



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

**Board of Supervisor Monthly meeting
May 15, 2021
Conducted remotely via Microsoft Teams**

Board of Supervisors attending: Chair Abel Camarena, Vice Chair Teresa Smith de Cherif, Sue Small, Gail Goodman, and Duana Draszkievicz. Supervisors not in attendance: Richard Bonine and Joseph Moya (both were excused absences). Staff attending: Business Manager Amanda Carrasco, Lead Field Technician Johnny Chavez, and District Director Andrew Hautzinger. Special guests in attendance: Friends of Whitfield Board Member Linda Frazer, Certified Public Accountant Chris Fogel, and State-certified Auditor Johnny Mangu.

Call to Order: Chair Abel Camarena verified quorum and called the meeting to order at 9:03 a.m.

- ◆ **Agenda:** The Board discussed tabling Resolution No. 9 until the June meeting. Smith de Cherif moved to accept the agenda with modifications; Small seconded. A roll call vote was conducted; all voted Yes, except for Goodman, who voted No. The motion passed by quorum majority.
- ◆ **March 2021 Minutes:** Smith de Cherif moved to accept the March minutes; Draszkievicz seconded. A roll call vote was conducted, and the motion to accept the March 20, 2021 meeting minutes passed unanimously.
- ◆ **April 2021 Minutes:** Smith de Cherif moved to accept the April 17, 2021 minutes, as revised; Small seconded. A roll call vote was conducted, and the motion to accept the April 17, 2021 meeting minutes passed unanimously.
- ◆ **Public comments:** Colleen Dougherty had questions on the best approaches to manage prairie dog populations. Jordan M. Henderson summarized an interview with her grandfather, Don McConnell, about his work at the Whitfield Wildlife Conservation Area in the 1960s, when it was operated as the Currin Dairy. Mr. McConnell recalled the Currins sold the property in the 1980s to the Whitfields, who eventually deemed the water table to be too high to support their housing development plans and decided to donate the land to the District for conservation.
- ◆ **Report from State-certified Auditor Johnny Mangu:** Mangu summarized his audit. The audit identified 4 findings for Fiscal Year (FY) 2019-2020 (the prior year there were 6). Mangu stated that overall, the report was positive and showed progress.
- ◆ **CPA Chris Fogel Budget Review:** Fogel reviewed our preliminary budget for FY2022 and required reporting to the State of New Mexico Department of Finance Authority (DFA). He stated that the District has its revenue and expenditures well balanced and is in good financial standing.

- ◆ **District Staff Reports:** Director Hautzinger gave an overview of the monthly staff report. Hautzinger showed a video by Education Manager Allison Martin about our 2021 Earth Day Science Fiesta, which had record attendance of 500 visitors! In the first-ever City–Nature Challenge in Valencia County, the most wildlife observed in the county was at our Whitfield Wildlife Conservation Area. The concurrent silent auction organized by the Friends of Whitfield sold all items and raised \$4,185 to support education activities at Whitfield. Hautzinger informed the Board of the resignation of Conservation Manager Lindsey Diaz, effective June 30, 2021.
- ◆ **Dan Goodman Scholarship:** This year’s Dan Goodman Committee members will be Small, Smith de Cherif, and Draszkievicz. As only one applicant had been received by the end of the Board meeting on the due date of May 15, the Board discussed extending the due date. Smith de Cherif moved to extend the due date to the end of June; Small seconded. A roll call vote was conducted; the motion carried unanimously.
- ◆ **New Mexico Association of Conservation District’s Supervisor Training:** On June 11, 2021, there will be Supervisor training for Board and staff.
- ◆ **Treasurer’s Report:** Hautzinger reported meeting with Board Treasurer Joseph Moya and presented the bank reconciliation for April 30, 2021. Smith de Cherif moved to accept the bank reconciliation; Small seconded. A roll call vote was conducted; the motion passed unanimously.
- ◆ **Resolution No. 8-2021 (providing Board authority to District Director to apply for grants):** Smith de Cherif moved to approve Resolution No. 8; Draszkievicz seconded. A roll call vote was conducted; all voted Yes, except Goodman, who voted No. The motion passed by quorum majority.
- ◆ **Updates and Partner Reports:** The Board reviewed the April 2021 report to Districts from the New Mexico Department of Agriculture’s Katie Mechenbier.
- ◆ **Executive Session:** A roll call vote to enter Executive Session passed unanimously for the purpose of reviewing a personnel matter. Upon resuming the public meeting, the Board directed the Personnel Committee to review the District’s organization chart and position descriptions.
- ◆ **Adjournment:** The meeting adjourned at 12:53 p.m. per motion by Smith de Cherif, with Camarena seconding, by unanimous vote.

Signatures:

Abel Camarena, Chair _____

Date _____

Andrew Hautzinger, District Director _____

Date _____