

CORONADO SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT
El Zocalo Event Center
264 S. Camino del Pueblo, Bernalillo, NM 87004
www.coronadoswcd.org

Minutes of Regular Board Meeting – June 18, 2020
[Meeting Held Online via Zoom]

The regular meeting was called to order by Chair Lynn Montgomery at 9:02 a.m. The roll was called, and other supervisors present were Orlando Lucero, Kathleen Groody and Charles Torres, constituting a quorum. Supervisor Alfred Baca was absent from the meeting. Associate Supervisor Susan Harrelson and District Manager Carolyn Kennedy were also present.

Approval of Agenda

Mr. Lucero moved to approve the Agenda and Mr. Torres seconded the motion. Ms. Kennedy conducted a roll call vote, and the agenda was approved unanimously.

Introduction of Guests/Reports

Roxann Moore, NRCS
Jim Wanstall, NMDA
Brent Van Dyke, NMACD

Ms. Moore, Acting District Conservationist, NRCS, reported as follows: 116 EQIP applications were received, 45 each from Albuquerque and Los Lunas and the remainder from Cuba. Four CSP applications were received. The ranking deadline for both is July 2, 2020. A summer intern has been hired for Los Lunas and is also helping out in Cuba. NRCS is looking for urban farmers.

Mr. Van Dyke reported as follows: NMACD represents all the Soil and Water Conservation Districts in the State and representatives are observing the NM Special Session, including funding of the extra allotment for SWCDs and the \$30 million in Water Trust Board grants. He attended the first in-person meeting in Las Cruces since the COVID-19 crisis began. He is unsure about the status of the NMACD regional meetings, but the Annual Meeting at the Albuquerque Sheraton is still scheduled for the first week in November. The Awards program will still go on, and the deadline for nominations has been extended until the end of July. He believes the NACD Annual Meeting in New Orleans scheduled for the first week in February 2021 will take place. The national Envirothon competition in Nebraska was cancelled this year but the competition has been moved back and will take place in Nebraska next year.

Mr. Wanstall reported as follows: He is waiting to see what happens in the Special Session with respect to funding for the Healthy Soil Program and the extra allotment for SWCDs. The Points System requirement may be waived for this year by the Soil and Water Conservation Commission (SWCC), and an announcement will be made at the SWCC meeting on June 24th. If so, allotment funds received will be divided equally among the SWCDs.

Approval of Minutes

Mr. Lucero made a motion to approve the minutes of the March 19, 2020, meeting and Mr. Torres seconded the motion. Ms. Kennedy conducted a roll call vote, and the minutes were approved unanimously.

Mr. Lucero made a motion to approve the minutes of the May 21, 2020, meeting and Mr. Torres seconded the motion. Ms. Kennedy conducted a roll call vote, and the minutes were approved unanimously.

Financial Report

Ms. Kennedy gave the financial report, noting Wells Fargo bank balance on May 31, 2020, as follows:

State/Local Government Checking: \$24,258.48

She stated that the bank balance reflected a direct deposit from NMSU in the amount of \$3,762 for Las Huertas Reservoir Renovation expenses, and that Coronado's check in that amount to reimburse the contractor, Apple Mountain Constructors, had not cleared the bank by the end of May.

Approval of Bills

None needing approval. Ms. Kennedy stated that she had bought office supplies (case paper and printer ink) from Office Depot for a total of \$83.46, and the Board agreed to split the cost with her.

Correspondence

A list of relevant correspondence received since the last meeting was distributed to the Board electronically prior to the meeting.

Staff Report

Ms. Kennedy reported as follows: *Placitas Acequias Reservoir Renovations*: The Las Huertas Reservoir Improvements project has been delayed because of Coronavirus concerns and Stage 2 Fire Restrictions in the Cibola National Forest. She learned at the Sandia Collaborative meeting on June 16th that the Forest will be considering this week whether to impose Stage 3 Forest Closure because of ongoing fire danger.

Board Reports [5 Minutes Each]

Mr. Montgomery reported that he had attended the Sandia Collaborative meeting via Zoom on 6/16/20 and the NM Healthy Soil Working Group's online Soil Stories on 6/16/20 (including an excellent presentation by Didi Pershouse, a Vermont farmer). He announced that Ed Singleton had resigned from the Rio Puerco Management Committee (RPMC) because of a newly imposed Federal requirement that it be an official Resource Advisory Committee (RAC), which would involve extensive bureaucratic red tape and thus render the RPMC ineffective. Mr. Richard Bodine of Laguna Pueblo has sent an email to the RPMC members recommending that it continue as a watershed restoration organization. Mr. Montgomery and several other RPMC members have indicated support for continuing the work of the RPMC in restoration of the Rio Puerco Watershed, and he will keep the Board informed.

Neither Mr. Lucero, Ms. Groody nor Mr. Torres had a report.

Unfinished Business

A. Fund Chipper Day (TBD)—Mr. Torres moved to fund a Chipper Day when a suitable location could be found since the Placitas Community Library is currently undergoing construction, and Ms. Groody seconded the motion. During discussion, Mr. Torres said he would explore whether it could take place at the Bernalillo festival grounds. Ms. Kennedy then conducted a roll call vote, and the motion was approved unanimously.

New Business

A. Worksheet for Distribution of Funds, due to SWCC 7/15/20—Ms. Kennedy stated that the draft that had been distributed to the Board was incomplete and needed to be edited. She and Mr. Montgomery will attend the SWCC meeting on June 24th, and will find out then whether the deadline for submission will be vacated and available allotment funds will be divided equally among the SWCDs.

B. Kennedy Contract FY21—Ms. Kennedy stated that the FY21 contract for her administrative services had not been changed from last year's contract except for the effective date. Mr. Torres moved to approve the contract, and Mr. Lucero seconded the motion. Ms. Kennedy conducted a roll call vote and the contract was approved unanimously.

C. NMACD Dues FY21—Mr. Lucero moved to pay NMACD dues for FY21 in the amount of \$500, and Mr. Torres seconded the motion. Ms. Kennedy conducted a roll call vote, and the motion was approved unanimously.

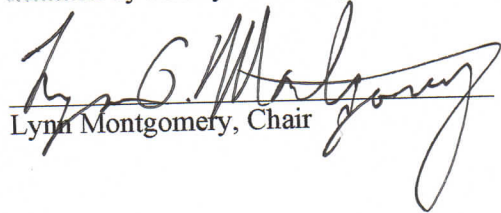
D. Awards—Mr. Montgomery stated that since Senator John Sapien, who is not running for reelection, and his Assistant Sisto Abeyta, have been instrumental over the years in providing funding for both Coronado projects and Las Acequias de Placitas projects. He proposed that the Board approve joint awards from the two entities to Senator Sapien and Sisto Abeyta. Mr. Lucero so moved and Mr. Torres seconded the motion. Ms. Kennedy conducted a roll call vote and the two entities' joint awards for Senator Sapien and Mr. Abeyta were approved unanimously. Coronado and Las Acequias will share the cost of the award plaques.

Upcoming Events

An upcoming Sandia Collaborative meeting was listed on the agenda, but the date was incorrect. There will not be a Collaborative meeting until the third Tuesday in August, although several events may be scheduled in July.

Mr. Lucero made a motion to adjourn, and the meeting was adjourned at 9:45 a.m.

Minutes by Carolyn Kennedy


Lynn Montgomery, Chair

Orlando J. Lucero, Secretary-Treasurer