



New Mexico Rural Water Association
Executive Committee Meeting Minutes
Hotel Albuquerque at Old Town, Albuquerque, NM
April 6, 2009

Committee Members Present:

Clarence Aragon, President
Ivan Roper, Vice-President
Ray Leverich, Secretary / Treasurer
Jim Dunlap, National Director
Keith Lee, Past President
John L. Jones, Legislative Chair
Debra L. Ingle, Director

Committee Members Absent:

Patrick Banegas, Director

Guests Present:

Matthew Holmes, Executive Director
Karen Bray
Zach Cook

I. Call to Order

President Clarence Aragon called the meeting to order at 1:36 PM.

II. Approval of Agenda

Debra Ingle moved to approve the agenda
John L. Jones seconded the motion
Motion carried unanimously

III. Approval of Minutes – January 30, 2009

Ray Leverich moved to approve the minutes as submitted
Ivan Roper seconded the motion
Motion carried unanimously

IV. Executive Director's Report

President Clarence Aragon welcomed NMED Cabinet Secretary Ron Curry and thanked him for providing a report to the Executive Committee. Secretary Curry reported on the following items:

- NMED has lost a considerable amount of funding due to a 6% decrease in revenues from the general fund
- The Drinking Water Bureau has 12 vacancies, more than 15% of their total personnel
- The technical contract between NMED and NMRWA was suspended for fiscal reasons – a decision made by his office and not one made lightly
- Secretary Curry emphasized the contract suspension was not punitive and that NMED was satisfied with NMRWA's efforts under the contract
- Discretionary funds from the stimulus package may allow for renewed funding under the contract
- The Drinking Water Bureau has undergone significant management changes since 2000, with four permanent Bureau Chiefs and several interim Bureau Chiefs



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- Secretary Curry has spent more time dealing with issues with the Drinking Water Bureau than any other Bureau in NMED
- The Secretary believes that the new permanent Bureau Chief, Margaret Ryan will bring stability to the Drinking Water Bureau

The Executive Committee then held a discussion with Secretary Curry regarding the Water Conservation Fee. President Aragon stated that the Executive Committee has requested specific information on the expenditures and revenues of the Fund that would like to receive this information as soon as possible.

Secretary Curry committed to providing this information by the middle of May or the beginning of June at the latest.

Jim Dunlap offered the consulting services of Jerry Biberstine, former president of ASDWA and longtime drinking water program administrator in Colorado. These services would be provided free of charge by NRWA. Secretary Curry asked for a resume for Mr. Biberstine.

Matthew Holmes, Executive Director reported on the following items:

- Changes to the Annual Conference
- GIS system mapping project
- Status of NMRWA budget and programs

The Executive Committee discussed the current budget situation and potential changes to staffing that may become necessary.

V. Approval of Modifications to 2009 NMRWA Budget

No action was taken on this item, since there was insufficient information in order to revise the budget at this time.

VI. Committee Business

President Clarence Aragon requested that the Political Action Committee review the concept of holding a legislative symposium.

Ray Leverich reported that the Annual Awards/Scholarship Committee met and selected award winners and scholarship recipients for 2009.

Debra Ingle reported that the Office/Training Facility Committee was unable to make any progress on funding due to the current economic situation. The committee is ready to proceed when the situation changes.



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President Aragon requested the Policies and Finance Committee discussed any changes that can be made to increase the viability of the larger Board of Directors.

John L. Jones reported on behalf of the Legislative Committee:

- 2009 was the Year of Restraint
- Results of tiered reporting under the Audit Act
- Legislation concerning brackish water
- Lower Rio Grande Public Works Association
- PERA bill for MDWCAs was a learning process
- House Bill 31 / Subdivision Act

Jim Dunlap suggested that NMRWA investigate obtaining a contract with the PRC for assistance to private water systems.

President Aragon stated that his goals for the Communications Committee remained important progress had been elusive. He requested that the Executive Committee consider the Communication Committee's function and effectiveness.

VII. New Business

John L. Jones stated that New Mexico One Call was seeking a small system representative for their Board of Directors.

Jim Dunlap requested that Debra Ingle make the solar energy program proposal available to all members of the executive committee

VIII. Adjourn

Ray Leverich moved to adjourn the meeting
Debra Ingle seconded the motion
Motion carried unanimously

Clarence Aragon, President

Ray Leverich, Secretary / Treasurer



New Mexico Rural Water Association
Executive Committee Meeting
Monday, April 6, 2009, 1:30 pm
Hotel Albuquerque at Old Town – Fireplace Room

AGENDA

- I. Call to Order
- II. Approval of Agenda
- III. Approval of Minutes – January 30, 2009
- IV. Executive Director's Report – Matthew Holmes
- V. Approval of Modifications to 2009 NMRWA Budget
- VI. Committee Business
- VII. New Business
- VIII. Adjourn