



MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING

August 3, 2007

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

Supervisors Absent: Richard Shovelin

Others Present: Dierdre Tarr, District Manager
Louis King, District Conservationist
Art Swenka, East Torrance SWCD
Melissa Kayser, Administrative Assistant
Linda Kayser, Torrance County Clerk
Paul Gardner

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 8:10 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:

- LeRoy moved to accept the agenda as presented. Randy seconded the motion. Motion carried.

APPROVAL/DISAPPROVAL OF MINUTES:

- William moved to approve the minutes of the last meeting as amended. LeRoy 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 **\$4,661.24**. A copy is attached. Discussion followed. **ACTION TAKEN:** William moved to accept the report and pay all accounts payable. LeRoy seconded the motion. Motion carried.

OTHER FINANCIAL MATTERS:

- Dee read a letter Zachary A. Shandler, Assistant Attorney General in response to the District's letter concerning the income taken into consideration when budgeting employee salaries. Mr. Shandler regretted the Attorney General's office could not assist the District in its request because it did not come within the statutory authority related to Attorney General Opinions.

- Dee read a letter from Isaac Montoya, Financial Coordinator, Local Government Division, Department of Finance and Administration concerning the income taken into consideration when budgeting employee salaries. Mr. Montoya explained if the grant documents allow for a portion to be used for administrative overhead and the district employee participates in the administrative function, it appears that partial compensation can come from that source. He added to please review the governing documents to ensure the fund sources do not limit their use for a specific purpose.

- Dee explained to the Board, Chan Kim, NM State Auditor's Office had called to get some additional information for the District's audit. The Auditor's Office is trying to finish our audit, so the District can proceed with their loan request through NM Finance Authority. Mr. Kim explained the letter from District concerning income taken into consideration when budgeting employee salaries had been referred to him since he had audited the District. He is in the process of writing a response to the letter. Mr. Kim explained the District would need to have something in the personnel policy concerning the employee salaries.

PERSONNEL MATTERS:

NMDA REPORT:

- Dee reviewed Russ Bennett's monthly report with the Board. Information on the Point System was included in the report. Claunch-Pinto was approved for 100 points and will be receiving \$10,979.87.

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.

UPDATE ON GRANTS:

Watershed Health Grant –

Dee gave an update on the grants through the NM Water Trust Board. We have been approved for the 2007 funding request of \$600,000. Dee reported that the anti-donation clause does apply to the soil and water conservation district. This question had come up at a recent Water Trust Board meeting. Dee reported the 7.2 Special Funding Project is completed and the account is closed. Brenda Smythe from Edgewood SWCD wanted to know if the fencing around the weather station had been approved to be paid through the grant. Dee is reviewing the minutes to see what the Steering, now advisory committee had approved.

National Fish and Wildlife Foundation & State Forestry Noxious Weed Grant

Dee has submitted 2 reimbursements to State Forestry. They have both been accepted. Shannon Atencio, NM State Forestry, needs a more detailed report to go with the reimbursements. Dee has asked Tom for a more detail report and for a map of the noxious weed areas within the weed management area. Dee will need the map and report by the end of August. Dee wants to start the W.O.W. Team up again to promote the war on weeds in the Claunch-Pinto SWCD area.

State Forestry Grant

Dee reported a portion of this grant will be used to finish the salt cedar work in the Abo Arroyo. This will be added to Restoration Solutions contract. The balance of the money will be used on a thinning project in the Manzanos.

State Forestry – Community Wildfire Protection Planning Grant

The District will partner with Torrance County on this planning process. The Torrance County has \$30,000.00 and Claunch-Pinto SWCD has \$50,000.00 to fund Community Wildfire Protection Plans. The RFP has been approved by the attorney from Torrance County and will be presented to the Torrance County Commission for approval on August 8, 2007.

Upper Rio Grande Salt Cedar Project –

Dee gave a short update for Stan. Project work remaining in the Upper Rio Grande Project includes Las Carrizales in Santa Fe Pojoaque, Atrisco in Ciudad, and a small portion of Abo Arroyo for Claunch-Pinto SWCD. Levi Sanchez and Stan made a presentation to the Water and Natural Resource Interim Legislative Committee on July 17, 2007.

New Grant Opportunities

State Forestry has a RFP advertised for a Wildland Urban Interface Grant. Dee is planning on applying for this grant.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

- Dee gave the board information on the costs of portable buildings. Louis and Dee had discussed leasing a portable building. Dee, Glenn Fulfer and Louis had met with Martin Sisneros, Chairman of the Board with My Bank to discuss the plans for the building. Mr. Sisneros will help the District look for money to build the building. Dee is working to set up meetings with our legislative representation to discuss the plans for the building.
- Dee reported the Annual Meeting is planned for September 27; The meeting will start out at the Community building with a short presentation, tour of the Abo Arroyo Project, and Estancia Basin Watershed Health, Restoration and Monitoring projects on Forest Road 275. We will also stop at the Ultima Biomass CFRP monitoring project area. 400 invitations have been mailed out for the meeting. Lunch will be served at Pine Shadows Camp Ground.

NEW BUSINESS:

- Dee presented the Infrastructure Capital Improvement Plan to the Board. Discussion followed. The Board Members wanted to add other equipment onto this list. Dee informed the board that this Plan is due at the end of August.
- Dee read a letter from Torrance County Farm Bureau Association President Ryan Schwebach asking the District to donate to the Trooper Award. Discussion followed. **ACTION TAKEN:** Brian moved to donate \$100.00 for the Trooper Award. Bill seconded the motion. Motion carried.
- Dee presented to the Board Resolution No. 04-08 – Open new bank account for Estancia Basin Watershed Health, Restoration & Monitoring Project. Discussion followed. **ACTION TAKEN:** William moved to pass Resolution No. 04-08. Brian seconded the motion. Motion passed with a voice vote.
- Dee presented to the Board Resolution No. 05-08 – Open new bank account for State Forestry Grant – Wildland Urban Interface Grant. Discussion followed. **ACTION TAKEN:** William moved to pass Resolution No. 05-08. Brian seconded the motion. Motion passed with a voice vote.
- Dee presented to the Board Resolution No. 06-08 – Open new bank account for Community Wildfire Protection Plan. Discussion followed. **ACTION TAKEN:** William moved to pass Resolution 06-08. Brian seconded the motion. Motion passed with a voice vote.

- Dee presented to the Board Resolution No. 07-08 – Adopting an Infrastructure Capital Improvement Plan. Discussion followed. **ACTION TAKEN:** Bill moved to pass Resolution 07-08. LeRoy seconded the motion. Motion passed with a voice vote.

- Dee presented to the Board Resolution No. 08-08 – Funding through NM Association of Counties. Discussion followed. **ACTION TAKEN:** Brian moved to pass Resolution 08-08. Bill seconded the motion. Motion passed with a voice vote.

- Dee reviewed the plans for US Senator Pete Domenici's Tour of the Abo Arroyo Project area. Dee said they will have 1 hour with the Senator 10:00 am – 11:00 am on the 20th of August. They will meet the US Senator at the rest area by the double bridge. We will take him to see McKinley's land and then Brazil's property under the historic Scholle bridge. Glenn Fulfer will loan his ATV to the District so Senator Domenici won't have to walk.

- Dee reviewed the RFP for CWPP Project with the Board. Discussion followed. **ACTION TAKEN:** Bill moved to approve the RFP for the CWPP Project. William seconded the motion. Motion carried.

ASSOCIATE SUPERVISOR INPUT:

OTHER:

- Dee asked the board if they wanted to have a booth for the Torrance County Fair. The fair will run from Sunday, August 12 through Saturday, August 18. The Board decided to have a booth on Friday, August 17th and Saturday, August 18th.

REPORTS:

- William reported he attended the Hub RC&D Council meeting. Tom Perkins gave a presentation on Noxious Weeds at the meeting.

- Brian reported he attended the South Central Mtn RC&D. They will be putting in a request to fund a pellet mill. The next meeting will be August 23, 2007.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

NEXT MEETING SCHEDULED:

- The next Regular Meeting will be held Friday September 7, 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:** Bill moved to adjourn at 11:25 a.m. William seconded the motion. Motion carried.

FELIPE LOVATO, JR., CHAIRMAN

J. BRIAN GREENE, SEC.-TREAS