

Lower Rio Grande Water Users Organization

Meeting of the Lower Rio Grande Water Users Organization Technical Committee

**February 27, 2003
1:30 p.m.**

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

AGENDA

- 1. EPA Phase 1 Projects**
 - a. Task 6 Approval for Final Payment**

- 2. EPA Phase 2 Projects**
 - a. Task 3 Update**
 - b. Task 7 Update**
 - c. Task 8 Update**
 - 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

Meeting of the Lower Rio Grande Water Users Organization Technical Committee

**March 20, 2003
1:30 p.m.**

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

AGENDA

- 1. EPA Phase 2 Projects**
 - a. Task 3 Update**
 - b. Task 7 Update**
 - c. Task 8 Update**
 - d. Discussion of other Phase 2 Projects**

- 2. Regional Water Plan Discussion**
 - a. Update from Terracon**
 - b. Input from Mary Helen Follingstad (ISC)**

- 3. Other Business**

- 4. Schedule Next Meeting**

Technical Committee
April 18, 2002

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.

Present :

Bobby Creel	Rob Richardson
Jorge Garcia	Gene Paulk
Jerry Leyendecker	Kathy Watson
Mariano Martinez	

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 report.

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. Gene will send a reminder a few weeks before the next meeting to set date for comments to be returned.

Task VII -

Title page needs to be revised to include EPA project number.

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. We will follow Terracon's schedule.

5. Schedule Next Meeting

Next meeting will be in June.

Lower Rio Grande Water Users Organization

Meeting of the Lower Rio Grande Water Users Organization Technical Committee

**May 15, 2003
1:30 p.m.**

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

AGENDA

- 1. EPA Phase 2 Projects**
- 2. Dona Ana MDWCA**
 - a. Update on Northern Dona Ana Regional Water & Wastewater Project**
 - b. Surface Water Treatment Plant Site Issues**
 - c. Request additional funds through LRGWUO**
- 3. Regional Water Plan Discussion**
 - b. Update from Terracon**
- 4. Other Business**
- 5. Schedule Next Meeting**

Lower Rio Grande Water Users Organization

Meeting of the Lower Rio Grande Water Users Organization Technical Committee

**June 26, 2003
1:30 p.m.**

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

AGENDA

- 1. EPA Phase 2 Projects**
 - a. County project**
 - b. Piezometer project**
 - c. WRRI Evapotranspiration Project**
 - d. New project proposals**

- 3. Regional Water Plan Discussion**
 - a. Unfinished Sections**
 - b. Public Meeting Schedule**

- 4. Other Business**

- 5. Schedule Next Meeting**

Technical Committee
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
Phil King
Len Stokes

1. EPA Phase I Projects

Task I Update: Drilling has started and we will only be going 700 ft.

Task VI Update: It is not on scope. The Advisory Committee is Bobby Creel, Phil King, Gene Paulk, and Steve Hernandez. The project has been extended to end of year and will give monthly reports or completed.

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 WRRI 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 25th 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 24, 2003
1:30 p.m.**

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

AGENDA

- 1. Regional Water Plan Discussion**
 - a. Presentation of complete draft for review**
 - b. Plan handout**
 - c. Schedule review**

- 2. EPA Projects**
 - a. Proposal to connect region's water models (Phil King)**
 - b. Mesilla Study**

- 3. Other Business**

- 4. Schedule Next Meeting**

*****There is a State Water Plan Meeting July 23 at 7 p.m. at the Farm & Ranch Museum.**

**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

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.

Wells, Mary E.

From: Maricruz Vigil [maricruz.vigil@las-cruces.org]
Sent: Thursday, October 16, 2003 12:25 PM
To: mewells@terracon.com
Subject: FW: LRGWUO Tech Meeting

-----Original Message-----

From: Maricruz Vigil
Sent: Thursday, October 16, 2003 12:22 PM
To: 'jpkking@nmsu.edu'; Jorge Garcia; Rob Richardson (rrichard@bhinc.com); Arnie Castaneda (mpwdir@zianet.com); Bobby Creel (bcreel@wrri.nmsu.edu); Gary Esslinger (gesslinger@ebid-nm.org); Jerry Leyendecker (jerryle@co.dona-ana.nm.us); Juan Fuentes (tomclerk@zianet.com); Mariano Martinez (mar.martinez@zianet.com); Mayor Judd Nordyke (mayor@villageofhatch.org); Pat Banegas (pbanegas@radling.com)
Cc: Kathy Watson (watsonkm@cdm.com); Diane Gamboa
Subject: LRGWUO Tech Meeting

A LRGWUO Technical Committee meeting is scheduled for October 23 at 1:30 at the Utilities Administration Conference Room. It is very important that you attend the meeting because we will be discussing more comments that we have received from ISC. If you can not attend, please let me know. The agenda is forthcoming. Thank you.

Maricruz Vigil
Utilities Department
City of Las Cruces
PO Box 20000
Las Cruces, NM 88004
(505) 528-3522

On October 31, 2003, members of the LRGWUO Technical Committee and consultants met with members of ISC's Water Planning Review group. The LRGWUO representatives were Gary Esslinger (EBID), Phil King (EBID), Bobby Creel (WRRRI), Mariano Martinez (DAMDWCA), Mary Wells (Terracon) and Kathy Watson (CLC/CDM). The ISC representatives were Mary Helen Follingstad, Nabil Shafike, Brian Wilson and Mike Johnson.

The meeting quickly proceeded through the Comments/Response Table with the majority of items agreed to with few minor changes. The main item of discussion was the water balance or supply vs. demand issue. The ISC reps agreed that it may not be appropriate to include all of this information in this Plan now but something must be shown.

Gary Esslinger suggested a closed work session type of meeting with the ISC Board to discuss and resolve this issue so that the Plan can be completed and presented to the Board in public in its final, agreed upon, form. The ISC reps agreed to try to set up a special meeting in December. This will mean that the final Plan cannot be formally presented to the Board until January.

In the meantime, Mary will make all other revisions as agreed to during the meeting. She will also begin to schedule and set up the public hearings for early December.

Phil King will work on general wording to explain the water balance dilemma. He will also update some of the information and the graph for Table 6.12 and supply a matrix to explain the flow statistics as listed in Nabil's Comment No. 1 for Section 6.1.1.4.4. Bobby will supply historical data to replace/add to information shown in Table 6.9.

**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

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.