



## Minutes

### Paso del Norte Watershed Council Executive Committee Meeting

October 22, 2015 – 3:00PM-5:00PM

Las Cruces City Hall, conf rm 2-c

500 N. Main St, Las Cruces

**Conrad Keyes, Chair**

**Hilary Brinegar, Asst Chair**

**Sue Watts, Secretary**

**Ari Michelsen, Treasurer**

#### **Present:**

Christopher Brown-NMSU  
Conrad Keyes, Jr.-Corps consultant  
Elizabeth Verdecchia-USIBWC  
Gill Sorg-City of Las Cruces  
Greg Daviet-RWP  
Hilary Brinegar-Marron & Assoc  
Jan Kirwin-NM State Parks  
Kurt Anderson-DAMDWCA

Kevin Bixby-SWEC  
Les Daviet II, Dixie Ranch  
Luzma Fabiola Nava-IIASA/NMSU  
Mike Gaglio, HDNP  
Mike Landis-USBR  
Paul Dugie – DAC Floor Commission  
Phil King-NMSU  
Zhuping Sheng-TX Agrilife

1. The Executive Meeting of the Paso del Norte Watershed Council was called to order by Conrad Keyes at 3:05PM. Everyone introduced themselves. A quorum wasn't attained.
2. Draft agenda not approved due to lack of quorum.
3. Announcements
  - a. December will be the Annual Meeting and officer election.
  - b. The LRGRWP committee will meet on October 23 at Las Cruces city hall.
4. Decisions
  - a. February 4, 2015 and April 16, 2015 were approved by 9 EC members. The remaining votes will be attempted via email. July 23, 2015 minutes approval will be attempted via email.
5. Reports
  - a. PdNWC Financial Report – The NMWRRI and TAMU MOU was signed. This will fund the aquatic fish study and website update.
  - b. Technical Committee Report – BOR Watersmart grant solicitations are out.
  - c. Biological Committee – No report.
  - d. Website update – No report.
  - e. Clean Water Committee – No report.
6. Lower Rio Grande Water Supply Vulnerability Study – Phil King
  - a. NMSU, UNM and NM Tech are collaborating on this study, compiling and analyzing data on groundwater levels, cycles of drought, streamflow patterns, tree-ring data, storage, statistics, economics, and others. Recommendations included the need for improved forecasts, addressing social and economic vulnerabilities, balancing supply and demand, changing pumping behavior, and improve conservation efforts. The report is available from the NM Tech Bureau of Geology and Mining.
7. Rio Grande Research Project – Luzma Fabiola Nava
  - a. This transboundary research project is currently being conducted with stakeholder surveys. It is exploring the challenges in water governance and possible policy solutions. Noted insights include the need for binational

cooperation for environmental protection and to promote sustainable water use.

8. Next – Annual Meeting. 1<sup>st</sup> or 2<sup>nd</sup> week of December. At Keystone Botanical Garden in El Paso. Either with lunch or late afternoon tour.
  - a. Next EC Meeting – TBD
9. Meeting adjourned 4:40PM.