

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 – May 21, 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 Alfred Baca, Kathleen Groody and Charles Torres, constituting a quorum. Supervisor Orlando Lucero was absent from the meeting. District Manager Carolyn Kennedy was also present.

Approval of Agenda

Mr. Torres moved to approve the Agenda and Ms. Groody seconded the motion. Ms. Kennedy stated that she had neglected to add Approval of Minutes to the Agenda, but would add approval of the minutes of the March 19, 2020, to the next agenda. The agenda was then approved unanimously.

Introduction of Guests/Reports

Gabriella Coughlin, NRCS
Christopher Daul, Assistant to Sandoval County Commissioner Katherine Bruch
Glenn Harper, Pueblo of Santa Ana

Ms. Coughlin, NRCS, reported as follows: The deadline for applications for 2020 EQIP has passed, but applications can be submitted at any time. The time for applying for the position of Team 2 District Conservationist has been extended. There is no deadline yet for RCPP applications under the new Farm Bill. Mr. Baca stated that he had an erosion problem with an arroyo on his property that emptied into the Rio Grande. Ms. Coughlin suggested that a plan could be prepared under RCPP with other landowners to address the issues. NRCS is currently working with MRGCD in the Sile-Pena Blanca area.

Mr. Daul reported that the County had closed down but was in pretty good shape. The Free-Roaming Horse Advisory Council has disbanded, but the County Commission is monitoring progress. At last count, there were 140-150 loose horses in the Placitas area and approximately 70 mares had been darted with PZP by Mt. Taylor Mustangs.

Mr. Harper stated that Santa Ana Pueblo was closed, but that employees were able to work from home.

Mr. Wanstall was unable to attend the meeting, but the NMDA May 2020 report was distributed to the Board electronically prior to the meeting.

Financial Report

Ms. Kennedy gave the financial report, noting Wells Fargo bank balance on April 30, 2020, as follows:

State/Local Government Checking: \$21,168.04

Approval of Bills

None needing approval.

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 but is expected to commence in June if the Cibola National Forest is not closed because of fire danger. Mr. Couch is consulting with the Sandia District Ranger on this matter. The contractor, Apple Mountain Constructors, has ordered necessary materials in advance, and Ms. Kennedy submitted invoices, approved by NMDA, to NMSU to fully expend Coronado's 2016 capital outlay grant, as well as expending funds from the 2019 grant. Any unexpended funds in the 2016 grant on June 30, 2020, would have reverted to the State.

Board Reports [5 Minutes Each]

Mr. Montgomery reported that he had attended the following events online since the March 19, 2020, meeting: An NMAA Policy Meeting on 4/19/20; Sandia Collaborative meetings on 4/21/20 and 5/19/20; NM Healthy Soil Working Group Soil Stories on 4/21/20 and 5/19/20 (the latter included an excellent presentation by James Skeet, a Navajo farmer); the initial BOR Basin Study partners meeting on 4/22/20; an NM Ag & Natural Resources Trust Fund Act meeting on 4/29/20; a RAID Alliance meeting on 5/1/20; an SWCC meeting on 5/7/20; and an MRG Water Advocates Board meeting on 5/11/20.

Mr. Baca reported that the NM Gas Co. was installing a new gas line to serve Los Alamos beginning two-three miles north of the I-25/550 interchange.

Ms. Groody reported on the Sile/Pena Blanca pot farm situation. The OSE had inspected the illegal wells of both operations, concluding the necessity of transferring surface water rights to the wells. The Pena Blanca operation filed for a transfer of 2.18 acre-feet and the Sile operation filed for a transfer of 29.6 acre-feet. Ms. Groody will file a protest against the latter transfer, in that a transfer in that amount would be speculative. The deadline for filing protests is June 12, 2020. Mr. Daul will review the situation with the Commissioner.

Mr. Torres did not have a report.

New Business

A. Approve Preliminary Budget FY21, due to SWCC 6/1/20—Ms. Kennedy stated that the Preliminary Budget was essentially the same as the FY20 Budget, except for the addition of funds for the AUP Tier 3 engagement. She will add the Healthy Soil Program Grant received on behalf of the Pueblo of Sandia. She will submit the Preliminary Budget to the SWCC by the due date. The Final Budget cannot be completed until after the end of the fiscal year and will require approval and a resolution by the Board at the July Board meeting.

B. Approve Chipper Day Funding [Date TBD]—Deferred.

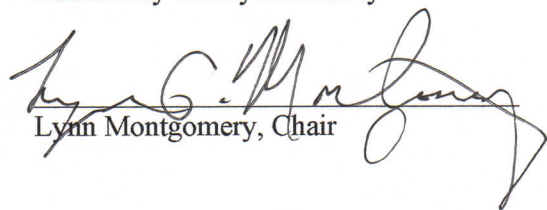
C. Approve IPA for Tier 3 Agreed Upon Procedures (AUP) Engagement—Ms. Kennedy stated that James Hartogensis, CPA, has submitted a quote for \$1500 plus GRT for the FY20 AUP, which was distributed electronically to the Board. Since Coronado had engaged him, for its Tier 3 AUP in 2015, it was not necessary to obtain additional quotes. Mr. Montgomery made a motion to engage Mr. Hartogensis for the FY20 AUP, Mr. Baca seconded the motion, and the motion was approved unanimously.

Upcoming Events

Upcoming events were listed on the Agenda.

Mr. Baca made a motion to adjourn, and the meeting was adjourned at 9:56 a.m.

Minutes by Carolyn Kennedy


Lynn Montgomery, Chair

Approved 6/18/20
Orlando J. Lucero, Secretary-Treasurer