

**RIO GRANDE WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT
BOARD OF DIRECTORS SPECIAL MEETING
December 9, 2019 at 10:30 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; Bill McClure, Director; Armando
Valdez, Director; Cory Off, Director; and Mike Kruse, Director.

Staff and Consultants: Pete Ampe, Hill & Robbins. P.C. (via telephone); Cleave Simpson,
General Manager; Cheryl Anderson, Office Manager; Amber Pacheco, Program Manager; Chris
Ivers, Deputy Program Manager; and April Mondragon, Administrative Assistant.

Guests: none

CALL TO ORDER

President Greg Higel called the hearing to order at 11:05 a.m. The Pledge of Allegiance was
recited. There was a quorum present for the meeting.

APPROVE AGENDA

President Higel asked for any changes or additions to the agenda. Peggy Godfrey requested an
addition to the agenda to set a date for the Closed Basin Project work session. A motion was
made by Cory Off to approve the agenda. The motion was seconded by Peggy Godfrey and
unanimously approved.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

President Higel asked for public comment. There were none.

REVIEW AND CONSIDER FOR ACTION

President Higel asked for the review and consider for action items.

- *District policy regarding Subdistrict repayment schedule:* Cleave Simpson reported how
Subdistrict formation and other costs have been reimbursed to the District up to this
point. Mr. Simpson explained he and staff discussed and developed a formal process the
Subdistricts will follow to repay the Rio Grande Water Conservation District.

A motion was made by Dwight Martin to accept the District Policy regarding the Subdistrict
repayment schedule. The motion was seconded by Peggy Godfrey and unanimously approved.

- *Co-Sponsor with Colorado Cattleman's Association and Wetland Dynamics regarding
nomination to the State Land Board Stewardship Trust.* Cleave Simpson reported being
asked if the Board of Directors would consider co-sponsoring a parcel of land with
Colorado Cattleman's Association. Mr. Simpson showed a map of the parcel of land and
stated the co-sponsorship would give the applicants another voice if the land use were to
be challenged. Discussion was held on why this one specific parcel of land was
requested. The consensus of the Board was to request Mr. Simpson to proceed with the
co-sponsorship conversations and relay the Board's concerns of continued agricultural
uses of the property.
- *Closed Basin Project Work Session.* Mr. Simpson stated he would put together an agenda
for the work session. Peggy Godfrey reported she is seeking discussions on cease
production of phase four (4) and five (5) of the Closed Basin Project. Ms. Godfrey stated
she would have her material available for others to review at the work session.
Discussion on inviting other opinions like the Division Engineer, Rich Roberts from the
Bureau of Reclamation and other engineers was held. President Higel reported the
District is not able to shut the Closed Basin Project down and wanted to be sure it was
understood.

A Work Session was scheduled for January 16, 2020 at 1:00 p.m.

MANAGERS REPORT

President Higel asked for the Managers report.

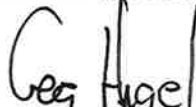
- Potato Humidification Wells. Cleave Simpson asked for the Boards thoughts on potential legislation of making potato cellar humidification wells exempt of from the Groundwater Rules and Regulations. Discussion was held on how the wells are currently classified, what happens to the water and other characteristics of potato ware houses. Mr. Simpson reported there are about 200-300 wells that may be considered.
- Pending Subdistrict Board of Manager Appointments. Cleave Simpson reported receiving two (2) letters of interest to serve on Subdistrict No. 1 Board of Managers. Les Alderedi on behalf of Dick Smith and Dale Bartee submitted letters and will present to the Board of Directors at the January quarterly meeting. The Board of Directors will make the appointment to Subdistrict No. 1 that day as well as consider Leroy Salazar, Warren Crowther and Sam Vance (all reapplied) to Subdistrict No. 3 Board of Managers. Mr. Simpson reported Ron Bowman resigned from Subdistrict No. 4 Board of Managers, therefor are seeking letters of interest to serve on that Board. Mr. Simpson also reported not receiving any letters of interest to fill Jerry Berry’s vacancy on Subdistrict No. 4.

ADJOURN


A motion was made by Cory Off to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Bill McClure and unanimously approved.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:12 p.m.

The next scheduled quarterly meeting will be held on January 21, 2020.



 President



 Secretary/Treasurer