

**New Mexico Rural Water Association
Executive Committee Meeting Minutes**

NMRWA Office, Albuquerque, NM

May 19, 2006 10:00 AM

Committee Members Present:

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

Committee Members Absent:

None

Guests Present:

Matt Holmes, Executive Director
Christine Ageton, Assistant Director

I. Call to Order

President John L. Jones called the meeting to order at 10:07 AM, in accordance with the Naval Observatory Atomic Clock.

II. Pledge of Allegiance

Ray Leverich led the Committee members in the Pledge of Allegiance.

III. Approval of Agenda

Debra Ingle moved to approve the agenda
Pat Banegas seconded the motion
Motion carried unanimously

IV. Approval of Minutes – March 20 & 22, 2006

Pat Banegas moved to approve the minutes
Debra Ingle seconded the motion
Motion carried unanimously

V. Executive Director's Report

Matthew Holmes presented the Executive Director's Report. The following items were discussed:

- NM One Call has secured a good location for their facility and is still interested in partnering with NMRWA. No new information is available on the status on Rep. Wilson's funding request to HUD for NMRWA.
- The USDA Farm Service Agency Source Water Protection Program annual operating plan was presented for approval to the Executive Committee.

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- Christine Ageton, Assistant Director presented an update of the Annual Conference, employee review process, and other responsibilities of her position. Committee members requested more conference class focused on board members and higher level operators.
- The Drinking Water Advisory Group met recently and discussed the Intended Use Plan for monies received from EPA. Charles Thomas is acting Bureau Chief for the Drinking Water Bureau.
- The Tribal Source Water Protection Program will no longer be funded directly from USEPA Region Six, due to congressional mandate barring the agency from awarding grants to nonprofits or tribes. The specialist for this program, Tim Wellman, has been working to build a relationship with Indian Health Service, who has committed to acting as a fiscal agent for this program. There will be a lapse in funding for this program for several months while this arrangement is finalized.

Ivan Roper moved to approve the USDA FSA Program operating plan
Pat Banegas seconded the motion
Motion carried unanimously

VI. National Director's Report

Jim Dunlap presented the National Director's report. The following items were discussed:

- New York Rural Water has proposed a Bylaws change to NRWA regarding an appeals process directly to the full NRWA board of directors. It was felt by Executive Committee members that this would be a waste of time and money.
- Funding levels for NRWA are as good as can be expected; NRWA was the only association that retained earmarked funding in the agency legislation.
- The Bureau of Reclamation bill is gaining some momentum. Jim Dunlap is continuing to support the bill on behalf of NMRWA and NRWA.

Ray Leverich moved to direct the National Director to oppose the Bylaws change
Debra Ingle seconded the motion
Motion carried unanimously

VII. Proposed Changes to NMED Regulations

- Operator Certification Regulations – no new changes to report, the regulations will be presented to the Environmental Improvement Board on June 13.
- Drinking Water Regulations – the latest proposed version was reviewed.

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- Liquid Waste Regulations – NMED continues to seek primacy over NPDES permitting. The Executive Committee remains concerned over the cost and effectiveness of the State managing this program. President John L. Jones will contact Attorney Elizabeth Taylor for further analysis.

Keith Lee moved to direct the President to send a letter in support of the changes to the Operator Certification Regulations

Debra Ingle seconded the motion

Motion carried unanimously

VIII. Legislative Issues, Federal and State

- NMED’s rulemaking process for the Sanitary Projects Act – Participation should come from all Mutual Domestic Water Consumers Associations in accordance with the law. John L. Jones, Ray Leverich, Clarence Aragon and Matthew Holmes have provided input. President John L. Jones requested coverage of this issue in the newsletter.
- OSE Regulations – The Executive Committee remains concerned about retaining the ability to transfer water rights from domestic wells to systems, and about developers abusing domestic well permits. Debra Ingle and Matthew Holmes met with State Engineer John D’Antonio and discussed these issues; other Committee members have provided input at public meetings.
- 1926(b) – the recent court decision of Dona Ana Mutual Domestic Water Consumers Association vs. Moongate was reviewed.
- Regionalization, funding criteria and Water Trust Board – the Committee discussed ongoing developments in these areas.

IX. Committee Reports

There were no committee reports.

X. Executive Session – Limited to Personnel Matters

Jim Dunlap moved to enter Executive Session

Pat Banegas seconded the motion

Motion carried unanimously

ROLL CALL:	Pat Banegas-aye	Clarence Aragon-aye
	John Jones-aye	Ray Leverich-aye
	Keith Lee-aye	Ivan Roper-aye
	Jim Dunlap-aye	Debra Ingle-aye

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ATTEST: President John L. Jones attested that only personnel matters were discussed in the Executive Session.

XI. Approval of Salary Increases

Ray Leverich moved approve salary increases by the Executive Director, up to 10% and within program budgets, to be recorded in the personnel records
Clarence Aragon seconded the motion
Motion carried unanimously

XII. Salary Policy

Pat Banegas moved to table this item
Ivan Roper seconded the motion
Motion carried unanimously

XIII. New Business & Public Comment

Jim Dunlap, National Director reported that Representative Joe Stell is retiring, and has requested that a representative from New Mexico Rural Water Association be present at the next Water and Natural Resources Interim Committee meeting.

Debra Ingle moved to direct Executive Director Matthew Holmes to mail a full set of the financial statements to the Executive Committee quarterly, and a summary spreadsheet monthly

Ray Leverich seconded the motion
Motion passed unanimously

Jim Dunlap moved to direct Executive Director Matthew Holmes to purchase a carbon monoxide detector for the NMRWA office, and report the results at the next meeting, because he is tired of asking him to do it

Ray Leverich seconded the motion
Motion carried unanimously

The Committee agreed that the next meeting will take place in July if there is sufficient business for the agenda.

XIV. Comments from the President

President John L. Jones had no further comments to give.

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XV. Adjourn

Debra Ingle moved to adjourn
John L. Jones seconded the motion
Motion passed unanimously

The meeting was adjourned at 1:35 pm.

John L. Jones, President

Ray Leverich, Secretary / Treasurer

New Mexico Rural Water Association

Executive Committee Meeting
Friday, May 19, 2006, 10:00 AM

*New Mexico Rural Water Association Office
3413 Carlisle Blvd. NE, Albuquerque*

AGENDA

- I. CALL TO ORDER
- II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE
- III. APPROVAL OF AGENDA
- IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – March 20 & 22, 2006
- V. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR’S REPORT
 - TRAINING FACILITY UPDATE
 - APPROVAL OF PROGRAM OPERATING PLANS
- VI. NATIONAL DIRECTOR’S REPORT
 - NRWA BYLAWS CHANGE
- VII. PROPOSED CHANGES TO NMED REGULATIONS
 - OPERATOR CERTIFICATION
 - LIQUID WASTE
 - DRINKING WATER
- VIII. LEGISLATIVE ISSUES, FEDERAL AND STATE
- IX. COMMITTEE REPORTS
- X. EXECUTIVE SESSION – LIMITED TO PERSONNEL
- XI. APPROVAL OF SALARY INCREASES
- XII. SALARY POLICY
- XIII. NEW BUSINESS & PUBLIC COMMENT
- XIV. COMMENTS FROM THE PRESIDENT
- XV. ADJOURN