

RIO GRANDE WATERMASTER ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING  
JULY 16, 2014  
TCEQ/RGWM OFFICE, HARLINGEN, TX  
10:00 A.M. – 10:35 A.M.

## *MINUTES*

- I. Chair, Wayne Halbert called the meeting to Order and determined a quorum was present.
- II. Rio Grande Watermaster, Erasmo (Moe) Yarrito, Jr. introduced his staff. Self introductions of all present were made. Copy of Sign-In Sheet attached.
- III. Moe handed out the current Rio Grande Watermaster Advisory Committee membership list.
- IV. Secretary, Sonny Hinojosa presented the Minutes of the July 9, 2012, WAC meeting and of the Record of Discussion of the July 8, 2013 meeting

It was moved and seconded to approve both. Motion carried

- V. Amy Settemeyer presented the proposed Rio Grande Watermaster budget for fiscal year 2015.

The proposed budget is \$855,618.58. Municipal rate is \$0.3819 and irrigation \$0.31.

Items discussed were:

- a) Salaries
  - new Watermaster Deputy
  - Total Watermaster staff is 11 full time employees.
- b) Professional Services of \$91,340.39. \$80,000 of this amount is for TxWAS (Water Accounting System) for the RGWM Program.

It was moved and seconded to recommend to the Executive Director the proposed budget. Motion carried.

Moe provided River data. U.S. ownership at Amistad/Falcon Reservoir System is 43% (1.4 million acre feet) compared to 32.3% at this time last year. Mexican reservoirs are at 54%. There was a 214,000 acre foot allocation in June.

- VI. Wayne had nothing to report on Legislative issues.
- VII. Sonny reported on El Morillo Drain. Nothing new to report. CILA is control of El Morillo. Operations and maintenance better than when CNA had control.
- VIII. Public Comments:
  - Joe Hinojosa (Santa Cruz ID) expressed concern about high salinity. Moe's response was it was due to low River flows.
  - Bruce Hardwicke asked about the end of the 5 year cycle and whether we should expect anything from Mexico.

- A question was asked about WAC membership and the vacancy created by the retirement of JoJo White. Amy responded that the WAC membership requires from 9 up to 15 members, so Committee membership is in compliance.

IX. Meeting adjourned at 10:35 a.m.

THESE MINUTES WERE READ AND APPROVED ON THIS, THE \_\_\_\_\_  
DAY OF \_\_\_\_\_, 2015.

\_\_\_\_\_, CHAIR

\_\_\_\_\_, SECRETARY

RGWAC  
July 08, 2013  
TCEQ/ RGWM Office-Harlingen, TX.  
1:30 pm – 2:15 pm

#### RECORD OF DISCUSSION

- I. Chair, Wayne Halbert called the meeting to Order. A quorum was not present.
- II. Rio Grande Watermaster, Erasmo Yarrito Jr. (Moe) introduced his staff as well as TCEQ-Austin personnel. Self introductions were made of all in attendance. Sign-in sheet is attached for the Record. Orville Ballard attended via conference call.
- III. Moe discussed the WAC membership nomination. Moe will poll the current Committee members to see if they are interested in continuing to serve. All appointments expire August 31.
- IV. Secretary, Sonny Hinojosa presented the Minutes of the July 9, 2012, meeting. Being no quorum, no action was taken.
- V. Moe provided Rio Grande Watermaster Program update:
  - U.S. share of ownership at Amistad/Falcon Reservoir system is 32.98%  
As of this week, Mexico has a deficit of 463,000 AF in the current cycle.
  - The FY14 RGWM budget reflects the municipal rate at \$0.3686 per acre foot. Irrigation at \$0.295 per acre foot.  
This increase from last year's municipal rate of \$0.3445 will generate an additional \$44,944.09 to bring the proposed budget to \$809,142.75 compared to \$764,198.66 for FY13.  
Adoption of the proposed budget will be recommended to the TCEQ Executive Director.
  - Amy Settemeyer, Section Manager – Watermaster Program, discussed a proposed rule change of extending irrigation and mining water contracts expiration dates not to exceed 2 years. Currently, water contracts for irrigation and mining expire 1 year after execution.  
Amy also handed out the TCEQ Enforcement Initiation Criteria (EIC).
- VI. Legislative – Wayne reported that nothing affected water rights last legislative session.
- VII. El Morillo Drain – Sonny had nothing new to report.
- VIII. There were no public comments or concerns.
- IX. Future Meetings – none scheduled at this time.

July 9, 2012  
Rio Grande Watermaster Office  
1804 W Jefferson Avenue  
Harlingen, Texas  
1:30 pm

Agenda

- Call to order / Determination of a quorum.....Wayne Halbert
- Introductions.....Erasmo Yarrito, Jr.
- New WAC members.....Wayne Halbert
- Minutes from previous meeting.....Erasmo Yarrito, Jr.
- Discuss the proposed budget for fiscal year 2013.....Erasmo Yarrito, Jr.  
Cindy Hooper
- Watermaster reports.....Erasmo Yarrito, Jr.
- Update and discussion on legislative session.....Wayne Halbert
- El Morillo Drain Update/Discussion.....Sonny Hinojosa
- Public Comments and Concerns
- Future Meetings
- Adjourn.

Wayne Halbert, Chairman

RIO GRANDE WATERMASTER ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING  
JULY 09, 2012  
TCEQ/RGWM OFFICE, HARLINGEN, TX.  
1:30 P.M. – 2:30 P.M.

## *MINUTES*

- I. Chair, Wayne Halbert called the meeting to Order and determined a quorum was present.
- II. Rio Grande Watermaster, Erasmo Yarrito, Jr. (Moe) introduced his staff as well as TCEQ – Austin personnel. Self introductions were made of all in attendance. Sign-in sheet attached to Minutes. Orville Ballard and Roel Rodriguez attended via conference call.
- III. Wayne named new Watermaster Advisory Committee members. They are:  
  
Bruce Hardwicke – Hardwicke Farms  
Jorge Barrera – City of Eagle Pass  
Brian Macmanus – East Rio Hondo W.S.C.  
Imer De La Garza – US FWS  
  
Moe mentioned that Roy Cooley at Maverick County Water Irrigation District No. 1 had retired and that Cynthia Martinez is the interim General Manager.  
  
Cindy Hooper (TCEQ) commented that she needed contact information for all WAC members for the website.
- IV. Moe provided a Record of Discussion of the July 28, 2011 meeting. Since there was no quorum, there were no Minutes.
- V. Cindy discussed the proposed Watermaster Budget. Total budget for all watermaster programs in the state totals \$1.4 million.  
The Rio Grande Watermaster Operation proposed budget is \$764,198.66. It is an increase of \$59,927.44 over the FY12 Budget. Assessed amount will be \$779,794.56 (based on 98% collection rate.)  
The proposed municipal rate is \$0.3441. Irrigation pays 80% of municipal.  
  
It was moved and seconded to recommend to the Executive Director the proposed budget. After discussion, the motion carried.
- VI. Moe provided the Watermaster Reports:
  - Update on Mexico's progress in meeting 1944 Treaty requirements
  - Precipitation in the Big Bend area
  - Mexico's storage at Amistad/Falcon Reservoir system is 43.0%  
U.S. storage at Amistad/Falcon Reservoir system is 51.08%
  - The 78,000 acre feet that was released by the U.S. from Falcon Dam to dilute the high TDS readings at Anzalduas Dam due to Mexico not operating the El Morillo Drain Pumping Plant has not been repaid by Mexico.

- VII. As for legislative issues, Wayne stated that there is no current legislation on Watermaster program.
- VIII. Sonny Hinojosa reported on the El Morillo Drain. The transfer of operations of the El Morillo Drain has occurred from CONAGUA to CILA. Pumping operations were down last month to accommodate refurbishing of pumps and cleaning out various siphons. The plant is operational at this time, but improvements and refurbishing of equipment will continue.
- IX. There were no public comments or concerns.
- X. Wayne commented that there are no meetings scheduled at this time, but welcomed any members to call if there was a need for a meeting.
- XI. Meeting adjourned at 2:30 P.M.

THESE MINUTES WERE READ AND APPROVED ON THIS, THE \_\_\_\_\_  
DAY OF \_\_\_\_\_, 2012.

\_\_\_\_\_, CHAIR

\_\_\_\_\_, SECRETARY

Rio Grande Watermaster Advisory Committee Meeting  
July 28, 2011  
09:30 A.M.

RECORD OF DISCUSSION

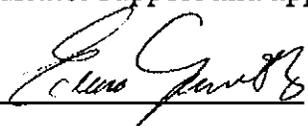
I. Chair, Wayne Halbert determined that a quorum was not present, therefore, the meeting was not called to order.

II. Members in attendance were : Wayne Halbert and Orville Ballard via telephone. Erasmo Yarrito, Jr., Ramiro Garcia, Jr. and Amy Settlemyer with TCEQ, were also in attendance. Six water right holders, non-WAC members were also in attendance.

III. Since no additional members were in attendance, it was determined that all members had received copies of the proposed assessment in a mailout sent on June 3, 2011 and subsequently again when all water right holders were sent the monthly report on June 17, 2011, that we would wait until August 2, 2011 to see if any negative responses were received, then the assumption would be that all members are in support of the budget as proposed.

IV. Future meeting will be called as needed.

All RGWAC members did receive the notice and proposed budget sent out via United States Postal Service dated, June 3, 2011. No negative responses were received which indicates support and approval of the budget as proposed.



Erasmus Yarrito, Jr.  
Rio Grande Watermaster

3/14/12  
Date

July 27, 2010  
Rio Grande Watermaster Office  
1804 W Jefferson Avenue  
Harlingen, Texas  
9:00 am

Agenda

- Call to order / Determination of a quorum.....Wayne Halbert
- Introductions.....Erasmo Yarrito, Jr.
- Minutes from previous meeting.....Sonny Hinojosa
- Discuss the proposed budget for fiscal year 2011.....Erasmo Yarrito, Jr.
- Discussion on nominees for WAC membership.....Wayne Halbert
- Watermaster reports.....Erasmo Yarrito, Jr.
- Update and discussion on legislative session.....Wayne Halbert
- El Morillo Drain Update/Discussion.....Sonny Hinojosa
- Public Comments and Concerns
- Future Meetings.
- Adjourn.

Wayne Halbert, Chairman

RIO GRANDE WATERMASTER ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING  
SEPTEMBER 5, 2008  
CONFERENCE CALL  
8:34 A.M. – 8:36 A.M.

*MINUTES*

- I. Chair, Wayne Halbert called the meeting to Order and determined a quorum was present.
- II. Members participating were: Wayne Halbert, Orville Ballard, Roy Rodriguez, Brenda Paez, and Sonny Hinojosa. Erasmo Yarrito and Tracy Miller with the TCEQ participated as well.
- III. Secretary, Sonny Hinojosa presented the minutes of the September 3, 2008. The Minutes were approved as presented.
- IV. Other business – Ken Jones (LRGVDC) requests to be added to the WAC mailing list.
- V. Future meeting will be called as needed.
- VI. Meeting adjourned at 8:50 a.m.

THESE MINUTES WERE READ AND APPROVED ON THIS, THE 27<sup>th</sup>  
DAY OF JULY, 2008. 2010

Wayne Halbert, CHAIR

Sonny Hinojosa, SECRETARY

RIO GRANDE WATERMASTER ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING  
SEPTEMBER 3, 2008  
CONFERENCE CALL  
8:45 A.M. – 8:50 A.M.

*MINUTES*

- I. Chair, Wayne Halbert called the meeting to Order and determined a quorum was present.
- II. Members participating were: Rick Smith, Orville Ballard, Charles Browning Jr., JoJo White, Wayne Halbert, and Sonny Hinojosa. Ex-Officio member, Carlos Rubinstein as well as Erasmo Yarrito and Tracy Miller participated as well.
- III. Secretary, Sonny Hinojosa provided the minutes of the June 18, 2007 meeting. The Minutes were approved as presented.
- IV. Members had previously received a copy of the Rio Grande Watermaster proposed budget for FY2009. The municipal rate is \$0.3087 and the amount to assess is \$702,703.00.  
It was moved and seconded to recommend to the TCEQ adoption of the Budget. Motion carried.
- V. Next meeting will be a conference call on Friday, September 5, 2008, at 8:30 a.m.
- VI. Meeting adjourned at 8:50 a.m.

THESE MINUTES WERE READ AND APPROVED ON THIS, THE 5<sup>th</sup>  
DAY OF SEPTEMBER, 2008.

Wayne Halbert, CHAIR

Sonny Hinojosa, SECRETARY

June 18, 2008  
Rio Grande Watermaster Office  
1804 W Jefferson Avenue  
Harlingen, Texas  
9:30 am

Agenda

Call to order / Determination of a quorum.....Wayne Halbert  
Introductions.....Carlos Rubinstein  
Minutes from previous meeting.....Sonny Hinojosa  
Discuss the proposed budget for fiscal year 2009..... Carlos Rubinstein  
Update and discussion on Treaty compliance issues.....Carlos Rubinstein  
Discussion on nominees for WAC membership.....Wayne Halbert  
Watermaster reports.....Carlos Rubinstein  
IBWC water accounting ie..Brandes Report update.....Carlos Rubinstein  
Update and discussion on legislative session.....Wayne Halbert  
Public Comments and Concerns  
Future Meetings.  
Adjourn.

Wayne Halbert, Chairman

# Rio Grande Watermaster Advisory Committee

Carlos Rubinstein, Watermaster  
1804 W. Jefferson - Harlingen, TX 78550  
956-425-6010 - Fax 956-430-6052  
[crubinst@trwc.state.tx.us](mailto:crubinst@trwc.state.tx.us)

Wayne Halbert, Chairman  
PO Box 148 - Harlingen, TX 78551  
956-423-7015 - Fax 956-423-4671  
[wayneh@halbert@hideoil.org](mailto:wayneh@halbert@hideoil.org)

Orville Ballard, Vice-chairman  
PO Box 39 - Rivera, TX 78379  
512-296-3340 Fax 512-883-3342  
[o\\_ballard@yahoo.com](mailto:o_ballard@yahoo.com)

Sonny Hinojosa, Secretary  
PO Box 6 - San Juan, TX 78589  
956-787-1422 Fax 956-781-7622  
[hcid2@sbccglobal.net](mailto:hcid2@sbccglobal.net)

**June 18, 2007**

**Rio Grande Watermaster Office  
1804 West Jefferson Avenue  
Harlingen, Texas  
1:30 pm**

## AGENDA

- I. Call to order / Determination of quorum ..... Wayne Halbert
- II. Introductions ..... Carlos Rubinstein
- III. Minutes from previous meeting ..... Sonny Hinojosa
- IV. Discuss the proposed budget for fiscal year 2008 ..... Carlos Rubinstein
- V. Update and discussion on Treaty compliance issues ..... Carlos Rubinstein
- VI. Update and overview on legislative session ..... Wayne Halbert
- VII. Update on the Morillo Drain Diversion Canal & Facilities ..... Sonny Hinojosa
- VIII. Discussion on nominees for WAC membership ..... Wayne Halbert
- VII. Watermaster reports ..... Carlos Rubinstein
- IX. Public comments and concerns.
- X. Future meetings.
- XI. Adjourn.

Wayne Halbert, Chairman

**RECEIVED**  
JUN 13 2007  
H.C.I.D. #2

RIO GRANDE WATERMASTER ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING  
JUNE 18, 2007  
TCEQ/RGWM OFFICE, HARLINGEN, TX.  
1:30 P.M. – 2:50 P.M.

## *MINUTES*

- I. Chair, Wayne Halbert called the meeting to Order and determined a quorum was present.
- II. Rio Grande Watermaster, Carlos Rubinstein introduced his staff as well as other TCEQ personnel including Tracy Miller, Jose Luna and Lorinda Gardner. Wendy Jepson (TAMU) was also introduced.
- III. Secretary, Sonny Hinojosa presented the Minutes of the June 26, 2006, meeting. The Minutes were approved as presented.
- IV. Carlos presented the proposed Budget for FY 2008. The municipal rate is 0.2807 and the amount to assess is \$645,390.00. Budget hearings in Austin are scheduled for September 12<sup>th</sup> & 26<sup>th</sup>.  
It was moved and seconded to recommend to the TCEQ adoption of the Budget. Motion carried.
- V. Carlos reported on meetings with Mexico regarding the 1944 Treaty. IBWC has met with Mexico in March, May 9, and June 13 about the 109,000 acre foot deficit from 2006. The next scheduled meeting with Mexico is June 11. The U.S. will not meet if Mexico has not complied with the deficit.
- VI. Wayne and Carlos updated on the legislative session. Comments were made on SB 847, SB 657, and SB 707 (Authority Bill). SB 847 (Conversion Bill) did not pass but its language was attached and passed on another bill (SB3). SB 657 changed the limits of bid requirements (\$25,000 to \$50,000).
- VII. Sonny gave an update on the Morillo Drain.
  - a) There will be a Dedication of Display and Plaque on Wednesday, June 27 at 4 pm at The Pumphouse. The Dedication recognizes the Lower Rio Grande Water Committee and their involvement in the El Morillo Drain.
  - b) A portion of the Drain is being placed into pipeline. The work should be completed June 17. Pumps at Morillo Drain still not operating. They were shut down while the work was being accomplished. The U.S. released 10 cms over demand from Falcon to dilute the spill from El Morillo Drain. Mexico is paying for ½ of the 10 cms. 300 meters of the Drain was placed into pipe about 200 meters downstream of the main office.
- VIII. Nominees for the WAC membership was discussed.  
Roy Cooley (Maverick Co. WCID#1) is willing to serve under the Industrial category.  
Roy Rodriguez (City of McAllen) is willing to serve under the Municipal category.  
It was moved and seconded to accept the two nominees to fill the vacancies. Motion carried. The recommendation will be forwarded to the TCEQ Executive Director. Roy

Cooley replaces Juan Garcia (Topaz Power Group). Roy Rodriguez replaces Robert Burkhart (City of Harlingen). *Rancho Viejo*

IX. Carlos gave the Watermaster Report.

The ownership of water at Falcon and Amistad Reservoirs are:

U.S. – 79.63%

Mexico – 31.72%

X. Public Comments and Concerns

The proposed border fence was discussed. May have impact on Watermaster personnel surveillance and aquatic weed control.

XI. Future meeting will be called as needed.

XII. Meeting adjourned at 2:50 p.m.

THESE MINUTES WERE READ AND APPROVED ON THIS, THE 18<sup>th</sup>  
DAY OF JUNE, 2008.

*Wayne Hall*, CHAIR

*Sonny Jimenez*, SECRETARY

# Rio Grande Watermaster Advisory Committee

Carlos Rubinstein, Watermaster  
1804 W. Jefferson - Harlingen, TX 78550  
956-425-6010 - Fax 956-430-6052  
[crubinst@tnrcc.state.tx.us](mailto:crubinst@tnrcc.state.tx.us)

Wayne Halbert, Chairman  
PO Box 148 - Harlingen, TX 78551  
956-423-7015 - Fax 956-423-4671  
[halbwayn@aol.com](mailto:halbwayn@aol.com)

Orville Ballard, Vice-chairman  
PO Box 39 - Rivera, TX 78379  
512-296-3340 Fax 512-883-3342  
[o\\_ballard@yahoo.com](mailto:o_ballard@yahoo.com)

Sonny Hinojosa, Secretary  
PO Box 6 - San Juan, TX 78589  
956-787-1422 Fax 956-781-7622  
[hcid2@sbcglobal.net](mailto:hcid2@sbcglobal.net)

**June 26, 2006**  
**Rio Grande Watermaster Office**  
**1804 West Jefferson Avenue**  
**Harlingen, Texas**  
**1:30 pm**

## AGENDA

- I. Call to order / Determination of quorum ..... Wayne Halbert
- II. Introductions ..... Carlos Rubinstein
- III. Minutes from previous meeting ..... Sonny Hinojosa
- IV. Discuss the proposed budget for fiscal year 2007 ..... Carlos Rubinstein
- V. Discussion on legislative activities - update on HB2250 ..... Carlos Rubinstein
- VI. Discussion on nominees for WAC membership ..... Wayne Halbert
- VII. Watermaster reports ..... Carlos Rubinstein
- VII. Public comments and concerns.
- VIII. Future meetings.
- IX. Adjourn.

Wayne Halbert, Chairman

RIO GRANDE WATERMASTER ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING  
JUNE 26, 2006  
TCEQ/RGWM OFFICE, HARLINGEN, TX.  
1:30 P.M. – 3:07 P.M.

## *MINUTES*

- I. Chair, Wayne Halbert called the meeting to Order and determined a quorum was present.
- II. Rio Grande Watermaster, Carlos Rubinstein introduced his staff as well as other TCEQ personnel including Martin Ramirez (Border Affairs), Elston Johnson (Field Ops – Austin), Edward Vela, and Ruben Quintanilla.  
Self introductions were also made of all attendees.
- III. Secretary, Sonny Hinojosa presented the Minutes of the June 7, 2005, meeting.  
The Minutes were approved as presented.
- IV. Carlos discussed the proposed budget for fiscal year 2007.  
The proposed budget was prepared to reflect taking advantage of rider 37 (\$61,128). The proposed municipal rate is \$0.2749. (up from \$0.2545 in FY 2006)  
It was moved and seconded to recommend to the TCEQ adopting the proposed budget.  
Motion carried.  
The proposed budget is \$618,454.00
- V. Carlos discussed legislative activities:  
HB2250 – the bill allows discharging water into the Rio Grande and retaining ownership until diverted. There may be effort to repeal.  
SB3 may come up at next session. The bill calls for environmental flows for all streams.
- VI. Wayne discussed nominees for WAC Membership.  
The following replacements were recommended:
  - Rick Smith (La Feria I.D.) replace Bill Green (deceased)
  - Juan Garcia (Topaz Power Group) replace Rudy Atkinson
  - Carlos will solicit USF&WS, TP&W, and Nature Conservancy to replace Sharon Williams who resigned from the WAC.

Carlos solicits a letter and resume from the nominees to forward to the TCEQ Executive Director.
- VII. Carlos gave the Watermaster Report:
  - There is an active enforcement case in the Middle Rio Grande – diversion without certification
  - U.S. ownership at Falcon/Amistad – 80.46%
  - Mexico ownership at Falcon/Amistad – 33.19%

Bob Watson, TCEQ programmer, demonstrated a Water Management Solutions database.
- VIII. Public Comments and Concerns: None

IX. A future meeting will not be scheduled at this time. Meetings will be called as needed.

X. No further business appearing, the meeting adjourned at 3:07 P.M.

THESE MINUTES WERE READ AND APPROVED ON THIS, THE 18<sup>th</sup>  
DAY OF JULY, 2008.

[Signature] CHAIR

[Signature] SECRETARY

# Rio Grande Watermaster Advisory Committee

Carlos Rubinstein, Watermaster  
1804 W. Jefferson - Harlingen, TX 78550  
956-425-6010 - Fax 956-430-6052  
[crubinst@nrcc.state.tx.us](mailto:crubinst@nrcc.state.tx.us)

Wayne Halbert, Chairman  
PO Box 148 - Harlingen, TX 78551  
956-423-7015 - Fax 956-423-4671  
[halbwayn@aol.com](mailto:halbwayn@aol.com)

Orville Ballard, Vice-chairman  
PO Box 39 - Rivera, TX 78379  
512-296-3340 Fax 512-883-3342  
[o\\_ballard@yahoo.com](mailto:o_ballard@yahoo.com)

Sonny Hinojosa, Secretary  
PO Box 6 - San Juan, TX 78589  
956-787-1422 Fax 956-781-7622  
[heid2@sbcglobal.net](mailto:heid2@sbcglobal.net)

**June 7, 2005**  
**Rio Grande Watermaster Office**  
**1804 West Jefferson Avenue**  
**Harlingen, Texas**  
**1:30 pm**

## AGENDA

- I. Call to order / Determination of quorum ..... Wayne Halbert
- II. Introductions ..... Carlos Rubinstein
- III. Minutes from previous meeting ..... Sonny Hinojosa
- IV. Discuss the proposed budget for fiscal year 2006 ..... Carlos Rubinstein
- V. Discussion on legislative activities ..... Pat Hooper  
Carlos Rubinstein
- VI. Discussion on nominees for WAC membership ..... Wayne Halbert
- VII. Watermaster reports ..... Carlos Rubinstein
- VII. Public comments and concerns.
- VIII. Future meetings.
- IX. Adjourn.

Wayne Halbert, Chairman

RIO GRANDE WATERMASTER ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING  
JUNE 07, 2005  
TCEQ/RGWM OFFICE, HARLINGEN, TX.  
1:30 P.M. – 2:35 P.M.

## *MINUTES*

- I. Vice – chairman, Orville Ballard called the meeting to Order.
- II. Watermaster, Carlos Rubinstein introduced Pat Hooper – TCEQ Austin. Attendance list attached.
- III. Secretary, Sonny Hinojosa presented the Minutes of the June 2, 2003, May 27, 2004 and November 19, 2004 meetings. Minutes from the previous three meetings were approved as presented.
- IV. Carlos presented the proposed Rio Grande Watermaster Budget for FY 2006. The proposed budget includes an increase in the assessment rate to \$0.2545 per acre foot from \$0.2253. It was moved & seconded to accept the proposed budget. Motion carried.
- V. Carlos discussed legislative activities:
  - HB 2250 designates the Watermaster as the registrar of record for water rights transfers.
  - HB 2009 mandates the filing of all records including financial.
  - SB 3 includes environmental flows for all regions. Language was changed, but bill died on floor.
  - SB 268 – Bed & Banks issue may come back if special session is called.
  - Presidio Valley Farms hearing to be held in early July.
- VI. Wayne Halbert, chairman, discussed nominees for WAC membership. Seven members' terms expire August 31, 2005. It was recommended that those members serve another term. There was no opposition to the recommendation. Carlos will submit to TCEQ Executive Director for consideration.
- VII. Carlos gave the Watermaster report:  
The U.S. ownership is 97.96% at the reservoirs.  
Mexico's ownership is 32.97% at the reservoirs.
- VIII. There were no public comments or concerns.
- IX. A future meeting will not be scheduled at this time. Meetings will be called as needed.
- X. No further business appearing, the meeting adjourned at 2:33 P.M.

THESE MINUTES WERE READ AND APPROVED ON THIS, THE 26<sup>th</sup>  
DAY OF JUNE, 2006.

Allyn Hall, CHAIR

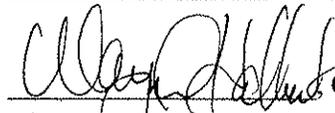
Sonny Hingora, SECRETARY

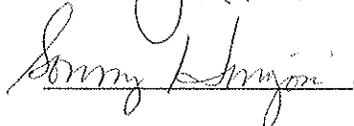
RIO GRANDE WATERMASTER ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING  
NOVEMBER 19, 2004  
TCEQ/RGWM OFFICE, HARLINGEN, TX.  
10:00 A.M. – 11:45 A.M.

*MINUTES*

- I. Chair, Wayne Halbert called the meeting to Order.
- II. WAC members in attendance – Wayne Halbert, Orville Ballard, James Elium, and Charles Browning. Additional participants – John Davis, Carlos Rubinstein, Ed Vela, Al Segovia, Pete Anaya (South Texas WAC), Gordon Hill, Bill Norris, Jose G. Luna, John Trevino, Ruben Canales, Joey Mejia, Ruben Quintanilla and Jose Davila. Participating via conference call – Pat Hooper and Fred Blumberg. Participants introduced themselves.
- III. Minutes from the previous 2 meetings (May 27, 2004 and June 2, 2003) were presented but not approved due to lack of a quorum.
- IV. Watermaster Carlos Rubinstein and Assistant Division Director for Field Operations John Davis provided an overview of current funding levels and limitations relative to appropriated amounts to both South Texas and Rio Grande Watermaster programs, as well as contemplated exceptional item requests for funding levels for existing and proposed watermaster programs. It was noted that due to appropriation cap limitations the Rio Grande program would be under funded from the watermaster fund approximately \$28,953. The current cap allows for an assessment of approximately \$533,000. Estimated collection rate of 98% would generate \$522,604 – the cap maximum. Projected costs for 2004-05 are estimated at \$551,557. Budget shortage (salary and rent in particular) will have to be absorbed by Field Operations. Similar impacts for South Texas Watermaster were discussed. Estimated operational costs for FY06 and 07 were discussed as well as program impacts should appropriations not provide for full program funding and current subsidy by Field Operations is no longer allowed in future years. WAC members expressed concern relative to the inability of the program to remain fully self-sufficient and pointed out that this shortage was not due to water right holder's unwillingness to pay the required amount to fund the program, but due to appropriation cap limitation. WAC members requested agency staff develop clear guidance as to what action is needed during funding discussions to mitigate overall program impacts. WAC representatives agreed to work together (South Texas and Rio Grande) to attempt to address and resolve this funding issue.
- V. Carlos Rubinstein reported that as of 11/13/04 the US share of water at Amistad/Falcon stood at 84.33% or 2,805,057 acre-feet. Information relative to overall Mexico storage volumes within the basin was also provided. Additionally, WAC members were requested to develop an email approval process for meeting minute review and approval to expedite posting of the information on the agency web pages as per existing requirements.
- VI. There being no other business, the meeting was adjourned at 11:45 AM.

THESE MINUTES WERE READ AND APPROVED ON THIS, THE 17<sup>th</sup> DAY OF June, 2005.

 CHAIR

 SECRETARY

RIO GRANDE WATERMASTER ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING  
MAY 27, 2004  
TCEQ/RGWM OFFICE, HARLINGEN, TX.  
1:30 P.M. – 3:15 P.M.

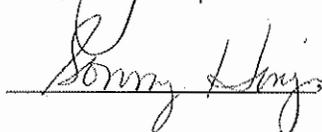
*MINUTES*

- I. Chair, Wayne Halbert called the meeting to Order.
- II. WAC members in attendance – Wayne Halbert, Sharon Williams, James Elium, and Bill Green. Additional participants – Julian Perales, Carlos Rubinstein, Ed Vela, Ruben Quintanilla and Noemi Zapata
- III. Minutes from the previous meeting were not presented nor approved.
- IV. Watermaster Carlos Rubinstein presented the proposed FY05 budget for the Rio Grande Watermaster program. It was noted that due to appropriation cap limitations the program would be under funded from the watermaster fund approximately \$28,953. The current cap allows for an assessment of approximately \$533,000. Estimated collection rate of 98% would generate \$522,604 – the cap maximum. Projected costs for next year are estimated at \$551,557. Budget shortage (salary and rent in particular) will have to be absorbed by Field Operations. WAC members expressed concern relative to the inability of the program to remain fully self-sufficient and pointed out that this shortage was not due to water right holder's unwillingness to pay the required amount to fund the program, but due to appropriation cap limitation. No further comments or concerns were expressed relative to the proposed budget.
- V. Chair Halbert initiated a discussion relative to possible legislative action that could be sought in the next session to remedy the appropriation cap limitations. Suggested amending text was discussed and will be further reviewed by WAC members.
- VI. Membership's terms, which are set to expire this year, were reviewed as well as notice to WR holders who would be interested in serving on the WAC. It was recommended that there being no outside interest by other WR holders, the member's whose term will expire this August be considered for reappointment by the Executive Director.
- VII. An update relative to HB-2250 rules was provided. TCEQ is finalizing draft language to release to the public and call for a public hearing later this year on these rules. No substantive changes were made to the rules as compared to text presented at the stakeholder meeting.
- VIII. Carlos Rubinstein summarized the newly adopted conveyance loss calculation process by IBWC. Authorization to release the joint report is pending from IBWC.
- IX. There was nothing new to report relative to the 1944 water sharing treaty and outstanding debt.
- X. Carlos Rubinstein reported that as of 5/15/04 the US share of water at Amistad/Falcon stood at 68.93% or 2.292,688 acre-feet.
- XI. There being no other business, the meeting was adjourned at 3:15 PM.

THESE MINUTES WERE READ AND APPROVED ON THIS, THE 27<sup>th</sup> DAY OF

June, 2005.

 CHAIR

 SECRETARY

# Rio Grande Watermaster Advisory Committee

Carlos Rubinstein, Watermaster  
1804 W. Jefferson - Harlingen, TX 78550  
956-425-6010 - Fax 956-430-6052  
[crubinst@trcc.state.tx.us](mailto:crubinst@trcc.state.tx.us)

Wayne Halbert, Chairman  
PO Box 148 - Harlingen, TX 78551  
956-423-7015 - Fax 956-423-4671  
[halfwavn@aol.com](mailto:halfwavn@aol.com)

Orville Ballard, Vice-chairman  
PO Box 39 - Rivera, TX 78379  
512-296-3340 Fax 512-883-3342  
[o\\_ballard@yahoo.com](mailto:o_ballard@yahoo.com)

Sonny Hinojosa, Secretary  
PO Box 6 - San Juan, TX 78589  
956-787-1422 Fax 956-781-7622  
[hcid2@sc2000.net](mailto:hcid2@sc2000.net)

**March 31, 2003**  
**Rio Grande Watermaster Office**  
**1804 West Jefferson Avenue**  
**Harlingen, Texas**  
**1:30 pm**

## AGENDA

- I. Call to order / Determination of quorum ..... Wayne Halbert
- II. Introductions ..... Carlos Rubinstein
- III. Minutes from previous meeting ..... Sonny Hinojosa
- IV. Review current proposed legislation ..... Wayne Halbert
- V. Other reports
- VI. Public comments and concerns.
- VII. Future meetings.
- VIII. Adjourn.

Wayne Halbert, Chairman

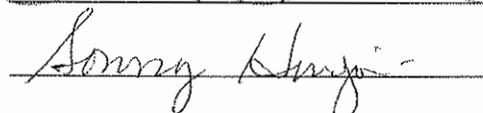
RIO GRANDE WATERMASTER ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING  
MARCH 31, 2003  
TNRCC/RGWM OFFICE, HARLINGEN, TX.  
1:30 P.M. – 2:35 P.M.

## MINUTES

- I. Chair, Wayne Halbert called the meeting to Order.
- II. Sign in sheet of attendance is attached. Bill Green, Brenda Paez, Chuck Browning, and James Elium called to be excused from the meeting.
- III. Secretary, Sonny Hinojosa, presented the Minutes of the May 22, 2002, meeting. The Minutes were approved as presented.
- IV. Wayne and Rio Grande Watermaster, Carlos Rubinstein, reviewed current proposed legislation.  
HB. 2250 – “relating to the duties of the Rio Grande Watermaster” was discussed. The hearing before the House Natural Resources Committee will be on Wednesday at 2:30 P.M.  
Of concern is: the Rio Grande is an international stream
  - inflows will have to be measured
  - ratio shifts in conveyance losses
  - 4<sup>th</sup> pool of water in water accounting (ground water)
  - releases charged against the U.S.
  - reduced allocations
  - additional administration costsThe bill will be analyzed by TCEQ Field Ops and the Watermaster.  
Jo Jo White moved and Rudy Atkinson seconded to oppose the bill. After discussion, the motion carried.
- V. Carlos reported on storage balances. The U.S. is at 40.07% ownership at Falcon/Amistad Reservoirs.  
Allocation for March will be less than 50,000 acre feet.
- VI. Future meetings:  
Budget Hearing is scheduled for June 2, 2003.  
Next W.A.C. meeting scheduled for Monday, June 2, 2003 at 1:30 at RGWM office.
- VII. Adjourned at 2:35 P.M.

THESE MINUTES WERE READ AND APPROVED ON THIS, THE 2nd  
DAY OF JUNE, 2003.

 CHAIR

 SECRETARY

# Rio Grande Watermaster Advisory Committee

Carlos Rubinstein, Watermaster  
1804 W. Jefferson - Harlingen, TX 78550  
956-425-6010 - Fax 956-430-6052  
[crubinst@turcc.state.tx.us](mailto:crubinst@turcc.state.tx.us)

Wayne Halbert, Chairman  
PO Box 148 - Harlingen, TX 78551  
956-423-7015 - Fax 956-423-4671  
[halbwayn@aol.com](mailto:halbwayn@aol.com)

Orville Ballard, Vice-chairman  
PO Box 39 - Rivera, TX 78379  
512-296-3340 Fax 512-883-3342  
[o\\_ballard@yahoo.com](mailto:o_ballard@yahoo.com)

Sonny Hinojosa, Secretary  
PO Box 6 - San Juan, TX 78589  
956-787-1422 Fax 956-781-7622  
[hcid2@sc2000.net](mailto:hcid2@sc2000.net)

**May 22, 2002**  
**Rio Grande Watermaster Office**  
**1804 West Jefferson Avenue**  
**Harlingen, Texas**  
**1:30 pm**

## AGENDA

- I. Call to order / Determination of quorum . . . . . Wayne Halbert
- II. Introductions . . . . . Carlos Rubinstein
- III. Minutes from previous meeting . . . . . Sonny Hinojosa
- IV. Presentation of proposed Watermaster Budget for FY03 . . . . . Carlos Rubinstein
- V. Review of membership and recommendations for appointments . . . . . Wayne Halbert
- VI. Review of push water issue and governing rules . . . . . Carlos Rubinstein
- VII. Update on issues involving 1944 Treaty and Mexico water debt . . . . . JoJo White
- VIII. Update on hydrilla issue, grass carp release and pilot project . . . . . JoJo White
- IX. Watermaster reports . . . . . Carlos Rubinstein
- X. State reports . . . . . Carlos Rubinstein
- XI. Other reports
- XII. Public comments and concerns.
- XIII. Future meetings.
- XIV. Adjourn.

Wayne Halbert, Chairman

RIO GRANDE WATERMASTER ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING  
MAY 22, 2002  
TNRCC/RGWM OFFICE, HARLINGEN, TX.  
1:30 P.M. - 3:26 P.M.

## *MINUTES*

- I. Vice-Chair, Orville Ballard called the meeting to Order.
- II. Self introductions were accomplished. TNRCC – Austin personnel, Pat Hooper was present.
- III. Secretary, Sonny Hinojosa, presented the Minutes of the November 7, 2001 meeting. The Minutes were approved as presented.
- IV. Rio Grande Watermaster, Carlos Rubinstein presented the proposed Watermaster Budget for FY03 and opened the Hearing for the budget.  
Pat commented on the Watermaster program fund balance and interest.  
Currently, the WM can't access fund balances. The fund balance can be spent in the first year of the biennium, but if not spent in the second year, the funds can't be used.  
Wayne Halbert, Chair, commented that the legislature has no problem with the funds, it is the TNRCC that can't clarify the request.  
With no further comment, the Hearing closed at 2:02 P.M.
- V. Wayne and Carlos discussed the WAC membership. Eight members terms expire August 31, 2002. The members whose terms expire are:

Charles Browning	Cloice Whitley	Rudy Atkinson
Bill Green	Benton Beckwith	Sonny Hinojosa
Frank White	Vidal Davila	

James Elium moved and Bill Green seconded to recommend to the TNRCC executive director to reappoint the members to another 2 year term expiring 8/31/04. Motion carried.
- VI. Carlos discussed the push water issue and governing rules.  
Carlos provided a Pushwater Summary handout.  
Pushwater is the water required to deliver requested municipal water from an irrigation district to a municipality.  
A form letter was also provided for a districts use to inform a municipality, the Texas Water Development Board, and the RGWM of the possibility of running out of irrigation water and the intent to obtain pushwater.
- VII. Jo Jo White reported on the issues involving the 1944 Treaty and the Mexico water debt. Mexican President Fox has 15 days to make an announcement on a repayment plan. Television station, Channel 5 will be airing a Drought Special at their studio this Thursday at 6:30 P.M.
- VIII. Jo Jo gave an update on the hydrilla, grass carp, and pilot project.

The pilot project report on the 25 tagged triploid grass carp was to be completed by the end of April; however, to date there is no report.

Mexico has agreed to the use of chemicals downstream of the Matamoros intake.

IX. Carlos presented the Watermaster report.

- U.S. ownership at Falcon & Amistad – 26.27%
- Mexcio ownership at Falcon & Amistad – 9.68%
  
- Irrigation districts have 302,728 acre feet less than this time last year.
- Notices have been sent out on the Water Rights Cancellation Hearing.

X. State reports:

Pat informed the Committee to post the Minutes on the TNRCC web site. Carlos will accomplish this after the Minutes have been approved.

XI. No future meeting date was set.

XII. Meeting adjourned at 3:26 P.M.

THESE MINUTES WERE READ AND APPROVED ON THIS, THE 31<sup>st</sup>  
DAY OF March, 2003.

W. Gary Walker CHAIR

Sonny Wingren, SECRETARY

Carlos Rubinstein, Watermaster  
1804 W. Jefferson - Harlingen, TX 78350  
956-423-6010 - Fax 956-430-6052  
[crubinst@tnroc.state.tx.us](mailto:crubinst@tnroc.state.tx.us)

Wayne Halbert, Chairman  
PO Box 148 - Harlingen, TX 78351  
956-423-7015 - Fax 956-423-4671  
[halbwayn@aol.com](mailto:halbwayn@aol.com)

Orville Ballard, Vice-chairman  
PO Box 39 - Rivera, TX 78379  
512-296-3340 Fax 512-883-3342  
[o.ballard@yahoo.com](mailto:o.ballard@yahoo.com)

Sonny Hinojosa, Secretary  
PO Box 6 - San Juan, TX 78589  
956-787-1422 Fax 956-781-7622  
[hcid2@sc2000.net](mailto:hcid2@sc2000.net)

**November 7, 2001  
Rio Grande Watermaster Office  
1804 West Jefferson Avenue  
Harlingen, Texas  
1:30 pm**

**AGENDA**

- I. Call to order / Determination of quorum ..... Wayne Halbert
- II. Introductions ..... Carlos Rubinstein
- III. Minutes from previous meeting ..... Sonny Hinojosa
- IV. Proposal for request of use of excess funds and/or revise or amend  
the budget for partial or full support of a SCADA system ..... Carlos Rubinstein  
Gordon Hill
- V. Update on issues involving 1944 Treaty and Mexico water debt ..... JoJo White
- VI. Update on hydrilla issue and grass carp release ..... JoJo White
- VII. Watermaster reports ..... Carlos Rubinstein
- VIII. State reports ..... Carlos Rubinstein
- IX. Other reports
- X. Public comments and concerns.
- XI. Future meetings.
- XII. Adjourn.

Wayne Halbert, Chairman

RIO GRANDE WATERMASTER ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING  
NOVEMBER 7, 2001  
TNRCC/RGWM OFFICE, HARLINGEN, TX.  
1:30 P.M. - 3:20 P.M.

## *MINUTES*

- I. After determining a quorum was present, Chair, Wayne Halbert called the meeting to order.
- II. Rio Grande Watermaster, Carlos Rubinstein, introduced Austin TNRCC personnel, Pat Hooper, as well as Harlingen personnel, Ruben Quintanilla and Jorge Ramirez.
- III. Secretary, Sonny Hinojosa, presented the Minutes of the May 24, 2001, meeting which were approved as presented.
- IV. Carlos proposed a request for use of excess Watermaster funds or amending the budget for partial or full support of a Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition (S.C.A.D.A.) system for the river.  
The proposal is for \$40,000 - \$50,000. Pat will investigate with TNRCC if fund balances can be accessed.  
A committee consisting of James Elium, Jo Jo White, Sonny, and Wayne was formed to investigate the SCADA proposal.
- V. Jo Jo reported on issues involving the 1944 Treaty and the Mexico water debt. Mexico has appointed Ambassador Szekely to deal with the water issue. Szekely interprets Minute Order 234 differently than IBWC and believes Mexico has a 3<sup>rd</sup> cycle to pay the debt. Szekely states Mexico is not obligated to release water from any internal dams.  
Lawsuits have been filed in Tamaulipas against Mexico's federal government because of Minute Order 307. As a result, the crediting of Mexico's portion of the 50/50 water to the U.S. has been suspended. To date, approximately 87,000 af has accumulated and should be credited to the U.S. once the lawsuits are settled.
- VI. Jo Jo gave an update on the hydrilla and grass carp. Jo Jo reports that only 1 of the tagged triploid grass carp has been located since the release.
- VII. Carlos gave an update on water storage:  
U.S. = 30.10% storage in Amistad/Falcon Reservoirs.  
Mexico = 12.20% storage in Amistad/Falcon Reservoirs.
- VIII. State Reports:
  - a. Pat handed out "Guidance for Implementing HB 2912, Section 1.10".  
House Bill 2912 authorizes TNRCC to create and consult with advisory councils.  
The Rio Grande Watermaster Advisory Committee already complies with all but one of the provisions - posting the meeting Minutes on the TNRCC website after approval. The R.G.W.M. will post the Minutes on the web.
  - b. Report on water right cancellations.  
There are 129 accounts that are subject to be canceled. No hearing date has been set.

- IX. Under Other Reports, Carlos reported Jorge Ramirez would be leaving the W.M. staff to join the Border Patrol. Jorge's last day will be November 16, 2001.
- X. There was no Public Comment.
- XI. No Future meeting date was set.
- XII. Meeting adjourned at 3:20 P.M.

THESE MINUTES WERE READ AND APPROVED ON THIS, THE 22nd  
DAY OF May, 2002.

Alfonso Holbert, CHAIR

Sonny Hingora, SECRETARY

# Rio Grande Watermaster Advisory Committee

Carlos Rubinstein, Watermaster  
1804 W. Jefferson - Harlingen, TX 78550  
956-425-6010 - Fax 956-430-6052  
[crubinst@tnrcc.state.tx.us](mailto:crubinst@tnrcc.state.tx.us)

Wayne Halbert, Chairman  
PO Box 148 - Harlingen, TX 78551  
956-423-7015 - Fax 956-423-4671  
[halbwayn@aol.com](mailto:halbwayn@aol.com)

Orville Ballard, Vice-chairman  
PO Box 39 - Rivera, TX 78379  
512-296-3340 Fax 512-883-3342  
[olb@tenet.edu](mailto:olb@tenet.edu)

Sonny Hinojosa, Secretary  
PO Box 6 - San Juan, TX 78589  
956-787-1422 Fax 956-781-7622  
[hcid2@sc2000.net](mailto:hcid2@sc2000.net)

May 24, 2001  
Rio Grande Watermaster Office  
1804 West Jefferson Avenue  
Harlingen, Texas  
1:30 pm

## AGENDA

- I. Call to order / Determination of quorum ..... Wayne Halbert
- II. Introductions ..... Carlos Rubinstein
- III. Minutes from previous meeting ..... Sonny Hinojosa
- IV. Public hearing on Watermaster budget ..... Carlos Rubinstein
  - A. Proposed budget for 2002 cycle.
  - B. Changes in future budget cycles.
  - C. Proposals for next bi-annum expenditures requiring LAR approval.
- V. Action by Committee on budget proposal ..... Wayne Halbert
- VI. Rule change update and allocation impact ..... Carlos Rubinstein
- VII. Report on TNRCC sunset requirements ..... Carlos Rubinstein
- VIII. Update on issues involving 1944 Treaty and Mexico water debt ..... JoJo White
- IX. Update on hydrilla issue ..... JoJo White
- X. Update on river flow at the mouth ..... Carlos Rubinstein
- XI. Watermaster reports ..... Carlos Rubinstein
- XII. State reports ..... Carlos Rubinstein
- XIII. Other reports
- XIV. Public comments and concerns.
- XV. Future meetings.
- XVI. Adjourn.

**RECEIVED**

MAY 14 2001

**H.C.I.D. #2**

Wayne Halbert, Chairman

RIO GRANDE WATERMASTER ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING  
MAY 24, 2001  
TNRCC/RGWM OFFICE, HARLINGEN, TX.  
1:30 P.M. - 3:03 P.M.

## *MINUTES*

- I. After determining a quorum was present, Chair, Wayne Halbert called the meeting to Order.
- II. Rio Grande Watermaster, Carlos Rubinstein, introduced Austin TNRCC personnel, Pat Hooper, RGWM liaison.
- III. Secretary, Sonny Hinojosa, presented the Minutes of the February 23, 2001 meeting, which were approved as presented.
- IV. The Public Hearing on the Watermaster budget was conducted as part of the WAC meeting. No members of public were present.  
Carlos reviewed:
  - a. Proposed budge for 2002 cycle.
  - b. Changes in future budget cycles.
  - c. Proposals for next biennium expenditures requiring LAR approval.Fund balances not spent will stay with the fund. Must go to the legislature for permission to access the funds. The TNRCC administrative charge (10%) was taken out for the FY 2001 budget and will continue for future budgets.  
Municipal rate was .2671 for FY01. Proposed for FY02 is .2302.
- V. James Elium moved and Jo Jo White seconded to approve the proposed budget. Motion carried.
- VI. Rule change update and allocation impact.  
Carlos reported that the lack of negative comments was noted by the Commission on the proposed rule change. Lowering the operating reserve was a one-time benefit to water right holders, would allow for increased allocations and remove the possibility of negative allocations.
- VII. TNRCC Sunset requirements - Carlos  
The agency's name will change to Texas Department of Environmental Quality by 2004. By 2002, the collection of fees will go directly to the program fund and not through the State Treasury.
- VIII. 1944 Treaty and Mexico water debt - Jo Jo White  
No IBWC commissioner has been appointed.  
Through May 5, 2001, U.S. has been credited with 267,400 af of the 600,000 af (M.O. 307). The Carranza flows were halted at 30,000 af out of the scheduled 47,000 af. Carlos reported an update as of May 12 of 294,530 af credited to the U.S.

- IX. Hydrilla - Jo Jo  
Southwest Texas State has all paperwork accomplished for the triploid carp, radio tags will be ordered, and will have the fish within 60 days. The pilot project will be for 6 months. Approximately 6 years for carp to have effect on hydrilla.
- X. River flow at the mouth - Carlos  
The sand bar at the mouth of the river allowed water utilization in reach 7. Mexico pumped/diverted water and had negative impact in their storage at the reservoirs.
- XI. Watermaster report - Carlos  
As of 5/19/01 - U.S. at 38.39% ownership
- XII. State reports - Carlos  
Watermaster accounting program being developed. May be implemented by 09/01/01.

Future meeting will be scheduled as needed through the summer.

THESE MINUTES WERE READ AND APPROVED ON THIS, THE \_\_\_\_\_  
DAY OF \_\_\_\_\_, 2001.

\_\_\_\_\_, CHAIR

\_\_\_\_\_, SECRETARY

# Rio Grande Watermaster Advisory Committee

Carlos Rubinstein, Watermaster  
104 W. Jefferson - Harlingen, TX 78550  
956-425-6010 - Fax 956-430-6052  
[crubinst@nrcc.state.tx.us](mailto:crubinst@nrcc.state.tx.us)

Wayne Halbert, Chairman  
PO Box 148 - Harlingen, TX 78551  
956-423-7015 - Fax 956-423-4671  
[halbwayn@aol.com](mailto:halbwayn@aol.com)

Orville Ballard, Vice-chairman  
PO Box 39 - Rivera, TX 78379  
512-296-3340 Fax 512-883-3342  
[olb@tenet.edu](mailto:olb@tenet.edu)

Sonny Hinojosa, Secretary  
PO Box 6 - San Juan, TX 78589  
956-787-1422 Fax 956-781-7622  
[hcid2@sc2000.net](mailto:hcid2@sc2000.net)

**February 23, 2001**  
**Rio Grande Watermaster Office**  
**1804 West Jefferson Avenue**  
**Harlingen, Texas**  
**10 am - Noon**

## AGENDA

- I. Call to order / Determination of quorum . . . . . Wayne Halbert
- II. Introductions . . . . . Carlos Rubinstein
- III. Minutes from previous meeting . . . . . Sonny Hinojosa
- IV. Watermaster rule review discussion . . . . . Carlos Rubinstein
- V. Recommendations for WAC membership . . . . . Wayne Halbert
- VI. Update on issues involving 1944 Treaty and Mexico water debt . . . . . JoJo White
- VII. Update on hydrilla issue . . . . . JoJo White
- VIII. Watermaster reports . . . . . Carlos Rubinstein
- IX. State reports . . . . . Carlos Rubinstein
- X. Other reports
- XI. Public comments and concerns.
- XII. Future meetings.
- XIII. Adjourn.

Wayne Halbert  
Chairman

RIO GRANDE WATERMASTER ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING  
FEBRUARY 23, 2001  
TNRCC/RGWM OFFICE, HARLINGEN, TX.  
10:00 A.M. - 12:00 P.M.

## *MINUTES*

- I. After determining a quorum was present, Chair, Wayne Halbert called the meeting to order.
- II. Watermaster, Carlos Rubinstein, introduced Austin TNRCC personnel, Pat Hooper and Melissa Estes.
- III. Secretary, Sonny Hinojosa, presented the Minutes of the November 1, 2000 meeting. JoJo White moved the Minutes be approved as presented. James Elium seconded and the motion carried.
- IV. Carlos and Melissa discussed the Rule Review.  
Melissa stated April 5 could be the earliest the proposed rules could go into effect. The most probable scenario would be publishing of the rules April 16, and becoming effective May 11.  
A public hearing is scheduled today at 2:00 p.m. at the Watermaster's office. Written comments may be submitted no later than 5:00 p.m., February 26, 2001.  
James moved, with a second from JoJo, that the Committee submit a resolution of support of the proposed rules. Motion carried. Sonny will draft a resolution.
- V. WAC membership. Wayne informed the Committee of a vacancy created by Bart Hines' resignation.  
After discussion, Sonny moved that the WAC recommend to the executive director (E.D.) that Charles Browning be appointed to fill the vacancy. JoJo seconded and the motion carried.  
Sonny will follow up with a letter to the E.D.  
  
Also discussed was the expiration of the terms of 8 Committee members. Their terms expired August 31, 2000. The other 7 members' terms expire August 31, 2001.  
James moved, with a second by Max Phillips, to submit to the E.D. a recommendation to re-appoint all members for another term. Motion carried. Carlos will follow up with the recommendation to the E.D.
- VI. JoJo gave an update on the 1944 Treaty and the Mexico water debt. U.S. Representative Solomon Ortiz said that Mexican President Vicente Fox told him that Mexico would pay back between 325,000 and 350,000 a.f. of water sometime this summer.  
Carlos Marin, IBWC-El Paso, has not received any notification on these figures.  
Mexico will continue the 50/50 water through July if their municipal / domestic reserves are met.

Commissioner Bernal's last official day with IBWC is March 10.  
Representative Rene Oliveira filed a Resolution urging IBWC to address the deficit.  
A result from the Bush/Fox meeting in Mexico was for Bernal to meet in Mexico City with high ranking state officials to discuss the water debt.  
Also discussed were possible replacements for Bernal's vacancy as IBWC Commissioner.

VII. Hydrilla:

JoJo stated a technical meeting was held on February 15 at Mercedes, IBWC office. Mexico sent a letter of approval for the carp project. The pilot project should start in about 2 months.

The timeline for results is 6 years in using hydrilla flies and the hyacinth weevil.

VIII. Carlos gave the Watermaster report.

As of February 10, 2001:

US - 43.41% ownership at Fal/Am Reservoirs

Mex - 9.78% ownership at Fal/Am Reservoirs

IX. State reports:

Bill Green asked about the accounting of the 10% provided by SB1406 for TNRCC administrative expenses.

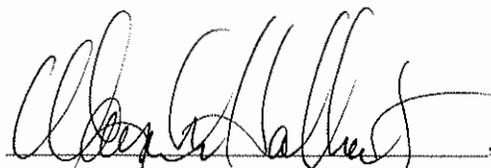
Carlos stated that the 10% had not been taken out in prior years, but will start this year.

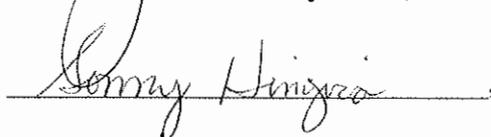
X. There were no other reports or public comments.

XI. Future meeting scheduled (tentatively) for May 24, 2001.

XII. Meeting adjourned at Noon.

THESE MINUTES WERE READ AND APPROVED ON THIS, THE 24<sup>th</sup>  
DAY OF MAY, 2001.

 \_\_\_\_\_, CHAIR

 \_\_\_\_\_, SECRETARY

# Rio Grande Watermaster Advisory Committee

Carlos Rubinstein, Watermaster  
1804 W. Jefferson - Harlingen, TX 78550  
956-425-6010 - Fax 956-430-6052  
[crubinst@nrcc.state.tx.us](mailto:crubinst@nrcc.state.tx.us)

Wayne Halbert, Chairman  
PO Box 148 - Harlingen, TX 78551  
956-423-7015 - Fax 956-423-4671  
[halbwayn@aol.com](mailto:halbwayn@aol.com)

Orville Ballard, Vice-chairman  
PO Box 39 - Rivera, TX 78379  
512-296-3340 Fax 512-883-3342  
[olb@tinet.edu](mailto:olb@tinet.edu)

Sonny Hinojosa, Secretary  
PO Box 6 - San Juan, TX 78589  
956-787-1422 Fax 956-781-7622  
[hcid2@sc2000.net](mailto:hcid2@sc2000.net)

**November 1, 2000**  
**Rio Grande Watermaster Office**  
**1804 West Jefferson Avenue**  
**Harlingen, Texas**  
**1:30pm - 3:30pm**

## AGENDA

- I. Call to order / Determination of quorum . . . . . Wayne Halbert
- II. Introductions . . . . . Carlos Rubinstein
- III. Minutes from previous meeting . . . . . Sonny Hinojosa
- IV. Watermaster emergency rule issues . . . . . Carlos Rubinstein
- V. Watermaster rule review issues . . . . . Carlos Rubinstein
- VI. Website changes or expansion . . . . . Greg Characklis
- VII. Update on issues involving 1944 Treaty and Mexico water debt . . . . . JoJo White
- VIII. Update on hydrilla issue . . . . . JoJo White
- IX. Watermaster reports . . . . . Carlos Rubinstein
- X. State reports . . . . . Carlos Rubinstein
- XI. Other reports
- XII. Public comments and concerns.
- XIII. Future meetings.
- XIV. Adjourn.

Wayne Halbert  
Chairman

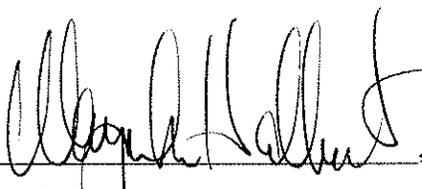
RIO GRANDE WATERMASTER ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING  
NOVEMBER 1, 2000  
TNRCC/RGWM OFFICE, HARLINGEN, TX.  
1:30 P.M. - 3:25 P.M.

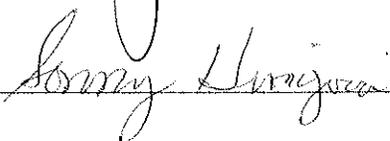
## *MINUTES*

- I. After determining a quorum was present, Chair, Wayne Halbert called the meeting to order.
- II. Self introductions were made.
- III. Sonny Hinojosa presented the Minutes of the September 13, 2000 meeting. The Minutes were approved as presented.
- IV. Watermaster, Carlos Rubinstein reviewed a draft of Watermaster emergency rules. A draft was handed out titled "Negative Allocations, Options for Implementation, October, 2000."  
After review and discussion, it was recommended to accept option A-3:  
Allow the operating reserve to drop below the 150,000 AF minimum to between 100,000 and 75,000 AF without implementing negative allocations. Negative allocations would be mandatory whenever the operating reserve fell below 75,000 AF.  
Jo Jo White moved to accept the recommendation, Max Phillips seconded, and the motion carried. Vice Chair, Orville Ballard voted "NO".
- V. Wayne and Carlos presented the Watermaster Rule Review.  
There had been some confusion about what to restore the operational reserve (O.R.) to if allowed to drop to 0. Discussed was whether the O.R. would be restored to 0 or to 75,000 AF through negative allocation. Carlos presented data that reflected the worst operational loss in a one month period was 48,000 AF.  
Bill Green moved that the O.R. be allowed to drop to 0 before implementing a negative allocation and the reserve be restored to a minimum of 48,000 AF. Sonny seconded and the motion carried. Orville voted "NO".
- VI. Greg Charaklis (AZURIX) gave an update on the Water 2 Water website. Greg asked for 2-3 volunteers to test the water exchange with mock transactions.  
Sonny and Wayne will sell and George Carpenter and Orville will buy.
- VII. Jo Jo gave an update on the 1944 Water Treaty and Mexico's water debt. A meeting is scheduled for November 9 in El Paso or Juarez. Mexico will have a payback proposal at this meeting.
- VIII. Jo Jo reported on the hydrilla issue. Everything has been signed off on for the carp project. The mechanical harvesting will start soon.

- IX. Watermaster report:  
Carlos discussed the "negative to the Gulf" issue. Carlos has asked Ken Rakestraw (IBWC) to meet with us to discuss this issue. Wayne will notify the Committee members of the meeting date.
- X. There were no state reports.
- XI. No public comments or concerns.
- XII. Next meeting scheduled after January 1, 2001
- XIII. Adjourned at 3:25 P.M.

THESE MINUTES WERE READ AND APPROVED ON THIS, THE 23<sup>rd</sup>  
DAY OF FEBRUARY, 2001.

  
\_\_\_\_\_, CHAIR

  
\_\_\_\_\_, SECRETARY

# Rio Grande Watermaster Advisory Committee

Carlos Rubinstein, Watermaster  
1804 W. Jefferson - Harlingen, TX 78550  
956-425-6010 - Fax 956-430-6052  
[crubinst@tnrcc.state.tx.us](mailto:crubinst@tnrcc.state.tx.us)

Wayne Halbert, Chairman  
PO Box 148 - Harlingen, TX 78551  
956-423-7015 - Fax 956-423-4671  
[halbwayn@aol.com](mailto:halbwayn@aol.com)

Orville Ballard, Vice-chairman  
PO Box 39 - Rivera, TX 78379  
512-296-3340 Fax 512-883-3342  
[olb@tenet.edu](mailto:olb@tenet.edu)

Sonny Hinojosa, Secretary  
PO Box 6 - San Juan, TX 78589  
956-787-1422 Fax 956-781-7622  
[hcid2@sc2000.net](mailto:hcid2@sc2000.net)

**September 13, 2000**  
**Rio Grande Watermaster Office**  
**1804 West Jefferson Avenue**  
**Harlingen, Texas**  
**1:30pm - 3:30pm**

## AGENDA

- I. Call to order / Determination of quorum . . . . . Wayne Halbert
- II. Introductions . . . . . Carlos Rubinstein
- III. Minutes from previous meeting . . . . . Sonny Hinojosa
- IV. Watermaster rule review issues and preparation of comments . . . . . Carlos Rubinstein  
Wayne Halbert
- V. Discussion on website changes or expansion . . . . . Greg Characklis
- VI. Update on issues involving 1944 Treaty and Mexico water debt . . . . . JoJo White
- VII. Update on hydrilla issue . . . . . JoJo White
- VIII. Watermaster reports . . . . . Carlos Rubinstein
- IX. State reports . . . . . Carlos Rubinstein
- X. Other reports
- XI. Public comments and concerns.
- XII. Future meetings.
- XIII. Adjourn.

Wayne Halbert  
Chairman

SEP 13 2000  
10:58 AM

RIO GRANDE WATERMASTER ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING  
SEPTEMBER 13, 2000  
TNRCC/RGWM OFFICE, HARLINGEN, TX.  
1:30 P.M. - 3:12 P.M.

## *MINUTES*

- I. After determining a quorum was present, Chair, Wayne Halbert called the meeting to order.
- II. There were no introductions.
- III. Sonny Hinojosa presented the Minutes of the August 2, 2000 meeting. The Minutes were approved as presented.
- IV. Watermaster, Carlos Rubinstein, discussed Rule Review.  
Carlos presented proposed revisions to:
  - 303.2 Definitions
  - 303.21 Accounts
  - 303.22 Allocations
  - 303.41 Sale of Water Rights
  - 303.42 AmendmentsAfter discussion, Carlos placed a conference call to Melissa Estes, TNRCC-Austin. Melissa had other team members involved in the conference call. If everything goes as scheduled, the proposed rule revisions could be adopted by the Commission on July 5, 2001. A public hearing is scheduled in Harlingen on March 19, 2001.
- V. There was no report on the website project.
- VI. Jo Jo White reported on the 1944 Treaty. The bi-national meeting in El Paso was uneventful. Mexico offered no payback proposal. On September 11, Jo Jo had a conference call with representatives from Hinojosa, Gramm, & Hutchison's office, the State Department, and IBWC. The outcome was for Commissioner Bernal to meet with CNA in Mexico City on September 18 to get a payback proposal.
- VII. Jo Jo updated on the hydrilla issue. There was an Aquatic Weed Task Force meeting held in Mercedes on August 29. The technical group is to meet to address emergency issues. Emergency measures might include the use of chemicals. There is still money available for mechanical harvesting that must be used by October.
- VIII. Carlos reported the U.S. ownership is 33.22%.

- IX. There were no other reports
- X. Future meeting scheduled for November 1, 2000, 1:30 P.M. at the Watermaster's office.
- XI. Meeting adjourned at 3:12 P.M.

THESE MINUTES WERE READ AND APPROVED ON THIS, THE 1st  
DAY OF NOVEMBER, 2000.

Walter Hall, CHAIR

Sonny Hinz, SECRETARY

# Rio Grande Watermaster Advisory Committee

Carlos Rubinstein, Watermaster  
1804 W. Jefferson - Harlingen, TX 78550  
956-425-6010 - Fax 956-430-6052  
[crubinst@trcc.state.tx.us](mailto:crubinst@trcc.state.tx.us)

Wayne Halbert, Chairman  
PO Box 148 - Harlingen, TX 78551  
956-423-7015 - Fax 956-423-4671  
[halbwayn@aol.com](mailto:halbwayn@aol.com)

Orville Ballard, Vice-chairman  
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512-296-3340 Fax 512-883-3342  
[olb@tenet.edu](mailto:olb@tenet.edu)

Sonny Hinojosa, Secretary  
PO Box 6 - San Juan, TX 78589  
956-787-1422 Fax 956-781-7622  
[hcid2@sc2000.net](mailto:hcid2@sc2000.net)

**August 2, 2000**  
**Rio Grande Watermaster Office**  
**1804 West Jefferson Avenue**  
**Harlingen, Texas**  
**1:30pm - 3:30pm**

## AGENDA

- I. Call to order / Determination of quorum . . . . . Wayne Halbert
- II. Introductions . . . . . Carlos Rubinstein
- III. Minutes from previous meeting . . . . . Sonny Hinojosa
- IV. Report on Watermaster rule review . . . . . Carlos Rubinstein
- V. Website project demonstration & discussion . . . . . Greg Characklis
- VI. Update on issues involving 1944 Treaty and Mexico water debt . . . . . JoJo White
- VII. Update on water conservation legislation efforts . . . . . Wayne Halbert
- VIII. Update on hydrilla issue . . . . . JoJo White
- IX. Watermaster reports . . . . . Carlos Rubinstein
- X. State reports . . . . . Tracy Callen
- XI. Other reports
- XII. Public comments and concerns.
- XIII. Future meetings.
- XIV. Adjourn.

Wayne Halbert  
Chairman

RECEIVED  
AUG 2 2000  
10:30 AM

RIO GRANDE WATERMASTER ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING  
AUGUST 2, 2000  
TNRCC/RGWM OFFICE, HARLINGEN, TX.  
1:30 P.M. - 3:50 P.M.

## *MINUTES*

- I. After determining a quorum was present, Chair Wayne Halbert called the meeting to order.
- II. Carlos Rubinstein introduced Rudy Atkinson. Rudy was appointed to fill the industrial representative vacancy.
- III. Carlos had a conference call scheduled with Margaret Hoffman (TNRCC). Margaret discussed Rule Review and 1944 Treaty issues. The Rule Review hearing is scheduled for October 16.  
Margaret will be representing TNRCC at the bi-national meeting to be held August 10, in El Paso. The meeting is being held to discuss Mexico's water debt and a repayment schedule.
- IV. Sonny Hinojosa presented the Minutes of the June 28, 2000 meeting. The Minutes were approved as presented.
- V. Carlos discussed the Rule Review and urged comments be made to the State. The different scenarios of adjusting the operating and municipal reserves and their impacts have been made available to the State.
- VI. Wayne reported on a legislative hearing in Washington. Wayne testified on the Conservation Bill and also on Treaty issues. Wayne met with Solomon Ortiz, Sylvestre Reyes, and Ruben Hinojosa while he was in Washington.
- VII. Greg Characklis and Patrick Meyers (Azurix) demonstrated the RGWM website (water2water.com). The site is still experimental. Greg urged committee members to call in to get their passwords and try the website.
- VIII. Jo Jo White reported on the 1944 Treaty. There is a meeting scheduled for August 10 in El Paso. TNRCC and TWDB will have representatives at the meeting. The State will be taking the lead in negotiating with Mexico for a repayment schedule. Jo Jo is hopeful the new players will pick up and continue where the LRGVWDMA Treaty Committee left off.
- IX. Jo Jo gave an update on the hydrilla issue. The Valley Water Committee is partially funding the pilot project on the triploid carp. The project is ready and fully funded. Jo Jo has asked IBWC to consider approaching Mexico for the use of chemical application to manage the aquatic vegetation.

- X. Carlos gave the Watermaster report. Carlos has increased the release from Amistad to keep Falcon from reaching a 248' elevation. A report of the Rio Grande flows and storages was provided.
- XI. State reports - Carlos reported on the water passing through Brownsville out to the Gulf. As of the end of the July period, there has been 45, 511 acre feet of flow into the Gulf.
- XII. There were no other reports or public comments.
- XIII. Future meeting scheduled for September 21, 2000, 1:30 P.M. at the Watermaster's office.
- XIV. Meeting adjourned at 3:50 P.M.

THESE MINUTES WERE READ AND APPROVED ON THIS, THE 13<sup>th</sup>  
DAY OF SEPTEMBER, 2000.

Walter Hallert CHAIR

Sonny Huigra, SECRETARY

# Rio Grande Watermaster Advisory Committee

Carlos Rubinstein, Watermaster  
1804 W. Jefferson - Harlingen, TX 78550  
956-425-6010 - Fax 956-430-6052  
[crubinst@nrcc.state.tx.us](mailto:crubinst@nrcc.state.tx.us)

Wayne Halbert, Chairman  
PO Box 148 - Harlingen, TX 78551  
956-423-7015 - Fax 956-423-4671  
[halbwayn@aol.com](mailto:halbwayn@aol.com)

Orville Ballard, Vice-chairman  
PO Box 39 - Rivera, TX 78379  
512-296-3340 Fax 512-883-3342  
[olb@tenet.edu](mailto:olb@tenet.edu)

Sonny Hinojosa, Secretary  
PO Box 6 - San Juan, TX 78589  
956-787-1422 Fax 956-781-7622  
[hcid2@sc2000.net](mailto:hcid2@sc2000.net)

**June 28, 2000**  
**Rio Grande Valley Partnership**  
**FM 1015 & Expressway 83**  
**Weslaco, Texas**  
**10:00am - 12:00noon**

## AGENDA

- I. Call to order / Determination of quorum . . . . . Orville Ballard
- II. Introductions . . . . . Carlos Rubinstein
- III. Minutes from previous meeting . . . . . Sonny Hinojosa
- IV. Announcement of selection of Rudy Atkinson to Committee . . . . . Carlos Rubinstein
- V. Report on rule review workshop . . . . . Carlos Rubinstein
- VI. Website project review . . . . . Greg Characklis
- VII. Update on issues involving 1944 Treaty and Mexico water debt . . . . . JoJo White
- VIII. Update on hydrilla issue and fish project . . . . . JoJo White
- IX. Watermaster reports . . . . . Carlos Rubinstein
- X. State reports . . . . . Tracy Callen
- XI. Other reports
- XII. Public comments and concerns.
- XIII. Future meetings.
- XIV. Adjourn.

Wayne Halbert  
Chairman

**RECEIVED**  
**JUN 21 2000**  
**H.C.I.D. #2**

RIO GRANDE WATERMASTER ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING  
JUNE 28, 2000  
RIO GRANDE VALLEY PARTNERSHIP, WESLACO, TX.  
10:00 AM. - 12:00 P.M.

*MINUTES*

- I. After determining a quorum was present, Chair Wayne Halbert called the meeting to order.
- II. There were no introductions.
- III. Secretary Sonny Hinojosa handed out the Minutes of the May 10, 2000, meeting. After review, it was moved and seconded to approve the Minutes as presented. Motion carried.
- IV. Rio Grande Watermaster, Carlos Rubinstein, announced the selection of Rudy Atkinson to finish the term of Fred Velarde.
- V. Carlos reported on the rule review workshop. Carlos provided the Committee with a handout of a slide presentation showing the effects of altering the different reserves.
- VI. Greg Characklis and Patrick Meyers (Azurix) gave an update on the Watermaster website project.
- VII. Wayne reported that a bi-national meeting is scheduled in El Paso on July 7, 2000 to continue discussion on the Mexico water debt.
- VIII. An update was given on the hydrilla and carp project. The Lower Rio Grande Water Committee will partially fund the project. The Bureau of Reclamation still has funds committed for the project.
- IX. Carlos handed out "Flows of the Rio Grande" as an update of our current water situation.
- X. There were no State reports.
- XI. James Elium reported on his Washington trip. James met with Solomon Ortiz, Kay Bailey Hutchison, Ruben Hinojosa, Ciro Rodriguez, and Sylvestre Reyes and discussed 1944 Treaty issues.
- XII. There were no public comments.
- XIII. Future meeting scheduled for August 2.
- XIV. Adjourned at 12:00 P.M.

THESE MINUTES WERE READ AND APPROVED ON THIS, THE 2nd  
DAY OF AUGUST, 2000.

Wayne Halbert, CHAIR

Sonny Hinzee, SECRETARY

# Rio Grande Watermaster Advisory Committee

Carlos Rubinstein, Watermaster  
1804 W. Jefferson - Harlingen, TX 78550  
956-425-6010 - Fax 956-430-6052  
[crubinst@nrcc.state.tx.us](mailto:crubinst@nrcc.state.tx.us)

Wayne Halbert, Chairman  
PO Box 148 - Harlingen, TX 78551  
956-423-7015 - Fax 956-423-4671  
[halbwayn@aol.com](mailto:halbwayn@aol.com)

Orville Ballard, Vice-chairman  
PO Box 39 - Rivera, TX 78379  
512-296-3340 Fax 512-883-3342  
[olb@tencd.edu](mailto:olb@tencd.edu)

Sonny Hinojosa, Secretary  
PO Box 6 - San Juan, TX 78589  
956-787-1422 Fax 956-781-7622  
[hcid2@sc2000.net](mailto:hcid2@sc2000.net)

**May 10, 2000**  
**Harlingen Water Works Services**  
**134 E. Van Buren - Harlingen, TX 78551**  
**1:00pm - 4:00pm**

## AGENDA

- I. Call to order / Determination of quorum . . . . . Wayne Halbert
- II. Introductions . . . . . Carlos Rubinstein
- III. Minutes from previous meeting . . . . . Sonny Hinojosa
- IV. Submission of resignation for Fred Velarde . . . . . Wayne Halbert
- V. Budget review . . . . . Carlos Rubinstein
- VI. Website project review . . . . . Carlos Rubinstein
- VII. Update on issues involving 1944 Treaty and Mexico water debt . . . . . JoJo White
- VIII. Update on hydrilla issue and fish project . . . . . JoJo White
- IX. Update on rule review schedule . . . . . Carlos Rubinstein
- X. Watermaster reports . . . . . Carlos Rubinstein
- XI. State reports . . . . . Tracy Callen
- XII. Other reports
- XIII. Public comments and concerns.
- XIV. Future meetings.
- XV. Adjourn.

Wayne Halbert  
Chairman

RIO GRANDE WATERMASTER ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING  
MAY 10, 2000  
HARLINGEN WATER WORKS SERVICES, HARLINGEN, TX.  
1:00 P.M. - 2:48 P.M.

## *MINUTES*

- I. After determining a quorum was present, Chair Wayne Halbert called the meeting to order.
- II. Watermaster Carlos Rubinstein introduced TNRCC staff:  
Tracy Callen and Pat Hooper from Austin. Pat will be replacing Tracy as liaison between Field Ops and Watermaster.
- III. Secretary Sonny Hinojosa handed out the Minutes of the March 29, 2000, meeting. After review, it was moved and seconded to approve the Minutes as presented. Motion carried.
- IV. Wayne advised the WAC of Fred Velarde's resignation. It was moved and seconded to accept Fred's resignation. Motion carried. Fred represented industrial water interest and was employed by CPL. Fred recommended another CPL employee fill his position. After discussion, it was moved and seconded to recommend Fred's suggestion to the TNRCC Executive Director. Motion carried.
- V. Carlos presented the Watermaster Proposed Budget for FY01. After review and discussion, it was moved and seconded to recommend favorable consideration of the Budget to TNRCC. Motion carried.
- VI. Patrick Meyers, Azurix, updated on the progress of the Watermaster website. There is currently a test site, but the address was being changed and not available at this time.  
  
Azurix is setting up the web site at no cost to the Watermaster. Azurix income will be generated on water rights sales resulting from the site.
- VII. Jo Jo White reported on the hydrilla and carp project. There has been no action since the last meeting.
- VIII. Jo Jo reported on the 1944 Treaty issue. To date, U.S. has received 150,000 acre feet from Mexico.
- IX. Carlos reported on the rule review schedule. Carlos expects guidance documents from TNRCC in 4-6 weeks. Initially, Watermaster rules were scheduled for review the third quarter of next year, but has been rescheduled for June of this year. Carlos has expressed to TNRCC that



# Rio Grande Watermaster Advisory Committee

Cindy Martinez, Watermaster  
1804 W. Jefferson - Harlingen, TX 78550  
956-425-6010 - Fax 956-430-6052

Wayne Halbert, Chairman  
PO Box 148 - Harlingen, TX 78551  
956-423-7015 - Fax 956-423-4671  
E-mail - halbwayn@aol.com

Orville Ballard, Vice-chairman  
PO Box 39 - Rivera, TX 78379  
512-296-3340 Fax 512-883-3342  
E-mail - olb@tenet.edu

Sonny Hinojosa, Secretary  
PO Box 6 - San Juan, TX 78589  
956-787-1422 Fax 956-781-7622  
E-mail - hcid2@rgv.net

**March 29, 2000**  
**Harlingen Water Works Services**  
**134 E. Van Buren - Harlingen, TX 78551**  
**1:00pm - 4:00pm**

## AGENDA

- I. Call to order / Determination of quorum . . . . . Wayne Halbert
- II. Introductions . . . . . Cindy Martinez
- III. Minutes from previous meeting . . . . . Sonny Hinojosa
- IV. Update on issues involving 1944 Treaty and Mexico water debt . . . . . JoJo White
- V. Update on hydrilla issue and fish project . . . . . JoJo White
- VI. Update on TNRCC - Sunset Commission - WAC . . . . . Open discussion
- VII. Improving Watermaster activities through use of the Internet . . . . . Greg Characklis
- VIII. Watermaster reports . . . . . Cindy Martinez
- IX. State reports . . . . . Cindy Martinez
- X. Other reports
- XI. Public comments and concerns.
- XII. Future meetings.
- XIII. Adjourn.

Wayne Halbert  
Chairman

RECEIVED  
MAR 16 2000  
H.C.I.D. #2

RIO GRANDE WATERMASTER ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING  
MARCH 29, 2000  
HARLINGEN WATER WORKS SERVICES, HARLINGEN, TX.  
1:00 P.M. - 2:20 P.M.

## *MINUTES*

- I. After determining a quorum was present, Vice-chair Orville Ballard called the meeting to order.
- II. Cindy Martinez introduced members of her staff including Eagle Pass staff Jose Luna and Maria Romo.
- III. Sonny Hinojosa presented the Minutes of the February 9, 2000 meeting. It was moved and seconded to approve the Minutes as presented.
- IV. Jo Jo White briefed the group on 1944 Treaty issues. The Treaty committee will be going to Washington, D.C. next week to meet with the State Department and Congressmen Hinojosa and Ortiz.  
Carlos Rubinstein has the Brandes report available in spanish.
- V. Jo Jo reported on the hydrilla and fish project. A technical meeting was held in Weslaco with the Bureau of Reclamation and the Corps of Engineers. The meeting was mainly to meet with Districts willing to volunteer as project sites for insect tests. CCID #6 and CCID #2 volunteered.

The Bureau of Reclamation allocated \$15,000.00 for the triploid carp pilot project. Texas Parks and Wildlife now estimates cost of pilot project to be \$30,000.

- VI. Tony Franco updated on Sunset Commission. Nothing new at this time.
- VII. Greg Characklis (Azurix) addressed the Committee on improving the Watermaster activities through use of the internet. Greg discussed setting up a web site for: water transfers, water contracts, water rights sales and also for accessing "real time" information on water rights accounts.  
After Greg's presentation, Fred Velarde moved and Jo Jo seconded recommending the Watermaster to develop an intranet site. Motion carried.
- VIII. Carlos gave the Watermaster reports:  
U.S. storage = 38.66%  
Mexico " = 27.34%

Carlos handed out :

1. Status Report on Rules Review Process
2. Preliminary Watermaster budget

IX. Tony reported on a response from Jeff Saitas. Tony should get a letter by the end of the week from Jeff.

Sonny reminded Tony that the WAC has still not been provided the accounting of the 10% budget by SB 1406 for FY 98. The request was made in May 1999.

X. Other Reports:

Region M - Sonny reported that Region M has requested Dr. Brandes to explore the best management system for reservoir operations on the Rio Grande.

XI. No public comment.

XII. Future meetings scheduled for May 10, 2000, at 1:00 P.M. at Harlingen Water Works.

XIII. Meeting adjourned at 2:20 P.M.  
Refreshments served to honor Cindy's retirement

THESE MINUTES WERE READ AND APPROVED ON THIS, THE 10<sup>th</sup>  
DAY OF may, 2000.

Wayne Hallett, CHAIR

Sonny Hingon, SECRETARY

# Rio Grande Watermaster Advisory Committee

Cindy Martinez, Watermaster  
1804 W. Jefferson - Harlingen, TX 78550  
956-425-6010 - Fax 956-430-6052

Wayne Halbert, Chairman  
PO Box 148 - Harlingen, TX 78551  
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Orville Ballard, Vice-chairman  
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E-mail - [olb@tenet.edu](mailto:olb@tenet.edu)

Sonny Hinojosa, Secretary  
PO Box 6 - San Juan, TX 78589  
956-787-1422 Fax 956-781-7622  
E-mail - [hcid2@rgv.net](mailto:hcid2@rgv.net)

**February 9, 2000**  
**Harlingen Water Works Services**  
**134 E. Van Buren - Harlingen, TX 78551**  
**1:00pm - 4:00pm**

## AGENDA

- I. Call to order / Determination of quorum . . . . . Wayne Halbert
- II. Introductions . . . . . Cindy Martinez
- III. Introduction of the new Watermaster . . . . . Tony Franco
- IV. Minutes from previous meeting . . . . . Sonny Hinojosa
- V. Update on issues involving 1944 Treaty and Mexico water debt . . . . . JoJo White
- VI. Update on hydrilla issue and fish project . . . . . JoJo White
- VII. Update on TNRCC - Sunset Commission - WAC . . . . . Open discussion
- VIII. Finalization of accounting workshop plans . . . . . Wayne Halbert
- IX. Watermaster reports . . . . . Cindy Martinez
- X. State reports . . . . . Cindy Martinez
- XI. Other reports
- XII. Public comments and concerns.
- XIII. Future meetings.
- XIV. Adjourn.

Wayne Halbert  
Chairman

RIO GRANDE WATERMASTER ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING  
FEBRUARY 9, 2000  
HARLINGEN WATER WORKS SERVICES, HARLINGEN, TX.  
1:00 P.M. - 3:03 P.M.

*MINUTES*

- I. After determining a quorum was present, the meeting was called to order by Chairman, Wayne Halbert.
- II. Self introductions were made by all present.
- III. Tony Franco (TNRCC) introduced Carlos Rubinstein. Carlos will be succeeding Cindy Martinez as Rio Grande Watermaster upon her retirement, March 31, 2000. Carlos was hired by TNRCC on February 1.
- IV. Sonny Hinojosa presented the Minutes of the previous meeting. It was moved and seconded to approve the Minutes as presented. Motion carried.
- V. Jo Jo White reported on the 1944 Treaty issues and the Mexico water debt. Jo Jo gave an overview of the January 12, and February 8, meetings with IBWC, CILA, and CNA. The January 12, meeting was held in El Paso and the February 8, meeting was held in Juarez, Mexico.
  - a. Mexico rebuts the Brandes Report that was provided to them on January 12.
  - b. Mexico states they have no water to convey to the U.S.

Gordon Hill, Wayne, and Sonny also attended the meetings and added comments.
- VI. Jo Jo reported on the hydrilla issue and the fish project. Earl Chilton revised his study to provide to the Bureau of Reclamation. There are \$40,000.00 left from this year's mechanical harvest project. The B.O.R. has approved the funding for the carp pilot project and for a gauging station in the Rio Grande. The W.A.C. will submit a letter to the B.O.R. to request release of the funds to the State.
- VII. Sunset Commission:  
TNRCC has refused the WAC's request to upgrade the WM Program. Tony will respond to the WAC's request to Jeff Saitas to upgrade the Program.
- VIII. Water Accounting Workshop is scheduled for February 19, at 8:30 A.M. Jo Jo will contact Jose Amador to reserve Hoblitzelle Auditorium in Weslaco.
- IX. Watermaster Reports:
  - As of January 29, U.S. is at 40.53% of conservation capacity.
  - Region "M" response letter on the Rules Review Process was handed out.

- X. State reports: None
- XI. Other reports: None
- XII. Public Comments/Concerns: None.
- XIII. Future Meetings: Schedule for March 29, at 1:00 P.M. at Harlingen Water Works.
- XIV. Adjourned at 3:03 P.M.

THESE MINUTES WERE READ AND APPROVED ON THIS THE 29<sup>th</sup>  
DAY OF MARCH 2000.

Miss Piedad, CHAIR

Sonny Dingoza, SECRETARY

# Rio Grande Watermaster Advisory Committee

Cindy Martinez, Watermaster  
1804 W. Jefferson - Harlingen, TX 78550  
956-425-6010 - Fax 956-430-6052

Wayne Halbert, Chairman  
PO Box 148 - Harlingen, TX 78551  
956-423-7015 - Fax 956-423-4671  
E-mail - halbwayn@aol.com

Orville Ballard, Vice-chairman  
PO Box 39 - Rivera, TX 78379  
512-296-3340 Fax 512-883-3342  
E-mail - olb@tenet.edu

Sonny Hinojosa, Secretary  
PO Box 6 - San Juan, TX 78589  
956-787-1422 Fax 956-781-7622  
E-mail - hcid2@rgv.net

**January 6, 2000**  
**Harlingen Water Works Services**  
**134 E. Van Buren - Harlingen, TX 78551**  
**1:00pm - 4:00pm**

## AGENDA

- I. Call to order / Determination of quorum . . . . . Wayne Halbert
- II. Introductions . . . . . Cindy Martinez
- III. Minutes from previous meeting . . . . . Sonny Hinojosa
- IV. Update on issues involving 1944 Treaty and Mexico water debt . . . . . JoJo White
- V. Update on hydrilla issue and fish project . . . . . JoJo White
- VI. Update on Watermaster rules review schedule . . . . . Cindy Martinez
- VII. Posting for Watermaster position . . . . . Tony Franco
- VIII. Update on TNRCC - Sunset Commission - WAC . . . . . Open discussion
- IX. Discussion on accounting workshop plans . . . . . Wayne Halbert
- X. Watermaster reports . . . . . Cindy Martinez
- XI. State reports . . . . . Cindy Martinez
- XII. Other reports
- XIII. Public comments and concerns.
- XIV. Future meetings.
- XV. Adjourn.

Wayne Halbert  
Chairman

RIO GRANDE WATERMASTER ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING  
JANUARY 6, 2000  
HARLINGEN WATER WORKS SERVICES, HARLINGEN, TX.  
1:00 P.M. - 2:53 P.M.

## *MINUTES*

- I. Meeting called to order by Chairman, Wayne Halbert
- II. There were no introductions. No guests were present.
- III. The Minutes of the November 18, 1999, meeting were presented.  
After review, it was moved and seconded to approve the minutes as presented, Motion carried.
- IV. Watermaster, Cindy Martinez, updated on the TNRCC rules review schedule. Cindy suggested Watermaster rules be reviewed before March 31, so that she may be involved. TNRCC has a "Rules Concept Paper" that details the procedure involved in the review process.
- V. Jo Jo White reported on the status of the 1944 Treaty and the Mexico Water debt. A report has been submitted to IBWC Commissioner, John Bernal. The report indicates Mexico has had sufficient water to meet the minimum Treaty requirements.
- VI. Jo Jo updated on the hydrilla issue and status of the triploid grass carp project. Texas Parks & Wildlife has submitted to the Bureau of Reclamation the Pilot Study. The Bureau has funding for the \$15,000.00 study.
- VII. Tony Franco, TNRCC Region 15 Manager, was not present to report on the posting for the Watermaster position. Cindy reported the posting for the position had already gone out and would be open until January 14. Interviews will be performed the week after the 14<sup>th</sup> and a person will be on board by February 1.  
  
After discussion, the Committee agreed to request from TNRCC to delay hiring a Watermaster until TNRCC has had an opportunity to review suggested recommendations for the program.  
Wayne will submit, to Jeff Saitas, recommendations to upgrade the Watermaster program. The Committee suggested the Assistant Watermaster can carry the program until a person meeting the suggested qualifications can be appointed.
- VIII. The Committee briefly discussed the Sunset Commission.
- IX. Wayne discussed the Water Accounting Workshop.  
The RGWM and the IBWC will conduct a workshop detailing water accounting methods of U.S. water below Fort Quitman, Texas. The workshop is scheduled for February 29 at the Harlingen Library.

- X. Cindy gave the Watermaster report. As of December 25, U.S. share of ownership is 40.83 % of capacity. Also provided were two handouts: Monthly Allocations from 1996 to 1999 and Weekly Storage Totals for Amistad & Falcon Reservoirs. Cindy also reported on the potential of a Cancellation Hearing for water rights that have had 10 consecutive years (1984-1993) of non-use. 130 water right accounts currently meet the criteria.
- XI. There were no other reports and no public comments or concerns.
- XII. Future meeting was scheduled for February 9, 1:00 P.M. at Harlingen Water Works.
- XIII. Meeting adjourned at 2:53 P.M.

THESE MINUTES WERE READ AND APPROVED ON THIS THE 9<sup>th</sup>  
DAY OF FEBRUARY 2000.

Walter Hallert, CHAIR

Sonny Vinje, SECRETARY

# Rio Grande Watermaster Advisory Committee

Cindy Martinez, Watermaster  
1804 W. Jefferson - Harlingen, TX 78550  
956-425-6010 - Fax 956-430-6052

Wayne Halbert, Chairman  
PO Box 148 - Harlingen, TX 78551  
956-423-7015 - Fax 956-423-4671  
E-mail - halbwayn@aol.com

Orville Ballard, Vice-chairman  
PO Box 39 - Rivera, TX 78379  
512-296-3340 Fax 512-883-3342  
E-mail - olb@tncet.edu

Sonny Hinojosa, Secretary  
PO Box 6 - San Juan, TX 78589  
956-787-1422 Fax 956-781-7622  
E-mail - hcid2@rgv.net

**November 18, 1999**  
**Harlingen Water Works Services**  
**134 E. Van Buren - Harlingen, TX 78551**  
**1:00pm - 4:00pm**

## AGENDA

- I. Call to order / Determination of quorum . . . . . Orville Ballard
- II. Introductions . . . . . Cindy Martinez
- III. Minutes from previous meeting . . . . . Sonny Hinojosa
- IV. Announcement of new appointees for committee . . . . . Cindy Martinez
- V. Reorganization of the committee . . . . . Orville Ballard
- VI. TNRCC - Sunset Commission - WAC . . . . . Orville Ballard
- VII. Report on issues involving 1944 Treaty and Mexico water debt . . . . . JoJo White
- VIII. Report on hydrilla issue . . . . . JoJo White
- IX. Watermaster reports . . . . . Cindy Martinez
- X. State reports . . . . . Cindy Martinez
- XI. Other reports
- XII. Public comments and concerns.
- XIII. Future meetings.
- XIV. Adjourn.

*W. J. Hinojosa*

RIO GRANDE WATERMASTER ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING  
NOVEMBER 18, 1999  
HARLINGEN WATER WORKS SERVICES, HARLINGEN, TX.  
1:00 P.M. - 2:47 P.M.

*MINUTES*

- I. Meeting called to order by Vice-Chairman, Orville Ballard
- II. Introductions - no non-members were present
- III. The Minutes of the May 27, 1999, meeting were presented.  
Bill Green moved and Fred Velarde seconded to approve the Minutes as presented.  
Motion carried.
- IV. Cindy Martinez announced the new appointees for the Committee.  
Seven positions expired.

Cornelio Morales (resigned)	Brenda Paez	(replacement)
Orville Ballard	reappointed	
Wayne Halbert	reappointed	
Sharon Williams	reappointed	
Max Phillips	reappointed	
Gerardo Pinzon	James Elium	(new member)
Robert Peterson	Jed A. Brown	(new member)

Frank Armendariz resigned. Vidal Davila will serve out the term.
- V. Reorganization of the committee.  
Bill moved and Jo Jo White seconded to keep the same slate of officers and to accept by acclamation. Motion carried.  
Wayne Halbert - Chair  
Orville Ballard - Vice Chair  
Sonny Hinojosa - Secretary
- VI. Orville briefed the Committee on the Sunset Advisory Commission. TNRCC is up for review . It was suggested individual members submit letters to the S.A.C. if displeased about TNRCC's reorganization of the Watermaster program.  
JoJo provided the background of the creation of the W.A.C. (S.B. 1406).
- VII. JoJo reported on issues with Mexico and the 1944 Treaty.  
By Treaty, the U.S. is entitled to one-third of the flow reaching the Rio Grande from six (6) named Mexican tributaries.  
The one-third shall not be less, as an average amount in cycles of five consecutive years, than 350,000 acre-feet annually. If Mexico is unable to meet the 350,000 acre-feet annually, any deficiencies existing at the end of the five year cycle shall be made up in the following five year cycle.

Mexico had a deficiency of 1,024,000 acre feet in the previous 5 year cycle and to date, the third year of the second five year cycle, has accrued an additional 420,000 acre-feet for a total debt of 1,444,000 acre feet.

Mexico has 2 more years to pay the debt in full.

VIII. JoJo reported on the hydrilla issue. The harvesters were brought in this week and are working upstream of the C#6 pumpstation. The harvesters (mechanical removal) are the short term solution. The Texas Parks & Wildlife, with funding from the Bureau of Rec., will conduct a pilot study to monitor 25 tagged triploid carp to be released D/S of Anzalduas Dam. The estimated cost is \$15,000.00 for a 6 month study.

IX. Cindy reported on the U.S. storage at the reservoirs. As of November 13, 1999, U.S. was at 41.78% (1.4 MIL. A.F.) of its capacity.

Assessments will be out by November 19. The rates are 0.2664 for municipal and 0.2131 for irrigation.

Research has been conducted of water rights with 10 years of non use. Approximately 2,000 acre feet in the lower fall in the category. The last cancellation hearing was in 1986.

In January, TNRCC has a Rules Review Process.

Cindy suggested 3 rules need to be addressed:

- Increasing the M.D.I. reserve. The existing rule calls for 225,000 acre feet, but there are 240,000 acre feet of rights.
- Possible adjustment of the operating reserve. Current rule calls for 150,000 to 380,000 acre feet.
- Examine the negative allocation rule

Cindy reported that a new data base program will be in place by 2002. It will handle all the accounting procedures.

Cost to the Rio Grande Watermaster program is \$250,000.

After review of Cindy's reports, it was suggested a committee be formed to address the the rules review process.

Orville, JoJo, and Sonny were appointed to the committee.

X. In other State reports, Cindy announced her retirement.

The effective date is March 31, 2000.

XI. No other reports

XII. No public comments

XIII. Future meeting scheduled for January 6, 2000 at 1:00 P.M. at this same location, Harlingen Water Works Services.

XIV. Adjourned at 2:47 P.M.

THESE MINUTES WERE READ AND APPROVED ON THIS THE 6<sup>th</sup>  
DAY OF JANUARY 2000.

Wagdy Halbut, CHAIR

Sonny Hingosa, SECRETARY

# Rio Grande Watermaster Advisory Committee

Cindy Martinez, Watermaster  
1500 Dove - McAllen, TX 78504  
956-664-2763 - Fax 956-664-2984

Wayne Halbert, Chairman  
PO Box 148 - Harlingen, TX 78551  
956-423-7015 - Fax 956-423-4671  
E-mail - halbwayn@aol.com

Orville Ballard, Vice-chairman  
PO Box 39 - Rivera, TX 78379  
512-296-3340 Fax 512-883-3342  
E-mail - olb@tenet.edu

Sonny Hinojosa, Secretary  
PO Box 6 - San Juan, TX 78589  
956-787-1422 Fax 956-781-7622  
E-mail - hcid2@rgv.net

**May 27, 1999**  
**Texas State Bank Community Building**  
**500 South Missouri - Weslaco, TX**  
**2:00pm - 4:00pm**

## AGENDA

- I. Call to order / Determination of quorum . . . . . Wayne Halbert
- II. Introductions . . . . . Cindy Martinez
- III. Minutes from previous meeting . . . . . Sonny Hinojosa
- IV. Presentation of proposed budget for comments and recommendations . . . . . Cindy Martinez  
Tracy Callen
- V. Discussion on need for additional gaging stations on Rio Grande . . . . . Cindy Martinez
- VI. Report on membership status for Middle and Upper Rio Grande . . . . . Tracy Callen
- VII. Watermaster reports . . . . . Cindy Martinez
- VIII. State reports . . . . . Tracy Callen
- IX. Other reports
- X. Public comments and concerns.
- XI. Future meetings.
- XII. Adjourn.

RECEIVED

MAY 28 1999

T.C.I.D. #2

RIO GRANDE WATERMASTER ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING  
MAY 27, 1999  
TEXAS STATE BANK COMMUNITY BLDG., WESLACO, TX.  
2:15 P.M. - 3:35 P.M.

*MINUTES*

- I. Meeting called to order by Chairman, Wayne Halbert.
- II. Introductions of TNRCC personnel by RGWM Cindy Martinez, Julian Perales, Ruben Quintanilla, and Tracy Callen.
- III. The Minutes of the October 22, 1998 RGWAC and the January 29, 1999 joint meeting (STWAC/RGWAC) were presented.  
Orville Ballard moved and Bill Green seconded to approve the Minutes as presented.  
Motion carried.
- IV. Cindy presented the Proposed FYOO RGWM Budget. Slight increase in rates.  
Tracy commented on the 10% budgeted by SB1406. The 10% can't be lowered without an Executive Order. Mr. Green asked for an accounting of the 10%. Tracy will provide the accounting for FY 98. The FY 99 will be available in September.
- V. Cindy updated on communications with IBWC and Bureau of Reclamation on the need for additional gauging stations.  
IBWC has budgeted for a gauging station at Retamal Dam.  
There will be a joint meeting (IBWC/BOR/RGWM) on June 10 at IBWC office in Mercedes.  
JoJo White reported on the Aquatic Weed Task Force.  
Texas Parks and Wildlife has \$100,000.00 budgeted for this year. JoJo commented on the possibility of USF & W allowing the use of chemical control.
- VI. Tracy reported on the WAC memberships.  
Frank Armendariz and Cornelio Morales have resigned from the Committee. It was suggested Brenda Paez (MRG) and Vidal Davila (URG) fill in the vacancies.  
Wayne will submit a letter to the Executive Director that these alternates be considered to fill the vacancies.  
  
August 31, 1999 will be the end of term for half of our Committee members.
- VII. Cindy reported on the water supply. As of May 15, U.S. ownership was 36.02% compared to 28.15% a year ago.
- VIII. Tracy reported on Field Citations. She stated it had been put on "hold" for now.
- IX. No public comments.

X. Future meetings not planned at this time.

XI. Meeting adjourned at 3:35 P.M.

THESE MINUTES WERE READ AND APPROVED ON THIS THE 18<sup>th</sup>  
DAY OF November 1999.

Cecilia Ballard, CHAIR

Sonny Honigson, SECRETARY

# Rio Grande Watermaster Advisory Committee

Cindy Martinez, Watermaster  
1500 Dove - McAllen, TX 78504  
956-664-2763 - Fax 956-664-2984

Wayne Halbert, Chairman  
PO Box 148 - Harlingen, TX 78551  
956-423-7015 - Fax 956-423-4671  
E-mail - halbwayn@aol.com

Orville Ballard, Vice-chairman  
PO Box 39 - Rivera, TX 78379  
512-296-3340 Fax 512-883-3342  
E-mail - olb@tmc.edu

Sonny Hinojosa, Secretary  
PO Box 6 - San Juan, TX 78589  
956-787-1422 Fax 956-781-7622  
E-mail - hcid2@rgv.net

January 29, 1999  
CP&L Home Office  
539 N Carancahua  
Corpus Christi, Texas  
10:00 am

## AGENDA

- I. Call to Order - Determination of Quorum . . . . . Wayne Halbert
- II. Introductions . . . . . Cindy Martinez
- III. Minutes from meeting of October 22, 1998 . . . . . Sonny Hinojosa
- IV. Open discussion of common concerns and remedies between members and guests of the South Texas Watermaster Committee and the Rio Grande Watermaster Committee.
- V. Watermaster Reports . . . . . Cindy Martinez, Toby Cisneroz
- VI. State Reports . . . . . Jennifer Sidnell
- VII. Other Reports
- VIII. Public Comments and Concerns.
- IX. Future Meetings.
- X. Adjourn.

JOINT MEETING - RGWAC AND STWAC  
JANUARY 29, 1999  
CP & L HOME OFFICE, CORPUS CHRISTI, TEXAS  
10:00 A.M. - 12:00 P.M.

*MINUTES*

- I. Meeting called to order by Chairmen, Wayne Halbert, and Ed Garana. Wayne gave an overview of how and why the Watermaster Advisory Committees were formed.
- II. Self introductions of TNRCC personnel: Tony Franco, Jennifer Sidnell, Tracy Callen, Al Segovia, Albert Garces, Toby Cisneros, Richard Garcia
- III. Open discussion was held of common concerns between both Watermaster Committees:
  - Budget concerns
  - SB 1406 (10% accounting)
  - Water Availability Model
- IV. Wayne discussed the issue of appointments to the Committees. The RGWAC has vacancies within their committee. The STWAC has filled their vacancies for the term. The first term expires in August 1999.
- V. Tracy discussed schedule of budget activities. Jennifer announced new appointments within TNRCC:  
New Chairman - Robert Huston  
Executive Director - Jeff Saitas  
Field Ops Division Director - Mark Vickery
- VI. Tony updated U.S. ownership of stored water - 40.07%.

Meeting adjourned at 12:00 P.M.

THESE MINUTES WERE READ AND APPROVED ON THIS THE 27<sup>th</sup>  
DAY OF MAY 1999.

Wayne Halbert, CHAIR

Tommy Dingora, SECRETARY

# Rio Grande Watermaster Advisory Committee

Cindy Martinez, Watermaster  
1500 Dove - McAllen, TX 78504  
956-664-2763 - Fax 956-664-2984

Wayne Halbert, Chairman  
PO Box 148 - Harlingen, TX 78551  
956-423-7015 - Fax 956-423-4671  
E-mail - halbwayn@aol.com

Orville Ballard, Vice-chairman  
PO Box 39 - Rivera, TX 78379  
512-296-3340 Fax 512-883-3342  
E-mail - olb@tenet.edu

Sonny Hinojosa, Secretary  
PO Box 6 - San Juan, TX 78589  
956-787-1422 Fax 956-781-7622  
E-mail - hcid2@rgv.net

October 22, 1998  
Falcon Dam  
IBWC Rec Hall  
1:30 pm

## AGENDA

- I. Call to Order - Determination of Quorum ..... Wayne Halbert
- II. Introductions ..... Cindy Martinez
- III. Minutes from meeting of August 7, 1998 ..... Sonny Hinojosa
- IV. Consideration of Revision to By Laws  
Open meetings requirement & member attendance .....  
JoJo White, Gerardo Pinzon, Max Phillips
- V. Comments from the South Texas Watermaster Committee  
A) Discussion of common concerns and remedies ..... Eduardo Garana, Wayne Halbert  
B) Consideration of joint meeting in future ..... Committee
- VI. Reports.  
A) Update on the hydrilla issue ..... Sonny Hinojosa  
B) Water allocation report ..... Cindy Martinez  
C) Funds for additional monitoring of River ..... JoJo White  
D) Report on disposition of the rules ..... Tracy Callen  
E) Report on various meetings related to Rio Grande ..... Open Discussion
- VII. Public Comments and Concerns.
- VIII. Open Discussion of Issues to be Considered by Committee.
- IX. Future Meetings.
- X. Adjourn.

RECEIVED  
OCT 15 1998  
H.C.I.D. #2

RIO GRANDE WATERMASTER ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING  
OCTOBER 22, 1998  
FALCON DAM, IBWC REC ROOM  
1:30 P.M. - 3:30 P.M.

## *MINUTES*

- I. Meeting called to order by Chairman, Wayne Halbert.
- II. Introductions:  
Silverio Garza - IBWC  
Julian Perales - TNRCC/RGWM  
Jorge Ramirez - TNRCC/RGWM  
Toby Cisneros - TNRCC/STWM  
John Woiton - TNRCC/STWM
- III. Secretary Sonny Hinojosa presented the August 7, 1998 WAC Meeting Minutes which were approved as presented.
- IV. The Committee considered revisions to the Bylaws in regards to Open Meetings requirements and member attendance.  
Gerardo Pinzon suggests that the Committee is not subject to and should not abide to the Open Meetings Act since it acts in an advisory capacity only and does not have rulemaking power.  
Gerardo recommends the following issues be incorporated in our Bylaws:
  - Meeting be open to the public with 72 hour posting at the Watermaster's office and notice by mail to each water right holder
  - No action or deliberation on items not on agenda
  - Meeting cannot be convened without a quorum
  - Special meetings should be allowed without posting requirements
  - Minutes should be approved by the Committee and kept by the Watermaster

It was moved and seconded to accept the recommendations and include in bylaws.  
Motion carried.

A discussion on attendance continued. In accordance with the existing Rule of Procedure, any Committee member who has missed three consecutive meetings shall be considered as having automatically offered a resignation which shall be subject to acceptance or rejection by committee members vote.  
The Chair shall request the executive director of the TNRCC to terminate the appointment and fill the vacancy created.
- V. Comments from the South Texas Watermaster Committee:  
Toby Cisneros reported on the status of the South Texas W.A.C. The South Texas W.A.C. share some common concerns with the R.G.W.A.C.  
Consideration of a joint meeting was suggested by Wayne.

## VI. Reports

- A) Hydrilla: Ernesto Reyes, Jo Jo White, and Sonny reported on the progress of the mechanical harvesting of hydrilla and water hyacinth. Two different types of harvesters were used to complete the project. Currently, both of the harvesters are out of the river and the target area has been cleaned.  
This completes the short term solution. The recommendation for the long term control is the use of hydrilla flies, hyacinth weevil, and sterile grass carp. An environmental impact statement will be needed before implementing the long term control.
- B.) Water Allocation Report: Rio Grande Watermaster, Cindy Martinez reported an allocation of 425,000 acre-feet for the month of August and 116,000 acre-feet for the month of September. The allocation in these two months is greater than the total annual allocation for 1995, 1996, and 1997. U.S. current ownership - 36.39% (1,210,390 acre-feet).
- C.) Funds for additional monitoring of river: Jo Jo reported that the Bureau of Reclamation was very instrumental in getting funds for the harvesting of the aquatic vegetation in the River. Jo Jo, through the Lower Rio Grande Valley Water Districts Managers Association, has asked the Bureau for funding for additional monitoring stations in the River.  
The Bureau still has \$100,000.00 available for aquatic vegetation. Jo Jo will draft a similar letter to the Bureau from the W.A.C.
- D.) Disposition of the Rules: Cindy reported there were no changes other than previously discussed - TNRCC incorporated our comments into the proposed rules.
- E.) Meetings relating to the Rio Grande:
- Bart Hines commented on the Water Conference held in McAllen.
  - A Valley Water Committee meeting is scheduled for November 3.
  - The Rio Grande Regional Water Planning Group is meeting October 28 in McAllen.
  - Policy Management Committee - Bart reported that the Draft Executive Summary is out for Phase II of the Integrated Water Plan.  
Larry Meyers (lobbyist) is available for \$50,000.00/year plus expenses for potential funds from the federal government for implementing recommendations of Phase II of the Integrated Water Plan.

Wayne handed out TNRCC Draft Rules.

## VII. Public Comments and Concerns:

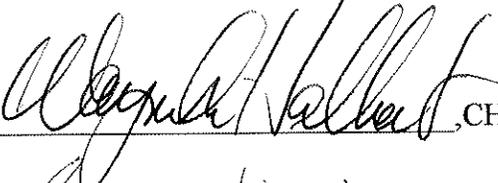
Cindy provided a letter from Representative Ciro D. Rodriguez referencing a fish kill in the Rio Grande and the response from TNRCC Chairman McBee.  
Texas Parks & Wildlife requests a Memorandum of Understanding to maintain a minimum flow in the river.

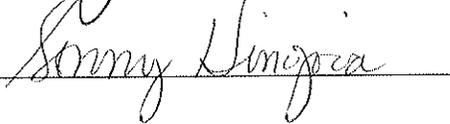
Wayne stated that the Rio Grande is the only stream in Texas that has no instream flow requirements. Wayne and Jo Jo will write a letter to TNRCC defending water rights.

## VIII. Open Discussion: NONE

- IX. Future meetings  
We will wait for a response from the South Texas W.A.C. for a joint meeting.
- X. Adjourned at 3:30 P.M.  
A tour of the Dam facilities followed.

THESE MINUTES WERE READ AND APPROVED ON THIS THE 27<sup>th</sup>  
DAY OF MAY 1999.

, CHAIR

, SECRETARY

# Rio Grande Watermaster Advisory Committee

Cindy Martinez, Watermaster  
1500 Dove - McAllen, TX 78504  
956-664-2763 - Fax 956-664-2984

Wayne Halbert, Chairman  
PO Box 148 - Harlingen, TX 78551  
956-423-7015 - Fax 956-423-4671  
E-mail - halbwayn@aol.com

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PO Box 39 - Rivera, TX 78379  
512-296-3340 Fax 512-883-3342  
E-mail - olb@tstet.edu

Sonny Hinojosa, Secretary  
PO Box 6 - San Juan, TX 78589  
956-787-1422 Fax 956-781-7622  
E-mail - heid2@rgv.net

**August 7, 1998**  
**Laredo Public Library**  
**1120 E Calton Rd.**  
**Laredo, TX**  
**11:00 am**

## AGENDA

- I. Call to Order - Determination of Quorum . . . . . Wayne Halbert
- II. Introductions . . . . . Cindy Martinez
- III. Minutes from meeting of May 29 . . . . . Sonny Hinojosa
- IV. Consideration of Revision to By Laws  
A) Open Meetings Requirements . . . . . Orville Ballard  
B) Member Attendance . . . . . Wayne Halbert
- V. Reports.  
A) Report on the Hydrilla Issue . . . . . Ernesto Reyes  
Sharon Williams  
Sonny Hinojosa  
B) Water Allocation Report . . . . . Cindy Martinez  
C) Report on Disposition of the Rules . . . . . Tracy Callen  
D) Report on Various Meetings Related to Rio Grande . . . . . Open Discussion
- VI. Public Comments and Concerns.
- VII. Open Discussion of Issues to be Considered by Committee.
- VIII. Future Meetings.
- IX. Adjourn.

RIO GRANDE WATERMASTER ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING  
AUGUST 7, 1998  
LAREDO PUBLIC LIBRARY  
LAREDO, TEXAS  
11:00 A.M. - 1:30 P.M.

## *MINUTES*

- I. MEETING CALLED TO ORDER BY CHAIRMAN, WAYNE HALBERT.
- II. INTRODUCTIONS:  
WATERMASTER CINDY MARTINEZ INTRODUCED EAGLE PASS WATERMASTER STAFF - ASST. WM JOSE LUNA AND WM DEPUTY HUMBERTO GONZALEZ, ALSO JULIAN PERALES FROM THE MCALLEN OFFICE.  
ORVILLE BALLARD INTRODUCED GUEST JOHNNY JOHNSON.
- III. SECRETARY SONNY HINOJOSA PRESENTED THE MAY 29, 1998 W.A.C. MEETING MINUTES WHICH WERE APPROVED AS PRESENTED.
- IV. ORVILE BALLARD REPORTED ON OPEN MEETINGS REQUIREMENTS.  
THE W.A.C. IS NOT SUBJECT TO THE OPEN MEETINGS ACT BECAUSE THE COMMITTEE HAS NO FINAL SAY ON PUBLIC PUBLICITY. THE COMMITTEE WILL CONTINUE TO ANNOUNCE ITS MEETINGS THROUGH THE WATERMASTER MONTHLY REPORT WHICH COVERS AN AREA OF MORE THAN 4 COUNTIES.  
AFTER DISCUSSION, MAX PHILLIPS MOVED AND FRED VELARDE SECONDED TO DELETE "ABIDE BY OPEN MEETING ACT" FROM THE BYLAWS.  
THE BYLAWS COMMITTEE WILL ADDRESS THE ISSUE AND PRESENT A SUBSTITUTE SECTION TO THE NEXT MEETING.  
  
THE TOPIC OF MEMBER ATTENDANCE WAS BROUGHT UP FOR DISCUSSION. THE PROCEDURE FOR REPLACEMENT OF APPOINTEES IS UNCLEAR. BOB PETERSON MOVED AND ORVILLE SECONDED TO HAVE THE BYLAWS COMMITTEE REVIEW THE ATTENDANCE SECTION OF THE BYLAWS.
- V. REPORTS
  - A. ERNESTO REYES, SHARON WILLIAMS, AND SONNY REPORTED ON THE STATUS OF THE HYDRILLA AND HYACINTH PROBLEM IN THE RIVER. THE RECOMMENDATION FOR THE REMOVAL OF THE AQUATIC VEGETATION MUST BE APPROVED BY THE U.S. FISH AND WILDLIFE. THE TEXAS PARKS & WILDLIFE RECOMMENDATION IS TO REMOVE THE VEGETATION BY IN-STREAM MECHANICAL MEANS FOR THE IMMEDIATE SOLUTION FOLLOWED BY BIOLOGICAL CONTROL FOR THE LONG TERM SOLUTION.

B. WATER ALLOCATION UPDATE GIVEN BY CINDY. 5 IRRIGATION DISTRICTS ARE CURRENTLY OUT OF WATER AND 1 IS USING "PUSH WATER".

THE U.S. SHARE OF STORED WATER IS 20.72% AS OF JULY 25, 1998 AND MEXICO AT 14.16%.

JULIAN BRIEFED THE COMMITTEE ON:

- AQUATIC VEGETATION IN THE RIVER
- GOVERNOR'S EMERGENCY TASK FORCE
- STUDY OF THE DELIVERY SYSTEM (RIVER) FOR MUNICIPAL WATER IF NO IRRIGATION WATER IS AVAILABLE
- MEETING WITH THE SECRETARY OF STATE
- TOUR WITH THE DEPUTY SECRETARY OF AGRICULTURE
- CITY OF MCALLEN LETTER TO THE TNRCC
- MEETING WITH BROWNSVILLE P.U.B. / WATER SMART CAMPAIGN

C. CINDY REPORTED THE FIELD CITATION RULE IS SET FOR COMMISSION AGENDA IN THE LATTER PART OF AUGUST.

D. MEETINGS RELATED TO THE RIO GRANDE:

GERARDO PINZON REPORTED ON THE AMERICAN HERITAGE RIVERS INITIATIVE. GERARDO, REPRESENTING LAREDO, AND WORKING WITH THE CITIES OF BROWNSVILLE AND EL PASO, WAS INVOLVED IN THE DRAFT OF 10 PROJECTS ALONG THE BORDER. THE INITIATIVE ASSISTS IN PRIORITIZING PROJECTS TO BE IMPLEMENTED WITH FEDERAL ASSISTANCE.

SONNY GAVE AN UPDATE ON THE RIO GRANDE REGIONAL WATER PLANNING GROUP. THE GROUP IS SUBMITTING TO THE TWDB THE PROPOSED SCOPE OF WORK AND BUDGET. PHASE I BUDGET IS APPROXIMATELY \$1,475,000. THE TWDB COST SHARES 75%. THE REMAINING 25% COMES FROM LOCAL MATCH.

VI. PUBLIC COMMENTS AND CONCERNS: NONE

VII. OPEN DISCUSSION OF ISSUES: NONE

VIII. FUTURE MEETINGS:

ORVILLE SUGGESTED THE NEXT MEETING BE HELD AT 1:30 P.M., OCTOBER 22, 1998, AT FALCON DAM.

THERE BEING NO OBJECTION, THE MEETING WAS SET.

IX. MEETING ADJOURNED AT 1:30 P.M.

THESE MINUTES WERE READ AND APPROVED ON THIS THE 7<sup>TH</sup>  
DAY OF AUGUST 1998.

\_\_\_\_\_, CHAIR

Soromy Hingora, SECRETARY

# Rio Grande Watermaster Advisory Committee

Cindy Martinez, Watermaster  
1500 Dove - McAllen, TX 78504  
956-664-2763 - Fax 956-664-2984

Wayne Halbert, Chairman  
PO Box 148 - Harlingen, TX 78551  
956-423-7015 - Fax 956-423-4671  
E-mail - halbwayn@aol.com

Orville Ballard, Vice-chairman  
PO Box 39 - Rivera, TX 78379  
512-296-3340 Fax 512-883-3342  
E-mail - olb@tmcet.edu

Sonny Hinojosa, Secretary  
PO Box 6 - San Juan, TX 78589  
956-787-1422 Fax 956-781-7622  
E-mail - hcid2@rgv.net

**May 29, 1998**  
**McAllen International Airport**  
**East Conference Room**  
**McAllen, TX**  
**11:00 am**

## AGENDA

- I. Call to Order - Determination of Quorum . . . . . Wayne Halbert
- II. Introductions . . . . . Cindy Martinez
- III. Minutes from meeting of April 30 . . . . . Sonny Hinojosa
- IV. Resolution on Revival of "Water Smart" Program . . . . . Sonny Hinojosa
- V. Letter of Recommendation on Watermaster Office Location . . . . . Bart Hines
- VI. Consideration of Letter of Support for Watermaster . . . . . JoJo White
- VII. Reports.
  - A) Hydrilla concerns in the Rio Grande. . . . . JoJo White
  - B) Modeling efforts for projection of water supplies . . . . . Undecided
  - C) Overview of Watermaster allocations . . . . . Cindy Martinez
  - D) Report on Recommendations on Field Citation rules . . . . . Tracy Callen
- VIII. Public Comments and Concerns.
- IX. Open Discussion of Issues to be Considered by Committee.
- X. Future Meetings.
- XI. Adjourn.

### TNRCC Personnel:

Cindy Martinez	Rio Grande Watermaster
Tracy Callen	Field Operations Division Watermaster Program Liaison
Tony Franco	Field Operations Regional Manager

Lunch will be provided by our host - Bart Hines, McAllen Public Utilities

RIO GRANDE WATERMASTER ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING  
MAY 29, 1998  
MCALLEN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT, EAST CONFERENCE ROOM  
MCALLEN, TEXAS  
11:00 A.M. - 1:30 P.M.

## *MINUTES*

- I. MEETING CALLED TO ORDER BY CHAIRMAN, WAYNE HALBERT.
- II. WATERMASTER CINDY MARTINEZ INTRODUCED TNRCC PERSONNEL: ERASMO YARRITO, ANA ALANIZ, AND TONY FRANCO. SELF INTRODUCTIONS WERE MADE OF ALL PRESENT. GUESTS INCLUDED ERNESTO REYES, JR. (USF & WS), BRENDA PAEZ (ALICE SOUTHERN EQUIPMENT) AND JAMES ELIUM (OLMITO WATER SUPPLY)
- III. SECRETARY SONNY HINOJOSA PRESENTED THE APRIL 30, 1998 W.A.C. MEETING MINUTES WHICH WERE APPROVED AS PRESENTED.
- IV. A RESOLUTION ON THE REVIVAL OF "WATER SMART" CAMPAIGN WAS READ BY WAYNE. ORVILLE BALLARD MOVED AND BART HINES SECONDED TO APPROVE THE RESOLUTION: MOTION PASSED. THE RESOLUTION WILL BE SENT TO THE TNRCC COMMISSIONERS.
- V. BART HINES PRESENTED A DRAFT LETTER OF RECOMMENDATION ON THE WATERMASTER OFFICE LOCATION. THIS LETTER IS A FOLLOW UP OF LAST MEETING'S DISCUSSION ON THE POSSIBLE RELOCATION OF THE WM OFFICE. TONY FRANCO STRESSED THAT THERE WERE NO IMMEDIATE PLANS FOR THE RELOCATION OF THE WM OFFICE. WAYNE ASKED FOR A COMMITMENT FROM TONY TO GIVE THE WAC AN OPPORTUNITY TO RESPOND IF SUCH A MOVE SHOULD BE PLANNED. BILL GREEN MOVED AND CLOICE WHITLEY SECONDED TO SUBMIT THE LETTER TO TNRCC REGARDING THE WAC'S POSITION IN THE POSSIBLE RELOCATION OF THE WM OFFICE. MOTION PASSED. WAYNE, BART, JO JO WHITE, AND SONNY WERE SELECTED TO EDIT THE LETTER.
- VI. JO JO WHITE REQUESTED CONSIDERATION OF A LETTER OF SUPPORT FOR THE WATERMASTER. AFTER DISCUSSION, BOB PETERSON MOVED AND FRED VELARDE SECONDED TO SUBMIT TO THE TNRCC A LETTER OF COMMENDATION FOR WATERMASTER CINDY MARTINEZ AND HER STAFF. MOTION PASSED. JO JO AND FRED WILL SUBMIT THE LETTER TO BE SIGNED BY ALL WAC MEMBERS.

VII. REPORTS:

- a. HYDRILLA - JO JO REPORTED ON THE PROBLEM HYDRILLA IS CAUSING IN THE RIVER. A COMMITTEE HAS BEEN FORMED TO EXPLORE POSSIBLE SOLUTIONS. JO JO REPORTED THAT THE LOWER RIO GRANDE VALLEY WATER DISTRICT MANAGERS ASSOCIATION HAD SENT A LETTER TO THE BUREAU OF RECLAMATION REQUESTING ASSISTANCE. JO JO IS REQUESTING FROM THE WAC TO DO THE SAME.  
FRED MOVED AND JO JO SECONDED TO SUBMIT A LETTER TO VARIOUS AGENCIES WITH EXPERTISE ON HYDRILLA AND WATER HYACINTH REQUESTING ASSISTANCE. MOTION PASSED.
- b. MODELING EFFORTS FOR PROJECTING WATER SUPPLIES - WAYNE GAVE UPDATE. MODEL FOR THE RIO GRANDE IS NOT READY AT THIS TIME DUE TO CONFLICTS IN DATA.
- c. WATERMASTER REPORT:  
CINDY REPORTED THE U.S. OWNERSHIP AT 27.03% (899,077 A.F.)  
MEXICO OWNERSHIP AT 15.08% (374,000 A.F.)
- d. FIELD CITATIONS:  
NO REPORT

VIII. PUBLIC COMMENTS AND CONCERNS - NONE

IX. ISSUES:

GERARDO PINZON QUESTIONED IF ANY OF THE WAC EFFORTS ARE BEING DUPLICATED. WAYNE COMMENTED THAT SEVERAL WAC MEMBERS SERVE ON OTHER COMMITTEES, COUNCILS, ASSOCIATIONS, AND PLANNING GROUPS. IT WAS SUGGESTED REPORTS BE GIVEN BY THOSE MEMBERS TO KEEP THE WAC INFORMED OF CURRENT ISSUES.

CINDY REPORTED THAT CORNELIO MORALES WAS NO LONGER THE DISTRICT MANAGER FOR MAVERICK COUNTY WATER CONTROL AND IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT. WAYNE WILL LOOK INTO THE PROCEDURE OF FILLING THE POSSIBLE VACANCY.

X. FUTURE MEETINGS:

MEETING WAS SCHEDULED FOR JULY 9, 1998 IN LAREDO, TEXAS AT 11.00 A.M.

XI. ADJOURNED AT 1:30 P.M.

THESE MINUTES WERE READ AND APPROVED ON THIS THE 17<sup>th</sup>  
DAY OF AUGUST 1998.

Walter Hallert, CHAIR

Bonny Higgins, SECRETARY

# Rio Grande Watermaster Advisory Committee

Cindy Martinez, Watermaster  
1500 Dove - McAllen, TX 78504  
956-664-2763 - Fax 956-664-2984

Wayne Halbert, Chairman  
PO Box 148 - Harlingen, TX 78551  
956-423-7015 - Fax 956-423-4671  
E-mail - [halbwayn@aol.com](mailto:halbwayn@aol.com)

Orville Ballard, Vice-chairman  
PO Box 39 - Rivera, TX 78379  
512-296-3340 Fax 512-883-3342  
E-mail - [olb@tenet.edu](mailto:olb@tenet.edu)

Sonny Hinojosa, Secretary  
PO Box 6 - San Juan, TX 78589  
956-787-1422 Fax 956-781-7622  
E-mail - [hcid2@rgv.net](mailto:hcid2@rgv.net)

**April 30, 1998**  
**CP&L's J.L. Bates Power Station**  
**Mission, TX**  
**10:00 am**

## AGENDA

- I. Call to Order - Determination of Quorum.  
Wayne Halbert
- II. Introductions.  
Cindy Martinez
- III. Minutes from meeting of March 26.  
Sonny Hinojosa
- IV. Presentation of Proposed Budget for comments and recommendations.  
Cindy Martinez  
Tracy Callen  
Erasmus Yarrito, Jr.
- V. Report on Recommendations on Field Citation rules.  
Tracy Callen  
Cindy Martinez
- VI. Discussion on Revival of "Water Smart" Program.
- VII. Public Comments and Concerns.
- VIII. Open Discussion of Issues to be Considered by Committee.
- IX. Future Meetings.
- X. Adjourn.

### TNRCC Personnel:

Cindy Martinez	Rio Grande Watermaster
Tracy Callen	Field Operations Division Watermaster Program Liaison
Tony Franco	Field Operations Regional Manager
Erasmus Yarrito, Jr.	Rio Grande Watermaster's Office

RIO GRANDE WATERMASTER ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING  
APRIL 30, 1998  
CPL - JL BATES POWER STATION  
MISSION, TEXAS  
10:A.M. - 12:00 P.M.

## *MINUTES*

- I. MEETING CALLED TO ORDER BY CHAIRMAN, WAYNE HALBERT.
- II. WATERMASTER CINDY MARTINEZ INTRODUCED TNRCC PERSONNEL: TRACY CALLEN (AUSTIN), ERASMO YARRITO, AND JORGE RAMIREZ
- III. SECRETARY SONNY HINOJOSA PRESENTED THE MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING WHICH WERE APPROVED AS PRESENTED.
- IV. CINDY PRESENTED THE PROPOSED WATERMASTER BUDGET FOR FY99. COMMENTS WERE MADE IN REFERENCE TO THE ADMINISTRATIVE CHARGE. SB1406 PROVIDED FOR REIMBURSEMENT OF ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES NOT TO EXCEED 10%. BILL GREEN SUGGESTED A REQUEST FOR THE ACCOUNTING OF THE 10% CHARGE FROM AUSTIN. BART HINES EXPRESSED CONCERN OF THE ESTIMATED FUND BALANCE BEING TOO LOW.

THE QUESTION OF THE POSSIBILITY OF THE WATERMASTER PROGRAM OWNING A BUILDING WAS RAISED. CINDY EXPRESSED THE PROBABILITY OF THE WATERMASTER OFFICE BEING MOVED INTO THE REGIONAL OFFICE IN HARLINGEN. WAYNE SUGGESTED THE WATERRIGHT HOLDERS BUILD A BUILDING TO HOUSE THE WATERMASTER PROGRAM. CINDY ONCE AGAIN STATED A BUILDING WAS ALREADY BEING BUILT IN HARLINGEN TO ACCOMMODATE THE REGIONAL OFFICE AND THE WATERMASTER OFFICE.

FRED VELARDE MOVED AND JO JO SECONDED TO WRITE A LETTER TO AUSTIN TO KEEP THE WATERMASTER OFFICE SEPARATE FROM THE REGIONAL OFFICE. MOTION PASSED. BART WILL DRAFT LETTER AND PRESENT TO WAYNE FOR APPROVAL.

AFTER ALL DISCUSSIONS ON THE BUDGET CEASED, ORVILLE BALLARD MOVED TO APPROVE THE BUDGET AS PRESENTED, MAX PHILLIPS SECONDED, AND THE MOTION PASSED.

CINDY QUESTIONED THE NEED TO HOST BUDGET HEARINGS IN ALL REACHES OF THE RIVER. BOTH CINDY AND TRACY FEEL THAT SINCE THE WAC REPRESENTS ALL WATER RIGHT HOLDERS, THIS PRESENTATION IS SUFFICIENT. THE COMMITTEE APPROVED.

V. TRACY REPORTED ON THE STATUS OF THE FIELD CITATION RULES. PER SUGGESTION OF THE COMMITTEE, REMOVAL OF ITEMS #2 AND #3 WAS NOT A PROBLEM. ITEM #4 WAS REWORDED TO APPLY ONLY TO THE UPPER RIO GRANDE (FT. QUITMAN TO AMISTAD DAM).

VI. THE COMMITTEE DISCUSSED THE "WATER SMART" PROGRAM. THIS PROGRAM WAS INITIATED IN 1996 BY THE POLICY MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE. THE COMMITTEE EXPRESSED THE NEED TO START THIS PROGRAM AGAIN TO RAISE THE PUBLIC'S AWARENESS OF THE CURRENT WATER SITUATION. ANDY SAENZ HAS REPLACED LINDA FERNANDEZ IN MEDIA RELATIONS WITH THE TNRCC. LINDA FERNANDEZ IS CURRENTLY WITH THE TWDB AND WILL BE INVITED TO ATTEND OUR NEXT WAC MEETING.

BOB PETERSON MOVED AND GERARDO PINZON SECONDED TO INCREASE THE AWARENESS OF THE CURRENT WATER SITUATION AND THE NEED FOR WATER CONSERVATION. MOTION PASSED. THE COMMITTEE WILL CONSIDER A RESOLUTION TO THIS EFFECT.

VII. PUBLIC COMMENTS AND CONCERNS.  
ORVILLE BALLARD THANKED CINDY AND JORGE RAMIREZ FOR A TOUR OF THE RIVER AND INFORMATION ON THE WATERMASTER OPERATION.

CINDY REPORTED THE U.S. OWNERSHIP OF WATER IN STORAGE IS 33.12% (1.1 MILLION ACRE-FEET).

VIII. IB & WC HAS EXPRESSED CONCERN TO CINDY OF THE ABILITY TO MEET US RELEASES IF FALCON'S ELEVATION DROPS BELOW 248'.  
BOB PETERSON MOVED AND BILL GREEN SECONDED A RECOMMENDATION TO THE WATERMASTER TO RELEASE OR TRANSFER WATER FROM AMISTAD FOR MUNICIPAL AND IRRIGATION DEMANDS AND NOT SOLELY FOR THE GENERATION OF HYDROELECTRIC POWER AT FALCON.

IX. THE NEXT COMMITTEE MEETING IS SCHEDULED FOR FRIDAY, MAY 29, 1998 AT 11:00 A.M. AT MCALLEN AIRPORT. THE HOST IS BART HINES / MCALLEN PUBLIC UTILITIES.

X. MEETING ADJOURNED AT 12:00 P.M.

THESE MINUTES WERE READ AND APPROVED ON THIS THE 29<sup>TH</sup>  
DAY OF MAY 1998.

Wayne B. Bell CHAIR

Sonny Nonjoria, SECRETARY

# Rio Grande Watermaster Advisory Committee

Cindy Martinez, Watermaster  
1500 Dove - McAllen, TX 78504  
956-664-2763 - Fax 956-664-2984

Wayne Halbert, Chairman  
PO Box 148 - Harlingen, TX 78551  
956-423-7015 - Fax 956-423-4671  
E-mail - halbwayn@aol.com

Orville Ballard, Vice-chairman  
PO Box 39 - Rivera, TX 78379  
512-296-3340 Fax 512-883-3342  
E-mail - olb@tenet.edu

Sonny Hinojosa, Secretary  
PO Box 6 - San Juan, TX 78589  
956-787-1422 Fax 956-781-7622

**March 26, 1998**  
**Texas State Bank Community Building**  
**500 South Missouri - Weslaco, TX**  
**2:00pm - 4:00pm**

## AGENDA

- I. Call to Order - Determination of Quorum.  
Wayne Halbert
- II. Introductions.  
Cindy Martinez, Watermaster
- III. Minutes from preliminary meeting.  
Sonny Hinojosa
- IV. Presentation of Proposed Rules.
  - A. §303.32 Enforcement Action.
  - B. §303.35 Field Citation by Watermaster.Tracy Callen, TNRCC  
John Sadlier, TNRCC  
Bill Ballard, TNRCC
- V. Report and Recommendation of the Bylaws Committee.  
Geraldo Pinzon  
JoJo White  
Max Phillips
- VI. Public Comments and Concerns.
- VII. Open Discussion of Issues to be Considered by Committee.
- VIII. Future Meetings.
- IX. Adjourn.

### TNRCC Personnel:

Cindy Martinez	Rio Grande Watermaster
Tracy Callen	Field Operations Division Watermaster Program Liaison
John Sadlier	Office of Compliance and Enforcement
Bill Ballard	Litigation Support Division

RIO GRANDE WATERMASTER ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING  
MARCH 26, 1998  
TEXAS STATE BANK COMMUNITY BUILDING  
500 S MISSOURI  
WESLACO, TX  
2:00 P.M. - 4:37 P.M.

## *MINUTES*

MEETING WAS CALLED TO ORDER BY WAYNE HALBERT (WAYNE). PREVIOUS WATERMASTER ADVISORY COMMITTEE (WAC) MEETING MINUTES WERE PRESENTED BY SECRETARY SONNY HINOJOSA (SONNY) WITH A CORRECTION NOTED BY ORVILLE BALLARD (ORVILLE): SPELLING OF "MEETING" ON SECOND PAGE. AFTER NOTING CORRECTION, MINUTES WERE APPROVED AS CORRECTED.

CINDY MARTINEZ (CINDY) INTRODUCED STAFF FROM TNRCC IN AUSTIN (SEE AGENDA ATTACHED).

TRACY CALLEN AND JOHN SADLIER (JOHN) PRESENTED THE PROPOSED RULES TO BE INCORPORATED INTO: 303.32 (ENFORCEMENT ACTION); 303.35 (FIELD CITATION BY WATERMASTER). THE PROPOSED RULE WILL BE PRESENTED TO THE COMMISSIONERS IN EARLY MAY. THE WATER RIGHT HOLDERS WILL BE ALLOWED TO PROVIDE INFORMAL AS WELL AS FORMAL COMMENTS IN THAT PROCESS. JOHN EXPLAINED THE PROCEDURE AND POLICY ON HOW THE RULE WILL BE IMPLEMENTED IN THE WATERMASTER PROGRAM. SOME OF THE QUESTIONS ASKED RELATED TO THE POSSIBLE EFFECT THIS PROPOSED RULE WILL HAVE ON THE CURRENT WATERMASTER RULES; THE CURRENT ENFORCEMENT PROCEDURES USED BY THE WATERMASTER; AND HOW THIS RULE AND THE DETAILS INVOLVED CAME ABOUT.

JOHN MADE THE FOLLOWING COMMENTS REGARDING QUESTIONS ASKED BY THE COMMITTEE MEMBERS:

- ◆ STATED THIS RULE WAS A RESULT OF SENATE BILL 1
- ◆ THE RULE IS NEW BUT WOULD BE IN ADDITION TO THE EXISTING RULES
- ◆ WATERMASTER PROCEDURES WILL CONTINUE TO BE IMPLEMENTED
- ◆ STANDARD OPERATING PROCEDURES ARE YET TO BE DEVELOPED FOR THIS PARTICULAR PROPOSED RULE
- ◆ THE WATER RIGHT HOLDER OPERATING WITHOUT AUTHORIZATION FROM THE WATERMASTER WOULD BE SHUT DOWN, THEN FINED IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE FIELD CITATION RULE
- ◆ ANYTHING THAT LEAVES CINDY'S OFFICE HAS TO HAVE HER PRIOR APPROVAL BEFORE SUBMITTAL TO THE ENFORCEMENT COMMITTEE IN AUSTIN
- ◆ THE FINES ARE SET AGENCY-WIDE
- ◆ THE MAJORS AND MINORS WERE DETERMINED BY THE ENFORCEMENT DIVISION AND THE WATERMASTER
- ◆ IN ORDER TO DELETE ANY PORTION OF THE RULE, THE COMMITTEE WOULD HAVE TO SUBMIT A LETTER EXPLAINING, IN DETAIL, WHY IT IS NOT APPLICABLE TO THE RIO GRANDE WATERMASTER PROGRAM

WAYNE STATED THAT THIS FIELD CITATION RULE WOULD WORK FOR BOTH THE WATERMASTER AND THE WATER RIGHT HOLDERS. WAYNE STATED THAT THE SOUTH TEXAS WATERMASTER PROGRAM NEEDED THE FIELD CITATION AND IN ORDER TO HAVE UNIFORMITY, TNRCC WANTED THE RULE FOR BOTH WATERMASTER PROGRAMS.

JOHN, TRACY CALLEN AND BILL BALLARD EXCUSED THEMSELVES FROM THE MEETING. PRIOR TO THEIR DEPARTURE, WAYNE STATED THAT IF ANYONE ELSE FROM AUSTIN WOULD BE ATTENDING FUTURE MEETINGS, ARRANGEMENTS SHOULD BE MADE TO STAY FOR THE DURATION OF THE MEETING.

BOB PETERSON (BOB) MOVED TO REMOVE VIOLATIONS 2, 3, AND 4 FROM THE PROPOSED RULE AND SUBMIT A LETTER TO TNRCC; JO JO WHITE (JO JO) SECONDED; COMMITTEE APPROVED MOTION. A SUB-COMMITTEE MADE UP OF JO JO, SONNY, AND WAYNE WILL RESPOND TO TNRCC ABOUT THE PROPOSED RULES.

RECOMMENDATIONS BY GERARDO PINZON (GERARDO) ON THE BY-LAWS FOR THE WATERMASTER ADVISORY COMMITTEE:

- (1) OFFICERS (A) (3) - ADD: "DECISIONS MADE BY THE PRESIDENT WILL BE PRESENTED TO THE ADVISORY COMMITTEE AT THE NEXT MEETING."

GERARDO MOVED FOR ACCEPTANCE OF RECOMMENDATION;  
ORVILLE SECONDED; MOTION PASSED.

- (2) VOTING (C) - REVISE ITEM (C) TO READ: "PRESIDENT SHALL VOTE ONLY TO BREAK A TIE VOTE."

GERARDO MOVED; FRED VELARDE (FRED) SECONDED; MOTION PASSED.

- (3) ATTENDANCE (A) - ADD, AT THE END OF (A): "COMMITTEE MEMBERS SHALL NOTIFY THE PRESIDENT OF EXCUSED ABSENCES AND THE PRESIDENT SHALL PRESENT THE ABSENCES TO THE COMMITTEE."

GERARDO MOVED; JO JO SECONDED; MOTION PASSED.

WAYNE HALBERT SUGGESTED SUBSTITUTING THE TERM "PRESIDENT" WITH "CHAIR" AND "VICE-PRESIDENT" WITH "VICE-CHAIR". MAX PHILLIPS MOVED, BOB PETERSON SECONDED TO ACCEPT THE CHANGE AS PRESENTED. MOTION CARRIED.

MOTION MADE BY ORVILLE TO ADD SUB-SECTION (E) TO SPECIAL/STANDING COMMITTEES TO READ: "THE RIO GRANDE WATERMASTER SHALL BE AN *EX OFFICIO* MEMBER, WITHOUT VOTE, OF THE WATERMASTER ADVISORY COMMITTEE AND OF ALL SPECIAL/STANDING COMMITTEES." FRED SECONDED; MOTION PASSED.

AFTER DISCUSSION OF BY-LAWS, BOB MOVED TO ADOPT BY-LAWS AS PRESENTED; MAX PHILLIPS (MAX) SECONDED; MOTION PASSED.

CINDY PRESENTED A LETTER FROM THE IBWC IN REFERENCE TO DELETING GAGING STATIONS ON U.S. TRIBUTARIES ABOVE AMISTAD DAM. CINDY PROVIDED A DRAFT OF WATERMASTER RESPONSE AGAINST THE DELETION OF ANY GAGING STATIONS ON U. S. TRIBUTARIES. THE COMMITTEE SUPPORTED CINDY'S RESPONSE AND WAYNE HALBERT WILL ALSO SEND A LETTER TO IBWC SUPPORTING CINDY'S RESPONSE.

FRED EXPRESSED INTEREST IN LEARNING MORE ABOUT THE WATERMASTER PROGRAM. IT WAS SUGGESTED FUTURE MEETINGS BE HOSTED BY DIFFERENT COMMITTEE MEMBERS TO ALLOW FOR TOURING OF FACILITIES AND VIEWING THE DIVERSE USES OF WATER. THE HOSTING OF MEETINGS WILL BE VOLUNTARY.

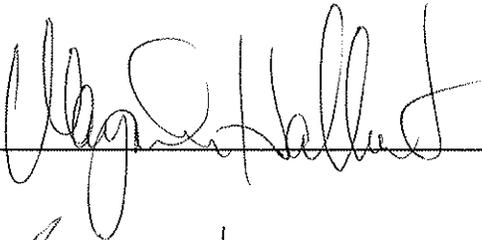
THE NEXT MEETING IS SCHEDULED FOR THURSDAY, APRIL 30, 1998, AT 10:00 A.M. AT A PLACE TO BE DETERMINED. FRED SUGGESTED THAT THE NEXT MEETING BE HELD AT THE CP&L BATES STATION IN MISSION. HE WILL NOTIFY CINDY AND SONNY ABOUT CONFIRMATION OF MEETING SITE.

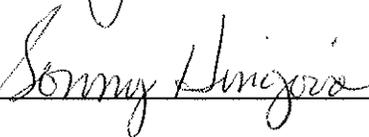
MEETING ADJOURNED AT 4:37 P.M.

ATTACHMENTS:

- (1) AGENDA
- (2) SIGN-IN SHEET
- (3) PROPOSED RULE

THESE MINUTES WERE READ AND APPROVED ON THIS THE 30 DAY OF  
APRIL 1998.

  
\_\_\_\_\_, CHAIR

  
\_\_\_\_\_, SECRETARY

- I. OPENING REMARKS AND INTRODUCTION OF COMMITTEE MEMBERS.....MARTINEZ CINDY
- II. REVIEW OF WAC PACKET.....TRACY CALLEN
  - A. TNRCG/FIELD OPERATIONS DIVISION (FOD) MISSION STATEMENT
  - B. ADDRESS LIST OF WAC MEMBERS
  - C. REGION 15/WATERMASTER PHONE NUMBERS AND ADDRESSES
  - D. ORGANIZATIONAL CHART - TNRCG/FOD
  - E. RECOMMENDATION PROCEDURES/RECOMMENDATION FORM
  - F. RECOMMENDED BY-LAWS OUTLINE
  - G. COPY OF SENATE BILL 1406
  - H. COPY OF WATERMASTER RULES
- III. ELECTION OF OFFICERS.....COMMITTEE
- IV. COMMITTEE BUSINESS.....COMMITTEE
- V. QUESTION/ANSWER SESSION.....TRACY CINDY
- VI. CLOSING REMARKS.....TRACY CINDY

A G E N D A

WATERMASTER ADVISORY COMMITTEE (WAC) MEETING  
 FEBRUARY 26, 1998  
 TEXAS STATE BANK COMMUNITY BUILDING  
 500 SOUTH MISSOURI  
 WESLACO, TX 78596  
 2:00 P.M. - 4:00 P.M.

RIO GRANDE WATERMASTER ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING

FEBRUARY 26, 1998

TEXAS STATE BANK COMMUNITY BUILDING

500 S MISSOURI

WESLACO, TX

2:00 P.M. - 4:00 P.M.

## MINUTES

MEETING WAS OPENED BY CINDY MARTINEZ, RIO GRANDE WATERMASTER. WELCOME AND BRIEF OVERVIEW OF PURPOSE OF THE MEETING. TRACY CALLEN, TRNC-AUSTIN, PROVIDED DETAILS ON ITEMS IN THE PACKET THAT WAS PROVIDED TO THE APPOINTEES OF THE COMMITTEE. QUESTIONS ASKED WERE REGARDING SUBMITTAL OF RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR BY THE COMMITTEE AND THE RESPONSE TIME FOR THE RECOMMENDATIONS; APPROVAL OF BY-LAWS; ELECTION OF OFFICERS; AND TERMS FOR THE APPOINTEES AND OFFICERS.

NOMINATION OF OFFICERS BEGAN WITH FRED VELARDE NOMINATING JO JO WHITE FOR PRESIDENT; JO JO DECLINED NOMINATION. JO JO NOMINATED WAYNE HALBERT; MOTION MADE AND SECONDED; VOTE MADE IN FAVOR OF WAYNE AS PRESIDENT. BILL GREEN NOMINATED ORVILLE BALLARD AS VICE-PRESIDENT; MOTION MADE AND SECONDED; VOTE MADE IN FAVOR OF ORVILLE PRESIDENT; MOTION MADE AND SECONDED; VOTE MADE IN FAVOR OF ORVILLE AS VICE-PRESIDENT. NOMINATION OF FRED VELARDE FOR SECRETARY; FRED DECLINED. SONNY HINOJOSA NOMINATED FOR SECRETARY; MOTION MADE AND SECONDED; VOTE MADE IN FAVOR OF SONNY AS SECRETARY.

A SUB-COMMITTEE TO DISCUSS THE BY-LAWS FOR THE WATERMASTER ADVISORY COMMITTEE WAS DESIGNATED. MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE INCLUDE JO JO WHITE, GERARDO PINZON AND MAX PHILLIPS. THE COMMITTEE SET A TIMELINE OF MARCH 19, 1998 TO COMPLETE DISCUSSION AND DETERMINE THE FINAL BY-LAWS FOR THE COMMITTEE.

WITH APPROVAL BY ALL THE MEMBERS PRESENT, THE TERMS OF THE CURRENT COMMITTEE MEMBERS WERE DETERMINED AS FOLLOWS:

ONE YEAR TERM:	ORVILLE BALLARD	GERARDO PINZON	CORNELIO MORALES	ROBERT PETERSON
TWO YEAR TERM:	FRANK ARMENDARIZ	BART HINES	CLOICE WHITLEY	FRED VELARDE
	BILL GREEN	BENTON BECKWITH	SONNY HINOJOSA	JO JO WHITE

THE MEMBERS' STAGGERED TERMS WILL ALLOW FOR CONTINUITY AND EXPERIENCE WITHIN THE COMMITTEE.

WAYNE HALBERT PROVIDED A BRIEF HISTORY OF SENATE BILL 1406 FOR THE BENEFIT OF THOSE MEMBERS AND GUESTS THAT DID NOT HAVE FIRST-HAND INFORMATION.

JO JO WHITE DIRECTED A QUESTION TO TRACY REGARDING THE ISSUE ABOUT WHETHER OR NOT THE WATERMASTER AND/OR THE WATERMASTER STAFF WOULD BE ABLE TO ANSWER ANY QUESTIONS THAT MIGHT BE ASKED REGARDING THE OPERATION. TRACY RESPONDED WITH THE FACT THAT ANY QUESTIONS ASKED BY ANY WATER RIGHT HOLDER WOULD BE ANSWERED BY THE WATERMASTER AND/OR THE STAFF WITHOUT HAVING TO SECURE RESPONSE APPROVAL FROM ANYONE ELSE.

CINDY MARTINEZ WILL BE PROVIDING INFORMATION ON THE ENFORCEMENT INITIATION CRITERIA AND FIELD CITATION ISSUES AT THE NEXT MEETING. BUDGET INFORMATION WILL BE PROVIDED AT THE APRIL MEETING.

THE NEXT COMMITTEE MEETING WILL BE HELD ON MARCH 26, 1998, SAME TIME, SAME PLACE. SUBSEQUENT MEETINGS WILL BE DETERMINED BY MEMBERS, ENSURING EQUITABLE MEETING LOCATIONS FOR THE BENEFIT OF OUT-OF-TOWN MEMBERS.

TIME AND LOCATION OF ALL MEETINGS WILL BE PLACED IN THE WATERMASTER MONTHLY REPORT AND MINUTES OF THE MEETING WILL BE MAILED TO ALL MEMBERS AS SOON AS POSSIBLE. WATERMASTER PROGRAM WILL PROVIDE AS MUCH ADMINISTRATIVE SUPPORT AS POSSIBLE TO THE COMMITTEE.

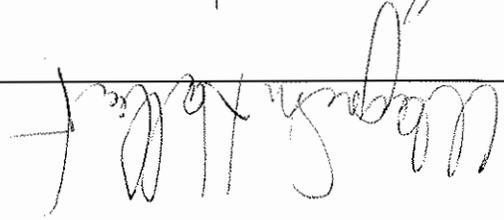
ATTACHMENTS:

- (1) AGENDA
- (2) SIGN-IN SHEET

THESE MINUTES WERE READ AND APPROVED ON THIS THE 26<sup>th</sup> DAY OF

MARCH 1998.

\_\_\_\_\_  
PRESIDENT



\_\_\_\_\_  
SECRETARY

