



Approved Minutes

Paso del Norte Watershed Council

Executive Committee Meeting

January 21, 2016 | 3:00-5:00PM

USIBWC Headquarters

1471 N. Mesa, Suite C-100 | El Paso, TX 79902

Conrad Keyes, Chair
Hilary Brinegar, Asst Chair

Sue Watts, Secretary
Ari Michelsen, Treasurer

Present:

Peter Bennett-City of LC
Kevin Bixby-SWEC (phone)
Christopher Brown-NMSU
Brian Hanson-private citizen(phone)
Woody Irving-USBR
Conrad Keyes-NMSU (retired)
Janet Kirwan-NM State Parks
Ari Michelsen-TX Agrilife

Zhuping Sheng-TX Agrilife
Gill Sorg—City of LC
Elizabeth Verdecchia-USIBWC
Ryan Ward—NMDA (phone)
Sue Watts-ecologist
Zack Libbin--EBID
Leslie Grijalva--IBWC

1. The meeting of the Paso del Norte Watershed Council was called to order by Conrad Keyes at 3:05 PM. Quorum present. Everyone introduced themselves and the agenda was approved.
2. Decisions
 - a. Minutes of the Annual Meeting held Dec 10, 2015 were approved with a few corrections to names. The final version will be posted on the website.
 - b. Election of officers: Nominees: Asst Chair—Jan Kirwan, Secretary—Sue Watts, Treasurer—Ari Michelsen. All were elected by acclamation.
3. Stormwater letter—The original draft of the letter has been highly edited and many felt it was now too vague and/or that their agencies would not support it. Decision was to table a vote until a revised draft is available.
4. PdNWC Workplan 2016-2020: review 2015-2019 plan and send proposed amendments to Conrad. Look at personnel and objectives/actions.
5. Reports and co-chair updates:
 - a. PdNWC Financial Report-Ari Michelsen. No changes since last report. Task order 1 being reviewed by TAMU which includes website maintenance and a fish study. Chris Brown is PI for both. Will require a professional services agreement between Brown and Bixby (SWEC) for fish study.
 - b. Technical Committee Report-Zhuping Sheng. RiverWare model linked from headwaters to El Paso/Hudspeth County line. Stakeholder meetings have been held. A choice of models are available including ag, urban, and economic factors. Environmental factors not as well-defined. The Tech Committee will review the PdNWC workplan.

- c. Biological Committee-Kevin Bixby/Brian Hanson. Minutes from the last meeting are complete. Brian will continue as co-chair with Gill. Liz, Jan, Mike G. volunteered to be on the committee. Other interested parties should email Brian. Liz reported that a revised draft for stakeholder review of the remaining portions of the IBWC river management plan will be completed by late spring 2016.
 - d. Website update-Chris Brown. Liz will be point of contact, replacing Hilary. Requests for changes to the website should be directed to Liz and she will forward.
 - e. Clean Water Committee—Leslie Grijalva. It was proposed that the Clean Water Committee combine with the Biological Committee to form an Environmental Committee. 9 votes for; 1 vote against.
6. New business/announcements. Desert Land Conservation Cooperative will meet in Alpine Feb 1-5.
 7. Next EC Meeting – same day as the next Citizens Forum. April? In LC? 3-5PM.
 8. Meeting adjourned.