



PO Box 129, Mountainair, NM 87036 Ph: 505-847-2243 Fax: 505-847-0615

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING
March 6, 2009**

Supervisors Present: Felipe Lovato Jr., - Chairman
J. Brian Greene, Sec. - Treasurer
Richard Shovelin
LeRoy Candelaria
Jerry Melaragno

Supervisors Absent: William Caster –Vice-Chairman

Others Present: Dierdre Tarr, District Manager
Louis King, District Conservationist

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, Corner of Sunset and Third, Mountainair, NM at 8:14 a.m. Felipe welcomed the guests and thanked each of them for taking the time to attend the meeting.

ABSENTEES:

APPROVAL/AGENDA:

- Richard Shovelin moved to approve the agenda as presented. LeRoy Candelaria seconded the motion. Motion carried.

APPROVAL/DISAPPROVAL OF MINUTES:

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

TREASURER'S REPORT AND APPROVAL/DISAPPROVAL OF VOUCHERS:

- Dee presented the Treasurer's Report for the month of February, 2009. A copy is attached. Discussion followed. **ACTION TAKEN:** Richard Shovelin moved to accept the report and pay the accounts payable. Brian Greene seconded the motion. Motion carried.

OTHER FINANCIAL MATTERS:

PERSONNEL MATTERS:

NMDA REPORT:

- Roy Todd, NMDA Field Specialist, reviewed the NMDA Field Specialist monthly report with the Board. Discussion followed. Roy conducted a Supervisor Training on the following topics: Executive Session Script and State Statutes and Codes concerning Soil and Water Conservation Districts. This training will count for a portion of the Supervisor Training points on the points system.

FO REPORT:

- Louis King, District Conservationist, reviewed the NRCS 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. See attached list.

Dee reviewed a letter from the NM State Auditor's office concerning contracting audit services for the fiscal years ending June 30, 2007, 2008 and 2009. The State Auditor's office explained we do not contract for the 2009 Audit until our 2007 and 2008 audits are completed and approved. Discussion followed.

Dee reviewed a letter from the Mountainair Gymkhana Rodeo Committee asking for support of the rodeo by purchasing an advertisement/youth support

banner to be displayed in the arena throughout the rodeo season. Discussion followed. **ACTION TAKEN:** Richard Shovelin moved to purchase a District banner in the amount of \$220.00 for display during the rodeos. Brian Greene seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Dee described the remaining correspondence in the packet – Legislative reports from NMACD; e-issues from NACD; information on training courses for the SWCD through the Community College in Las Cruces.

UPDATE ON GRANTS:

Watershed Health Grant – The CORE Steering Committee is working on getting all of the projects and contracts tied to the FY2006 Water Trust Board funding completed; the reimbursements drawn down; and the FY2006 grant closed. We will be making the yearly loans on the FY2006, 2007 and 2008. Dee passed out information on stimulus funding that was requested through NM State Forestry for hazardous fuels reduction identified in the Community Wildfire Protection Plan. Discussion followed.

Upper Rio Grande Salt Cedar Project - We are about 90% completed on the Los Carrizales Project in the Santa Fe – Pojoaque SWCD. We requested stimulus funding in the amount of \$3.7 million for riparian restoration in the eight soil and water conservation districts that make up the Upper Rio Grande project area.

EWP Program – We are working on getting the \$84,000 through NRCS for the remaining project payments in the Trigo Fire Emergency Watershed Protection Program.

NMEMNRD – New Mexico Clean Energy Projects – We have a balance of \$75,000 on this grant. The remaining funding is to be used to analyze the energy efficiency of the heating and cooling system we place in the new building.

NMED – River Ecosystem Restoration Initiative – Dee reported the District still does not have a contract for this grant. There are questions from the Finance Committee through the Department of Finance that have not been answered to their satisfaction.

Ojo Peak CFRP - Dee reported the District's portion of this grant includes monitoring on the Ojo Peak Fire Area and the District's portion will be completed.

Central NM Cooperative Weed Management Area – The Weed Committee is looking at purchasing some weed cards to be carried in the vehicles for weed identification. The Committee does not have the funding to continue contracting a

weed coordinator for the Management Area. The Committee has brought in the Santa Fe – Pojoaque SWCD to the weed management area. Valencia SWCD might want to be included in the Central NM Cooperative Weed Management Area. Discussion followed.

New Grant Opportunities

Ojo Peak CRFP Restoration Project – Submitted to Regional Forest Service for the CFRP Program.

Red Canyon CFRP Project – Submitted to Regional Forest Service for the CFRP Program.

NM State Forestry – Funding for Hazardous Fuels Reduction funding. There will be two proposal prepared for this request for proposals. These proposals are due on March 31, 2009.

Bureau of Reclamation – Sponsoring a training to complete their grant proposal to be held on March 31, 2009. The District will be preparing a proposal for the Abo Arroyo Project Area.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

- Future Directions Committee – There will not be any capital outlay funding available this year through the NM State Legislature. Dee reviewed an email from Lee Gamelsky concerning the plans for the building. The architect wants to meet with the Committee within the next week or so.

- Dee had visited with the Torrance County Manager about agreements made with companies coming into the County for payments in lieu of taxes. The wind farm is what precipitated this discussion. She has also talked with the Torrance County Assessor about a re-evaluation of the property taxes on the land used for business development when the County has agreed to take payments in lieu of taxes. The Assessor is not sure he can re-assess the property to change the property designation from agriculture to business in the cases such as the wind farm. He and Dee will be working together on this issue.

- Brian Greene suggested we contact Alvin James from Corona to see if he will be interested in serving on the Board as an appointed supervisor. He gave Dee Mr. James address in Corona.

NEW BUSINESS:

- Dee reviewed Resolution No. 06-09 – Mil Levy Resolution. Discussion followed. **ACTION TAKEN:** Brian Greene moved to approve the mil levy resolution. Richard Shovelin seconded the motion. Motion was carried by a voice vote as follows: Leroy Candelaria – yes; Richard Shovelin – yes; Brian Greene – yes; Jerry Melaragno – yes.

March 6, 2009
Claunch-Pinto SWCD
Regular Meeting

- Felipe Lovato appointed Richard Shovelin, Brian Greene and Jerry Melaragno to the Budget Committee.

- Dee explained to the Board the United Methodist Church would like to increase the monthly meeting room rent from \$25.00 to \$35.00 a month beginning July 1, 2009. Discussion followed. **ACTION TAKEN:** Richard Shovelin moved to approve to accept the new rental amount of \$35.00 beginning July 1, 2009. Brian Greene seconded the motion. Motion carried.

REPORTS:

- Hub RC&D – No Report
- South Mtn. RC&D – The next meeting will be on March 26, 2009.
- EBWPC – Brian had not been able to attend the EBWPC.

ASSOCIATE SUPERVISOR INPUT:

OTHER:

MEETINGS ATTENDED:

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

NEXT MEETING SCHEDULED:

- The next Regular Meeting will be held Friday April 3, 2009 at 8:00 a.m. at the Mountainair United Methodist Church Fellowship Hall, Mountainair, New Mexico.

PLAN FOR NEXT MEETING:

ADJOURN:

- There being no further business to come before the Board. **ACTION TAKEN:** LeRoy Candelaria moved to adjourn at 11:22 a.m. Jerry Melaragno seconded the motion. Motion Carried.

/s/
FELIPE LOVATO, JR., CHAIRMAN

/s/
J. BRIAN GREENE, SEC.-TREA