



**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING
September 7, 2007**

Supervisors Present: Felipe Lovato, Jr., Chairman
William Caster, Vice-Chairman
Brian J. Greene, Sec. - Treasurer
Richard Shovelin
LeRoy Candelaria
Randy Simmons

Supervisors Absent: William "Bill" Hignight

Others Present: Dierdre Tarr, District Manager
Louis King, District Conservationist
Melissa Kayser, Administrative Assistant
Vernon Kohler, Field Tech
Russ Bennett, NMDA Field Specialist
Art Swenka, East Torrance SWCD
Frank Luna, Associate Supervisor
Tom Perkins, CNMCWMA Coordinator

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, Mountainair, NM at 8:12 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:

- Brian moved to accept the agenda as presented. William seconded the motion. Motion carried.

APPROVAL/DISAPPROVAL OF MINUTES:

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

TREASURER'S REPORT AND APPROVAL/DISAPPROVAL OF VOUCHERS:

- Dee presented the Treasurer's Report for the month of August. A copy is attached. She also presented the Accounts Payable, in the approximate amount of **\$4,525.26**. A copy is attached. Discussion followed. **ACTION TAKEN:** Richard moved to accept the report and pay all accounts payable. LeRoy seconded the motion. Motion carried.

OTHER FINANCIAL MATTERS:

- Dee reviewed with the Board the approval to pay part of the District Manager and Administrative Assistant's salary from the grant administration income to the district with the provision that should the grant administration fees be unsustainable then the District Manager and the Administrative Assistant's salaries reverts back to the District's original approved budget for the general fund. Discussion followed. **ACTION TAKEN:** Richard moved to approve as discussed. Randy seconded the motion. Motion carried.

PERSONNEL MATTERS:

NMDA REPORT:

- Russ Bennett, NMDA Field Specialist, reviewed his monthly report with the Board.

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 Board. Discussion followed.

CORRESPONDENCE:

- The correspondence was reviewed with the Board. See attached list.
- Dee read a letter from the Governor explaining he would not be able to attend the Abo Arroyo Tour on August 20, 2007. Dee read a letter from Lt. Gov. Diane Denish explaining she has a scheduling conflict and would not be able to attend the Abo Arroyo Tour on August 20, 2007. Dee read a letter from Dennis Alexander, State Conservationist explaining he has a scheduling conflict on September 27th and he would not be able to attend the Claunch-

Pinto SWCD Annual Meeting. Dee read a letter from Senator Pete Domenici and Senator Jeff Bingaman concerning a Regional forum on climate change and water. The

forum will be held at the Science and Technology Park, UNM South Campus, Albuquerque, NM on September 25, 2007 at 9:00 - 4:00 pm.

UPDATE ON GRANTS:

Watershed Health Grant –

Dee gave an update on the Advisory meeting. The Advisory Committee discussed modifying the roles and rules.

A sub-committee was selected to draft ranking criteria for the 2006 funding. The next meeting for the Advisory Committee will be on September 24, 2007.

National Fish and Wildlife Foundation & State Forestry Noxious Weed Grant

Dee gave a report on the CNMWMA meeting held on August 9th. Vern Kohler, Melissa Kayser and Dee attended the meeting held in Moriarty. Dee reported that the CNMWMA will be having a spray day on October 11, 2007 and will have the Noxious Weed Meeting that afternoon at the Willard Cantina at 1:00 pm. The Committee decided to order T-shirts and pencils. Tom finished mapping noxious weed areas within CNMWMA and Dee will send the information to State Forestry.

State Forestry Grant

Dee reported the grant money has been contracted. One project is in the Abo Arroyo salt cedar project area. Restoration Solutions is working on the project area and should be finished before the end of the month.

State Forestry – Community Wildfire Protection Planning Grant

Dee reported that we have received 4 Proposals for the CWPP RFP. The Evaluation Committee will evaluate these proposals on Monday or Tuesday. We will be partnering with Torrance County on the completion of two CWPP plans, one for Torrance County and one for Claunch –Pinto SWCD.

Upper Rio Grande Salt Cedar Project –

Dee gave an update on the Abo Arroyo Project. We need to work with the New Mexico Environmental Department to get watershed back on the TMDL list. We also need to bring the New Mexico Game and Fish aboard as a partner in the project. We will be working with Tierra Grande Homeowners Association on monitoring spots. On the Atrisco Project they are having problems with the Grant match between the State Forestry and with Ciudad. Stan needs to send 13 Conservation Plans due to NMACD for Bingaman funds. Felipe will be sending a letter to Stan stating that these Conservations Plans need to go out and he will also CC the URG Steering Committee.

New Grant Opportunities

Dee reported the Proposal she put in for the River Restoration Grant we did not receive. Our project was in the high middle and we just missed out.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

- Dee reported the district will be having a meeting on September 11, 2007 at 9:30 am in Santa Fe with the Lt. Governor, Secretary of EMNRD, Rep. King, Senator Campos and NM Finance Authority to discuss the building project. Richard Shovelin, Felipe Lovato, LeRoy Candelaria and maybe Pablo Romero will be going to this meeting in Santa Fe. Dee will ask Joann Chavez at the State Auditor's Office if our Audit is ready to go.

NEW BUSINESS:

- Dee talked to the Board about the District selling xeriscape plants, firewise plants, grass seeds, drip irrigation materials to sell to the producer and landowners. We will have an order form for them to fill out and then order it for them. Bamert Seed Company works with District's and will pay District's a 10 % rebate on all of their native seed purchase. Dee will find sources for seeds and plants. Discussion followed. Brian suggested getting more information and sources before we move on.

- Dee reviewed a bid for grass seed for the Abo Arroyo Project for the Board to approve. Discussion followed. **ACTION TAKEN:** Richard moved to send the bid out to contractors. Brian seconded the motion. Motion carried.

- Dee asked the Board if the District would like to request \$3,000.00 in monitoring money from Bingaman funds through the Upper Rio Grande Salt Cedar Steering Committee and \$1,600.00 from the Water Trust Grants to increase Vern Kohler's hours to 32 hours per week. Discussion followed. **ACTION TAKEN:** William moved to request for extra money to cover Vern Kohler's 32 hours per week. LeRoy seconded the motion. Motion carried.

- Dee reported to the Board the Claunch-Pinto SWCD will be working with Lynelle Chavez the Ecology class teacher at the Mountainair High School. We will help find speakers for her class. They will be learning about saving water, water catchments activities and water quality monitoring on Abo Watershed.

- Dee presented to the Board Resolution No. 09-08 Authorizing a correcting amendment to the Water Project Fund Loan/Grant Agreement. Discussion followed. **ACTION TAKEN:** Brian moved to pass Resolution No. 03-08. Richard seconded the motion. Motion passed with a voice vote.

ASSOCIATE SUPERVISOR INPUT:

OTHER:

- Dee reported that the Annual Meeting will be on September 27, 2007 at the Community Building and it will start at 10:00 am. After a short meeting we will have a Bus tour to the Abo Arroyo and then have lunch at the Pine Shadow Campground. When lunch is over we will tour down to Road 275 and look at the CFRP monitoring project and to see some State Forestry and Watershed projects in that area.

REPORTS:

- William reported on the Hub RC&D meeting. The Annual Meeting will be in October in Albuquerque. William passed out some articles he received from the meeting.

- Brian reported the next South Central Mtn. RC&D meeting will be next month.

- Brian reported on the EBWPC meeting. We have had presentations of the last six months on ideas on how to get a regional water system to tap into the East side of Basin saltwater to clean it up and put into the main pipeline. A RFP is going out for the study in the works. There is vacant seat on the committee. The Committee has sent out advertisement on this RFP. The Committee has one applicant at this time we will send this application to the Commission to approve. The Committee will receive \$19,500.00 from the Santa Fe County Commission. It will be used for the update on the water plan.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

NEXT MEETING SCHEDULED:

- The next Regular Meeting will be held Friday October 5, 2007 at 8:00 a.m. at the Mountainair United Methodist Church Fellowship Hall, corner of Sunset and Third Street, Mountainair, New Mexico.

PLAN FOR NEXT MEETING:

ADJOURN:

- There being no further business to come before the Board. **ACTION TAKEN:** William moved to adjourn at 11:45 a.m. Richard seconded the motion. Motion Carried.

September 7, 2007
Claunch-Pinto
SWCD
Regular
Meeting

/s/ _____
FELIPE LOVATO, JR., CHAIRMAN

/s/ _____
J. BRIAN GREENE, SEC.-TREAS