

**SPECIAL MEETING OF THE BOARD OF MANAGERS
OF SPECIAL IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT #3
OF THE RIO GRANDE WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT**

**April 28, 2025 at 9:00 a.m.
8805 Independence Way
Alamosa, CO 81101
And By Zoom/Teleconference**

Present: LeRoy Salazar, President; Nathan Coombs, Vice-President/Secretary/Treasurer; Warren Crowther, Manager; Doug Bagwell, Manager; Ruben Sandoval, Manager; and, Sam Vance, Manager.

Absent: Elliott Salazar, Ex-Officio Member.

Staff and Consultants: Matt Montgomery, Hill & Robbins, P.C; Angelo Bellah, Program Manager; Amber Pacheco, Deputy General Manager; Michael Carson, Database Administrator; Wylie Keller, Water Resource Specialist; Kylie Gregg, Office Manager; Clinton Phillips, Davis Engineering; Rose Vanderpool, Program Assistant; and, April Mondragon, Administrative Assistant.

Guests: Jessica Valdez, Chuck Finnegan, Mike Saylor, Austin Malotte.

Meeting Called to Order

The meeting was called to order at 9:04 a.m. A quorum was present. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited. Nathan Coombs led the opening prayer.

Approval of the Agenda

President Salazar asked to add a discussion on the possibilities going forward with sustainability. He asked for any other changes, additions 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 Doug Bagwell and unanimously approved.

Public Comment

President Salazar asked for public comment. There was none.

Review Phase 7 RGDSS Model Updates and Potential Impacts to Subdistrict No. 3

President Salazar asked for review phase 7 RGDSS Model updates and potential impacts to Subdistrict No. 3. Mike Saylor provided a summary of the latest updates to the 101st run of phase 7 of the model. He highlighted the recommendations from the PRT and explained the breakdown of the differences in what the model is showing now and what it was showing in phase 6. Austin Malotte presented Table 1a-Conejos Response Area 2024 ARP Monthly Depletions by Reach. Mr. Saylor went over the model results and explained the significant increase in depletions. He reported on the depletions related to the amount of groundwater withdrawals and described the impact the fish wells have on the model. Mr. Saylor highlighted the accretions/depletions owed on the La Jara Creek and the annual depletions by reach.

Review and Consider Pumping Reduction Program Applications

President Salazar asked for review and consider Pumping Reduction Program (PRP) applications. He requested his application be withdrawn and that Ruben Sandoval be recused from the discussion. Angelo Bellah provided the amount of reduced pumping from the application received from Ruben Sandoval. Wylie Keller explained how funding from the Senate Bill is calculated.

A motion was made by Nathan Coombs to approve/accept Pumping Reduction Program Application for 306.8 acre feet of reduction. The motion was seconded by Doug Bagwell. The motion was not voted on.

A motion was made by Sam Vance to approve/accept the Pumping Reduction Program Application payment amount of \$55,000 for the reduction of 306.8 acre feet. Sam Vance amended the motion to approve/accept the Pumping Reduction Program Applications for a total of 606.8 acre feet. The motion was seconded by Doug Bagwell and unanimously approved.

Ruben Sandoval reported on the need to discuss how programs affect your average groundwater withdrawals in the future. President Salazar asked for a discussion on different options and ways to

decrease pumping within the Subdistrict. Discussion was held on a possible mandatory cut back, higher incentive pay, potentially higher Subdistrict fees and how to approach Subdistrict members to discuss pumping reduction.

Direction for Staff

President Salazar asked Wylie Keller to research the possibility to purchase surface water rights to use as recharge. Nathan Coombs asked to schedule a work session to come up with a plan prior to next year. The PRP deadline was set for May 31, 2025.

Next Meeting

The next quarterly meeting is scheduled for June 5, 2025 at 8:00 a.m.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 10:56 a.m.



President



Vice-President/Secretary/Treasurer