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MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING October 3, 2008

Supervisors Present: Felipe Lovato Jr., - Chairman
William Caster –Vice-Chairman
J. Brian Greene, Sec. - Treasurer
Richard Shovelin
William “Bill” Hignight
Jerry Melaragno

Supervisors Absent: LeRoy Candelaria

Others Present: Dierdre Tarr, District Manager
Vernon Kohler, Field Technician
Louis King, District Conservationist
Kenneth Branch, Range Management Specialist
Don Ashby, EWP Team Leader
Roy Todd, NMDA Field Specialist
Art Swenka, East Torrance SWCD
Arlene Perea, Mountainair Ranger District
Jim Berlier, East Torrance SWCD
Nancy Roux
Bob Thompson
JoAnn Hill

CALL TO ORDER:

- The Claunch-Pinto Soil and Water Conservation District regular meeting of the Board of Supervisors was called to order by Felipe Lovato, Jr., Chairman at the Mountainair United Methodist Church, Fellowship Hall at 9:15 a.m. Felipe welcomed the guests and thanked each of them for taking the time to attend the meeting.

ABSENTEES: The Absentee was excused.

APPROVAL/AGENDA:

- William Caster moved to approve the agenda as presented. Bill Hignight seconded the motion. Motion carried.

APPROVAL/DISAPPROVAL OF MINUTES:

- Richard moved to approve the minutes of the last meeting as presented. William seconded the motion. Motion carried.

TREASURER'S REPORT AND APPROVAL/DISAPPROVAL OF VOUCHERS:

- Dee handed out several draft reports for the Board to review to see what reports the Board would like to see on a monthly basis.

OTHER FINANCIAL MATTERS:

- Dee handed out a letter from Dusty Hunt, Chairman of the NM Soil and Water Conservation Commission.

NMDA REPORT:

- Roy Todd, NMDA Field Specialist's reviewed his monthly report with the Board. Discussion followed.

FO REPORT:

- Louis King, District Conservationist, reviewed his monthly report with the Board. Discussion followed.

DISTRICT MANAGER'S REPORT:

- Dee reviewed the District Manager's report with the Board. Discussion followed.

CORRESPONDENCE:

- The Correspondence was reviewed with the Board.
Dee reviewed an email from Johnna Bruhn, NMDA Field Specialist concerning per diem for the District Supervisors.

PERSONNEL MATTERS:

UPDATE ON GRANTS:

Watershed Health Grant –

Dee reported there was an article in the Mountain View Journal concerning the monitoring project for the Estancia Basin Watershed Health, Restoration and Monitoring Project. She will send the article to the Board members who have not seen the article. The Thinning Workshop conducted by Lawrence Crane, NM State Forestry had very good

attendance. The 2009 WTB Request for Proposals has been advertised. Dee will be working on the proposal to submit.

National Fish and Wildlife Foundation

Dee reported the final report had been approved by the project manager and the District has received the funding from the grant.

Upper Rio Grande Salt Cedar Project

Dee reported the Districts are started to map and plan future projects. She has received on conservation plan for a planned project.

Claunch-Pinto District has been spraying re-sprouts in the Abo Arroyo and plans on spraying more in the near future. We will also be mapping the tributary arroyos into the main arroyo for salt cedar.

EWP Program

Dee gave a short report on the EWP program. Edgewood and Claunch-Pinto SWCDs will be giving tree seedlings out on Saturday, October 4, 2008 at the Torreon Fire Department. Brian Greene asked where the funding came from to purchase the seedlings and why had East Torrance SWCD not been asked to participate. Dee explained the funding had come from money the District had received when they were paid for the jersey barriers in June, 2008. She also explained it was her understanding East Torrance SWCD was asked to participate but had declined. Jim Berlier, Chairman, East Torrance SWCD explained they had not been asked to participate and the first they knew anything about the project was during the Region II meeting in Taos. Discussion followed. It was decided to get everything in writing concerning any joint projects between the three Districts.

NMED – New Mexico Clean Energy Projects

We have received our signed contract back from NMED and are ready to proceed with the project.

NMED – River Ecosystem Restoration Initiative

We have received notification we have received \$116,000 through this program for work in the Abo Arroyo Watershed. Dee will be working with NMED on the work plan to be included in the work contract.

New Grant Opportunities

State Forestry – Wildland Urban Interface Project – a proposal has been submitted.

NM Water Trust Board Proposal – Dee will be working on this proposal

FY2009 Western Competitive Grant Process – Dee did not submit a proposal for this funding.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

- Dee explained the topographic survey was completed this past week. We should be receiving the completed work within the next couple of weeks.

- Dee has given the BNSF re-vegetation proposal to BNSF Railway.
- Dee will give the Board some comments on the Estancia Basin Regional Water Plan Update prior to the public meetings being held next month.

NEW BUSINESS:

- The Board reviewed each of the resolutions to be presented at the NMACD Annual Conference at the end of October as follows:

NMACD Position Statements – District Permanent Mil Levy Authority: suggested change would be: “to allow Districts authority of permanent mil levy without sunset clause or indebtedness.” Discussion followed. **ACTION TAKEN:** Richard moved to re-affirm the position statements with the suggested change. William seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Resolution 2008 – 08-2 from Region III – Richard moved to accept the resolution as written. Bill Hignight seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Resolution from Region VI – The Board discussed the item in the resolution concerning NMACD completing with the soil and water conservation districts for funding available to the districts. **ACTION TAKEN:** Bill Hignight moved to support the resolution as written. Richard seconded the motion. The motion passed with Brian Greene voting against the motion.

Resolution 2008 – 03 from Region III – **ACTION TAKEN:** Richard moved to support the resolution as written. Bill Hignight seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Resolution 2008 – 04 from Region III – **ACTION TAKEN:** Richard moved to support the resolution as written. Bill Hignight seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Resolution Concerning Permitting of Deep Water Wells All Basins in New Mexico from NMACD – **ACTION TAKEN:** Brian Greene moved to support the resolution as written. William seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Resolution 2008 – 05 from Region III - Discussion followed. **ACTION TAKEN:** Richard moved to support the resolution as written. Brian seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Resolution 2008 – 001 – Discussion followed. **ACTION TAKEN:** Richard moved to support the resolution as written. Brian seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Resolution 2008 – 01 from East Torrance SWCD – Discussion followed. The resolution did not set a cap on the mil levy. A District could set the mil levy higher than then one mil authority the Districts already have. The Board was not in favor of raising taxes at this time. **ACTION TAKEN:** Bill Hignight moved to not support this resolution as written. Richard seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Resolutions are attached to the minutes.

- The Board reviewed the by-law amendment submitted by Santa Fe – Pojoaque SWCD for consideration during the NMACD Annual Conference. Discussion followed. **ACTION TAKEN:** Richard moved to support the by-law amendment at the Annual Conference. Bill Hignight seconded the motion. Motion carried.

- Dee review Resolution No. 02-09 to submit a proposal to the NM Water Trust Board for the Estancia Basin Watershed Health, Restoration and Monitoring Project. Discussion followed. **ACTION TAKEN:** Richard Shovelin moved to approve the resolution. Bill Hignight seconded the motion. Motion carried by voice vote.

- Dee asked the Board who would be attending the NMACD Annual Conference. Brian Greene and Jerry Melaragno will be attending the conference. The Board Chairman appointed Brian Greene to be the District's voting representative.

- Dee has found a District Policy and Procedures Handbook she would like to use to draft a handbook for the district. She will try to have a draft ready for the board to review in the next couple of months.

REPORTS:

- Region II Meeting – Richard gave a short report on the Region II meeting. They discussed the by-law amendment presented by Santa Fe – Pojoaque SWCD. They also discussed the Outstanding National Resource Water Designation. Jose Varela Lopez gave a report on the Watershed and Dam Coalition meeting.
 - Hub RC&D – William reported they had spent the last meeting planning for their annual meeting. William is the chairman of the nominating committee.
 - South Central Mtn RC&D – Brian gave a report on the last meeting. They had had a report on the hydrology study being completed for the Tularosa and Pecos Basin.
 - EBWPC – Brian did not attend the meeting.

ASSOCIATE SUPERVISOR INPUT:

OTHER:

MEETINGS ATTENDED:

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

NEXT MEETING SCHEDULED:

- The next Regular Meeting will be held Friday November 7, 2008 at 9:00 a.m. at the Mountainair United Methodist Church, Fellowship Hall, corner of Sunset and Third Streets, Mountainair, NM.

PLAN FOR NEXT MEETING:

ADJOURN:

- There being no further business to come before the Board. **ACTION TAKEN:**
Brian Greene moved to adjourn at 10:45 a.m. Bill Hignight seconded the motion. Motion carried.

/s/

FELIPE LOVATO, JR., CHAIRMAN

/s/

J. BRIAN GREENE, SEC.-TREA