



Minutes

Paso del Norte Watershed Council Executive Committee meeting

April 16, 2015 | noon-1:30PM

Texas AgriLife Research Center
1380 A&M Circle | El Paso TX 79927

Present:

Conrad Keyes, Jr.-USACE
Brian Hanson-
Liz Verdecchia-USIBWC
Gill Sorg-City of Las Cruces
Hilary Brinegar-Marron Assoc
Mike Landis-USBR
Sue Watts-ecologist

Zhuping Sheng-TX Agrilife
Girisha Ganjegunte- TX Agrilife
Zachary Schlachter-USIBWC
Leslie Grijalva-USIBWC
Daniel Tirres-USBR
John Sproul-UTEP

1. The Executive Committee meeting of the Paso del Norte Watershed Council was called to order by Conrad Keyes at 12:15PM. All participants introduced themselves. Quorum was not attained. There were no changes to the agenda.
2. Announcements- The City of LC wanted to create a constructed wetland with outflows from their WWTP but the project was not approved by the state engineer.
3. Decisions
 - a. Approval of minutes from February 4, 2015 –Since quorum was not attained, minutes were not approved but recommended edits were noted.
 - b. Approval of PdNWC Work Plan and Strategic Plan-edits to the plans were reviewed; further edits are to be sent to Sue; final approval will be done by email vote.
4. Presentation on Rio Bosque Park-John Sproul explained the history of the Park and all of the new and on-going projects that will help provide enough water to restore riparian habitat along the historic bend of the Rio Grande.
5. Reports
 - a. PdNWC Financial Report –no report.
 - b. Technical Committee Report – Zhuping Sheng reported that the URGWOM model will be used for the upcoming climate change project. Conrad is creating a summary of NM Lower Rio Grande activities over last year for the URGWOM Tech Team. They are investigating the possibility of applying for 319 funds to resurrect the constructed wetland project in Sunland Park NM . They are also looking for funding sources to implement a project in the Montoya Drain outfall area.
 - c. Biological Committee –The committee met after the February Council meeting. They will review and comment on the Strategic Plan, inserting their committee’s goals into the Council’s goals.
 - d. Website update-Hilary. Nothing new to report.
 - e. Clean Water Committee –Leslie Grijalva reported that committee is just getting started and needs new members.
6. Next EC Meeting – July 23, before the Citizen’s Forum meeting in El Paso.
7. Meeting adjourned at 1:30PM.
8. Those wishing to tour Rio Bosque Wetlands Park assembled and drove to the park.