

**South Central New Mexico Stormwater Coalition
Regular Meeting
September 18, 2014
Minutes**

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Zach Libbin at 1:35 p.m.

Participants introduced themselves. Attendees included:

Zach Libbin-- Chairman

Paul Dugie, Doña Ana County Flood Commission—Vice Chairman

Sam Calhoun, DASWCD-- Secretary

Susan Downs, Caballo SWCD

Slim Whitlock, Village Hatch, Caballo Soil Water

Gary Esslinger, EBID

Joe Delk, DASWCD

Conrad Keyes, Jr., Paso del Norte Watershed Council

Rusty Stovall, Bureau of Land Management

Jessica Knopic, Bureau of Land Management

Tony Trevino, City of Las Cruces

Louis Grijalva, City of Las Cruces

Eric Hamilton, Wilson & Company

Naomi Ontiveros, EBID

(Blue color indicates Coalition member representative)

Minutes of previous Stormwater Coalition meetings were not available for approval and will be presented at the next scheduled meeting.

Zach discussed the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU)/Bylaws. Although meetings can be held based on the current MOU, there are no Bylaws or quorum requirements set. Zach requested direction for moving forward with drafting and approving bylaws. EBID's legal counsel Lee Peters has offered to put together a draft by-laws for discussion which all entities will then sign once approved. Joe Delk advised that bylaws were previously discussed but not finalized. Conrad Keys suggested the board determining the number of members needed to meet a quorum. Joe adds it is a challenge to get 5 board members to attend to have a full quorum and suggests setting the quorum at 3 member agencies in attendance to hold a meeting and 50 percent +1 of board to approve resolutions.

Joe Delk advised that Sierra County membership may need to be looked into. A representative has not been present and may not want to continue being a member. He also advised Sierra County Soil and Water elected to withdraw their membership.

Zack posed the question on visiting with Anthony and discussing their interest in being involved. Joe suggest it is a good idea and Anthony originally signed the MOU. Joe adds Eric Hamilton with Wilson & Company may be present on behalf of Anthony.

Zack returns to the previous topic regarding attendance and quorum requirements. Should a required attendance of once a year or once every six months. Slim adds that if a group is not interested in coming every six months then they should not be involved. Susan also adds that to be more productive the group

needs to make organizations more accountable for their attendance and recommends every three months.

Zack thanks the CLC employees for attending even though they are not members. The goal is to increase communication and having everyone in the same room to discuss projects is most important.

Zack began to display and discuss several storm water management priorities associated with various issues for coalition discussion and potential future meetings. Zack showed a map associated with each of the 8 issues he brought.

City of Anthony Drainage, Berino Pond, Hill flooding, La Union Master Plan, West Mesa/Picacho Drain flooding, West Mesa/West Drain master plan, Placitas and Hatch projects, Salem flooding.

Zack asks if there are any other priorities the members would like to add or discuss. Paul Dugie suggest the Brown Farm. It is a 50 acre farm by Sam Hill Arroyo with up to 1500 cfs coming into the Valley.

Next Meeting Discussions: Zack suggest asking Anthony to meet at their complex and invite Anthony, TX, Chuy Reyes, Colquitt's, NRCS, DOT, Wilson and Co.; Engineers Inc. It was decided to have the meeting in Anthony possible date of October 16th final date will be determined on availability of facility. It was also discussed to have the November meeting in Hatch and invite guests as well to attend. Slim advised he will help organize a facility for the Hatch meeting. A date of November 20th was proposed. No meeting will be held in December due to holidays and will continue on January 15th.

Upcoming meetings: October 8th at 9 am the OSE will be holding PMP Modeling in NM meeting in Albuquerque. To rsvp call Judy at 505-827-6122. Guests may also call in or use webinar to attend. September 22nd there will be a training at the EBID large conference room with Margaret Byfield. This training will be on how to implement the coordination process, how to resolve issues productively and a proactive approach working with Federal agencies.

Zack reminded the members of last month's conversation on what projects they would like to see on the watershed. Placitas being one of them. Rusty suggest on starting with a small project so all agencies can see how each other works and the process each agency does. This would help the agencies come together as well as the farmers starting small and then working up towards bigger projects and begin to get NRCS more involved. He suggest starting with Little Hallow Wilson. Paul Dugie advised this project is a mile west of Gadsden High School and would be a great project to start with. All members agreed the best thing to do is begin with a smaller project and then continue to improve and work on bigger projects.

Roundtable discussion was not done at this meeting.

Meeting adjourned 3:45 pm.