

**SPECIAL MEETING OF THE BOARD OF MANAGERS
OF SPECIAL IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT #3
OF THE RIO GRANDE WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT
February 26, 2021 at 5:30 p.m.
By Zoom/Teleconference**

Present: LeRoy Salazar, President; Nathan Coombs, Vice-President/Secretary/Treasurer; Sam Vance, Manager; Warren Crowther, Manager; Ruben Sandoval, Manager; and Doug Bagwell, Manager.

Absent: Dwight Martin, Ex-Officio Member.

Staff and Consultants: Pete Ampe, Hill & Robbins, P.C; Amber Pacheco, Program Manager; Michael Carson, Database Administrator; and, April Mondragon, Administrative Assistant.

Guests: David Hofmann and Deb Sarason.

Meeting Called to Order

President Salazar called the meeting to order at 5:32 p.m. A quorum was present.

Approval of the Agenda

President Salazar asked for any additions or amendments to the agenda. Amber Pacheco asked to add a discussion on the amount of water to request from the San Luis Valley Irrigation Well Owners Company for the 2021 ARP year. A motion was made by Ruben Sandoval to approve the agenda as amended. The motion was seconded by Nathan Coombs and unanimously approved.

Public Comment

President Salazar asked for public comment. There were none.

Discuss and Possible Consideration of Participation Contracts/Inclusion Agreements

President Salazar asked for discuss and possible consideration of Participation Contracts and Inclusion Agreements.

- **Conejos County Participation Contract**

Amber Pacheco reported Conejos County received a letter from the Division of Water Resources regarding a commercial non-exempt well. She highlighted the well does have a meter and how the well has been used. Ms. Pacheco explained how she came up with an estimate for past use. The County Commissioners approved the contract already. Ms. Pacheco explained if the Board approved the contract the total depletions would be added to the 2020 and 2021 ARP. Discussion was held on other ways the County uses the water.

A motion was made by Nathan Coombs to approve the Conejos County Inclusion Agreement. The motion was seconded by Ruben Sandoval and unanimously approved.

- **Los Rincones Land, LLC Participation Contract**

President Salazar announced that because he is the owner of the subject entity he would participate only as a member of the public during discussion of the Los Rincones Land, LLC Participation Contract. Amber Pacheco reported this was one of the wells that received a letter from the State in January 2021. She provided an update on the pending SWSP for Los Rincones Land, LLC filed with the State. She also highlighted what the Subdistrict would be covering if they approve the Participation Contract.

A motion was made by Sam Vance to approve the Los Rincones Land, LLC Participation Contract. The motion was seconded by Doug Bagwell and unanimously approved. Mr. Salazar abstained from voting.

- **Guadalupe Water Association**

Amber Pacheco provided an update on the Guadalupe Water Association well. She explained they initially felt they would not be able to afford the contract fee nor the Subdistrict fees. She highlighted their use was high and reported it may be due to a faulty water system. Ms. Pacheco explained that they would face being red-tagged without Subdistrict coverage. Discussion was held on whether or not the Subdistrict could move forward to conditionally approve the contract if they agree to pay fees. Ms. Pacheco provided the location of the well and Deb Sarason provided the

number of homes. Further discussion was held on whether the Subdistrict could ask them to pledge their shares of water from the Guadalupe Ditch to the Subdistrict in exchange for inclusion in the ARP. Sam Vance expressed concern of adding to the hardship and suggested finding a way to fix the situation. Ms. Pacheco reported having conversations with members of the Board of the Guadalupe Water Association for the past three (3) years and making no progress. Mr. Vance volunteered to approach them and provide further explanation.

Amber Pacheco provided an update on a well just outside the boundaries of the Subdistrict that needs to be covered in the May 1st ARP. She reported how the Subdistrict could include them and how they would charge them.

- Mark Melvin RV Park

Amber Pacheco reported on an RV Park well that is used year-round which is seeking to find a way to comply with the Groundwater Rules. She provided the estimated use and the estimated Subdistrict fees. Discussion was held on the amount of use and if the Subdistrict would consider allowing them in the 2020 ARP if they decide to join at the last minute. No decision was made

Discussion and Consideration of the Amount of Water to Request from the San Luis Valley Irrigation Well Owners Company

President Salazar asked for a discussion on the amount of water to request from the San Luis Valley Irrigation Well Owners Company. Pete Ampe highlighted last year's amount was 2,000-acre feet. President Salazar asked if they had a set fee. Sam Vance reported they had not met much but provided the intentions of the Well Owner's.

A motion was made by Warren Crowther to request up to 2,000-acre feet from the San Luis Valley Irrigation Well Owners Company. The motion was seconded by Ruben Sandoval and unanimously approved.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 6:31 p.m.



President



Vice-President/Secretary/Treasurer