



# Santa Cruz

## Natural Resource Conservation District

Regular Meeting

August 22, 2018

Final Minutes

Location: Wild Horse Restaurant, 277 McKeown Ave, Patagonia, AZ 85624

Welcome & Introductions: Stephen Williams called the meeting to order at 12:08 p.m.

Board Supervisors & Clerk: Stephen Williams, Daniel Bell, Bill Schock and Barbara Neville-Johnson, and Chris Postel (Clerk).

Agencies & Guests: Brit Oleson (AZ Game & Fish), Alisha Phipps (Natural Resource Conservation Service), Ashley Wright (University of Arizona Cooperative Extension), Jim Koweek, Josh Hamilton.

Review/Approve Minutes: Reviewed June 6, June 12, and July 10 minutes. It was moved by Dan Bell to approve the minutes. Bill Schock seconded it. The motion carried unanimously.

Treasurer's Report (Dan Bell): The State account balance was \$3,092.22 and the Ed Center's account balance was \$115.62. Reviewed financial reports: Bill Schock moved to approve and file the Treasurer's reports. Barbara Johnson seconded it. The motion passed unanimously.

Ed Center Report (Stephen Williams):

- Jackie Thomas sent an email regarding the Special Plate design contest. Dean Fish needs to forward this information to the District's high schools and middle schools.

Administration (Chris Postel):

- Clerk's July (\$400) Invoice: It was moved by Bill Schock to approve the invoices. Barbara Johnson seconded it. The motion carried unanimously.
- Website (See attached Website Plan): The District's website would be 4 pages, more pages could be added later. Wordpress would be used and Chris would create the website with assistance from Brooke Gladden (Arizona Association of Conservation Districts) over the next 2 months. The "santacruznr.cd.org" was renewed for \$100 for 5 years. The Board decided to use the santacruznr.cd.org domain name. Dan Bell wanted to have some "mission statement" text at the top of the "Home" webpage. It was moved by Dan Bell to approve a budget of \$200 for website costs. Barbara Johnson seconded it. The motion carried unanimously.
- Newsletter (See attached Newsletter Plan): The name will be the Santa Cruz Natural Enquirer. The priority topics are: Drought, District Sprayer, NRCWAY, and Ft. Huachuca Sentinel Landscape Project. It was moved by Bill Schock to approve a budget of \$250 for newsletter costs. Dan Bell seconded it. The motion carried unanimously. Mail in October.

Agency Updates:

- University of Arizona Cooperative Extension (Ashley Wright): Two have retired: Dan Faulkner and Peter Cuneo. Future workshops will cover topics such as, risk management record keeping, and cattle handling. Drought management workshops will be held in September.
- Arizona Department of Agriculture: Food Access Workshop on September 20 (See Flyer).
- Arizona Department of Forestry & Fire Management: Stephen Williams distributed Willie Sommers 8/20/18 email (See Attached Email).

- Arizona Game and Fish (Brit Oleson): Noah Silva is the Wildlife Manager for 36a. A new hire, Gerald Ellington, will start in November. Sarah Gandaria is now doing the Landowner Relations function, replaced Rana Tucker. Heritage Fund grants are due September 1. Funds have been used to convert wells to solar, focus is to increase water sources. Per Bill Schock, leopard frogs have infested the Sentinel area. Per Brit, bull frogs have been removed from Sonoita tanks but have infested San Rafael tanks. Focus is to keep them out of land north of Highway 82. So, no restrictions in removing frogs.
- Arizona State Land Department: Stephen Williams distributed Jackie Thomas email (See Attached Email).
- Natural Resource Conservation Services (Alisha Phipps - See Attached Report): Have 8 current contracts and 2 applications. She is acting District Conservationist.

## OLD BUSINESS

District Sprayer Retainer: Stephen Williams contacted Diamond JK Nursery and Do-It-Best Hardware but neither were interested in managing the sprayer. He still needs to discuss this with 3 Bar 3 and Bill Brake.

Election Update (Stephen Williams): Dan Bell and Stephen Williams have appointed positions. Bill Schock and Barbara Johnson are elected supervisors. Dan Bell will continue as Treasurer. Dan Bell made a motion to appoint Stephen Williams as Chairman and appoint Bill Schock as the Vice-Chairman. Barbara Johnson seconded it. The motion carried unanimously.

Supervisor Appointment Update: Per Stephen Williams, Mark Larkin has resigned (effective when a new replacement supervisor is appointed). So, a new supervisor needs to be appointed. No interest in serving by George Vensel, Robert Noon, and Bill Brake. Dan Bell will talk to Cody Hereford and John Hamilton.

Cooperator Agreement, Questionnaire, and Mailing Update (Stephen Williams): So far, 20 questionnaires have been returned. The two key resource concerns are livestock water development and noxious plant/pest removal. Sixteen cooperator agreements have been returned. Based on the cooperator agreements in file, the district has 48 cooperators. The current mailing list will be emailed to the supervisors for them to update with email addresses and phone numbers.

## NEW BUSINESS

Rangeland Vegetation Monitoring Project: Per Jim Koweek, a list of permittees is being defined, 15 ranches with a total of 20 transects. The project will start in September and will cost \$250/transect for the 20 sites. Bill Schock made a motion to approve \$5,000 for monitoring (Jim Koweek). Dan Bell seconded it. The motion carried unanimously. Monitoring is done for compliance purposes and as a protection against potential lawsuits.

SC NRCD Booth (SC County Fair Sept 21-23): Dan Bell has the booth and bought supplies. Staffing: Fri (Alisha, Dan, Barbara), Sat (Dan, Chris), Sun (Chris, Dan (tear down)). Barbara Johnson made a motion to approve \$200 for supplies. Bill Schock seconded it. The motion carried unanimously.

Call to the Public: None

Supervisor Reports

- Stephen Williams: At the summer meeting, they covered parliamentary procedure (Roberts Rules of Order - Revised Issue) and open meeting law. When conducting a meeting the chairman can vote. Also, minutes sent in advance do not need to be read during the meeting and a second for approval is not needed. When covering the Treasurer's report, you should make a motion to file the report. If a motion is made to approve; then, the board is voting that they understand the words and numbers.
- Barbara Johnson: She has gotten 10.24 inches of rain since June 15.
- Dan Bell: Three new cooperators from his area: Suzie Clark, Josh Hamilton, and John Todd. He has gotten some rain, about 4 inches in the past 2 weeks.
- Bill Schock: His neighbors in San Rafael have gotten little rain. Tonight, Bureau of Land Management will hold a San Pedro Riparian National Conservation Area to solicit public comments on the Draft Resource Management Plan. Bill has sent a letter on the benefits of grazing, which reduces fuel loads. Per the statutes (See Attached Copy), NRCDC mandate is to help commercial agriculture.

Adjourn: Motion made by Dan Bell to adjourn the meeting. Bill Schock seconded the motion. The Meeting adjourned at 2:20 p.m.

Next regular meeting on October 24 at 12 p.m.

Minutes Submitted by: Chris Postel, Santa Cruz NRCDC Clerk

Date: August 26, 2018

Approval of Minutes: *Stephen M. Williams*

Date: 10/24/2018