

Jemez y Sangre Water Planning Council Meeting Notes
March 8, 2004

Attendees: Bob Vocke, Amy Lewis, Conci Bokum, Alan Jager, Sigmond Silber, Edith Pierpont, Paul Paryski, Gavin Strathdee, Walt Chapman, Bill LeMay, Don Dayton, Ray Nichols, Jeffrey Lyon, Roy Stoesz, Stephen Wust, Joanne Hilton, Ed Moreno, Alice Darilek, Lucy Moore, Spencer Farr, and Mary Helen Follingstad attended the JyS Water Planning Council monthly meeting.

The next JyS monthly meeting will be April 12, 2004 in Santa Fe.

1. 2004 Legislative Session (Don Dayton, Conci Bokum, Paul Paryski, Steve Wust, and others): The Council discussed legislation passed during the recently completed legislative session and noted the following:

- HJM2 Adopt Water-Efficient Appliance Provisions;
- HJM55 Agua Fria Village Water Rights Status;
- HJM63 Notification of Actions Affecting Acequias;
- SB87 Create Acequia Project Fund;
- SB142 Land Grant Boards of Trustees Revisions;
- SB301 Livestock Water Tank Regulation;
- SB313 Permission for Produced Water Disposal;
- SB356 Sanitary Livestock Water Facilities;
- SB383 State Engineer Water Rights Hearing Changes;
- SJM12 Develop NM Forest Health Plan; and
- SJM62 Involve Water Rights Settlement Stakeholders.

The Council also noted that the following legislation did not pass:

- Domestic water bills;
- Funding for projects recommended by the Water Trust Board (04 projects can be authorized in the next session, must look beyond Phase I of projects, and the Board can prioritize 05 projects);
- Strategic river reserve;
- Water user fee; and
- Sufficient OSE/ISC funding.

2. OSE Water Conservation Programs (Alice Darilek): Alice reviewed the following material with the Council:

- OSE Water Conservation Program
 - Concern about water supply availability
 - Encourage water conservation as a water supply alternative
 - Policy development – guidelines; state facilities
 - Technical and financial assistance
 - Education
- Education
 - Citizens, municipalities, commercial – brochures, manuals, workshops

- Children – *Coyote Tales, Water Detective, Learning to Xeriscape*
- www.ose.state.nm.us/water-info/conservation
- 800-WATER-NM
- waternm@ose.state.nm.us
- WaterWise Development Committee
 - Water reuse brochure
 - Graywater use guidance
 - Rainwater harvesting guidance
 - Model developments database
- State Government Policy
 - Law requiring municipal water conservation and drought plans
 - Drought Task Force – Drinking Water Work Group
 - Subcommittees – contact Ken Hughes, khughes@state.nm.us

Alice also made the following points:

- OSE has formed technical and financial partnerships on projects e.g., US BoR and USDA (NRCS);
- State funding for conservation programs is very limited;
- Educating conservation is very important; and
- Municipal conservation and drought plans will be required (Dec. 2005) when seeking NMFA funding.

3. City of Santa Fe Water Education Programs (Rick Carpenter): Rick reviewed the following material with the Council:

- Water Conservation Group
 - On-going presentations to schools, interest groups and public agencies
 - Santa Fe Realtors Association
 - Water Fairs
 - Children's Water Festival
 - City committees and City Council
 - Classroom presentations (PNM Conservation Grant)
 - Xeriscape demonstration garden at utility building (801 West San Mateo)
 - Water Conservation Committee meetings (1st Tuesday of each month)
 - Home water audits
 - Fixture consumption (shower heads, toilets, faucets, etc.)
 - Toilet leak detection
 - Landscape consumption and xeriscape tips
 - Information kiosks at ten locations throughout the City of Santa Fe
 - Exchange information and materials with OSE Conservation Officer
 - Proposal for children's water conservation poster contest
 - Proposal for grades K-12 Water Education for Teachers (WET) curriculum: Water Conservation Education Program
 - **Conservation Programs Summary**
 - Public outreach and education
 - Toilet retrofits
 - Audit Program

- Rebate Program (rain barrels, front loading washing machines, hot water circulators)
 - Water conservation kits (leak detection dye tabs, fixtures, literature)
 - Water Conservation Plan (State accepted)
- Source of Supply Group
 - Production reports – regular spots in Santa Fe New Mexican
 - Production reports – City of Santa Fe web page
 - Bi-weekly production/storage reports to PUC
- Water Resources Management and Planning Group
 - Participation on numerous panels and workshops, including State Water Plan
 - On-going presentations to schools, interest groups and public agencies
 - Santa Fe Board of Realtors Association
 - Santa Fe Chamber of Commerce
 - Northern New Mexico Chapter of Society of Professional Engineers
 - Water Fairs
 - Children’s Water Festival
 - City committees and City Council
 - JyS Water Planning Council
 - Regional Planning Authority
 - Regular informational meetings with US Senators and Representatives (and staff), members of the NM State Legislature, and key federal and state regulatory and resource management agencies
 - Regular testimony an NM State Legislature hearings
 - Professional papers and posters, including EBTAG
 - Water project updates on City’s web page
- Other
 - Billing/Customer Service
 - Regular fliers sent out with water bills
 - Finance Department
 - Water Division RFPs, RFQs, Invitations to Bid on City’s web site
 - City Attorney’s Office
 - Participation on numerous panels and workshops, including the State Water Plan and the Governor’s Blue Ribbon Water Task Force
 - On-going presentations to schools, interest groups and public agencies
 - Water Fairs
 - Children’s Water Festival
 - City committees and City Council
 - Regional Planning Authority
 - City of Santa Fe web page: www.santafenm.gov
 - Water Wise

- Staging Ordinance status
- Current/past reservoir levels
- Water resource projects updates
- Water quality updates
- Conservation rebate programs

4. Santa Fe County Water Education Programs (Liza Vitale): (Discussion deferred.)

5. Santa Fe County Regional Water Authority & Aamodt Settlement (Steve Wust): Steve provided the following observations on the Regional Water Authority:

- The proposed Regional Water Authority legislation was just to allow the County to create the Authority – details would have been in a County ordinance creating the Authority;
- The Authority concept was for one regional management system not a single regional water utility;
- The Authority concept would not supercede city utilities, water sanitation districts, mutual domestics, etc., but could allow joining;
- Water purveyors now compete – the Authority would acquire water;
- The Authority and Santa Fe County would be separate; and
- The Authority concept may be revisited in Interim Committee meetings;

Steve made the following observations on the Aamodt Settlement:

- Dates back to 1966;
- The Settlement involves the four Pueblos, acequias, non-Indians, cities, Santa Fe County, the State, and others;
- The Aamodt Settlement would result in a local water authority;
- The Settlement would rely on groundwater and diversion from the Rio Grande (San I diversion) and require acquisition of water;
- Some parties feel that they have not been fully informed;
- Quantification of Pueblo water rights has focused in two areas – current use and future use;
- The future use portion of the right has been most difficult to settle;
- The settlement requires that non-Indian parties (some 1000) to give up their domestic wells and be served by a regional system;
- The Federal Court will need to approve the Settlement;
- Some \$300M (federal) will be required with substantial local “in kind” resources; and
- The Settlement must deal with Compact Otowi Gage issues.

6. Water Harvesting (Spencer Farr): Spencer made the following points during his presentation:

- During the past 20 years, a 2,000 square ft. house water harvesting system would have captured on an annual basis - 10,500 gal. in Albuquerque, 16,000 gal. in Santa Fe, and 21,000 gal. in Edgewood;

- Newer developments can achieve a reduction of 20-40% in water need by water harvesting, which can be increased to 50% using technologies for graywater (these percentages can be enhanced by expanding capture surfaces);
- In Edgewood, 100% capture is possible with wells serving as backup;
- Harvesting systems cost \$5-6K;
- Assuming a 5%/yr. increase in municipal water, a cistern system would pay for itself in ~16 yrs.;
- Assuming a 10-12% increase in municipal water, a cistern system would pay for itself in ~10 yrs.;
- For a new house, a \$30/month mortgage increase for a cistern system would soon be exceeded by increasing water rates;
- Impediments to harvesting systems include – up front costs, lack of awareness, and lack of regulations and codes;
- Rancho Viejo has increased housing density using harvesting systems and the increased value to the homes is more than twice the cost of the harvesting system;
- Six or seven developments in the Santa Fe area are including harvesting systems; and
- Santa Fe County requires cisterns on homes with greater than 2500 square ft. of heated space – all homes, at a minimum, need rain barrels.

7. Cloud Seeding Technical Advisory Group (Roy Stoesz): Roy made the following points during his presentation:

- Some 25 individuals have expressed interest in the TAG;
- The TAG's first meeting was on 2/23;
- The TAG is looking at winter vs. summer seeding programs (ET may be an issue during the summer);
- The area of interest extends beyond the JyS planning region;
- The TAG continues to discuss 95% level of confidence vs. a business decision based on historical 80-90 % confidence and return on investment;
- Satellite imagery data needs to be processed and analyzed – need to look at cloud-top temperatures for super cooled water;
- The TAG will be reviewing several proposals at its March 22nd meeting;
- The TAG is under represented in a few areas e.g., universities, weather bureau, statisticians, and cloud physics;
- The TAG needs near-term funding for preoperational data analysis;
- TAG has access to a plane, but will need to pay; and
- Substantial funding will be needed by November to start a project.

8. Subcommittee Reports:

- Education – Conci will present the JyS Water Plan at two League of Women Voters events in the coming week. A tamarisk workshop will be held in Albuquerque on March 31 - April 2, 2004 (www.werc.net/tamarisk). Additionally, the "Technological and Regional Water Stewardship: A Conference Series Aimed at Identifying Priorities in Technologies for Improving Water

Management Along the Rio Grande Corridor" will be held in Albuquerque on April 21-22 (<http://research.unm.edu/opst/> - go to "Events").

- State Water Plan – Conci reminded the Council the SWP is a living document.
- New and Expanded Water Technologies – Sig reported that he would be presenting at the Technology and Regional Water Stewardship conference in Albuquerque. The subcommittee next plans to focus on conservation.
- Measuring Status - no report.
- Governor's Blue Ribbon Water Task Force – Paul report the BRWTF is concerned with the level of funding support that OSE/ISC received during the recently completed legislative session.