



Winkelman Natural Resource Conservation District

Teleconference

July 16, 2020 at 4 pm

Final Minutes

Date: July 16, 2020

Call in: 425-436-6200, 516520#

In Attendance: Bill Dunn, Steve Turcotte, Carol DuBois, Barbara McGuire, Gary Vinson, Kyle Thompson (Absent), Hattie Hedrick, and Chris Postel (WNRCD Clerk).

Others: Emilio Carillo and Alisha Phipps (NRCS), Jackie Thomas (ASLD), and Liz Tuck (OCLG).

Called to Order: Meeting called to order by Bill at 4:03 pm

Agenda

Review/Approve WNRCD Annual Reports: The District & Ed Ctr reports were reviewed, no changes noted. Steve Turcotte made a motion to approve the annual reports as submitted. Carol DuBois seconded the motion. No discussion. Motion passed unanimously.

BAER Team & WNRCD Fire-Flooding Repsonse Update: Per Bill Dunn, he picked up some NRCS maps from Emilio Carillo and gave them to the Oracle Fire Department staff at the BAER Team meeting (Oracle Fire Department on 7/15/20). Agencies attending the meeting were: Oracle Fire Department, Pinal County Sheriff and Flood Control departments, US Forest Service, and Coronado Forest Service. The BAER Team has finished their assessment and gave it to the Coronado FS. No mitigation practices for the mountain have been identified.

Grants Update (See Attached Reports): The Clerk reviewed Kyle Thompson's Grant Update report with the Board. The HPC grant is 90% complete. We still need to clean one tank for match and apply the ESS-13 once the DuBois tank has water in it. \$40,000 has been requested from the Arizona Water Protect Fund Grant and Kyle is currently working on permitting for the project. The WNRCD just signed the contract for the Pinal County Grant. No other grants are being applied for at this time.

Per Liz Tuck (OCLG), the second hoop house is up and is in the final stages of completion. Linda Leigh (OCLG Director) has written a business plan and an operations manual. In June of last year, the OCLG received a grant from Sprouts to expand the gardening program for Oracle school children. We were able to build new beds that tripled the amount of space available for the children. We hired a former teacher to design a gardening curriculum that follows school guidelines. All topics were modified for each grade level. Every Monday during the school year a class from grades 1 – 6 visited the garden for one hour. They planted seeds, cared for plants, learned about soil, plant growth and the environment. Four volunteers led the classes each week. Also, OCLG just received a new grant from Pinal County that will enable them to build a classroom on the garden site. One of the volunteers, Kyle Richardson taught the classes. These grant funds will be used to pay him to teach for us this coming school year. Bill Dunn requested a copy of Kyle Richardson's resume.

Nominate-Elect Board Officers:

- Chairman: Steve Turcotte made a motion to nominate Bill Dunn as Chairman. Carol DuBois seconded the motion. No discussion. Motion passed unanimously.

- Vice-Chairman & Treasurer: Bill Dunn made a motion to nominate Steve Turcotte as Vice-Chairman Gary Vinson as Treasurer. Carol DuBois seconded the motion. No discussion. Motion passed unanimously.
- Approve Cooperator Agreements: Bill has two cooperator agreements: Bobby Blake (Updated agreement) and Zacy May (New Cooperator) has bought the Rafter 6 Ranch from Kemp Morris. He has a fence building company and is originally from Florence, AZ. Steve Turcotte made a motion to accept the new cooperator agreements. Bill Dunn seconded the motion. No discussion. Motion passed unanimously.

Winkelman resource Management Center (WRMC) Update:

- The Nature Conservancy Land (TNC) Donation: Per Bill Dunn, TNC is willing to donate 2 properties. One property has a well & electricity and could be the headquarters for the Education Center. He will contact NRCS to see if they have a need for office space.
- WRMC Arizona Corporation Commission Application: The application has been completed and filed. The Copper Basin News will publish the ACC notice.
- WMRC Bylaws: Steve Turcotte is working on revising the bylaws to create a new version.

Call to the Public: Per Emilio Carillo (NRCS), the stakeholders meeting conference call was today and Keisha Tatum (NRCS) discussed the reorganization plan. NRCS has about \$400,000 for CSP funding. He has 8 applications in the 3 Districts. Per Bill Dunn, they will be going to a team concept, trying to get more staff into the field.

Next Meeting Date is September 16 at 1:15 pm

Adjourn: Motion made by Barbara McGuire to adjourn the meeting. Carol Duboi seconded the motion. The meeting adjourned at 7:26 pm

Final Minutes Submitted by: Chris Postel, WNRCD Clerk

Date: September 16, 2020

Approval of Minutes: _____

Date: _____