

New Mexico Riparian Council
January 14, 2009
Draft Meeting Minutes

Call to Order

President Debbie Risberg called the meeting to order and introduced new Board Secretary Adrian Oglesby.

Members in Attendance

Other members present were Scott Armstrong (Treasurer), Steve Vrooman, Stephen Bohannon, Ann Watson, Rich Schrader, and Roy Jemison.

Agenda

The agenda was reviewed and approved with the addition of a discussion of the NMRC website and upcoming meetings, trainings, and other opportunities.

Events: Meetings, Trainings, & Other Opportunities

Upcoming events discussed included:

- New Partners for Smart Growth Conference
Albuquerque, Jan. 22-24; *see* <http://www.newpartners.org>
- International Water Conservation Conference
Albuquerque, Feb. 26-27; *see* <http://waterconservationconference.org>
- Conservation Voters of New Mexico seeks help during legislative session; contact Sandy Buffett via www.cvnm.org
- Gila River Day at the Legislature
Santa Fe, Feb. 4th; *see* <http://www.gilaconservation.org/gilariverday.shtml>
- Aldo Leopold Cultural Conversation Conference
Albuquerque, Feb. 13-17, *see* <http://www.leopoldcelebration.org>

Membership Campaign

The group discussed the need to identify and recruit a new President-Elect. No nominations were made.

The group then discussed the need for a membership renewal and recruiting campaign. There was agreement on the following course of action:

1. Members present agreed to review the current membership rolls and contact individuals and organizations they know;
2. Scott will compile existing strategy, project, and goal information;
3. Rich will compile a list of accomplishments to date;
4. A Website Committee was formed to review and update the website;
5. The group will then develop a contact document for membership outreach.

Treasurer's Report

Scott provided the Treasurer's report and answered general questions about ongoing expenditures. The NMRC's recurring expenses are fairly limited, including the post

office box, the annual awards, and corporate fees. Membership fees are covering these costs, and the NMRC's balance has remained relatively flat since last year, now totaling \$1,913.64.

Watershed Wiser

Rich provided background on the Watershed Wiser project. The group discussed several aspects of the project such as data sources, monitoring protocols, and quality control.

Rich requested that the NMRC serve as a fiscal agent for Watershed Wiser and presented a professional service contract for the groups review. Adrian agreed to review the contract in detail and provide the rest of the group with his impressions.

Packard

Debbie reported that the NMRC's application for Packard funding to support Rapid Stream Riparian Assessment Training was not successful. She noted that the 3-4 day training course will still be available for \$200 per person, with more information to come.

Beaver Forum

Debbie has started a Yahoo Groups Forum to provide information on beaver conservation efforts. Contact Debbie at debbie@apnm.org for information on joining NMBeaverForum.

Department of Transportation

Steve raised concerns about DOT impacts on riparian health in the Galisteo Basin. The group discussed the potential for developing a collaborative relationship to encourage DOT to minimize their impacts on our stream systems.

Next Meeting

TBA