



MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING

September 11, 2009

Supervisors Present: Felipe Lovato Jr., - Chairman
William Caster –Vice-Chairman
Richard Shovelin, Sec. - Treasurer
LeRoy Candelaria
Jerry Melaragno
Dan Williams

Supervisors Absent: J. Brian Greene

Others Present: Dierdre Tarr, District Manager
Louis King, District Conservationist
Patsy Fitzgerald
Brent Racher

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, located at the corner of Sunset and Third Street in 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:

J. Brian Greene had a funeral to attend the morning of the meeting.

APPROVAL/AGENDA:

William Caster moved to approve the agenda as presented. Richard Shovelin seconded the motion. Motion carried.

APPROVAL/DISAPPROVAL OF MINUTES:

The following corrections to the minutes were made: Page 4: "trying the secure" changed to "trying to secure"; "If the CPSWCD secures the funding before the National Park Service is ready to lease" deleted – incomplete sentence. **ACTION TAKEN:** Richard Shovelin moved to approve the minutes of the last meeting as amended. William Caster seconded the motion. Motion carried.

TREASURER'S REPORT AND APPROVAL/DISAPPROVAL OF VOUCHERS:

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

Dee reviewed the expenditures for July, 2009 to the year-to-date expenditures versus the FY2009 budget.

OTHER FINANCIAL MATTERS:

Dee read a letter from RoseAnn Romero, Executive Budget Analyst, Department of Finance and Administration approving the District's final budget for FY 2009-10, as approved by the District. Discussion followed.

The Board reviewed the FY 2009-10 budget that was approved by the Department of Finance and Administration. Discussion followed. **ACTION TAKEN:** Richard moved to approve the FY 2009-10 budget as approved by the Department of Finance and Administration. LeRoy Candelaria seconded the motion. Motion carried.

The Board had reviewed the 2007 and 2008 completed audits over the past month. There were no questions or concerns.

Dee reported she had been working with the Torrance County Manager, Torrance County Assessor, State Assessed Properties Divisions, and NM Department of Agriculture concerning the mil levy assessment on the wind farm. She has received conflicting information from the County and the State. The Torrance County Assessor is assisting to help with the understanding of how the assessment should be completed since Torrance County has agreed to take payments in lieu of taxes on the improvements to the property. Discussion followed. The Board asked Dee to write a letter concerning this issue, so that all communications would be in writing. Dee will continue to work on this issue.

PERSONNEL MATTERS:

NMDA REPORT:

Dee reviewed the NMDA monthly report with the Board for Roy Todd, NMDA Field Specialist. Discussion followed.

FO REPORT:

Louis King's, District Conservationist, reviewed his NRCS monthly report with the Board. Louis reminded the Board the Local Work Group meeting would be held on Friday, September 18, 2009. Louis discussed the CSP public meetings NRCS had had in Corona and Mountainair. The final sign up date for CSP will be September 30, 2009. Discussion followed.

DISTRICT MANAGER'S REPORT:

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

CORRESPONDENCE:

- The Correspondence was reviewed with the Board. See attached list.
Dee reviewed a draft agenda for the NM Soil and Water Conservation Commission meeting to be held in Aztec, NM.
Dee also reviewed a letter from Dennis Alexander, State Conservationist, NRCS, thanking the District for their invitation to the Annual Meeting. He explained he had a previous commitment and would not be able to attend.

UPDATE ON GRANTS:

Watershed Health Grant – Dee reported an agreement between the Albuquerque/Bernalillo Water Authority and the NM Water Trust Board on their appeal. The Estancia Basin Watershed Health, Restoration and Monitoring Project was fully funded in the amount of \$600,000 for FY2009. We will be having a Contractor/Landowner Workshop on September 12th at the Manzano Mountain Retreat. NM State Forestry will conduct the training on chain saw safety, measuring basal area, fire safety, tree and watershed health issues. SWCA will be starting their fall monitoring within the next week. They will be giving a monitoring report at our Annual meeting.

Greater Rio Grande Watershed Alliance aka Upper Rio Grande Salt Cedar Project - The Districts are mapping and developing conservation plans for projects in each area. The Committee is working with the NM Watershed Office to locate funding for projects.

NMEMNRD – New Mexico Clean Energy Projects – We have a balance of \$75,000 on this grant. The remaining funding will be used to complete the building design instead of an analysis of the energy savings after the building has been built.

NMED – River Ecosystem Restoration Initiative – Dee reported the monitoring structures are installed. SWCA is working on the 404 permit to submit to the Corp of Engineers for the erosions structures we want to install in the Deer Canyon area.

Central NM Cooperative Weed Management Area – Jerry reported the Committee has been organizing an aerial spray for Russian knapweed on Highway 41. The spraying should take place the week of September 21, 2009. Vern Kohler, Kelly Smith, and Jerry Melaragno sprayed salt cedar in the Abo Arroyo last week.

New Grants

Ojo Peak Collaborative Forest Restoration Project – The contract with the US Forest Service has been signed and returned to the Forest Supervisor's Office.

Red Canyon Collaborative Forest Restoration Project – Dee has been working on the contract between the District and the Manzano Land Grant. There will be conflict of interest wording in the contract. The District's legal counsel is reviewing the contract between the Land Grant and the District. **ACTION TAKEN:** Richard Shovelin moved to allow Dee to continue developing the contract between the Manzano Land Grant and the District with the proper conflict of interest statements included and the District would only communicate with the President and/or his designee concerning the work between the Land Grant and the District. LeRoy Candelaria seconded the motion. Motion carried. Dee reported the Forest Service has also agreed the Manzano Land Grant will be receiving all of the wood from this project.

Non-Federal Lands Grants – The work plans for both grants have been submitted to NM State Forestry for their approval and the preparation of the contracts.

Hazardous Fuels Reduction Grant – Lawrence Crane, NM State Forestry, is working on the draft work plan for the grant.

New Proposals

2009 Clean Energy Demonstration Program Grant
Government Service Fund through Department of Finance and Administration
2009 River Ecosystem Restoration Initiative for the Abo Arroyo Project.
NM State Forestry – 3 Hazardous Fuels Reductions proposals were submitted.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

Dee has worked with NM Department of Agriculture and NM Energy, Minerals and Natural Resource Division to make sure the balance of our funding is secure. Lee Gamelsky will be advertising a Request for Proposal (RFP) for site preparation. October

1, 2009 will be the closing date on this RFP. We have approximately \$380,000 in funding to work on the site preparation. It has been suggested we look at building 3 buildings instead of one large building. Dee submitted a proposal to Department of Finance and Administration for the General Services Funding. Rhonda King has delivered a letter of support for this project to the Governor's office. Felipe Lovato appointed LeRoy Candelaria, Richard Shovelin and Frank Luna to the building project committee. Jerry Melaragno reported he represented the District at the Wind Farm dedication ceremony. He met Joanna Prukop, Cabinet Secretary, Energy, Minerals, and Natural Resources. She was very complimentary about Dee's work on this project. Felipe thanked Jerry for attending this ceremony.

Dee reminded the Board they had reviewed the Infrastructure Capital Improvement Plan at the August meeting.

Dee has submitted the application to Risk Management for liability insurance. She will be attending a training on September 18, 2009 in Santa Fe.

NEW BUSINESS:

Dee gave a short report on the plans for the Annual meeting to be held on October 2nd. The staff sent personal invitations to several dignitaries for the ground breaking ceremony. Invitations will also be included in the autumn newsletter that will be in the mail the first part of next week. We have leased a tent, tables and chairs. The Board decided to have a work day on September 26, 2009. There will need to be a work day to clean up the area for the tent and parking. The board discussed all of the items needed for the meeting.

Dee reviewed Resolution No. 05-10 Inter-Budgetary Transfers for the FY2009 fiscal year. Discussion followed. **ACTION TAKEN:** Richard Shovelin moved to approve the resolution. Jerry Melaragno seconded the motion. Motion carried by a voice vote as follows: LeRoy Candelaria – yes; Richard Shovelin – yes; Dan Williams – yes; Jerry Melaragno – yes; William Caster - yes.

Dee reviewed Resolution No. 06-10 authorizing a change of signatures on all the accounts at My Bank. Discussion followed. **ACTION TAKEN:** Jerry Melaragno moved to approve the resolution. Dan Williams seconded. Motion carried by a voice vote as follows: LeRoy Candelaria – yes; Richard Shovelin – yes; Dan Williams – yes; Jerry Melaragno – yes; William Caster – yes.

Dee reviewed Resolution No. 07-10 authorizing the submission of a Infrastructure Capital Improvement Plan to Department of Finance and Administration. Discussion followed. **ACTION TAKEN:** Richard Shovelin moved to approve the resolution. William Caster seconded the motion. Motion carried by a voice vote as follows: LeRoy Candelaria – yes; Richard Shovelin – yes; Dan Williams – yes; Jerry Melaragno – yes; William Caster – yes.

REPORTS:

- Hub RC&D – William Caster reported the Hub RC&D Annual Meeting will be on October 14, 2009 at the Prairie Star Restaurant in Bernalillo, NM.
- South Central Mtn. RC&D – No Report
- EBWPC – No Report

ASSOCIATE SUPERVISOR INPUT:

OTHER:

MEETINGS ATTENDED:

NEXT MEETING SCHEDULED:

- The next Regular Meeting will be held Friday October 2, 2009 at 9:00 a.m. in the tent on the Claunch-Pinto SWCD property, 1 mile south of Mountainair, New Mexico on Highway 55.

PLAN FOR NEXT MEETING:

ADJOURN:

- There being no further business to come before the Board. **ACTION TAKEN:** Jerry Melaragno moved to adjourn the meeting at 11:20 a.m. LeRoy Candelaria seconded the motion. Motion Carried.

/s/
FELIPE LOVATO, JR., CHAIRMAN

/s/
RICHARD J. SHOVELIN, SEC.-TREA