SPECIAL MEETING OF THE BOARD OF MANAGERS
OF SPECIAL IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT #1
OF THE RIO GRANDE WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT
January 22, 2026 at 1:30 p.m.
8805 Independence Way, Alamosa, CO 81101
And by Zoom Teleconference

Present: Jake Burris, President; Clay Mitchell, Vice-President; Michael Jones, Secretary/Treasurer; Tony Holcomb, BOM; Chris Miner, BOM; Brett Hemmerling, BOM; Patrick Brownell, BOM; Miguel A. Diaz, BOM; Jamie Hart, BOM; James Cooley, BOM; and Sheldon Rockey, Ex-Officio Member.

Staff and Consultants: Pete Ampe, Hill & Robbins P.C.; Quinton Norris, Program Manager; Linda Ramirez, Program Assistant; Clinton Phillips, Davis Engineering; Michael Carson, Database Administrator; Kylie Gregg, Office Manager; and, April Mondragon, Administrative Assistant.

Guests: Deb Sarason, William Myers, Andrea Rue, Brian Rue, Jessica Valdez, Roger Christensen, Mike Kruse, Jan Klecker, Pam Klecker, Randy Kemp, Ryan Rhoads, Les Alderete.

Meeting Called to Order
President Burris called the meeting to order at 1:31 p.m. A quorum was present. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Approval of the Agenda
President Burris asked to add a discussion regarding Senate Bill contracts under regular business after public comment. He asked for any other changes, additions or approval of the agenda. A motion was made by Clay Mitchell to approve the agenda as amended. The motion was seconded by Michael Jones and unanimously approved.

Public Comment
President Burris asked for public comment. There was none.

Discussion and Possible Action Items
President Burris asked for the discussion and possible action items.

- *Senate Bill Contract Discussion*

Quinton Norris reported receiving quite a few Senate Bill contract requests in December. He stated a couple of them should be approved and a few might not be approved due to the shortage of funding from the Senate Bill. Mr. Norris asked the Board if they would want to consider providing funding. Discussion was held on honoring the Subdistrict No. 1 incentive and the shortfall being Senate Bill funding. The discussion was tabled.

- *Discussion and Possible Approval of 2026 Fallow Program*

President Burris reported having a Resolution that would allow the Subdistrict to move forward with the Fallow Program under the parameters set last year. He highlighted a new idea developed by Michael Jones for the Fallow Program. Michael Jones described an idea to move away from per acre foot to per acre foot saved per Farm Plan, and be paid for pumping less. Discussion was held on how to apply a ranking system, the amount of water saved, and the building and accounting of the program.

A motion was made by James Cooley to keep the same Fallow Program as last year and use all the money for Fallow and not fund the Senate Bill program shortfall. The motion was seconded by Chris Miner.

Discussion was held on the amount of incentive match and the amount of short fall on the Senate Bill program contract. President Burris asked that one motion only address the Senate Bill program shortfall and not include the Fallow Program.

The motion was amended by James Cooley to not fund the Senate Bill program contract shortfall. The motion was seconded by Chris Miner.

Mike Kruse described how signing up for CREP would be another option for the Senate Bill program contract being discussed if the Board decides to not fund the shortfall.

The motion was voted on, Miguel Diaz opposed, all others were in favor, the motion passed.
A motion was made by James Cooley to keep the same Fallow Program as last year, and look into Michael Jones' new fallow program for next year. The motion was seconded by Chris Miner.

Tony Holcomb and Clay Mitchell commented on the timing being short but would like to give the new program a shot. Michael Jones reported on the change of strategy brought in by the new program and the metric to pump less water.

The motion was restated by President Burris: to move forward with the Resolution as written for the same parameters as the Fallow Program last year with the funding amount of $2 million dollars. The motion was voted on, Tony Holcomb and Clay Mitchell opposed, all others were in favor, the motion passed.

- *Appeals*

Quinton Norris went over the Jared Myers appeal, refund request and staff recommendation to approve.

A motion was made by Jamie Hart to approve the Jared Myers appeal. The motion was seconded by James Cooley and unanimously approved.

Mr. Norris went over the Klecker Ranch appeal, request to move credits from one farm plan to another, and staff recommendation of Board discretion.

A motion was made by Jamie Hart to approve the Klecker Ranch appeal. The motion was seconded by Chris Miner and unanimously approved.

Mr. Norris went over the Molson Coors appeal to add Farmers Union shares/refund request, and staff recommendation to approve.

A motion was made by Jamie Hart to approve the Molson Coors appeal. The motion was seconded by Clay Mitchell and unanimously approved.

Mr. Norris went over the Al Damazio appeal, refund request and staff recommendation to approve.

A motion was made by Jamie Hart to approve the Al Damazio appeal. The motion was seconded by Clay Mitchell and unanimously approved.

Board of Managers Open Discussion

President Burris asked for Board of Managers open discussion. The Board discussed needing to start the process of developing the new Fallow Program for next year earlier. Miguel Diaz asked to see how the past Fallow Programs have benefited the Subdistrict. Mike Kruse asked if he would qualify for the Fallow Program on a circle outside the Subdistrict boundaries, but within the SD1 Response Area. President Burris responded the circle inside the response area would qualify.

Next Meeting

The next quarterly meeting is scheduled for March 3, 2026 at 1:30 p.m.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 3:09 p.m.

President

Secretary/Treasurer

RESOLUTION
SPECIAL IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT NO. 1 OF THE
RIO GRANDE WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT
BOARD OF MANAGERS

Creating the One-Year Ranked Fallow Program

WHEREAS, as part of its approved Plan of Water Management, Special Improvement District No. 1 of the Rio Grande Water Conservation District (Subdistrict No. 1) is required to recover and maintain the unconfined aquifer under Subdistrict No. 1 to certain levels; and,

WHEREAS, Subdistrict No. 1 has funded numerous short- and long-term conservation programs to reduce consumptive use of groundwater and to assist in recovering the unconfined aquifer to meet the requirements of the Plan of Water Management; and,

WHEREAS, Water Division No. 3 remains in a long-term reduction in water supplies; and,

WHEREAS, despite the efforts and financial support of Subdistrict No. 1, the unconfined aquifer has not recovered to the level as required by the Plan of Water Management; and,

WHEREAS, Subdistrict No. 1 remains committed to meet the terms of the Plan of Water Management; and,

WHEREAS, the Subdistrict No. 1 desires to introduce another conservation program to assist in meeting those terms; and,

WHEREAS, Subdistrict No. 1 has determined that the temporary reduction in groundwater withdrawals is needed; and,

WHEREAS, Subdistrict No. 1 desires to create a program to temporarily reduce groundwater withdrawals to assist in the recovery of the unconfined aquifer.

RESOLUTION

NOW, THEREFORE, be it resolved by the Board of Managers of Special Improvement District No. 1, acting by and through its Water Activity Enterprise, that:

1. Subdistrict No. 1 hereby establishes a One-Year Ranked Fallow Program under the following terms:

1.1 Interested Subdistrict Members ("Producers") may offer a field to fallow to verifiably reduce groundwater withdrawals by Subdistrict Wells during the 2026 ARP Year.

1.2 Producers who wish to participate in the Program must submit a sealed bid prior to the program deadline. The bid will be on a form provided by the Subdistrict and will include, at a minimum, the legal description of the location of the well and the place of use of the well, the annual ground water withdrawals from 2021 through 2025, inclusive, the WDID for the well, any permit number or decree name and case number.

1.3 The Board of Managers of Subdistrict No. 1 will evaluate and rank each bid to determine the potential benefit to the Subdistrict per dollar spent by the Subdistrict. That ranking will be as follows:

1.3.1 The total offered price will be divided by the average pumping over the previous 5 years to produce a base ranking number that is the dollars per acre-foot of reduced pumping.

1.3.2 If applicant plans on irrigating during the contract term, the amount projected to be used to irrigate (i.e. 3 inches on 120 acres= 30 acre-feet) will be subtracted from the 5-year average that is used to calculate the cost per acre-foot.

1.3.3 The fee acres that are to be fallowed will be subtracted from the cost per acre-foot ranking number, resulting in a final total rank number.

1.3.4 Subdistrict Staff will rank the bids based on that dollar per acre-foot, with the less cost per acre-foot being ranked higher.

1.3.5 The lower number in the final total rank is the better ranking.

2. Participation in the Program is limited to the then available funds of Subdistrict No. 1.

3. Subdistrict No. 1 will rely primarily, but not solely, on the final rank number in determining which offers to accept. Subdistrict No. 1 may, in its sole discretion, also consider the following:

3.1 Cropping history.

3.2 Soil conservation plan for the dried-up acres

3.3 If the groundwater rights were historically part of a voluntary or formal conservation program.

3.7 Consultation with community members or others with specialized knowledge.

3.8 Such other factors as the Board may, in its sole discretion, consider to be relevant.

4. Subdistrict No. 1 reserves the right to reject any offer in its sole discretion.

5. Interested parties must submit an irrevocable offer on a form provided by Subdistrict No. 1 and said form must be received by Subdistrict No. 1 before 4:00 pm on February, 24th, 2026.

6. Subdistrict No. 1 will evaluate the offers and provide notice of offer acceptance prior to March 14th, 2026.

7. If accepted, payment under this program will be made on or before December 1st, 2026.

I certify that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of a resolution adopted by the members of the Board of Managers of Special Improvement District No. 1 in a special meeting assembled in Alamosa, Colorado on the 22nd day of January, 2026 at which a quorum was present.

Jake Burris
President

Attest:

Michael Jones
Secretary/Treasurer