



**FINAL
MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING
September 10, 2010**

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

Absentees: J. Brian Greene

Others Present: Dierdre Tarr, District Manager
Louis King, District Conservationist, National Resources
Conservation Service (NRCS)
José Varela López
Katheryn Taylor, District volunteer

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. Chairman Lovato welcomed those present and thanked them for taking the time to attend the meeting.

ABSENTEES: J. Brian Greene

APPROVAL/DISAPPROVAL OF AGENDA:

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

PUBLIC DISCUSSION ON INFRASTRUCTURE CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PLAN:

The District Manager explained what the purpose is of the Infrastructure Capital Improvement Plan and reminded the Board of the priorities in last year's plan: 1) Completion of the building project and 2) completion of the watershed projects. Discussion followed. No changes were made to the priorities.

APPROVAL/DISAPPROVAL OF MINUTES:

ACTION TAKEN: Richard Shovelin moved to approve the minutes as read. William Caster seconded the motion. Motion carried.

TREASURER'S REPORT AND APPROVAL/DISAPPROVAL OF VOUCHERS:

The District Manager presented the Treasurer's Report for the month of August, 2010 with the accounts payable for August, 2010. Discussion followed. **ACTION TAKEN:** William Caster moved to accept the report and pay the accounts payable. LeRoy Candelaria seconded the motion. Motion carried. A copy is attached.

OTHER FINANCIAL MATTERS:

The District Manager reported that the 2010 – 2011 Budget has been certified by the New Mexico Department of Finance.

REPORTS:

New Mexico Department of Agriculture (NMDA) REPORT:

The District Manager pointed out that annual reports are due to the Soil and Water Conservation Commission (SWCC) by Sept. 1. She mentioned that the approved point system worksheet is attached. She also mentioned that a Wage Reporting Training would be held on September 29, 2010. Discussion followed. A copy of the written report is attached.

NRCS FIELD OFFICE REPORT:

Louis King presented the NRCS Field Office report to the Board. He reminded the Board that the Local Work Group meeting would be held at 9:00 a.m. on September 17, 2010, at Alpine Alley in Mountainair. Discussion followed. A copy of the written report is attached.

DISTRICT MANAGER'S REPORT:

The District Manager presented her report to the Board. She listed the meetings that she and others had attended. She reported that she has been asked to make a

presentation at the New Mexico Watershed Forum in Albuquerque. She also pointed out that a workshop sponsored by the Estancia Basin Water Planning Committee and East Torrance Soil and Water Conservation District was held on August 18. Discussion followed. **ACTION:** Richard Shovelin moved that meetings or workshops sponsored by the Estancia Basin Water Planning Committee should be co-sponsored by the three soil and water conservation districts: East Torrance, Edgewood, and Claunch-Pinto. William Caster seconded the motion. Motion carried.

CORRESPONDENCE:

The correspondence was reviewed with the Board. The District Manager pointed out the announcement for the New Mexico Association of Conservation Districts' (NMACD) 64th Annual Conference to be held October 26-28 at the Santa Ana Casino & Resort in Bernalillo. She has reserved three rooms for District Attendees.

PERSONNEL MATTERS:

Personnel Committee:

District Personnel Policy: A conference call will be set up to finalize the District's Personnel Policy.

District Job Descriptions: Jerry Melaragno pointed out several minor edits to the Job Descriptions. Discussion followed. **ACTION:** Leroy Candelaria moved to approve the District Job Descriptions. William Caster seconded the motion. Motion carried.

UPDATE ON GRANTS:

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

- Watershed Health Grant – Water Trust Board: RFP's for the 2011 Water Trust Board grants are out and the due date for proposals is October 15, 2010.
- State Forestry Grants: Work Plans are in and contracts are being signed.
 - Non Federal Land (NFL) Proposal
 - Wildlife Urban Interface (WUI) Proposal
- Greater Rio Grande Watershed Alliance aka Upper Rio Grande Salt Cedar Project: Approximately \$800,000 is available for projects along the Rio Grande corridor.
- New Mexico Environment Department (NMED) – River Ecosystem Restoration Initiative: The District was not awarded new funding but some funds remain. An erosion control workshop will be held in the Deer Canyon development on Oct. 2, 2010.

- Central New Mexico Cooperative Weed Management Area: The District Manager submitted a proposal for \$35,000 for the weed management area with Edgewood SWCD as the fiscal agent. Noxious weeds: Claunch-Pinto conducted salt cedar eradication projects in the Deer Canyon development.
- Collaborative Forest Restoration Program: This project is somewhat behind schedule.
 - Ojo Peak Restoration
 - Red Canyon Project: The Cibola-Zuni Project has to be completed before the Red Canyon Project can be re-started.

New Proposals:

- Government Service Fund – DFA
- NM State Forestry – Wildland Urban Interface: News on funding will be available in Spring 2011.
- FY2011 Appropriations Request to U.S. Senators Bingaman and Udall: The District is still on the list for funding.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

Future Directions Committee –

GSA Solicitation Package: The District Manager reported that the Solicitation is still being drafted.

Site Preparation work: She also reported that progress on construction is slow. Discussion followed. The Board asked Dee to have Lee Gamelsky attend the next meeting to give them a report on the site preparation work.

Report from committee to work on building project: none

SWCD Mil Levy Authority –

The District Manager pointed out a letter from the Assistant Attorney General saying that the matter of whether a county government has the authority to enter into agreements which affect the taxing authority and that reduce income without the consent of the local public bodies has been reassigned to Justin Woolf for his review.

District Computer System –

Vernon Kohler is collecting bids for the system.

NEW BUSINESS:

Request to submit name of representative from Region II for the NM Soil and Water Conservation Commission:

The District Manager reported that she had received a letter from Region II representative Kenny Salazar to submit a name to serve on the NM Soil and Water Conservation Commission by Sept. 15, 2010. Discussion followed

regarding the early deadline. **ACTION:** Richard Shovelin moved the District Manager write a letter to Mr. Salazar questioning the rationale for the early deadline and requesting an extension due to the importance of selecting willing, viable candidates who need the time to consider the necessary commitment and who also need the time to develop an appropriate résumé. LeRoy Candelaria seconded the motion. The motion carried.

NMACD Annual Conference – October 26 – 28, 2010:

Registrations are due October 15. Richard Shovelin and the District Manager will attend.

Resolutions for the NMACD Conference:

The District Manager will distribute the resolutions to Board members for their review for a vote at the next Board meeting

Infrastructure Capital Improvement Plan (ICIP) Resolution:

The District Manager presented Resolution No. 02 – 11 to adopt an Infrastructure Capital Improvement Plan. **ACTION TAKEN** – Richard Shovelin moved to approve the resolution. William Caster seconded the motion. Motion carried by voice vote as follows: William Caster – yea; Jerry Melaragno – yea; Dan Williams – yea; Richard Shovelin, yea; LeRoy Candelaria, yea.

Update on NM Soil and Water Conservation Commission Initiatives:

José Varela López, Region II Commissioner, reported on several legislative initiatives the New Mexico Soil and Water Conservation Commission will be asking for during the FY2011 Legislative Session. These initiatives would include 1) change election cycles in the District Act so they are not in the same year as the primary elections; 2) change the District Act so the nominations for the Soil and Water Conservation Commission would go to the Secretary of Agriculture and then to the Governor instead of going to New Mexico Association of Conservation Districts, a trade association for the Soil and Water Conservation Districts and then to the Governor; 3) a proposal to increase soil and water conservation districts' base funding; funding for riparian restoration and dam rehabilitation; Commissioner Varela López asked the Board for their support for these initiatives and explained draft bills would be available soon. The Board asked Commissioner Varela López to get them copies of the final draft bills as soon as they are available so the Board could prepare letters of support for these initiatives. Commissioner Varela López asked if the Board would also try to attend the Legislative Interim Committee when the presentation is presented to show support for the Commission's initiatives.

REPORTS:

Hub Resource Conservation & Development (RC&D):

William Caster reported that a representative for liability insurance made a presentation to the RC& D.

South Central Mountain RC&D:

No report.

Estancia Basin Water Planning Committee (EBWPC):

No report.

National Association of Conservation Districts: (NASCA) Meeting:

The District Manager reported that the NASCA meeting was productive and informative. She reported on several presentations and mentioned, in particular, the emphasis on urban conservation, on state conservation agencies' efforts to work more closely with conservation districts, and on the need to work more closely with the NM Department of Agriculture. It was also very apparent the Districts need to be more transparent with their business since they are using public funds.

ASSOCIATE SUPERVISOR INPUT:

OTHER:

MEETINGS ATTENDED:

PLAN FOR NEXT MEETING: Action Plan, draft of District Personnel Policy

NEXT MEETING SCHEDULED:

The next regular meeting will be held Friday, October 1, 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:** William Caster moved to adjourn the meeting at 11:40 a.m. LeRoy Candelaria seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Approved October 1, 2010

/s/
FELIPE LOVATO, JR., CHAIRMAN

/s/
RICHARD SHOVELIN, SEC. – TREAS.