



**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING
January 4, 2008**

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

Supervisors Absent: Randy Simmons
LeRoy Candelaria

Others Present: Dierdre Tarr, District Manager
Vernon Kohler, Field Technician
Paul Gardner
Art Swenka
Linda Kayser, Torrance County Clerk

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 8:19 a.m. Felipe welcomed the guests and thanked each of them for taking the time to attend the meeting.

ABSENTEES: The Absentees was excused.

APPROVAL/AGENDA:

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

APPROVAL/DISAPPROVAL OF MINUTES:

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

TREASURER'S REPORT AND APPROVAL/DISAPPROVAL OF VOUCHERS:

- Dee presented the Treasurer's Report for the month of December. A copy is attached. She also presented the Accounts Payable, in the approximate amount of **\$5,151.70**. A copy is attached. Discussion followed. **ACTION TAKEN:** Richard moved to accept the report and pay all accounts payable. Bill seconded the motion. Motion carried.

- Dee presented the Treasurer's Report for the month of January. Some problems were pointed out with the report. Dee suggested the report be postponed for approval until the problems with the report could be corrected. **ACTION TAKEN:** Richard moved to postpone the approval of the January Treasurer's Report until the February meeting. Bill Hignight seconded the motion. motion carried

OTHER FINANCIAL MATTERS:

- Dee explained to the board that we did not open the State Forestry Hazardous fuels reduction checking account at the time the resolution was approved in August, 2008. She used the General Fund Account to complete the reimbursement to the landowners instead of opening the new account.

PERSONNEL MATTERS:

NMDA REPORT:

- Russ Bennett, NMDA Field Specialist, reviewed November and December's report. Discussion followed.

FO REPORT:

- Dee, reviewed November and December's Field Office report with the Board. Louis had sent his report since he was not going to be able to attend the meeting. Discussion followed.

9:15 AM. Brian Greene arrived at the meeting.

DISTRICT MANAGER'S REPORT:

- Dee reviewed the District Manager's report for November and December with the Board. Discussion followed.

CORRESPONDENCE:

- The Correspondence was reviewed with the Board. See attached list.
Dee reviewed the following special correspondence with the board:
 - Letter from Upper Hondo SWCD concerning the two resolutions passed in October, 2007 at the NMACD Annual conference.
 - Letter from NMACD responding to the Upper Hondo SWCD letter
 - Letter from the Santa Fe – Pojoaque SWCD concerning the Upper Hondo SWCD Letter
 - Email from Debbie Hughes, Executive Director of NMACD concerning the Region II Chairman position
 - Memo from Eddie Vigil, President of NMACD concerning the financial statements and independent auditor's report for NMACD. Both the financial statements and auditor's report were included.
 - Letter from East Torrance SWCD concerning the Upper Hondo SWCD letter
 - Letter from the Colfax SWCD concerning the Upper Hondo SWCD letter
 - Letter from the Carrizozo SWCD concerning the Upper Hondo SWCD letter

UPDATE ON GRANTS:

Watershed Health Grant –

Art Swenka reported East Torrance SWCD has accepted the roles and rules for the Core Steering Committee as presented to the Claunch-Pinto SWCD Board in November, 2007.

National Fish and Wildlife Foundation and State Forestry Noxious Weed Grants–
Dee is working on the final reports for both of these grants

State Forestry Grant Hazardous Fuels Reduction Grant –

All the projects have been approved by State Forestry and all the reimbursements have been submitted to State Forestry for payment.

Upper Rio Grande Salt Cedar Project –

The Upper Rio Grande Phreatophyte Project Steering Committee has not met since October. We will be setting up a meeting in the near future. We have money to map and work on conservation plans to have projects ready to go when we receive additional funding.

New Grant Opportunities

Dee is reviewing a CFRP RFP for upper Reo Grande and Claunch-Pinto Soil and Water Conservation District.

There is also an RFP from the Bureau of Reclamation to be reviewed.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

Future Directions Committee

Dee reported the appraiser is working on the appraisal on the property. He will try to have this completed by January 9, 2008 so the loan can be presented to the NM Finance Authority Loan and Finance Committees during January. She also passed out a copy of the second draft on the survey. Discussion followed. The Board decided the survey line on the east side of the property would be just fine. According to the survey the District will be purchasing 39.3 acres. Dee also reported she had faxed a copy of the capital outlay request to Representative Rhonda King. Dee reported she has tried several times since the first of December to meet with Senator Pete Campos, but has not been able to meet with him. She will continue to follow up on these capital outlay requests.

NEW BUSINESS:

- Dee received an email from Cheryl Richter, Cofounder, Freetreesandplants.com concerning trees for the local 4th grade classes at Mountainair and Corona Public Schools for Arbor Day, 2008. Dee explained this would be a good project to work with the 4th grade classes in both schools. She also explained these projects are in the approved budget for FY2008. The Board decided to go forward with the project. Dee will order the trees.
- Dee and Vern presented information on purchasing another laptop computer for the District. They are discovering the need for a computer with more RAM and more memory to run various software programs they know the District will be needed to run. Discussion followed. The Board asked for more detailed information on different computers and software to be given to them at the next Board meeting.
- Dee passed out the NACD 2008 Legislative Survey to each board member for they review. She asked them to have the surveys back to here by January 9, 2008 if they wanted their input to count.
- Dee gave a short report on the Ojo Peak Fire. Vern and Dee are working with the private landowners whose property burned to help with restoration.
- Felipe asked the Board if they want to write a letter to NMACD in response to the Upper Hondo SWCD letter concerning the 2 resolutions passed at the NMACD Annual Conference in October. Discussion followed. The Board asked Dee to draft a letter to NMACD in response to the Upper Hondo SWCD letter. Richard Shovelin will review the draft letter prior to the finalization. Bill Hignight asked for the letter to be positive, but the rules need to be changed.
- Dee reviewed the election procedures with the Board. The District will need to have two polling places – one in Mountainair and one in Corona. The Board will need to appoint an Election Superintendent at the February board meeting. The Board will also need to appoint a Canvassing Board at the March board meeting. The positions up for

election will be positions 3, 4 and 5. Dee also gave everyone a copy of the election timeline.

- Dee explained to the Board the Administration Assistant will probably be coming back to work the week of January 14, 2008. She will only be going back half time until the baby gets stronger. Dee has met with Travis Dempsey, Mountainair High School Principal to discuss a work-study part-time student. Mr. Dempsey has three sophomore students who would qualify for the work-study program. He has suggested the District consider hiring Gabriel (Gabe) Ramirez. Gabe is an outstanding student and has computer skills needed in the District office. Discussion followed. **ACTION TAKEN:** Richard moved to hire Gabriel Ramirez and to pay him \$6.50 an hour. William seconded the motion. Motion carried.

REPORTS:

- William reported that the Hub RC&D will be having their meeting next week.
- Brian attended the South Central Mountain RC&D meeting. He took Richard Shovelin and introduced him as the alternate representative from Claunch-Pinto SWCD. South Central Mountain RC&D will be sponsoring a workshop on manufacturing bio-diesel fuel at home in the near future.
- Brian attended the EBWPC meeting. EMW Gas Association is working on a feasibility study concerning the Association going into the water business. They would provide water to Edgewood, Moriarty, McIntosh, Estancia and Willard through a regional pipeline.

ASSOCIATE SUPERVISOR INPUT:

OTHER:

MEETINGS ATTENDED:

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

NEXT MEETING SCHEDULED:

- The next Regular Meeting will be held Friday February 1, 2008 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:

Water Issues

ADJOURN:

- There being no further business to come before the Board. **ACTION TAKEN:**
Bill moved to adjourn at 1:00 p.m. William seconded the motion. Motion Carried.

/s/ _____
FELIPE LOVATO, JR., CHAIRMAN

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