SPECIAL MEETING OF THE BOARD OF MANAGERS OF SPECIAL IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT #1 OF THE RIO GRANDE WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT April 13, 2021 at 9:00 a.m. By Telephone Only

Present: Brian Brownell, President; Carla Worley, Vice-President; Jamie Hart, BOM; Miguel A. Diaz, BOM; Sheldon Rockey, BOM; Clay Mitchell, BOM; Chris Miner, BOM; Les Alderete, BOM; Tony Holcomb, BOM; Asier Artaechevarria, BOM; and Mike Kruse, Ex-Officio.

Staff and Consultants: Pete Ampe, Hill & Robbins P.C.; Marisa Fricke, Program Manager; Linda Ramirez, Program Assistant; Clinton Phillips, Davis Engineering; Michael Carson, Database Administrator; and April Mondragon, Administrative Assistant.

Guests: Amy Kunugi

Meeting Called to Order

President Brownell called the meeting to order at 9:11 a.m. A quorum was present.

Approval of the Agenda

President Brownell asked for amendments or for approval of the agenda. A motion was made by Chris Miner to approve the agenda as presented. The motion was seconded by Clay Mitchell and unanimously approved.

Public Comment

President Brownell asked for public comment. There were none.

Approval of the 2020 Annual Replacement Plan

President Brownell asked for approval of the 2020 Annual Replacement Plan. Marisa Fricke highlighted the key elements and reported submission of the ARP to the State Engineer on an annual basis. Ms. Fricke provided the estimated groundwater withdrawals, the numbers from the response function and described the components and how the projections are calculated. Clinton Phillips provided a report on the snowpack. Ms. Fricke highlighted annual depletions and why the wet dry average table had been removed from the ARP. Jamie Hart suggested they continue to release wet water to the Rio Grande River rather than forbearance to make up depletions. Ms. Fricke explained the overpayment and credit of 300-acre feet from last year and highlighted the post plan depletions.

A motion was made by Carla Worley to approve the Annual Replacement Plan with the changes made and that have been discussed and send to the District Board of Directors for consideration of approval. The motion was seconded by Sheldon Rockey and unanimously approved.

Discussion and Possible Action on Fallow Contracts

President Brownell asked for discussion and possible action items. Marisa Fricke reported receiving two (2) fallow contracts for the Board to consider. The first one she highlighted was for one (1) field for four (4) years from Lee Welch. The second one was for one (1) field for (4) years from Martinez Farms. Ms. Fricke reported both contracts met the eligibility criteria and she recommended approval.

A motion was made by Jamie Hart to approved the Lee Welch and Martinez Farms Fallow Contracts as presented. The motion was seconded by Carla Worley and unanimously approved.

Other Director Reports/Comments/Questions

President Brownell asked for other Director reports/comments/questions. Amy Kunugi was present via telephone and voiced her concern on the Boards denial of her fallow contracts. Marisa Fricke explained the reasons for the non-eligibility. Ms. Kunugi asked the Board to reconsider the denial of her fallow contract request. Discussion was held on the fallow rules and the importance of abiding by those rules. Ms. Fricke highlighted the number of slots available for the fallow program and potential number of interested individuals. Discussion was held on the fallow program being a short-term fix and the need for longer term solutions with ways to improve the aquifer. The prior motion regarding Southern Colorado Farms denial of fallow approval was affirmed. President Brownell requested a change be made to the fallow contract for clarification.

Next Meeting

A work session was scheduled for May 20, 2021 at 1:00 p.m. The next quarterly meeting is scheduled for June 1, 2021 at 1:30 p.m.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 10:32 a.m.

President

Secretary/Treasurer

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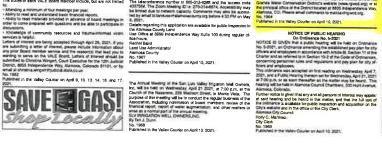
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Public Notices

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