

**Edgewood Soil & Water Conservation District
Board Meeting Minutes
August 1, 2019**

Call to Order

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

Board Members in Attendance

David King; Chair, Lewis Fisher; Vice-Chair, Art Swenka; Member, Juan Sanchez; Member and Bill Williams; Member and Christina Allday-Bondy; Associate Member

Board Members Absent & Excused

Bill King; Secretary/Treasurer, Mark Anaya; Member and Mark Dixon, Associate Member Member

Others Present

Brenda Smythe; District Manager, Kelly Smith; Technician, Kenneth Lujan; NRCS – Estancia Field Office, Attorney Matthew McQueen, Judy Fry; Landowner, John Hayes; Landowner

Approval of Agenda

Art motioned for approval of the Agenda motion second by Juan, motion carried.

Approval of Minutes

Minutes of the June meeting were reviewed. Motion made by Art to approve the June minutes, motion seconded by Bill Williams, motion carried.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Executive Session- Possible Litigation

Motion by Juan to enter Executive Session to discuss possible litigation. Motion seconded by Bill Williams; motion carried.

A roll call vote was taken.

Roll Call Vote:

David King – yea
Lewis Fisher – yea
Bill King – absent
Art Swenka – yea
Bill Williams – yea
Mark Anaya – absent
Juan Sanchez - yea

Motion to exit Executive Session made by Lewis Fisher, second by Juan, motion carried. A roll call vote was taken.

Roll Call Vote:

- David King – yea
- Lewis Fisher – yea
- Bill King – absent
- Art Swenka – yea
- Bill Williams – yea
- Mark Anaya – absent
- Juan Sanchez - yea

No action was taken during Executive Session.

There are concerns regarding access to the top of South Mountain which is owned by the Edgewood SWCD. This area was purchased to be a conservation area, with very limited access. At the June meeting, the board motioned that full Chain of Title documentation be obtained before considering any access on the property.

Edgewood SWCDs Attorney, Matthew McQueen asked if Judy Fry was represented by council? Judy Fry stated, “not at this time”.

Attorney McQueen was asked by the board to discuss the finding so far with Judy Fry and come back to the board following their discussion. The board moved forward with the agenda.

During discussion between Attorney McQueen and Judy Fry, new documentation was given, and therefore more review is needed before action can be taken.

Motion by Lewis to table action, second by Art, motion carried.

Treasurer Report

Brenda Smythe presented the Treasurer’s Report. The Budget Committee met prior to the meeting. The Budget Committee recommends payment of the loan in full now, and the line of credit in January to keep some cash flow in the budget. Following discussion, Art motioned to pay the loan, motion second by Bill Williams.

REPORTS

District Staff Report

Brenda reviewed the District Staff Report. **(See Report)**

Precipitation Report

Lewis reported that Stanley received 2.5 inches of rain in July. Rough Road area received 2.6 inches, Allday’s place received 1.5 inches, and D. King’s received 1 4/10 inches.

NMDA REPORT

The board reviewed the NMDA report. **(See Report)**

SLO REPORT

No Report received.

NRCS Report

Kenneth Lujan; NRCS – Estancia Field Office reported he Local Work Group Meeting will be held on August 22, 2019 at the Community Center in Encino. There are some districts that are moving forward with NMACDs recommendation of holding individual Local Work Groups instead of the NRCS set meetings. Following discussion, Juan motioned that Edgewood SWCD continue to support NRCS and attend the scheduled traditional meetings held by NRCS, motion second by Art, motion carried. **(See Report for all information)**

NMCCD

David reported that NACD 1st VP, Michael Crowder contacted both he and Brenda regarding the Coalition and NMACD sitting down with NACD to discuss reconciliation during the NACD SW Regional Meeting in Santa Fe

Estancia Basin Water Planning Committee

No meeting since last ESWCD board meeting. Now that John D’Antonio is back as the NM State Engineer, someone from the EBWPC needs to meet with him to discuss our issues. In May, the board approved Art to meet with Mr. D’Antonio as the Edgewood SWCD Representative, however no meeting has been held as of today.

Estancia Basin Watershed Health & Restoration

No report.

EMWT Water

EMWT held their Annual Meeting last Tuesday. There is some confusion regarding the EMWT (4 entities of Estancia, Mountainair, Willard and Torrance County), which the group is working on. They also need to secure other funds not to lose the Rural Development Funds. They will be approaching Governor Lujan-Grisham for discretionary funds.

KXNM 88.7 Radio

The Radio Station is doing well. They are working on doing live broadcasts at local games and local events. 8000 songs have been uploaded to the new operating system. The Email for the radio station is info@KXNM.org and the phone number is 505-886-0605. The Edgewood SWCD is advertising on the station, which is working very well.

Water Resources Board

Art reported that there has been discussion regarding gas and oil fracking and the possible contamination to the groundwater. Although, we are interested, and concerned about this issue, Art Swenka and Brenda Smythe will abstain from any voting on this issue at the WRB. The next meeting will be August 7, 2019.

Sandia RD and Mountainair RD

No report

OLD BUSINESS

Capital Outlay

The District was funded \$50,000 by 2019 Capital for building renovations. Work has begun, and most of the funds have been allocated.

Survey/Easement of South Mountain and South Mountain Access

Discussion tabled.

Edgewood SWCD Boundary

The Edgewood SWCD boundaries have still not been ratified by the Secretary of State for the Pueblo of Isleta or the Chilili Land Grant; which has been corrected by Torrance County. According to NMDA, Edgewood SWCD is required to submit signed landowner letters stating they want to be moved into this SWCD. This has been done for both the Pueblo and Chilili; but the boundary is still not correct. Katie Mechenbier; NMDA stated that that is the rule for boundary modification via NM Soil & Water Conservation Commission and NMDA. But if this board thought it best, maybe we should contact the Secretary of State.

The boundary modification requested for the northeast portion of the Ciudad SWCD to be annexed into the Edgewood SWCD was approved in the January meeting. However, once we pulled the landownership, it shows, as Chairman King had stated, that this annexation had already been done. These landowners in question are already within the Edgewood SWCD and have been paying our Mill Levy Tax for many years. NMDA's map is incorrect. This issue will also be addressed with the Secretary of State.

Brenda has been trying to set up an in-person meeting with the Secretary of State. No available dates have been sent by the SOS Office.

2019 Elections

The 2019 Elections will be held on November 5, 2019 state-wide. Declarations for all positions are on August 27th in the County registered in from 9:00 AM – 5:00 PM. There has been some confusion with these new election rules for the SWCDs. Brenda has informed the SOS regarding the election and positions to be placed on the ballot, so the board asked Brenda to send emails and/or letters to all three counties to make sure each county clerk is aware of the election.

NEW BUSINESS

2018-2019 Audit

The 2018-2019 Audit will be held October 28th.

NMCCD Annual Meeting

The NM Coalition of Conservation District's (NMCCD) is holding their Annual Meeting on Thursday, August 15th from 10:00 AM – 2:00 PM in our office.

The SWCD Elections is the main topic of discussion, with Elections Division from Secretary of State as well as NM County Clerks. If you would like to attend, please let me know before August 9th to secure a headcount for lunch.

NACD Tribal Policy Group (Tribal RPG)

Brenda and David King participated in the Tribal RPG session during the NACD SW Region Meeting on August 7th in Santa Fe. Dominique Zuni of the Pueblo of Isleta also attended and reported on the partnership between the Pueblo and the Edgewood SWCD.

Edgewood SWCD Open House

The 2019 Open House was discussed. Following discussion, Juan motioned to hold an Open House on Friday, October 4, 2019 from 10:00 AM – 3:00 PM, motion second by Bill Williams, motion carried. Staff will begin planning.

Lewis motioned that the October board meeting will be a short 30-minute session for essential items only, beginning at 9:00 AM. Motion second by Bill Williams, motion carried.

Public Comment

None

Next Board Meeting

September 5, 2019 at 10:00 AM.

Adjournment

Motion for meeting adjournment at 11:58 AM by Lewis, motion seconded by Juan, motion carried.

Bill King, Secretary/Treasurer