

SANTA FE RIVER COMMISSION

MINUTES, OCTOBER 13 2016

Frances Lucero, Stenographer

DRAFT UNTIL APPROVED

**SANTA FE RIVER COMMISSION
THURSDAY, OCTOBER 13, 2016
6:00 PM – 8:15 PM**

MINUTES

1. ROLL CALL

PRESENT:

**John Buchser, Chair
Phil Bové
F.M. Patorni
Luke Pierpont
Zoe Isaacson**

NOT PRESENT:

**Jerry Jacobi
Dale Doremus
Emile Sawyer
Anna Hansen**

STAFF/OTHERS PRESENT:

**Alan Hook, Water Division
Melissa McDonald, Staff Liaison
Raquel Tompson, Santa Fe Watershed
Teresa Seamster, Sierra Club
Fran Lucero, Stenographer**

2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

**Mr. Pierpont moved to approve the agenda as presented,
Second by Mr. Bové, motion carried by unanimous voice vote.**

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES, SEPTEMBER 8, 2016

**Minutes were attached as a hyper link and committee has not had a
chance to approve. Minutes deferred until November 9, 2016 meeting.**

4. COMMUNICATION FROM OTHER AGENCIES / COMMITTEES

None

5. INFORMATION / DISCUSSION / ACTION

a. RIVER COMMISSION PRIORITIES & GOAL SETTING FOR 2017

The Chair noted that there have been changes in commission operations from the last administration to present. Former Mayor would bring forth the priorities to the River Commission and Mayor Gonzales would like for the River Commission members to bring the

priorities to him and the Council. The Chair provided a document with suggested priorities for review and discussion. Protocol will be to collect input from the Commissioners to discuss short term (1 year), medium term (2-3 years) and long term (3+ years).

The Chair will also welcome collaboration from the representatives of the Santa Fe Watershed and Sierra Club present at this meeting. It was also asked that if possible to identify the resources needed for each suggested priority.

Ms. Isaacson asked if the River Commission Chair or Staff Liaison know what the priorities are from the Mayor and City Council in order to list their requests. The Chair will check with Ms. McDonald to find out if she is already working with the Mayor and Council on any listed items.

Mr. Patorni asked if the River Commissioners role are as advisors to the Mayor and Council and/or are they to make suggested policy recommendations. Mr. Hook said his recommendation was to do a 2:2, either meet with or invite 2 councilors to a meeting, which often results in a more open dialogue. It also eliminates any possibility of a quorum on either side if individual meetings are conducted. The results are positive when reaching out to the councilors for their input.

The Chair noted that another resource to attain data/information could be communicating with NMSU in some areas where their expertise could help meet the River Commission goals.

PROCESS

1. Short Term 1-year

ITEM	INDIVIDUAL	RATING 1, 2, 3
o Resolving Santa Fe Canyon		
o River Funds and ways to promote it and spend the money.	Zoe	#1
o Community Strategy o Regular communications with the community.	FM/TS	#1
o Increase and coordinate dialogue with City Council	LP	#1
o Update of Corridor Master Plan done in 1995	PB	#1
o Rain Garden Concepts	Chair	#2
o Electronic Library of Santa Fe River Resources	LP	#2
o Increase River Flow	RT, Watershed	#3

○ Water Quality Posts	TS, Sierra Club	#3
○ Species Resiliency, Arroyos, Wildlife	TS, Sierra Club	#3

2. Medium Term 2-3 years

ITEM	INDIVIDUAL	RATING, 1,2,3
○ Beautifying the river corridor, make it a destination for visitors, adult fishing derby as a suggested event as well as identifying other community events.	ZI	#1
○ Create an overarching vision that goes along with sustainability, 50-years. It could outline guiding principles.	FM	#1
○ Scientific Data Base – River Commission acting as a Clearing House and disseminating information to the public. Note: Important to understand what has already been done, where is it?	LP	#1
○ More signage along the river. More engagement from the community, not an expensive investment.	Chair	#1
○ Improve Dialogue between Santa Fe County/City of Santa Fe. Staff did note that there is good dialogue between the city/county staff.	Chair	#2
○ Document aquifer recharge from living river flow and planned releases. (Noted by Mr. Hook: Need to know where zones get recharged and how much surface water is saturated). It was also noted that there are also irrigation flows and storm flows. It was re-confirmed that it is living river flow.	Chair	#3
○ Citizen/Monitoring	LP	#3

3. Long Term 3+ years

Item	Individual	Rating 1, 2, 3
○ River Commission would advocate for Integration of water management between the city/county.	FM	#1

Ms. McDonald made reference to the Storm Water Management Plan and the references made in this dialogue.		
○ Explore opening the upper watershed.	LP	#1
○ 30% of the water flowing down the river hyped upstream and being released around Frenchy's which leaves 40% for re-use. WWTP Reuse.	Chair	#1
○ Green Policy Improvement. (Reference is to construction along the river corridor).	ZI	#1
○ Methods to improve water quality.	PB	#1
○ 500 Year Flood Planning, (FEMA)	Chair	#2

Ms. McDonald recommended that this item and update be sent to those members of the River Commission who were not in attendance at this meeting allowing them to an opportunity to contribute. The Chair noted that this would be fine but stated that they not add more than 3 items to the existing list. Ms. Isaacson said she would like another 30-days to continue this review and discussion. The Chair noted that at the November meeting they would re-fine the list and proceed to prioritize the listing.

b. RIVER COMMISSION SCHEDULE FOR 2017

The 2nd Thursday of the month from 6:00 pm – 8:00 pm. Staff did not find any conflicts based on outside events.

Mr. Pierpont moved to approve the 2017 schedule as reflected, 2nd Thursday of the month, 6:00 pm – 8:00 pm, second by Mr. Bové, motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

6. MATTERS FROM COMMISSIONERS

None

7. MATTERS FROM STAFF

Next Public Works Committee meeting is important for the River Commission members to attend; as their opinion is valued. November 7, 2016 – 5:00 pm – 7:00 pm and Ms. McDonald will send notice of meeting.

- River repair and arroyo repairs will start next week.
- Parks has taken over the filter plant. Ms. McDonald will be a part of the team to meet with the residents on this project.

Ms. Isaacson would like to better understand the scope of the projects. Ms. McDonald will send out an updated memo for Commissioners to review.

Ms. McDonald noted that a medium-long term goal for the River Commission could be to look at opening the river channel discussion.

8. CITIZENS' COMMUNICATION FROM THE FLOOR

None

9. SUB-COMMITTEE BREAKOUT SESSION – Deferred to November meeting.

- a. OUTDOOR ECONOMY**
- b. PROMOTING A LIVING RIVER**
- c. WATERSHED REVITALIZATION**
- d. SPECIES RESILIENCY**

10. ADJOURN

There being no further business to come before the Santa Fe River Commission, the meeting was adjourned at 8:15 pm

SIGNATURE PAGE:

John Buchser, Chair

Fran Lucero, Stenographer