



International Boundary and Water Commission United States Section

For immediate release
March 16, 2016

USIBWC SELECTS CITIZENS FORUM BOARD MEMBERS; PUBLIC MEETING SET FOR MARCH 31 IN RIO RICO

Commissioner Edward Drusina of the United States Section of the International Boundary and Water Commission (USIBWC) has appointed eight people to serve on the Southeast Arizona Citizens Forum Board. The purpose of the Citizens Forum is to promote the exchange of information between the USIBWC and the community about Commission projects and related activities in Santa Cruz, Cochise, and Pima Counties.

The new board members are:

- **Rosanna Gabaldon:** Arizona State Representative
- **Lee Jacobs:** City of Nogales Utilities Director, Arizona Department of Water Resources Santa Cruz County Active Management Area Groundwater Users Advisory Council
- **Martin Jakle:** Friends of the Santa Cruz River Board Member and retired biologist
- **Ben Lomeli:** Friends of the Santa Cruz River Board Member and Bureau of Land Management Hydrologist
- **Luis Ramirez:** Ramirez Advisors Inter-National, LLC, Advisor to Greater Nogales Santa Cruz County Port Authority
- **Amanda Stone:** Arizona Department of Environmental Quality, Chief Policy and Legislative Affairs Officer, oversees Office of Border Environmental Protection
- **Christopher Teal:** U.S. Department of State, Consul General in Nogales, Sonora
- **Ann Marie Wolf:** President of Sonora Environmental Research Institute, Inc. (SERI), member of the Pima County Regional Wastewater Reclamation Department Advisory Committee

The board will also include John Light, Area Operations Manager for the USIBWC's Nogales Field Office.

“This new board has a wealth of experience in boundary and water issues. They are well qualified to support the Commission’s efforts in this part of the border,” said Commissioner Drusina.

The first public meeting with the new board will take place on Thursday, March 31st from 4 p.m. to 6 p.m. at the Esplendor Resort - Sierra Madre Room, 1069 Camino Caralampi, Rio Rico, AZ.

USIBWC Secretary Sally Spener will provide an overview of the history of the International Boundary and Water Commission, from its early days surveying and marking the U.S.- Mexico border, to its growing role in water management, based on the Convention of 1906 and the 1944 Water Treaty. She will also discuss the Commission's current responsibilities all along the border, including maintaining the boundary monuments, operating international storage dams and hydroelectric power plants, providing flood control, and operating international wastewater treatment plants.

John Light of the USIBWC will present an overview of Commission activities in the Southeast Arizona region, including boundary demarcation and maintenance of boundary monuments, wastewater treatment, and other water management responsibilities.

A complete agenda follows. Members of the public who would like more information about the meeting may call 520-281-1832 or e-mail sally.spener@ibwc.gov.

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SOUTHEAST ARIZONA CITIZENS FORUM

Thursday, March 31, 2016

4:00 – 6:00 p.m.

Esplendor Resort - Sierra Madre Room

1069 Camino Caralampi

Rio Rico, AZ

- Welcome and Introductions – John Light, Nogales Area Operations Manager and Citizens Forum Co-Chair, USIBWC
- Overview of the History, Mission, and Projects of the International Boundary and Water Commission – Sally Spener, Secretary, USIBWC
- Overview of Commission Activities in Southeast Arizona – John Light, Nogales Area Operations Manager, USIBWC
- Public Comment
- Break
- Orientation for New Citizens Forum Board Members – Sally Spener, Secretary, USIBWC
- Board Discussion
- Suggested Future Agenda Items

***Directions:** From I-19, take Exit #17 Rio Rico Drive/Yavapai Drive. Go west on Rio Rico/Yavapai. Make a left turn onto Camino Caralampi. Esplendor Resort is up the hill on the right.

If you have a disability that you wish to self-identify confidentially that requires accommodation, please advise us ahead of time at 520-281-1832 or sally.spener@ibwc.gov.