics for July Board meeting:
2. The history of the Agustine Plains Ranch proposal to mine the San Agustin Plains aquifer. Stacy and Eileen will prepare a presentation.
3. The new ISC Charter—Sharon will ask Lucia Sanchez to attend and provide a briefing.
4. 2018 Annual Meeting discussion—Conci will ask Lucy Moore to attend and open a discussion on the format of the 2018 meeting.

The next meeting will be on July 13th at a to-be-determined location. Souder Miller is moving their offices in June. Our meeting is scheduled for 10-2, with time for lunch at noon. Attendees should be prepared to contribute for lunch.

There being no further business to come before the board, irt was moved and seconded to adjourn. Motion carried. The meeting adjourned at noon.