

**SPECIAL MEETING OF THE BOARD OF MANAGERS
OF SPECIAL IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT #5
OF THE RIO GRANDE WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT
May 15, 2019 at 9:00 a.m.
Rio Grande Water Conservation District Conference Room
Alamosa, Colorado 81101**

Present: David Schmittel, President; George Whitten, Vice-President/Secretary/Treasurer; Cory Hill, Manager; Kit Caldon, Manager; Dale Gertsberger, Manager; and Peggy Godfrey, Ex-Officio Member.

Staff and Consultants: Pete Ampe, Hill & Robbins, P.C.; Amber Pacheco, Program Manager; Rose Vanderpool, Program Assistant; Chris Ivers, Deputy Program Manager; Allen Davey and Clinton Phillips, Davis Engineering; and, April Mondragon, Administrative Assistant.

Guests: William Reddin, Tyrell Mares

Meeting Called to Order

President Schmittel called the meeting to order at 9:12 a.m. A quorum was present. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Approval of the Agenda

President Schmittel asked for amendments or a motion to approve the Agenda. A motion was made by George Whitten to approve the Agenda as presented. The motion was seconded by Kit Caldon and unanimously approved.

Attorney's Report

President Schmittel asked for the Attorney's Report. Pete Ampe reported the court approved the State's Groundwater Rules as written and the time to file any appeals had passed, therefore, the Rules went into effect six (6) weeks ago. Amber Pacheco added Subdistrict No. 5 would need to proceed to finalize their Plan of Water Management and prepare to make replacements on May 1, 2020.

Review and Edit the Draft Plan of Water Management

President Schmittel asked for discussion on the draft Plan of Water Management revisions. Amber Pacheco went through the few edits that had been made to the Plan of Water Management since the last meeting and asked the Board for their comments and questions. Ms. Pacheco explained the approval process and stated it would take two (2) or three (3) months to get the Plan fully approved. Ms. Pacheco stated she included the first draft of the Rules and Regulations in their Board packets for them to start to review. Pete Ampe added this Subdistrict along with Subdistrict No. 4 and Subdistrict No. 6 are around the same phase and should all be ready to be approved at about the same time. A discussion was held on establishing additional stream gages on Saguache Creek, as well as the outlook on pumping for the upcoming year. George Whitten questioned if the Santa Maria rights needed to be included in the Plan of Water Management. Pete Ampe provided the Board with the reason it was not necessary and stated the Santa Maria shares are available for lease to use as replacement water. Ms. Pacheco said they would hold a public meeting prior to the approval of the Plan of Water Management meeting for one last review of the Plan.

Discussion on Sources for Replacement of Injurious Stream Depletions

President Schmittel asked for the discussion on replacement sources for to replace injurious stream depletions. Allen Davey and Clinton Phillips presented a Power Point and led a discussion on water replacement concepts for injurious stream depletions on Saguache Creek. Mr. Davey reported on a possible pipeline route and provided a couple scenarios on how it could work, as well as all of the estimated costs and fees that would be associated with a pipeline. Mr. Davey presented an average year response function and a 2019 water year projected response function. Mr. Davey compared the pipeline construction fees vs. forbearance agreements and reported on the value and simplicity of forbearance. Mr. Davey also reported on the amount of time it would take to build a pipeline; he stated forbearance is the obvious answer. Mr. Davey gave the Board the opportunity to ask questions and provide ideas. Discussion was held on how and when to start talking to and educating the community about forbearance agreements. Dale Gertsberger asked if Subdistrict No. 5 would benefit from the Closed Basin Project. Mr. Ampe



explained it would be at the discretion of the Board of Directors of the Rio Grande Water Conservation District, the Operating Committee, the San Luis Valley Water Conservancy District and the Rio Grande Water Users to allocate a portion of the Closed Basin water.

New Business


President Schmittel stated the new business had already been discussed.

Next Meeting

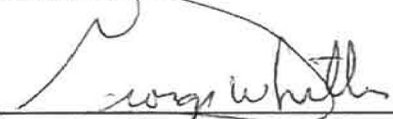
A Work Session was scheduled for June 13, 2019 at 9:00 a.m. at the Saguache County Road and Bridge. The next regularly scheduled Quarterly Meeting was moved July 17, 2019 to July 24, 2019 at 1:00 p.m.

Adjournment

A motion was made by Kit Caldon to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Dale Gertsberger and unanimously approved. The meeting was adjourned at 11:30 a.m.



President



Vice-President/Secretary/Treasurer

