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Amigos Bravos Announces Rachel Conn as Next Executive Director

TAOS, N.M. - Amigos Bravos announced today that **Rachel Conn has been selected as its next Executive Director**. Conn has been a member of the Amigos Bravos staff since 2001 and has served in a variety of roles during her tenure, most recently as Deputy Director.

Conn was selected following a thorough and competitive hiring process conducted by the Amigos Bravos Board of Directors. The search considered candidates with a broad range of experience and qualifications, with the Board ultimately selecting Conn for her leadership, deep knowledge of New Mexico water issues, and longstanding commitment to the organization's mission.

"After a comprehensive search, the Board is confident that Rachel is the right person to lead Amigos Bravos into its next chapter," said Cisco Guevara, Amigos Bravos Board President. "Rachel brings an exceptional understanding of New Mexico's water challenges, strong relationships with communities and partners across the state, and a demonstrated commitment to protecting our state's waters. We're excited about the leadership and vision she'll bring to this role."

Conn succeeds **Joe Zupan**, who will retire at the end of the year following eleven years as Executive Director.

Throughout her 25 years with Amigos Bravos, Conn has helped lead efforts to restore wetlands, reintroduce river otters, hold polluters accountable, and advance statewide clean water policies. She has also played a central role in shaping the organization's strategic direction, developing partnership, and overseeing programs and budgets. Her experience and longstanding relationships will ensure continuity while positioning Amigos Bravos to build on its work protecting New Mexico's waters.

"After many years with Amigos Bravos, I am honored to serve as Executive Director," said Conn. "New Mexico's waters sustain our communities, our culture, and our future, and I am grateful and excited to lead the organization as we continue our work to protect our state's waters. Joe has been a great mentor, and I would like to thank him for his steady leadership over the past decade, during which time the organization tripled its size and impact."

Conn emphasized the importance of the organization's staff and partnerships as she prepares to take on the new role.

"Our staff is the heart of this organization, and I'm proud and eager to work with them in this new role," said Conn.

"Serving as Executive Director of Amigos Bravos has been one of the greatest privileges of my career," said Zupan. "I'm so impressed with everything we have accomplished together over the past eleven years. For my part, I'm thrilled for Rachel to be in the role, and I have no doubt she will be successful. After December, I will be cheering for the organization from the sidelines and am excited for big things to come in Amigos Bravos' next chapter. I will always be an 'Amigo Bravo' at heart."

About Amigos Bravos

Founded in 1988, Amigos Bravos is a statewide water conservation organization based in Taos, New Mexico. Its work combines science, law, community collaboration, and social justice to protect New Mexico's rivers, streams, wetlands, and native species to sustain healthy watersheds and resilient ecosystems.

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