# RIO GRANDE WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT BOARD OF DIRECTORS SPECIAL MEETING

December 23, 2021 at 3:00 P.M. 8805 Independence Way, Alamosa CO 81101 And By Zoom Teleconference

**Present:** Greg Higel, President; Armando Valdez, Vice-President; Dwight Martin, Secretary/Treasurer; Peggy Godfrey, Director; Steve Keller, Director; Zeke Ward, Director; Mike Kruse, Director; and, Cory Off, Director.

Absent: Bill McClure, Director.

**Staff and Consultants:** David Robbins and Pete Ampe, Hill & Robbins, P.C.; Cleave Simpson, General Manager; Marisa Fricke, Program Manager; Chris Ivers, Program Manager; Wylie Keller, Water Resource Specialist; Michael Carson, Database Administrator; and April Mondragon, Administrative Assistant.

Guests: Deb Sarason, David Hofmann, William Myers, Sheldon Rockey, and, Jake Burris.

#### CALL TO ORDER

President Greg Higel called the meeting to order at 3:05 p.m. There was a quorum present for the meeting.

### **INTRODUCTION OF STAFF AND GUESTS**

President Greg Higel welcomed all those present and asked for introductions.

#### APPROVE AGENDA

President Higel asked for amendments or a motion to approve the agenda. A motion was made by Dwight Martin to approve the agenda as presented. The motion was seconded by Peggy Godfrey and unanimously approved.

#### PUBLIC COMMENT

President Higel asked for public comment. There was none.

# REVIEW AND CONSIDER APPROVAL OF SUBDISTRICT NO. 1 WELL PERMIT PURCHASE AGREEMENTS

President Higel asked for review and consideration for the approval of Subdistrict No. 1's Well Permit Purchase Agreements. Cleave Simpson reported Subdistrict No. 1 budgeted for the conservation program and had an abundance of interest from the public. He provided the number of contracts, names of participants, number of wells, the amount of acre-feet included and he explained the process used to rank the contracts. Mr. Simpson highlighted that all of the purchase and sale agreements are identical minus the legal descriptions, dollar amounts, owner names and well information. Mr. Simpson also reported the agreements require Rio Grande Water Conservation District Board of Directors approval. Mike Kruse recused himself from the vote and any discussion that concerned individual contracts. David Robbins reported Mr. Kruse's recusal was done appropriately and stated he may comment on general policy issues. Discussion was held on what happens to the wells once they

are purchased by the District on behalf of Subdistrict No. 1. Dwight Martin suggesting certifying the wells or creating a policy stating the wells would not be used again. David Robbins described the decision the Board needed to make at the current meeting to either approve or not approve the well purchase contracts.

A motion was made by Cory Off to approve all eleven (11) contracts presented. The motion was seconded by Peggy Godfrey. Cleave Simpson listed each contract for clarity: Bowman purchase agreement, Bowman No. 2 purchase agreement, Cooley purchase agreement, Cooley No. 2 purchase agreement, Hooks purchase agreement, Iron Creek purchase agreement, Kruse purchase agreement, Kruse Partnership No. 2 purchase agreement, Ponderosa purchase agreement, Welch purchase agreement and Welch No. 2 purchase agreement. Mike Kruse abstained from the vote and the remaining seven directors voted yes and the motion passed.

## **ADJOURN**

The meeting was adjourned at 3:41 p.m.

The next scheduled quarterly meeting will be held on January 18, 2022.