NEW MEXICO WATER DIALOGUE---Minutes of the Meeting, August 11,2016

The meeting was called to order at 10:10 by President Jason John.

Board members present were Jason John, Aaron Chavez, Conci Bokum, John Brown, Dennis Inman, Michael Benson, Joaquin Baca, and Eileen Dodds. Simeon Herskovits arrived late. Joining by phone were Aron Balok and Alex Puglisi.

There were no announcements.

 Approval of the Agenda: Added under NEW BUSINESS were: 1) the newsletter ,and 2) nominations to the Board. The Agenda was approved as amended.

ONGOING BUSINESS

1. Approval of the Minutes of the July meeting: The minutes of the July meeting were approved as presented.
2. Approval of the Financial Statements: The financial statements through June 30, 2016, were approved as presented. They are included with the hard copy of these minutes.
3. Annual Meeting: The date is confirmed for January 12, 2017, at the Indian Pueblo Cultural Center in Albuquerque. Event deposits have been made. The Theme (or title) will be: “Towards a More Relevant State Water Plan”. A draft agenda for the meeting is included at the end of these minutes.

Discussion included ideas for two Keynote speakers, as well as panel titles and speakers, how to handle a “breakout session” which will replace an afternoon panel, and what we will ask Ms. Dixon of the ISC to address in her presentation.

* Tentative Keynote speakers for “Why we need a State Water Plan” are John Fleck to address the history of state water planning, and someone from the Bureau of Reclamation to address what they foresee in the future.
* The first panel will be “Components of Good State Water Plans”, in which we will ask Reed Benson, UNM professor who has a history of water planning in Oregon and California, someone from Colorado who sits on the San Juan Basin Roundtable with Aaron Chavez, and John Leeper, who can address the water rights settlement of the Navajo Nation.
* The second “panel” will actually be a breakout session in which WD Board members, trained by Lucy Moore, will facilitate discussions starting at lunch and continuing thereafter. It is being called “How State Water Planning Aligns with the Regions”, and we will ask the ISC to have members of their staff join WD Board members and groups at each table. We hope to have input from as many regions as possible, with emphasis moved away from the MRG. Ms. Bokum said there is an “Appendix C” in the State Water Plan which we can use to craft our conversations. It spells out the responsibilities of the state and the regions in the planning process. Ms. Bokum will send it to the Board, and it will also be included as a handout to the meeting attendees.
* Points made at this time will be introduced in panel three, when Deborah Dixon, ISC Director, addresses the assembly. Lucy Moore has agreed to facilitate the discussion with Ms. Dixon, titled “A Dialogue with the ISC.”

Action items:

Joaquin Baca will contact Reed Benson

John Brown will contact John Fleck

Aaron Chavez will contact someone from the San Juan Basin Roundtable and from the Bureau of Reclamation

Jason John will contact John Leeper

Conci Bokum will contact Lucy Moore about training and joining our September meeting, and Deborah Dixon.

Michael Benson will contact the IPCC about numbers of people at a table and how many tables they will be setting up.

Board members who have agreed to act as facilitators:

Simeon Herskovits Eileen Dodds

Michael Benson John Brown

Joaquin Baca Aaron Chavez

Alex Puglisi

Other possibilities include Aron Balok (schedule-dependent), Bob Wessely, Sharon Hausam, and Jason John.

1. Agenda item #4, although touched on in some of the annual meeting discussion, was tabled for the September meeting.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Updates from Board Members, Regions, and Tribes ----Tabled
2. WD Newsletter: It was decided we publish an abbreviated newsletter with the primary purpose of announcing the annual meeting with date and agenda. Mr. Brown agreed to do a review of John Fleck’s new book,”Water is for Fighting Over,and Other Myths about Water in the West”. A Letter from President Jason John and an op-ed piece from some of the Board members that addresses the Regional Water Plan process we have just completed will also be included. Final decisions will be made at the September meeting. It was also recommended that we ask Ms. Dixon for a 500-word assessment of the RWP process. Ms. Bokum will ask her for such an article.
3. Nominations to the Board: There are 2 vacancies on the board at present, plus an additional 4 people who may wish to be removed due to lack of participation. Ms. Bokum will contact Dale Ballard and Ms. Dodds will contact Kathy Clark for their decisions about participating.

Nominations to the Board: Dale Goodman to replace Win Jacobs from Las Cruces. Virginia Necochea, and Bruce Thompson, from the MRG. It was agreed to invite all four to join the board. Ms. Bokum will call them.

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

Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 12:45.