



New Mexico Rural Water Association  
Board of Directors Meeting Minutes  
Hotel Albuquerque at Old Town  
March 21, 2007

Directors Present:

John L. Jones, President	Norman Saunders, Director
Pat Banegas, Vice-President	Nick Ashcroft, Director
Ray Leverich, Secretary / Treasurer	Wesley Shafer, Director
Jim Dunlap, National Director	Ophelia Gonzales, Director
Keith Lee, Past President	Gavin Strathdee, Director
Clarence Aragon, Legislative Chair	Gilbert Miera, Director
Debra L. Ingle, Director	Ed Silva, Director
Ivan Roper, Director	Don Wells, Director
Mike Vigil, Director	Richard Leal, Director
Karen Bray, Director	John Eckley, Director
David Kenneke, Director	Gloria Gonzales, Director
Michael Stroud, Director	Larry Covington, Director

Directors Absent:

Sherman Martin, Director	Ralph Dunlap, Director
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Guests Present:

Matt Holmes, Executive Director	Gene Sikora, Administrative Assistant
Christine Ageton, Assistant Director	Craig Crissinger

**I. Call to Order**

President John L. Jones called the meeting to order at 10:34 am.

**II. Pledge of Allegiance**

President John L. Jones led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance.

**III. Approval of Agenda**

Ivan Roper moved to approve the agenda  
Ray Leverich seconded the motion  
Motion carried unanimously

**IV. Introduction of New Board Members**

President John L. Jones asked all attendees to introduce themselves and the system they represent.



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**V. Approval of Minutes – August 18-19, 2006**

Debra Ingle moved to approve the minutes as submitted  
Gavin Strathdee seconded the motion  
Motion carried unanimously

**VI. Membership & Dues Report**

Gene Sikora, Administrative Assistant, reported that the Association had 511 paid members for a total of \$96,340 for 2006. This was an increase of 8 members and \$5,499 in revenue from 2005. The 2006 membership consisted of 312 Regular (voting) members, 173 Associate members, and 26 Individual members. The Association already has 389 paid memberships for 2007, totaling \$72,850 in dues.

**VII. Executive Director's Report**

Matthew Holmes, Executive Director, reported on the following items:

- ◆ The Drinking Water Taste Test Finals will be held at 6:30 pm in the North Atrium. Judges will be Lt. Governor Diane Denish, television personality Diane Anderson, and USDA Rural Development State Director Ryan Gleason.
- ◆ The ATV donation drive has been very successful so far, raising over \$5,500. The ATV will be given away at the Awards Banquet.

**VIII. 2008 Membership Dues**

Ray Leverich, Secretary / Treasurer gave a recommendation for a dues increase on behalf of the Finances Committee.

Ray Leverich moved to establish a new membership category for 2008, for systems serving 2,501 connections and greater, at \$925 per year

Ivan Roper seconded the motion

Discussion followed the motion

Jim Dunlap called the question

Motion carried – Pat Banegas voted in the negative

Ray Leverich moved to increase the 2008 dues by 6% rounded to the nearest dollar for each membership category, excluding the newly created 2,501 connections and greater category, and to increase dues by 5% rounded to the nearest dollar for each membership category each year from 2009 - 2012

Ivan Roper seconded the motion

Discussion followed the motion



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Dave Kenneke moved to amend the motion to increase the 2008 dues for Associate Members to \$275, and to increase the 2008 dues for Individual Members to \$100

Ivan Roper seconded the amendment  
Ray Leverich accepted the amendment  
Motion carried unanimously

Gavin Strathdee moved to include the Associate Member category and the Individual Member category in the 5% increase dues rounded to the nearest dollar each year from 2009 – 2012

Debra Ingle seconded the motion  
Motion carried unanimously

#### **IX. Legislative Report**

Clarence Aragon, Legislative Chair provided an overview of the Legislative Committee's activities for the previous year. He discussed general issues with the Water Trust Board, HB53, SB901, and Water Audit requirements for systems.

Pat Banegas discussed the revisions to the Water and Sanitation District Act, HB 1032, and asked for the support of the Board members to the Governor.

President John L. Jones discussed changes to the RIP loan program, Wastewater SRF, and government license plates for MDWCAs.

National Director Jim Dunlap discussed the loss of Joe Stell in the legislature, the Year of Water, gaining the cooperation of County Commissioners, and subdivision rules and regulations.

#### **X. Open Meetings Act Resolution**

Ivan Roper moved to approve the Open Meetings Act Resolution as presented  
Debra Ingle seconded the motion  
Motion carried unanimously

#### **XI. NRWA Water Rally – April 29-May 2, 2007**

Karen Bray and Richard Leal requested financial support to attend the 2007 NRWA Water Rally.

#### **XII. Committee Business**

Incoming President Clarence Aragon stated that there was much work to be done on behalf of the Membership of the Association, and asked Board members to submit in writing the committees they would be willing to serve on.



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**XIII. 2007 Summer Board Meeting – Region III (NW)**

President John L. Jones moved to task staff to pursue meeting facilities and hotel accommodations in Farmington and Chama, with the Executive Committee to make the final decision on location

Richard Leal seconded the motion

Motion carried unanimously

Debra Ingle moved to hold the 2007 Summer Board Meeting on August 17 & 18

Gavin Strathdee seconded the motion

Motion carried unanimously

**XIV. New Business**

There was no new business brought before the Board.

**XV. Adjourn**

The meeting was adjourned at 11:56 am.

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Clarence Aragon, President

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Ray Leverich, Secretary / Treasurer



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Wednesday, March 21, 2007, 10:30 am  
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## **AGENDA**

- I. Call to Order – John L. Jones, President
- II. Pledge of Allegiance
- III. Approval of Agenda
- IV. Introduction of New Board Members
- V. Approval of Minutes, August 18-19, 2006
- VI. Membership & Dues Report – Gene Sikora, Administrative Assistant
- VII. Executive Director's Report – Matthew Holmes
- VIII. 2008 Membership Dues
- IX. Legislative Report – Clarence Aragon, Legislative Chair
- X. Open Meetings Act Resolution
- XI. NRWA Water Rally – April 29-May 2, 2007
- XII. Committee Business
- XIII. 2007 Summer Board Meeting – Region III (NW)
- XIV. New Business
- XV. Adjourn