

Jemez y Sangre Water Planning Council Draft Meeting Notes

April 11, 2005

Attendees: Edith Pierpont, Conci Bokum, Paul Paryski, Pete Padilla, Sig Silber, Claudia Borchert, Steve Wust, Don Dayton, Bob Vocke, Lisa Henne.

Next Meeting: Monday, May 9, 2005
1:30 to 4:30
Santa Fe Home Builders Association offices
(1409 Luisa, Suite A, Santa Fe)

Review of Legislative Session:

Bill Number	Description	Outcome
HB 195/SB 123	Establishes the Strategic Water Reserve, to be managed by the Interstate Stream Commission. It lays out the ways in which water may be acquired for the Reserve and the restrictions on acquisitions (such as keeping water in its area of origin and protecting acequias). It also establishes a funding mechanism for the Reserve consisting of 3% of the state's Severance Tax bonding capacity (\$3-4.5 million a year) over the next 20 years.	Passed with \$2.8M initial funding
HB 271	Authorizing the New Mexico Finance Authority to make loans or grants for certain water projects from the Water Project Fund.	Passed
SB 172	Create Indian Rights Settlement Fund	Passed, but no funds appropriated
HB 885	Pecos Settlement Funding	Funded at \$12M instead of \$30M
HB 917/SB 102	Prosecution for misuse of water and interference with easements for or access to certain irrigation ditches	Passed
HB2	Conversion of staff at OSE from Temp to Perm	Passed
HB590	Prohibiting the State Engineer from stopping the	Failed

	use of certain domestic well use	
HB89	Appropriation for statewide non-native phreatophyte removal program	Failed
HB 782	Making an appropriation for a permanent water harvesting demonstration project on the Santa Fe Railyard Park and Plaza	Failed
HB 293	Domestic well application fee	Failed
HB765	Making an appropriation to implement the Estancia Regional Water Plan	Failed
HB 285/SB 120	Designation of Critical Management Areas and enabling State Engineer to regulate domestic wells in Critical Management Areas	Failed
HB 500/SB 451		
HB 346	Providing for a direct appeal to the District Court from a State Engineer decision	Failed

Espanola Basin Technical Advisory Group Annual Workshop (EBTAG)

Steve Wust presented the Santa Fe County geohydrologic model. No elected officials showed up at roundtable discussions. Input was similar to first session.

EBTAG displayed a matrix that shows all organizations conducting research in the Espanola Basin and the type of research they are doing. Research/data needs were also displayed. This matrix stimulated feedback from attendees.

Jemez y Sangre Priorities for coming year

The Activities/Actions column of the working draft of the matrix was updated to version 1.0 (attached). Activities and actions that address the gap between supply and demand were prioritized.

A subcommittee was formed to develop ideas for implementing recommendation G.1 (Pursue education and transfer of information). Subcommittee members are Sig, Conci, Edith, and Steve, with Claudia providing occasional assistance. The probable approach of the subcommittee will be to begin by focusing on Santa Fe County and City of Santa Fe, and use that approach as a model for other areas.

A comment was made that the bill allowing for purchase of water rights will change traditional use, which has always been dominated by agriculture. Addressing the gap between supply and demand will probably require assessing all types of water use and setting priorities for the state and region. Given the alternatives for filling gap – what are the community’s values and priorities?

City of Santa Fe has a long-range (40 year) water supply plan that addresses the gap between supply and demand. The second public meeting on this plan will be held later

this summer. Growth management might be a component, along with acquisition of water rights, conservation, and projects. Claudia will also make a presentation on SIM tool used for analyzing water supply to the May 18 meeting of the Public Utility Committee. City of Santa Fe quarterly water report pulls together current water data that decision-makers need. Annual trends are also published.

A comment was made that although Santa Fe is doing long-range water planning, the city still needs to be included in regional dialogue. Each plan in isolation might look fine, but combined, might not be feasible, especially when planning to purchase water rights.

JyS agreed to publish gap matrix in newspaper (G.1 action)

Workshop on managing landscapes and watersheds

The workshop will be held September 21-22, 2005, at Sweeny Center (City of Santa Fe is donating the space), and is aimed at city/county decision-makers. The objective of the workshop is to investigate the possibilities of applying landscape management techniques and programs in the Jemez y Sangre Region to increase water for recharging aquifers, providing stream and river flows, ecosystem health, and human use, including protecting water rights.

Extra effort will be made to encourage attendance by decision-makers. State Representative Wirth, Mayor Delgado, and Bill Hume of Governor’s office have agreed to speak. D’Antonio to open for second day (decision-makers). Legislative delegation will be invited. The State Engineer is to announce policy on landscapes and harvesting sometime prior to the workshop.

The workshop will provide basic information on water use and water budgets, existing practices and technologies, legal and other constraints, and case studies. Subcommittees will draft white papers on each of the workshop categories (see table below). These white papers will posted to a web chat room (WRTAO to host) to stimulate discussion prior to the conference. The white papers will be presented, discussed, and modified at the workshop. A revised set of final white papers containing recommendations for decision-makers will be presented on the second day. There will also be exhibit space provided for posters, information displays, and vendors.

Crosswalk between workshop categories and JyS Water Plan recommendations:

Workshop Category	JyS Water Plan Recommendation
Restore and Manage Watersheds	B.1 Restore watersheds
Manage Runoff	B.2 Manage storm water to enhance recharge B.6 Develop conjunctive use strategies
Manage Water Quality	B.11 Continue funding programs to protect surface water and groundwater

	B.12 Support restoration of stream reaches to their designated uses
Water Use	C.3 Line ditches
	E.1 Pursue water conservation (education and outreach)
Land Use	E.2 Pursue growth management to reduce demand

JyS Water Plan recommendations related to the workshop, but not the focus of the workshop:

- B.4 Pursue sustainable management of water resources through better understanding of hydrogeology
- B.5 Evaluate establishing critical management areas to protect groundwater resources
- B.7 Appropriate flood flows
- C.1 Require wastewater reuse
- C.2 Encourage rainwater collection
- C.4 Remove sediment in Santa Cruz reservoir and investigate Nambe reservoir
- C.6 Consider aquifer storage and recovery of excess water
- E.1 Pursue water conservation
- F.2 Transfer water rights through consensus process
- F.3 Limit use of domestic wells

Recommendations from JyS Water Plan that are NOT addressed in the workshop:

- A.1 Create advisory boards
- A.2 Adjudicate water rights
- B.3 Conduct pilot cloud seeding project
- B.8 Remove trace constituents to protect human health
- B.9 Address septic tank water quality degradation
- B.10 Clean up contaminated groundwater and surface water
- C.5 Repair leaks in water systems
- C.7 Pursue increased storage capacity in Abiquiu Reservoir
- D.1 Develop drought contingency plans
- F.1 Utilize San Juan-Chama Project water as appropriate
- G.1 Pursue education and transfer of information
- G.2 Desalinate water

G.3 Trade water

G.4 Treat polluted water

G.5 Investigate deep water

G.6 Evaluate legislation

G.7 Administrative

Announcements and Future Presentations

Claudia: The Army Corps of Engineers has money for cities or counties for storm water retention projects and river restoration projects.

Sig to try to set up presentation from Galisteo Watershed Partnership for June meeting.

Paul to try to get presentation from NMED on water quality and TMDLs for May meeting.

Lisa to look into having presentation by JyS to Espanola Basin Regional Planning Issues Forum.