

SOUTHERN SANDOVAL COUNTY ARROYO FLOOD CONTROL AUTHORITY  
(SSCAFCA)  
MINUTES OF MAY 15, 2015  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS REGULAR MEETING

**CALL TO ORDER.**

The regular meeting of the SSCAFCA Board of Directors was called to order by James Fahey, Chairman, at 9:00 a.m.

**ROLL CALL OF DIRECTORS.**

Directors in attendance were John Chaney, Mark Conkling, James Fahey, and Michael Obrey. Steve House was noted as absent. Charles Thomas, Executive Engineer, Bernard Metzgar, SSCAFCA's attorney, and members of the public were also present.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS.**

An announcement was made by James Fahey that all electronic devices needed to be turned off during the meeting and that the microphones are voice activated.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE.**

The Board was led in the Pledge of Allegiance by James Fahey.

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA.**

A motion was made by Mark Conkling to approve the Agenda as presented. It was seconded by Michael Obrey and passed unanimously.

**ACTION/APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF APRIL 17, 2015.**

A motion was made by Mark Conkling to approve the Minutes of April 17, 2015 as presented. It was seconded by Michael Obrey and passed unanimously.

**PUBLIC FORUM.**

None.

**STAFF REPORTS.**

***Executive Engineer:***

1. Presentation on 2017-2021 Infrastructure Capital Improvement Plan (ICIP).

Mr. Charles Thomas stated that this is a five year projection of projects and funding levels needed. This is turned into the DFA and is one of the documents that is required by the state to qualify for state funding. He stated that public agencies in New Mexico are required to prepare an ICIP annually. It does require 30 days public posting and opportunity for public comment. This Board meeting will open the 30 day comment period. Erosion and grade control is prevalent throughout SSCAFCA's major arroyo systems. The first project is an area wide project and allows pursuit of bank stabilization and grade control throughout the jurisdiction where it is needed. The Upper SLO Dam is still on the listing. The elements highlighted in yellow are the top five, which require additional documentation by DFA. Lisbon and Rainbow are also on there, along with Tributary A and Saratoga Dam. The Upper SLO Dam had \$375,000 from the Capital Outlay process in the Capital Outlay Bill which was never passed by the legislature, so that funding is now off the table.

Mr. Thomas stated that the number one project is erosion and grade control. The idea is to protect and stabilize a portion of the Montoyas Arroyo where it is beginning to encroach on development. Project number 2 is the Upper SLO Dam. It is being kept on the list because of the failure of the capital outlay application. At present, the Water Trust Board has not made a final decision on funding. Item 3 is a Westside Boulevard and Rainbow Road Drainage Improvements. One of the new requirements that Governor Martinez has placed on the ICIP process is that if you wish to receive classification as a regional project and accessibility to the Governor's portion of the capital outlay is for other entities to have your project also listed in their ICIP submittal as well and ranked as part of the project. He has initiated discussion with the City of Rio Rancho and Sandoval County to move forward with improvements on Westside Boulevard. They are interested in partnering on it. This is not completely set yet, but it is something that is being pursued. With the installation of this facility, the flow will be reduced from 1,100 cfs to about 70 cfs. The flood plain can then be removed from the property as well. All of the facilities will tie in together to help the area. All the property is undeveloped right now so open space is a possibility. The net effect of this project is to take the flow into the Calabacillas slightly further upstream above the Swinburne Dam. There will be an increase in the total volume of flow due to the eventual development of the area. There are still multiple options on the table with regard to developer requirements in the area. The developer in the area has already agreed to allow SSCAFCA's trail to proceed through its property. This is still very early on in the project, and the goal for the City and the County is to get Westside Boulevard extended. SSCAFCA's projects tie into the drainage element of the roadway. There are LEE lines on all the tributaries. The LEE line on Tributary A will be reduced significantly with this project.

Mr. Thomas stated that Project number 4 is Lisbon Dam. This is just upstream within the Unit 10 area. This project will help control flooding. Currently, there is a significant chance of flood water exceeding the present channel that would create a flood situation in this area of existing development. The fifth project is Saratoga Dam. There are a couple of design options on this project that are being developed. Mr. Thomas stated that the list contains various other projects as well.

2. Presentation on Saratoga UNM Water Model.

Mr. Charles Thomas stated that this model is being done in the UNM water lab in conjunction with Smith Engineering. Pat Stovall, of Smith Engineering, stated that this was a fun project to work on. He did a conceptual design and a small report. Due to all the assumptions that went on in the modeling, it could not go to further design until a model was built. This area has been flooded in the past. There is a proposed pond at Saratoga Road. There will be a large amount of soil that will need to be removed to build the storage area. They developed a grading plan where they can stockpile the material in the flood plain that will provide a benefit to the school. The flood plain does go through the school, but this project will remove all of that. Easterling was initially hired to do the conceptual design which was a jurisdictional dam. Subsequently, SSCAFCA hired Smith Engineering to look at a non-jurisdictional dam alternative. The main concept is to divert as much flow as possible into the non-jurisdictional dam and minimize the flow reaching Saratoga Road. The embankment was kept at six feet tall and can store 130 acre feet. The idea is to let the low flows bypass the pond and let the high flows spill into the pond. It is right between two arroyos. At this point, SSCAFCA chose not to look at adding more culverts to Saratoga which would have helped the flooding over Saratoga, but it still would not have reduced all the flooding downstream.

Mr. Stovall stated that the conceptual design shows a 620 foot long lateral weir that is 1.5 feet tall. As flows come down, anything less than about 400 cfs will bypass the weir and wind up at the Saratoga Road box culverts. The north trib will totally bypass the dam and wind up at the box culverts. Anything between 400 cfs up to the peak, a portion of the hydrograph will be shaved off and will flow into the pond and the rest will bypass. The pond will take in about 2,191 cfs and then release it at 80 cfs. There is about .4 feet of freeboard in the models, and about 2.4 up to the top of the dam. They did soil cement steps that are one foot tall with three feet horizontal. The vertical height is 1.5 feet.

Mr. Stovall stated that the physical modeling began in January and it is just about done. It is a 1:48 scale model which SSCAFCA is funding. The model should be done within a week or two. The computer model is predicting more than the physical model, but it is within about 30%. At this point, they are planning to drop the weir height to one foot to get close to the number

they are shooting for the discharge through the weir. The depth of the flow over Saratoga will probably be about .2 to .5 feet for a matter of 15 minutes during the very peak of the storm. Due to the fine sands out here, there will be a concentration of silt on the bed, but it is so fine, the entire profile will have sand. The flow over the weir will have some in it. The project could be considered a water quality principal spillway structure that will collect floatables and could help with the Clean Water Act.

Mr. Thomas stated that the traditional structure does not solve the entire situation and would require a fairly tall jurisdictional dam upstream from the school. This is one of the reasons a different alternative was looked at. With the amount of excavation required, this will be more expensive than a traditional dam structure. However, one of the options to offset the additional cost is to take the excavation and move it to the Rio Rancho School property and build that property up to a flat surface. This project does not solve the problem completely either. There are significant engineering limitations that make the solution more difficult. Some additional property has been purchased in the area to accommodate the slope for the proposed solution. The southern tributary does provide an opportunity to reduce flow from the upper portion of the watershed, but SSCAFCA does not hold any property in this area. He played a video of the model for the Board. The footprint for the facility will be about 10 to 12 acres. The property was originally 14 acres, and has had 4 acres added to it. The property at the school is significant. The first flows will not be going into the system, which will give the public the opportunity to vacate the area. He stated that they would like to coordinate a time with the Board so that it can see the model actually running.

3. Water Trust Board Application Update.

Mr. Charles Thomas stated that SSCAFCA did submit an application to the Water Trust Board this year for funding for the Upper SLO Dam of \$950,000.00. On April 29, 2015, the Water Trust Board had a presentation meeting for all the applicants. This year, with the demise of the capital outlay, this bill is the only one being devoted to projects. The total number of requested projects greatly exceeded the amount of funding available, which is about \$28 million for the entire state, and the requests were for \$93 million. One of the new requirements was that administratively the application would be deemed non-responsive if you had not spent more than 95% of any previous awards older than a year. SSCAFCA did receive money two years ago for the Lomitas Negras Facility. SSCAFCA was a victim of its own success by saving money on that project, so there was a large balance unspent. SSCAFCA was required to submit a waiver request to allow the application to move forward. The staff of the Water Trust Board recommended approval of the waiver request as long as SSCAFCA was able to close out and return the previous funding by June 2, 2015. It is fairly easy to submit all the closing documentation and return the funding, roughly \$850,000. Staff received notification that the plans are stamped and approved, and the project will rank very highly.

The award will not be until June 3, 2015. With this funding, SSCAFCA does have sufficient funding to move forward with the project even if it does not receive the capital outlay funding.

- 4. Discussion USACE Projects:
  - : Sediment Management Study
  - : Venada Off Channel.

Mr. Charles Thomas stated that there are two projects underway with the Corps of Engineers. Both of them are continuing authority programs. They are able to be moved forward and funded without specific congressional authority. It limits the size of the project to about \$14 million with the sponsor's match. The projects SSCAFCA has submitted are well below that. The first is the Sediment Management Study. This is a Section 204 portion of the cap which means that it is 100% funded by the Army Corps of Engineers. There have been a couple of meetings on this. SSCAFCA hopes to gain a more precise methodology for the accounting of the transport of sediment throughout the arroyo systems. As part of the work to be completed, they will update the HEC HMS model to a gridded model, and also develop a sediment transport of that model. They will also construct a hydraulic model the entire length of the arroyo. Using samples collected from within the watershed itself, they will develop the sediment transport model. This will allow more accurate prediction of how much sediment will be generated from a storm event, not only how much is getting into the arroyo, but how much is getting down the arroyo as well. This should help define the lateral movement of the arroyos. This is a multi year project that depends on the benefit seen from the project and how successful it is in completion.

Mr. Thomas stated that the second project, the Venada Project, is a cap 205 Section which will hopefully lead to the full design and construction of the Venada Off-Channel facilities. At this point, SSCAFCA has received a positive federal interest determination to move forward with the feasibility study and design. The first \$100,000 of effort is 100% federally funded. After that, it will go to a 50/50 cost share. There is significant savings because of SSCAFCA's leg work regarding conceptual design documents for those facilities. Right now, the current time frame for the design is 18 months to two years, about a year to obtain approval for construction funding, followed by construction beginning in about 2018. There is a match of 30% required for construction and 50% on design.

- 5. Development Review.

Mr. Charles Thomas stated that the most significant is the Stonegate Subdivision that is doing some modifications to its Drainage Design Analysis Report. That is currently under review, as well as their Phase I Construction Plans. Part of the issue is the construction failure of the

downstream connection to the arroyo with the misaligned drainage pipes. That had a significant effect on the hydraulic gradeline and the capacity of the proposed pipeline. Those effects transition upstream. There is discussion going on between the entities as to who gets to pay for the issue.

Mr. Thomas stated that a Rio Grande Credit Union is going in at Cabezon and is under a site plan evaluation right now.

***Fiscal Services Director:***

1. Recognition/Acknowledgment of the Fiscal Services Report for April 20,2015.

Ms. Deborah Casaus stated that the Fiscal Services Report for April 20, 2015 is in the Board's packets. Property tax collections are trailing last year by about 5% in the operating fund and 4% in the debt service fund, but she doesn't foresee any problems at this point. SSCAFCA is still above 50% in its collections, and the collections come in two major payments. General fund expenditures year to date through April are about 50% of the total budget and SSCAFCA is almost through fiscal year. The Budget includes the large storm line item in it. The City of Rio Rancho is down about 35% from last year for single family residential permits issued for the month of April. Interest earned on the State Treasurer's funds was at a rate of .136% for the month of April. The Treasury Bill is yielding about .010%. The preliminary budget for fiscal year 2016 was submitted to DFA, and staff is awaiting approval of that. The budget will be brought to the Board at the July meeting, so any adjustments that need to be made will be done at that time.

The Fiscal Services Report for April 20,2015 was recognized and acknowledged by the Board.

***Environmental Services Director***

1. Action/Acceptance of Selection/Agreement for Black Arroyo Phase I Project.

Mr. Dave Gatterman stated that staff is requesting action/acceptance of the selection/agreement for Black Arroyo Phase I Project. The bids were opened on May 7, 2015. Six bids were received, and are currently being reviewed by NMDOT. At the last bid opening for this project, there was a similar number of bidders, three of which were within the budget range. All were deemed non-responsive for one reason or another by NMDOT. Due to the federal funding nexus on this project, there are more requirements that bidders need to meet. He has them ranked top to bottom in the dollar amount of the bid. There are several additive alternatives, so what is announced to the bidders is that a certain budget will be awarded so that there is no way to play with the numbers later

on in how the project is awarded. The number was \$760,000 at bid opening, and additional alternatives would be selected up to that number.

Mr. Gatterman stated that the lowest bid was the Vital Consulting Group. Their base bid was \$719,000 and change, with added alternative 1, which is a concrete deck for the long span bridge across the Black Arroyo, and added alternative 2, which expands the trail width to ten feet of asphalt, landed underneath the budget. The second bid, Randy Sena Construction, is \$753,000 for the base bid, but there are no added alternatives. These numbers are pre-tax. The third bid was from RMCI for \$784,000 and change. There was a negative for their added alternative one. They thought it would be cheaper to go in with the concrete decking, so that was included in the budget, and this dropped their proposed award to \$781,000. Staff is requesting from the Board authorization to proceed up to the \$781,030.65, but would go with the lowest responsive bidder for the project, Vital Consulting Group, as defined with the added alternatives stacked in. Right now, staff is waiting to hear from NMDOT. Added alternatives 3, 4, and 5 are all landscaping.

Mr. Thomas stated that the prices are without gross receipts tax. The base bid of \$757,000 would run it up for the total cost. From a procurement code standpoint, before the bids are opened, the total budget has to be announced to prevent bid shopping with added alternatives later on. It was at the pleasure of the Board to go above the \$760,000 for the base bid, however. Change orders can still be submitted to the NMDOT if other alternatives are desired.

A motion was made by John Chaney to accept the bid of Vital Consulting Group with an amount of \$781,030.65, plus gross receipts tax, should it be the lowest responsive bid pursuant to NMDOT approval. It was seconded by Michael Obrey and passed unanimously.

2. Harvey Jones Channel Improvements Update.

Mr. David Gatterman stated that base project of the Harvey Jones Channel has been substantially completed. The work in Change Order 1 has also been substantially completed. The total amount, including Change Order 1, is \$576,000. If it rains today, there would be no problems. There are still some cleanup items that need to be finished. He showed the Board pictures of the project. May 22, 2015 will be the final walk through for this project. Mr. Thomas stated that staff is hoping to schedule a ribbon cutting for the project some time in early June.

3. Lower Montoyas Water Quality Facility Update.

Mr. David Gatterman stated that Notice to Proceed was issued on March 30, 2015. The primary contractor is Meridian Contracting, Inc. The contract amount is \$1.8 million, including

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NMGRT. It is scheduled for completion of the hardened elements by late June. Final completion is scheduled for late July, and this will be the landscaping that will go in. He showed the Board pictures of the project and the status of the work.

In response to a question from Mr. Fahey, Mr. Thomas stated that he has a meeting set up with Mr. Walker to discuss a possible opportunity for SSCAFCA to obtain land that will help with this project.

**OTHER COMMITTEE REPORTS.**

None.

**ATTORNEY'S REPORT.**

None.

**CHAIRMAN'S REPORT.**

None.

**BOARD OF DIRECTOR'S COMMENTS.**

None.

**PROPERTY MATTERS.**

1. Action/Acceptance - Unit 11, Block 25, Lot 4 - 0.50 acres - Rainbow Pond.
2. Action/Acceptance - Unit 11, Block 24, Lot 37 - 0.50 acres - Rainbow Pond.
3. Action/Acceptance - Unit 11, Block 24, Lot 38 - 0.50 acres - Rainbow Pond.
4. Action/Acceptance - Unit 11, Block 24, Lot 39 - 0.50 acres - Rainbow Pond.
5. Action/Acceptance - Unit 11, Block 24, Lot 40 - 0.50 acres - Rainbow Pond.
6. Action/Acceptance - Unit 11, Block 24, Lot 42 - 0.53 acres - Rainbow Pond.
7. Action/Acceptance - Unit 10, Block 18, Lot 10 - 1.46 acres - Tributary A.
8. Action/Acceptance - Unit 17, Block 49, Lot 46 - 4.3956 acres - Saratoga.
9. Action/Donation - Unit 17, Block 85, Lot 19 - 4,000 Sq. Ft. - Idalia Road ROW.
10. Action/Acceptance - Unit 11, Block B, Lot 1 - 0.40 acres - Rainbow Pond.



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Mr. Thomas stated that it is necessary to obtain these properties for the drainage projects listed, Rainbow Pond, Tributary A, and Saratoga. The Idalia Road right-of-way donation would be from SSCAFCA to the City of Rio Rancho for its expansion of Idalia Road.

A motion was made by John Chaney to accept the property acquisitions and donation as indicated. It was seconded by Michael Obrey. Roll call vote: John Chaney, yes; Mark Conkling, yes; Jim Fahey, yes; and Michael Obrey, yes. The motion passed 4-0.

**FOR YOUR INFORMATION.**

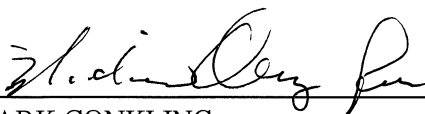
1. Rio Rancho Observer article, "End of Harvey Jones Channel Flood Protection Work Nears", (4/27/2015).

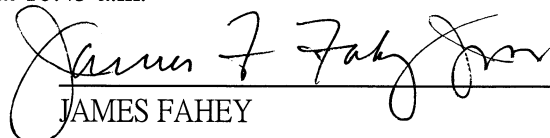
**OTHER BUSINESS.**

- Next Regular Board Meeting is on Friday, June 19, 2015 at 9:00 a.m.

**ADJOURNMENT.**

A motion was made by Mark Conkling and seconded by John Chaney to adjourn the meeting. It was carried unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 10:45 a.m.

  
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 MARK CONKLING  
 Secretary

  
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 JAMES FAHEY  
 CHAIRMAN

DATE APPROVED: 6/19/15