

MINUTES

RIO GRANDE REGIONAL WATER AUTHORITY (RGRWA)
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
9:00 A.M. – WEDNESDAY, APRIL 1, 2009
LRGVDC TRANSPORTATION CENTER BOARD ROOM
510 S. PLEASANTVIEW DRIVE, WESLACO, TX

PRESIDING: JIM DARLING, PRESIDENT

The Rio Grande Regional Water Authority (RGRWA) Board of Directors held a meeting at 9:00 a.m. on Wednesday, April 1, 2009 at the LRGVDC Transportation Center Board Room in Weslaco, Texas. In attendance were:

RGRWA Board Members

President Jim Darling, Hidalgo County
Secretary-Treasurer Joe Barrera, Irrigation Dist.
Ms. Karran Westerman, Zapata County
Mr. John Bruciak, Cameron County
Mr. Wayne Halbert, Irrigation Districts
Mr. Paul Heller, Irrigation Districts
Mr. Jimmie Steidinger, Irrigation Districts
Mr. Jo Jo White, Irrigation Districts
Mr. Bobby Sparks, Irrigation Districts
Mr. Sonny Hinojosa, Irrigation Districts
Mr. Brian Macmanus, Water Supply Corporation

Others

Mr. Juan Trevino, TDA
Ms. Terrie Salinas, LRGVDC EDA
Mr. Godfrey Garza, HCDD #1
Mr. Joel Munguia, Cong. Solomon Ortiz
Mr. Troy Allen, DLID
Mr. Bill Norris, NRS
Mr. Gary Whittington, Unifirst
Mr. Tomas Rodriguez, City of Laredo
Mr. Robert Fulbright, RGRWPG
Mr. Rodolfo Montero, US IBWC
Mr. Felipe Chalons, CILA

1. Call to Order & Roll Call

President Jim Darling called the meeting to order at 9:09 a.m. and announced that a quorum was present.

2. Consider Approval of March 4, 2009 Meeting Minutes

The President then moved to item 2. – Consider Approval of March 4, 2009 Meeting Minutes. **Mr. Joe Barrera made a motion for approval of the minutes as presented. Mr. Jo Jo White seconded the motion, and upon a vote the motion carried unanimously.**

3. Public Comment

President Darling noted that no one had signed up for Public Comments.

4. Status Report RE: EDA Application for Regional Drainage Infrastructure Project

President Darling moved to item 4. – Status Report RE: EDA Application for Regional Drainage Infrastructure Project and recognized Ms. Terrie Salinas, LRGVDC EDA Director. Ms. Salinas reported that in the Board folders was a copy of a letter from Mr. Pedro R. Garza, Regional Director of the United States Department of Commerce Economic Development Administration advising the Board that the application will be processed for approximately \$3.5 million of the \$5 million applied for, and this application will compete with many other applications for available funding.

5. Status Reports

A. Report from TCEQ Watermaster

President Darling recognized Mr. Erasmo Yarrito. Mr. Yarrito updated the Board on the status of the reservoirs. Mr. Yarrito stated that he attended the Border Drought Conference in San Diego and there were several issues that dealt directly with the Rio Grande. One issue of interest was Mexico's desire to bring to the Border Governor's Conference the topic of managing the reservoir system in a way that would be beneficial to both Mexico and the United States. Mr. Yarrito also stated that TCEQ staff intended to request of Mexico the definition of "extraordinary drought" at the next Border Governor's Conference.

B. Report from IBWC

No one from IBWC was present and no report was available.

C. Report from Rio Grande Regional Water Planning Group

President Darling reported that he and Mr. Glenn Jarvis, RGRWPG Chairman, met with Ms. Karen Chapman, Rio Grande Project Manager for the Environmental Defense Fund to discuss the Trans Pecos Water Trust. Ms. Chapman is scheduled to give a presentation on this topic at the next RGRWPG meeting.

6. Committee Reports

A. Community Outreach

There was no new information to report.

B. Finance and Planning

1. Financial Report

Mr. Ken Jones was recognized and stated that staff was requesting Board approval to pay the \$1,207.45 invoice from WaterPR. ***Mr. Brian Macmanus made a motion for approval to pay the invoice as presented. Mr. Jimmie Steidinger seconded the motion, and upon a vote the motion carried unanimously.***

2. Status of Assessments

President Darling recognized Mr. Joe Barrera who noted that the recent additional invoices sent out garnered a return of \$922.61 to date. No action needed.

C. Personnel and Professional Services

President Darling suggested the possibility of holding an Educational Forum similar the Forum the Board hosted in the fall of 2006 at the Quinta Mazatlan. It was the consensus of the Board to wait for a non-legislative year to hold the next Educational Forum.

D. Legislation

Mr. Wayne Halbert was recognized and distributed information on legislation he was following; he then provided updates on bills that are pertinent to the Board.

E. El Morillo Drain

There was no new information to report

7. Discussion and Possible Action RE: Meeting Schedule

It was the consensus of the Board not to meet in May and schedule the next meeting for Wednesday, June 3, 2009.

8. Adjourn

Mr. Darling asked if there was any further business to come before the Board. There being none the meeting was adjourned at 9:46 a.m.

Jim Darling, President, RGRWA

ATTEST:

Joe Barrera, Secretary-Treasurer, RGRWA