



Michael J. Bitner, *Chair*
J. Lawrence Barela, *Vice Chair*
Rip Anderson
John S. Derr
Susan Kelly

Tom McHugh
Elizabeth H. Richards
Erik K. Webb

Water Protection Advisory Board
c/o ABCWUA
P.O. Box 1293
Albuquerque, NM 87103

Minutes: December 9, 2011

Location: Bernalillo County Public Works Division

Time: 8:30 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.

Board Members Present: Chairman Mike Bitner, Susan Kelly, Erik Webb, Elizabeth Richards and John Derr

Board Members Absent: Rip Anderson, Vice Chairman Lawrence Barela, Tom McHugh

PIC Members Present: Barbara Gastian, Jane DeRose-Bamman, Anita Steed, Kathy Verhage, and Rick Shean

Guests: Steve Glass

- I. Chairman Mike Bitner called the meeting to order at 8:42 p.m.
- II. Chairman Bitner opened up discussion of the draft minutes for the November 21st meeting. Minutes were approved with minor corrections.
- III. Chairman Bitner opened up the board business discussion. Mr. Rick Shean proposed how the Surface Water Quality Protection Policy and Action Plan (SWQPPAP) activity status could be incorporated into the Water Protection Advisory Board 2011 Annual Report. Mr. Shean was asked to revise the status of Policy G of the WQPPAP. Chairman Bitner reminded the board that the WQPPAP was assessed last year, and only has to be reviewed every five years.

Mr. Shean discussed SWQPPAP Policy B, which directed the board to review and formalize the roles of the WPAB and the various citizen advisory stakeholder groups, including the Ciudad SWCD and the MRG-A Reach Watershed Group. A draft list of Middle Rio Grande (MRG) stakeholders was provided and it was noted that some key agencies were missing from the list. The board discussed its role in watershed-wide efforts. Members discussed the potential of hosting a forum amongst the entities being forced to participate on the watershed-based MS4 permit. It was mentioned that some upstream entities do not feel compelled to participate in the permit process, feeling their inputs into the MRG are minimal, if any, and would require different stormwater mitigation measures needed by the other MRG stakeholders. Tribal sovereignty was also discussed as a hurdle to negotiations and full participation at the local level. The board requested a presentation regarding the water quality considerations by local flood control authorities be provided.

The board discussed communicating with the City of Albuquerque Mayor's Office, the City Council and County Commission the urgency for their respective agencies to sustain participation in the MS4 Permit talks, because the U.S. EPA may hold up pending stormwater related administrative orders based on the outcome of the watershed stakeholders negotiations. The board discussed requesting the council and commission sign a resolution to encourage other stakeholders to fully participate. The board voted to sign a letter to be drafted by policy implementation committee members and Mr. Steve Glass, and to schedule a meeting with the Mayor's office prior to the Jan. 25 City Council meeting.

- IV. Mr. Shean introduced the discussion of the review for the 2011 board priorities, actions, presentations and annual report, noting that the 2010 annual report detailed the board's priorities for the next two years. Board members discussed altering the priorities slightly to broaden the priority dealing with the KAFB BFF spill to include other contamination sites in the MRG. Also, items to be addressed within the priorities in the upcoming year should be listed under the priority headings. Board members discussed changes to the formatting and content of the draft 2011 annual report, suggesting that a summary each presentation and action taken by the board be added to document.
- V. Chairman Bitner introduced other board business by asking if the board wanted to reduce the number of meetings from monthly to quarterly. The board voted to keep the current monthly meeting schedule. Mr. Shean updated the board on the Gulton Industries site, which was presented to the board in December 2011 by the NMED Superfund Team. NMED was petitioning to get the site on the National Priorities List or funding, however, a district court ruled that the site would be handled by the NMED Remediation Oversight Section under a compliance order. Chairman Bitner asked Mr. Shean to pull together a list of member term dates and determine if any were expiring at the end of the year. The board also asked Mr. Shean to prepare a list of 2012 meetings dates to anticipate future holiday conflicts.
- VI. The meeting was adjourned at 10:08 a.m.