

Edgewood Soil & Water Conservation District

Board Meeting Minutes

June 7, 2018

Call to Order

Meeting called to order by Chairman; David King at 10:00 AM.

Board Members in Attendance

David King; Chair, Bill King; Secretary/Treasurer, Lewis Fisher; Vice-Chair, Mark Anaya; Member, Juan Sanchez; Member, Art Swenka; Member, Christina Allday-Bondy; Associate Member, and Mark Dixon, Associate Member

Board Members Absent & Excused

Bill Williams; Member
Bill King; Secretary/Treasurer – left early

Others Present

Brenda Smythe; District Manager, Kelly Smith; Technician, Jason Lithgow; NM SLO, Katie Mechenbier; NMDA, Tommy Marshall; NRCS, Kenneth Lujan; NRCS Estancia FO District Conservationist, John Perea; Torreon Fire Chief

Approval of Agenda

Art Swenka motioned for approval of the Agenda, motion second by Mark Anaya, motion carried.

Approval of Minutes

Minutes of the May meeting were reviewed. Motion made by Bill King to approve the minutes, motion seconded by Juan Sanchez, motion carried.

Treasurer Report

Brenda presented the Treasurer's Report. Art Swenka motioned for approval of the Treasurer's Report as presented, motion second by Bill King, motion carried.

REPORTS

Staff Report

Brenda reviewed the staff report. **(See Full Report)**

NMDA REPORT

Katie reviewed the NMDA Report. **(See Report)**

SLO REPORT

Jason Lithgow reported that the Sun Zia line should begin soon. Jason is also covering this District along with Santa Fe's District.

NRCS Report

Kenneth Lujan; Estancia Field Office – District Conservationist reviewed the report. **(See Report)**

FSA

John Perea asked to say a few words regarding the Farm Service Agency. He stated that the office currently has a drought program for Santa Fe, Torrance, Bernalillo and Valencia Counties. It is based on livestock carrying capacity and is a monetary payment which requires a livestock number to apply.

He also reported that he as \$350,000 for restoration of fencing and conservation structure cleaning, such as silted stock tanks for the past Dog Head Fire. The programs are reimbursable; therefore, loans are available.

District Manager requested John send information in writing to the Edgewood SWCD, so she can forward to landowners that have inquired assistance, and to have available in the District Office and on the District's website, which he acknowledged he would

NM Coalition of Conservation Districts

David King; NMCCD Chair reported that the Coalition is continuing to assist districts' with their Land Use Planning.

Estancia Basin Water Planning Committee

Art Swenka reported that the next meeting will be held on June 14, 2018

Estancia Basin Watershed Health & Restoration

Art Swenka reported that the next meeting will be held on June 13, 2018

EMWTW

Art Swenka reported the person that was assisting the EMWTW from Rural Development has been promoted, so some paperwork needs to be started over.

KXNM 88.7 Radio

Art Swenka reported that Sponsorship is good, and Neilson Ratings show the radio station with an average of 400 listeners. KXNM has a new "wellness" program which will run a few times a week.

EBRA

Art Swenka reported that Ted Barela is the new President and Bob Stearly is the new Treasurer, and Art is remaining on the board. The next meeting will be in November.

Water Resources Board

Art and Brenda continue to attend the quarterly Water Resources Board meetings in Albuquerque. Brenda along with Elaine Hebard (Middle Rio Grande Water Assembly), Bart Faris (City of Albuquerque) and Don Lopez (Village of Los Ranchos) are members of the WRB-Water Resource Database Committee. This committee plan is to Develop and maintain a Water Resource database to store the 2004 and 2017 Regional Water Plans (RWP). There was discussion to develop a regional water budget would enable us to monitor our water, and communicated the need for changes, should such arise.

Mountainair RD

No Report

Sandia RD

No Report

OLD BUSINESS

South Mountain Access

David King and Brenda met with Attorney; Matthew McQueen to discuss our options for a Conservation Easement. No further information has been received. Discussion tabled.

Edgewood SWCD Boundaries

Staff and board members are currently reviewing the boundaries. A meeting was held between Chairman, David King, Chilili Land Grant President/Edgewood Member, Juan Sanchez, Edgewood Manager, Brenda Smythe, Edgewood Technician, Kelly Smith, East Torrance Chair, Ryan Schwebach, East Torrance Manager, Cheri Lujan, and NMDA Representative, Katie Mechenbier. During this meeting all in attendance agreed that the two landowners in question submitted signed letters to East Torrance SWCD stating their wish to maintain their property within the Edgewood Soil & Water Conservation District was all that was needed to resolve this issue. Staff provided Bernalillo County Mill Levy tax records for the two landowners in question which shows the ownership and Mill Levy payment to the Edgewood SWCD.

The letters have been received and will be submitted to East Torrance SWCD and NMDA following this meeting.

Katie told the board that a resolution must be done to annex this property. The Board of Supervisors disagree with this since the two landowners in question are currently paying into the Edgewood SWCD Mill Levy and are already in the Edgewood SWCD boundaries, and the NMDA map needs to be corrected.

Following discussion, Lewis Fisher motioned to affirm the 2 landowners in the Edgewood SWCD boundaries. A resolution will be written by the District Manager to state: the East Torrance Chairman and the Edgewood Chairman met and did agree that the signed letters

from the two landowners in question stating their wish to maintain their property within the Edgewood Soil & Water Conservation District was all that was needed to resolve this issue. The Board of Supervisors of the Edgewood Soil & Water Conservation District request the New Mexico Soil & Water Conservation Commission authorize the maintenance of said landowners in question within the Chilili Land Grant, are within and chose to remain within the Edgewood Soil & Water Conservation District. Also included in the resolution will be that the Board of Supervisors of the Edgewood Soil & Water Conservation District request the New Mexico Soil & Water Conservation Commission approve this mapping correction of the Chilili Land Grant be approved.

Roll Call Vote:

David King – yea

Lewis Fisher – yea

Art Swenka – yea

Bill Williams – absent

Mark Anaya – yea

Bill King – yea

Juan Sanchez - yea

Torreón Fire Department Request

John Perea; Torreón Fire Chief was in attendance to discuss the Torreón Fire Department request of \$15, 000 for a brush truck. John referred the board to the minutes of the April 2017 minutes where he read... “Following discussion, Art motioned to assist the Torreón Fire Department in the amount of \$15,000 contingent on funding secured through East Torrance and Claunch-Pinto SWCDs. Motion second by Lewis, motion carried. The board also suggested contacting Isleta Pueblo.”

The Edgewood SWCD Board of Supervisors pointed out the word “contingent”, in those minutes.

Chairman David King asked John Perea if he had applied through the State Fire Marshall. John Perea stated he had not previously but had in fact just within that last few days. He also stated that the Edgewood SWCD Board never told him he had to apply to the State Fire Marshall, therefore did not know he needed to.

John Perea stated that the Edgewood SWCD Board needs to understand that Torreón Fire Department needs a truck, and this denial and dragging this out, was putting his “men” in danger.

The Edgewood SWCD’s Manager, Brenda Smythe asked Chief Perea if East Torrance SWCD had applied for and received a loan specifically for this project, to which he stated they in fact had. Brenda stated she was currently working with FUNDIT for other projects, and she could ask about applying for funds for this project. John Perea then stated that he didn’t want the Manager to do that, and he was officially withdrawing his request for funding from the Edgewood SWCD.

Chairman, David King asked John Perea, if he was officially withdrawing his request. John Perea said yes. Chairman King then stated, with that, Edgewood SWCD declines this request, and asked for a motion to decline. Art Swenka motioned to decline John Perea's request, motion seconded by Juan Sanchez, motion carried unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS

2018-2019 Final Budget & Resolution

The 2018-2019 Final Budget was reviewed. Motion to approve the 2018-2019 Budget made by Art, motion second by Mark, motion carried.

Roll Call Vote:

David King – yea

Lewis Fisher – yea

Art Swenka – yea

Bill Williams – absent

Mark Anaya – yea

Bill King – absent at vote

2018 Scholarship

The Edgewood SWCD received one scholarship application. Following discussion, Juan motioned to approve the \$500/semester renewable scholarship to Sage Wilks, motion seconded by Art Swenka, motion carried.

Next Board Meeting

The next regular board meeting will be held on July 5, 2018 at 10:00 AM.

Adjournment

Motion for meeting adjournment at 11:45 AM by Art Swenka, motion seconded by Bill Williams, motion carried.

Bill King, Secretary/Treasurer