# QUARTERLY MEETING OF THE BOARD OF MANAGERS OF SPECIAL IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT #1 OF THE RIO GRANDE WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT

By Zoom Teleconference

December 2, 2020 at 2:30 p.m.

**Present:** Brian Brownell, President; Carla Worley, Vice-President; Jamie Hart, BOM; Miguel A. Diaz, BOM; Sheldon Rockey, BOM; Clay Mitchell, BOM; Chris Miner, BOM; Les Alderete, BOM; Tony Holcomb, BOM; Asier Artaechevarria, BOM; and Mike Kruse, Ex-Officio.

**Staff and Consultants:** Pete Ampe and David Robbins, Hill & Robbins P.C.; Marisa Fricke, Program Manager; Linda Ramirez, Program Assistant; Clinton Phillips, Davis Engineering; Michael Carson, Data Base Administrator; and April Mondragon, Administrative Assistant.

**Guests:** Deb Sarason, David Hofmann, Peggy Godfrey, David Warsh, Brian Rue, Dale Bartee, Patrick McDermott, and Steve Keller.

# **Meeting Called to Order**

President Brownell called the meeting to order at 6:47 p.m. A quorum was present.

#### Approval of the Agenda

President Brownell asked for amendments or an approval of the agenda. Carla Worley asked to add a public comment period at the end of the agenda. A motion was made by Sheldon Rockey to approve the agenda as amended. The motion was seconded by Clay Mitchell and unanimously approved.

# **Approval of the Consent Agenda**

President Brownell asked for the approval of the consent agenda items:

• September 1, 2020- Quarterly Meeting Minutes

A motion was made by Clay Mitchell to approve the consent agenda as presented. The motion was seconded by Miguel Diaz and unanimously approved.

# Program Manager's Report

President Brownell asked for the Program Manager's report. Marisa Fricke reported she and staff have been working to finalize the 2020 groundwater pumping numbers, provided the RCPP funding deadline and reported they continue to work with individuals to get their well covered in order to be in compliance with Groundwater Rules before the March 1<sup>st</sup> deadline. Ms. Fricke reported the depletions to the river changed due to updating the response function. She stated the Subdistrict would now make replacements using Closed Basin Project water. Ms. Fricke presented the Subdistrict No. 1 monthly net stream depletions for plan year; she explained the largest impacts and provided the acre feet amount the Subdistrict would begin making replacements on.

# Attorney's Report

President Brownell asked for the attorney's report. Pete Ampe reported working with staff on calculating fees and wells contracting into the Subdistrict. Mr. Ampe provided an update on Subdistrict No's. 2-6 and reported the deadline to get wells covered by a Subdistrict is approaching.

### **Engineer's Report**

President Brownell asked for the engineer's report. Clinton Phillips presented the change in the unconfined aquifer storage study update. He provided the change for November 2020 and current aquifer level and current 5-year average level. Mr. Phillips provided the acre foot of recovery needed by the end of the current plan.

#### **New Business**

President Brownell asked for new business. There were none.

# **Action Items**

President Brownell asked for action items.

#### A. Well Participation Contracts.

Marisa Fricke provided the number of well participation contracts the Subdistrict has received. She highlighted whether the wells are small capacity or large capacity as well as the names of the

owners. Ms. Fricke confirmed the decreed use of the wells has been reviewed and her recommendation is to accept the contracts. She reported the wells are within the Subdistrict boundaries and were not included in the beginning but are now seeking to come into compliance of the groundwater rules. Ms. Fricke also reported their coverage would not begin until the start of the next Annual Replacement Plan year May 1<sup>st</sup>, 2021.

A motion was made by Sheldon Rockey to approve the seven (7) contract wells as recommended by Marisa Fricke. The motion was seconded by Tony Holcomb. Asier Artaechevarria recused himself from voting. The motion passed.

### B. Follow up from work session.

Marisa Fricke provided an update from the work session held at the Beaver Youth Camp in Southfork and thanked the individuals and owners of the Beaver Creek Youth Camp. Ms. Fricke presented the Subdistrict No. 1 strategic plan the Subdistrict has been working on since 2018. She recognized all of the hard work that has been done and highlighted the progress the Subdistrict has made. Ms. Fricke reported reviewing the Subdistrict's challenges and goals and how to react and adapt. They also took time to understand what will happen if the Subdistrict's ARP is not approved, what it means to schools, communities and families. Ms. Fricke reported the consensus of the Board of Manager's was to begin the process to change the Plan of Water Management. She presented a graph that showed how water can be the regulating authority. Ms. Fricke reported on the urgency of the matter and that the Subdistrict is not guaranteed the full timeline of the plan. She stated more discussions need to be had and would seek input from the community. Discussion was held on how to move forward to begin the process of changing the Plan of Water Management. A work session was scheduled for December 8, 2020 at 10:00 a.m. to discuss changing the Plan of Water Management and discuss the Well Permit program.

### **Board of Manager's Open Discussion**

President Brownell asked for Board of Mangers open discussion. Carla Worley reported on a request from the Rio Grande Canal regarding weeds in the ditches and who is responsible for the clean up of the weeds. Marisa Fricke reported she would look into the issue.

#### **Next Meeting**

President Brownell asked for the next meeting. A work session was scheduled for December 8, 2020 at 10:00 a.m., the next quarterly meeting is scheduled for March 2, 2021 at 1:30 p.m.

#### Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 7:24 p.m.

Brian D. Browll

President

Clayfor M. Mathelet

Secretary/Treasurer