



WINKELMAN NATURAL RESOURCE CONSERVATION DISTRICT

Quarterly Meeting

May 20, 2019

Final Draft

Location: Teleconference

The Winkelman Natural Resource Conservation District (NRCD) meeting was called to order at 1:17 pm.

Board and Staff

Bill Dunn, Steve Turcotte, Barb McGuire, Carol DuBois, Gary Vinson (Absent), Hattie Hedrick (Winkelman Resource Management Center (WRMC) Director), Kyle Thompson (WNRCD Coordinator), and Chris Postel (Clerk).

Agencies - Organizations

Emilio Carrillo (NRCS), Sarah Gandaria & Alison Haywood (AZGFD), Sharma Torrens & Deborrah Smith (AACD), and Jackie Thomas (AZ State Land Department).

Minutes of Past Meetings

Reviewed minutes: February 19, 2020, and May 13, 2020 and no changes were identified. Steve Turcotte moved to accept the minutes. No discussion. Carol DuBois seconded. Motion passed.

Financial Report (See Attached Report): District/State funds, \$12,443.59 and \$9,146.30. No discussion. Steve Turcotte moved to accept and file the financial reports. Barb McGuire seconded. Motion passed.

Reports from Agencies & Other Organizations

NRCS (Emilio Carrillo, See Attached Report): Conservation Plans have been for completed for Camp Grant and El Capitan. Archaeology for EQIP projects on AZSLD are in process; a contractor has been selected and has started to complete surveys. AACD is gathering CSP applications (due June 1).

Arizona Game and Fish: Per Alison, they are developing recreational opportunities, such as hiking and riding trails, in the lower San Pedro area. Informational flyers have been sent to the area residents. Per Sarah, the Landowner Relations program has funding available for projects related to habitat and brush management (50% match).

AACD (Sharma Torrens & Deborrah Smith): Per Deb, AACD has launched a new website, with a separate page/District. Information needs to be sent to Brook for the District's webpage (Agendas, Minutes, etc. can be posted on this page). AACD has a new weekly and monthly (Featured Rancher: Steve Turcotte) newsletter. She is working with mapping engineers on the Resource Assessment project. Per Sharma, the May 18 Water Rights Workshop had 16 attendees and Sarah Porter (ASU) was the key presenter. She is gathering CSP applications to enhance Ag operations due June 1. Public lands are available, and a cost share is not required. The Clerk will forward the newsletter to WNRCD list.

Old Business

NACD Grant Update (Funding Request Attached): Per Kyle, he is developing a species list for the Kearny area and will be contacting the Lower San Pedro Restoration group and AZ Forestry & Fire. Barb McGuire suggested adding the river birch tree. Oracle Community Learning Garden (OCLG) has submitted a \$2,600 funding request (Funds were approved in Q1, 2020). The request is for the completing the 2nd hoop house and creating a management plan. It was suggested to fund the request the hoop house items now. Once the hoop house is completed, the management plan task would be funded. Bill Dunn will contact Liz Tuck and Linda Leigh regarding the two-phase funding approach.

HPC Grant: Per Kyle, he is currently working on 3 tanks (Triangle Bar ranch) and will be submitting a reimbursement request to Arizona Game & Fish. The grant still has about \$6,000 left. He will be meeting with Wade Leuck about 2 tanks on his ranch that he wants to seal.

Water Protection Fund Grant: Per Kyle, the contract has been completed. Since AZ Forestry & Fire project did not address restoration, he will need to re-do the Biological Assessment and submit it in 4 weeks.

Pinal County Partnership Grant Update: No one has heard anything if Pinal County is going to fund these grants. Chris Postel will contact Stephanie Mack (Pinal County) regarding the status.

The Nature Conservancy (TNC) Land Donation Update: Per Bill, TNC is ready to transfer the land but the Education Center (WRMC) is not currently registered with the Arizona Corporation Commission (ACC). The Clerk is working on the paperwork to register the WRMC with the ACC.

New Business

2020 Supervisor Appointments (See Attached Nomination Form): Steve Turcotte made a motion to nominate Barbara McGuire and Gary Vinson to fill the two open WNRCD Supervisor, appointed positions. Seconded by Carol DuBois. No discussion. All voted Yea. Motion passed.

2020 Annual Reports (Due June 20): The Clerk completed the 2 Plan of Work and 3 request for funds documents: WNRCD Plan of Work, Winkelman Resource Management Center Plan of Work, WNRCD Application for State Supplemental Funds, WNRCD ESP Funds, and Winkelman Resource Management Center Direct Payment. The documents were updated based on the District's 2019-2020 activities and funding and emailed to the Board for review. No changes were noted. Steve Turcotte made a motion to approve the 5 documents. Seconded by Carol DuBois. No discussion. All voted Yea. Motion passed.

WNRCD Education Center Strategy (Bill Dunn): It has been challenging to get the Education Center Board active and involved with the schools. The following items were discussed: new board members need to be identified, create a smaller board with more autonomy and decision making authority, give the Education Center Director more power, partner with other non-profits (Biosphere, OCLG, etc.), ensure compliance with the statutes, and hold a reorganization meeting.

Reports from Supervisors & District Staff: Bill Dunn: Resolution Copper will have a new open pit and tailings pond in the District. They have purchased ranches in the Dripping Springs area and leased them back to the ranchers. Information is available in the Tonto Forest website. Resolution needs to be invited to give a presentation at the next scheduled quarterly meeting on August 19, 2020.

Call to the Public: None

Adjourn: Barbara McGuire made a motion to Adjourn the meeting at 2:35 pm. Steve Turcotte seconded it. Motion carried.

FinalDraft Minutes Submitted by: Chris Postel, WNRCD Clerk
2020

Date: September 16May 22,

Approval of Minutes: _____

Date: _____