



Approved Minutes
Paso del Norte Watershed Council
Executive Committee Meeting
April 21, 2016 | 3:00-5:00PM
Elephant Butte Irrigation District Boardroom
530 S. Melendres | Las Cruces, NM

Conrad Keyes, Chair
Jan Kirwan, Asst Chair

Sue Watts, Secretary
Ari Michelsen, Treasurer

Present:

Peter Bennett-City of LC
Brian Hanson-private citizen
Woody Irving-USBR
Conrad Keyes-NMSU (retired)
Zhuping Sheng-TX Agrilife
Elizabeth Verdecchia-USIBWC

Ryan Ward—NMDA
Sue Watts-ecologist
Sharon Anton-City of Las Cruces
Kurt Anderson (SWEC)
John Gahr-USFWS
Angel Montoya-USFWS

1. The meeting of the Paso del Norte Watershed Council was called to order by Conrad Keyes at 3:10 PM. Quorum was not met. Introductions were made and the agenda was approved.
2. Decisions
 - a. Minutes of the meeting held January 21, 2016 were reviewed but could not be voted on due to lack of quorum.
3. Partners for Fish and Wildlife Program-Angel Montoya. Program targets non-Federal lands (private, state, city, schools, non-profit orgs) and has the goal of improving habitat for target species. Landowner agrees to maintain the plants/practices paid for by USFWS for 10 years. Awards are <\$25K. Examples: salt cedar removal, erosion control, planting native vegetation. Contact Angel to start process.
4. City of LC Revitalization plan-Sharon Anton. In 2004, the City of Las Cruces developed a Rio Grande Riparian Corridor project. They need information about which parts of the project were completed.
5. NMDA stormwater dam project- Ryan Ward. NMDA has received \$1M to identify stormwater dams at high risk of failure. Have contracted for inundation mapping and are developing emergency plans.
6. Reports and co-chair updates:
 - a. PdNWC Financial Report-Ari Michelsen. No report-Ari not present.
 - b. Technical Committee Report-Zhuping Sheng. No report-Zhuping had to leave meeting early.
 - c. Environmental Committee-Brian Hanson. Need to plan ahead for upcoming grants. 319 funds should be available in July. Goal is to use the Watershed Plan to identify education projects such as discouraging dumping into storm drains and irrigation drains. Woody will send information about BOR watershed funding. EPA education grants such as Watersmart might also be a source of funding. Also need to identify potential fiscal agents for different types of grants.
 - d. Website update-Liz Verdecchia. Working on making sure all links work.
7. Next EC Meeting – same day as the next Citizens Forum. July? El Paso. 3-5PM.
8. Meeting adjourned at 4:45.