



**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING
September 2, 2011**

Supervisors Present: Felipe Lovato, Jr. – Chairman
William Caster
Jerry Melaragno
Richard Shovelin
Dan Williams

Absentees: LeRoy Candelaria, J. Brian Greene

Others Present: Dierdre Tarr, District Manager
Louis King, District Conservationist, Natural Resources
Conservation Service (NRCS)
Kenneth Lujan, Soil Conservationist, NRCS
Katheryn Taylor, District volunteer

CALL TO ORDER:

The Claunch-Pinto Soil and Water Conservation District (CPSWCD) 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 8:10 a.m. Chairman Lovato welcomed those present and thanked them for taking the time to attend the meeting.

Welcome Guests:

ABSENTEES: LeRoy Candelaria, J. Brian Greene

APPROVAL/DISAPPROVAL OF AGENDA:

The Board reviewed the agenda. **ACTION TAKEN:** Richard Shovelin moved to approve the agenda. Dan Williams seconded the motion. Motion carried. Vote was unanimous.

APPROVAL/DISAPPROVAL OF MINUTES:

ACTION TAKEN: Richard Shovelin moved to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of August 19, 2011 as amended. Jerry Melaragno seconded the motion. Motion carried. Vote was unanimous. A copy is attached.

Amendments are as follows:1) On page 2, change first motion from "Motion carried. Vote was unanimous." to "Motion carried with one abstention." 2) On page 3, change "Asequias" to "Acequias." 3) On page 4, third bullet, delete "and contract Salt Cedar in Priest Canyon."

TREASURER'S REPORT AND APPROVAL/DISAPPROVAL OF VOUCHERS:

The District Manager presented the Treasurer's Report for the month of August, 2011 with the accounts payable for August, 2011. **ACTION TAKEN:** William Caster moved to accept the report and pay the accounts payable. Dan Williams seconded the motion. Motion carried. Vote was unanimous. A copy is attached.

OTHER FINANCIAL MATTERS: None.

REPORTS:

New Mexico Department of Agriculture (NMDA)

The District Manager distributed minutes from the New Mexico Soil and Water Conservation Commission. A discussion followed on the pros and cons of holding a referendum asking to include citizens of municipalities in the mil levy and on the groundwork that needs to be done in advance of a possible referendum in 2013. (The written report is attached.)

NRCS Field Office Report:

Louis King, District Conservationist, presented the NRCS Field Office report to the Board.

(The written report is attached.)

District Manager's Report:

The District Manager added that she attended the Estancia field office local workgroup meeting the previous Tuesday. A discussion of a possible watershed project was held, and she reported on work that is being done on the Isleta Pueblo and Chilili land grant. Ryan Schwebach, Chairman of the East Torrance SWCD, asked the NRCS District Conservationist, East Torrance Field Office, to work with the Claunch-Pinto District Manager on getting more information. She suggested that the District Conservationist work with the Edgewood District Manager instead.

(The written report is attached.)

CORRESPONDENCE:

The correspondence was reviewed with the Board. The District Manager pointed out resolutions from the New Mexico Association of Conservation Districts (NMACD), a statement from Leedrue Hyatt, former NMACD Region 3 Chairman, a letter from Alex Gonzales, Chairman of the Lava Soil & Water Conservation District, "Noticias de las Acequias," and "eNotes." Jerry Melaragno called attention to a letter from David McCauley, Chairman of the Grant Soil and Water Conservation District.

PERSONNEL MATTERS:

No report

UPDATE ON GRANTS:

The District Manager reported on grants listed below, meetings attended, progress on projects, status of proposals to funding agencies, and RFPs issued by funding agencies for 2011.

- **Estancia Basin Watershed Health and Restoration Monitoring (EBWHRM) Project– Water Trust Board:**
The District Manager said that the meeting was held on August 12 and that she has signed thinning contracts for Edgewood and East Torrance. She is also in the process of insuring that all of the East Torrance reallocated funding will be spent so that none of the money has to be turned back.
- **New Mexico State Forestry Grants:**
The District Manager reported that the work plan has been delayed on the southern NFL SWCD grant because of discussions concerning reimbursement rates. The work plan should be available to sign in the next week or so. Large acreage projects contracted with upper Manzano NFL funds are in the process of being thinned by Navajo crews from Ramah.
The District's thinning project is complete. About 40 cords of wood were gathered from the project. Richard Shovelin is storing the wood. The piles of chips have been raked down. The project will prove to be a good demonstration project.
- **Greater Rio Grande Watershed Alliance aka Upper Rio Grande Salt Cedar Project:**
The District Manager said that she has completed the budget that needs to be approved at the meeting on the 16th of September.
- **NMED – River Ecosystem Restoration Initiative**
There is approximately \$30,000 of funding remaining. The District is waiting to continue work for additional funding through GRGWA project.
- **Central New Mexico Cooperative Weed Management Area: No Report**
- **US Forest Service – Participating Agreement**
The District has signed a cooperative agreement with the Forest Service to do weed mapping on the Forest Service land in burned areas.
- **Collaborative Forest Restoration Program:**
Work on the Ojo Peak Restoration and Red Canyon Projects will resume. Crews have to be sent through a training program to gain certification that will positively affect rates for worker's compensation.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

Future Directions Committee – Property, Loan, Grant, Capital Outlay Monies:

Fence Property:

The District Manager reported on problems regarding the District's property. For instance, someone is riding four wheelers on the property and is breaking pipes. She recommended fencing the property, and she will work on pricing materials.

The District Field Technician was asked to draw up a plan with accurate measurements.

Site Preparation Work:

The District Manager has received an itemized bill from the architect. Wording needs to be included stating that the District is released from the contract. A concern was raised on the quality of the work on concrete walls on the property. A color coat will probably need to be applied. Also, a concern was raised on the lack of site supervision by the architect and on his charges for supervision.

Protest Letter to General Services Administration (GSA)

The District Manager was advised by Senator Udall's office to mention in the protest letter problems that the Park Service has had with the leased property as well as problems with documentation.

NEW BUSINESS:

None.

REPORTS:

Region II

The Region II meeting took place on August 31 at 10:30 a.m. at the Shaffer Hotel. Four districts attended. Reports from the districts were received as well as a report from newly reappointed commissioner José Varela López. Seven resolutions were discussed. Four resolutions carried unanimously. Three were unanimously voted down. The resolutions that carried were included in the Board packet, and the District Manager will distribute the resolutions that didn't pass. Minutes from the meeting will be available for the next board meeting. The District Manager asked the board to pay special attention to several of the NMACD resolutions regarding paying expenses for past presidents to lobby and using Employee Association funds from silent auctions to pay for district dues for those districts who cannot pay their dues.

Hub Resource Conservation & Development (RC&D):

No report.

South Central Mountain RC&D:

No report.

Estancia Basin Water Planning Committee (EBWPC):

Minutes from August 18 of the EBWPC are included in the board packet.

ASSOCIATE SUPERVISOR INPUT:

OTHER:

MEETINGS ATTENDED:

PLAN FOR NEXT MEETING:

NEXT MEETING SCHEDULED:

The next regular meeting will be held Friday, October 7, 2011 at 8:00 a.m. at the Mountainair United Methodist Church Fellowship Hall, located at the corner of Sunset and Third Street, Mountainair, New Mexico.

ADJOURN:

There being no further business to come before the Board -- **ACTION TAKEN:** Dan Williams moved to adjourn the meeting at 9:10 a.m. Richard Shovelin seconded the motion. Motion carried. The vote was unanimous.

RESUME MEETING:

ACTION TAKEN: Richard Shovelin moved to reopen the meeting at 9:30 a.m. Jerry Melaragno seconded the motion. Motion carried. Vote was unanimous.

Partnership Award:

The District Manager reported that the District received a partnership award from the Edgewood Soil and Water Conservation District. Both the District and the District Manager received awards. David King, Chair of the Edgewood SWCD complimented Claunch-Pinto for cooperating on day to day operations. Felipe Lovato thanked the District Manager and her staff for working so hard to be cooperative partners.

ADJOURN:

There being no further business to come before the Board -- **ACTION TAKEN:** Jerry Melaragno moved to adjourn the meeting at 9:50 a.m. Richard Shovelin seconded the motion. Motion carried. The vote was unanimous.

FELIPE LOVATO, JR., CHAIRMAN

RICHARD SHOVELIN, SEC. – TREAS.