

HEREFORD NATURAL RESOURCE CONSERVATION DISTRICT (HNRCD) REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

Wednesday, June 19, 2019

Sierra Vista County Complex—Large Conference Room—9:30 a.m.

Board Present: John Ladd, Lucinda Earven, Jim Lindsey, David Greenberg, Mike Hayhurst

Others Present: Jack Ladd—Advisor, Steve Boice—Advisor, Donald Decker—NRCS, Brad Fulk—AZGFD, Joy Banks—Cooperator, Nancy Neumann—Cooperator, Tricia Gerrodette—citizen, Lori Kilpatrick—citizen, Amber Ford—Tombstone High School, Kathy Morris—Board Clerk

A. Call to Order

John Ladd called the meeting to order at 9:33 a.m.

B. Introductions

Introductions were made around the room.

C. Call to the Public

Lori Kilpatrick introduced herself. She is running for Cochise County Supervisor, District 2. She said she was attending to listen and to learn.

David Greenberg related Cooperators Chuck & Ivette Cunningham lost their building during the recent micro burst. If anyone can offer them any assistance it would be highly appreciated.

D. Review and Approval of Meeting Minutes

1. Regular Meeting, May 15, 2019

Motion: David Greenberg moved to approve the regular meeting minutes of May 15, 2019.

Second: Mike Hayhurst seconded the motion.

Vote: Carried unanimously.

E. Committee and Other Reports

1. USPP: Lucinda Earven reported the next meeting will be August 14, 2019, 9:00 a.m.—12:00 p.m. in the Mona Bishop Room at the Sierra Vista Library.

2. NRCS: Don Decker reported ranchers within the HNRCD have recently had three EQIP applications turned into contracts. These contracts represent a total of over \$216,000 of conservation practices on ranches within the District.

Range related EQIP applications will now need to be handled in the first cycle of the next fiscal year (October 1st). Keep in mind EQIP is always in a continuous sign-up.

John Ladd asked if NRCD has hired a new archaeologist. Don said he didn't know of any archaeologist being hired.

3. USFS: No one present to report.

4. BLM: No one present to report.

5. AZGFD: Brad Fulk reported on the HPC Workshop on July 10th. For people who may not be able to attend there will be a webinar portion, which will be recorded, so if they would like that, they will need to register for the webinar option. Everything is available on the AZGFD website which is

<https://sites.google.com/view/hpc-workshop/home>

There have been turkey sitings in a couple of "new" places. The birds are really spreading out.

There are 18 vacancies across the State for Wildlife Manager Districts.

The fall big game draw deadline is over. This is the last year for paper applications. Everything after this year will be done online.

6. **CCRN:** John Ladd said they have been meeting monthly. There are three designs for consideration on the Bella Vista project. They are looking for funding for the project. They are hoping to have all information required to submit for permits by the end of October, 2019.

7. **SLRP:** Brad Fulk attended the last SLRP meeting. Alana Riggs has been hired as a Coordinator. Hopefully she will be able to get a focused direction from all the different groups involved in SLRP.

At the last meeting the various groups were given a deadline to come up with their group management plan. Brad sits on the *Open Space Group* and they are updating their data base on completed projects, oversight, and future projects that have been approved within the mitten or footprint of SLRP. The groups consist of *Open Space, Fire, Range Management, and Water Riparian.*

John Ladd reminded everyone when SLRP first began, a misconception was that it is a program for range management, etc. for the public. That is incorrect. SLRP is for Fort Huachuca—to preserve open space around the Post (the mitten) particularly for the Fort's electronic involvement. SLRP is a nation-wide program involving several posts.

F. District Financial Reports

Motion: Mike Hayhurst moved to authorize payment of items 1-8 on the Payment Schedule.

Second: Lucinda Earven seconded the motion.

Vote: Carried unanimously.

The approved financial reports will be submitted for audit.

G. Old Business

1. **Society for Range Management Winter Meeting, January 15-17, 2020:** No one present to report, however the Ladd Ranch has committed to participate in some of the tours.

2. **HNRCD Plan of Work and Education Center Plan of Work Due June 20, 2019**

Motion: Lucinda Earven moved to approve the District Plan of Work for 2018-2019.

Second: Mike Hayhurst seconded the motion.

Vote: Carried unanimously.

Motion: Jim Lindsey moved to approve the HNRCD Education Center Plan of Work for 2018-2019.

Second: Lucinda Earven seconded the motion.

Vote: Carried unanimously.

3. **HNRCD Annual Report and Education Center Annual Report Due July 20, 2019:** Kathy Morris will call supervisors during the next month with any questions on preparing the annual reports. The supervisors were reminded there must be a quorum at July's meeting to approve the annual reports.

4. **Arizona Association of Conservation Districts (AACD) Summer Conference July 9-11, 2019, Flagstaff, AZ**

Motion: Jim Lindsey moved the District reimburse travel, lodging, and registration fees for any supervisor attending the AACD Summer Conference.

Second: Lucinda Earven seconded the motion.

Vote: Carried unanimously.

5. **Into the Future Workshop, May 24, 2019, rsvp by May 17, 2019:** Don Decker attended the workshop and said it was very well done. He said, "it kind of scares you straight about planning financially ahead."

H. New Business

1. **AZ Water Protection Fund Grant Deadline:** Lucinda Earven accepted an invitation from Gail Griffin to be on the WPF Board. Last week was their first meeting of 2019. Two groups reported on what they had accomplished with previously received grants. The two projects reported on are on the Gila River. WPF is presenting a grant workshop in Phoenix July 24, 2019, and their deadline for grant applications for this year is September 6, 2019. The WPF Board will meet again November 19, 2019 to review all the applications. Anyone

interested in the workshop or in a grant application should contact Lucinda. Lucinda noted that most everyone on the WPF Board is from NRCDs across the State.

2. HNRCD Board Clerk Contract Change & Renewal

- Motion:* David Greenberg moved to renew the Board Clerk contract for the fiscal year 2019.
Second: Lucinda Earven seconded the motion.
Vote: Carried unanimously.
Discussion: No changes are necessary.

3. US Post Office Box Renewal of \$102.00 for One Year

- Motion:* David Greenberg moved to renew the USPO box for one year for \$102.00.
Second: Lucinda Earven seconded the motion.
Vote: Carried unanimously.

4. NRCS and Conservation District Memorandum of Understanding Renewal: Don Decker said MOUs do exist between districts and the NRCS but he didn't know of any particular one between NRCS and HNRCD. If an MOU becomes necessary for the HNRCD the District will receive the necessary paperwork from NRCS.

5. HNRCD Buying Equipment That Could Be Used By Members: Mike Hayhurst brought up the idea of the District purchasing equipment that cooperators could use on some kind of cost/share basis. He mentioned the example that several years San Pedro NRCD purchased a wood chipper that was kept at Mike's place but was for the use of cooperators. A wood chipper was a good example because there is no rental place within the District for one and that's something almost everyone can use. Mike will do some research and compile some information on this topic for the August meeting.

I. Education Programs

1. Tombstone High School Ag Program: Amber Ford—Tombstone HS Ag Instructor introduced herself and thanked the District for their support. She passed around THS's latest year book depicting what the FFA students had accomplished.

The HNRCD's contribution to THS FFA program goes for many things. One of the students' favorite fund raising projects is selling T-shirts with the FFA logo. For the last T-shirt fund raiser they tie-dyed shirts as well as having the FFA logo. The shirts are very popular!

FFA operates under Chapter, District, State, and National levels. To participate in any official FFA events students must wear the official FFA dress code "uniform." Amber was able to purchase much needed official FFA jackets and scarves, as well as what's required for "outer wear"—black pants or skirts, white shirts. Eight students recently participated in the FFA State Leadership Conference for three days in Tucson.

They're in the process of planning their Officer Retreat for this year. Amber said the students "really, really want to go to National Convention" which will be in Indianapolis, IN, in October. Base cost (without food) is \$800 per student.

Along with specific FFA projects the students are looking for more ways to give back to the community, and gain hands on experience in areas they are hoping for careers in. For instance, they helped out with the White Water Draw Crane count last January. Amber said if anyone needs "boots on the ground" to contact her. In addition to the students wanting to volunteer for projects Amber said they would love to have volunteer coaches in areas such as rangeland, wildlife, soils, etc. Anyone interested in coaching a team should contact Amber.

The welding program is progressing. They are working on passing a bond for this year. The bond would include an entirely new ag facility at the school.

From the HNRCD donation last year they have kept about \$1,500 in reserve for unexpected expenses and for convention travel expenses.

2. Small Acreage Resource Concerns (SARC) Mass Mailing Postcard: Steve Boice reported 3,462 postcards have been mailed. Expenses to date are \$2,216.07, well under the \$4,000 budget already approved by the Board. Kathy Morris displayed the Survey Monkey results thus far on the TV. So far soil quality and type has been the area of greatest concern among the respondents. Doing a soils workshop was briefly discussed.

It was agreed to keep the survey "open" for 90 days.

- Motion:* David Greenberg moved to have Alpha Graphics print 100 postcards (no addresses).
- Second:* Lucinda Earven seconded the motion.
- Vote:* Carried unanimously.

a. How to Respond to People That Want to be Contacted: It was agreed Kathy Morris will send an email to people who indicate they want to be contacted thanking them for responding and letting them know they will be notified when workshops are available once the survey is completed.

J. Correspondence

- 1. *Forestry Notes*
- 2. National Conservation Foundation Annual Report 2018

K. Future Meetings / Agenda Items

HNRCD Regular Meeting

July 17, 2019	Wednesday	9:30a.m.
Cochise County Complex	Large conference room	Sierra Vista, AZ

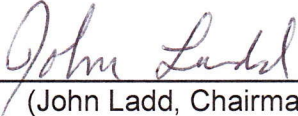
AACD Summer Conference

July 9-11, 2019	Flagstaff, AZ
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M. Adjournment

John Ladd adjourned the meeting at 11:34 a.m.

Approved by the Board _____ 7-17-19 _____
(Date)

Signed _____ 
(John Ladd, Chairman)

ACCRONYMS

AACD	Arizona Association of Conservation Districts
ASLD	Arizona State Land Department
AZGFD	Arizona Game and Fish Department
BLM	Bureau of Land Management
CCRN	Cochise Conservation and Recharge Network
EIS	Environmental Impact Statement
EQIP	Environmental Quality Incentives Program
FFA	Future Farmers of America
HPC	Habitat Partnership Committees
HNRC	Hereford Natural Resource Conservation District
NRCS	Natural Resources Conservation Service
NRCWAY	Natural Resource Conservation Workshop for Arizona Youth
RMP	Resource Management Plan
SARC	Small Acreage Resource Concerns
SHPO	State Historical Preservation Office
SLRP	Fort Huachuca Sentinel Landscape Restoration Partnership
SPRNCA	San Pedro River National Conservation Area
SRM	Society for Range Management
THS	Tombstone High School
USDA	United States Department of Agriculture
USFS	United States Forest Service
USPP	Upper San Pedro Partnership
USPO	United States Post Office
WOTUS	Waters of the United States
WPF	Water Protection Fund

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