

Southeast Arizona Citizens Forum  
Green Valley, Arizona  
Las Campanas Social Center  
March 14, 2013  
\*Tentative Meeting Notes\*

Call to Order

USIBWC Area Operations Manager and Citizens Forum Co-Chair John Light called the meeting to order.

Introduction of New Board Members

The newly-appointed board members introduced themselves and explained their background and interest in the Citizens Forum.

- Rosanna Gabaldon – State Representative District No. 2
- Luis Greer – Douglas City Council
- Jackson Jenkins – Director of Pima County Regional Wastewater Reclamation Department
- John Kozma – Green Valley Council Environmental Committee, Upper Santa Cruz Providers and Users Group Planning Committee Member
- Ben Lomeli – Friends of the Santa Cruz River Board of Directors
- Jenny Neely – Conservation Policy Director and Legal Counsel for the Sky Island Alliance
- Lisa Reed – U.S. Customs and Border Protection, Community Relations
- Jonathon Shacat – former border news reporter in Cochise County
- Amanda Stone – Southern Regional Office Director for the Arizona Department of Environmental Quality

Overview of Commission Mission, History, and Activities

USIBWC Secretary Sally Spener gave a presentation on this topic, available at:

[http://www.ibwc.gov/Citizens\\_Forums/CF\\_SE\\_AZ.html](http://www.ibwc.gov/Citizens_Forums/CF_SE_AZ.html)

She explained that the Commission is responsible for applying the boundary and water treaties between the two countries. She then provided an overview of those treaties, including the 1944 Water Treaty, which established the modern structure of the Commission. She also discussed some of the current activities of the Commission including boundary demarcation, maintenance of three international bridges at the Texas-Mexico border, sanitation projects, water quality monitoring, operation of international storage dams and hydroelectric power plants, and four flood control projects.

Overview of Commission Projects in Southeast Arizona

John Light then discussed the specific responsibilities the Commission has in Southeast Arizona, including operation of the Nogales International Wastewater Treatment Plant, which treats wastewater from both countries, boundary demarcation, issues associated with the Nogales Wash and the International Outfall Interceptor, and other activities.

Board Member Orientation

Sally Spener conducted orientation for new board members, discussing that the purpose of the Citizens Forum is to promote the exchange of information between the Commission and the community. Board

members are expected to attend all meetings and to share information received at the Citizens Forum meetings. They serve as volunteers.

#### Board Discussion

The board elected Ben Lomeli as the community co-chair. The board agreed to schedule meetings on the third Thursday every three months, 5:30 – 7:30 p.m. The next meeting will be June 20 in Santa Cruz County. Meetings will be held at various sites. Possible options include facilities in Pima County or the City of Douglas. Board members can assist in securing facilities. The board is interested in touring the Nogales International Wastewater Treatment Plant.

#### Suggested Future Agenda Items

Nogales International Wastewater Treatment Plant

International Outfall Interceptor (wastewater pipe), including funding issue

Los Alisos sanitation project in Nogales, Sonora

Nogales Wash

Flooding issue

Migrant trash (ADEQ can assist with this topic) and impacts of border security and crossing activities, not just trash but things like lighting.

Meeting adjourned.

\*\*Meeting notes are tentative and summarize in draft the contents and discussions of Citizen Forum Meetings. While these notes are intended to provide a general overview of Citizen Forum meetings, they may not necessarily be accurate or complete and may not be representative of USIBWC policy or position\*\*

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