

Historical Archive G-1

Water Assemblies 1 and 2



The First Assembly for Water Planning in the Middle Rio Grande

On June 26th, the State Engineer convened an assembly of Middle Rio Grande water stakeholders to take up the "responsibility and the privilege to plan for their own water future."

Turney pointed to recent evidence that the groundwater aquifer is being extensively mined and that consumptive uses of surface and ground water already exceed sustainable supplies. He urged middle valley stakeholders to come together to talk and act if they want to protect a future for the Rio Grande bosque, the valley's agricultural economy, its native species habitat, and its potential for continued growth. All these, Turney said, are put at risk by the race for water, possible regulatory impasse, and single-issue water management.

In response to this Call to Action, the University of New Mexico hosted The First Assembly for Water Planning in the Middle Rio Grande Friday August 8th and Saturday August 9th at the University of New Mexico Campus.

Friday's full agenda began with addresses from representatives of Cochiti, Isleta, Santo Domingo and San Felipe Pueblos. Joe I. Cordero, the Lieutenant Governor of Cochiti Pueblo said, "The Pueblo de Cochiti is here to listen," a sentiment echoed by other Pueblo speakers, who explained that they were not present as participants. The Governors, however, did share some of their concerns about water planning in the middle valley.

Other Middle Rio Grande citizens, water users, and representatives of public bodies also shared with one another their hopes, fears, and ideas for the water future of the middle valley. During the afternoon, the law, hydrology, ecology and demographics of the Middle Rio Grande area was briefly reviewed by University of New Mexico researchers.

Friday evening the Assembly welcomed Interstate Stream Commissioner Tracy Seidman Hephner's lively history and status report on the ISC's regional water planning process, and Steve Walker's rich and informative presentation of his experience organizing Washoe County, Nevada's comprehensive regional water management plan.

On Saturday, participants formed working groups to look at the basic organizational questions for water planning, including:

- What boundaries should the planning area have?
- How can all stakeholders be assured an even footing?
- Who will assure water-plan policies are implemented and followed?
- How can regional planning be accomplished most effectively?

- How should it be funded?
- How will we keep the planning process going?

Coordinators of the Assembly were asked to use the reports of the working groups to develop a proposal for forming a steering committee that will lead Middle Rio Grande stakeholders in a regional water planning effort. This proposal will be reviewed by Assembly participants at a meeting that will be announced late in the Fall.



International Water Resources Association

Association Internationale des Ressources en Eau

Asociacion Internacional de Recursos Hidricos

October 22, 1997

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Muneyoshi Takasaki
Japan

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Dear 1st Assembly Participant:

On Saturday afternoon, August 9, participants in the 1st Assembly for Water Planning in the Middle Rio Grande requested the Coordinating Committee for the 1st Assembly to retain its leadership responsibility through a 2nd Assembly to be held within a few months. You should already have received a postcard announcing that the 2nd Assembly will be held on Saturday, November 8, in the Anthropology Lecture Hall, once again, on the University of New Mexico campus. An agenda for that meeting is enclosed with this letter. Parking is free except in prohibited zones.

In addition, the 1st Assembly participants asked the Coordinating Committee to prepare a recommendation as to how the regional water planning process should be governed. A draft governance recommendation is also enclosed on the reverse side of the Assembly agenda. This recommendation represents considerable thought and effort, not only by the original Committee but additional community members whom we added to a temporarily Expanded Coordinating Committee. Nevertheless, the recommendation is open to modification, addition or even outright replacement at the discretion of participants in the 2nd Assembly.

It is essential, however, to the regional water planning process that a governing body not only be structured at the 2nd Assembly but also that its members be named. The Coordinating Committee organized through the University of New Mexico will cease to exist at the conclusion of the 2nd Assembly on November 8. The task of maintaining momentum for the regional planning will then rest with the 2nd Assembly participants and the governing body selected. Please invest significant time in reviewing the proposed governance recommendation, thinking of candidate members for its initial governing body and alerting others to the upcoming 2nd Assembly. All are welcome at the 2nd Assembly regardless of whether they were able to attend the 1st Assembly or not.

All original recipients of the 1st Assembly announcement have also received the postcard for the 2nd Assembly. However, for cost reasons, the enclosed material has been sent to the registrants from the first Assembly only. For the same reason, the small group summaries and other material will be distributed at the 2nd Assembly rather than mailed as previously indicated. A combined Proceedings from both Assemblies will be printed and mailed after November 8.

With best regards,

Lee Brown, Co-Chair
Coordinating Committee

Mike Campana, Co-Chair
Coordinating Committee

Executive Director

F. Lee Brown

IWRRA Executive Office
The University of New Mexico
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Middle Rio Grande Water Assembly

The Middle Rio Grande is the part of New Mexico most in need of water planning, and the region that is farthest behind in the regional water planning process, Norm Gaume, Chief Engineer for the Interstate Stream Commission, said at the 2nd Assembly for Water Planning in the Middle Rio Grande on Saturday, November 8th. About a hundred and fifty residents of the Middle Rio Grande spent the day working out how to govern a water planning process for the region.

The Assembly's first act was to reaffirm the resolution of the 1st Assembly, held last August, to "call for the development of a Regional Water Plan through an open, inclusive and participatory process." To assure participants that their existing rights are not compromised by participating in the planning process, the resolution was amended to add "Moreover, we affirm as a fundamental principle, that participation in regional water planning through the Middle Rio Grande Water Assembly process shall not in any way be interpreted as modifying, compromising, or placing at risk any water entitlement, claim, or management authority held by the participant independently of the regional water planning process."

1st Assembly participants had asked the team of UNM water experts who served as Assembly coordinators to prepare a proposal for governing the Middle Rio Grande's regional water planning process and to convene a 2nd Assembly. The coordinators sought the help of a number of others involved in water policy in the region, forming an "Expanded Coordinating Committee." This Expanded Committee recommended formation of an Action Committee with three broad groups of members—members of the general public, called "advocates," specialists, and water managers. Each member of the Action Committee would represent a particular constituency within the broad group to which they belong.

After a lively discussion, these recommendations were accepted, and Assembly attendees divided into the three groups to select representatives to the Action Committee.

While the Governance Recommendations suggested that eight members be chosen from each broad group to serve on the Action Committee, the Specialist group proposed twelve, and the Advocates group, fourteen. The Assembly charged the Action Committee with resolving this discrepancy at its next November 19th meeting.

Gaume was asked to talk to 2nd Assembly attendees about the State Water Plan and how the Middle Rio Grande process would fit into it. Though Gaume's talk ended a long and tiring day, the twenty-minute talk was followed by forty minutes of questions from Assembly participants anxious to learn as much as possible about how to make an effective and enforceable regional water plan for the Middle Rio Grande.

PRELIMINARY REPORT
FROM THE 1ST
ASSEMBLY



At the final plenary session of the 1st Assembly for Water Planning in the Middle Rio Grande, small working groups made recommendations for regional water planning. The small group reports identified stakeholders and participants and some possible funding sources. They also reviewed potential "home organizations" for the water planning process on the Middle Rio Grande, and spoke urgently for a trustworthy, unbiased committee to oversee the beginning of the water planning process.

The participants remaining during the final moments of the Assembly unanimously adopted the following resolution:

In addition to the resolution, Assembly participants had consensus on at least one other subject—the need to choose a leadership group that was variously described as unbiased, neutral, or balanced—a group that all parties in the Middle Valley could trust. Small groups variously termed this a “working group,” “task force,” “executive committee,” and a “steering committee.” However, Assembly participants were unable to devise a way to choose such a group during the final minutes of the Assembly.

Exhausted but satisfied, the die-hards who persevered to the end of the hard-working assembly asked the UNM Assembly coordinators to review the work of the small groups and prepare a recommendation for forming an ongoing committee to supervise the initiation of regional water planning in the Middle Rio Grande.

The group agreed that this recommendation would be presented at a Fall, 1997 meeting to be announced no later than October 9th. The

announcement of the meeting should coincide with the distribution of the draft report of the small group recommendations.

Both the resolution highlighted above and the charge to the coordinating committee were adopted unanimously after spirited discussion, and with no objection.

I just love it when th
(comment from one mem

Consensus was not sought on any other topic. The following paragraphs share a few of the many interesting and creative comments from the small groups—some were repeated so often as to appear to be consensus opinions, others were only mentioned once. A full draft report of the small group comments will be distributed with the announcement of the next meeting date.



STAKEHOLDERS:

Several groups distinguished between two types of parties important to the planning process. Central players in the Middle Rio Grande include:

- the City of Albuquerque and the other Middle Valley municipalities, Rio Rancho, Belen, Los Lunas, Bernalillo, Corrales, etc.;
- the Middle Rio Grande Conservancy District (MRGCD);
- the Assessment Payers' Association of the MRGCD;

e's water in my ditch! of a small working group)

- At least the six Pueblos of the Middle Valley, and perhaps others located upstream or on Rio Grande tributaries
- County governments of Bernalillo, Sandoval, Valencia, and perhaps Socorro, Torrance and Santa Fe Counties;
- All residents of the Middle Valley;
- Neighborhood Associations
- Ditch Associations and acequias
- Industrial and agricultural water users;
- Industrial and agricultural trade associations;
- Realtor's groups; developers' associations;
- Chambers of Commerce;

- Children;
- Federal resource-management agencies (Bureau of Reclamation, Corps of Engineers, Bureau of Land Management, Soil Conservation Service);
- State resource-management agencies (State Engineer Office, NM Game and Fish, State Land Office, NM Highway Department, NM Dept of Natural Resources);
- Local resource-management agencies (Soil and Water or Resource Conservation Districts, Albuquerque Open Space, Local Parks);
- Federal, state, and local regulators (Environmental Protection Agency, NM Environment Department, Bernalillo County Environmental Health, City of Albuquerque Environment Department, etc.);

Other important players, who might have a different sort of role, included the municipalities, irrigators, and counties up and downstream of the region, and the communities and counties of the Estancia Basin.

FUNDING SOURCES:

A variety of possible funding sources were mentioned:

- The Interstate Stream Commission's Regional Water Planning Grants,
- Direct legislative appropriation;



- Federal agencies;
- Stakeholder funding by participating municipalities, counties, industrial groups,
- and foundation grants.

INSTITUTIONAL HOME:

Among the suggestions for an institutional home were:

- The University of New Mexico,
- The Middle Rio Grande Council of Governments, which carried out the first Regional Water Plan for the area;
- The New Mexico Water Dialogue;
- The New Mexico Water Resources Research Institute,
- A new water authority created for this purpose; and
- The Interstate Stream Commission.

A number of concerns related to finding a home for the regional water planning process in the Middle Rio Grande were identified. Prominent among these were a desire not to create another level of government, and the difficulty in finding a host perceived as neutral by all parties.

NEXT STEPS:

Asked to identify the next step, the group proposed:

- Forming working groups from participants in the Assembly;
- Carrying the Assembly discussion to participant's home turf, especially to the Pueblos

and rural communities;

- Asking the Governor of New Mexico to contact the Governors of the Middle Valley Pueblos to solicit their participation,
- Asking the legislature for legislative definition and sanction.

All agreed that a leadership group is necessary to take any next step. The UNM Assembly coordinators are now working on how to formulate a proposal for selection of this committee. We would like your input. However, since there is presently no staff for this work, and no dedicated phone, we ask you to *mail* your comments to:

1ST ASSEMBLY FOR WATER PLANNING
IN THE MIDDLE RIO GRANDE
International Water Resources Assn.
The University of New Mexico
1915 Roma, NE
Albuquerque, NM 87131

The time and place of the next meeting of First Assembly participants, and those who wish to join the Middle Rio Grande regional water planning effort will be announced early in October. The main agenda item for this meeting will be to choose a way to organize a steering, leadership, or governance committee, and perhaps the actual selection of one. Stay tuned!



AGENDA

Middle Rio Grande Water Assembly

November 8, 1997

Anthropology Lecture Hall
The University of New Mexico

- | | |
|---------------|---|
| 9:00 AM | Assembly convened |
| 9:00-9:30 AM | Recommendations of the Expanded Coordinating Committee for governance of the Middle Rio Grande Water Assembly |
| 9:30-10:45 AM | Discussion, debate, amendment and decision on governance structure |
| 10:45-Noon | Group meetings--Organization |
| Noon-1:00 PM | Lunch on your own |
| 1:00-2:00 PM | Group meetings: Nomination of members of Action Committee |
| 2:00-2:30 PM | Further modifications to governance structure and nominee ratification |
| 2:30-3:00 PM | State water planning: Norman Gaume |
| 3:00 PM | Assembly adjourns |
| 3:15-5:00 PM | First meeting of the Action Committee |



Recommendations of the Expanded Coordinating Committee for the 2nd Assembly for Water Planning in the Middle Rio Grande

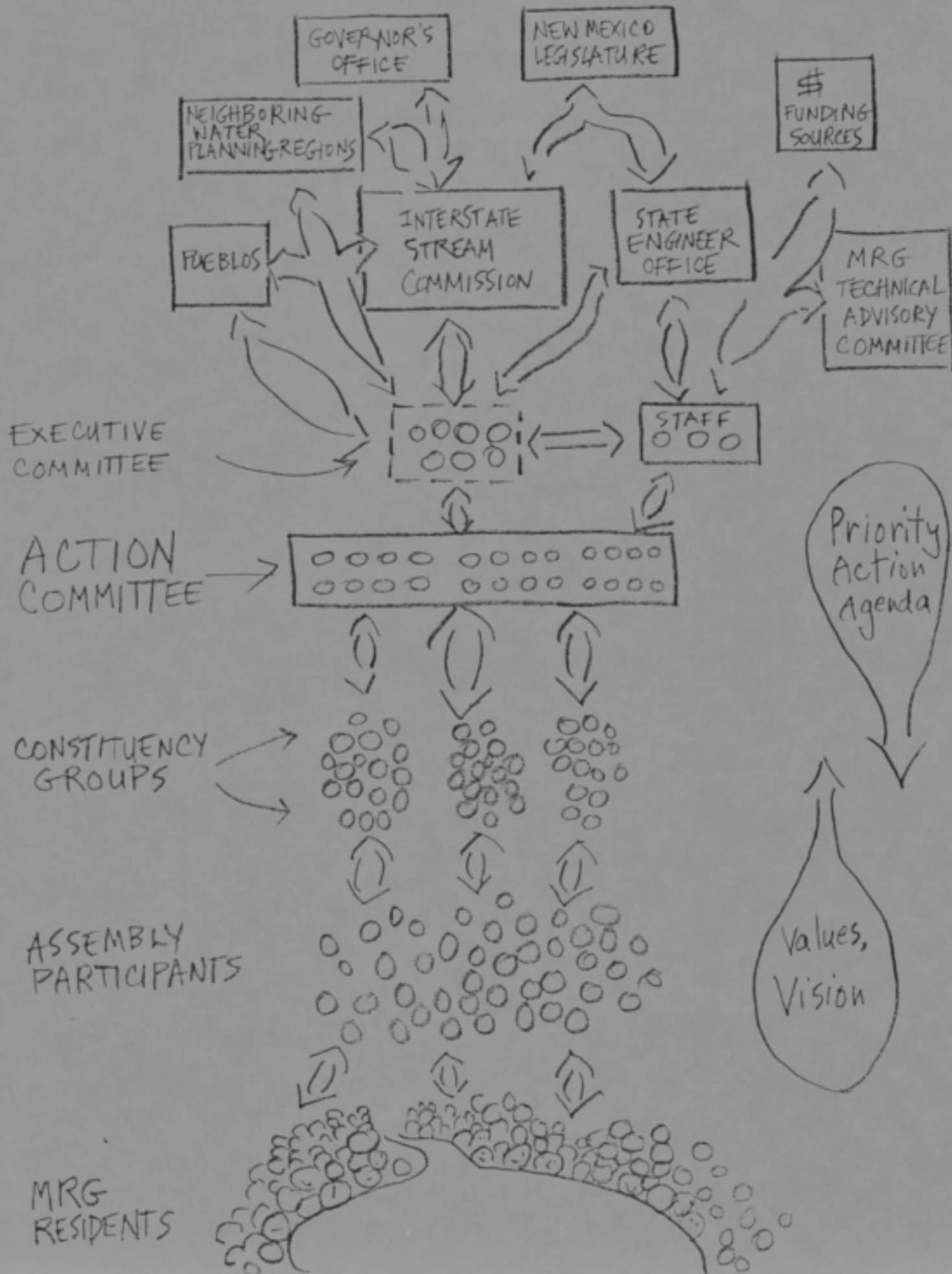
Governance Recommendation

1. **Membership:** Membership in the Middle Rio Grande Water Assembly shall be open to all stakeholders: citizens, agencies, organizations and firms who are concerned with the water future of the Middle Rio Grande and who reside in the region.
2. **Action Committee:** The Middle Rio Grande Water Assembly shall be governed by a representative body to be called the Action Committee with broad and exclusive authority to act on behalf of the Assembly apart from meetings of the Assembly itself.
3. **Selection of representatives:** Members of the Action Committee shall be selected by constituencies of Middle Rio Grande water stakeholders who share a common interest (though not necessarily a common opinion) with respect to water management in the region. Representatives so selected, whether at a general meeting of the Water Assembly or otherwise, shall be confirmed either by the Assembly or by the Action Committee.
4. **Action Committee elements:** Three broad groups of constituencies shall be represented:
 - a. **Specialists,** including academics, researchers, data managers, consultants, scholars, and agency staff.
 - b. **Advocates,** citizens advocating for a definable interest affected by water management, and
 - c. **Managers,** representatives of firms, agencies or jurisdictions responsible for water provision or management.
5. **Constituencies:** At a general Water Assembly, members of each broad group shall jointly determine how to divide into constituencies for the purpose of selecting representatives. Proposals for creating or changing constituencies and for confirming representatives may be made to the Action Committee, or to the Assembly. Only the Action Committee and the Assembly have the authority to confirm representatives.
6. **Size of the Action Committee:** The Action Committee shall initially have 25 seats, evenly divided among the three broad groups, so that eight constituencies are represented from each broad group.
7. **Additional members:** If the Action Committee, at the organizing Assembly or later, identifies an important regional interest for which no delegate has been named, it shall encourage members of that interest group to name a representative and participate in the regional water planning process. The size of the Action Committee, and the number of representatives allocated to each broad group, may be changed from time to time by the Action Committee to achieve balance and inclusivity.
8. **Executive and Working Committees:** The Action Committee shall also select from its membership an Executive Committee, and grant that smaller body the usual powers of the Executive; it may also form any other special committees needed to accomplish its work.

Recommended Amendment to 1st Assembly Resolution*

Amended Resolution: The participants of the 1st Assembly for Water Planning in the Middle Rio Grande call for the development of a Regional Water Plan through an open, inclusive, and participatory process. *Moreover, we affirm as a fundamental principle that participation in regional water planning through the Middle Rio Grande Water Assembly process shall not in any way be interpreted as modifying, compromising, or placing at risk any water entitlement, claim, or management authority held by the participant independently of the regional water planning process.*

*Italicized text refers to amendment



Responsibilities of the Action Committee between 2nd Water Assembly and 3rd Water Assembly

- Decide how to organize itself.
- Fill out Action Committee membership to ensure inclusion of all constituencies and proper balance among them.
- Find an organization home with necessary space.
- Raise operating funds.
- Hire necessary staff.
- Decide how substantive work will be handled.
- Decide on the structure of the planning process.
- Convene 3rd Water Assembly.

Ω

Mitchell Hall Classrooms for 2nd Assembly

Room 102 Managers' Group (seats 96)

Room 120 Specialists' Group (seats 83)

The classrooms listed below may be used for meetings of subgroups of the main groups (Advocates, Managers, and Specialists).

Room 104 (seats 46)

Room 121 (seats 44)

Room 111 (seats 60)

Room 202 (seats 99)

Room 115 (seats 44)

Room 211 (seats 62)

Room 116 (seats 62)

Room 220 (seats 80)

Room 117 (seats 48)



November 7, 1997

**The Middle Rio Grande Conservancy District's Position
on the 2nd Assembly for Water Planning in the
Middle Rio Grande Valley**

The Message from Conservancy Constituents

At two public forums on water planning earlier this year, the Conservancy's constituents said they want the Conservancy to be an effective advocate for irrigated agriculture, to educate farmers and the public about water and water rights, and, most importantly, to be pro-active in regional water planning.

The 2nd Assembly for Water Planning in the Middle Rio Grande

Today's 2nd Assembly is the next critical step in the water planning process, when the future direction of water planning will be decided by those in attendance. Regardless of how water planning proceeds, the Conservancy will play a leading role in the water planning process from this day forward, by contributing staff time and providing other support as appropriate. The Conservancy's internal water planning effort begun in 1992 and described in the **Water Policies Plan** (April, 1993) will continue.

This 2nd Assembly may decide to support the proposed Resolution of the Expanded Coordinating Committee (ECC), which would create an Action Committee of 24 individuals, divided into three groups, to carry on water planning after today. Because the Conservancy is a specialized government agency that owns water rights and advocates for the interests of irrigated agriculture, we expect to provide input to each group and therefore have at least one representative in each of the three groups. Whatever the course of action agreed upon today, the Conservancy looks forward to working cooperatively with all stakeholders to help produce a comprehensive, accurate, effective water plan for the middle Rio Grande valley.

P.O. Box 581

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1931 Second St. SW

Albuquerque, NM

87102-4515

505-247-0234

Fax # 505-243-7308

What Are the Next Steps for Water Planning After the 2nd Assembly?

The next steps in water planning should include the following.

1. Draft a set of **emerging goals for water planning, and a strategy to achieve those goals**, using input from the 1st and 2nd Assemblies and other appropriate sources. Circulate the goals and strategy to all stakeholders with a request for comments. The goals should be characterized as "emerging" because they are subject to change as circumstances and individuals change over the course of the water planning process. Goals should explicitly address:
 - **Cultural values of the stakeholders**
 - **Economic values of the stakeholders**
 - **Ecological / environmental values of the stakeholders.**

The strategy to achieve the goals should spell out how the goals are going to be addressed in the water planning process and in the final product, the water plan. For example, one of the cultural values already understood from the 1st Assembly is that the water planning process is open and inclusive. Given that, a goal could read something like: "Take affirmative steps to include all stakeholders, and be sensitive to cultural and religious values of stakeholders as they are affected by water planning." The strategy to achieve this goal would spell out the steps to be taken to ensure that all affected stakeholders, in particular the Pueblos, are to be included in water planning.

Once stakeholder input is received, the goals and strategy could be compiled into a guidance document for water planning. Presumably, that document would have to be revisited from time-to-time to ensure that it continues to reflect the goals of stakeholders. For example, as the discussion of water planning proceeds, it will be useful to examine future uses of water against the goals, so that the water plan accurately evaluates the cultural, economic, and ecological impacts of current and future uses.

2. To **begin the process of determining how much water is available** in the middle Rio Grande Valley, each stakeholder should be asked to provide a detailed narrative description, including maps and numerical data to the extent they are available, of:
 - A. The quantity of water in which that stakeholder has a specific interest, and a description of additional work that may need to be done to complete quantification of that water;
 - B. The current and future uses of that water;
 - C. Real and potential conflicts over those uses over the next 20 to 50 years.

Historical Archive G-1

Water Assembly 4

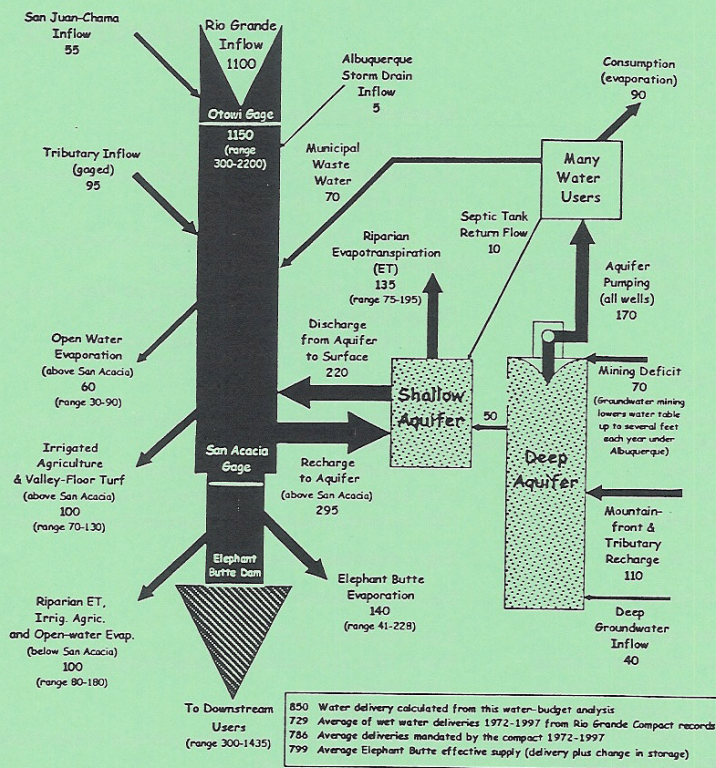
4th Middle Rio Grande Water Assembly

March 25, 2000

John Hawley

Time	Description	Speaker/Discussion Leader
9:00	Welcome Who/What is the MRGWA? A tribal perspective	Danny Hernandez (AMAFCA Director) Bob Swartwout (Chair – MRGWA Action Committee) Howard Becker (Consultant)
9:40	The framework of supply The Supply Pieces: A three member panel discussion San Juan/Chama The Aquifer The River	Lee Brown (Professor Emeritus of Economics, UNM) <i>city of</i> John Stomp (Manager, Albuquerque Water Resources) Peggy Barrol (State Engineer's Office) Steve Harris (Rio Grande Restoration) <i>Taos rafting co.</i>
	15 min. break	
10:35	The framework of demand The Demand Pieces: A three member panel discussion Riparian needs Development needs Agricultural needs	Roger Peery (John W. Shomaker & Associates) Cliff Crawford (Professor Emeritus of Biology, UNM) Lora Lucero (American Planning Association, NM Chapter) Cliff Sanchez (National Resources Conservation Service)
11:15	Audience Q & A	Eight member panel
11:45	Directions for lunch	Danny Hernandez
12:05	Lunch Presentations Specialists Constituent Group Managers Constituent Group Advocates Constituent Group Public Participation Working Group Alternatives Working Group	Bob Swartwout, MC Frank Titus (Consulting Geohydrologist) John Stomp Steve Harris Kevin Bean (Consultant, Albuquerque Water Resources) Frank Robinson (Intel)
	15 min. break	
1:10	Piecing it all together Directions for breakout	Danny Hernandez Lee Brown
1:30	Seven breakout conversation groups Theme: Take all of the pieces (above), relate them to the topic (below) and answer: "How do we live within our water budget?"	
	1) Municipal 2) Riparian 3) Agricultural 4) Acequias 5) Recreational 6) Economic Development 7) Aquifer	John Stomp Steve Harris MRGCD Lynn Montgomery (Sun Farm de las Huertas) Pete Turpin (Albuquerque Parks and Recreation) Lora Lucero Peggy Barrol
3:00	Report back	Ric Richardson, MC (Assistant Dean, UNM School of Architecture and Planning)
4:20	The final pieces	Elaine Hebard

MIDDLE RIO GRANDE WATER BUDGET
(Annual Values Typical for 1972-1997)



Values are annual average (rounded). Natural variability is large for most. Some but not all variabilities are shown.

Line widths are drawn in relative scale of magnitude

Action Committee of the Middle Rio Grande Water Assembly
10/7/99 Version

Special Thanks to:

- The UNM Water Resources Program – for hosting and their hard work coordinating
- The UNM Architecture and Planning Department – for many of our facilitators
- Intel – for their inimitable support
- Jennifer Schuetz – for going well above and beyond
- Bob Wessely – for working steadily, hard, long and smart
- Kevin Bean – for making certain we are well fed
- MRGCOG – for their supporting staff
- All of our speakers
- All of our volunteer staff
- All of our volunteer facilitators
- All of you for caring enough about our future to give up a beautiful Saturday
- To all the little water droplets out there for being our future

– The 4th Water Assembly is entirely a production of a handful of dedicated volunteers –

– **Enjoy the Assembly** –



**Special Annual Middle Rio
Grande Water Assembly**
Saturday, June 23, 2001, 1-4 PM
Anthropology Lecture Hall UNM

It is time to re-organize and re-activate the Action Committee of the Water Assembly! The Assembly's *Constituency Groups* will gather and select their chairpersons and four additional representatives to serve on a new Action Committee for the FY 2001-2002.

Join a Constituency Group—help select Action Committee members who represent your interests! Or nominate yourself, if you can attend monthly meetings and support the regional water planning process.

The next year will be extremely important in shaping the regional water plan! Please join us.

For More Information:

www.waterassembly.org or call 293-9208

**CONSTITUENCY
GROUP SESSIONS:**

- Agricultural, Cultural, and Historical Water Use (*New Group*)
- Environment (*New Group*)
- Urban and Economic Development (*New Group*)
- Managers
- Specialists
- Tribal Interests

Historical Archive G-1

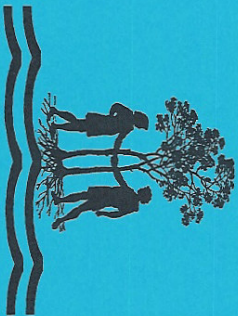
Water Assembly 5

Why attend the WATER ASSEMBLY?

- ❖ Demand has outstripped supply
- ❖ How will we share the thirst?
- ❖ Ensure your interests are represented at the negotiating table
- ❖ Hear from diverse water interests
- ❖ Select your representatives for the year
- ❖ Observe how computer-based models can assist with decisions

WATER ASSEMBLY MISSION:
THROUGH AN OPEN, INCLUSIVE, AND PARTICIPATORY PROCESS, TO DEVELOP A PLAN OF SUSTAINABLE WATER MANAGEMENT STRATEGIES FOR THE MIDDLE RIO GRANDE REGION AND ESTABLISH A PROCESS TO IMPLEMENT THE PLAN.

Fifth Middle Rio Grande Water Assembly



WATER FOR OUR KIDS? STARTING TO NEGOTIATE A FAIR WATER DEAL!

HOW WILL WE BRING OUR WATER DEMANDS INTO BALANCE WITH A RENEWABLE WATER SUPPLY?

Saturday, March 31, 2001
8:00 am to 5:00 pm
UNM Anthropology Building

FOR MORE INFORMATION
CALL 263-9208
OR VISIT OUR WEBSITE
WWW.WATERASSEMBLY.ORG

5th Middle Rio Grande Water Assembly
P.O. Box 9844
Albuquerque, NM 87119-9844



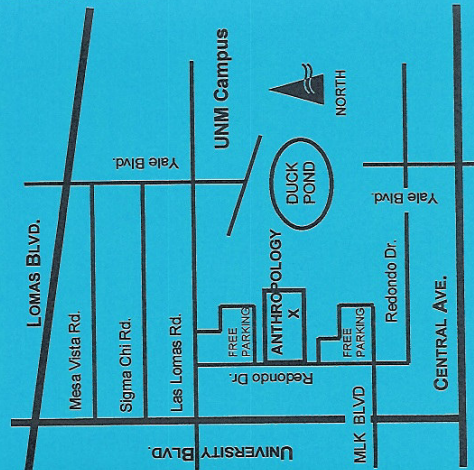
 **BALANCE WATER USE WITH RENEWABLE SUPPLY** 

Fifth Middle Rio Grande Water Assembly

WATER FOR OUR KIDS? STARTING TO NEGOTIATE A FAIR WATER DEAL

In 2000, the Water Assembly and the Water Resources Board hosted a series of Community Conversations. We talked about the Water Budget—a picture of supply and demand—which showed that we are using more water than was being renewed. At these conversations we received input from the public to develop a mission, goals, and objectives for the Regional Water Plan. At the upcoming March Assembly we will begin the negotiating process to balance the shortfall. The March Assembly is designed to provoke thought and get your input on how the process will work. At this Assembly, we will share what we have learned to date and ask for your help in developing a water plan within which we can all live. Please join us.

*Lee Brown, Chair
The Water Assembly*



- **Topics to be Covered Include:**
Regional and Subregional Activity Reports—Past and Present Demonstrations of Decision Making Tools and their Utility Discussions by Diverse Water Users Attaining the Balance: A Panel of Perspectives Selection of Action Committee Representatives

Speakers Include Representatives from:

- *The Water Assembly*
- *Water Resources Board*
- *Valencia County*
- *Sandoval County Commission*
- *Shomaker & Associates*
- *S. S. Papadopoulos & Associates*
- *Sandia National Laboratory*
- *The University of New Mexico*
- *US Army Corps of Engineers*
- *And Others*

Steve Hansen and/or Steve Bower, U.S. Bureau of Reclamation, will present a special noontime program on the "Evapotranspiration Toolbox," including a screening of the video, "Pulsing the Bosque"

Complete Agenda Available by Mid-March at the Water Assembly website:
www.WaterAssembly.org

5TH MIDDLE RIO GRANDE WATER ASSEMBLY

WATER FOR THE KIDS? STARTING TO NEGOTIATE A FAIR WATER DEAL

SATURDAY, MARCH 31, 2001

8:00 AM TO 5:00 PM

Name		Organization		Registration Fee Paid <input type="checkbox"/> \$5.00 <input type="checkbox"/> \$10.00	
Street Address		City		State	Zip Code
Phone		Fax		E-Mail Address	

The registration fee of \$5 (**\$10 after March 21**) includes coffee and lunch. Please make checks payable to: Middle Rio Grande Water Assembly. Send registration to: Middle Rio Grande Water Assembly, P.O. Box 9844, Albuquerque, New Mexico 87119-9844

MIDDLE RIO GRANDE WATER ASSEMBLY

SPECIAL ANNUAL SESSION

SATURDAY, JUNE 23, 2001

1:00 – 4:00 p.m.

1:00 – 1:15	Introduction/Welcome	Bob Wessely, Chair
1:15 – 1:25	Today's Process	
1:25 – 1:40	Walk to rooms, reconvene Agricultural, Cultural and Historical Water Use Advocates – Room xxx Environmental Advocates Specialists Tribal Interests Urban Users and Economic Development Advocates Water Managers	
1:40 – 3:00	Constituency Group Sessions	
3:00 – 3:15	Adjourn, walk to Lecture Hall	
3:15 – 3:40	Reports from Constituency Groups (5 minutes each)	Reporters from Groups
3:40 – 3:45	Next steps	Bob Wesseley
3:45 - 4:00	Consideration of changes to the bylaws	Bob Wesseley

The Water Assembly thanks MRGCOG for providing printing services.

Historical Archive G-1

Water Assembly 6

Farmer's To Get River Water On Rotating Cycle
City proposes raising water rates almost 9 percent
Paso's Water Plans May Spark Legal Fight
Developer Seeks Water Transfer in Tijeras Canyon

Minnow Backers: More Water
Water Fight Looms on State's Horizon
Snowfall Not Filling State's Water Needs
Tough bedevils Elephant Butte, other lakes in state
Legislature Approves Water Bill * \$30 million Helps With Texas Compact

Potable Water Becoming 21st Century's new gold

Why attend the Water

Recently, news about water has increased as various users vie for current supplies and plan for future needs. We know the region's present water demand exceeds the renewable supply, and without modification, the imbalance will continue to increase. How shall we reduce our demands? What will be included in the regional water plan? How will that reflect *your* values?

Here's why to attend this year's Water Assembly:

- learn what has been accomplished this past year
- hear how various users tried to balance the water budget
- observe how computer-based models can aid our decisions
- select representatives to the Water Assembly
- ensure that the Regional Water Plan includes a wide range of values
- find out how you can be involved!

**SIXTH
MIDDLE RIO GRANDE
WATER ASSEMBLY**



**Establishing a Basis for Balancing
Our Budget**

**As we bring our water demands
into balance with our renewable
water supply**



**Saturday, April 6, 2002
8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.
UNM Anthropology Building**

For more information
call 293-9208
Or Visit our website
www.WaterAssembly.org

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MIDDLE RIO GRANDE WATER ASSEMBLY
P.O. Box 25862
Albuquerque, New Mexico 87125-5862



Balance Water Use with Renewable Supply

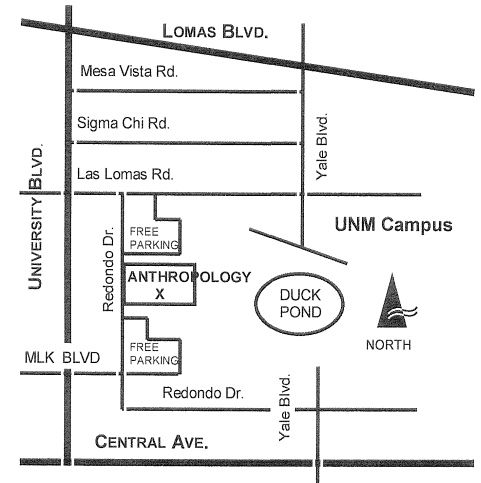
Topics to be covered include:

- Regional and subregional planning reports
- Demonstration of Decision Making Tools and their Utility
- Presentation on Quantifying Values
- A Panel Discussion by Diverse Water Constituencies
- Selection of Action Committee Representatives

*** Don't miss the Exhibition room ! ***

This Assembly benefits from numerous volunteer hours, as well as support from the Middle Rio Grande Council of Governments, the UNM Water Resources Administration Program, the UNM Utton Center, Sandia National Labs and the Interstate Stream Commission.

Complete Agenda Available by April 1 at the Water Assembly website:
www.WaterAssembly.org



SIXTH MIDDLE RIO GRANDE WATER ASSEMBLY

Recognizing Each Other's Water Values - Establishing a Basis for Balancing Our Budget



At the recent Community Conversations series, many of you found that there's more to balancing the water budget than plugging in a set of numbers; you found that to balance the budget, the community must reach agreement on a shared set of values.

At the upcoming April Assembly, Water Assembly members from the water managers, agricultural, environmental and urban economic development advocacy groups will describe how they have tried to balance the budget based on their values.

As we strive to understand each other's values, we can begin to identify those we hold in common and search for commonalities in those we do not. These values will help to frame the solutions chosen to manage our water imbalance.

An important aspect of the Water Assembly is that it embodies many different interests who give voice to their values. These various constituencies will be selecting delegates to represent them. Your participation is important to ensure that the mission of the Assembly is fulfilled.

The Water Assembly is the negotiating table for regional water planning; the place where a common vision for our water future will be established. Please join us!



Water Assembly Mission: *To develop a plan of sustainable water management strategies for the Middle Rio Grande Region and to establish a process to implement the plan through an open, inclusive and participatory process.*

8:00 - 9:00 Coffee and Registration
9:00 - 5:00 Program

SIXTH MIDDLE RIO GRANDE WATER ASSEMBLY
Recognizing Each Other's Water Values - Establishing a Basis for Balancing Our Budget **SATURDAY, APRIL 6, 2002**
 8:00 AM TO 5:00 PM

Name			
Street Address		City	Organization
Phone	Fax		E-mail address
		State	Zip Code
		Registration Fee Paid <input type="radio"/> \$5.00 <input type="radio"/> \$10.00	

The registration fee of \$5 (**\$10 after March 31**) includes coffee and lunch. Please make checks payable to: Middle Rio Grande Water Assembly. Send registration to: Middle Rio Grande Water Assembly, P.O. Box 25862, Albuquerque, New Mexico 87125-5862

AGENDA

8:00 - 9:00 - Registration and Coffee

** check out the exhibition room **

9:00 Welcome

Robert Wessely, *chair of the Water Assembly*
Lawrence Rael, *Executive Director of MRGCOG*
Bill Sapien, *Sandoval County Commission,*
Water Resources Board
Michael Campana, *Director of UNM Water*
Resources Program
Howard D. Passell, *Sandia National Laboratories*

9:30 Report from the Water Assembly: Where We've Been and
Where We're Headed
- *Robert Wessely*
Summary of Future Water Use Projections & Population
Projections
- *Joe Quintana, Middle Rio Grande Council of Governments*
Report from Río Puerco y Río Jemez Joint Watershed
Committee
- *Marion Woolf, Co-Chair*

10:30 Break

10:45 Report from Alternatives Working Team
- *Ed Payne, Chair*
Pueblo Perspective
- *Fidel Lorenzo, Haaku Water Office*
Summary of Current Water Issues
- *Elaine Moore Hebard*
Relationship between State & Regional Water Planning
- *Norm Gaume, Chief Engineer, Interstate Stream*
Commission

noon Lunch provided

** check out the exhibition room **

12:45 Thoughts on why we're here & how we plan
- *John R. Brown*

Report from Public Participation & Communication Working
Team
- *Kevin Bean, Chair*

Models: A tool to aid in decisions
Demonstration of Water Balancing Exercise
- *Howard Passell, Sandia National Labs*

1:30 How the Constituency Groups Balanced the Water Budget
facilitated by Melinda Smith
- panel discussion
- questions from the audience

3:00 break

3:20 Constituency groups caucus
- *review of interests*
- *selection of representatives & chairs*

4:30 Report back & wrap up

5:00 Final words and adjourn

moderated by Elaine Moore Hebard

Special Thanks to:

- * The WA Public Participation and Communication Working Team
- * University of New Mexico Water Resources Administration Program
- * Middle Rio Grande Council of Governments
- * Sandia National Labs
- * UNM Utton Transboundary Resource Center
- * New Mexico Interstate Stream Commission
- * Albuquerque Metropolitan Arroyo Flood Control Authority
- * Rio Rancho
- * Intel



The Water Assembly is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization. The registration fee covers part of the costs of the annual Assembly, which fee we try to keep affordable for all. As a non-profit organization, we certainly welcome donations!

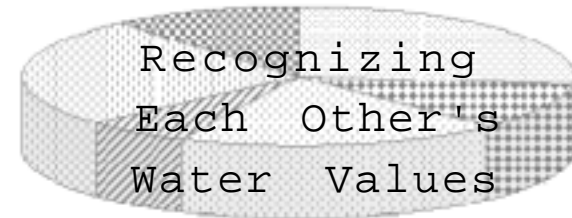


Upcoming events!

- * Next Action Committee Meeting - April 17, 2002, 5:30 - 7:30 p.m. in the Rotunda – Park North Building; Science and Technology Park at the University of New Mexico; 801 University Blvd. SE; Albuquerque, NM.
- * Keep your eyes peeled for the next series of Community Conversations, coming your way in early summer!

Water Assembly, P.O. Box 25862, Albuquerque, NM 87125-5862

Sixth Middle Rio Grande Water Assembly



Establishing a Basis for Balancing Our Budget

**As we bring our water demands
into balance with our renewable water supply**



Saturday, April 6, 2002
8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.
UNM Anthropology Building

Historical Archive G-1

Water Assembly 7

The 7th Water Assembly was also the 6th Regional Forum. See HG-2 for Forum materials.