RIO GRANDE WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT
BOARD OF DIRECTORS ANNUAL MEETING
April 21, 2026, at 10:00 A.M.
8805 Independence Way
Alamosa, CO 81101
And By Zoom Teleconference

Present: Greg Higel, President; Armando Valdez, Vice-President; Zeke Ward, Secretary/Treasurer; Elliott Salazar, Director; Sheldon Rockey, Director; Mark Deacon, Director; Kim Cooley, Director; and Dale Hazard, Director.

Staff and Consultants: David Robbins, Pete Ampe, and Arthur Sayre, Hill & Robbins, P.C.; Amber Pacheco, Deputy General Manager; Chris Ivers, Program Manager; Angelo Bellah, Program Manager; Quinton Norris, Program Manager; Wylie Keller, Water Resource Specialist; Kylie Gregg, Office Manager; Clinton Phillips, Davis Engineering; Linda Ramirez, Program Assistant; Rose Vanderpool, Program Assistant; April Mondragon, Administrative Assistant; and, Michael Carson, Database Administrator.

Guests: Marianna King, Ray Newmyer, Lawrence Crowther, Bennett Yoke, Chris Lopez, Morgan Dingfelder, Michael, Rio de la Vista, Hannah Thill, Chris Shaffer, Jack Hamilton, Larry Brown, Heather Greenwolf, Craig Cotten, Ryan Unterreiner, Laura Spann, Susan Storm, Jocelyn Catterson, Paul Formisano, Richard Hubler, Darin Schepp, and Taylor Applewhite.

CALL TO ORDER

President Greg Higel called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. There was a quorum present for the meeting. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

INTRODUCTION OF STAFF AND GUESTS

President Higel announced the resignation of Doug Gunnels and reported Amber Pacheco would send a letter to the commissioners to fill the position. He welcomed all those present and asked for introductions.

APPROVE AGENDA

President Higel asked for any changes, additions or a motion to approve the agenda. Elliott Salazar asked to add a discussion regarding correcting the names of ditches in District 22 Division 3. A motion was made by Sheldon Rockey to approve the agenda as amended. The motion was seconded by Mark Deacon and unanimously approved.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

President Higel asked for the election of officers. Pete Ampe explained the election process and asked for nominations for President of the Board of Directors, the seat currently held by Greg Higel. A motion was made by Elliott Salazar to cease nominations and to retain Greg Higel as President of the Board of Directors. The motion was seconded by Mark Deacon and unanimously approved.

President Higel asked for nominations for Vice President, the seat currently held by Armando Valdez. A motion was made by Elliott Salazar to cease nominations and retain Armando Valdez as Vice President of the Board of Directors. The motion was seconded by Kim Cooley and unanimously approved.

President Higel asked for nominations for Secretary/Treasurer, the seat currently held by Zeke Ward. A motion was made by Mark Deacon to cease nominations and to retain Zeke Ward as Secretary/Treasurer. The motion was seconded by Elliott Salazar and unanimously approved.

APPROVAL OF THE CONSENT AGENDA

President Higel asked for approval of the consent agenda items:

- January 20, 2026-Quarterly Meeting Minutes

A motion was made by Sheldon Rockey to approve the consent agenda as presented. The motion was seconded by Mark Deacon and unanimously approved.

PUBLIC COMMENT
President Higel asked for public comment. There was none.

APPOINTMENT OF EX-OFFICIO MEMBERS TO SUBDISTRICT BOARDS OF MANAGERS
President Higel asked for the appointment of Ex-Officio Members to Subdistrict Boards of Managers. He reminded the Board of the current members. A motion was made by Armando Valdez to keep the Ex-Officio Members the same and continue to seek one for Subdistrict No. 4. The motion was seconded by Mark Deacon and unanimously approved.

APPOINTMENT OF SUBDISTRICT BOARD OF MANAGERS
President Higel asked for the appointment of Subdistrict Board of Managers.

- *Subdistrict No. 1-Reed Mattive appointment for Rio Grande Canal and Miguel Diaz reappointment for Billings Ditch*

A motion was made by Sheldon Rockey to appoint Reed Mattive and reappoint Miguel Diaz to the Subdistrict No. 1 Board of Managers. The motion was seconded by Kim Cooley and unanimously approved.

- *Subdistrict No. 2 Reappointments-Scot Schaefer for Voting District No. 1 and Michael Schaefer for Voting District No. 2*

A motion was made by Mark Deacon to reappoint Scot Schaefer and Michael Schaefer to the Subdistrict No. 2 Board of Managers. The motion was seconded by Zeke Ward and unanimously approved.

- *Subdistrict No. 3 Appointments-Brandon Thomas and the Selection of two (2) individuals from West of CR 17 and North of Rd. G*

A motion was made by Elliott Salazar to appoint Brandon Thomas to the Subdistrict No. 3 Board of Managers. The motion was seconded by Armando Valdez and unanimously approved.

A motion was made by Elliott Salazar to reappoint Nathan Coombs and Doug Bagwell to the Subdistrict No. 3 Board of Managers. Armando Valdez reported on the Board of Managers recommendation to reappoint Doug Bagwell. The motion was seconded by Mark Deacon and unanimously approved.

Pete Ampe explained why the Board of Directors has to make the appointments to the Subdistricts.

- *Subdistrict No. 6 Reappointments-Ronald Reinhardt, Austin Miller, Rodney Reinhardt, Mario Curto, Peter Clark, Jeremy Faucette, Jack Hamilton.*

A motion was made by Mark Deacon to appoint those Subdistrict 6 individuals stated in the agenda to the Board of Managers. The motion was seconded by Armando Valdez and unanimously approved.

Amber Pacheco reported on the reappointment of Zeke Ward, Elliott Salazar and Mark Deacon by their respective Counties to the Board of Directors.

PRIMARY WATER PROJECT -FEASIBILITY FUNDING REQUEST FINAL REPORT-MARIANNA KING
President Higel asked for the Primary Water Project feasibility funding request final report. Marianna King provided a summary of the international scientific evidence that demonstrates the validity of primary water in her final report. She highlighted the request from the Board to provide water law info as it relates to primary water. Ms. King gave the definition of primary water and how to prove the validity of primary water. She described the impact a feasibility study would have and how it would be shared. Ms. King also presented a video. Ray Newmyer reported on the hours he had spent reading and studying primary water. He described the possible source of new water. Discussion was held on how new water would be classified and how it would be administered. Zeke Ward explained how the District is funded and how it would be inappropriate for the District to approve/fund the feasibility study. There was no action taken by the Board to provide funding for this request.

FINANCIAL REPORT

President Higel asked for the Financial Report. Amber Pacheco presented the Profit and Loss Budget vs. Actual statement. She went over the property tax revenues, reimbursements, grant revenue and highlighted the amount transferred in for Subdistrict purchases. Ms. Pacheco reviewed the expenses and reported expending all of the Senate Bill funding. She reported on the Groundwater Monitoring and Field Operations position and that she would be working to hire to fill the position soon. Ms. Pacheco informed the Board additional funding may be needed for maintenance on the Norton Drain.

A motion was made by Zeke Ward to approve the Financial Report as presented. The motion was seconded by Mark Deacon and unanimously approved.

MANAGER'S REPORT

President Higel asked for the Manager's report. Amber Pacheco recognized Linda Ramirez for her near ten (10) years and Wylie Keller for close to five (5) years of employment at the District. She also recognized Chris Ivers for his twelve (12) years and reported on his acceptance into the Water Leaders Program. Ms. Pacheco provided an update on the disposal of the older District vehicles, court cases, Phase 7 Response Functions, human resource policies and her election to continue to serve as chair of the Roundtable. She also updated the Board on the proposed revegetation bill and the Water Smart grant. Clinton Phillips provided an update on the Closed Basin Project Operating Committee meeting. Ms. Pacheco described how the Subdistricts would cover winter time depletions with the shortage of Closed Basin Project water.

- *Ratify 90-Day Leave Extension Request for General Manager Cleave Simpson*

Amber Pacheco reported on the Management Committee's approval the of the first 90 day leave of absence and the need to ratify the requested extension through the end of the legislative session.

A motion was made by Armando Valdez to ratify the decision of the Management Committee to extend the 90 day leave of absence for General Manager Cleave Simpson. The motion was seconded by Kim Cooley and unanimously approved.

A motion was made by Armando Valdez confirming and ratifying that Amber Pacheco has been in and will continue to act as Acting General Manager during Mr. Simpson's leave of absence. The motion was seconded by Elliott Salazar and unanimously approved.

- *Review and Consider Approval of Lease of City of Monte Vista Anderson Ditch Water*

Amber Pacheco reported receiving the draft lease and stated the District would lease the water and portion out the amounts according to the depletion needs of the Subdistricts. She provided the amount of acre-feet available and the price per acre-foot.

A motion was made by Armando Valdez to approve the lease with the City of Monte Vista for the Anderson Ditch water. The motion was seconded by Mark Deacon and unanimously approved.

PROGRAM MANAGER'S REPORTS

President Higel asked for Program Manager's reports.

- *Subdistrict No. 1-Quinton Norris*

Quinton Norris provided a water replacement update. He highlighted the projected groundwater withdrawals and reported on the completion of the Annual Replacement Plan (ARP). He gave an update on the Plan of Water Management No. 4 trial, Subdistrict property management, recharge operations, cull potato disposal discussions and wildlife concerns on the Medano property. Mr. Norris reported on the CREP extension and reminded Subdistrict members to turn in their Farm Plans and Surface Water Credit/Shares lease agreements. Discussion was held on the rules and culling potatoes.

- *Subdistrict No.'s 2, 3, and 6-Angelo Bellah*

Angelo Bellah updated the Board on the planned 2026 activities for Subdistrict No.'s 2, 3 and 6. He also highlighted the improvements on the operation of the Williams Creek Grizzly Pass diversions. Mr. Bellah described the Twin Pines resolution required as part of the CWCB loan and provided the loan amount and interest rate.

A motion was made to approve the Resolution for the CWCB loan for Twin Pines Ranch Water Rights for Subdistrict No. 2 and 6. The motion was seconded by Elliott Salazar. Mark Deacon Abstained. Kim Cooley voted No. The motion passed.

Mr. Bellah reported the five (5) year SWSP limit is close to being reached on the Alpha Hay Farms. Pete Ampe asked the Board to consider ratifying the change of use filing in Water Court.

A motion was made by Armando Valdez to ratify the filing of the change of water use for Alpha Hay Farms Water Rights for Subdistrict No. 3. The motion was seconded by Mark Deacon and unanimously approved.

Mr. Bellah highlighted the number of remaining Alpha Hay Farms tracts for sale. He gave an update on the Sandoval land/water rights, Sowards well, and the Martinez well purchase. Mr. Bellah went over the purchase price, location, pumping history, funding details and timeline for the Martinez well purchase. He also gave an update on the 2026 Pumping Reduction Program. Mr. Bellah reported on the approval of the USFWS Participation Contract and the renewal of the contract with the City of Alamosa. He also gave the background information on the purchase of the 80% interest in the Twin Pines Ranch water rights from Director Deacon.

The meeting recessed for lunch at 12:26 p.m. and resumed at 1:31 p.m.

- *Subdistrict No.'s 4 and 5-Chris Ivers*

Chris Ivers reported on the Subdistrict No. 4 revegetation issues on the Bowman property and some of the options moving forward. He described how Subdistrict No. 5 is working to meet the requirements of the new Phase 7 Response Functions. Mr. Ivers reported on the request for bids process for two (2) augmentation wells with a third additive/alternate well. He described the remedies in place to cover Subdistrict No.'s 1, 4 and 5 depletions on Saguache Creek. Mr. Ivers also provided an update on the Malone Sullivan change of water rights case. He asked the Board to consider the Malone Sullivan change of water rights case filing.

A motion was made by Mark Deacon to approve the Malone Sullivan change of water rights filing. The motion was seconded by Sheldon Rockey and unanimously approved.

- *Review and Consider Approval of the Sheppard Easement-Subdistrict No. 5*

Chris Ivers reminded the Board of their approval a year ago of an easement and option to purchase a second easement on the Sheppard property. He reported the Subdistrict was currently taking bids for a well to be drilled at this location and explained how critical it is for Subdistrict No.'s 1, 4 and 5.

A motion was made by Mark Deacon to approve the Sheppard easement for Subdistrict No. 5. The motion was seconded by Elliott Salazar and unanimously approved.

- *Review and Consider Approval of the Purchase of North Star Water Rights*

Chris Ivers reported on the negotiations with North Star Farms to Purchase the water rights from four (4) more quarters which includes six (6) wells. He provided the purchase price and reported how the purchase would bring the total wells purchased from North Star Farms to nine (9). Mr. Ivers described how this purchase should be enough water to cover the deletions of Subdistrict No.'s 1, 4, and 5 to Saguache Creek. He reported on the approval of the CWCB loan and the interest rate was discussed.

A motion was made by Armando Valdez to approve the purchase of North Star water rights. The motion was seconded by Sheldon Rockey and unanimously approved.

DISTRICT ENGINEER'S REPORT-CLINTON PHILLIPS

President Higel asked for the District Engineer's report. Clinton Phillips presented a map of the San Luis Valley Unconfined Aquifer Storage Study area. He went over the change in storage for March 2026, the change between March 2025 and 2026, the current aquifer level, five (5) year average and the acre-feet needed to get to the -400,000 level. He highlighted the early warm up and early runoff. Mr. Phillips also presented on the Confined Aquifer Storage Study and showed a graph of the entire study period, the confined aquifer well map and the measurements by model layer. Discussion was held on how the 2015 baseline was selected and the depth and layering of ALA 17.

DISTRICT ATTORNEY'S REPORT-PETE AMPE
President Higel asked for the District Attorney's report. Pete Ampe updated the Board on the Texas vs New Mexico and Colorado case and the Compact meeting. He reported on the retirement of Hal Simpson from the Compact Commission. Pete also gave an update on the upcoming trials his office is preparing for. David Robbins described the two (2) interstate treaties that impact the Rio Grande. Pete Ampe gave an update on the Phase 7 of the RGDSS model.

A motion was made by Sheldon Rockey to reappoint Jamie Hart to Subdistrict No. 1 Board of Manager's. The motion was seconded by Mark Deacon and unanimously approved.

DIVISION ENGINEER'S REPORT-DARIN SCHEPP
President Higel asked for the Division Engineer's report. Darin Schepp presented the current snowpack levels and snow water equivalent conditions. Snowpack was at 11% which was a little above 2002 and lower than 2018. Mr. Schepp presented the NRCS April 1st forecasted runoff, the Conejos forecasted annual flow, the compact obligation and explained zero (0) % curtailment. He reported on the fairly low chance of coming out of Article 7 with some options for storing in Article 7. Mr. Schepp presented the Rio Grande near Del Norte gaging station graph and suggested the unconfined aquifer may hit the lowest level ever recorded. Mr. Schepp went over the season temperatures and precipitation outlook for May-July. He explained DWR is busy enforcing water laws and have needed to purchase more locks and chains to prevent out of priority water diversions. Director Salazar reported on the misspelling of several ditch names and asked how to get them corrected.

COLORADO STATE PARKS & WILDLIFE-RYAN UNTERREINER
President Higel asked for the Colorado State Parks & Wildlife report. Ryan Unterreiner updated the Board on CPW operations and the effects of the low diversion rates. He reported on the Beaver Park operations, projected low flows on the Conejos River and potential impacts to fisheries.

COLORADO STATE UNIVERSITY EXTENSION-LARRY BROWN
President Higel asked for Colorado State University Extension report. Amber Pacheco provided the update for Larry Brown. She highlighted the dates and locations of upcoming workshops.

SALAZAR CENTER-PAUL FORMISANO
President Higel asked for the Salazar Center report. Paul Formisano reported on the good turnout at the State of the Basin Symposium. He highlighted the discussions held at the Symposium and provided an update on the grant activities, internship opportunities, water education work, outreach and enrollment.

RIO GRANDE HEADWATERS RESTORATION PROJECT-DANIEL BOYES
President Higel asked for the Rio Grande Headwaters Restoration Project report. Daniel Boyes updated the Board on the installation of new diversion structures and headgates at the Independent and Ehrowitz Ditches. He provided an update on Phase Six (6) of the Rio Grande Restoration Program, Phase One (1) of the restoration project on the National Wildlife Refuge, a project the District helped fund on the Conejos River, and gave an update on the planning and design project on lower Saguache Creek.

U.S.B.R REPORT-MORGAN DINGFELDER
President Higel asked for U.S.B.R. report. Morgan Dingfelder gave the operations update. A copy of the report is attached.

U.S.F & W.S. REPORT-CHRIS SHAFFER
President Higel asked for the U.S.F. & W.S. report. Chris Shaffer reported they are in the process of hiring two hydro tech (2) interns. He updated the Board on cleaning being done to the laterals on the Monte Vista Canal and Chicago Ditches. Mr. Shaffer announced he would be moving and this could be his last annual meeting.

U.S.B.L.M REPORT-TAYLOR APPLEWHITE
President Higel asked for U.S.B.L.M report. Taylor Applewhite provided an update on the Treasure Pass Ditch, Shaw Reservoir and an alternate point of diversion pending water right applications. He highlighted the retirement of Roy Smith, normal operations at the Blanca Wetlands and on Shaw Reservoir being drained for repairs.

RIO GRANDE HEADWATERS LAND TRUST-JOCELYN CATTERSON
President Higel asked for the Rio Grande Headwaters Land Trust report. Jocelyn Catterson described the educational work being done. She highlighted the basin-wide mural project and the water curriculum being taught at the high school level. She gave an update on the Sip and Science events and revegetation efforts on retired ground.

EDUCATION REPORT-JOCELYN CATTERSON
President Higel asked for the Education Report. Jocelyn Catterson provided the update for Hannah Thill. She reported Ms. Thill was in Crestone with the River Trailer. Ms. Catterson highlighted four (4) River Trailer projects scheduled for the Spring and reported Ms. Thill would be assisting with the mural project. She also reported on the number of kids signed up for the Beaver Creek Conservation Camp in June.

ALAMOSA COUNTY APPLICATION FOR LOCAL IMPACT ACCELERATOR GRANT-RICHARD HUBLER
President Higel asked for a discussion on the Alamosa County Application for a Local Impact Accelerator Grant. Richard Hubler introduced himself. He reported on the Local Impact Accelerator Grant Alamosa County applied for through the Colorado Energy Office. He described solar projects connected to agriculture and asked the Board if the District would be interested in a partnership. Amber Pacheco commented on the continued conversations regarding solar. She highlighted the importance and recommended the District be a part of the conversations and projects going forward. Mark Deacon commented on a potential property located in Del Norte.

A motion was made by Armando Valdez to partner with Alamosa County on the application for the Local Impact Accelerator Grant. The motion was seconded by Zeke Ward and unanimously approved.

COLORADO LEGISLATIVE STRATEGIES-GARIN VORTHMANN
President Higel asked for Colorado Legislative Strategies. Amber Pacheco read through Garin Vorthmann's report.

OTHER REPORTS OR COMMENTS
President Higel asked for other reports or comments. Armando Valdez commented on the Annual Replacement Plan meetings and approvals. He acknowledged the Subdistrict Boards, colleagues and staff for their work, cooperation, unity and efforts.

ADJOURN
The meeting was adjourned at 3:55 p.m.

The next quarterly meeting is scheduled for July 21, 2026.

Vice President

Zeke Ward
Secretary/Treasurer

RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS
OF THE RIO GRANDE WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT

(To Affirm the Resolution to Apply for a Loan from the Colorado Water Conservation Board)

RECITALS

WHEREAS, the Rio Grande Water Conservation District was created pursuant to section 37-48-102, C.R.S.; and,

WHEREAS, pursuant to section 37-48-108, C.R.S., the Rio Grande Water Conservation District is authorized to establish special improvement districts; and,

WHEREAS, pursuant to the request of certain water users in the Rio Grande Alluvium Response Area and section 37-48-123, the District filed a Petition to establish Special Improvement District No. 2 of the Rio Grande Water Conservation District ("Subdistrict No. 2") in the District Court, Rio Grande and Alamosa Counties, and the District approved said petition on March 1, 2016; and,

WHEREAS, Subdistrict No. 2 as a local government entity is authorized to establish a water enterprise pursuant to Article 45.1 of Title 37 of the Colorado Revised Statutes and Subdistrict No. 2 has established such enterprise; and,

WHEREAS, the Enterprise is authorized to borrow money and incur indebtedness pursuant to section 37-48-105(1)(c), C.R.S.; and,

WHEREAS, the Board of Managers of Subdistrict No. 2 previously directed Enterprise staff and consultants to pursue and apply for a loan from the Colorado Water Conservation Board in the amount of two million two hundred fifty thousand dollars ($2,250,000.00); and,

WHEREAS, the Board of Managers, after consultation with Enterprise Staff and consultants determined its current fee structure and revenue is sufficient to meet the repayment terms of such a loan; and,

WHEREAS, Enterprise staff and consultants did apply for such loan and such loan application was approved by the Colorado Water Conservation Board; and,

WHEREAS, the Enterprise Board has affirmed the request to apply for and approve such loan from the Colorado Water Conservation Board by written resolution; and,

WHEREAS, Subdistrict No. 2 and its water activity enterprise is a subset of the District itself and all contracts entered into by Subdistrict No. 2 and/or its water activity enterprise must be approved by the Board of Directors of the District.

RESOLUTION

NOW, THEREFORE, be it resolved by the Board of Directors of the Rio Grande Water Conservation District that:

1. The Subdistrict No. 2 Enterprise Board has previously authorized Enterprise staff and consultants to request a loan in the amount of two million two hundred fifty thousand dollars ($2,250,000.00); and,

2. The Board of Directors, acting for and on behalf of Subdistrict No. 2 and its water activity enterprise hereby accepts the terms of said loan as provided by the Colorado Water Conservation Board and authorizes the acceptance of the loan on behalf of the Enterprise.

RESOLVED this 21st day of April, 2026, at the office of the Rio Grande Water Conservation District, 8805 Independence Way, Alamosa, CO.

ATTEST:

Zeke Ward

Secretary

BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE RIO GRANDE WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT

Cory Ahgel

President

RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE RIO GRANDE WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT

(To Affirm the Resolution to Apply for a Loan from the Colorado Water Conservation Board)

RECITALS

WHEREAS, the Rio Grande Water Conservation District was created pursuant to section 37-48-102, C.R.S.; and,

WHEREAS, pursuant to section 37-48-108, C.R.S., the Rio Grande Water Conservation District is authorized to establish special improvement districts; and,

WHEREAS, pursuant to the request of certain water users in the Alamosa-La Jara Response Area and section 37-48-123, the District filed a Petition to establish Special Improvement District No. 6 of the Rio Grande Water Conservation District ("Subdistrict No. 6") in the District Court, Conejos County, and the District approved said petition on October 4, 2018; and,

WHEREAS, Subdistrict No. 6 as a local government entity is authorized to establish a water enterprise pursuant to Article 45.1 of Title 37 of the Colorado Revised Statutes and Subdistrict No. 6 has established such enterprise; and,

WHEREAS, the Enterprise is authorized to borrow money and incur indebtedness pursuant to section 37-48-105(1)(c), C.R.S.; and,

WHEREAS, the Board of Managers of Subdistrict No. 6 previously directed Enterprise staff and consultants to pursue and apply for a loan from the Colorado Water Conservation Board in the amount of two million two hundred fifty thousand dollars ($2,250,000.00); and,

WHEREAS, the Board of Managers, after consultation with Enterprise Staff and consultants determined its current fee structure and revenue is sufficient to meet the repayment terms of such a loan; and,

WHEREAS, Enterprise staff and consultants did apply for such loan and such loan application was approved by the Colorado Water Conservation Board; and,

WHEREAS, the Enterprise Board has affirmed the request to apply for and approve such loan from the Colorado Water Conservation Board by written resolution; and,

WHEREAS, Subdistrict No. 6 and its water activity enterprise is a subset of the District itself and all contracts entered into by Subdistrict No. 6 and/or its water activity enterprise must be approved by the Board of Directors of the District.

R E S O L U T I O N

NOW, THEREFORE, be it resolved by the Board of Directors of the Rio Grande Water Conservation District that:

1. The Board has previously authorized Enterprise staff and consultants to request a loan in the amount of two million two hundred fifty thousand dollars ($2,250,000.00); and,

2. The Board of Directors, acting for and on behalf of Subdistrict No. 6 and its water activity enterprise hereby accepts the terms of said loan as provided by the Colorado Water Conservation Board and authorizes the acceptance of the loan on behalf of the Enterprise.

RESOLVED this 21st day of April, 2026, at the office of the Rio Grande Water Conservation District, 8805 Independence Way, Alamosa, CO.

ATTEST:

Zeke Ward

Secretary

BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE RIO GRANDE WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT

Cleo Hagel

President

Bureau of Reclamation Report to the Rio Grande Water Conservation District

April 21, 2026

OPERATIONS

Water salvage operations continued as recommended by the Project Operating Committee to meet Rio Grande Compact and mitigation obligations.

For the YTD (1/1/2026 to 03/31/2026)

A total of 638 AF was delivered to the Alamosa National Wildlife Refuge through CHO1 & 2.

A total of 76 AF was delivered to the Blanca Wildlife Habitat Area through CHO4.

Delivery to the Rio Grande has been 1,852 AF.

San Luis Lake has water at an Elevation of 7509.7 ft.

San Luis Lake (1/1/2026 to 3/31/2026)

San Luis Lake	San Luis Lake Elevation	7509.7 ft. MSL
	Storage	243 acre-feet
	TDS	N/A ppm TDS

Project Deliveries: (1/1/2026 to 3/31/2026)

Deliveries to:	Rio Grande—total	1,852** acre-feet
	Alamosa National Wildlife Refuge—total	638 acre-feet
	Blanca Wildlife Habitat Area—total	76* acre-feet
	San Luis Lake—total	0.0 acre-feet
	Head Lake (West)	0.0 acre-feet
	Total Deliveries as of March 31, 2025	**2,566** acre-feet**

***Preliminary totals subject to review*
**Includes 76 AF of exchange with BLM Treasure Pass Trans-Mountain water stored in Beaver Reservoir (Winter Flow Program release-83 AF total exchanged)*

MAINTENANCE BRANCH

Well rehabilitation operations were completed for 18 salvage wells in 2025, and 10 new pumps were installed. This year to date, 5 salvage wells have been rehabilitated and 1 new pump installed. Weed management continued at canal check structures. Blade work continued on lateral roads and canal berms. Preventative maintenance on project features is ongoing.

WATER LABORATORY

A total of 593 samples were collected from the Closed Basin Project during the period of October 1, 2025, through March 31, 2026.

Total Dissolved Solids at the Outlet was an average of 296 mg/L for the period.