



**MINUTES**

**May 13, 2024**

**Conference Room – 129 E. Third**

**The meeting was also held via ZOOM for others to attend.**

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Joe Barraza, Jerry Vaz, Cody Munson & Carrie Hollifield in person with Travis Wagner via phone.

**MEMBERS ABSENT:** John Sisk & Hoby Bonham

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Jennifer Pierce, Emily Doss, Mariah Bates (NRCS), Katie Goetz (NMDA), Tyrel Carter & Dominic Bell (BLM), Drew Garnett (NMSU CES) & Mark Naranjo (NMSLO)

Carrie called the meeting to order at 10:07 am, opening with a prayer.

Cody made a motion to approve the Agenda and Minutes (emailed previously), seconded by Joe, all in favor.

Joe made a motion to approve the Treasurer's report (emailed previously), seconded by Jerry, all in favor.

**Reports**

BLM- Tyrel Carter reported they are still monitoring and starting to spray Rue. They are working on field maps, LPC surveys. Moving on to mesquite and fencing soon. Dominic Bell (Fuels) discussed the potential partner projects with Juniper and Salt Cedar within the district.

NMDA- Katie reviewed previously emailed report. She reviewed upcoming deadlines, trainings and pointed out there is an updated point sheet for 2024.

NRCS – Mariah reviewed previously emailed report. There are some staff changes they are working on obligations. The Grazing Lands Conservation Initiative is open and applications are due 5/26/24. NMSLO is having a townhall referencing permits on 5/22.

Chaves County Extension Agency- Drew provided information for the upcoming BQA on 6/19 and the regional economic summit on 5/22 & 5/23. County contests are starting, NMYRMC is coming up and the pistol team is going to nationals.

Noxious Weed – Emily reviewed NW report. Has been spraying Rue, working on NMSLO MOU and various other items/meetings/events (attached).

District- Jennifer has had several meetings and trainings in the last month and has submitted 3 additional grants on behalf of Chaves SWCD. (see attached)

Open Discussion- Mark with NMSLO reported they are planning on about 15900ac of Mesquite work in the coming months.

### Correspondence

Cody Munson was given his appointed supervisor Oath to be signed and submitted. John will get his at the next meeting.

EID Tag email was reviewed with the board.

DFA Per Diem email was reviewed. Katie G will find out if this requires a vote to adopt or not.

### Business

Aerial RFP submitted by Devil Dusters. The board would like some additional information in reference to different species pricing. Travis motioned to table the RFP for contract, seconded by Cody, all in favor.

Chaves SWCD has 3 sponsorship requests for the NMYRMC from Kimber Naranjo, Shayla Rodgers and Caleigh Scott. The fee has raised to \$400 each this year. Jerry made the motion to fully sponsor all 3 applicants, seconded by Cody, all in favor.

GHS & RHS FFA chapters both have teams going to nationals for judging. Travis made the motion to sponsor each chapter with \$500. Seconded by Cody, all in favor.

CES is a service used by government entities to help with the bid/rfp process. There are companies, even local companies listed that can be used for several different services. Jennifer would really like to try this company, there is not an application or membership fee associated to it. Cody made the motion to allow Jennifer to join CES on behalf of the district, seconded by Travis, all in favor.

Roosevelt SWCD is asking that Chaves SWCD sign another JPA for cloud seeding. The board asked that they keep the district more in the loop with the findings of the seeding for 2024-2025. Joe made a motion to accept and sign the JPA, seconded by Jerry, all in favor.

Jennifer produced a written agreement for the Hagerman/ Dexter SWCD and Chaves SWCD arrangement where they contribute \$10,000.00 per year to put toward the Noxious Weed Coordinator. The MOU was reviewed by the board. Joe made a motion to adopt the MOU, seconded by Travis, all in favor.

Emily would like to attend a Drone Demo in Hernandez, NM hosted by East Rio Arriba SWCD on the 15<sup>th</sup>. Cody made the motion to pay for Emily to attend the DEMO including Hotel and Per Diem. Seconded by Jerry, all in favor.

Jennifer presented the 3<sup>rd</sup> ¼ DFA report and the FY 25 Interim Budget for DFA for review. 3<sup>rd</sup> ¼ is on track with the budget thus far. The interim budget will include the possibility of acquiring a new truck and a new ATV for the noxious weed side to utilize in the field. Jerry made the motion to approve the 3<sup>rd</sup> ¼ DFA report and the FY 25 Interim Budget. Seconded by Travis, all in favor.

Mike Richardson is asking for SWCD help in treating Russian Knapweed on his property. Mr. Richardson was treated several years ago and there was a lawsuit which involved the treatment of the Russian Knapweed and the treatment damaged his alfalfa crop. There is not currently a crop in his field, however he is wanting to plant alfalfa back in the field either this fall or next spring. The board hesitates on spraying for fear of another lawsuit. Several suggestions were made by Jenifer including

use of a notarized agreement, or hiring someone else to do the treatment. The board is hesitant on any treatment at this time. Cody made a motion to table this business matter until additional information and treatment options can be discussed. Seconded by Jerry, all in favor.

Cody made a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Jerry. Meeting adjourned at 11:31 am.

Submitted By:

*Jennifer Pierce*

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Jennifer Pierce- District Manager