

HEREFORD NATURAL RESOURCE CONSERVATION DISTRICT (HNRCD)

REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

Wednesday April 15, 2020

Telephonic Meeting

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

Others Present: Hans Huth—ADEQ, Don Decker—NRCS, Sharma Torrens—AACD, Joy Banks—Cooperator, Peggy Judd—citizen, Tricia Gerrodette—citizen, Kathy Morris—Board Clerk

A. Call to Order

John Ladd called the meeting to order at 9:31 a.m.

B. Introductions

People identified themselves as they logged onto the call.

C. Call to the Public: Sharma Torrens—AACD introduced herself as the Conservation Education Director of the AACD and gave a brief history of her working career. She highlighted the AACD's position and emphasized the AACD and she personally are here to help the conservation districts in their educational endeavors.

Sharma also mentioned looking for funding for a THS agriculture building. This discussion is covered under **I. Education Programs, 1. Tombstone High School Ag Program.**

D. Review and Approval of Meeting Minutes

1. Regular Meeting March 18, 2020

Motion: David Greenberg moved to approve the regular meeting minutes of March 18, 2020 as written.

Second: Lucinda Earven seconded the motion.

Vote: Carried unanimously.

E. Agency and Committee Reports

1. USPP: May 13, 2020 is the next scheduled meeting, however no one has heard if the meeting will be held in person, virtually, or at all.

2. NRCS: Don Decker said their main message is "we are open for business," it's just being done in a little different way than in the past. They're trying to maximize telework as much as possible, and minimize contact and travel. They are continuing to service contracts, work on conservation plans, applications and other day to day work. Nothing has changed as to the Farm Bill work.

This go-round of EQIP has five applicants in the Hereford District and all five are range related.

3. USFS: No one present to report.

4. BLM: No one present to report.

5. AZGFD: No one present to report.

6. CCRN: John Ladd reported they held a teleconference last week to review all their projects. Another teleconference is scheduled shortly to discuss WOTUS. There are no new developments for any funding for any of the projects.

7. SLRP: Hans Huth reported the committees and sub-committees have been holding virtual meetings and projects have been identified and rankings are being considered for some funding.

8. Arizona Department of Environmental Quality (ADEQ): Hans Huth reported they have proposed two projects for 319 funding on the Babocamari. One project is range restoration on a State land lease and the other project involves fencing on private property.

F. District Financial Reports

1. Payment Schedule

Motion: Mike Hayhurst moved to authorize payment of items 1-3 on the Payment Schedule.

Second: David Greenberg seconded the motion.

Vote: Carried unanimously.

2. February Financial Reports—File for Audit:

Motion: Jim Lindsey moved to file the February financial reports for audit.

Second: David Greenberg seconded the motion.

Vote: Carried unanimously.

3. March Financial Reports—File for Audit

Motion: David Greenberg moved to file the March financial reports for audit.

Second: Lucinda Earven seconded the motion.

Vote: Carried unanimously.

G. Old Business

1. Wildlife Attractors Workshop: This workshop is not cancelled, it is postponed due to COVID 19. No discussion has been held as to when the event will be held.

2. HNRCD October Meeting Date Change: Tabled.

3. HNRCD Election: The District has not heard anything from State indicating Mike Hayhurst's election being contested. An election process will not be necessary.

4. HNRCD Computer: Kathy Morris reported the new HNRCD computer is up and running with all the required software. Jim Barba, the technician that helped purchase and set up the new computer is interested in trading his work hours plus some money for the old HNRCD computer. He will have a proposal for May's agenda. Kathy Morris will search online and try to find the monetary value of the old computer.

5. Sierra Vista Farmers' Market Earth Day April 23, 2020: Jim Lindsey has not heard if Earth Day is still planned for Veterans' Park. Joy Banks said according to the newspaper the Farmers' Market is not being held. Jim will verify.

H. New Business

1. NRCWAY Donation: Due to COVID 19 the NRCWAY committee has decided to cancel the camp for 2020. No donation is necessary.

2. Nomination for Appointment of Supervisor to Fill David Greenberg's Seat:

Nomination: David Greenberg nominated Steve Boice to fill his supervisor's seat when he retires the end of May, 2020.

Second: Mike Hayhurst seconded the nomination.

Vote: Carried unanimously.

Board Clerk's Note: After this meeting Kathy Morris was informed by Jackie Thomas—ASLD that the two appointed positions on the Board are each two-year terms. At the end of each term the three **elected** Board members nominate a person to be appointed by ASLD. The nomination process should not take place prior to the Board election process. Therefore, this item will be on May's agenda for participation of only the elected Board members.

I. Education Programs

1. Tombstone High School Ag Program: There was no report due to THS being shut down for COVID 19.

A discussion of the District helping THS obtain an agriculture building was discussed.

Several years ago Jim Lindsey learned one of the main goals of THS was to have an agriculture center building constructed. They got to the point where they had blue prints done for the building and they thought they had available funding—at the time about \$300,000. One of the funding sources was going to be the sale of the old high school.

When the new high school was built an ag building was part of the proposal to the public, but the ag building was voted down. The school board isn't in a position to ask for any more money, the old school has not been sold and to date there are no buyers for the old school.

It's a beneficial time investment for the District to help THS find funding for their building.

John Ladd reported the AZ Cattle Growers Association has been working with Keisha Tatem—NRCS exploring funds available through NRCS for education, including structures. Sharma Torrens—AACD may know of some grants that could be pursued.

2. Education Center Conference Call with AZ Association of Conservation Districts: April 27, 2020, 9:00 a.m. is the next AACD ed center conference call.

J. Correspondence

1. Forestry Notes

K. Supervisor Comments: (1) Jim Lindsey reported Western Watersheds and The Center for Biological Diversity have filed suit against the BLM pertaining to the four existing cattle allotments on SPRNCA.

(2) John Ladd received a call from Nature Conservancy last Friday and they have compiled data at Horseshoe Draw. During 2019 Horseshoe Draw recharged 245 acre feet of water into the aquifer. During 2019 there were 25 events where water flowed into the basin. During the original Horseshoe Draw studies/planning Hilgart-Wilson projected for every two inches of rainfall there would be 40 acre feet of recharge. Their projections were incredibly correct.

The data is gathered by having a flow meter at the inlet and the discharge. From that they can calculate what came into the basin and what went out of the basin. John asked NC about evaporation and they said evaporation was insignificant because Horseshoe Draw drains within 24 hours.

L. Future Meetings / Agenda Items

HNRC D Regular Meeting

May 20, 2020
Cochise County Complex

Wednesday
Large conference room

9:30 a.m.
Sierra Vista, AZ

May be Telephonic: If so, the meeting will be held at 8:00 a.m.

M. Adjournment

John Ladd adjourned the meeting at 10:35 a.m.

Approved by the Board _____
(Date)

Signed _____
(John Ladd, Chairman)

ACCRONYMS

AACD	Arizona Association of Conservation Districts
ADEQ	Arizona Department of Environmental Quality
AIM	Assessment, Inventory and Monitoring Strategy (BLM program)
ALWT	Arizona Land and Water Trust
ASLD	Arizona State Land Department
AZGFD	Arizona Game and Fish Department
BLM	Bureau of Land Management
CCRN	Cochise Conservation and Recharge Network
EA	Environmental Assessment
EIS	Environmental Impact Statement
EQIP	Environmental Quality Incentives Program
FFA	Future Farmers of America
FLPMA	Federal Land Planning and Management Act
FOIA	Freedom of Information Act
NC	Nature Conservancy
HPC	Habitat Partnership Committees
HNRCD	Hereford Natural Resource Conservation District
MOA	Memorandum of Agreement
MOU	Memorandum of Understanding
NACD	National Association of Conservation Districts
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
U of A	University of Arizona
USDA	United States Department of Agriculture
USFS	United States Forest Service
USPP	Upper San Pedro Partnership

USPO
WOTUS
WPF

United States Post Office
Waters of the United States
Water Protection Fun

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