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WATER PLANNING, DEVELOPMENT AND USE



By Carol Pittman

Someone once said, "You don't miss the

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water 'til the well runs dry."

In New Mexico, the well is getting close to dry, with ground water and surface water both being consumed at a rate greater than is being replenished. With continuing drought and the effects of climate change exacerbating the situation, the question has to be asked:

What can be done to assure that the well doesn't run dry?

New Mexico First attempted to deal with that question in April, 2014, sponsoring a two-day meeting in Albuquerque called "A Town Hall on Water Planning, Development & Use." The Town Hall focused on how to provide adequate water for the various water users throughout the state: agriculture, oil and gas, municipalities, rural dwellers, wildlife, rivers, the land.[1]

More than 300 people from 31 New Mexico counties came together to brainstorm and evaluate possible solutions to the problems that confront the state. Gathering as a committee of the whole, attendees listened to Martin Heinrich address the task ahead, and then divided into committees to tackle various parts of the issues to be considered.

The eight committees were titled Regional and State Water Planning; Conservation and Reuse (Individual, Municipal, Agricultural, Industrial); Watersheds and Environment; Strategies for Addressing Water Shortages; Brackish and Produced Water; Water Financing; Settling and Marketing Water Rights; and Water Compacts. Once



UPCOMING EVENTS

SAT SAT **28 05** JUN JUL 2014

Magdalena Fire Department

9:00 am Fire
Station
The Magdalena
Volunteer Fire
Department holds
training sessions every
Saturday morning. This
weeks event will focus
on training and truck

the committees met, members came together again to recommend and discuss the ideas each had come up with. Following a lunch break, committees again met to continue discussion in their particular areas. This procedure continued the second day, and final recommendations were made that afternoon.

There was a lot of ground to cover.

According to the final report issued by New Mexico First, Town Hall participants came up with 15 recommendations that fell into the following major themes:[2]

- 1) Really plan for the future;
- 2) Keep Watersheds and Ecosystems Healthy
- 3) Address Legal and Management Issues
- 4) Pursue New Sources of Water
- 5) Improve Water Funding Practices
- 6) **Protect Water Quantity and Quality**

An implementation team, headed by former State Engineer John D'Antonio will spend 12 to 18 months advancing these

repair.

If you are interested in volunteering at the Fire Department (volunteers are needed for many things, not just fire fighting!), contact Fire Chief Richard Rumpf at 505-859-5097 or email: zwfarnsworth@gmail.c

MON 14 28 JUL JUL 2014 2014

Village Board Meeting 6:00

pm Magdalena Village Hall Meetings takes place the second and fourth Monday of every month. All are welcome and encouraged to attend. Know what's going on!

WEEKLY VIDEO FAV'S... DO

YOU HAVE A FAVORITE VIDEO ON **YOUTUBE? LEAVE A COMMENT TO** LET US KNOW.

recommendations.	
[1] Note of Interest: the backgrounder Report provided by New Mexico First before the Town Hall is an excellent overview of the water situation in New Mexico.	
[2] See Final Report page 3. The Final Report can be found at	
http://nmfirst.org/LiteratureRetrieve.aspx?ID=207920	
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Does The Work Ever End?	
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Meet Stephanie Finch June 21, 2014 What Happened In Magdalena Today! June 21, 2014 Village Hires New Clerk/Treasurer June 19, 2014 Warehouse 1-10 June 18, 2014 Meet Malcolm June 17, 2014 **Chipping Away** June 16, 2014 Growing Magdalena! June 12, 2014 Magdalena Village Board June 10, 2014 Meet The Magdalena Volunteer Fire Department June 9, 2014 FIRST SATURDAY EVENTS June 7, 2014 Magdalena Old Timers' Schedule June 5, 2014 **HELP WANTED** June 5, 2014

Village Board Meeting Minutes June 4, 2014 Spark a Reaction! June 3, 2014 Proudly powered by WordPress