

Providing resource conservation for a quality environment demonstrated through active leadership, cooperation and partnership

**Board of Supervisors
November Regular Monthly Meeting
November 28th, 2016 6:30 P.M.**

*held at the Whitfield Wildlife Conservation Education & Visitor Center
2424 Hwy 47, Belen, NM*

Board of Supervisors Attending: Chair Abel Camarena, Vice-Chair Teresa Smith de Cherif, Treasurer Andrew Hautzinger, Supervisor P. Joseph Moya, Supervisor Jim Lane, Supervisor Jeff Goebel, Supervisor Richard Bonine Jr.

Others Attending: NRCS Soil Conservationist Pearl Armijo, District Manager Madeline Miller, Whitfield Project Manager Ted Hodoba, Administrative Assistant Jasmine Martinez, Program Coordinator Lindsey Stone Hamilton. **Teleconference:** NMDA Specialist Katie Mechenbier, Attorney Jason Marks.

Meeting Minutes

- 1) Call to Order:** Chair Abel Camarena verified quorum and called meeting to order at 6:30pm.
Motion was made to approve the Agenda as submitted.
1st: P. Joseph Moya 2nd: Richard Bonine, Jr. No further discussion.
For: all Against: 0 Abstain: 0 Absent: Teresa Smith de Cherif,
Jeff Goebel, and Jim Lane Motion carried.
- 2) Approval of October 24th, 2016 Regular Meeting minutes:** The Board reviewed the October Regular Meeting minutes.
Motion was made to approve the meeting minutes as submitted.
1st: P. Joseph Moya 2nd: Andrew Hautzinger No further discussion.
For: all Against: 0 Abstain: 0 Absent: Teresa Smith de Cherif,
Jeff Goebel, and Jim Lane Motion carried.
- 3) Reports:**

 - **NRCS Report:** Pearl Armijo provided the monthly NRCS written report. Introduced the Strike Force initiative for historically underserved individuals.

Supervisors Teresa Smith de Cherif and Jeff Goebel joined the meeting at 6:36 pm.

- **NMDA Report:** Katie Mechenbier attended the meeting via teleconference; her written report was available for Board review. Reminder to adopt Open Meetings act in November or December. Updated that VSWCD legal description still to be completed.
- **Whitfield Project Manager's Report:** Ted Hodoba provided the Whitfield update. Shared highlights of wildlife and nature from his trip to Guatemala and discussed Anchor engineering proposal for front gate entrance work. Jasmine Martinez provided the Educators program update including start of 5th grade program in January.
- **District Manager's Report:** Madeline Miller provided her written report. Highlights included progress on the FY16 Tier 6 AUP, discussion of the Conservation Celebration for December 10th and consideration of District sponsorship for the New Mexico Innovative Farming Conference which is scheduled for March 2nd, 2017 in Valencia County.

Supervisor Jim Lane joined the meeting at 6:55 pm.

4) New Business:

- **Introduction E. Valencia Urban Gardens Project (EVUGP) Program Coordinator**
Lindsey Stone Hamilton began work earlier this month in the role of the Program Coordinator for the EVUGP.
- **Review coordinated weed management area re-establishment as lead agency:**
Richard Bonine presented prospect to the Board of re-establishing a weed management program within the District in collaboration with cooperating agencies. **Action item:** Richard Bonine will contact NMDA Noxious Weed Specialist Jim Wanstall and bring more information to the February meeting.
- **Review December meeting date; December 26th:** Discussed changing meeting to December 19th at 6:30 pm.

5) Regular Business:

- **Budget & Accounting: 1) October 2016 Expenditures Report:** The Board reviewed the October 2016 expenditures report.

Motion was made to approve October 2016 Expenditures as presented.

1st: Teresa Smith de Cherif 2nd: Richard Bonine, Jr. No further discussion.
For: all Against: 0 Abstain: 0 Absent: 0 Motion carried.

2) Insurance coverages review: Madeline discussed insurance coverage option which would change insurance coverage under specific names to position titles and therefore prevent lapsed coverage or changes to other names. Also presented information in support of 1) increasing liability insurance policy to \$1M at the recommendation of District insurance agent and 2) adding insurance policy which would include visitor center, maintenance building, art work and tractor.

Motion to approve \$1M liability insurance policy not to exceed a \$1000 annual premium, to include coverage for directors, officers and management.

1st: Jim Lane **2nd: Teresa Smith de Cherif** No further discussion.
For: all **Against: 0** **Abstain: 0** **Absent: 0** **Motion carried.**

Motion to approve an increase in coverage for the Whitfield property insurance up to \$3200 annual premium quote, with a deductible for theft and vandalism to include the maintenance building and inventoried property, unless a better obtainable price quote is identified.

1st: Andrew Hautzinger **2nd: Jim Lane** No further discussion.
For: all **Against: 0** **Abstain: 0** **Absent: 0** **Motion carried.**

Further discussion that Madeline obtain more information regarding need for flood insurance and quotes.

3) FY16 AUP progress: In process of gathering all documents required. Deadline of December 15th.

4) Mileage and stipend rate review: Current rate District is allowing is .505 cents per mile, allowed by DFA to go up to .54 cents per mile. Board stipends are currently \$35.00 rate per meeting, allowed by DFA up to \$95.00 rate per meeting.

Motion to implement the maximum allowable rate of \$95.00 for Board monthly stipends.

1st: Teresa Smith de Cherif **2nd: P. Joseph Moya** No further discussion.
For: all **Against: 0** **Abstain: 0** **Absent: 0** **Motion carried.**

Motion to implement the maximum IRS allowable rate of .54 cents for mileage reimbursement.

1st: Teresa Smith de Cherif **2nd: Richard Bonine, Jr.** No further discussion.
For: all **Against: 0** **Abstain: 0** **Absent: 0** **Motion carried.**

- **Land Use Plan Committee:** Committee met this past month to go over Land Use Plan draft, using the NMACD position statements as guidance for policy creation and Jeff reported progress is being made.
- **Financial Assistance Committee:** The Board discussed one application for financial assistance by Mr. Joseph Lujan. District Manager recommended approving portions of the application that address "conservation practices", including assistance for seeding permanent pasture, improvements to old well and add sprinkler system. The District Manager requests further feedback by the Board. **Action item:** The Financial Assistance Committee to review applications before they are presented to the Board, to include reaching out to Mr. Lujan to have him consider revising his application.
- **District Property Disposal Committee:** Jim Lane discussed the public notice sent out to the City of Rio Communities and the Los Lunas and Belen school districts. Discussed

sending out to other agencies and associations and that letters already sent out be followed up with pictures of the property.

- **Whitfield Committee:** The Conservation Celebration event for December 10th was discussed in the District Manager report. Whitfield Committee met this past month with Friends of Whitfield representatives to discuss restructure of MOU and comprehensive plan to Stacy unit.
- **Personnel Committee:** Table until December meeting.
- **Rio Abajo Committee:** Teresa reported that there are two ongoing litigation matters, the matter of Mr. Ott which will need to be discussed in closed session with District attorney present, Jason Marks, via teleconference. Jason has learned that New Mexico Game and Fish intent is not for conservation but to sell their portion of the land. Board discussed visiting the NMGF Director and request that this issue be given closure as she has indicated to Jeff that she thought this was a non-issue. **Action item:** Abel will call Alexa Sandoval, Director of New Mexico Game and Fish regarding this matter.

Motion was made at 9:10 pm to close the public meeting and open executive session to discuss ongoing litigation pertaining to the Ott mediation in accordance with the OMA subsection H exception 7. Roll call: P. Joseph Moya, yea; Richard Bonine, yea; Jim Lane, yea; Jeff Goebel, yea; Andrew Hautzinger, yea; Teresa Smith de Cherif, yea; Abel Camarena, yea. All present were in favor and motion carried.

Motion was made at 9:36 pm to close the executive session and reconvene the open meeting. Roll call: P. Joseph Moya, yea; Richard Bonine, yea; Jim Lane, yea; Jeff Goebel, yea; Andrew Hautzinger, yea; Teresa Smith de Cherif, yea; Abel Camarena, yea. All present were in favor and the motion carried.

The Board discussed ongoing litigation back in the open meeting.

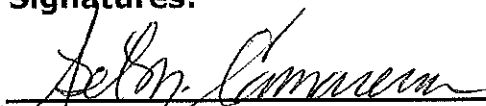
6) Adjournment

Motion was made to adjourn the meeting at 9:45 p.m.

1st: Teresa Smith de Cherif 2nd: Richard Bonine, Jr.

All in favor, motion carried.

Signatures:


Abel Camarena, Chair

12/19/16

Date


Jasmine G. Martinez, Administrative Assistant

12/19/16

Date