

**Acequia del Caño
Minutes
Annual Meeting
January 9, 2006**

Members present:

Eduardo Archuleta, Ramos Archuleta, Robert Baran, Jack Blum, Peter Buehner, Gary Clark, Loyola Garcia, John Gutting, Chuck Berger, Erlinda Key, Tom Leitner, Victoria DeVargas, Marlene & Charlie Lujan, Meade Martin, Patricia Martinez for Virginia Romero, Virginia Martinez, Joseph Montes, Jim Rogers, Robert Salazar, Julia Takahashi, Herman Gonzales and Joel Serra for Transformations.

The meeting was called to order at 7 p.m.

87 votes were present, in person or by proxy. This constituted a quorum—a minimum of 59 votes was required.

The first order of business was to accept the minutes of the 3/28/05 meeting. Eduardo Archuleta made the motion to accept. John Gutting seconded the motion. The minutes were approved unanimously.

President Robert Baran gave his report, which consisted of a power-point presentation of problem areas on the ditch in the past year. Active discussion of the problem areas followed the presentation.

Baran reported that the Nambé Dam reservoir was full of water, and that due to the extremely dry winter; crews were preparing to clean the acequias early. He urged the parciantes to get ready to irrigate as soon as possible, because of the drought.

Treasurer Joe Montes gave his report.

Funds available in the acequia checking and savings accounts were \$4,825.59. The cleaning costs were \$3,600 for 2005. Maintenance expenses were \$400. Accounts receivable were \$386. And receivable from the Midkif Lateral were \$754. Miscellaneous expenses amounted to \$683, and office supplies were \$140. Three Parciantes had credit balances.

A motion to accept the treasurer's report was made by John Gutting, seconded by Chuck Berger. It was approved unanimously.

Mayordomo Jack Blum gave his report. He said he received only one scheduling complaint all year long; otherwise he received lots of cooperation working out changes in schedules. He encouraged people to use the acequia's water bank if they were unable to irrigate their land. He said Alfred Roybal was the ditch rider for the irrigation district, and was excellent in communicating with the mayordomo.

Secretary Meade Martin made his report. He said the funding initiative with the NRCS (National Resource Conservation Service) was moving forward and the acequia was now number six on the waiting list.

Potential projects are:

Piping from head gate to county road 113,
Fast ditch lining across Wades to ST road 503,
Fast ditch lining from ST road 503 to arroyo crossing,

Measurements and cost estimates have not been made for these project areas. If and when designs are available a meeting will be called to review them for approval by a majority of the members.

The diversion is its own project. The acequias point of diversion from the Nambé River has moved up stream ¼ mile from its original point. A discussion of returning the point of diversion would be good as the riverbed has not changed that much. Arroyo flows need to be considered. More permanent diversions will need funding. Low tech solutions with low impact may have some advantages i.e.: the county has some free rock available for acequias at the Caja del Rio land fill and could be used for diversion repairs and to hold the riverbed level.

He also reported that the OSE had met with the Ortiz and Garduño acequias and another option would be a combined diversion. Meade said he planned to get assistance from the New Mexico Acequia Association.

County Commissioner Harry Montoya had visited the diversion site and seen the problem with the brush dumping. He said that he would ask his maintenance crews to put some no dumping signs up.

Volunteers are needed to form a committee to work on the diversion and other projects.

The Pueblos have funds to remove non-native brush from the river riparian areas.

Elections:

The floor was opened to nominations, but there were none.

John Gutting moved to keep the current slate of officers. The motion was seconded by Gary Clark. There was no discussion. The officers and mayordomo were elected by acclamation. They are as follows: Robert Baran, president; Joe Montes, treasurer; Meade Martin, secretary; Jack Blum, Mayordomo.

Other business:

There was further discussion of surveying/inventorying the acreage and water rights in use along the acequia. Robert Baran, Gary Clark, Julia Takahashi, Robert Salazar and Jim Rogers were named to a committee investigate doing the survey. The motion to create the committee was moved by Julia Takahashi and seconded by Gary Clark. It passed unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 9 p.m.