Draft Minutes  
Paso Del Norte Watershed Council  
May 19, 2006 11:00 am  
University of Texas El Paso (UTEP)  
Geology Building, Room 310

In Attendance:

*Julie Maitland-Assistant Chair  
*Jennifer Montoya-Secretary  
*Ari Michelsen-Treasurer  
*Irene Tejada-Program Coordinator  
*Kevin Bixby  
*Chris Brown  
Conrad Keyes  
Mariana Chew  
Mike Fahey  
*Inga Groff  
*Joe Groff  
Bobby Creel  
Ed Hamlyn  
Cynthia Campo  
*Zhuping Sheng  
Garisha Ganjegunte

*Executive Committee Members

1. Convene meeting  
   • 11:15 a.m. - Meeting called to order by Julie Maitland.

2. Introductions  
   • Those present introduced themselves.

3. Other Business  
   • Conrad- URGWOPS in final stages of taking comments. Final EIS is out in early summer-June/July. ROD will be out Aug/Sept.
   • Surprising lack of comments from southern part of State
   • Chris Brown moved to amend agenda to add Conrad Keyes to the Executive Committee. Ari seconded the motion.
     a. Conrad voted to Executive Committee. Determined that we have 3 open slots.

4. Review of minutes for March 9, 2006 meeting  
   • Amended minutes with comments submitted by Steve and Kevin. Minutes approved with amendments.
5. A. Review of MAC Meeting-Issues w/MAC
   a. Meeting less frequently
   b. All MAC members are members of the PdN Task Force
   c. Dissolving relationship between MAC & PdN Council has been proposed.
      MAC indicates that any council will be implement mitigation aspects of the
      Sustainability EIS.

      - Review of Task Force by Ari. Says that the Technical Committee meetings
        are more inclusive but that the Task Force meetings are not open to Public.
      - Started by Houston Advanced Research Center. Mexico representation is
        part of the charter.
      - Discussion about various organizations that could foster communication
      - Jennifer-would like to know more about the Lower Rio Grande Water Users
        Organization.
      - Chris- The Task Force was formed to advance the environmental concerns on
        from a tri-state perspective. They deal with water resource management, not
        wildlife habitat enhancements.
      - Ed says original mission of Task Force was to harmonize water planning. Our
        mandate is more focused on river enhancement and restoration.

   B. Ed Hamlyn to draft a resolution that will acknowledge what the Commission
      is considering. The PdN Council will pursue and perform their obligation as part
      of the Record of Decision for the Sustainability EIS.
      - Chris motions to draft resolution
      - Ed 2nds it based on discussion here. Ed to start it.

   C. Review of links to MAC via by-laws

6. Council Activities and Programs:

   A. 319
      - Letters to NMDA from the participating organizations in PdN Council that
        describe time and mileage commitments as match are needed.
      - Final workplan submitted to NMDA 3 weeks ago
      - Joint powers signed. Money available for use on July 1, 2006

   B. Water subcommittee work on “Scopes of Work”
      - Jennifer
      - Kevin
      - Julie
      - Need a Water Utility member (as part of agreement with EBID)
      - Need a City Rep member (as part of agreement with EBID)
      - Let the Record show that Chris Brown will not volunteer.

   C. USACE Coordinated Database
      - Ping - Phase IV of scope of work and contract is under progress
• $200,000 in overlap with Phase III extended to Fort Quitment
• Runs through 2007
• Covers Surface Water through Mesilla Valley and Groundwater Interactions
• Remember that the model was developed for flood control and not for operations.

D. Ping and Conrad report on Albuquerque URGWOM Meeting
   General reporting on the overall URGWOM process

E. USBR Challenge 2025 Grant
   • Ping- User Needs Survey now developed and available online.
   • Part of the challenge grant is a survey designed for existing users. Plus, we want to identify non-users.
   • EPWU met with EBID to identify where flow meters, weirs, etc. should be located.
   • Need 2 locations for flow measurement devices and 3-4 probes for water quality. Being worked on by EBID.
   • Mike Fahy gave an update on 2025 grant.
     ▫ Deadline for user survey coming.
     ▫ Enter paper surveys submitted to online survey, is that something Irene can do?

F. Chris- Report on his presentation to IBWC Citizen Forum with Ping
   • Got names and emails for attendees of the presentation. Will add those attendees to request to fill out survey.

G. Irene-said she got a good response at EPA National Coordinators meeting on Ping’s poster

H. Irene - Consejos de Cuenca
   • Update funding mechanisms to be determined after the election.
   • How do we bring in more participation from Mexico?
   • Only have budgeted 5 hours per week for next 4 months for Irene.
   • More translation for webpage needed

I. Ari- We’re getting $200,000 for phase IV from US Army Corps of Engineers to continue Coordinated Database and Riverware Modelling. He also submitted his Treasurers Report.

J. Other Business-
   • Discussion of Irene’s salary
   • Need for outreach communications
   • Get info out about our meeting

K. Chris and Jennifer adjourn