

SAN AUGUSTIN WATER COALITION----Minutes of the Meeting, February 12, 2019

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The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. by Chairman Linn Kennedy. Other Board members present were Eileen Dodds, Anita Hand, Dave Dalbey, and Mahona Burnett.

Visitors: Lloyd Daniels, Marian Fredericks, Michael J. Murray, Jr., Sam Howell, E.F. Wade, Julie Lafferty, Carol Pittman, Kereane Gillman, and Tim Gillman. Jamie Park and Kendra Palmer, from the NMELC, were there to address the assembly.

Additions/Changes to the Agenda: Jamie Park will address the assembly instead of Doug Meiklejohn. The Agenda was approved as amended.

Approval of the October, 2018 Minutes: The minutes were approved as previously presented.

Treasurer's Report: As of the Jan. 31, 2019 bank statement, we had \$41,044.24 in the account. It was moved and seconded to approve the report. Motion carried.

Communications Officer's Report: Ms. Burnett reported that she is still working on updating the website. She has asked Ms. Dodds to work on an oral history of the Plains with some of the ranching families. Ms. Dodds agreed.

Public Comments: None

Jamie Park then addressed the assembly. She updated us on what to expect at the Status Conference in Reserve tomorrow, reiterating that there will be no final decision tomorrow. Attorneys will be asking for scheduling they would like. We will then get a schedule from Judge Reynolds as to when he expects certain events to happen, and the attorneys representing all protestants will have to comply with his schedule. She said that it was important for us to attend the hearing, even though nothing major would be happening, as the judge needs to see that the public is still involved in this issue.

#### ONGOING BUSINESS

- 1) APR, LLC status update: Covered by Ms. Park above
- 2) Fall fundraiser: Blanket Raffle and Cabela's card raffle gained \$665.00 for the Legal Fund.
- 3) Water Dialogue sponsorship: Ms. Dodds reported that SAWC had an ad in the fall NM Water Dialogue newsletter which went out to around 3000 people across the state. We were also recognized at the January annual WD meeting in Albuquerque, attended by around 200 people. Ms. Dodds also wrote an article for the WD newsletter, updating readers as to what is going on with the LLC's application process.

#### NEW BUSINESS

- 1) SAWC Annual Meeting: The annual meeting is set for Saturday, April 13, 2019, in the Datil school gym in Datil. Meeting to run from 1:00 p.m. to around 3:00 p.m.  
Ms. Kennedy has extended guest speaker invitations to Commissioner Hand, State Representative Gail Armstrong, State Senator Gabe Ramos, and Lt. Governor Howie Morales. To date, only Ms. Hand has accepted.

Ms. Burnett suggested asking our new U.S. Representative, Xochitl Torres-Small, as she was a water rights attorney in Las Cruces before being elected to the US Congress.

Ms. Park suggested asking State Representative Antoinette Sedillo-Lopez from Bernalillo because of the legislation she has sponsored in the current legislative session.

It was agreed to hold these two candidates in reserve in case the others cannot attend.

- 2) HB 374, submitted in this legislative session by Representative Gail Armstrong: If passed, this bill will require applicants for drilling permits to specifically identify end users and have signed contracts provided with the application. It will not be retroactive, but it will add an additional layer of responsibility from the applicant before any application would be approved.
- 3) Report from Commissioner Hand: She said she is keeping her eye on all water issues currently being considered in the Legislature and is in constant touch with both Representative Armstrong and Senator Ramos. She is also closely following the appointment proceedings for the next State Engineer, which she considers one of the most important things happening in Santa Fe. Lastly, she has been working with our county attorneys on using NM Tech's recent data to get San Agustin declared a separate basin in an effort to close it to applications of this nature.
- 4) Deep Water Protest report: This group, in the East Mountain area of Albuquerque, has been fighting a developer over a large drilling application, much like SAWC, for a number of years. Recently, the District Court appeal, under a different judge from ours, ruled against the developer and upheld the OSE's denial of the application. Throughout the years, they have supported us, and we have supported them. Although the case will probably go the State Court of Appeals now, it helps us in that another district judge is in agreement with the OSE on a similar case.

There being no further business to come before the Board, it was moved and seconded to adjourn. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 7:00 p.m.