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

OF THE RIO GRANDE WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT April 11, 2024 at 1:30 p.m.

8805 Independence Way, Alamosa CO 81101 And by Zoom/Teleconference

Present: Jake Burris, President; Clay Mitchell, Vice President; Tony Holcomb, BOM; Chris Miner, BOM; Jamie Hart, BOM; Miguel A. Diaz, BOM; Michael Jones, BOM; Brett Hemmerling, BOM; and Mike Kruse, Ex-Officio Member.

Absent: James Cooley, BOM.

Staff and Consultants: Pete Ampe, Hill & Robbins P.C.; Taylor Chick, Program Manager; Linda Ramirez, Program Assistant; Wylie Keller, Water Resource Specialist; Clinton Phillips, Davis Engineering; Kylie Gregg, Office Manager; Crystal Benavidez, HCP Coordinator/Program Assistant; Michael Carson, Database Administrator; and April Mondragon, Administrative Assistant.

Guests: Deb Sarason, Patrick Brownell; William Myers.

Meeting Called to Order

President Burris called the meeting to order at 1:30 p.m. A quorum was present, the Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Approval of the Agenda

President Burris asked for changes, additions or a motion to approve the agenda. A motion was made by Clay Mitchell to approve the agenda as presented. The motion was seconded by Jamie Hart and unanimously approved.

Public Comment

President Burris asked for public comment. It was reported that the Board of Directors would appoint Patrick Brownell at the next quarterly meeting.

2024 Budget Amendment

President Burris asked for the 2024 budget amendment. Taylor Chick presented the amended budget with the changes requested at the last meeting. Discussion was held on a potential round three (3) of the Senate Bill program and if the Board would need a new resolution.

A motion was made by Jamie Hart to continue the program for Senate Bill round three (3). The motion was seconded by Chris Miner and unanimously approved.

Approval of the 2024 Annual Replacement Plan

President Burris asked for approval of the 2024 Annual Replacement Plan (ARP). Taylor Chick presented a summary of the ARP. He highlighted the DWR forecast the NRCS forecast, the acre feet of projected pumping and the number of wells contracted into the Subdistrict and the total number of wells in Subdistrict No. 1. Mr. Chick reported a discussion would be held regarding using wet water or Closed Basin Project water for winter time depletions. He provided the number of acres being irrigated, number of acres that need to be reduced in order to be sustainable and the total number of surface water credits. Discussion was held regarding winter time depletions, the timing of the replacements and receiving no credit for overpayment. The Board asked to leave the Closed Basin Project in the ARP as an option with their intent to use wet water weather permitting.

A motion was made by Clay Mitchell to approve the 2024 ARP. The motion was seconded by Jamie Hart and unanimously approved.

New Business

President Burris asked for an update on the Saguache Creek Water Users meeting. Michael Jones reported on the interesting interactions between surface water users and well users. He described his disagreement with George Whitten on purchasing North Star Farm and how the Water Users were more willing to work with Subdistrict No. 1 than with Subdistrict No. 5. Miguel Diaz reported the Water Users would not help the Subdistrict until it is operating under a one (1) for one (1). Mr. Jones asked Deb Sarason who had authority over the model. Ms. Sarason explained how new

information causes the model to change and how it is constantly changing making it hard to make predictions.

Next Meeting
The next quarterly meeting is scheduled for June 4, 2024 at 1:30 p.m.

Adjournment
The meeting was adjourned at 2:47 p.m.

Secretary/Treasurer