



# News Release



The Middle Rio Grande Conservancy District

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## MRGCD Board Changes Meeting Time

**Albuquerque** – The Middle Rio Grande Conservancy District Board of Directors is changing its regularly scheduled bi-monthly meeting times for the winter months.

The resolution, approved on a 5-1 vote, changes the Board of Directors meeting time to 1:30 p.m., instead of 3:00 p.m., beginning with the November 12<sup>th</sup> meeting.

“In the interest of safety for our constituents who attend our meetings, and the safety of staff and board members who must travel home in the dark following our normal meetings, this change is in the best interest of all involved.” says Valencia County Director, Johnny Paiz.

“Other agencies also meet during the daytime hours and constituents can now attend our meetings during working hours.” adds Paiz.

The MRGCD Board of Directors meets on the second and fourth Monday of each month.

The schedule change will run from the first week of November until early April when daylight savings time is reinstated.

**About the MRGCD:** The Middle Rio Grande Conservancy District has been promoting sustainable agriculture for the past 85 years. The District delivers water to about 70,000 acres of cropland in the Middle Rio Grande Valley. That water is reused time and time again to irrigate crops, sustains the cottonwood bosque along the Rio Grande, helps create and maintain habitat for the endangered Rio Grande silvery minnow and recharges the aquifer. The District owns 30,000 acres of bosque in the valley, the largest continuous cottonwood forest in the world, and a stretch of land that provides unprecedented recreational opportunities and an irreplaceable swath of greenbelt in New Mexico’s largest metropolitan area. The District was formed in 1925 to alleviate flooding and to

reclaim farmland in the valley. Its boundaries stretch 150 miles from Cochiti on the north to the boundary of the Bosque Del Apache National Wildlife Refuge on the south, running through Sandoval, Bernalillo, Valencia and Socorro Counties. It operates more than 1,200 miles of canals, laterals and drains, which are used to convey water to and from cropland. The District is funded by water service charges and property assessments on the benefited lands within its boundaries.

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