



New Mexico Rural Water Association
Board of Directors Meeting Minutes
Angel Fire Resort, Angel Fire, NM
August 19, 2009

Directors Present

Clarence Aragon, President
Ray Leverich, Secretary/Treasurer
John L. Jones, Legislative Chairman
W. Keith Lee, Past President
Pat Banegas, Executive Committee
Steve Bailey
Dave Kenneke
Wesley Shafer
Gavin Strathdee
Michael Stroud
James Robles
Kenneth Whitecotton

Directors Absent

Nick Ashcroft
Karen Bray
Larry Covington
Bert Delara
Jim Dunlap, National Director
David Edington
Alex Griego Jr.
Debra Ingle, Executive Committee
Gilbert Miera
James Miller
Norman Saunders
Edward Silva
Mike Vigil

Staff Present

Lupe Aragon, Circuit Rider
Carlos Bustos, Source Water Specialist
Don Castillo, ARRA CR
Dominick Donnarumma, ARRA CR
Mario Gonzales, ARRA CR
Heidi Haas, Finance Administrator
Matthew Holmes, Executive Director

Susanne Lischer, Training Coordinator
Susan Maupin, Wastewater Technician
Peter Nathanson, Training Specialist
Sue Sleeper, Board Training Specialist
Andrew Sweetman, Tribal Source Water
Daniel Valdez, Circuit Rider

I. Call to Order

President Clarence Aragon called the meeting to order at 8:45 am.

II. Pledge of Allegiance

President Clarence Aragon led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance.

III. Introduction of Board Members and Attendees

All attendees present introduced themselves.

IV. Opening Remarks

President Clarence Aragon welcomed everyone to the northeast region Board of Directors meeting. He thanked the Directors for traveling to the meeting and for their service to the Association. President Aragon stated that on July 2, 2009 NMRWA lost long-standing member and Vice President Ivan Roper. Mr. Roper served the Association well for almost 10 years and will be missed by all.



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President Aragon thanked everyone for their condolences and wished Ivan Godspeed on his journey.

V. Approval of Agenda

Ray Leverich moved to approve the agenda as submitted
Pat Banegas seconded the motion
Motion carried unanimously

VI. Approval of Minutes –April 8, 2009

Keith Lee moved to approve the minutes as submitted
David Kenneke seconded the motion
Motion carried unanimously

VII. Executive Committee Vacancy – Region IV

Kenneth Whitecotton moved to table this item until after the first break
David Kenneke seconded the motion
Motion carried unanimously

VIII. Executive Director's Report

Matthew Holmes, Executive Director reported on the following items:

- ◆ New Health Insurance Plan for Association Employees
- ◆ NRWA Annual Conference – H2O Expo
- ◆ NMED Offering Technical Assistance through Various Programs
- ◆ The New Mexico WARN Program
- ◆ Status of the New Mexico Water Conservation Fee
- ◆ Participation in the NRWA Hawaii Operator Training Program
- ◆ Request from a Member MDWCA Regarding IRS Status

Next, Association staff members gave progress reports and updates on their programs and other initiatives. Staff members answered questions from the Board of Directors.

Finally, Matthew Holmes presented a report from National Director Jim Dunlap was unable to attend the meeting to commitments with NRWA. A written copy of the report is attached.

Ray Leverich moved to take item VII off the table for action
Keith Lee seconded the motion
Motion carried unanimously



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Ray Leverich moved to place David Kenneke in the vacant position on the Executive Committee on behalf of Region IV (NE)
Kenneth Whitecotton seconded the motion
Motion carried unanimously

David Kenneke Moved to place John L. Jones in the vacant position on the Board of Directors on behalf of Region IV (NE)
Kenneth Whitecotton seconded the motion
Motion carried unanimously

IX. Regulatory Matters

Michael Stroud reported on Artesia's pharmaceutical disposal program and the regulatory challenges that have surfaced with the incineration process. He outlined plans that have been made by NMED to resolve this issue.

John L. Jones moved to pass a resolution in support of incineration as the best currently available method for pharmaceutical disposal
Ray Leverich seconded the motion
Motion carried unanimously

The Board of Directors discussed the Utility Operators Certification Advisory Board and the wastewater laboratory technician certification proposal.

X. Legislative Program

Legislative Chairman John L. Jones led a discussion on the upcoming presentation to the Water and Natural Resources Interim Committee.

Executive Director Matthew Holmes presented the 2009 Annual Report which will be presented to the Interim Committee. Board members suggested that future Annual Reports should include write-ups of success stories submitted by staff.

A discussion was held on the idea of holding a Legislative Symposium for state legislators sometime in the summer of 2010. It was suggested to distribute some item with the NMRWA logo such as a flash drive, a knife or a pen.

Legislative Chairman John L. Jones reported that a special session was needed to balance the state budget - there was a \$433 million budget shortfall and revenue projections were down \$300 million from the last report. The major items in the budget our education, Medicare and Medicaid. Items under future consideration by the Water and Natural Resources Interim Committee are adjudications and



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regulatory justice. Finally, Mr. Jones stated that New Mexico One Call had an opening on the Board of Directors and encouraged anyone who is interested to apply.

XI. Committee Business

John L. Jones, Legislative Chair reported on behalf of the Political Action Committee. He reminded the Directors that their participation in the Annual Conference PAC fundraiser was crucial. He stated that several items will be raffled in advance this year again, including two rifles and possibly others. Board members were encouraged to donate items for the raffle at the conference.

XII. New Business

Steve Bailey thanked the staff and board members for donating items to his family recently due to a house fire. He stated that the Association was a great thing for the state and that his involvement has been a blessing.

XIII. Adjourn

Keith Lee moved to adjourn the meeting at 3:15 PM
Jim Dunlap seconded the motion
Motion carried unanimously

Clarence Aragon, President

Ray Leverich, Secretary / Treasurer

NATIONAL DIRECTOR'S REPORT FOR AUGUST 19, 2009 Angel Fire, NM

Directors, first let me apologize for the need to be in two places at once. I serve on National's Program Review Committee, which is responsible for oversight of all functions of NRWA. The agenda for this meeting is to review all State Programs with possible changes to be recommended to the full board. With this in mind, I felt it necessary to represent New Mexico's interest at that meeting-Sub-Agreements, Funding Formulas, Financial Status of NRWA, Board Policy , Federal Contracts and any problems with any state issues will be discussed. So you can see the importance of having your representative in attendance.

This past week I spent two days with the Long Range Planning Committee as an advisor. I am not a currently a member of that committee, but have chaired it many years in the past. We looked at long range plans to work more closely with State Boards in areas that State Boards request. We are exploring ways to try to get ahead of the EPA Regulatory curve even though we have a member of the NDWAC. Mentoring from one State to another will be looked at. These items will be reported to the full board for their possible approval.

I would like to mention that I have many heard compliments on the leadership of the New Mexico Executive Board and their executive director, Matt Holmes.

I would like to ask you to look at applying for more national awards. I think you are just as deserving as any.

Remember that the National Legislative people are in the state and should be talked to, if nothing else but to say thank you.

Communication Committee

Meeting July 16, 2009 1000 am

Present for meeting: Michael E. Stroud

Keith Lee

Jim Miller

- 1. Committee would like to see a DVD/CD or maybe even memory sticks made to explain what NM Rural Water is all about, what it offers, training, troubleshooting assists, help with regulation changes, certifications, etc. Message from Director, President, recording from Circuit Riders, Trainers, etc.**
- 2. On the NM Rural Water website a video message from the Director and President about NM Rural Water that can be clicked on to watch.**
- 3. Would like to see something by the Next Annual Meeting.**
- 4. Email list of members for sending out information.**
- 5. Email tree for getting emails out to Representatives.**
- 6. Make sure that all regions are covered on the Communication Committee.**

7. Communication Committee has a Member List.

**8. More than 1 Association Member for sending out
Legislative Info.**

**9. Any future face to face meetings for the Communication
Committee will be held at the NM Rural Water Office.**



New Mexico Rural Water Association
Board of Directors Meeting
Wednesday, August 19, 2009, 8:30 am
Angel Fire Resort, Angel Fire, NM

AGENDA

- I. Call to Order – Clarence Aragon, President
- II. Pledge of Allegiance
- III. Introduction of Board Members and Attendees
- IV. Opening Remarks – Clarence Aragon, President
- V. Approval of Agenda
- VI. Approval of Minutes – April 8, 2009
- VII. Executive Committee Vacancy – Region IV
- VIII. Executive Director's Report – Matthew Holmes
 - ◆ Financial, Program & Membership Updates
 - ◆ 2010 NMRWA Annual Conference
- IX. Regulatory Matters
 - ◆ Pharmaceutical Incineration – Solid Waste Regulation
 - ◆ Utility Operators Certification Advisory Board
- X. Legislative Program
 - ◆ Water & Natural Resources Interim Committee
 - ◆ NMRWA Annual Report
 - ◆ 2010 Legislative Symposium
 - ◆ Legislative Chairman's Report
- XI. Committee Business
- XII. New Business
- XIII. Adjourn