



Chaves Soil and Water Conservation District

129 East Third St.

P.O. Box 2722

Roswell, NM 88201

575-755-7923

MINUTES

October 15, 2024

Conference Room – 129 E. Third

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

MEMBERS PRESENT: Carrie Hollifield, Travis Wagner, Michael Lackey, Joe Barraza, Jerry Vaz, Cody Munson

MEMBERS ABSENT: John Sisk

OTHERS PRESENT: Jennifer Pierce, Emily Doss, Dean Bruce, Ty Carter, Kelli Goodpasture, Drew Garnett, Karen Menetrey, and Andy Robertson in person. Raquel Chacon, Shinya Burck via zoom

Carrie called the meeting to order at 10:08 am, opening with a prayer.

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

Presentation

NMED presented their wetlands outreach information complete with slides, resources and maps.

Reports

BLM- Ty reported that SENM has reached over 2 million acres of treated brush! BLM is also starting on some fencing projects. They have enough funding collectively for 60 miles more or less.

NMDA- Dean Bruce reviewed the NMDA report (previously emailed). There were highlights on the NMACD conference, and Open Meetings Act. He also mentioned that next year HSP will cover a longer timeframe and NMDA is now looking to do more range and cover crop projects.

NRCS – Raquel reviewed the NRCS report as attached. Deadlines were highlighted and covered.

Chaves County Extension Agency- Drew discussed the ENMSF success. They are hosting the Pesticide applicator CEU's on Nov 6th at the fairgrounds. Urban ag will be Nov 19. Master Gardener will be at the library on Nov 3. Christmas showcase will be Nov 12 and it is currently open enrollment for 4H.

Noxious Weed – Emily reviewed previously emailed NW report. She has Brian working on African Rue, and has been working to complete the EPA report which is actually due in February. She will be hosting a CWMA meeting on 10/22. She has accepted a job in Idaho for BLM and her last date for the district will be 10/30/24. Her resignation letter is with the primary report.

District- Jennifer report as attached was reviewed, she has had several meetings and trainings in the last month and plans to work on MOUs with other districts to expand field work areas.

Open Discussion- none

Correspondence

DFA is hosting a LGD Budget Conference Nov 20-22 in Albuquerque. Jennifer would really like to attend, but will be out on PTO during that timeframe.

Business

The 2023-2024 Annual Report was reviewed by the board. Jennifer already submitted it, but needed it reviewed. The discussion of the 1st ¼ DFA report and resolution were also discussed. Travis made a motion to approve the reports/resolution, seconded by Joe, all in favor.

RFP contract for Salt Cedar Treatment with Western Land Management was reviewed by the board. Joe made the motion to accept and sign the contract for the RFP, seconded by Michael, all in favor. Carrie signed the contract as presented, and it will be forwarded to Taylor Freese for signature.

NMCGA/ Joint Stockman's will be held Decmeber11-14. Jennifer would like to have the district sponsor \$150 and she would also like to attend the conference. Travis made a motion to allow sponsorship and for Jennifer to attend (hotel and conference fees included), seconded by Cody, all in favor.

The NMACD conference is in Albuquerque Oct 28-30. There will be state IDs issued for the first time in over 10 years as well as important partner information and employee association meetings. Jennifer is requesting to attend. Joe made the motion to allow Jennifer to attend, second by Travis, all in favor.

Due to the board requesting to purchase a new tandem trailer, it was suggested to donate/ sponsor the trailer to Border District to allow them to expand their noxious weed efforts. Travis made a motion to donate/sponsor the old single axel trailer to Border SWCD and transfer the title, seconded by Jerry, all in favor.

NMSU- CES will be hosting pesticide applicator CEU's on November 6th at the fairgrounds. Sponsorship of coffee/ breakfast was requested by the CES office. Travis made the motion to supply doughnuts, fruit and coffee, seconded by Joe, all in favor.

Emily Doss current Noxious Weed Coordinator has submitted her resignation. Jennifer would like permission to start advertising for another Noxious Weed Coordinator asap. The employee policy is recommended to be updated to a 6-month probation period for the future employees in leu of a 90-day. Also the NW Coordinator and Administrative Assistant position descriptions were reviewed by the board. Cody made a motion to accept the 6month probation period and approve of the most recent position descriptions, seconded by Michael, all in favor.

New cost share applications and guidelines were reviewed by the board since the recent changes in allowing the EQIP application acceptations. Jerry made a motion to accept the new updated applications and guidelines, seconded by Joe, all in favor.

It was previously voted on to allow Jennifer to attend Ag Fest on February 5th. Jennifer was touching base with the board on what outreach item should be taken. It was suggested either pecans or Fairlife. The board recommended that Jennifer get in touch with the Dairy Producers to see if they are going and what they are taking. Jennifer will reach out to Kelli Goodpasture to see about getting a contact to

follow through with that information. SWCD day will be held on March 5th. With current budget information available, it is not recommended at this time to attend both ag fest and SWCD day.

Troy Thompson has submitted a cost share application for ARC clearance related to EQIP up to \$2000.00. He will be putting in a new waterline for his current pecan orchard, but is unable to start the project until arc clearance has been granted. Michael abstained from the voting at this time. Travis made the motion to allow the cost share application, seconded by Jerry, all in favor.

Travis made a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Michael, all in favor. Meeting adjourned at 11:23am.

Submitted By:

Jennifer Pierce

Jennifer Pierce- District Manager