Meeting with North Valley Acequia Association, 11-08-2026

## Quick recap

The meeting focused on the formation and operation of a formal acequia association to manage and maintain irrigation ditches. Dan Scott, president comisionado of the North Valley's Los Gallegos Acequia Association, shared his organization's history, which began in 2008, and explained its goals of enhancing resilience, security, and protecting water rights. He described the association's boundaries, its membership requirements, and the benefits of a formal structure for raising funds and facilitating maintenance. Dan detailed the association's efforts to secure state funding for engineering and design, as well as for erosion control and infrastructure improvements. He also discussed the importance of coordinating with the MRDCD and the use of real-time communication tools like text chains and WhatsApp to manage ditch-related issues. Participants asked questions about the authority of the association, the process for establishing bylaws, and the possibility of expanding the association to other areas. The conversation ended with a general consensus that a formal association was a viable mechanism for managing the irrigation system.

## Safety Association Formation Discussion

Dan discussed the formation of a Acequia Association, explaining that formal association status would provide the ability to raise funds for maintenance and potentially offer authority to properly maintain ditches. He clarified that this group's mission is complementary to another Acequia Association led by MRGCD board member Colin Baugh. The meeting aimed to determine whether a formal association is the right mechanism for their goals, with boundaries and specific membership specifications still to be determined.

## Álamos de los Gallegos Acequia Association Infrastructure

Dan presented on the Álamos de los Gallegos Acequia Association (ALGAA), which was founded in 2008 and focuses on enhancing the resilience of ditches, protecting the environment, and securing water rights for about 100 properties in Albuquerque. He discussed ongoing infrastructure improvements including upgrades to irrigation systems, with over $400,000 in capital outlay funding used for engineering design, erosion control, and other improvements. ALGAA has experienced some challenges with the ISC regarding water rights acknowledgment.

## Water Rights and Associations

The meeting focused on water rights and irrigation associations, with discussions about creating or expanding water associations in the valley. Participants explored various aspects including property covenants, water rights transfers, and the process for

establishing associations. The group discussed challenges with access to ditches and lateral lines, historical issues with encroachments, and the benefits of real-time communication between district representatives and community members. They also touched on the role of bylaws in governing associations and the potential for expanding existing associations rather than forming new ones.

Link to presentation:  https://drive.google.com/file/d/1EkBVd32U-HYnJ1AyJJ57Av6XimdWPtXa/view?usp=drivesdk

© 2026 Zoom Communications, Inc.