

**SPECIAL MEETING OF THE BOARD OF MANAGERS
OF SPECIAL IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT #1
OF THE RIO GRANDE WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT
April 4, 2019, 2:00 p.m.
Rio Grande Water Conservation District Conference Room
Alamosa, Colorado 81101**

Present by Telephone: Brian Brownell, President; Carla Worley, Vice-President; Mike Mitchell, Secretary/Treasurer; Jamie Hart, BOM; Sheldon Rockey, BOM; Asier Artaechevarria, BOM; Chris Miner, BOM; Miguel A. Diaz, BOM; Jake Burris, BOM; Tony Holcomb, BOM and Brian David, Ex-Officio

Staff and Consultants: Pete Ampe, Hill & Robbins P.C., Linda Ramirez, Program Assistant; Clinton Phillips, Davis Engineering, Cleave Simpson, General Manager, Tim Carden, Chris Ivers, Michael Carson and April Mondragon, Administrative Assistant.

Guests: Deb Sarason, Greg Higel, Sean Toner, Mike Kruse, Dee Greeman, Clay Mitchell, Dan Davis, Royce Nickel, Chris Trimble, C. Yund, Gene Ensz, Dale Bartee, Chad Spearman, Mark Bowlin, Patrick O'Neil, Willie Hofner, Ben Schmidt.

Meeting Called to Order

President Brownell called the meeting to order at 2:09 p.m. There was a quorum.

Mike Mitchell Recognition

The Board honored Mike Mitchell for his service on the Board of Managers. President Brownell and, President of the Rio Grande Water Conservation District Board of Directors Greg Higel presented Mr. Mitchell with an appreciation plaque. Mr. Mitchell highlighted his years of service and wished the Board good luck in the future.

Approval of the Agenda

President Brownell added an update from the budget committee to the agenda and asked for approval of the Agenda. Jamie Hart requested an addition to the agenda to review the request from Kyler Brown. A motion was made by Jamie Hart to approve the agenda with additions. The motion was seconded by Miguel Diaz and unanimously approved.

Approval of the 2019 Annual Replacement Plan

President Brownell asked for any questions, comments or discussion on the Annual Replacement Plan. Pete Ampe reported Marisa sent out a highlight of the Annual Replacement Plan and stated Marisa worked with Deb Sarason at Division of Water Resources to shorten the report and make it more readable. Mr. Ampe provided an overview of the Annual Replacement Plan. The Board as well as the audience were given the opportunity to ask questions and make comments regarding the Annual Replacement Plan. Dan Davis questioned if the pumping reduction in Saguache was due to the Hemp industry. Clinton Phillips reported seeing the effects of pumping and has predicted less pumping with more recharge.

A motion was made by Carla Worley to approve the Annual Replacement Plan as presented. The motion was seconded by Miguel Diaz and unanimously approved.

Action Items

President Brownell asked for action Items.

• ***SRS Inclusion Agreement for 2019***

Jamie Hart reported asking Dee Greeman to provide a report showing what the farm unit for SRS would look like if they were in the Subdistrict in order to determine what would be fair to the people already in the Subdistrict who have been paying fees. Mr. Hart stated the Subdistrict would be asking SRS to pay the fees which they agreed to. Dee Greeman stated SRS is willing to do whatever it takes to be allowed to join the Subdistrict. A discussion was held on SRS not being able to lease credits as well as how and where the Midland Ditch shares owned by SRS would benefit the Subdistrict.

A motion was made by Jamie Hart to allow SRS to contract into Subdistrict No. 1 for three (3) years, with the agreement they would not lease out any surface water credits they generate, and would pay any and all back fees. The motion was seconded by Sheldon Rockey and unanimously approved.



- **Subdistrict No. 2 and Subdistrict No. 3 Water Lease**

President Brownell asked for Subdistrict No. 2 and Subdistrict No. 3 Water Lease. Chris Ivers presented the Board with Subdistricts No. 2 and 3 proposal as well as a call analysis. Mr. Ivers stated the proposal would be beneficial for everyone and added it could help Subdistrict No. 1 get to where they need to be. Discussion was held regarding the cost of the water Subdistrict No. 1 incurred as well as storage costs. Cleave Simpson proposed Subdistrict No. 1 lease water to Subdistricts No. 2 and 3 for the current variable fee of \$90.

A motion was made by Mike Mitchell to lease water to Subdistrict's No. 2 and 3 at the current variable fee rate of \$90 per acre ft.

Discussion was held on the amount of water and structuring the memorandum of understanding with flexibility.

The motion was seconded by Jamie Hart and passed with ten (10) votes in favor and one vote (1) against.

- **New Fallow Contracts**

Linda Ramirez reported receiving two (2) potential new Fallow Contracts, one from Southern Colorado Farms for two (2) fields totaling 240 acres and another from Miller Coors for three (3) fields totaling 380 acres.

A motion was made by Mike Mitchell to approve both Fallow Contracts. The motion was seconded by Miguel Diaz

Discussion was held on if allowing the new contracts would properly follow the current rules. Pete Ampe read from the rules and regulations regarding fallow contracts.

Mike Mitchell withdrew his motion, Miguel Diaz withdrew his second.

A motion was made by Mike Mitchell to approve the Miller Coors Fallow Contract. The motion was seconded by Miguel Diaz and unanimously approved.

A motion was made by Mike Mitchell to preapprove two (2) quarters for two (2) years for the Southern Colorado Farms Fallow Contract. The motion was seconded by Jamie Hart and unanimously approved.

Other Director Reports/Comments/Questions

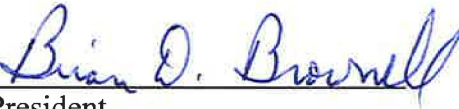
President Brownell asked for other Director reports, comments or questions. Carla Worley voiced concern on how the budget committee meetings were being conducted. Ms. Worley suggested having the meetings in a small setting or have the meetings with everyone. Ms. Worley also provided the Board with an update from the last budget meeting. The Board agreed to work on conducting the Budget Meetings with more structure. Jamie Hart suggested moving forward and providing the requested letter of recommendation by Patrick O'Neil to the group of individuals who would like to bring in a facilitator. President Brownell requested a written request describing the program and what they are requesting from the Board.

Next Meeting

President Brownell announced the next meeting would be June 4, 2019 at 1:30 p.m.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 4:08 p.m.



President



Secretary/Treasurer

