

LOWER RIO GRANDE WATER USERS ORGANIZATION

c/o
City of Las Cruces
Office of the Mayor
PO Box 20000
Las Cruces, NM 88004
(505) 541-2067
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NOTICE OF MEETING

The next meeting of the Lower Rio Grande Water Users Organization will be at 1:30 PM to 3:00 PM on **Thursday March 9, 2000** in the City Council Chambers at City Hall, 200 N. Church.

Agenda

1. Approval of Minutes of January 11, 2000
2. Resolution Approving a Professional Services Agreement with the New Mexico Interstate Stream Commission.
3. Resolution Approving a Professional Services Agreement with Terracon, Inc., as Subcontractor to the New Mexico Interstate Stream Commission Professional Services Agreement.
4. 2000 Legislation: Len Stokes
5. Texas Clean Rivers Program: Gary Esslinger
6. Surface Water Treatment Plants in Dona Ana County: Robert Monday
7. \$300,000 Appropriation: Gary Esslinger
8. Other Items of Interest

If you need an accommodation for a disability to enable you to fully participate in this event, please contact us 48 hours before the event at 541-2000/V or 541-2183/TTY.

**LOWER RIO GRANDE
WATER USERS ORGANIZATION**

**DRAFT
MINUTES
July 27, 2000**

The Lower Rio Grande Water Users Organization met at 2:00 p.m. on Thursday, July 27, 2000, at 200 N. Church Street, Las Cruces, NM.

LRGWUO Board Members Present:

Chairperson, Rubén Smith, City of Las Cruces
Dr. Tom Bahr, NMSU
Gary Esslinger, EBID
Cesario Alvillar, Town of Mesilla
Oscar Butler, DAMDWCA
Pat Banegas, Anthony, NM
Bobby Creel, Acting Director, WRRI, NMSU
Gilbert Bartlett, Village of Hatch

LRGWUO Board Members Absent:

Joseph Cervantes, Doña Ana County Commissioner
Ben Woods, Assistant VP/Director PPD, NMSU

Others Present:

Robert Monday, City of Las Cruces
Dr. Jorge Garcia, City of Las Cruces
Andrea Mendoza, City of Las Cruces
Marcia Driggers, City of Las Cruces
Jerry Leyendecker, Doña Ana County
Len Stokes, PES
Mary Wells, TerraCon
Mariano Martinez, DAMDWCA
Minerva Rayos, DAMDWCA

Chairperson Smith called the meeting to order at 2:07 p.m.

- 1) Approval of Minutes for March 9, 2000.

Draft copies of the minutes had been distributed prior to the meeting for review.

The motion to approve the minutes for March 9, 2000, was made by Mr. Bahr and seconded by Mr. Alvillar.

Mr. Butler requested that the minutes be amended/corrected to show that after ".....requested a clarification on a point of issue regarding the prospective location of treatment plant facilities." Mr. Monday stated at that time that there was no determination of site. Want to insure that it was in the minutes that at that particular meeting (3/9/00), there was no determination of site.

Mayor Smith asked Buck if he recalled that. Mr. Monday stated he couldn't recall making that exact statement but that there is no site locked in at this time.

Mr. Esslinger asked that on page 3, Item 7, second sentence, "The first option Mr. Esslinger.....pro rated amount the Public Service Commission....." Should be NM-TX Water Commission.

The minutes were approved as amended.

Work and the Application to EPA for Formalize Funding (\$300,000) Related to the El Paso/Las Cruces Regional Sustainable Water Project.

Dr. Garcia went over the different tasks that the Technical Committee recommended for the Sustainable Water Project. Committee went through several proposals and tried to prioritize the ones that could go into the \$300,000. More proposals were received than there was money. Some of those could possibly go back into next year's funding.

Dr. Garcia went over each of the tasks very briefly which comprise the overall project. Some of the work will be done by private consultants, some will be done by the City, and some to be done by the Technical Committee. Task # 1 is Installation of Deep Piezometers and the existing hydrologic sections that have been studied in value. (???) One of the things that came up at the meeting with the State Engineer about a month ago was that we are pursuing having the State Engineer release the Groundwater Model that they have of the Basin so that we could use it for our own studies. Well, after the conversation with the State Engineer we came to the conclusion that the reason they didn't have a model ready was because of lack of data. Models that are not calibrated are not any good. One of the things that was suggested and supported heavily by the State Engineer's Office would be to gather more data from the aquifer. So one of the things that the Technical Committee brought up is USGS into the picture to see if what their ideas were in improving the existing study that we have for groundwater. One was that at least a couple of the sections will need deeper piezometers for observation. As one of the tasks we propose to drill these observation wells and getting it setup for use by USGS. USGS would collect data for the next million years on this. Because of procurement issues it turned out it would be more efficient for the City to drill the well and then turn it over to USGS rather than paying a 40% overhead on USGS for the actual installation of the piezometer.

Task Two was brought up by Mr. Esslinger that it would be a good idea to start thinking about aquifer storage and recovery. That would mean looking at places in the aquifer to store excess possible surface water flows in some years. The monies allocated to this project are really a drop in the bucket as to what you can do with aquifer storage and recovery but it's a good start.

Task Three is what Len was talking about previously and that is the Water Rate Study that would be evaluating the impact of transfers from groundwater to surface water. When you talk about going to surface water we not only have to look at the impact on the customer base because of the surface water treatment but also because of the purchase price of the well water. Certainly the TX-NM Project had some work done in this area but it wasn't specific enough to really give the different entities such as Doña Ana, Hatch or even the City, what the actual impacts of the transfer to surface water is going to do.

Task Four is the only task that is really specific to one community and was brought up early on by Doña Ana Mutual and so making sure that one is what we really call a Master Plan for the future Water Treatment Plant; what process needs to be followed to achieve that. The Committee voted to include that as number 4.

Task Five was brought up by Mike Riley from EBID. This is really a very broad watershed work where we predict contributions to the Lower Rio Grande. It deals with data analysis of the snowmelt and once all the data has been collected monies are needed to process this data. This is part of a larger project Mark Riley of EBID is seeking some of the ISC funding to complete this project. If money is allocated to that task, it will mainly be seed money to start this work; which will benefit everyone in the region.

Task Six deals with visual reviewing of transfer of surface water. We will be studying the different transitional schemes that are available to manage surface waters in the conversion from groundwater to surface water. How do you get to a regional level and manage the whole system; are you going to have a board or some kind of authority. What is in place in other places, such as central Arizona, and other projects throughout the West that have done this. What this is going to do is look at the different organizational tools that are available and present it to this group.

Task Seven deals with evapotranspiration study for Doña Ana County and the raw data collection process and lack of data that we feel needs to be addressed when we are looking at evapotranspiration; that is the consumptive use by crops. I believe EBID has a deep interest in this but I think overall to go to a good conversion along with this, it is important that we have good data.

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REVISED NOTICE OF MEETING

The next meeting of the Lower Rio Grande Water Users Organization will be at 10 AM to 12:00 pm on **Tuesday, July 24, 2001** in the City Council Chambers at City Hall, 200 N. Church.

Agenda

1. Approval of Minutes
 - a. July 27, 2000
2. Briefing on Tri-Regional Water Project – Jorge Garcia, P.E., will discuss
3. Report on Current Projects -- Andrea Mendoza will discuss.
 - a. 40-Year Water Plan
 - b. EPA Funded Projects
4. Resolution Approving an Amendment No. 2 to Professional Services Agreement No. 00-550-045 between the New Mexico Interstate Stream Commission and the Lower Rio Grande Water Users Organization.
5. Resolution Approving Amendments to Professional Services Agreement with Terracon, Inc. as Subcontractor to the New Mexico Interstate Stream Commission Professional Services Agreement.
6. Report on NM/TX Funding Phase II EPA Money – Len Stokes will discuss.
7. Report from EBID – Gary Esslinger will discuss.
8. Other Items of Interest

If you need an accommodation for a disability to enable you to fully participate in this event, please contact us 48 hours before the event at 541-2000/V or 541-3701/TTY.

Lower Rio Grande Water Users Organization

June 13, 2002
2:30 p.m.

City of Las Cruces
City Council Chambers

AGENDA

1. Approval of Minutes – December 11, 2001
2. Resolution No. 02-04. A Resolution Authorizing the City of Las Cruces as Fiscal Agent to act as the administrator and manager of the LRGWUO Regional Sustainable Water Project, Phase II – Jorge A. Garcia, Utilities Director, will discuss
3. Status of projects under the EPA Phase I, LRGWUO Regional Sustainable Water Project – Gene Paulk, Project Manager, will discuss
4. Introduction of projects under EPA Phase II Amendment – Gene Paulk will discuss
5. Regional Water Plan Update – Gene Paulk will discuss.
6. Other items of interest.