



**FINAL  
MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING**

**June 4, 2010**

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

**Absentees:**

**Others Present:** Dierdre Tarr, District Manager  
Louis King, NRCS  
Roy Todd, NMDA  
José Varela López, NMSWCC  
Brent Racher, Restoration Solutions  
Colton Racher  
JulieAnne Leonard, Gibson and Leonard PC  
Rhonda King, State Representative

**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 8:10 a.m. Felipe welcomed the guests and thanked each of them for taking the time to attend the meeting.

**ABSENTEES:** None

## **APPROVAL/AGENDA:**

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

## **APPROVAL/DISAPPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

The following correction was made to the minutes: Page 4 – New Proposals – Congressman Udall – changed “including” to “included.” **ACTION TAKEN:** Jerry Melaragno moved to approve the minutes as amended. LeRoy Candelaria seconded the motion. Motion carried.

## **TREASURER'S REPORT AND APPROVAL/DISAPPROVAL OF VOUCHERS:**

Dee presented the Treasurer's Report for the month of May, 2010 with the accounts payable for May, 2010. Discussion followed. **ACTION TAKEN:** Richard Shovelin moved to accept the report and pay the accounts payable. LeRoy Candelaria seconded the motion. Motion carried. A copy is attached.

## **OTHER FINANCIAL MATTERS:**

### **Mil Levy Problems with Torrance County**

Dee explained projected shortages in the district's mil levy collections through Torrance County. William Caster will be handling all the discussions with Torrance County concerning this issue.

## **REPORTS:**

### **NMDA REPORT:**

Roy Todd presented his report to the Board. Discussion followed. A copy of the written report is attached.

### **FIELD OFFICE REPORT:**

Louis King presented his report to the Board. Discussion followed. A copy of the written report is attached.

### **DISTRICT MANAGER'S REPORT:**

Dierdre Tarr reviewed her report with the Board. She described the recent composting workshop and mentioned other workshops planned for the future. She also talked about several meetings that she had attended including the Region II meeting where it was announced that the Claunch Pinto SWCD would be nominated for the District of the Year Award. She announced that Richard Shovelin has been elected Region II Vice Chairman. Discussion followed regarding the number of projects still in progress and the condition of the district's chippers. **ACTION TAKEN:** Brian Greene moved to lease a chipper (s) as needed

to finish the projects on time. William Caster seconded the motion. Motion carried. A copy of the written report is attached.

### **CORRESPONDENCE:**

The correspondence was reviewed with the Board.

### **PERSONNEL MATTERS:**

#### **Personnel Committee:**

Changes to the District Personnel Policy Handbook and the job descriptions are in progress and will be completed for the next meeting.

### **UPDATE ON GRANTS:**

The Board reviewed a written report on the following grant projects. A copy of the report is attached to the minutes. Discussion followed.

#### Watershed Health Grant – Water Trust Board

The proposal to the New Mexico Water Trust Board has one of the top scores used for funding projects. The Board has not selected the proposals for funding as of this date.

#### State Forestry Grants

NFL Proposal – Funds from this grant will be used to thin private land and areas of the Manzano State Park.

#### WUI Proposal

#### Greater Rio Grande Watershed Alliance aka Upper Rio Grande Salt Cedar Project

The proposal to the New Mexico Water Trust Board has one of the top scores used for funding projects. The Board has not selected the proposals for funding as of this date.

#### NMED – River Ecosystem Restoration Initiative

#### Central New Mexico Cooperative Weed Management Area

#### Collaborative Forest Restoration Program

#### Ojo Peak Restoration

#### Red Canyon Project

#### New Proposals:

Government Service Fund – DFA

NM State Forestry – Wildland Urban Interface

2010 Proposals to NM Water Trust Board

FY2011 Appropriations Request to U.S. Senators Bingaman and Udall – Dee reported that the District made both senators' lists for funds for the Information Education Building, Phase 2. However, making the lists does not assure funding.

## **UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

**Future Direction Committee** – Property: Dee reported that the District has not yet received the GSA Solicitation Package, which has caused a delay in applying for a loan from the New Mexico Finance Authority. The District is ready to apply to borrow the funds as soon as the Solicitation Package has been reviewed. Dee also reported on the progress made at the construction site.

**SWCD Mil Levy Authority** – Dee reviewed the loss of tax revenue to the District due to the Industrial Revenue Bonds (IRB) agreement between Torrance County and the High Lonesome Wind Farm. Discussion followed with JulieAnne Leonard, the District's Legal Counsel and State Representative Rhonda King on possible options to prevent the same thing from happening in the future when similar agreements are made between the county and other entities. The Board then reviewed the draft letter prepared by the District's Legal Counsel to send to the County addressing this issue. **ACTION TAKEN:** Brian Greene moved to send the letter to the County. Jerry Melaragno seconded the motion. Motion carried. Additionally, the Board talked about informing the Commission about the mil levy issue and the loss of revenue to the District due to the County's agreement with the wind farm. **ACTION TAKEN:** Brian Greene moved to try to get the issue placed on the NM Soil and Water Conservation Commission's agenda so that action could be taken. William Caster seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Dee reinforced the importance of the additional mil levy to the district by pointing out that it is used as security for the District's 20-year building loan from the NM Finance Authority. Representative King gave details about possible state funding in the future. Dee added that she would draft a letter to go to the other counties in the District explaining the mil levy and industrial revenue bond issues.

At 10:11 a.m., Felipe Lovato, Jr., Chairman announced he needed to leave the meeting for an appointment. William Caster, Vice-Chairman, assumed the Chairman's position for the remainder of the meeting.

## **NEW BUSINESS:**

**Appointed Supervisor Recommendations** -- Dee reminded the Board that the names of the two appointees to the Board needed to be forwarded to the New Mexico Soil and Water Conservation Commission for approval. Discussion followed. **ACTION TAKEN:** Brian Greene moved to recommend Richard Shovelin and Dan Williams to the Commission for reappointment to the Board. Jerry Melaragno seconded the motion. Motion carried.

**Letter from Chavez SWCD** – Dee reviewed the letter from the Chavez SWCD concerning issues with the state association and the state association's response to the letter.

**Job Announcement – NMACD** – Dee stated that the number one goal of the NMACD as stated at their Strategic Planning Meeting is to hire additional staff.

**Resolutions to be presented at the Region II Meeting in Ruidoso** – Dee reviewed the resolutions to be presented at the Region II meeting. The first resolution concerned

revisions to the NMACD bylaws and dues formula. After discussion, revisions to the wording of the resolution were suggested. **ACTION TAKEN:** Richard Shovelin moved to approve the resolution Fiscal 2010 NMACD Bylaws and Dues Formula to send to the Region II meeting in Ruidoso. Jerry Melaragno seconded the motion. Motion carried. Dee explained the second resolution concerning NMACD's strategic planning process. Revisions to the wording were suggested. **ACTION TAKEN:** Richard Shovelin moved to approve Fiscal 2010 NMACD's Strategic Plan. Brian Greene seconded the motion. Motion carried. Dee explained the resolution to support a supervisor certification and training process in partnership with NMDA. Revisions to the wording were suggested. **ACTION TAKEN:** Richard Shovelin moved to support Taos Resolution concerning supervisor certification and training with the change. Dan Williams seconded the motion. Motion carried.

**NMACD Summer Conference – July 7 – 8, 2010** – Richard Shovelin, William Caster and Dierdre Tarr will be attending the NMACD Summer Conference in Ruidoso, NM in July.

## **REPORTS:**

**Region II Meeting – May 27, 2010** – Dee reviewed materials and the ten main goals from NMACD given out at the meeting. Richard Shovelin said that Kenny Salazar had been elected as Region II Chairman and that he would be working closely with him on issues facing the districts in Region II. Discussion followed.

**Hub RC&D** – William Caster gave the Hub RC&D report. He stated that a full council was present at the meeting. He also said that Coronado SWCD wants to start a program to grow vegetables in the Bernalillo school district. The group also planned for the next council meeting.

**South Central Mountain RC&D** – Brian Greene reported the South Central Mt. RC&D hired a community forester for the RC&D. Dee asked that representatives to the RC&D's turn in mileage for attending these meetings right away.

**EBWPC** – He also said that Estancia Basin Water Planning Committee needs to replace the Torrance County Board member and that another member will be retiring soon.

## **ASSOCIATE SUPERVISOR INPUT:**

### **OTHER:**

### **MEETINGS ATTENDED:**

**PLAN FOR NEXT MEETING:** Action Plan, draft of Employee Handbook

### **NEXT MEETING SCHEDULED:**

The next regular meeting will be held Friday, July 9, 2010, at 8:00 a.m. at the Mountainair United Methodist Church Fellowship Hall, Mountainair, New Mexico.

**ADJOURN:**

There being no further business to come before the Board. **ACTION TAKEN:** Jerry Melaragno moved to adjourn the meeting at 11:13 a.m. LeRoy Candelaria seconded the motion. Motion carried.

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FELIPE LOVATO, JR., CHAIRMAN

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RICHARD SHOVELIN, SEC. – TREAS.