



**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING
July 10, 2020**

Supervisors Present: Felipe Lovato, Jr., Chairman
LeRoy Candelaria
Robin Dunn
Larry Gomez
Jack Lockridge
Dan Williams

Absentees: David Cain

Others Present: Diedre Tarr, District Manager
Katheryn Taylor, CPSWCD, 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, via Zoom at 8:10 a.m.

Welcome Attendees:

The chairman welcomed those present and thanked them for joining the Zoom meeting.

APPROVAL/DISAPPROVAL OF AGENDA:

The board reviewed the agenda. **ACTION TAKEN:** LeRoy Candelaria moved to approve the agenda. Larry Gomez seconded the motion. The motion carried by voice vote: Robin Dunn, aye; Larry Gomez, aye; Jack Lockridge, aye; LeRoy Candelaria, aye; Felipe Lovato, aye; Dan Williams, aye.

APPROVAL/DISAPPROVAL OF MINUTES:

ACTION TAKEN: Jack Lockridge moved to approve the minutes of April 3, 2020 as read. Larry Gomez seconded the motion. The motion carried by voice vote: Robin Dunn, aye; Larry Gomez, aye; Jack Lockridge, aye; LeRoy Candelaria, aye; Felipe Lovato, aye; Dan Williams, aye.

ACTION TAKEN: Jack Lockridge moved to approve the minutes of June 1, 2020 as read. Larry Gomez seconded the motion. The motion carried by voice vote: Robin Dunn, aye; Larry Gomez, aye; Jack Lockridge, aye; LeRoy Candelaria, aye; Felipe Lovato, aye; Dan Williams, aye.

TREASURER'S REPORT:

The board reviewed the treasurer's report for the month of May, 2020 with accounts payable for June, 2020. **ACTION TAKEN:** Jack Lockridge moved to approve the treasurer's report for May, 2020 and pay the accounts payable for June, 2020. Robin Dunn seconded the motion. The motion carried by voice vote: Robin Dunn, aye; Larry Gomez, aye; Jack Lockridge, aye; LeRoy Candelaria, aye; Felipe Lovato, aye; Dan Williams, aye.

ACTION TAKEN: Jack Lockridge moved to approve the treasurer's report for June, 2020 and pay the accounts payable for July, 2020. Robin Dunn seconded the motion. The motion carried by voice vote: Robin Dunn, aye; Larry Gomez, aye; Jack Lockridge, aye; LeRoy Candelaria, aye; Felipe Lovato, aye; Dan Williams, aye.

OTHER FINANCIAL MATTERS:

Review Fourth Quarter Report for FY 2019 – 2020:

The district manager pointed out over spending in certain line items; however, overall expenses remained within the budget. She also reported on income particularly from hazardous fuel reduction projects and from wood sales.

ACTION TAKEN: Jack Lockridge moved to approve the Fourth Quarter Report for FY 2019 – 2020. LeRoy Candelaria seconded the motion. The motion carried by voice vote: Robin Dunn, aye; Larry Gomez, aye; Jack Lockridge, aye; LeRoy Candelaria, aye; Felipe Lovato, aye; Dan Williams, aye.

Quarterly Report Resolution No. 01 – 2021:

ACTION TAKEN: Jack Lockridge moved to approve the Quarterly Report Resolution for FY 2019 – 2020. Larry Gomez seconded the motion. The motion carried by voice vote: Robin Dunn, aye; Larry Gomez, aye; Jack Lockridge, aye; LeRoy Candelaria, aye; Felipe Lovato, aye; Dan Williams, aye.

Budget Revision Resolution No. 02 –2021:

The district manager explained transfers from some line items to other lines.

ACTION TAKEN: Jack Lockridge moved to approve the Budget Revision Resolution for No.02 – 2021. Larry Gomez seconded the motion. The motion carried by voice vote: Robin Dunn, aye; Larry Gomez, aye; Jack Lockridge, aye; LeRoy Candelaria, aye; Felipe Lovato, aye; Dan Williams, aye.

REPORTS:

New Mexico Department of Agriculture:

The written report is included in the board packet.

NRCS Mountainair Field Office Report:

Mr. Lujan reported that NRCS has been conducting business as usual, but meetings in the office are by appointment only. The ranking deadline is July 2, and contracts are being written.

District Manager's Report:

The district manager reported that she has been starting the district crew to work at 5:30 a.m. She has been participating in a number of conference calls and Zoom meetings.

CORRESPONDANCE:

The district manager received a memorandum from the Soil and Water Conservation Commission announcing trainings that board members may want to attend. She will distribute information about them.

She also received a request for public input on proposed changes to Hwy. 60 as it goes through Mountainair. She talked about proposals for parking in front of businesses, backing into spaces, for example.

She reported on progress on containing the Ojo de los Casos fire burning in the Dog Head scar.

UPDATE ON GRANTS:

Water Trust Board:

The district manager reported that she is writing contracts for the Water Trust Board (WTB) 2019 funding. She has been approved for 2020 funding, but the amount is still up in the air. A meeting of the WTB is planned for July 30.

New Mexico State Forestry Grant:

The district manager has \$900,000 in funding for which she now has to get work started on the ground. It is unclear as to when the Ramah-Navajo crew will be able to return to work.

The Forest and Watershed Restoration Act (FAWRA) funding proposal, which she has reported on in the past, is on Forest Service land above Manzano. She is working with New Mexico Forest Industry Association, which is going to take care of hiring a contractor and getting all the work done.

Greater Rio Grande Watershed Alliance:

All projects are finished and the technical committee is looking at them.

BNSF Railroad:

Grass is ready to be planted when there is enough rain.

Collaborative Forest Restoration Program (CFRP):

The fourth-year amendment was approved for the Chupadera CFRP, so work can take place.

The 2019 CFRP proposal will be reviewed when the Chief of the Forest Service approves the technical advisory panel.

Regional Conservation Partnership Program Grant:

All of the cultural resource surveys in the Claunch-Pinto district have been completed. A few remain to be done in the Grants area. SWCA is starting to work on an updated Coordinated Resource Management Plan in the Cuba area.

New Mexico State Park Project:

The project was to be put on hold, and the district manager doesn't know yet what will be done. Wood from the project will be brought to the Claunch-Pinto grounds to be sold to land grant heirs.

FEMA Grant Proposal:

The district manager was approved to advertise an RFP for a contractor on the Aceves project. She is working on a new FEMA proposal for about \$430,000. More work can then be done on the Aceves project and on Art Swenka's ranch, in addition. A helipad will be prepared in Deer Canyon so that in case of fire.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**Capital Outlay****Shop Building - Report:**

The district manager described progress on finishing the shop building: installation of an air conditioner, a heater, and a water heater for the bathrooms, which are being tiled today. Concrete will be poured soon around the outside of the building, and the water catchment systems are partially set. Mike Valdez thinks that he will be finished with the building within the next two weeks or so.

Purchasing a ¾ Ton Vehicle for the District:

After an agreement is signed with NMDA, the vehicle can be purchased.

Torrance and Lincoln County Wind Energy, Corona Wind Companies, Western Spirit Transmission Line:

Mr. Lockridge asked for an update on the district's request that Pattern Energy provide for adequate protections from fire. The district manager said that the Corona Wind Farm is required to develop a fire plan in collaboration with Torrance, Lincoln, and Guadalupe Counties, Claunch-Pinto, U.S. Forest Service, State Forestry, and Emergency Management. The district manager will contact Adam Renz next week to discuss the protections needed for the Western Spirit Transmission Line. In addition, SunZia is to run parallel with Western Spirit, but SunZia's rights of way have not been approved yet.

NEW BUSINESS:

Appointed Supervisor Oath of Office:

The district manager explained that this agenda item should be postponed until the board can meet in person because members have to sign the oath.

ACTION ITEM: LeRoy Candelaria moved to table the agenda item. Larry Gomez seconded the motion. The motion carried by voice vote: Robin Dunn, aye; Larry Gomez, aye; Jack Lockridge, aye; LeRoy Candelaria, aye; Felipe Lovato, aye; Dan Williams, aye.

Point System:

No report.

Authorize Chairman's Signature on Coordinated Resource Management Plan (CRMP) Between NRCS, US Forest Service, and Permittee:

The district manager will review the plan, and then Chairman Lovato can sign it with the authorization of the board. She explained the CRMP and said that NRCS has not included Claunch-Pinto in discussions of the plan.

ACTION TAKEN: Jack Lockridge moved to the authorize the chairman to sign the CRMP after it is reviewed, and it is determined that the plan meets the needs of the district. LeRoy Candelaria seconded the motion.

Discussion occurred on why Claunch-Pinto has not been included in discussions of the plan or provided information about it. The district manager was only sent the signature page of the plan, but she did receive the whole plan from the US Forest Service. Discussion followed on the importance of receiving all of the information about documents that the district board signs. Maintaining a good relationship to the landowners was also discussed and problems that have come up in the past.

REPORTS:

New Mexico Coalition of Conservation Districts:

No report.

South Central Mountain RC&D:

A Facebook fund raising page has been set up for a South Central contractor to help defray his travel expenses to Albuquerque while he is undergoing cancer treatments.

Estancia Basin Water Planning Committee:

The district manager attended a meeting at which the monitoring for Hydro Resolutions was approved for another year. The committee is working on an RFP which will have to go out in the coming year.

The chairman will receive a letter soon with more information on deep well drilling down to 2500 feet in the Estancia Basin so that monitoring can take place.

Two-year Appointment of District Manager:

The committee has decided that members should serve two-year terms, so the board needs to appoint the district manager for two years.

ACTION TAKEN: Jack Lockridge moved to appoint the district manager for a two-year term to serve on the Estancia Basin Water Planning Committee. Robin Dunn seconded the motion.

Motion carried by voice vote: Robin Dunn, aye; Larry Gomez, aye; Jack Lockridge, aye; LeRoy Candelaria, aye; Felipe Lovato, aye; Dan Williams, aye.

ASSOCIATE SUPERVISOR INPUT:

OTHER:

MEETINGS ATTENDED:

PLAN for NEXT MEETING:

NEXT MEETING SCHEDULED:

The next regular meeting will be held Friday, August 7, 2020 at 8:00 a.m. at the Natural Resource Conservation Center, 1206 South Highway 55 in Mountainair, NM.

ADJOURN:

There being no further business to come before the board, the regular meeting of the Claunch-Pinto Board, LeRoy Candelaria moved to adjourn the meeting at 9:00 am. Larry Gomez seconded the motion. The motion carried by voice vote: Robin Dunn, aye; Larry Gomez, aye; Jack Lockridge, aye; LeRoy Candelaria, aye; Felipe Lovato, aye; Dan Williams, aye.

FELIPE LOVATO, JR., CHAIRMAN

SEC. – TREAS.