

**Estancia Basin Water Planning Committee
Minutes – Regular Meeting
February 16, 2006**

Call to Order: The Estancia Basin Water Planning Committee (EBWPC) regular meeting was called to order at 9:15 a.m. by Rik Thompson, Chairman

Committee Members Present:

Rik Thompson	Ryan Schwebach
Jim Rea	John L. Jones
Dan McGregor	Bud Hagerman
Tom Spindle	

Staff:

Jim Corbin, Executive Director, EBWPC
Dierdre L. Tarr, Recorder

Guests Present:

Art Swenka, Chairman Estancia Basin Resource Association

Approval of Agenda:

- The committee reviewed the agenda. John Jones moved to approve the agenda. Ryan Schwebach seconded the motion. Jim Rea requested discussion on the Open Meetings Act be added to the agenda. The agenda item "Report on SBA work at Sandia Labs" should be moved to the March meeting. Motion carried.

Approval/Amend Minutes:

- John Jones moved to approve the minutes as amended. Jim Rea seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Financial Report:

- Jim Corbin reported the EBWPC has \$2,660.30 at this time. The \$23,500 should be available from Interstate Streams Commission (ISC) after the Torrance County Commission meets next Wednesday assuming Torrance County approves the contract with ISC. The \$50,000 from the 2005 Legislative session from Rhonda King and Sue Beffort is in Torrance County. Jim Corbin has begun to use this money. Rik Thompson met with the Santa Fe County Commission and received a 5-0 from the Commission for the \$20,000 for the EBWPC. This money is to be used to cover the last two years of work by the staff. Rik Thompson gave the Committee a report on the Santa Fe Commission meeting. Rik Thompson reported he gave the Commission an update on the activities of the EBWPC using material Jim Corbin had

provided to him. After the brief update Rik Thompson answered all of the Commission's questions concerning the Committee's activities since the MOU was signed between Bernalillo, Santa Fe and Tarrant Counties. Rik Thompson is planning on giving the Santa Fe County Commission an update on the Committee activities each year. Rik Thompson visited with Dr. Steven Wust and will have lunch with him in the near future. Rik Thompson is working towards improving the Committee's relationship with Santa Fe County. Discussion followed on keeping a good relationship with each of the counties who have signed on the MOU. Jim Rea asked if there was a continuing commitment from Santa Fe County for another year of funding. Rik Thompson said the Commission had recognized their commitment to fund the EBWPC. Rik Thompson explained we will need to petition Santa Fe County every year to request funding, just as a matter of process. Jim Corbin reported on Water Day, explaining that the Senior Legislative Leadership told some of the consultants and people who were working on legislation on a Tuesday they would like to have the Water Day on the next Saturday. The Leadership thought it would help demonstrate that people were interested in water and water issues. Jim Corbin explained that we got the word out on Wednesday, as soon as we had the information, about the event that Saturday. Rik Thompson reported the Committee had a prime location for a Water Day exhibit, and it included the Watershed Health, Restoration and Monitoring project. Jim Corbin reported that a fact sheet on the recent activities of the EBWPC had been developed and was included in all of the packets prepared for the Water Day. A copy of the fact sheet was given to all the members of the EBWPC. The group who organized the Water Day will also be going to Washington, DC to meet with our legislators to try to bring some money to New Mexico for large infrastructure projects. Jim Corbin explained all the money that the Committee has received has to be spent by June 30, 2006. Rik Thompson reported that Representative Rhonda King, District 50, had requested \$50,000 in funding for the EBWPC in this session, but it may not have been funded. The Committee will have to begin looking for more funding. Dan McGregor reported Bernalillo County will continue to allow Dan to do in kind work for the EBWPC and dovetail the monitoring in lieu of monetary funding.

Correspondence:

Chairman's Report:

- The Chairman's report was given during the financial report.

Executive Director Report:

- Jim Corbin reported on the Watershed Health, Restoration and Monitoring grant through the legislative session.

Unfinished Business:

Funding:

This was discussed in detail under the Financial Report.

Monitoring Station – Bernalillo County:

Dan McGregor gave a short report on the progress of installing the monitoring station Bernalillo County plans on place in the southeastern portion of Bernalillo County. Dan has talked with USGS and they are interested in working with the EBWPC and the Watershed Health, Restoration and Monitoring Committee.

Report on MRCOG:

Joseph Quintana is working on the resolution to set the board for the new Water Resource Board through MRCOG. Rik Thompson and Jim Corbin will be meeting with the Torrance County Commission to get representation on the Water Resource Board.

OSE – Domestic Well Initiative:

The Committee discussed the meetings that had been held by the OSE concerning this issue. Bud Hagerman had attended one of the public meeting the State Engineer is holding. Copies of some of the information was given to the Committee members for their review. Jim Corbin will contact Chuck Dumars for an opinion on the State Engineer's Domestic Well Initiative and give the Committee a short written brief for the next meeting.

Tularosa Basin Hydrologic Study:

Jim Corbin will follow up on this study.

ISC Regional Water Planners Effort:

Jim Corbin gave a short report on this effort.

Discussion on Open Meetings Act:

Rik Thompson reviewed portions of the Open Meetings Act with the Committee. Rik Thompson told the Committee he felt like the Committee does fall under the Open Meetings Act. The Committee gives all the meeting dates for the year to Torrance County and they are always advertised in the Mountain View Telegraph. Jim Rea does not feel the Committee is meeting the portion of the act that requires an Open Meetings Resolution. All organizations that are bound by the Opens Meetings Act have to enter into an Open Meetings Resolution. The resolution specifies where the meetings will be held; how the public is notified of the meetings or any changes to the meetings. The Committee has decided to ask the Torrance County attorney if the Committee falls under the open meeting act. The Committee decided to adopt an Open Meetings Resolution. Further discussion followed and a draft Resolution will be provided at the next meeting.

ACTION ITEMS:

The Board requested a copy of Jim Corbin's contract with the EBWPC for review. The Committee also asked Jim Corbin's suggestions on his contract. Dee will also get a copy of the Code of Conduct out to all the Committee members.

New Business:

- Jim Corbin gave the Committee suggestions on how to begin the work on the update of the regional water plan. Jim Corbin suggested dividing the plan into certain sections for sub-committees to review and make suggestions for the full Committee to review. The contract with ISC has tasks to outline what we want to update in the regional water plan and if there is money left the Committee can start the process of updating the regional water plan. The ISC might have more money available to update the plan. Discussion followed on the deliverables listed on the ISC contract. Dan McGregor will work with Jim Corbin on the suggested changes to the deliverables for the ISC contract. Jim Corbin will talk with ISC to explain they can not expect a revised regional water plan by June 30, 2006. The Committee discussed how many public meetings would be needed to present the revised plan. The Committee also discussed an educational plan. One suggestion was to give presentations at various meetings across the basin. The Committee also has a good relationship with EBRA. This would be another good avenue to give presentations on the revision of the plan.

Additional Reports:

Meetings Attended:

Public Comment:

Next Meeting:

The next meeting of the Estancia Basin Water Planning Committee will be held on Thursday, March 16, 2006 at 9:00 a.m. in the Torrance County Commission Room, Estancia, New Mexico.

Adjourn:

There being no further business to come before the Committee, Ryan Schwebach moved to adjourn. John Jones seconded the motion. Motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 11:20 a.m.

s/
Rik Thompson, Chairman

s/
John L. Jones, Secretary