



Official Document of
Valencia Soil & Water
Conservation District

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

**Board of Supervisors
June Regular Meeting
June 17th, 2017 9:00 A.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 Jeff Goebel, Supervisor Richard Bonine

Others Attending: District Manager Madeline Miller, Whitfield Manager Ted Hodoba, Administrative Assistant Jasmine Martinez, resident Myrna Castro, Dan Goodman award winner Paige Hunter and family Arlen Anderson and Lori Anderson; Dona Ana Soil & Water Conservation District Supervisors Kevin Bixley and Craig Fenske, Dona Ana SWCD residents Joy E. Goldbaum and Grant Price.

Meeting Minutes

1) Call to Order: Chair Abel Camarena verified quorum and called meeting to order at 9:03 am. Discussed addition under "New Business" to collect information on nominations for Board Supervisor and Associate Supervisor positions.

Motion was made to approve the Agenda as amended.

1st: P. Joseph Moya 2nd: Andrew Hautzinger

For: all Against: 0 Abstain: 0

Richard Bonine, Jr.

Motion carried.

No further discussion.

Absent: Teresa Smith de Cherif,

2) Approval of May 20th, 2017 Meeting Minutes: The Board reviewed the May 20th, 2017 meeting minutes.

Motion was made to approve the meeting minutes as presented.

1st: P. Joseph Moya 2nd: Andrew Hautzinger

For: all Against: 0 Abstain: 0

Richard Bonine, Jr.

Motion carried.

No further discussion.

Absent: Teresa Smith de Cherif,

Vice Chair Smith de Cherif joined the meeting at 9:09 am

3) SPECIAL BUSINESS: Dan Goodman Soil & water Conservation and Environmental Improvement Awardees 2017 presentation. Third place winner Paige Hunter attended the meeting to receive her award. She has been accepted at NMSU and plans to major in Biology.

4) REPORTS

- **NRCS:** Pearl Armijo provided her written report for Board review. Discussion included available NRCS program funding and shared mailing list with VSWCD for the Innovative Farming Conference in December. Also confirmed July 6th planning meeting at NRCS office.

*NMDA Specialist Katie Mechenbier joined the meeting via teleconference at 9:15 am
Supervisor Bonine joined the meeting at 9:19 am*

- **NMDA:** Katie Mechenbier provided her written report for Board review. Highlights included review of annual deadlines and mill levy rate resolution and nominations for appointed seat were accepted by the commission. Katie will forward more information regarding need for referendum for increase in mill levy.

Dona Ana Soil & Water Conservation District supervisors joined the meeting at 9:26 am

Discussion of SWCC June 15th meeting, Supervisor Goebel reported on his opportunity to present information on the soils health resolution and East Valencia Urban Gardens Program. Discussed involvement of the public in the SWCC meeting, Dona Ana supervisors and guests offered comments. Regarding the boundary description, NMDA found a document from 1984 which indicated Laguna wanted all their land to belong to the VSWCD; the NMDA has determined this resolves the Lava boundary description dispute.

Friends of Whitfield President Mary Jo McBean joined the meeting at 9:55 am

- **Whitfield with Friends update:** Ted Hodoba provided his written report for Board review. Reported Rio Grande Trail Commission meeting attendance as a member of the Alignment Committee; the RGT Commission will hold their quarterly meeting at Whitfield in July. Discussed pollinator planting as an initiative the District is interested in partnering with NRCS to explore.

Supervisor Moya exited the meeting at 10:10 am.

Mary Jo McBean highlighted funding sources for the Friends budget. Jasmine Martinez provided her written report for the education program for Board review. Highlights included partnering with Audubon on curriculum changes to the 4th grade program and meeting with Belen Consolidated Schools Transportation Supervisor to streamline bussing needs.

- **District Manager:** Madeline Miller provided her written report for Board review. Discussed soil health stamp as opportunity to raise money and acceptance of the soils health resolution which was presented at the NACD Region 1 & 2 meeting at Whitfield on June 13th. MRGCD Assessment division taxes for access to the La Costancia irrigation ditch and possible water rights on the Stacy Unit were discussed. Rio Puerco Committee meetings have been attended by Supervisors Goebel and Bonine. Discussed need to meet with Diedre Tarr from Claunch-Pinto SWCD to help identify opportunities to work with more private landowners.
- **Rural Climate Policy:** Supervisor Goebel reported improving soil health conditions is the primary focus at this time. Cibola is working to get landscape team and public participation back together to move forward.

5) NEW BUSINESS

- **Discuss available Board Supervisor and Associate Supervisor positions:** Regarding potential Seat 6 candidates and associate candidate, Supervisor Goebel visited with Governor of Isleta Pueblo, Chair Camarena indicated a potential interested candidate John Romero of Laguna Pueblo and Vice Chair Smith indicated she spoke to former Supervisor Jim Lane who offered to spread the word about the vacancy in the East Mesa area. Myrna Castro spoke briefly about her interest in a position as an associate supervisor. Board discussed requesting that potential supervisor candidates submit a letter of interest and short biography.

6) REGULAR BUSINESS

- **Budget & Accounting: 1) May expenditures review and approval:** The Board reviewed the May expenditures

Motion was made to approve the cleared transactions of the May 2017 expenditures.

1st: Teresa Smith de Cherif 2nd: Richard Bonine

No further discussion.

For: all

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Absent: P. Joseph Moya

Motion carried.

2) FY2018 Final Budget Resolution #9-2017 for submittal to NM Department of Finance and Administration: District Manager Madeline Miller requested Board authorization for the Treasurer to work with her to finalize the budget report for FY2017.

Motion to authorize Treasurer Andrew Hautzinger to work with the District Manager to finalize the FY17 budget report.

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

Further discussion included edits and considerations for the coming fiscal year.

For: all

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Absent: P. Joseph Moya

Motion carried.

Motion to accept Resolution #9-2017 for submittal to the NM Department of Finance and Administration with necessary edits as discussed.

1st: Richard Bonine, Jr. 2nd: Teresa Smith de Cherif No further discussion.

Roll call: Teresa Smith de Cherif, yea; Andrew Hautzinger, yea; Jeff Goebel, yea; Richard Bonine, Jr., yea; Abel Camarena, yea.

Against: 0 Abstain: 0 Absent: P. Joseph Moya

Motion carried.

- **Whitfield Committee: 1) Whitfield entrance improvement quotes:** Nothing to report at this time.
- **Financial Assistance Committee: 1) 2018 recommendations:** Treasurer Hautzinger provided project updates for Atiq Sayed, Joseph Lujan, and P. Joseph Moya. He also indicated a need to refine qualifying criteria in the application for financial assistance for coming fiscal years. Discussion about presentation for the community to provide education on how to apply for financial assistance.
- **Land Use Plan Committee: 1) SWCC grant proposal for mapping:** Supervisor Goebel reported that he and Supervisor Bonine agree that they want to adopt some ideas from the Rio Puerco land use plan. He also indicated that the GIS mapping capabilities are essential for the Board to see graphically what the District has and for establishment of a Cooperative Weed Management Area. The committee plans to pursue GIS funding as the request for funding from SWCC was not accepted.
- **Rio Abajo Conservation Area Committee:** Regarding property matters, Vice Chair Smith de Cherif reported there is an agreement on partition and documentation with additional language is before NMGF's attorney and needs to be reviewed and accepted. Regarding the Ott case, Vice Chair Smith de Cherif reports that we may see closure shortly due to the fact we have not yet received request for deposition by Ott and the deadline to receive is June 21st.


7) Adjournment

Motion was made to adjourn the meeting at 11:53 p.m.

1st: Jeff Goebel 2nd: Richard Bonine, Jr.

All in favor, motion carried.

Signatures:



Abel Camarena, Chair



Date



Jasmine G. Martinez, Administrative Assistant



Date