

**Edgewood Soil & Water Conservation District  
Board Meeting Minutes  
June 27, 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, Mark Anaya; Member, Art Swenka; Member

**Board Members Absent & Excused**

Bill King; Secretary/Treasurer, Juan Sanchez; Member, Bill Williams; Member, Mark Dixon, Associate Member  
Member, and Christina Allday-Bondy; Associate Member

**Others Present**

Brenda Smythe; District Manager and Kelly Smith; Technician

**Approval of Agenda**

Art 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 Art to approve the April minutes, motion seconded  
by Mark Anaya, motion carried.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

**No Executive Session Held**

**Treasurer Report**

Brenda Smythe presented the Treasurer's Report. The Budget Committee met prior to the meeting. A review of  
the end-of-year status, as well as developing the final budget was done.

Art motioned for approval of the Treasurer's Report as presented. Motion second by Mark Anaya, 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 – absent  
Mark Anaya – yea  
Juan Sanchez - absent

## **REPORTS**

### **District Staff Report**

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

### **Precipitation Report**

Lewis reported that Stanley received less than 2 inches of rainfall in April, but as of today, Stanley had already received 2 inches of rainfall.

### **NMDA REPORT**

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

### **SLO REPORT**

No Report received. However, the SLO Rental Lease is up, and SLO is asking for a 3-year renewal. Following discussion, Art motioned to renew the lease for 3 years, with no increase in rent. Motion second by Mark Anaya, motion carried.

### **NRCS Report**

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

### **Estancia Basin Water Planning Committee**

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**

2019 CFRP – DC waiting to release it. 2017 RCCP – 1 remaining contract is left to complete. 2018 – RCCP – NRCS in currently ranking the proposals. 2019 – WTB funds of \$600,000 should be released soon. 2018 – WTB – 2 remaining contracts to pay. SWCA Consultants will begin using drones to monitor our project sites. The South Mountain Weather Station is old and needs updated computer components. The final details are being done for the FEMA Grant, which is for projects on Chilili Land Grant and Aceves Area.

### **EMWT Water**

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](mailto: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**

Anthony Martinez; USFS Mountainair Ranger District reported to the board that they are moving forward with the Tajique Allotment fence repair. There is also an active timber sale above the Doghead area. Within the next few months, Forest Service will continue with an additional 50 acres of timber sale.

### **OLD BUSINESS**

#### **Capital Outlay Requests**

The District was funded \$50,000 by 2019 Capital for building renovations.

On June 7<sup>th</sup>, Brenda reached out to NMDA requesting our Capital Outlay funds but were told NMSU did not have them. She has since received several emails from NMDA, with the latest stated we needed to wait for DFA to release the funds. However, on June 11<sup>th</sup>, I was informed by Capital Outlay Bureau Chief that the Capital Outlay Funds from SB280 for the Edgewood Soil & Water Conservation District were deposited into the NMSU account on May 7, 2019.

Brenda forwarded this email to NMDA with no response. As of today, we have not received any funds.

#### **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 Tarrant 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.

#### **2019-2020 Cost-Share Program**

Twenty-seven applications were received for the 2019-2020 Cost-Share Program. One applicant was out-of-district. Out of the 26 applications ranked, 8 were approved for a maximum reimbursement of \$4500 per application for a total of \$36,000 in cost-share assistance. A motion was made by Art to approve the 8 applications for funding, motion second by Lewis, motion carried.

#### **2019 Elections**

The 2019 Elections will be held on November 5, 2019 state-wide. Declarations for all positions are on August 27<sup>th</sup> 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 Final Budget**

The Board reviewed the Proposed 2019-2020 Final Budget. Following discussion, Art motioned for approval of the 2019-2020 Final Budget.

Motion second by Mark Anaya, 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 – absent

Mark Anaya – yea

Juan Sanchez - absent

### **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 has been invited to participate in the Tribal RPG all day session during the NACD SW Region Meeting on August 7<sup>th</sup> in Santa Fe. She has reached out the Pueblo of Isleta to participate.

### **Public Comment**

None

### **Next Board Meeting**

August 1, 2019 at 10:00 AM.

### **Adjournment**

Motion for meeting adjournment at 11:48 AM by Mark Anaya, motion seconded by Lewis Fisher, motion carried.

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Bill King, Secretary/Treasurer