# QUARTERLY MEETING OF THE BOARD OF MANAGERS OF SPECIAL IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT #1 OF THE RIO GRANDE WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT

September 3, 2019, 2:00 p.m.
Rio Grande Water Conservation District Conference Room
Alamosa, Colorado 81101

**Present:** Brian Brownell, President; Carla Worley, Vice-President; Jake Burris Secretary/Treasurer; Jamie Hart, BOM; Miguel A. Diaz, BOM; Sheldon Rockey, BOM; Clay Mitchell, BOM; Chris Miner, BOM; Tony Holcomb, BOM; Asier Artaechevarria, BOM; and Brian David, Ex-Officio.

**Staff and Consultants:** Pete Ampe, Hill & Robbins P.C.; Cleave Simpson, General Manager; Linda Ramirez, Program Assistant; Clinton Phillips, Davis Engineering and April Mondragon, Administrative Assistant.

**Guests:** Harold Benson, Andrea Rue, Brian Rue, Cheryl Santi, Judy Jolly, Ron Bowman, Deb Sarason, Les Alderete, Mike Kruse, Matt Segar, Gary Segar, Erica Steenburg

#### Meeting Called to Order

President Brownell called the meeting to order at 2:04 p.m. A quorum was present. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

# Approval of the Agenda

President Brownell asked for approval of the agenda. A motion was made by Sheldon Rockey to approve the agenda as presented. The motion was seconded by Jake Burris and unanimously approved.

# Approval of the Minutes: June 19, 2019 Special Meeting, June 19, 2019 Executive Session, July 24, 2019 Public Hearing

President Brownell asked for changes or a motion to approve the minutes as presented. A motion was made Jamie Hart to approve the minutes as presented. The motion was seconded by Sheldon Rockey and unanimously approved.

#### **Public Comment**

President Brownell asked for public comment. Mike Kruse commented on supplemental wells and how he feels they need to be handled. Cheryl Santi addressed the Board and provided her understanding of the conversation. Matt Segar and Brian Rue provided the Board with their concerns and current situation.

# Program Manager Report

President Brownell asked for the Program Manager's report. Linda Ramirez read Marisa Fricke's Program Manager's Report into record (copy attached) and provided the Board with the financial reports.

# Attorney Report

President Brownell asked for the Attorney Report. Pete Ampe reported Subdistrict's 4, 5 and 6 continue to move forward with their Plan of Water Managements. Mr. Ampe stated Subdistrict's No. 4 and 5 have been approved and Subdistrict No. 6's should be approved within the next couple days. They will be presented to the District Board for approval on September 9, 2019. Mr. Ampe introduced the new term Well Injury Payment program also known as a forbearance agreement.

#### Engineer's Report

President Brownell asked for the Engineer's Report. Clinton Phillips provided the change in the unconfined aquifer storage. Asier Artaechevarria asked Mr. Phillips to provide historical monthly recharge data in order to monitor each month and look for patterns.

# Discussion Concerning Segar Supplemental Well

President Brownell asked for the discussion concerning the Segar Supplemental well. Pete Ampe provided an update on the case and explained how the Subdistrict plans to proceed. Discussion was held on the amount of pumping, an augmentation plan and the consideration of allowing the Segar well to contract into the Subdistrict.

A motion was made by Jamie Hart to accept the terms and conditions the State requested and stipulate with Matt Segar to resolve the case and to include the Segar Supplemental well into the next Annual Replacement Plan. The motion was seconded by Jake Burris, Chris Miner opposed, the motion passed.

# **Action Items:**

# A. Harold Benson-Inclusion Agreement

Harold Benson provided the Board with the history of his farm and stated he would like to be a part of Subdistrict No. 1.

A motion was made by Carla Worley to accept an inclusion contract for Harold Benson into Subdistrict No. 1. The motion was seconded by Jamie Hart and unanimously approved.

#### B. Small Capacity Well Calculations

Clinton Phillips updated the Board and stated he had been working to get in contact with one of the lead modelers to review the Subdistricts take on the consumptive use values and should receive feedback information soon. Mr. Phillips stated he would keep the Board updated.

# C. Crestone View Farms-Appeal

Linda Ramirez read the appeal summary and stated the Program Manager's recommendation is to approve the total refund.

A motion was made by Sheldon Rockey to approve the Crestone View Farms Appeal. The motion was seconded by Tony Holcomb and unanimously approved.

# D. Approve CREP and Fallow Contracts

Linda Ramirez presented the proposed CREP and Fallow contracts.

A motion was made by Asier Artaechevarria to accept the Mike and Jim Kruse Fallow Contract. The motion was seconded by Sheldon Rockey and unanimously approved

A motion was made by Sheldon Rockey to approve the two (2) permanent CREP contracts based off of staff recommendations. The motion was seconded by Jake Burris and unanimously approved. Clay Mitchell recused himself.

# **Next Meeting**

A work session was scheduled for the first week of November. The next quarterly meeting will be on December 11, 2019 at 9:00 a.m.

**Adjournment** 

The meeting was adjourned at 3:36 p.m.

President

Secretary/Treasurer

# PROGRAM MANAGER'S REPORT

#### Subdistrict No. 1 Program Managers Report

# **Replacement Water Operations**

Replacement Water Operations for August 2019 Total Subdistrict No.1 projected stream reach depletions for July 2019 was 155 acre feet for stream reaches one and two and they were paid entirely by Santa Maria shares released from Santa Maria Continental Reservoir.

Subdistrict No.1 projected depletions for the month of August in the amount of 133 acre feet being paid by releases from this reservoir account as well.

# **Current Business**

- ♦ 84% of the 2019 Farm Units have been received and entered into our database. A list of those who have not turned their Farm Units into our office and received a 2<sup>nd</sup> letter notifying them of the missing information is included. Under our current appeal policy would not be able to file an appeal for 2019.
- Staff will be working with the State Department on training for their new online data submission for meter readings. This new training does not affect producers, but rather an internal process change.
  - o We will have the meter readings due October 1, 2019, unless Board decides otherwise.
  - o Please let Marisa know if you would like to submit your meter readings online.
- ❖ Judy Lopez with Colorado Open Lands would like to host an outreach presentation on the Ground Water Easement with Subdistrict No.1 Board and producers. She is flexible with date and location and understands that October is a busy month.
  - o Week of November 4th is a possible opportunity for such meeting.
- ❖ We have 2 new Permanent CREP contracts signed up (B. Burns and Mitchell Farms) and 1 new Fallow contract (Kruse).
- Tim Carden has completed our 2019 Irrigated Ag. A new feature to this year's map is listing 2018 crop info to current data.
- Property Update: Weed Maintenance-staff sprayed weeds alongside ditches on McConnell property and arranged for mowing to take place on Medano.

#### **Maternity Leave**

Marisa will be out on maternity leave and will be responding to emails intermittently. Linda has graciously agreed to be the main point of contact while Marisa is out of office. Marisa will return to the office in October.