

Edgewood Soil & Water Conservation District

Board Meeting Minutes

October 4, 2019

Call to Order

Meeting called to order by Chairman; David King at 9:00 AM.

Board Members in Attendance

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

Board Members Absent & Excused

Bill King; Secretary/Treasurer, Mark Anaya; Member and Juan Sanchez; Member

Others Present

Brenda Smythe; District Manager, Kelly Smith; Technician, Nadine Lucero; NRCS – Estancia Field Office, Tommy Marshall; NRCS, Candace Lord; 2019 Conservationist of the Year, Jeff Fletcher; Landowner, Dominique Zuni; Pueblo of Isleta, and Clarissa Dixon; Pueblo of Isleta

Approval of Agenda

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

Approval of Minutes

Minutes of the September meeting were tabled.

Treasurer Report

Brenda Smythe presented the Treasurer's Report. Motion by Bill Williams to accept the Treasurer's Report as presented. Motion second by Art, motion carried.

2019 Conservationist of the Year

The Edgewood SWCD presented Candace Lord with the 2019 Conservationist of the Year Award.

2019 Public Service Award

The Edgewood SWCD presented KXNM 88.7 Radio Station with the 2019 Public Service Award.

REPORTS

All reports presented in written form for time constraint.

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 and David did speak to the SOS regarding this issue. However, it is out of their jurisdiction. As stated in the September board meeting, the board will write another letter requesting these issues be resolved; and if not resolved, the board will seek legal action.

A request from Ciudad SWCD's Chair; Steve Glass was given to Manager B. Smythe requesting that the SF County portion (on the border of Ciudad and Edgewood SWCDs) be resolved by NMDA's protocol instead of a letter to the Commission as previously stated in an email from Chairman Glass.

Following some discussion, the board will move forward with a letter to the Commission as previously passed during the September board meeting.

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.

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.

2018-2019 Audit

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

NEW BUSINESS

2020 Capital Outlay

Christina and Brenda met regarding the 2020 Capital Outlay. A more in-depth outline will be provided at the November meeting.

Stanley Cemetery

A request from the Stanley Cemetery was received. Kelly Smith and NM State Forestry did a site-visit and have the following recommendations.

- Add a timer and repair valves, bubblers, lines, etc. (Phase I)
- Water as long as possible for the rest of the season and turn on again in spring. Once a good watering has been done, a tree assessment will be done to check on tree health improvement and if replacement trees are needed. (Phase II)
- A beautification planting & drip system will be installed if approved (Phase III).

Following discussion, Lewis Fisher motioned to approve Phase I for the approximate cost of \$750.00. Motion second by Art, motion carried.

Public Comment

None

Next Board Meeting

November 7, 2019 at 10:00 AM.

Adjournment

Motion for meeting adjournment at 9:45 AM by Lewis, motion seconded by Juan, motion carried.

Bill King, Secretary/Treasurer