

Edgewood Soil & Water Conservation District
Board Meeting Minutes
February 7, 2008

Call to Order

Meeting Called to order by Bill King at 6:00 PM.

Board Members in Attendance

Lewis Fisher; Vice-Chair, Bill King; Secretary/Treasurer, Patty Ayre; Member, Mark Anaya; Member, Jo Bassett; Member and Jim Rea; Member

Board Members Absent

David King; Chairman

Others Present

Wayne Sleep; NRCS – District Conservationist, Donzil Worthington; Wilson & Company, David Lightfoot; SWCA, Richard Tudor; Landowner, Neal Drago; Landowner, Herb Gadberry; Landowner, Tye Chesser; NMSLO, Brenda Smythe; District Manager and Kelly Archuleta; Technician

Agenda Approval

Motion by Mark, second by Patty, motion carried.

Minutes Approval

Motion by Jim to approve the minutes of the January 3, 2008 board meeting, second by Patty, motion carried.

Treasurer's Report

Patty reviewed the Treasurer's Report. Motion to accept the Treasurer's Report as presented by Jo, second by Mark, motion carried.

Guests

Richard Tudor thanked the board for allowing the landowners of the San Pedro area a few minutes on the agenda. Neal Drago reported to the board that although he was very happy with the thinning program in general, he was extremely unhappy with the usage of the 1099 from Claunch-Pinto SWCD. Jim Rea responded that this was not the first time this issue has been brought up, and that the money received from this reimbursable program is not taxable income. Pat Ayre advised Neal that if they needed help with this situation, to call her at her office.

Donzil Worthington from Wilson & Company spoke to the board about the EMW Gas Association's Estancia Basin Regional Water System Project. The EMW Board of Directors has selected Wilson & Company to prepare a Preliminary Engineering Report for EMW to develop a regional water system in the Estancia Valley. EMW intends to provide water service from the southern part of Torrance County along Highway 41, north to Moriarty, and west towards Edgewood. The system may eventually provide service west from Estancia along Highway 55.

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Water Trust Board

The WTB Roles and Rules have been adopted and approved by the committee. The funds for this year will be split in 1/3, and the administrative fees will be equal. Contracting with the landowner, however, will be done by Claunch-Pinto SWCD. All three districts will now use the same ranking system. Next year's money will be a 70% / 30% reimbursable, however, in-kind match may be used.

The monitoring is now being handled by SWCA. They are currently trying to get access to the information from Paul Davis.

David Lightfoot from SWCA was introduced. David reported that the company SWCA is now in contract for the monitoring section of this grant. And that although Paul Davis has been very pleasant, he still has not provided the information that he needs. He is asking Edgewood SWCD if they can help get it.

Jim Rea responded that Paul Davis is not dragging his feet, and that he has continued to work on this station collecting data far after his contract was over, and that the web site is available to anyone. However, none of the WTB members, SWCA or District staff has been able to access the site to date.

Paul Davis is no longer under contract to maintain the weather station, and therefore must turn over the information to SWCA.

Jim Rea will schedule a meeting with Paul Davis and David Lightfoot.

Estancia Basin Water Planning Committee

Jim spoke to the board regarding the EBWPC. Rita Lloyd Simmons has been placed on the committee. Santa Fe County has given the committee 20K, thanks to Mike Anaya, who made sure it was a reoccurring line-item.

Legislation

Jim reported that the Mill Levy extension which was pocket vetoed last year by the Governor has been reintroduced in Senate Bill 140. Although even if passed, every district will have to have one more mill levy election before it takes affect.

The Supervisor Elections are going to be held on May 6th. However, this date falls within the 42 days of a general election, which is illegal. Changes will need to be made so that this never happens again.

The new Region II Chair is Kenny Salazar, and Jim Berlier is now the Secretary/Treasurer for NMACD.

Jim also spoke to the board regarding the renovation fund for NACD building. Jim motioned that Edgewood SWCD support the renovation by sending NACD \$200, second by Jo, motion carried.

New Business

Brenda spoke to the board regarding the upcoming Supervisor Election. After discussion, the board decided that the election will be held in our conference room, with only the North door being accessed, from 7:00 AM – 7:00 PM to allow for the working public to have adequate time to vote.

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Brenda asked the board if they would consider purchasing the conference tables and chairs for the large conference room, as well as an in-focus projector. Motion by Bill to purchase these items, second by Jo, motion carried. The board set a maximum purchase price of \$6000; however, Brenda will price compare to get the best price she can. With these purchases, the board will need to consider charging a cleaning fee for usage of the conference room.

Pat spoke to the board about the 2008 Scholarships. Following discussion, Jim motioned that Edgewood SWCD provide two scholarships in the same amount as last time. These scholarships will be awarded to students pursuing agriculture related course of study. Motion second by Bill, motion carried.

Kelly spoke to the board regarding the 2008 Envirothon. This will be the first competition held in New Mexico. A team from Moriarty High School will represent Edgewood SWCD. Kelly is asking that Edgewood SWCD sponsor this team. Firm locations and costs have not been set. Motion by Jo to sponsor the Moriarty High School Team up to \$800, second by Mark, motion carried. Kelly will have firm numbers and location at the next meeting.

Reports

NRCS – Wayne Sleep reviewed his report – see report

Administrative Report given by Brenda – see report

Technical Report given by Kelly – see report

Motion to adjourn by Jo at 9:00 PM

Bill King, Secretary/Treasurer