

INTERNATIONAL BOUNDARY COMMISSION

UNITED STATES AND MEXICO

MINUTE NO. 159

Ciudad Juárez, Chihuahua,  
August 20, 1937.

PLANS OF FINAL LOCATION OF RECTIFIED  
CHANNEL OF THE RIO GRANDE THROUGH THE  
SAN ELIZARIO ISLAND AREA, EL PASO-  
JUAREZ VALLEY.

The Commission met at the offices of the Mexican Section at Ciudad Juárez, Chihuahua, at 10:00 A.M., August 20, 1937, to receive the report of the Consulting Engineers dated August 19, 1937, and the respective maps, on the final location of the rectified channel of the Rio Grande through the San Elizario Island area in the El Paso-Juarez Valley.

The Commission examined carefully and approved the report and maps in reference, which report and maps are attached to this Minute to form a part hereof. The Commission also reviewed the provisions contained in the Convention of February 1, 1933, for the rectification of the Rio Grande in the El Paso-Juarez Valley, and in the annexes thereto, comprising Minute No. 129 of the Commission and the report of the Consulting Engineers attached to such Minute, and likewise reviewed Minute No. 144 in which there was adopted the route as shown on the maps thereto attached as the final route of the rectified channel of the Rio Grande in the El Paso-Juarez Valley, independently of San Elizario Island, and Minute No. 158 in which it was determined that the route for the rectified channel of the Rio Grande from the upper end of the San Elizario Island to the lower end of the San Elizario Island should generally follow and straighten the existing boundary line between the United States and Mexico.

In order to comply with the provisions of Article V of the Convention of 1933, the Commission attaches to this Minute the maps, in two (2) sheets, showing the final location of the route of the rectified channel from the upper end of the San Elizario Is-

(Continued on Sheet No. 2)

COMISIÓN INTERNACIONAL DE LÍMITES

ENTRE MÉXICO Y LOS ESTADOS UNIDOS

ACTA NUM. 159

Ciudad Juárez, Chihuahua,  
20 de agosto de 1937.

PLANOS DE LOCALIZACION FINAL DEL CAUCE REC-  
TIFICADO DEL RIO BRAVO (GRANDE) A TRAVES DE  
LA REGION DE LA ISLA DE SAN ELIZARIO EN EL  
VALLE DE JUAREZ-EL PASO.

La Comisión se reunió en las oficinas de la Sección Mexicana en Ciudad Juárez, Chih., a las diez horas del día 20 de agosto de 1937, para recibir el informe de los Ingenieros Consultores fechado el 19 de agosto de 1937, y los planos respectivos, sobre la localización final del cauce rectificado del río Bravo (Grande) a través de la región de la Isla de San Elizario en el Valle de Juárez-El Paso.

La Comisión estudió cuidadosamente y aprobó el informe y los planos mencionados, los cuales informe y planos se agregan a esta Acta para que formen parte de ella. La Comisión también revisó las disposiciones contenidas en la Convención del 1º de Febrero de 1933, para la rectificación del río Bravo (Grande) en el Valle de Juárez-El Paso y los anexos a la misma que comprenden el Acta Núm. 129 de la Comisión y el informe de los Ingenieros Consultores agregado a dicha Acta e, igualmente, revisó el Acta Núm. 144 por la que se adoptó la ruta que muestran los planos agregados a la misma, como ruta final del cauce rectificado del río Bravo (Grande) en el Valle de Juárez-El Paso, independientemente de la Isla de San Elizario, y el Acta Núm. 158 por la cual se determinó que la ruta del cauce rectificado del río Bravo (Grande) desde el extremo superior de la Isla de San Elizario hasta el extremo inferior de la Isla de San Elizario, debería seguir en lo general la línea divisoria actual entre los Estados Unidos y México, rectificándola.

Con objeto de dar cumplimiento a las disposiciones del Artículo V de la Convención de 1933, la Comisión agrega a esta Acta los planos, en dos (2) hojas, que muestran la localización final de la ruta del cauce rectificado, desde el extremo superior de la

(Continúa en la Hoja No. 2)

*L. J. R. W. S. M. J. Federal Auditor*

WASH. D.C. 1907

WASH. D.C. 1907

United States, Washington, D.C., August 10, 1907.

United States, Washington, D.C., August 10, 1907.

Dear Sir: I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 7th inst. in relation to the boundary between Mexico and the United States.

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The Commission is pleased to receive from you the information regarding the proposed boundary line between Mexico and the United States. The Commission is composed of representatives from both countries and is charged with the duty of determining the true boundary between the two nations.

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*H. W. Lawson*  
*J. Johnson*

land to the lower end of the San Elizario Island, and the index map showing a tabulation of the areas of the tracts segregated from each country. These maps and the descriptions in the attached report of the Consulting Engineers show that there exists a strict superficial compensation in total of the areas segregated from each country, as provided in Article V of the Convention of 1933 and following the procedure fixed in Article VI of the said Convention for the determination of such areas taking the axis of the rectified channel as the international boundary line for the sole purpose of such equalization of areas.

The Commission adopts these maps as those of the final route of the rectified channel of the Rio Grande following the international boundary on the south of the San Elizario Island area in the El Paso-Juarez Valley, in conformity with the Convention of 1933.

The meeting then adjourned.

*H. W. Rawson*

Commissioner of the United States.

*J. Pedrero Cardenas*

Commissioner of Mexico.

*M. B. Moore*

Acting Secretary of the United States Section.

*A. Hernandez Ayda*

Secretary of the Mexican Section.

Isla de San Elizario hasta el extremo inferior de la Isla de San Elizario, y el plano índice que muestra una tabla de las áreas de las parcelas segregadas de cada país. Estos planos y las descripciones contenidas en el anexo informe de los Ingenieros Consultores muestran que existe una compensación absoluta en el total de áreas segregadas de cada país, como lo ordena el Artículo V de la Convención de 1933 y siguiendo el procedimiento fijado por el Artículo VI de dicha Convención para la determinación de dichas áreas, tomando el eje del cauce rectificado como la línea divisoria internacional con el único objeto de compensar dichas áreas.

La Comisión adopta estos planos como los de la ruta final del cauce rectificado del río Bravo siguiendo la frontera internacional al sur de la región de la Isla de San Elizario en el Valle de Juárez-El Paso, de conformidad con la Convención de 1933.

Se levantó la sesión.

*J. Pedrero Cardenas*

Comisionado de México.

*H. W. Rawson*

Comisionado de los Estados Unidos.

*A. Hernandez Ayda*

Secretario de la Sección Mexicana.

*M. B. Moore*

Secretario Interino de la Sección de los Estados Unidos.

Maps for Minute 144 in bookcase.

Maps for Minute 159 in bookcase,  
and copies also in engineering files.

INTERNATIONAL BOUNDARY COMMISSION  
UNITED STATES AND MEXICO

RIO GRANDE RECTIFICATION PROJECT - EL PASO-JUAREZ VALLEY

JOINT REPORT OF THE CONSULTING ENGINEERS SUBMITTING  
ADDITIONAL MAPS OF THE AGREED-ON ALIGNMENT OF THE  
RECTIFIED CHANNEL UNDER THE CONVENTION OF FEBRUARY 1,  
1933.

Ciudad Juárez, Chihuahua,  
August 19, 1937.

The Honorable Commissioners,  
International Boundary Commission,  
United States and Mexico,  
El Paso, Texas, and Ciudad Juárez, Chihuahua.

Sirs:

*J. A. D. [Signature]*

Under date of May 18, 1934, we submitted a report, together with a series of fourteen (14) maps, one being an index map, which depicted the agreed-on alignment of the axis of the rectified river channel from the point of beginning, opposite Cordova Island as defined by the Convention of February 1, 1933, to the upper end of San Elizario Island and from the lower end of San Elizario Island to the lower end of the project at Box Canyon.

*M. C. [Signature]*

Following your instructions and in conformity to the provisions of the Convention of February 1, 1933, for the rectification of the Rio Grande in the El Paso-Juarez Valley, we have prepared two additional maps which depict the agreed-on alignment of the axis of the rectified river channel from the upper end to the lower end of San Elizario Island and have made the necessary additions to the index map mentioned above, so that all the maps together show the delineation of the rectified channel from the point of beginning near Cordova Island to the end near Box Canyon.

The two additional maps presented herewith have been prepared in duplicate, one in Spanish and one in English, and to a scale of 1:6000. Upon each of these maps there appears a table which gives for the axis line of the rectified channel, which at all points coincides and is identical with the center line of the pilot channel, the various courses and

*McAinsworth*

*L. P. [Signature]*

distances, curve functions and coordinates by which the axis line may be described and tied into the triangulation system and the reference points established for the El Paso-Juarez Valley by the International Boundary Commission.

The areas of the parcels segregated from either country by the axis of the rectified channel in the reach depicted on the two maps have been added to the table on the index map. It will be noted that the total area of all the parcels segregated from Mexico balances with the total area of all the parcels segregated from the United States, and that the total area segregated from either country is 304.98 hectares. In this table the various parcels have been numbered and on the detail maps each parcel has been indicated by its identifying number.

Basis of the Maps

The detail maps were developed from field surveys of the pilot channel and levee center lines. The data taken included a detail survey of the present river channel at either end of San Elizario Island and the positions of the monuments which mark the existing boundary along the San Elizario Island.

Axis Line of the Rectified Channel

To conform to the requirements of Article VI of the Convention of 1933, we have placed upon the maps a line representing the axis of the rectified channel. This is shown by a solid red line and is located midway between the proposed levees.

Present Boundary Line

Where the present boundary line follows the Rio Grande it is shown upon the maps by an undulating curved dashed line following the center of the normal channel of the river as prescribed by the Treaty of 1864 and the Joint Journal of December 6, 1907. Where the present boundary line is marked by

*H. P. ...*

*M. ...*

APR 9 1934

Faint, illegible text, likely bleed-through from the reverse side of the page. The text is arranged in several paragraphs, but the characters are too light and blurry to transcribe accurately.

*M. Ainsworth*  
*J. P. [illegible]*

SUPPLEMENT



the San Elizario Island monuments it is shown by a right dashed line between the monuments.

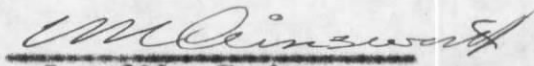
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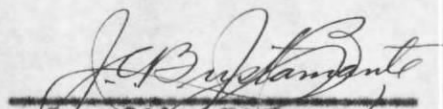
The areas of the parcels lying between the axis of the rectified channel and the present boundary line were determined by measuring each area with a planimeter. These results were checked by repeated planimeterings until two values were reached which checked each other within one percent, and the areas shown in the tables are the average of the two values so checked. The total of the areas segregated from Mexico, lying on the northerly side of the axis line, exactly balances the total of the areas segregated from the United States, lying on the southerly side of the axis line.

Recommendations

In our opinion, this location fully meets all the requirements of the Convention of February 1, 1933, and we respectfully recommend the adoption of the maps which are submitted herewith as the official maps of the Rio Grande Rectification Project for the part of the river covered thereon.

Respectfully submitted,

  
Consulting Engineer,  
United States Section.

  
Consulting Engineer,  
Mexican Section.



COMISION INTERNACIONAL DE LIMITES  
ENTRE MEXICO Y LOS ESTADOS UNIDOS

~~OBRAS DE RECTIFICACION DEL RIO BRAVO -- VALLE DE JUAREZ -- EL PASO.~~

INFORME COMUN de los Ingenieros Consultores  
presentando planos adicionales del trazo con-  
venido para el cauce rectificado, de acuerdo  
con la Convención de 1<sup>o</sup> de Febrero de 1933.

Ciudad Juárez, Chih.,  
19 de agosto de 1937.

A los Honorables Comisionados de la  
Comisión Internacional de Límites  
entre México y los Estados Unidos,  
Presentes.

Señores:

En fecha 18 de mayo de 1934 presentamos un informe, jun-  
to con una serie de catorce (14) planos, siendo uno de ellos un  
plano índice, que mostraron el trazo convenido para el eje del  
cauce rectificado del río desde el punto de partida frente a la  
Isla de Córdova, como está definido en la Convención de 1<sup>o</sup> de Fe-  
brero de 1933, hasta el extremo superior de la Isla de San Eliza-  
rio, y desde el extremo inferior de la Isla de San Elizario has-  
ta el extremo inferior del Proyecto en el Cañón de Cajoncitos.

Siguiendo las instrucciones de ustedes y de acuerdo con  
las disposiciones de la Convención de 1<sup>o</sup> de Febrero de 1933 pa-  
ra la Rectificación del Río Bravo (Grande) en el Valle de Juárez-  
El Paso, hemos preparado dos planos adicionales que muestran el  
trazo convenido del eje del cauce rectificado, desde el extremo  
superior hasta el extremo inferior de la Isla de San Elizario, y  
hemos hecho las adiciones necesarias al plano índice antes men-  
cionado, de manera que todos los planos juntos muestren el trazo  
del cauce rectificado desde su punto inicial cerca de la Isla de  
Córdova hasta el final cerca del Cañón de Cajoncitos.

Los dos planos adicionales que aquí presentamos han sido

*Mullinsworth*

*J. A. Rudman*

*M. Ainsworth*

*J. S. [Signature]*

preparados por duplicado, uno en español y otro en inglés, y a escala de 1:6 000. En cada uno de estos planos aparece una tabla que da para el eje del cauce rectificado, que en todas partes coincide con el centro del cauce piloto, los rumbos y distancias, los elementos de curvas y las coordenadas por los cuales puede describirse el eje y ligarse al sistema de triangulación y a los puntos de referencia establecidos en el Valle de Juárez-El Paso por la Comisión Internacional de Límites.

Las áreas de las parcelas segregadas de cada país por el eje del cauce rectificado en el tramo mostrado en los dos planos, han sido agregadas a la tabla del plano índice. Se notará que el área total de todas las parcelas segregadas de México compensa exactamente el área total de todas las parcelas segregadas de Estados Unidos, y que el área total segregada de cada país es de 304.98 hectáreas. En esta tabla se han numerado las diversas parcelas, y en los planos de detalle se marca cada parcela con su número de identificación.

#### Base de los planos.

Los planos de detalle se formaron con datos del levantamiento topográfico de los ejes del cauce piloto y de los diques. Los datos tomados incluyeron un levantamiento detallado del río actual en ambos extremos de la Isla de San Elizario y las posiciones de los monumentos que marcan la línea divisoria a lo largo de la Isla de San Elizario.

#### Eje del cauce rectificado.

Para cumplir con los requisitos del Artículo VI de la Convención de 1923, hemos puesto en los planos una línea que re-

*W. Ainsworth*  
*L. C. [unclear]*

presenta el eje del cauce rectificado, que se muestra en línea llena roja y localizada a la mitad de la distancia entre la localización de los diques propuestos.

Línea divisoria actual.

Donde la línea divisoria actual sigue el cauce del Río Bravo (Grande), se muestra en los planos por una línea curva de guiones siguiendo el centro del cauce normal del río, como se prescribe en el Tratado de 1884 ~~ya~~ en el Acta de la Comisión Mixta de 6 de Diciembre de 1907. Donde la línea divisoria actual está marcada por los monumentos de la Isla de San Elizario, se muestra con una línea recta roja, de guiones, entre los monumentos.

Parcelas.

Las áreas de las parcelas que quedan entre el eje del cauce rectificado y la línea divisoria actual se determinaron midiendo cada área con planímetro. Estas áreas se comprobaron por medidas repetidas hasta encontrar dos valores que no difieren entre sí más de uno por ciento, y las áreas que se muestran en las tablas son el promedio de los dos valores así comprobados.

El total de las áreas segregadas de México, que quedan al lado Norte del eje, compensa exactamente el total de las áreas segregadas de los Estados Unidos, que quedan al lado Sur del eje.

Recomendaciones.

En nuestra opinión, esta localización llena todos los requisitos de la Convención de 1<sup>o</sup> de Febrero de 1933, y recomendamos la adopción de los planos que aquí presentamos, como los planos oficiales del Proyecto de Rectificación del Río Bravo (Grande) en la parte del río comprendida en los mismos.

Con todo respeto.

*M. C. Insuarez*  
*J. A. Bustamante*

The Spanish agrees with the English text.

E. Robinson  
Clerk-Stenographer.

J. A. Duclaux

Ingeniero Consultor - Sección de México

M. Duclaux

Ingeniero Consultor - Sección de los Estados Unidos.