

# **Lower Rio Grande Water Users Organization**

## **Meeting of the Lower Rio Grande Water Users Organization Technical Committee**

**January 24, 2002  
1:30 pm**

**City of Las Cruces  
Utilities Center, Room 213  
680 N. Motel Blvd.**

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### **AGENDA**

1. Regional Water Plan – Discussion on additional funding to Consultant
2. Committee Discussion
  - Task I – Gene Paulk, City of Las Cruces
  - Task III
  - Task IV
3. EPA Application
4. Other Business
5. Schedule Next Meeting

# Lower Rio Grande Water Users Organization

c/o City of Las Cruces Utilities – P. O. Box 20000 – Las Cruces, NM 88004  
505-528-3511 telephone / 505-528-3619 fax

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**Subject:** *Notes from meeting of January 24, 2002 at 1:30 p.m.*

**Members Present:** Jorge Garcia (CLC), Gene Paulk (CLC), Bobby Creel (NMSU), Kris Padilla (DAMDWCA), Gary Esslinger (EBID),

**Members Absent:** Dona Ana County, Village of Hatch, Town of Mesilla, Anthony Water & Sanitation District

**Others Present:** Kathy Watson (CDM), Phil King (NMSU)

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## 1. Regional Water Plan – Discussion on additional funding to Consultant

- Per telephone conversation with Mary Hellen Follingstad, potential funding from the ISC is pending a special appropriation before the state legislature session.
- Terracon will not attend technical committee meetings until they have something to present.
- If ISC cannot approve another change order, we will work something out as necessary.
- Gary Esslinger will contact EBID attorneys to follow up on comments due to Terracon.

## 2. Committee Discussion

- Task I – contract for piezometer monitoring wells will go before the Las Cruces City Council for approval at the February 4, 2002 meeting. The low bid for the monitoring wells was from Anthony Pump & Drilling in the amount of \$196,000.
- Task III – Parsons Engineering is awaiting any comments. Gene Paulk will issue a notice to members requesting all comments within a week.
- Task IV – Molzen-Corbin & Associates is awaiting guidance on purchase rates for surface water rights in their report. They will be given direction to either leave out actual prices or make adjustments per EBID and City of Las Cruces comments.

## 3. EPA Application

- EPA has the complete application for Phase 2. Kathy Watson is working on budget revisions within the application with Bill Black (EPA).
- New Mexico Clearinghouse approval is complete.
- The Quality Management Plan for the LRGWUO has been approved

## 4. Other Business

- Task II ASR Report – committee wants to ensure that comments we acknowledged.

## 5. Schedule Next Meeting

- Next meeting scheduled for February 21, 2002 at 1:30 p.m. in the City of Las Cruces Utilities Building conference room.

# **Lower Rio Grande Water Users Organization**

## **Meeting of the Lower Rio Grande Water Users Organization Technical Committee**

**April 18, 2002  
1:30 pm**

**City of Las Cruces  
Utilities Center, Room 213  
680 N. Motel Blvd.**

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### **AGENDA**

1. EPA Phase 2 Amendment – Status Update
2. Committee Discussion:
  - Task I Status Update– Gene Paulk, City of Las Cruces
  - Task II – Distribution of Final Report
  - Task III – Distribution of Final Report
  - Task IV – Approval of Final Report
  - Task VI – Comments & Discussion of Draft Final Report
  - Task VII – Comments & Discussion of Draft Final Report
3. Regional Water Plan Discussion:
  - Final Schedules of Public Meetings
  - Schedule for Submission of Final Report
4. Other Business
5. Schedule Next Meeting

# Lower Rio Grande Water Users Organization

c/o City of Las Cruces Utilities – P. O. Box 20000 – Las Cruces, NM 88004  
505-528-3511 telephone / 505-528-3619 fax

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**Subject:** *Notes from meeting of April 18, 2002 at 1:30 p.m.*

**Members Present:** Jorge Garcia (CLC), Gene Paulk (CLC), Bobby Creel (NMSU), Mariano Martinez (DAMDWCA), Jerry Leyendecker (DAC), Rob Richardson (Representing the Village of Hatch)

**Members Absent:** EBID, Town of Mesilla, Anthony Water & Sanitation District

**Others Present:** Kathy Watson (CDM)

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## **Opening :**

The regular meeting of the Lower Rio Grande Water Users Organization Technical Committee was called to order at 1:30 p.m. on April 18, 2002 in the Utilities Administration Building Conference Room by Gene Paulk.

## **AGENDA ITEMS :**

### **1. Status Update on EPA Phase 2 Amendment**

The agreement was signed by Jorge and returned to EPA. Bobby wants a letter to begin Phase 2 to include the cost and the timeframe. Need to send a letter to all entities to notify of EPA award.

Phase 1 still needs to be closed out soon. We are requesting invoice and acceptance letter. The acceptance letter to be signed by all entities at next meeting. This will include interim reports for Task I and Task VII.

### **2. Task I -**

Began in April and the completion date is set for June 14, 2002. Anthony Pump & Drilling was awarded the project. Will send pictures. An interim report will be submitted with a completed Phase 1 Completion Packet.

#### **Task II & III -**

Completed.

#### **Task IV -**

Mailed and completed.

#### **Task VI -**

Final report sent to members and waiting on review comments from member entities. Gene will send a reminder and set date for comments to be returned.

#### **Task VII -**

Title page needs to be revised to include EPA project number on the interim report.

A letter accepting the interim and final reports will be prepared for the next meeting.

### **3. Regional Water Plan Discussion**

Extension has been approved. Bobby stated that ISC has money and it needs to be requested. Draft a letter to Mary Helen requesting additional funding for Terracon's work.

### **4. Other Business**

Mary Helen will be in Socorro May 16. The May meeting will not be scheduled so that discussion/review of Terracon's progress can occur in the next meeting. Terracon's schedule to complete the Regional Water Plan was distributed.

### **5. Schedule Next Meeting**

Next meeting scheduled for June. A reminder of the meeting date and agenda will be distributed.

## LRGWUO Technical Committee

**Subject:** *Notes from meeting of June 14, 2000 at 1:30 P.M.*

**Members Present:** Andrea Mendoza (CLC), Jorge Garcia (CLC), Mike Riley (EBID), Jerry Lyendecker (Dona Ana County), Mariano Martinez (DAWMDA), Rick Nevarez (DAWMDA), Pat Banegas (Anthony Water and Sewer), Bobby Creel (NMSU)

**Others Present:** Edward Nickerson (USGS-Las Cruces), Mary Wells (Terracon), Eddie Martinez (Terracon/Zia Engr.), Ron Mosher (Molzen Corbin & Assoc.), Jerry Paz (Molzen Corbin & Assoc.), Adrienne Widmer (Molzen-Corbin & Assoc.), Max Bleiweiss (\_\_\_\_\_), Coy Webb (Livingston Associates/Terracon Team)

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**Item I: Regional Water Plan Project Update:** Mary Wells handed out a memo summarizing project efforts to this point. Eddie expanded on the memo, briefing the committee on what they have done and where they were going from here. Basically, they are in the initial stages of gather information, talking with water companies. They met with the Water Company Alliance and have questionnaires that they are editing, they will be sending these out for response to water companies with in Dona Ana County.

### **Skipped to item III: Summary of meeting with Mr. Gaume by Jorge Garcia**

Jorge briefed the committee on the meeting that he and Len Stokes had with Norman Gaume (ISC) on 6/7/00 in Santa Fe. Norm stated that a large part of the problem with the groundwater model is the calibration due to lack of sufficient data in certain areas. He expressed the need for data and that perhaps some of the EPA monies could go towards data collection in areas of the LRG where it is lacking. Albuquerque has implemented a piezometer nesting project. Norm referenced this report and the author Doug McAda who works with the USGS. Edward Nickerson with the USGS was invited to today's meeting to brief the committee on this report and what the scope of work entailed.

### **Item II: Monitoring Data, Cross-Sectional Modeling by Edward Nickerson**

Ed brought a copy of the report by Douglas P. McAda, "Plan of Study to Quantify the Hydrologic Relations Between the Rio Grande and the Santa Fe Aquifer System near Albuquerque, Central New Mexico", USGS Water Resources Investigations Report 96-4006. This report was prepared in cooperation with the City of Albuquerque Public Works Department. He discussed what type of similar study could be implemented in Las Cruces area on a much smaller scale. He also discussed the current monitoring efforts here in the valley. Nick will submit a proposal for the LRGWUO to consider.

### **Item IV: Review and Discussion of Additional Proposals**

The following are Additional Proposals that were turned in:

- Aquifer Storage and Recovery from John Shomaker & Assoc.
- Revised Proposal for a Water Rate Study from Terracon
- Chaparral Water Supply Study from Terracon
- Snowmelt Runoff Model from Center for Applied Remote Sensing and EBID
- Northern Dona Ana County WTP Implementation Plan from Molzen-Corbin & Assoc.

We are expecting one proposal from USGS and two from the University/WRRI. Each proposal will be a task in the combined package to EPA. Andrea will be sending out a format to all proposers so that all proposals will have the same structure. The reformatted proposals should be sent electronically to Andrea in Microsoft Word so that she can combine.

**Item V: Other Items of Interest**

There was discussion on whether or not to take proposals tied to the groundwater modeling out of this years scope until the groundwater model calibration issue is resolved. We will wait to make decision after all proposals are in and there has been more formal discussion.

**Item VI: Schedule Next Meeting**

No meeting was scheduled at this time. Andrea will contact everyone via email.

## LRGWUO Technical Committee

**Subject:** *Notes from meeting of June 14, 2000 at 1:30 P.M.*

**Members Present:** Andrea Mendoza (CLC), Jorge Garcia (CLC), Mike Riley (EBID), Jerry Lyendecker (Dona Ana County), Mariano Martinez (DAWMDA), Rick Nevarez (DAWMDA), Pat Banegas (Anthony Water and Sewer), Bobby Creel (NMSU)

**Others Present:** Edward Nickerson (USGS-Las Cruces), Mary Wells (Terracon), Eddie Martinez (Terracon/Zia Engr.), Ron Mosher (Molzen Corbin & Assoc.), Jerry Paz (Molzen Corbin & Assoc.), Adrienne Widmer (Molzen-Corbin & Assoc.), Max Bleiweiss (\_\_\_\_\_), Coy Webb (Livingston Associates/Terracon Team)

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**Item V: Other Items of Interest**

There was discussion on whether or not to take proposals tied to the groundwater modeling out of this years scope until the groundwater model calibration issue is resolved. We will wait to make decision after all proposals are in and there has been more formal discussion.

**Item VI: Schedule Next Meeting**

No meeting was scheduled at this time. Andrea will contact everyone via email.



# **Lower Rio Grande Water Users Organization**

## **Meeting of the Lower Rio Grande Water Users Organization Technical Committee**

**June 20, 2002  
1:30 p.m.**

**Elephant Butte Irrigation District  
Board Room  
530 South Melendres**

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### **AGENDA**

1. EPA Phase 1 Projects:
  - Task I Update
  - Task VI Update
  - Discussion - acceptance of final reports (Tasks II, III, & IV)
  - Task VII Update
2. EPA Phase 2 Amendment:
  - Discussion of Projects
3. Regional Water Plan Discussion:
  - Project Update - Mary Wells, Terracon
  - Discussion - Remaining Budget
4. Other Business
  - Clarify Role of Technical Committee
5. Schedule Next Meeting

# Lower Rio Grande Water Users Organization

c/o City of Las Cruces Utilities – P. O. Box 20000 – Las Cruces, NM 88004  
505-528-3511 telephone / 505-528-3619 fax

Technical Committee Meeting Notes  
June 20, 2002

## **Opening :**

The regular meeting of the Lower Rio Grande Water Users Organization Technical Committee was called to order at 2:30 p.m. on June 20, 2002 in the Elephant Butte Irrigation District's Conference Room by Gene Paulk.

## **Present :**

Bobby Creel  
Gene Paulk  
Kathy Watson  
Mary Wells  
Rick Nevarez  
Cesario Alvillar, Jr.  
Juan Fuentes  
Gary Esslinger  
Len Stokes

## **1. EPA Phase I Projects**

Task I Update: Drilling has started on the second monitoring well and it is planned to be drilled to 700 ft.

Task VI Update: A meeting was held with the principal investigator and his assistant to get the report on track. An Advisory Committee made up of Bobby Creel, Phil King, Gene Paulk, and Steve Hernandez was established to help guide the project to satisfactory completion. The project has been extended December 31, 2002, and monthly progress meetings will take place with the advisory committee and the investigator.

Acceptance of Final Reports: Mail Cesar Alvillar a second set of reports for Tasks II, III, & IV. Len Stokes suggested that executive summaries be mailed two weeks before a Board meeting to entities. All consultants have been paid, but WRII has not billed out yet. The Technical Committee needs to give further review to Mesilla.

Discussion was held about the report format that maybe there should be a template used or simpler language. Reviews should be done in a more timely manner. There has not been a final release on the report from Parsons. We will continue review and the final will be at the next meeting.

Task VII Update: Bobby reminded staff the interim report is done. Dr. King is doing a pecan study in the valley. We are closing out Phase I and continuing with Phase II with the funding.

## **2. EPA Phase 2 Amendment**

Tasks V and VI have been the only response received from NM WRRI. Task I, II, and VIII will be done by the City. Gary Esslinger said that Task VII is not a project. EBID will continue with this. \$10,000 will probably be given to Mesilla. Len Stokes said that the City would help Mesilla with the match. There was a discussion about Mesilla and how much was included in the report.

## **3. Regional Water Plan Discussion**

Project Update: Mary Wells gave an update on the plan. There will be a draft copy available by the 25<sup>th</sup> of next month. Terracon will be doing a presentation. Len Stokes said to have the lawyers review the draft first. Mary Wells said that she would keep the balance and budget out. There will be no new information on the draft.

Remaining Budget: There is \$4,000 for public participation in the budget. Mary Wells suggested sending out flyers in the newspaper. This method worked very well for Tularosa. \$16,000 has been spent so far for public participation meetings with Staff and ISC in Santa Fe. There have been 661 hits on the web. 523 have been from different people. Gene Paulk indicated that there will be an extension of \$2,000 for meetings.

## **4. Other Business**

Gene Paulk wanted to verify the role of the Technical Committee. They have the authority to make recommendations to the Board and approve reports. Hatch has not given authority to Rob Richardson for funds only to approve reports.

## **5. Schedule Next Meeting**

Next meeting will be July 25, 2002 at 1:30 at the Utilities Administration Conference Room. Gene Paulk will attempt to get Mary Helen to be here.

# Lower Rio Grande Water Users Organization

## Meeting of the Lower Rio Grande Water Users Organization Technical Committee

July 25, 2002  
1:30 p.m.

City of Las Cruces Utilities Department  
Conference Room  
680 Motel Boulevard

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### AGENDA

1. EPA Phase 1 Projects:  
Task I Update – Gene Paulk
2. EPA Phase 2 Amendment:  
Discussion of Projects – Kathy Watson  
Town of Mesilla Project Proposal – Arnie Castaneda
3. Regional Water Plan Discussion:  
Distribution of Draft Regional Water Plan – Mary Wells
4. Other Business
5. Schedule Next Meeting

Technical Committee  
July 25, 2002

**Opening :**

The regular meeting of the Lower Rio Grande Water Users Organization Technical Committee was called to order at 2:30 p.m. on June 20, 2002 in the Elephant Butte Irrigation District's Conference Room by Gene Paulk.

**Present :**

Bobby Creel, NMWRRI  
Gene Paulk, City of Las Cruces  
Kathy Watson, CDM  
Mary Wells, Terracon  
Phil King, EBID/NMSU  
Shauna Thomas, NMSU  
Jerry Leyendecker, DAC  
Mariano Martinez, DAMDWA

**1. EPA Phase I Projects**

Task 1 Update. Final billing is being done. The project is complete. The piezometer is close to completion on the second well. There have been some drilling problems.

Gene Paulk presented a memo from Shauna Thomas, NMSU, regarding Task 6. Bobby Creel introduced Shauna Thomas to the LRGWUO Technical Committee. She worked on Task 6 of Phase I.

We will be using money from Phase II to do Task 7 of Phase I.

The goal is to have a revised draft report done by end of September. We will have a progress report from Dr. King for the last quarter which is April through June.

It was decided to have monthly reports from Shauna.

**2. EPA Phase II Amendment**

Discussion of Projects. Kathy Watson said that Hatch will fund the extension of original grant response. The Hatch Board did not include any money; it needs to go before their Board. Any questions regarding this will be included in the budget.

Hatch sent out the scope to the City along with their choices of engineers. A RFP (request for payment) has been submitted.

Town of Mesilla Project Proposal. Kathy Watson asked if the City of Las Cruces could match the funds? They had to take back to the trustees and develop a scope and then give

to Molzen- Corbin. We need to do the same with Hatch. They were offered suggestions as to different consultants.

Jerry Leyendecker stated that the County has not heard from Chaparral. The match money was taken away from the budget. They are going to the different entities to ask for matching funds.

### **3. Regional Water Plan Discussion**

Mary Wells distributed the draft. She asked if they should go over the legal issues first. Gene Paulk said that the water budget and alternative study has not been seen. They will ask the attorneys to review the first draft. Mary will redistribute to committee and make comments on them. We will send the final draft to ISC.

The packet that was distributed is the basis of the draft plan with the exception of the legal background and section five. Section five is the alternative section and this will go through the attorneys.

Bobby Creel asked what the timeframe was. Gene Paulk said that it was originally two weeks. Mary Wells said that Bobby would help her. Bobby said to send the comments to Gene so that he could keep track. Send Mary any figures, presentations, ideas to her email so that she can include in plan.

Chapter 5 will be done before the public views. The schedule needs to be revised because Mary Helen needs more time. Gene will talk to Jorge about having chapters turned in. Gene asked if two weeks were sufficient time for review. Bobby said that the absent entities also need to review. We will send them their copies and give them two weeks after receiving Chapter 5 to send in their comments.

### **4. Other Business**

Dr. King did a presentation on the Surface Water Transfers from EBID.

### **5. Schedule Next Meeting**

The next meeting is scheduled for August 15 at 1:30 in Utilities Administration Conference Room.

# **Lower Rio Grande Water Users Organization**

## **Meeting of the Lower Rio Grande Water Users Organization Technical Committee**

**September 19, 2002  
1:30 p.m.**

**City of Las Cruces Utilities Department  
Conference Room  
680 Motel Boulevard**

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### **AGENDA**

- 1. EPA Phase 1 Projects**
  - a. Task 1 Update – Gene Paulk**
  - b. Task 6 Update – Bob Creel**
  
- 2. EPA Phase 2 Projects**
  - a. Town of Mesilla Proposed Project – Arnie Castaneda**
  - b. Dona Ana County matching funds – Jerry Leyendecker**
  - c. Discussion of other Phase 2 Projects**
  
- 3. Regional Water Plan Discussion**
  
- 4. Other Business**
  
- 5. Schedule Next Meeting**

**Lower Rio Grande Water Users Organization  
Technical Committee**

Meeting Minutes

*Present:* Jorge Garcia (CLC), Kathy Watson (CDM), Gene Paulk (CLC),  
Jerry Leyendecker (DAC), Arnulfo Castaneda (Mesilla)  
*Date of Meeting:* September 19, 2002, 1:30 p.m., CLC Utilities Conference Room

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1. EPA Phase 1 Projects

Gene Paulk informed the committee on some of the problems with the bids. The project was awarded to Anthony Pump and Drilling. The start date of project was April 1 and end by June 14. They asked for an extension on contract time and it was approved. Towards the end of project, there were some problems. They requested an extension to complete project from July 5 to August 2. This date is when the second well was accepted. The total cost of the project was \$182,765 including tax.

The city crews built shelters for the monitors. When the shelters were installed, the monitors were given to USGS.

Paulk did a presentation of slides of the project.

Jorge Garcia asked for the status on the last reimbursement that was sent for \$96,000.

Paulk stated that is the reimbursement that was held because of the signatures.

Kathy Watson said that she has spoken to Delia Gonzales and Pat Dominguez regarding the reimbursement. The reimbursement is going to be used for utilities.

The wells cost more than what was budgeted. The City paid for the difference

Paulk stated that Bobby Creel is not present to do the Task 6 update.

Garcia asked when the second well will be built. Should it be included in the landfill bid? Have one bid, one meeting and only the specs and design would be different. It would be a total of five wells

Paulk stated that he and Les Coffman would like to include in the specs the recommended amount of mud to be put in a well.

Garcia commented that the wells should be included as an alternate site.

Task 6 is the Organization Transfers of Surface Water Rights. They met on the September 13 with the new primary investigator, Shawna Thomas. She will have a draft for the sub-committee, which is Bobby Creel, Phil King, Steve Hernandez, Gary Esslinger, and Gene Paulk. The draft will be ready for the next meeting on October 17.

2. EPA Phase 2 Projects



Arnie Castaneda stated that there were some funds available for their use. He spoke with the Mayor and the County Clerk. They are interested in expanding on a water rate study that was done.

Garcia elaborated on Mesilla's request.

Paulk said that there is \$10,000 and the matching fund is \$8,000.

Garcia asked if they have recently acquired any water rights.

Castaneda said no.

Paulk said that the \$10,000 would be for a consultant and the \$8,000 would be the match. Or if Mesilla wants an \$18,000 project, Mesilla would need to come up with \$8,000.

Garcia said that Mesilla would have to choose their consultant. How do we proceed forward?

Paulk asked if this decision needs to be reached today or does the committee need to vote on this issue.

Garcia asked if this needs to go to the Board or the technical committee in order to change the schedule.

Paulk stated that it does need to go to either one.

Kathy Watson stated that the next step should be to write up the scope.

Garcia said to write up the scope and send three proposals for bids.

Garcia commented that those present agreed to recommend Mesilla to receive the \$10,000 as part of the EPA money from the LRG.

Jerry Leyendecker stated they need \$47,000. He has written to the water companies and they showed no interest. He has also requested money from reserves.

Watson said that they need \$22,000 for Chaparral.

She needs copies of the bills that have been paid.

Garcia said that they need a letter stating allocation of \$22,000 for the project and they will reimburse the city as fiscal agent. The city will pay the full amount.

All has been spent from Phase I.

Garcia wants a status sheet of tasks.

### 3. Regional Water Plan Discussion

A meeting is scheduled for this month. They will do an attorney review. Chapter 5 is the legal chapter.

Public participation has not been held.

Paulk stated that Mary Wells will bill for the necessary time and this will be divided among the entities.

4. Other Business

Garcia said to begin billing for administrative fees. Attach resolution to letter.

5. Schedule Next Meeting

The next meeting will be scheduled for October 17.

Garcia asked if there was an agenda for the next meeting.

Paulk said that it is done about a week before the meeting.

Garcia stated at the next meeting have Mary Wells discuss the schedule.

Paulk agreed and also have an update on the status of Mesilla. Bobby Creel needs to give an update and Jerry Leyendecker will give his status regarding matching funds.

# **Lower Rio Grande Water Users Organization**

## **Meeting of the Lower Rio Grande Water Users Organization Technical Committee**

**October 24, 2002  
1:30 p.m.**

**City of Las Cruces Utilities Department  
Conference Room  
680 Motel Boulevard**

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### **AGENDA**

- 1. EPA Phase 1 Projects**
  - a. Task 6 Update – Bob Creel**
  
- 2. EPA Phase 2 Projects**
  - a. Task 2 Update – Gene Paulk**
  - b. Task 6 Update – Phil King**
  - c. Task 7 Update – Kathy Watson**
  - d. Discussion of other Phase 2 Projects**
  
- 3. Regional Water Plan Discussion**
  
- 4. Other Business**
  
- 5. Schedule Next Meeting**

**Lower Rio Grande Water Users Organization  
Technical Committee**

Meeting Minutes

*Present:* Kathy Watson (CDM), Gene Paulk (CLC), Mariano Martinez, (MDWCA), Carl Clark (Bohannon Huston), Rick Nevarez (MDWCA), Rob Richardson (Bohannon Huston), D.T. Hanson (NMSU), Bobby Creel (NMSU), A. Salim Bawazir (NMSU), Arnie Castaneda (Mesilla)

*Date of Meeting:* October 24, 1:30 p.m., CLC Utilities Conference Room

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The meeting was started by Gene Paulk. He stated they would begin the meeting with agenda item 2b because Mr. Bawazir has to leave early.

1. EPA Phase 1 Projects

Task 6 Update

Mr. Paulk said Shauna Thomas is the person generating the report but she could not attend.

Mr. Creel went over the report.

We need to close this project by December 31<sup>st</sup> to close out all projects.

2. EPA Phase 2 Projects

Task 2 Update

Last month an update was given on the two piezometers that were installed. They are both completed and USGS has taken over them and has installed their own instrumentation to be able to use. They will start measuring this October for the irrigation season.

Do more modeling in the Jornada region is recommended.

Mr. Esslinger said that by the end of February they will have three wells installed.

Task 6 Update

A presentation was given by Salim Bawazir, a professor at NMSU. The presentation was about evapotranspiration, how is it is measured in the Rincon Valley and Mesilla Valley (New Mexico and Texas).

Mr. Esslinger said this study is good data because it shows when crops need water and not when the farmer says they do.

Ms. Watson asked when this data will be available.

Mr. Bawazir said it would be a year.

### Task 7 Update

The task was given to Mesilla for their water rate study. The scope was received and it was sent to purchasing department to be mailed. The next project is Hatch.

Ms. Watson asked if Mesilla came up with additional money for the project.

Mr. Castaneda said he and the town clerk will look into the additional \$5,000 and how it will be spent.

### Other Phase 2 Projects

Hatch surface water study and Chaparral water supply study are other projects. County is still trying to come up with money for the Chaparral study.

Brackish water was discussed.

Chaparral was discussed.

Other project that was not discussed is the digital hydrologic framework on the Phase 2. We are working on getting John Kennedy to come in and give a presentation on his status and his project.

### 3. Regional Water Plan Discussion

We are waiting on attorneys because they are writing Chapter 5, the Legal Issues for the Region. This will be inserted into the documents.

By the end of the year, a final draft should be ready to be mailed to ISC. We are looking at another six month extension.

### 4. Other Business

No other business discussed.

### 5. Schedule Next Meeting

Next meeting is scheduled for November 21.

# **Lower Rio Grande Water Users Organization**

## **Meeting of the Lower Rio Grande Water Users Organization Technical Committee**

**November 21, 2002  
1:30 p.m.**

**City of Las Cruces Utilities Department  
Conference Room  
680 Motel Boulevard**

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### **AGENDA**

- 1. EPA Phase 1 Projects**
  - a. Task 6 Update & Draft Report Distribution – Bob Creel**
  
- 2. EPA Phase 2 Projects**
  - a. Task 2 Update – Gene Paulk**
  - b. Task 5 Update – John Kennedy (WRII)**
  - c. Selection of consultants for Phase 2 Projects**
  - d. Discussion of other Phase 2 Projects**
  
- 3. Regional Water Plan Discussion**
  - a. State Water Plan Ad Hoc Committee Recommendations**
  - b. Application for FY 03 Funds to enhance & complete water plan**
  
- 4. Other Business**
  
- 5. Schedule Next Meeting**

**Lower Rio Grande Water Users Organization  
Technical Committee**

Meeting Minutes

*Present:* Gene Paulk (CLC), Mariano Martinez, (MDWCA), Rick Nevarez (MDWCA), Adrian T. Hanson (NMSU), Bobby Creel (NMSU), John F. Kennedy (NMSU), Gary Esslinger (EBID), Charles Trujillo (AWSO)

*Date of Meeting:* November 21, 2002, 1:30 p.m., CLC Utilities Conference Room

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The meeting was started by Gene Paulk.

1. EPA Phase 1 Projects

Task 6 Update

An update was given by Bobby Creel regarding the draft report.

2. EPA Phase 2 Projects

Task 2 Update

There has been a lot of work done in the valley regarding this project. Working along with Ed Knickerson, USGS, it was discovered that the state is short on monitoring the Jornada area. We have a draft proposal from USGS. We are working along with the State Engineer's office to incorporate it into their monitoring program. The state may be able to fund the project since it would be part of their project.

This is a new project in the Jornada area.

Task 5 Update

A presentation was given by John Kennedy. The presentation is Digital Hydrologic Framework.

Gene Paulk requested a copy of the presentation.

Selection of consultants for Phase 2 Projects

Copies of the proposals for Hatch and Mesilla were given to each member. Only one proposal was received for Hatch from Bohannon-Huston in partnership with Parsons & Needham.

Only one proposal was received for Mesilla from Molzen-Corbin. They are currently their engineer.

Mariano Martinez moved to accept proposals from Bohannon-Huston in partnership with Parsons & Needham for Village of Hatch and from Molzen-Corbin for the Town of Mesilla. Gary Esslinger seconded the motion.

All members present voted Aye.

### Other Phase 2 Projects

Martinez asked if the money was still committed to the Chaparral project. Paulk said yes.

### 3. Regional Water Plan Discussion

#### State Water Plan Ad Hoc

A letter was received from ISC for nominations for the State Water Plan Ad Hoc Committee. Jorge Garcia nominated Bobby Creel for representative and Gene Paulk as the alternative.

It is being brought to the technical committee for their knowledge. Any commitments will be forwarded to the Board.

#### Application for FY 03 Funds

A letter was received from ISC with an application. The New Mexico Legislature appropriated special funds to the Interstate Stream Commission for contracting with water planning regions for the fiscal year 2003. The letter states that funds are limited, but they would like extend an invitation to water planning regions under contract with ISC. The application needs to be submitted for these funds.

Terracon has gone above the budgeted amount for public participation. Paulk will check with Mary Wells if the \$6,000 is the correct amount.

Creel asked if this needs to go before the Board. Paulk said no because it is not a contract. If there are any other requirements other than submitting the application, it will be taken to the Board for approval.

Mariano Martinez moved to submit application. Gary Esslinger seconded the motion. All members present voted Aye.

Creel asked if an extension was given. Esslinger said Steve Hernandez is half-way done.

Paulk said Mary Helen will be sending the application for an extension. Based on Mary Wells schedule, another six to eight months will be requested.

### 4. Other Business

Martinez asked about the letters for the administration fees. Paulk said we will be sending the letter to the entities with copy of amended resolution attached.

### 5. Schedule Next Meeting

Next meeting is scheduled for December 18 here at the Utilities Building in the Administration Conference Room.