

INTERNATIONAL BOUNDARY AND WATER COMMISSION
UNITED STATES AND MEXICO

El Paso, Texas
April 10, 2018

MINUTE NO. 324

**LOCATION, DEMARCATION AND MONUMENTATION OF THE
INTERNATIONAL BOUNDARY LINE ON THE NEW BRIDGE AND
DEMOLITION OF THE OLD BRIDGE OVER THE RIO GRANDE
BETWEEN TORNILLO, TEXAS AND GUADALUPE, CHIHUAHUA**

The Commission met in the Headquarters offices of the United States Section in El Paso, Texas on April 10 at 10:00 a.m. to consider the location, demarcation, and monumentation of the international boundary line at the site of the new international bridge as well as the demolition of the old bridge over the Rio Grande between Tornillo, Texas and Guadalupe, Chihuahua.

The Commission referred to provisions of Article VII of the Treaty to Resolve Pending Boundary Differences and Maintain the Rio Grande and Colorado River as the International Boundary between the United States of America and Mexico, signed in Mexico City on November 23, 1970, hereinafter referred to as the 1970 Boundary Treaty, with regard to the indication of the international boundary line on international bridges by appropriate monuments.

The Commissioners reviewed the Joint Report of Principal Engineers Jose A. Nuñez of the United States Section and Luis Antonio Rascón Mendoza of the Mexican Section, entitled "Joint Report of the Principal Engineers Concerning the Location, Demarcation and Monumentation of the International Boundary Line on the New Bridge and Demolition of the Old Bridge over the Rio Grande between Tornillo, Texas and Guadalupe, Chihuahua," dated March 21, 2018.

As a result of this review, the Commissioners approved the criteria applied by the Principal Engineers for the determination of the normal flow of the Rio Grande and the location of the international boundary line at the site of the new international bridge, which are consistent with the provisions of Article II, paragraphs A and B of the 1970 Boundary Treaty. The Commissioners also approved the recommendation for the placement of two monuments on the new bridge structure to mark the international boundary because the axis of the bridge structure is skewed in relation to the international boundary line, and directed that the bridge owner in the United States be notified of its responsibility for maintaining the monuments and demarcation during the life of the new bridge.

The Commissioners then noted that the old Tornillo-Guadalupe (Fabens-Caseta) International Bridge was constructed in 1938 in accordance with Commission Minute No. 148, entitled "Works which each Government Shall Undertake on the Rio Grande Rectification Project in Accordance with the Convention of February 1, 1933," dated October 28, 1935, and that the rectified channel of the Rio Grande is operated and maintained by the Commission in accordance with Minute No. 165, entitled "Rules and Regulations for the Maintenance and Preservation of the Rio Grande Rectification Project in the El Paso-Juarez Valley," dated August 13, 1938.

The Commissioners then noted the observation of the Principal Engineers that since the new bridge became operational on February 4, 2016 the Commission no longer needed to continue to operate and maintain the old bridge, and that if it did not receive the corresponding

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maintenance it could deteriorate and constitute an obstruction to the normal or flood flow of the Rio Grande. Consequently, each Commissioner made the necessary arrangements with the proper authorities in his country for the demolition of the portion of the old bridge located in his respective territory in accordance with criteria established by the Commission. The portion of the old bridge on the United States' side was demolished on December 8, 2016 while the portion on the Mexican side was demolished on December 6, 2017.

Based on the above considerations, the Commissioners agreed to submit the following resolutions for the approval of the two Governments:

1. The Joint Report of Principal Engineers Jose A. Nuñez of the U.S. Section and Luis Antonio Rascón Mendoza of the Mexican Section, entitled "Joint Report of the Principal Engineers Concerning the Location, Demarcation and Monumentation of the International Boundary Line on the New Bridge and Demolition of the Old Bridge over the Rio Grande between Tornillo, Texas and Guadalupe, Chihuahua," dated March 21, 2018, which is attached and forms a part of this Minute, is approved.
2. The position of the international boundary line on the new bridge is approved.
3. The recommendation of the Principal Engineers that the international boundary on the new bridge structure be shown by means of two monuments because the axis of the bridge structure is skewed in relation to the international boundary line is approved.
4. The recommendation of the Principal Engineers that the U.S. Section ensure that the owner of the new bridge in the United States be notified of its responsibility for maintaining the monuments and demarcation over the life of the new bridge is approved.
5. The recommendation that the Commission confirm removal of the old Tornillo-Guadalupe (Fabens-Caseta) International Bridge was carried out in accordance with the criteria established by the Commission is approved.
6. This Minute will enter into force upon notification of approval by the Government of the United States of America and the Government of the United Mexican States through the respective Section of the Commission.


The meeting was adjourned.



Edward Drusina
U.S. Commissioner



Sally E. Spener
U.S. Section Secretary



Roberto F. Salmón Castelo
Mexican Commissioner



José de Jesús Luévano Grano
Mexican Section Secretary