

**SPECIAL MEETING OF THE BOARD OF MANAGERS
OF SPECIAL IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT #3
OF THE RIO GRANDE WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT
November 29, 2023 at 8:00 a.m.
8805 Independence Way, Alamosa, CO 81101
And By Zoom/Teleconference**

Present: LeRoy Salazar, President; Nathan Coombs, Vice-President/Secretary/Treasurer; Doug Bagwell, Manager; Sam Vance, Manager; Warren Crowther, Manager; and, Elliott Salazar, Ex-Officio Member.

Absent: Ruben Sandoval, Manager.

Staff and Consultants: Pete Ampe, Hill & Robbins, P.C; Amber Pacheco, Deputy General Manager; Angelo Bellah, Program Manager; Rose Vanderpool, Program Assistant; Linda Ramirez, Program Assistant; Wylie Keller, Water Resource Specialist; Kylie Gregg, Office Manager; Taylor Chick, Program Manager; Crystal Benavidez, HCP Coordinator/Program Assistant; and, April Mondragon, Administrative Assistant.

Guests: David Hofmann, Jason Lorenze, Michelle Lanzoni.

Meeting Called to Order

President Salazar called the meeting to order at 8:06 a.m. A quorum was present. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited. Warren Crowther led the opening prayer.

Approval of the Agenda

President Salazar added a discussion on items to discuss/address at the next meeting. He asked for any other amendments or a motion to approve the agenda. A motion was made by Sam Vance to approve the agenda as amended. The motion was seconded by Warren Crowther and unanimously approved.

Public Comment

President Salazar asked for public comment. There was none.

Discussion Regarding 2024 Administrative and Groundwater Withdrawal Fee Assessments

President Salazar asked for discussion regarding 2024 Administrative and Groundwater Withdrawal Fee Assessments. Angelo Bellah read the Resolution into record. He reported on the changes in fees and what remained the same.

Resolution to Approve 2024 Administrative and Groundwater Withdrawal Fee Assessments

President Salazar asked for Resolution to approve 2024 Administrative and Groundwater Withdrawal Fee Assessments. He reported as the Subdistrict becomes closer to the ten (10) year mark, the Board would need to begin to consider ways to achieve aquifer sustainability.

A motion was made by Doug Bagwell to approve the Resolution to Approve the 2024 Administrative and Groundwater Withdrawal Fee Assessments. The motion was seconded by Warren Crowther and unanimously approved.

Items to be Discussed at the Next Meeting

President Salazar asked for items to be discussed at the next meeting. He explained the need to hold a workshop in order for the Board to discuss options and ways to begin to work toward aquifer sustainability. Mr. Salazar requested the Board and staff work with Clinton Phillips and Jason Lorenze to develop different sustainability methods and programs. Sam Vance suggested inviting experts to present on the benefits/losses of starting the irrigation season later. Discussion was held on incentive-based programs, disincentive programs and mandatory cutbacks. Pete Ampe reminded the Board the budget is set based on programs.

Next Meeting

The next quarterly meeting was scheduled for December 7, 2023 at 8:00 a.m.

Adjournment

A motion was made by Warren Crowther to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Doug Bagwell and unanimously approved.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:36 a.m.



President



Vice-President/Secretary/Treasurer

RESOLUTION TO ASSESS FEES FOR SPECIAL IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT NO. 3 OF THE RIO GRANDE WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT

A RESOLUTION ASSESSING FEES FOR THE BUDGET YEAR 2024 TO (1) FUND THE ADMINISTRATIVE COSTS OF SPECIAL IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT NO. 3 OF THE RIO GRANDE WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT'S WATER ACTIVITY ENTERPRISE (SUBDISTRICT NO. 3); (2) TO FUND THE COSTS OF REMEDYING INJURIOUS DEPLETIONS AS REQUIRED BY THE PLAN OF WATER MANAGEMENT; AND, (3) TO FUND THE COSTS OF RECOVERING THE AQUIFER AS REQUIRED BY THE PLAN OF WATER MANAGEMENT FOR SUBDISTRICT NO. 3 FOR THE 2024 BUDGET YEAR.

WHEREAS, the amount of money necessary to balance the budget for Subdistrict No. 3 administrative expenses is \$62,370.01; and

WHEREAS, the amount of money necessary to fund the replacement of injurious depletions is \$488,174.91

WHEREAS, the amount of money necessary to fund aquifer recovery is \$137,056.86.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE Board of Managers of Subdistrict No. 3, Colorado:

- Section 1: That for the purpose of meeting all administrative expenses of the Special Improvement District No. 3 during the 2024 budget year there is hereby assessed a fee of \$420.00 per active Subdistrict Well and \$210.00 per inactive Subdistrict Well as defined by the Plan of Water Management for Subdistrict No. 3.
- Section 2: That for the purpose of funding the remedy of injurious depletions of Subdistrict No. 3 there is hereby assessed a fee of \$21.35 per acre-foot under sprinkler application, \$15.43 per acre-foot under flood application and between \$0.08 and \$25.72 per acre-foot for wells under an "other" application based on a five-year average of groundwater withdrawals during the period 2018-2022 as defined by the Plan of Water Management for Subdistrict No. 3.
- Section 3: That for the purpose of funding the recovery of the aquifer there is hereby assessed a fee of \$5.00 per acre-foot of groundwater withdrawn through a Subdistrict Well based on a five-year average of groundwater withdrawals during the period 2018-2022.
- Section 4: That the General Manager is hereby authorized and directed to immediately certify to the County Commissioners of Conejos County, Colorado, the assessments above determined and set.

ADOPTED, this 29th day of November, 2023.



President



Secretary/Treasurer