

**RIO GRANDE WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT
BOARD OF DIRECTORS QUARTERLY MEETING
April 16, 2019 at 10:00 A.M.
RIO GRANDE WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT CONFERENCE ROOM**

Present: Greg Higel, President; Brian David, Vice-President; Dwight Martin, Secretary/Treasurer; Peggy Godfrey, Director; Mike McClure, Director; Cory Off, Director; Bill McClure, Director; Mike Kruse, Director; and Armando Valdez, Director.

Staff and Consultants: David Robbins, Hill & Robbins. P.C.; Cleave Simpson, General Manager; Cheryl Anderson, Office Manager; Clinton Phillips, District Engineer; Allen Davey, District Engineer; Chris Ivers, Deputy Program Manager; Amber Pacheco, Program Manager, Rose Vanderpool, Program Assistant; Tim Carden, HCP Coordinator/Program Assistant; Michael Carson, Database Administrator, and April Mondragon, Administrative Assistant.

Guests: Brenda Felmler, Rio de la Vista, Sean Toner, Becky Brooks, Christine Arbogast, Erin Minks, Adam Moore, George Whitten, Richard Roberts, Chris Shaffer, Patrick Moran, Pam Rice, Bob Kimbrough, Emma Ressor, Pat McDermott, Ryan Unterreiner, Bethany Howell, Allen Law, Judy Lopez, Nicole Langley, Laura Archuleta, Cathy Garcia, Dustin Sharrer, Barbara Kruse, Russ Plummer, Ann McCoy Harold, Daryl Kohut, Leah Weaver and Heather Greenway.

CALL TO ORDER

President Greg Higel called the meeting to order at 10:04 a.m. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited. There was a quorum present for the meeting.

INTRODUCTION OF STAFF & GUESTS

President Higel welcomed all those present and asked for introductions.

APPROVE AGENDA

President Higel asked for any changes or additions to the agenda. President Higel asked to add Resolutions under seven (7) and eight (8), and Cleave Simpson added under Election of Officers the reappointment of Ex-Officio members of each Subdistrict. A motion was made by Dwight Martin to approve the agenda as presented. The motion was seconded by Cory Off and unanimously approved.

APPOINT NEW DIRECTOR FROM ALAMOSA COUNTY

President Higel asked for the appoint of the new director from Alamosa County. David Robbins swore in Mike Kruse from Alamosa County.

- *Reappointment of Rio Grande Water Conservation District Board of Directors Cory Off and Bill McClure*

President Higel asked for the reappointment of Cory Off and Bill McClure. Cleave Simpson stated no action was needed, confirmation was received from Rio Grande County and Saguache County Commissioners for the reappointment to serve as Directors. David Robbins stated they both had already taken the oath.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

President Higel asked for the election of officers and turned the meeting over to David Robbins. Mr. Robbins opened up the floor for nominations for President currently held by Greg Higel. A motion was made by Cory Off to nominate Greg Higel for President. The motion was seconded by Brian David. Dwight Martin made a motion for nominations to cease. The motion was seconded by Cory Off and unanimously approved. Greg Higel was nominated President by acclamation.

The meeting was turned over to President Higel. President Higel asked for nominations for Vice President currently held by Brian David. A motion was made by Dwight Martin to nominate Brian David for Vice President. The motion was seconded by Cory Off and unanimously approved. Brian David was elected Vice President by acclamation.

President Higel asked for nominations for Secretary/Treasurer currently held by Dwight Martin. Bill McClure asked for clarification on the Secretary/Treasurer position and the responsibilities.

Further discussion was held and Mr. McClure requested a more detailed discussion at the next meeting.

A motion was made by Cory Off to nominate Dwight Martin by acclamation for Secretary/Treasurer. The motion was seconded by Peggy Godfrey and unanimously approved. Dwight Martin was elected Secretary/Treasurer by acclamation.

Cleave Simpson provided the Board with a list of each Subdistrict Board Members and Ex-Officio Members (copy attached). Mr. Simpson asked if everyone was still comfortable with each Ex-Officio. A motion was made by Peggy Godfrey to retain the current Ex-Officio members of Subdistricts No. 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 and 6. The motion was seconded by Cory Off and unanimously approved.

APPROVE THE CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS

President Higel asked for a motion to approve the consent agenda items:

- January 15, 2019- Quarterly Meeting Minutes
- January 15, 2019-Executive Session Meeting Minutes

A motion was made by Cory Off to approve the consent agenda items. The motion was seconded Peggy Godfrey and unanimously approved.

David Robbins read three (3) Resolutions into record (copies attached):

A motion was made by Armando Valdez to accept the Resolution for Carl Worley. Peggy Godfrey seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved.

A motion was made by Armando Valdez to accept the Resolution for Floyd Getz. Dwight Martin seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved.

A motion was made by Peggy Godfrey to accept the Resolution for Ruth Heidi. Dwight Martin seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved.

PUBLIC COMMENT

President Higel asked for Public Comment. There was no public comment.

FINANCIAL REPORT

President Higel asked for the Financial report. Cleave Simpson presented the financial report, he stated Subdistrict's No. 2 and 3 now have a revenue inflow. Bill McClure requested to see all funds including the Subdistricts on the balance sheet. David Robbins stated he and staff will gather the requested information and distribute to the Board in order to have a detailed discussion in the near future. Mr. Simpson also provided the profit loss budget vs actual revenues and expenditures and pointed out a few note worthy items. Mr. Simpson provided an update on the Doppler Radar as well as Diamond Springs monitoring.

A motion was made by Bill McClure to approve the financials. The motion was seconded by Peggy Godfrey and unanimously approved.

MANAGER'S REPORT

President Higel asked for the Manager's report. Cleave Simpson updated the Board on his activities since the last meeting (copy of report attached). Mr. Simpson reported on and presented the following:

- Presented to a variety of stake holders, including several ditch companies, county commissioners, among others.
- Mr. Simpson reported conducting interviews and hiring Tim Carden who is the new HCP Coordinator/ Program Technician.

President Higel thanked Mr. Simpson for his report.

PROGRAM MANAGER'S REPORT

President Higel asked for the Program Manager's report. Amber Pacheco reported Subdistrict No. 2 and 3 filed Annual Replacement Plans with the State Engineer and the court and hope to start making replacements by May 1, 2019. Ms. Pacheco stated Subdistrict No.'s 4, 5 and 6 are working on their Plans of Water Management and are close to completion. Ms. Pacheco stated she continues to meet with municipalities and federal government well owners discussing potential contracts.

President Higel thanked Ms. Pacheco for her report.

DISTRICT ENGINEER'S REPORT

President Higel asked for the District's Engineer report. Allen Davey and Clinton Phillips presented a power point update on the groundwater levels of the confined and unconfined aquifer storages. Mr. Phillips showed the confined aquifer sites and pointed out the model layers and amounts. Mr. Phillips reported being contacted by HRS regarding the modeling wells in the upper Rio Grande area and stated they will move forward with the new monitoring wells.

President Higel thanked Allen Davey and Clinton Phillips for the report.

DISTRICT ATTORNEY'S REPORT-DAVID ROBBINS

President Higel asked for the District Attorney's report. David Robbins recognized Dustin Sharrer from Senator Gardner's for being very helpful to the District. Mr. Robbins reported on another version of the Waters of the United States rule and stated the he has filed comments on behalf of the District. Mr. Robbins stated Judge Swift entered her ruling approving the Rules and Regulations that were adopted by the State Engineer. Mr. Robbins stated as long as there are no challenges to the rules, they will go into effect. Mr. Robbins reported on contract exchanges and the push to reduce water technics, as well as the Law of the Rio Grande conference.

President Higel thanked David Robbins for his report.

KOGOVSEK AND ASSOCIATES-CHRISTINE ARBOGAST

President Higel asked for Kogovsek and Associates report. Christine Arbogast was present and updated the Board on the Colorado Water Congress and the two new delegate members. Ms. Arbogast stated the Colorado Water Congress priority is infrastructure however no solution yet on out how to pay for it. Ms. Arbogast reported on the new Secretary of the Interior, the Farm Bill implementation and the Closed Basin appropriation issues.

President Higel thanked Cleave Simpson for reading the report.

STEALEY II-BECKY BROOKS

President Higel asked for the Stealey II report. Becky Brooks was present and gave an update on the General Assembly and the members. Ms. Brooks reported on the funding for water issues, severance tax, climate change bill as well as the bills associated with water.

President Higel thanked Ms. Brooks for her report.

SENATOR GARDNER'S OFFICE

President Higel asked for Senator Gardner's office report. Dustin Sharrer was present and reported on the Clean Water Act as well as the 2018 Farm Bill. Mr. Sharrer touched on USDA and HEMP as well as the CREP program and stated we should see something soon. Mr. Sharrer stated they are going to try to do another water infrastructure development act bill.

President Higel thanked Mr. Sharrer for her report.

CONGRESSMAN TIPTON'S OFFICE

President Higel asked for Congressman Tipton's office report. Brenda Felmlee reported attending recover meetings with NRCS in connection with the Costilla County burn scar. Ms. Felmlee also stated she has attended some high-water events.

President Higel thanked Ms. Felmlee for her report.

SENATOR BENNET'S OFFICE

President Higel asked for Senator Bennet's Office report. Erin Minks was present and reported Michael Bennet is on the Finance Committee and the AG Committee and was active in getting the Farm Bill to pass. Ms. Minks reminded the Board and audience of the roles Mr. Bennet plays in D.C. on a daily basis. Ms. Minks also reported on the current projects Mr. Bennet is working on like keeping water supplies going in small communities. Ms. Minks also provided an update on CREP signups.

President Higel thanked Ms. Minks for her report.

U.S.B.R. REPORT-CLOSED BASIN OPERATING COMMITTEE UPDATE

President Higel asked for the U.S.B.R./Closed Basin Operating Committee report. Morgan Garcia reported on the activities within the Bureau of Reclamation. Ms. Garcia provided the status of the water salvage operations, storage capacity at San Luis Lakes and the amount of deliveries. Ms. Garcia stated the maintenance crew continues to re-drill and rehab wells as well as maintain equipment and upkeep of the canal. Ms. Garcia also provided an update on the actives in the lab.

George Whitten was present and provided an update on the Closed Basin Operating Committee. Mr. Whitten reported why and where the committee came from and what has been learned.

Rich Roberts provided an update on the day to day operations and the current status of the Closed Basin. Mr. Roberts showed a map of the boundaries of the project and reported how and when the project was constructed as well as how it flows. Mr. Roberts presented some images of the creeks and the Closed Basin to show the changes.

Mr. Higel thanked Ms. Garcia, Mr. Whitten and Mr. Roberts for their reports.

The meeting recessed for lunch at 12:40 p.m. and resumed at 1:45 p.m.

RIO GRANDE NATIONAL FOREST

President Higel asked for the Rio Grande National Forest report. Daryl Kohut introduced himself as the new Hydrologist and stated he would be reporting at future meetings.

Mr. Higel thanked Mr. Kohut for introducing himself.

COLORADO STATE PARKS AND WILDLIFE REPORT

President Higel asked for the Colorado State Parks and Wildlife report. Ryan Unterreiner was present and provided an update on the reservoirs. Mr. Unterreiner stated Trujillo Meadows is filling and will be stocked with fish this year as well as many other reservoirs in the valley. Mr. Unterreiner updated the Board on the dam safety group maintenance projects and reported his agency deadline to notify Water Resources their intentions to comply with ground water rules is approaching and they are working closely with the Subdistricts.

President Higel thanked Mr. Unterreiner for his report

COLORADO STATE FOREST SERVICE

President Higel asked for the Colorado State Forest Service report. Adam Moore provided the Board with the annual Colorado Health of the Forest Report and updated on the insects and diseases in the state. Mr. Moore talked about the beetles and provided the highest location of the bugs. Mr. Moore emphasized protecting our communities and the program CORAP, and he also demonstrated an interactive map.

President Higel thanked Mr. Moore for his report.

GREAT SAND DUNES NATIONAL PARK AND PRESERVE REPORT

President Higel asked for the Great Sand Dunes National Park and Preserve Report. Pam Rice reported the Medano Creek was at about 170% and had reached the parking lot. Ms. Rice stated visitation is down due to being closed most of January, however they are preparing for a very busy season. Ms. Rice reported on the Medano Ranch property acquisition as well as the "dark sky park" designation. Ms. Rice also stated they hope to reintroduce the Rio Grande Cut Throat trout to Sand Creek.

President Higel thanked Ms. Rice for her report.

U.S.G.S REPORT

President Higel asked for the U.S.G.S report. Bob Kimbrough provided a briefing on the U.S.G.S activities in the San Luis Valley and stated he is reporting on behalf of Crystal Brown. Mr. Kimbrough reported on the five program elements, four of which are associated with ground water monitoring and the results from those networks are used by the District Engineer for evaluating and calculating aquifer storage, water level changes and used by consultants for modeling purposes.

President Higel thanked Mr. Kimbrough for his report.

SAN LUIS VALLEY WATER CONSERVANCY DISTRICT REPORT & COLORADO WATER CONSERVATION BOARD REPORT

President Higel asked for the SLV Water Conservancy District report. Heather Dutton was not present however provided the Board with a report via email. (copy attached)

RIO GRANDE HEADWATER RESTORATION PROJECT

President Higel asked for the Rio Grande Headwater Restoration Project report. Emma Ressor reported they were working to finish up a couple of construction projects including the San Luis Valley Canal head gate project, consolidated diversion dam replacement project and preparing for new projects. Ms. Ressor thanked the Colorado Water Conservation Board and the NRCS who helped fund and design some projects. Ms. Ressor also reported on bank stabilization, channel stability, land owner outreach and stream management plan. Ms. Ressor reported they will be teaming up with Headwaters Alliance for their annual fundraiser being held on June 1, 2019.

President Higel thanked Ms. Ressor for her report.

DIVISION ENGINEER'S REPORT

President Higel asked for the Division Engineer's report. Pat McDermott was present and reported on the current water conditions. Mr. McDermott reported the division will soon be interviewing for the new Assistant Division Engineer position and reported hiring a new Deputy Water Commissioner in Saguache Creek. Mr. McDermott stated the division is actively searching for abandoned wells. Mr. McDermott also reported on the conditions at the top of Snow Mesa at Bristol and reported having bi-weekly meetings with David Osborn in connection with the localized flooding threat. Mr. McDermott provided the storage amounts in the reservoirs as well as the forecast for April, May and June. Mr. McDermott also provided an update on the Rules Case and what comes next as well as thanking David Robbins for his role in the case.

President Higel thanked Mr. McDermott for his report.

SALAZAR RIO GRANDE DEL NORTE CENTER

President Higel asked for the Salazar Rio Grande Del Norte Center report. Rio de la Vista was present and reported what the Rio Grande Natural Area is and how it was started. Ms. De La Vista reported on the projects they are focusing on and the partnerships of the initiative. Ms. De La Vista showed a Power Point map of the conservation lands/public lands, the Cultural/Historical Preservation and presented a video on the McIntire Ranch & Mansion as well as the possibilities for restoration. Ms. De La Vista updated the Board on the Interpretation, Signage and Site Developments.

President Higel thanked Ms. De la Vista for her report.

EDUCATION REPORT- BETHANY HOWELL

President Higel asked for the Education report. Bethany Howell reported on the education programs coming up this summer including a rafting trip, water fest, the River Trailer and youth conservation camps. Ms. Howell also reported on a kayaking trip on the Lobato which will allow the students to explore and learn about the watershed for themselves.

President Higel thanked Ms. Howell for her report.

RIO GRANDE INITIATIVE/R.I.G.H.T

President Higel asked for the Rio Grande Headwaters Land Trust/R.I.G.H.T report. Allen Law reported working on three (3) or four (4) conservation easements on the Rio Grande River, one on the Alamosa River as well as a new one in Conejos County. Mr. Law stated they are also working on some up north in Saguache County in the Baca area.

President Higel thanked Mr. Law and Ms. Lopez for the report.

CONSERVATION PROJECT MANAGER FOR COLORADO OPEN LANDS

President Higel asked for the Conservation Project Manager for Colorado Open Lands report. July Lopez reported the Colorado Open Lands has been busy with 2,500 acres of conservation easements in the Culebra basin and hope to close on half of them by the end of the year. Ms. Lopez stated they did an RCPP program with implementations of about \$400,000 of irrigation improvements. Ms. Lopez reported on the conservation easements they are working on currently.

President Higel thanked Ms. Lopez for her report.

OTHER REPORTS-PRESENTATION: ALL THAT INVISIBLE WATER HIDING IN THE SLV

President Higel asked for any other reports. Nicole Langley presented “All that Invisible Water Hiding in the San Luis Valley”. Ms. Langley stated she was approached by some individuals and asked for her ideas on how to help the water situation. Ms. Langley’s presentation included a Power Point which began with “How can we preserve our AG Economy & Way of Life in the San Luis Valley” as well as the “Systems Thinking Entropic System”. Ms. Langley provided the Board with some of the projects and foundations she has been involved with and stated she would like to meet to discuss and explore further. Ms. Langley requested a sponsorship from the Rio Grande Water Conservation District in order to move forward. Cory Off stated he would like to pursue the ideas. Armando Valdez requested to see a scope of the work and the Board agreed another meeting or work session would be needed to discuss further. Cleave Simpson stated he would put together a work session to discuss further.

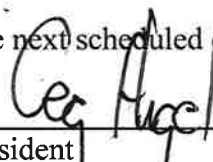
Peggy Godfrey requested a discussion on the Closed Basin presentation. Mr. Simpson stated he would include the discussion at the next work session.

President Higel thanked Nicole Langley for her presentation.

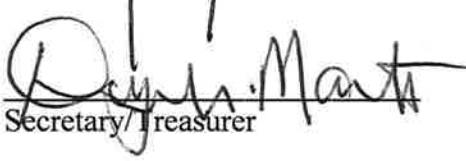
ADJOURN

Meeting was adjourned at 4:25 p.m.

The next scheduled quarterly meeting will be held on July 16, 2019, at 8:00 a.m.



President



Secretary/Treasurer



Transforma
Research
& Design

4-16-19

Mr. Cleave Simpson
Rio Grande Water Conservation District
8805 Independence Way
Alamosa, CO 81101

Dear Cleave,

Today I have given you and your Board a 20-minute introduction to the concepts and principles of the FEW Nexus; on funding from the National Science Foundation which has been awarded to CSU to prepare future scientists in that field; and on the prospect for possibly including the San Luis Valley in the current and future benefits of assesment, mitigation and adaptation which are provided by this proven decision support system.

I have had some conversations and three months of email and phone communication with some of Colorado's top scholars and thought leaders in the field, and several of them have indicated a desire to pursue these discussions further. I therefore would like to meet with you to discuss and explore how best to pursue these ideas and potential opportunities.

These are important developments with perhaps some critical benefits for future water managers and planners in our basin, but I understand from you, and also from Rio, that there is currently nobody in the SLV involved in this field or pursuing these ideas. Because of my education and background as a consultant in whole systems design, I propose that RGWCD initiate a six month scoping and investigation project, supporting and expanding my discussions and explorations of the FEW Nexus and giving these ideas the institutional backing and support that our colleagues at CSU and other organizations deserve.

Let's talk about how to pursue these ideas, decide on a way to proceed, and put together a 6-month budget, based on the goals and outcomes you'd like to see. I also suggest that Adams State University might be interested in partnering or collaborating with this initiative in some way, and, if so, I am ready to pursue perhaps creating a graduate or undergraduate curriculum/program, seeking guidance from our NSF-funded scholars at CSU, that is relevant to the challenges we face.

Thanks so much for the opportunity to bring this to you. I look forward to being your liaison on behalf of this Valley, to positively exploit this exciting new opportunity, and to give our basin's stakeholders and decision makers the backing and support we all need in order to make good things happen.

Sincerely,



Nicole V. Langley

RIO GRANDE WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT

Directors	SD#1	SD#2	SD#3	SD#4	SD#5	SD#6	
<p>Greg Higel * Mike Kruse Dwight Martin Arnanfo Valdez Mike McClure Brian David ** Cory Off Peggy Godfrey Bill McClure</p> <p>* President ** Vice President</p>	<p>Brian Brownell * Carla Worley ** Jamie Hart Tony Holcomb Chris Miner Asier Artachevarria Sheldon Rockey Miguel Diaz Clay Mitchell Jake Burris</p>	<p>SLV Canal Rio Grande Canal SLV Irrigation Billings Ditch Prarie Ditch Groundwater</p>	<p>Karla Shriver * Scot Schaefer Harold Stoeber Eric Hinton ** Mark Deacon Michael Schaefer Gerald Ziegler</p> <p>District 2 At Large District 1 District 3</p>	<p>Leroy Salazar * Nathan Coombs ** Doug Bagwell Sam Vance Warren Crowther Ruben Sandoval Vacant</p> <p>District 3 District 1 District 2 Contracts</p>	<p>Jerry Berry * David Fries ** Dick Blumenheim Ron Bowman Vacant</p> <p>At Large</p>	<p>David Schmittel * George Whitten ** Kit Caldon Dale Gertsberger Corey Hill</p> <p>At Large</p>	<p>Tyler Faucette* Ted Heersink Virgil Valdez** Rodney Archer Gerald Faucette Rodney Reinhardt Kenneth Reynolds Ronald Reinhardt Mario Curto Peter Clark</p> <p>Commonwealth Monte Vista Canal Terrace Irrigation Ala-Lajara Conservancy SLVIWO At Large</p>

RESOLUTION OF THE RIO GRANDE WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT
BOARD OF DIRECTORS IN RECOGNITION OF
RUTH HEIDE

The Rio Grande Water Conservation District Board of Directors sitting at its Regular Quarterly Meeting in Alamosa, Colorado this 16th day of April, 2019 does unanimously adopt and publish this resolution of appreciation for Ruth Heide the editor of the Valley Courier and in doing so does find and resolve as follows:

WHEREAS, Ruth Heide covered the Rio Grande Water Conservation District as a reporter and editor of the Valley Courier for thirty-three (33) years; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Heide provided careful, thoughtful and complete articles on matters of importance to the citizens of the San Luis Valley; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Heide provided invaluable service to the citizens of the San Luis Valley and the water users within the District about the many actions and activities taking place in the San Luis Valley water arena including the effort to defeat the America Water Development Inc. proposal to export water from the Valley; the effort to develop the Great Sand Dunes National Park and Preserve; the effort to develop the Rio Grande Natural Area; and the ongoing efforts to protect the water resources of the San Luis Valley from export and over development; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Heide has covered the efforts of the San Luis Valley community to deal with the management of its groundwater resources including the formation of Sub-districts and the attendant legal issues associated therewith; and

WHEREAS, Ruth Heide has been an invaluable member of the Alamosa community and the community of the San Luis Valley for these many years; and

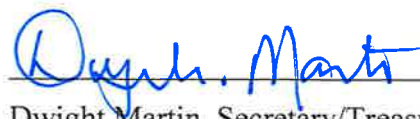
WHEREAS, While Ruth Heide is now retiring from her position at the Courier to continue her battle with cancer and the Board of Directors and staff of the Rio Grande Water Conservation District, including its attorneys and consultants, extend to Ruth Heide the greatest possible sympathy, strength and fondness for her many years of service.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Rio Grande Water Conservation District Board of Directors, sitting in its Regular Quarterly meeting in Alamosa, Colorado on the 16th day of April, 2019, that the Board of Directors of the District and each of its members individually and on behalf of their respective constituencies do hereby record their appreciation, admiration and respect for Ms. Heide.

For the Rio Grande Water Conservation District Attest:



Greg Higel, President



Dwight Martin, Secretary/Treasurer

RESOLUTION OF THE RIO GRANDE WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT
BOARD OF DIRECTORS IN RECOGNITION OF
FLOYD GETZ

The Rio Grande Water Conservation District Board of Directors sitting at its Regular Quarterly Meeting in Alamosa, Colorado this 16th day of April, 2019 does unanimously adopt and publish this resolution of recognition for one of its early Board Members, Mr. Floyd Getz who has recently passed away and in doing so does find and resolve as follows:

WHEREAS, Mr. Floyd Getz was a dedicated and successful member of the San Luis Valley community for many years; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Getz represented Rio Grande County on the Rio Grande Water Conservation District Board of Directors for 13 years from 1971 until 1984; and

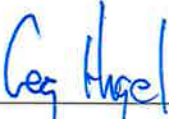
WHEREAS, Mr. Getz was always looking for solutions that would produce the most benefit for the most citizens in the Valley, including strong advocacy for the Closed Basin Project; and

WHEREAS, Even after his departure from the District Board, Mr. Getz remained a vibrant and active member of the San Luis Valley water community remaining always positive and helpful in seeking to resolve the ongoing water resource issues of the Valley; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Getz dedication to the citizens of the San Luis Valley must be perpetually memorialized.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Rio Grande Water Conservation District Board of Directors, sitting in its Regular Quarterly meeting in Alamosa, Colorado on the 16th day of April, 2019, that the Board of Directors of the District and each of its members individually and on behalf of their respective constituencies do hereby record their appreciation, admiration and respect for Mr. Getz.

For the Rio Grande Water Conservation District Attest:



Greg Higel, President



Dwight Martin, Secretary/Treasurer

RESOLUTION OF THE RIO GRANDE WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT
BOARD OF DIRECTORS IN RECOGNITION OF
CARL WORLEY

The Rio Grande Water Conservation District Board of Directors sitting at its Regular Quarterly Meeting in Alamosa, Colorado this 16th day of April, 2019 does unanimously adopt and publish this resolution of recognition for one of its initial Board Members, Mr. Carl Worley who has recently passed away and, in doing so, does find and resolve as follows:

WHEREAS, Mr. Carl Worley was a dedicated and successful member of the San Luis Valley community for many years; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Worley represented Rio Grande County on the Rio Grande Water Conservation District Board of Directors for 4 years from its inception in 1967 until 1971; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Worley was always looking for solutions that would produce the most benefit for the citizens of Rio Grande County and the Valley; and

WHEREAS, Even after his departure from the District Board, Mr. Worley remained a vibrant and active member of the San Luis Valley water community for many years and worked to find solutions to the ongoing water resource issues of the Valley; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Worley dedication to the citizens of Rio Grande County and the San Luis Valley must be perpetually memorialized.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Rio Grande Water Conservation District Board of Directors, sitting in its Regular Quarterly meeting in Alamosa, Colorado on the 16th day of April, 2019, that the Board of Directors of the District and each of its members individually and on behalf of their respective constituencies do hereby record their appreciation, admiration and respect for Mr. Worley.

For the Rio Grande Water Conservation District Attest:



Greg Higel, President



Dwight Martin, Secretary/Treasurer

General Manager Report for BOD meeting 4-16-2019

Cleave Simpson (chronological order since last quarterly meeting in January of 2019)

Participate in SD#1 information seminar, outreach and engagement effort in Monte Vista.

Conduct radio interview on KSPK – update on District efforts.

Update county commissioners on District efforts and water export proposal: Rio Grande, Alamosa, Conejos and Saguache.

Update community organizations on water export proposal: Conejos Clean Water, Sangre De Cristo Acequias Association, City of Alamosa, Rio Grande Basin Roundtable and Inter Basin Compact Committee.

Meet with Kelly Sowards about subdistrict #3.

Meet with DWR on forbearance agreements on Conejos River system.

Present to Rural Electric Cooperative Board on basin challenges.

Participate almost every Monday in Colorado Water Congress State Affairs committee meeting (via video conference). Committee reviews, discusses and at times takes position on pending legislation impacting water rights.

Attend and present to the Colorado Water Congress winter conference in Denver.

Attend and present to various ditch organizations: Prairie, SLV Canal, RG Canal, Commonwealth, Monte Vista Canal, Costilla, Saguache Water Creek Users and Los Sauces Ditch.

Attend Southern Colorado AG Conference in Monte Vista.

Coordinate with consultants and engineers on Diamond Springs monitoring well(s) construction.

Meet with DWR staff on modeling efforts and corresponding response functions.

Work with BLM and staff on cooperative effort to use a portion of their augmentation supply water for stream depletions on the Conejos river system.

Meet with Nicole Langley to hear her discussion and request to present to the District Board a concept around Water, Food and Energy Nexus.

Numerous meetings and discussions with SD#1 and SRS augmentation issues/opportunities.

Multiple subdistrict meetings with all subdistricts.

Interview on KRZA radio promoting State of the Basin Symposium.

Assist with organization and presentation to Rio Grande Water Leaders class – good community interest and participation.

Meet with new AG Phil Weiser to discuss basin issues and concerns, including water export proposal.

Participate in the first State of the Basin Symposium at Adams State.

Conduct interviews and eventually hire new Program Technician to work on HCP, RGNA, Irrigated ag and other items.

Participate in staff training session for new AED/First Aid/CPR.

Multiple sessions with Nathan Coombs and Heather Dutton on basin issues, particularly the water export proposal.

Attend IBCC meeting in Denver – new members and new leadership (Russ George).

Individual meetings with District constituents; Marianna King, Diane Goddard, Pat Murphy, John Schooland, Sheryl Santi, Leroy Martinez, Lynn McCullough and Steve Brady.

Present for Colorado College classes here at the District office – Steve Harris classes he brings to the Valley.

Give a guest lecture at Adams State to Hydrology class.

Attend Closed Basin operating committee meeting to prepare for District Board presentation.

Sponsor and attend groundwater modeling overview class for District staff, presented by Willem Schroder.

Attend and present to the Rio Grande Water Users annual board meeting.

Conference call with University of Washington graduate students on Basin issues.

Present to the Monte Vista Rotary on Basin issues and challenges including water export proposal.

Meet with DWR staff on unique challenges and opportunities to mitigate injurious stream depletions on Conejos River and Alamosa River systems.

Breakfast with Representative Donald Valdez to discuss Basin issues.

Meet with TNC representatives on Basin issues.

Meet with new Colorado AG Commissioner, Kate Greenberg on areas where the department of AG can assist with Basin issues and opportunities.

Discuss Closed Basin Project funding and budget challenges with legal counsel and Project staff.

Work with students from CU law school on history of water export proposals for the Rio Grande Basin.

Attend and present to the Conejos Water Conservancy District annual meeting.

Special meeting of the Board of Directors to consider ARP's for SD1, SD2 and SD3.



April Mondragon <april@rgwcd.org>

CWCB and SLVWCD Report

1 message

Heather Dutton <heather@slvwcd.org>

Thu, Apr 4, 2019 at 10:51 AM

To: April Mondragon <april@rgwcd.org>, Cleave Simpson <cleave@rgwcd.org>

Hi April,

Below is my report to your Board for their April meeting.

Thanks!

Heather

Hello District Board,

I apologize for missing your meeting. It is always enjoyable to hear the updates from the different speakers and to catch up with everyone. I am currently on my way home from a raft trip in the Grand Canyon, which has been a dream of mine for quite some time!

CWCB Report

A great focus of the CWCB in the last 6 months has been working with stakeholders in the Colorado River Basin to develop plans to manage drought. As supply continues to decline, the 7 Colorado River States and Mexico are engaging in tough conversations to plan future water management through Drought Contingency Plans.

In 2019, the CWCB is proposing one new in-stream flow in the Rio Grande Basin on Carnaro Creek from the confluence of the South and Middle Forks of Carnero Creek to the Mogotas Arroyo. The goal of this appropriation is to maintain existing flows in this reach to protect native fish and current stream conditions. The flow would have a 2019 priority date, so it would be junior to all existing water rights and would not impact their diversions. This is the reach the CWCB staff discussed in their presentation to the District's Board in January.

The CWCB continues to provide funding for water projects in the Valley through grants and loans. I thought it would be helpful and interesting to recap all the funding the Valley has obtained from the CWCB in the last year:

Loans

Low-interest loans have been approved for the San Luis Valley Irrigation District and Trinchera Irrigation District for reservoir rehabilitation projects. The SLV Canal received a loan to repair their headgates.

Grants

Rio Grande Headwaters Land Trust and Colorado Open Lands received grants for conservation easements.

Conejos Water Conservancy District received a grant to update diversion structures.

Trout Unlimited received a grant to mitigate dead trees at Spruce Lakes.

Mineral County Fairgrounds received a grant to improve and pipe their ditch from Willow Creek.

RWEACT received a grant to improve river recreation access.

Sangre de Cristo Asequia Association received a grant to develop education and outreach materials.

Terrace Reservoir Company received a grant to assess the condition of their outlet.

San Luis Valley Water Conservancy District received a grant for a soil moisture probe pilot project.

Subdistrict 1 received a grant to provide telemetry for a portion of the RGWCD monitoring wells.

Rio Grande Headwaters Restoration Project received a grant for the Del Norte Riverfront Project.

Mosca-Hooper Conservation District received a grant to study aquifer recharge zones.

San Luis Valley Water Conservancy District Report

The District continues our regular business of providing augmentation for domestic, municipal, and commercial wells. I anticipate our obligation will be approximately 400 acre-feet in 2019. In 2018, we sold water from storage to Subdistrict #3. If flows from our water rights are significant in 2019, I will work with District staff to make water available for Subdistricts, if needed.

Heather Dutton
Manager, San Luis Valley Water Conservancy District
623 Fourth Street
Alamosa, CO 81101
(719) 589-2230 ex 11
www.slvwcd.org



Rio Grande Water Conservation District

8805 Independence Way • Alamosa, Colorado 81101

Phone: (719) 589-6301 • Fax: (719) 992-2026

Protecting & Conserving San Luis Valley Water

April 16, 2019

Mr. Clay Mitchell
4039 County Road 5 East
Monte Vista, CO 81144

Re: Board of Managers, Subdistrict No. 1

Dear Mr. Mitchell,

On behalf of the Rio Grande Water Conservation District, Board of Directors, I would like to thank you for volunteering to serve on the Board of Managers for Subdistrict No. 1. At a special meeting held on April 12, 2019, the Board of Directors appointed you to the Board of Managers for Subdistrict No. 1.

The Board of Managers are required to meet at least quarterly, special meetings are held as needed. You will be filling the seat formerly held by Mike Mitchell and I would like to thank you on behalf of your neighbors and the citizens of the San Luis Valley for your commitment to public service. I know the Board of Managers looks forward to having you join them and to working with you in solving the water resource problems in the San Luis Valley.

Please don't hesitate to call if you have questions.

Respectfully,

Cleave Simpson
General Manager – Rio Grande Water Conservation District

CC: Marisa Fricke, Linda Ramirez, Brian Brownell, Pete Ampe, Greg Higel



Rio Grande Water Conservation District

8805 Independence Way • Alamosa, Colorado 81101

Phone: (719) 589-6301 • Fax: (719) 992-2026

Protecting & Conserving San Luis Valley Water

April 16, 2019

Mr. Doug Bagwell
P.O. Box 473
Manassa, CO 81141

Re: Board of Managers, Subdistrict No. 3

Dear Mr. Bagwell

On behalf of the Rio Grande Water Conservation District, Board of Directors, I would like to thank you for volunteering to serve on the Board of Managers for Subdistrict No. 3. At a special meeting held on April 12, 2019, the Board of Directors appointed you to the Board of Managers for Subdistrict No. 3.

The Board of Managers are required to meet at least quarterly, special meetings are held as needed. You will be filling the seat formerly held by Jack Gilleland and I would like to thank you on behalf of your neighbors and the citizens of the San Luis Valley for your commitment to public service. I know the Board of Managers looks forward to having you join them and to working with you in solving the water resource problems in the San Luis Valley.

Please don't hesitate to call if you have questions.

Respectfully,

Cleave Simpson

General Manager – Rio Grande Water Conservation District

CC: Amber Pacheco, Leroy Salazar, Pete Ampe



Rio Grande Water Conservation District

10900

8805 Independence Way • Alamosa, Colorado 81101

Phone: (719) 589-6301 • Fax: (719) 992-2026

Protecting & Conserving San Luis Valley Water

REQUEST FOR FUNDING FROM THE RIO GRANDE WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT

This form is provided to allow a request for funding and a detailed explanation of a proposed project request for funding which conserves and protects the water resources of the Rio Grande Basin exclusive of Costilla County and structures associated with water courses within.

1. Name of Project: San Luis Valley Targeted Recharge Project – Pilot Project – Supplemental Funding Request to Deploy Hydraulic Profiling Tool (HPT) for Detailed Well Logging and Hydraulic Conductivity Determination

2. Responsible party or entity: Mosca-Hooper Conservation District

3. Contact information: Patrick O'Neill – Supervisor / Robin Cope – District Manager

4. Date of request: 19 March 2019

5. Location of Project (Legal Description)

GPS Coordinates Easting -105.932222 Northing 37.643371

6. Detailed Description of Proposed Project: Photos attached Yes No X*

*PDF of Hydraulic Profiling Tool description attached.

The following request is made, pending budget modification approval from the Colorado Water Conservation Board related to this request.

Mosca-Hooper Conservation District (MHCD) has secured funding from Colorado Water Conservation Board (CWCB) to fund the drilling of 5 monitoring wells, as part of the Targeted Recharge Project (Electrical Resistivity Imaging) the district is deploying in April 2019. The funding level secured for the wells is \$9,800 from CWCB. MHCD has identified a well driller with equipment capable of retrieving cuttings offering good resolution (approximately 6"), to detail where clay lenses, rock, gravel, and sand are located, for \$10,000.

The same driller has equipment capable of drilling the monitoring wells and deploying a Hydraulic Profiling Tool (HPT), which would offer a near-continuous logging of the pressure required to inject a flow of water into the soil as the probe is advanced into the subsurface, which is reported to offer an excellent indicator of formation permeability. This data can be utilized to then calculate an estimate of hydraulic conductivity, and further transmissivity, of the materials surrounding the monitoring wells. The cost of this method of developing the monitoring wells is estimated to be \$13,500.

To permit the wells dug as monitoring wells, the Division of Water Resources requires a \$100 fee per well. There will be five wells developed to monitoring well standards as part of this project, totaling \$500 to permit all wells accordingly.

MHCD requests Rio Grande Water Conservation District fund \$4,200 towards the project (\$500 permitting fees + \$13,500 well drilling with HPT – \$9,800 grant funds already secured from CWCB), to provide the additional data from each of the monitoring wells which the HPT approach offers and so the wells may be permitted as monitoring wells, for future use by RGWCD within its well monitoring network. Deployment of the HPT could be useful for validating further assumptions of transmissivity currently in use within the Rio Grande Decision Support System for groundwater modeling in the unconfined aquifer in the area surrounding the Targeted Recharge Project test site, and the addition of wells to the monitoring network helpful in gaining resolution relative to response rates for water level changes.

7. Amount of funding requested for proposed project from the RGWCD: \$4,200

8. Total estimated cost of proposed project: \$81,565

9. Cost share partners (if applicable) and amounts of funds to be contributed by each:

Colorado Water Conservation Board	\$43,100
Colorado Healthy Rivers Fund	\$20,265
MillerCoors	\$10,000
Soil Health Services, PBC	\$ 4,000

10. Need for 404 permit required (attached authority) Yes No Covered by Nationwide

11. Approval by District: Amount \$4,200⁰⁰ Date 4-12-19

12. RGWCD General Manager: Approved  Disapproved

13. Date Project Completed: _____

14. Documentation Completed Date: _____

**Bureau of Reclamation Report to the RGWCD
April 16, 2019**

OPERATIONS

Water salvage operations continued as recommended by the Project Operating Committee to meet the Rio Grande Compact, mitigation, and Subdistrict #1 depletion obligations.

A total of 477 AF was made to the Alamosa National Wildlife Refuge through CHO1 & CHO2.

A total of 248 AF was delivered to the Blanca Wildlife Habitat Area through CHO3 & CH04.

Delivery to the Rio Grande for the year to date is 2,410 AF.

San Luis Lake did receive inflow from Big Spring Creek in March. The lake elevation rose 0.4' from 7511.6 to 7512.0 ft.

San Luis Lake (3/31/19)

San Luis Lake	San Luis Lake Elevation	7512.0 ft. MSL
	Storage	1,556 acre-feet
	TDS	3116 ppm TDS

Project Deliveries: (1/1/19 to 3/31/19)

Deliveries to:	Rio Grande—total	2,410* acre feet
	Alamosa National Wildlife Refuge—total	477** acre feet
	Blanca Wildlife Habitat Area—total	248** acre feet
	San Luis Lake—total	0.0 acre feet
	Head Lake (West)	0.0 acre feet
	Total Deliveries as of March 31, 2019	<u>3,135* acre-feet</u>

* Preliminary total. Final delivery total will be determined by CDWR.

**Includes 248 AF exchange delivered to BLM, but credited to USFWS mitigation total.

MAINTENANCE BRANCH

The drill crew is currently redrilling SW058. The rehab crew just finished the rehabilitation of SW037A and moved on to SW042A. The maintenance crew is busy working on Salvage Well vault maintenance, lateral line valve maintenance, canal repairs, heavy equipment maintenance and structure gate equipment maintenance.

Rio Grande Water Conservation District Crew

The RGWCD crew continues to assist with salvage well maintenance, rehabilitation and drilling activities. Other work completed includes blading and mowing all canal berms and lateral access roads, removal of aquatic weeds and sediment from the canal and associated structures, repair and maintenance of right-of-way fences, and repair of erosion along the canal berms. RGWCD staff also assisted in maintenance of vehicles and heavy equipment.

Manager's Work

Division Manager continues to work with RGWCD Management Team to schedule work for the RGWCD maintenance crew.

WATER LABORATORY

A total of 306 samples were collected from the Closed Basin Project during the period of January 1, 2019, through March 31, 2019.

Total Dissolved Solids at the Outlet was an average of 305 ppm for the period.

Lab personnel assisted Operations, Maintenance and Admin groups, as well as local agencies, on various projects.