



Minutes
Paso del Norte Watershed Council
Executive Committee Meeting

July 14, 2016 | 3-5PM

USIBWC Headquarters

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

Conrad Keyes, Chair

Sue Watts, Secretary

Ari Michelsen, Treasurer

Present:

Christopher Brown-NMSU (by phone)
Mike Gaglio-High Desert Native Plants
Brian Hanson-private citizen (by phone)
Conrad Keyes-NMSU (retired)
Zhuping Sheng-TX Agrilife
Ryan Ward—NMDA (by phone)

Sue Watts-ecologist
Leslie Grijalva-USIBWC
Mike Landis-USIBWC
Zack Libbin-EBID
Jose A Nunez-USIBWC
Kelly Blough-USIBWC

1. The meeting of the Paso del Norte Watershed Council was called to order by Conrad Keyes at 3:10 PM. Quorum was met. Introductions were made and the agenda was approved.
2. Decisions
 - a. Minutes of the meetings held January 21, 2016 and April 21, 2016 were reviewed and approved with one correction in the April minutes. The approved versions will be posted on the website.
 - b. Gary Gruer was nominated and approved as the Executive Committee replacement for Jan Kirwan.
3. Mike Gaglio gave a presentation on the efforts to have Castner Range designated as a national monument. This will require an executive order from the President. A motion was made for the Council to draft a letter of support. Mike will draft letter and circulate for comment.
4. Reports
 - a. PdNWC Financial Report. The task orders and professional services agreements needed to disperse BOR funds have finally been approved, so projects should begin soon.
 - b. Technical Committee Report-Zhuping Sheng. USDA project with UTEP is underway. Models and decision support system are being developed. The stakeholders meetings were held in May. URGWOM is developing linked models from headwaters to El Paso. Potential funding to extend modeling to Lower Rio Grande Valley.
 - c. Environmental Committee-Brian Hanson. 319 funds may be available for education projects. One idea is to raise awareness about problems with dumping into drainage ditches. EPWU and EP Electric are looking at creating a wetland near Montoya Drain to help alleviate flooding in the area. A couple of projects are being conducted that are testing effectiveness of swales in drains.
 - d. Website update-Liz Verdecchia. No report
5. Next EC Meeting – Same day as Citizen’s Forum in October?
6. Meeting adjourned at 4:25 PM