

NEW MEXICO RIPARIAN COUNCIL
JULY 16, 2009
SANTO DOMINGO PUEBLO
DRAFT MEETING MINUTES

Call to Order

President Debbie Risberg called the meeting, followed by a round of introductions.

Members in Attendance

Other New Mexican Riparian Council ("NMRC") members present were Scott Armstrong (Treasurer), Ann Watson, Rich Schrader, Bill Zeedyk.

Guests in attendance were Peter Wilkinson (NMISC), Deidre Tarr (CPSWCD), Val Williams (BLM-Taos), Terra Burt (BLM-Taos), Abe Franklin (NMED/SWQB), and Shawn Knox (SLO).

April Meeting Minutes

The meeting minutes for April were approved.

Agenda

The agenda was reviewed and approved.

President-Elect Discussion

The group again discussed the need to identify and recruit a new President-Elect. Bill was not sure who would be available, though he mentioned Beverly DeGruyter. Ellie Trotter was interested, but her health makes the position questionable. Debbie stated that she would remain President as long as others helped. Rich and Bill said that they would.

*Scott mentioned the need to send out a membership letter to all members to inform them of the president-elect position and to look for interest. He will send all info to Deb. Confirm with everyone on all of the nominations. Current membership is 174, but less than 10% pay.

An online application was discussed.

*Discussed that we need to add this to our bylaws to board-members-at-large: if you miss two or more meetings in a year, the Board will vote on whether they remain on the Board.

Committee Structure Discussion

Discussed how this is not working. Need strong committee chairs, and the committees need to do what they say they're going to do.

*Deb needs to discuss this with Bill for guidance.

Treasurer's Report

Scott provided the Treasurer's report; current amount is \$2,029.

We agreed to be fiscal agent for the Watershed Wiser Group. Two separate accounts are set up for this endeavor. Rich said that he has about \$5,500 committed from the Rio Puerco Management Committee and NM Forest & Watershed Restoration Institute towards the joint project.

Committee Reports

None.

Other

WildEarth Guardians contacted Deb about collaborating on the Governor's water initiatives. (Turned out that they wanted us to sign on to a letter that they wrote; all board members, except Bill, who responded approved it.)

Arizona Riparian Council wants to collaborate with us and discuss how to increase memberships and do joint projects. They invited us to attend their fall campout.

River Source's (Rich) Beaver Building Habitat project report and information is on APNM's Yahoo-Groups's Beaver Forum.

Calendar Items

Bill mentioned that his new book is coming out; will present at a November 4 conference.

Val Williams mentioned that an RFP will be put out for vegetation treatment for deep planting (cottonwood, NM olive, box elder); will require an auger and about 500 trees. Will appear on Grants.gov.

Next Meeting

Possibly October 22 (Diedre Tarr mentioned that there are two meetings the week of October 15). Location TBD. Valerie Williams offered the BLM Taos Visitor Center (near Pilar) as the possible meeting place.

*(Note: Deb contacted board members later this day that she will not be here on the 22nd, and it was agreed that the meeting would be on October 8th. Scott brought up that the October meeting is our annual meeting and when officers are elected and that it is usually piggybacked onto a conference; as of this writing, one was not brought up and this is not set up.)