

**Minutes of the Acequia del Caño meeting
Jan. 23, 2016**

Chairman Peter Buehner called the meeting to order at 2 p.m.

Present in person were: Ramos Archuleta for Edwardo Archuleta, Lany Berger and her daughter Jenifer, Jack Blum, Peter Buehner, Ray and Vanessa Chavez, Gedi Cibas, David Fries, John Gutting, Meade and Robin Martin, Virginia Martinez, Tim Merrigan, Joe Montes, Julia Takahashi, Pete Romero, Paula Roybal Sanchez, Glen Sears and Judy Wright.

The following members sent their proxies. Edwardo Archuleta, James Baker, Gary Clark, Gary Davis, Loyola Garcia, Linda Keys, Bruce Lewis, Carla Lovato, Charlie and Marlene Lujan, Mark McNown (this proxy arrived after the meeting), Dolores Romero, Virginia Romero, Robert Salazar.

Secretary Meade Martin and Treasurer Tim Merrigan counted proxies and issued voting cards. While a quorum was assembling, they reported that they had applied for a disaster relief FEMA grant which would reimburse 75 percent of the cost to repair the grade stabilization structure at the diversion. They also reported that concrete repairs have not been completed above La Mesita Ranch. \$7,000 was budgeted for the project in 2015; the contractor was given a down payment of \$2,000 but did not complete the work. There was an informal discussion of how to proceed. The commission was urged to look into replacing that stretch of the acequia with a pipeline that would carry water past the arroyos that fill the ditch with sediment above La Mesita Ranch, and to apply the funds from the 2015 concrete repair project towards the new piping.

Martin mentioned that the commission was looking into working with the New Mexico Acequia association and the Regional Conservation Partnership Program (RCPP) to continue the work on Phase 2 of the pipeline from the end of the 2011 project to the present sand trap. Members of the Acequia del Poleo were encouraged to consider seeking funding to pipe their system and restore their pond.

At 2:40 p.m. Merrigan announced a quorum was present.

Ramos Archuleta moved to approve the 2016 agenda; Julia Takahashi seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Takahashi moved to approve the 2015 meeting minutes; John Gutting seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Merrigan gave the treasurer's report, which is attached. Total expenses were \$22,467: \$5,000 for ditch cleaning, \$12,695 for diversion maintenance, \$2,000 for concrete repair, \$2,663 for maintenance, \$109 for other expenses. In 2015, \$26,510 was billed for assessments. As of Dec. 31, 2015, cash balance was \$6,637. Outstanding assessments totaled \$3,405. The FEMA grant, anticipated in early 2016, would total \$9,521. Archuleta moved to approve the treasurer's report; Joe Montes seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Chairman Buehner called for the election of officers. Pete Romero nominated the current commissioners. He said they had done a good job and had a good level of knowledge of the ditch. Many people seconded the motion, including Montes. Martin asked the officers if they would serve another term and they said yes. Montes asked Jack Blum if he would continue as mayordomo and he said yes. The motion passed by acclamation.

Merrigan continued with the 2016 budget. He proposed expenditures of \$5,000 for ditch cleaning, \$5,000 for repair of damaged concrete, \$2,700 for miscellaneous maintenance and repairs, for a total of \$12,700. Takahashi suggested that the commissioners look into not spending money for concrete repairs above La Mesita Ranch, instead using that money to pay part of the costs of putting a pipe in that location. Joe Montez moved to ratify the budget, changing its wording to include Takahashi's suggestion.

Gutting told the parciantes that the Pojoaque Valley Irrigation District (PVID) would be having a meeting during the next week, and that the new officers would pursue a flood plan for the river, which might result

in extra expenses for parciantes of all acequias along the Nambe/Pojoaque River.

The parciantes present discussed how to get more people—especially a younger generation—active in the acequia. One member suggested that each commissioner have a younger understudy. Parciantes decided to have members walk the ditch on Sat., March 5. Pete Romero urged everyone to bring a shovel, and others suggested bringing pruning shears or a pitchfork. Takahashi invited all parciantes to meet at her house at 8 a.m. for breakfast before setting out.

Montez mentioned that the Midkiff lateral needs cleaning and asked that the crew hired to clean the acequia contact him, so that lateral members could hire them to do the work. The commissioners said they would do so.

There being no more old or new business, Lany Berger moved to adjourn the meeting; Takahashi seconded the motion and it passed unanimously. Buehner adjourned the meeting at 4 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Meade Martin Secretary
From notes taken by Robin Martin.

Adopted at the 1/30/2017 member meeting.