NEW MEXICO WATER DIALOGUE----Minutes of the Meeting, June 14, 2018 FINAL

The meeting was called to order at 10:15 by Vice-President Aaron Chaves. Other Board members present: Conci Bokum, John Brown, Dennis Inman, Jeffrey Samson, and. Joining by phone were Gary Essingler, Dael Goodman, Simeon Herskovits, John Jones, Alex Puglisi, Stacy Timmons and Bob Wessely.

1) Announcements:

The HM 1 document “Making the Case for Change” is being edited to incorporate comments. There will be a separate table containing comments and group’s response to those comments. The group is also drafting 4 legislative bills and a guidance document for regional water planning.

WRRI is sponsoring the third conference on the Gold King Mine spill next week. Stacy sent out the notice to members of the board during the meeting.

The Animas/La Plata project is full and may release project water if needed for the first time this year.

2) The agenda was approved.

3) The minutes from the meeting of May 10, 2018 were approved.

4) The financial statement for April 2018 was approved.

5) Annual Meeting:

The meeting on January 10, 2019 will be the 25th Annual Statewide Dialogue meeting.

Should the title reference 25 years? To acknowledge and celebrate this anniversary, we will ask Lucy Moore one of the founders of the Dialogue to speak.

There was an underlying sense that this meeting would be about the past, present, and future. It could be framed as what we have learned some things but there will be a new world.

There is a sense that we are at a “tipping point” and agreed that we will ask David Gutzler to discuss what the science indicates our water future looks like. We also thought that maybe Janie Chermak could talk about the economic implications of that future. One example of a new trend is the gentrification of rural areas. Another is how to balance accepting innovative strategies while protecting the state from damaging speculative ventures – do we need safeguards? What are the impacts from the lower Rio Grande litigation?

We noted that there will be new state leadership and that we might want to invite the next governor to speak along with a legislator to talk about changes under a new governor. The new State Engineer (if someone has been appointed) and the new State Land Commissioner are also possibilities.

There will be a new State Water Plan which will be available on June 30 for review. After we review it, we might want to discuss the implications of that plan at the meeting. Is it adequate to enable us to respond to the future?

We agreed that we want to include discussion tables and noted that we need to discuss improving the wrap up section. Given how full the agenda might be, we might also want to have one round of discussions rather than two.

We should keep in mind that we could do a CLE for attorneys. It would increase our income (charge more for certifying attendance, etc.) and maybe bring in some new people.

6) Administrative tasks:

a) Bylaws—Sharon, Conci, and Eileen will send out proposed amendments for the July meeting. There will be some removal of clauses that no longer apply and additions that address the way we are currently doing business.

b) Administrative Committee: Major concerns are the web page and IT. Jeffrey and John have not yet received the promised suggestions on how to improve the web page as well as proposed costs from Rose Hessmiller. Jeffrey will continue to try and get that information. We also need the input from Sharon and Paul on our administrative needs.

7) Next Meeting: July 12 at WOOD Engineering, 8519 Jefferson St. NW, Albuquerque, NM 87113

The agenda will include the Annual Meeting, the new State Water Plan, Web Site and By-Laws revision. Lucy will join us.

There being no further business to come before the Board, it was moved and seconded to adjourn. Motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 11:24