

**CIUDAD SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT  
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS MEETING**

Zoom  
Virtual Meeting

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**February 26<sup>th</sup>, 2024  
Meeting Minutes**

1. **Call to Order** **4:32 pm**
  - A. Supervisors Present: Steve Glass, Tom Allen, Dan Conklin, Sarah Hurteau, Maria Young (arrived at 4:38pm)
  - B. Supervisors Absent: Zoe Economou
  - C. Others Present: Astrid Mooney, Erin Blaz, Ricky Reedy, Orlando Romero, Jaren Peplinski, Theresa Aragon (departed at 6:01pm), Roxann Moore, Lawrence Crane (departed at 6:29pm), Jason Swann (departed at 5:22pm), Jessica Welch (departed at 5:22pm), Alicia Armijo, David Weinstein (arrived at 4:35pm, departed at 5:22pm), Katie Mechenbier (arrived at 4:35pm), Marissa Goodwin (arrived at 4:35pm, departed at 5:36pm)
  
2. **Agenda Review and Approval (Action Item):** Mr. Allen moved to approve the agenda, which was seconded by Mr. Conklin and the motion was approved unanimously by roll call vote.  
Roll Call Vote: Steve Glass – Yes  
Thomas Allen – Yes  
Zoe Economou – Absent  
Daniel Conklin – Yes  
Maria Young – Absent  
Sarah Hurteau - Yes
  
3. **Review and Approval of Minutes (Action Item)**
  - A. Regular Board Meeting Minutes 1/22/2024 – Mr. Glass noted that he had made some suggestions to the draft minutes. Mr. Allen made a motion to approve the 1/22/2024 meeting minutes as amended, which was seconded by Mr. Conklin and the motion was approved unanimously by roll call vote.  
Roll Call Vote: Steve Glass – Yes  
Thomas Allen – Yes  
Zoe Economou – Absent  
Daniel Conklin – Yes  
Maria Young – Absent  
Sarah Hurteau – Yes
  
4. **Guest Presentation** - Jason Swann & Jessica Welch, Trust for Public Lands; [Mill Levy Feasibility Study Report](#) - Jason Swan provided an introduction of the Trust for Public Lands. Jessica Welch reviewed the report that was provided to the District. Ms. Hurteau inquired about the property tax estimates. Ms. Hurteau inquired about the timeline. Ms. Welch noted that this was addressed in the implementation section of the report. Ms. Hurteau noted that she did not see when the funding would become available, and asked when it would arrive. Ms. Welch stated that she believes it would arrive in fiscal year 2025. Ms. Hurteau then asked when this money would be available to be budgeted. Ms. Welch stated that she believes the money would be available in July of 2025. Mr. Swann continued with the presentation, covering Step 2: a public opinion survey, which TPL recommends to gauge public priorities, campaign perceptions, and ballot language. Following the presentation, TPL representatives fielded questions. Mr. Conklin commented that the examples of the ballot language, between the successful and failed campaigns, appeared to be the same in that they were very dry in tone. Mr. Swan added there is not a limit on the number of words in ballot language. Ms. Hurteau asked if there were examples that had more inspiring language than the examples provided, and Mr. Swann said that he is confident he could find some better examples

with more inspiring language. Ms. Hurteau expressed concern in funding a polling agency to conduct this research that TPL recommends, and Mr. Swann offered to provide some recommendations and quotes. Mr. Conklin asked how many individuals would typically be polled, and Mr. Swann stated 500-600. The Board and Mr. Swann continued to discuss the need for polling and attractive ballot language briefly. Ms. Mooney asked via the Zoom meeting chat function, “at what point in time would Ciudad SWCD have to propose a budget for using the monies incurred from the Mill Levy tax? Would this be information voters would like to know before passing the referendum?” Mr. Swann stated that the District would need to provide these figures 70 days before the election so that this could be included in the resolution. Mr. Swann asked about the coordination of the election itself, such as printing and other items, and if the District has communicated with the County. Ms. Hurteau stated that this would be on the regular ballot in New Mexico, making it a non-issue. Mr. Swann recognized that he may have confused New Mexico and Colorado election laws, and that it may be a non-issue here. Ms. Hurteau requested clarification on the approval of these measures by the SWCC. Ms. Mechenbier stated that the District will need to notify the SWCC of a proposed mill levy amount before going out for a mill levy, and that the SWCC is next meeting in March and June.

## 5. Reports of Partners

- A. EMNRD (Lawrence Crane & Marissa Goodwin): A verbal report was provided. Mr. Crane provided a notification of the Sandia NFL award. The total award was \$368,700, \$43k will be dedicated for salary and benefits for Ciudad SWCD staff.. The agreement will be for a three-year term, and the state will try to tie the expiration date of the contract to the date of the award. USFS is currently working around La Madera which is adjacent to the State Land Office La Madera property. Milne-Gutierrez property is on NM State Forestry radar as an area in need of treatment. Debrief after FEMA and San Antonito project recommended with Albuquerque Fire and Rescue, State Forestry, and Ciudad SWCD In the next few weeks a RFA will be posted for the NFL.
- B. NRCS (Roxann Moore): A written report was provided and reviewed.
- C. NMDA (Katie Mechenbier): A written report was provided and reviewed.
- D. NMED (TBD): No report was provided.
- E. Other: No additional reports were provided.

## 6. Finance Committee Report (Action Item)

- A. 1/31/2024 Finance Report. Ms. Mooney introduced Alicia Armijo, the new Financial Coordinator and reviewed the January financial reports. Mr. Conklin recommended acceptance of the finance report on behalf of the finance committee. Ms. Young moved to accept the 1/31/2024 financial reports, which was seconded by Mr. Conklin and the motion was unanimously approved by roll call vote.

Roll Call Vote:            Steve Glass – Yes  
                                 Thomas Allen – Yes  
                                 Zoe Economou – Absent  
                                 Daniel Conklin – Yes  
                                 Maria Young – Yes  
                                 Sarah Hurteau – Yes

- 7. **District Staff Report** – (Astrid Mooney, Erin Blaz, Ricky Reedy, Orlando Romero, Jaren Peplinski, Theresa Aragon) – Report was provided and reviewed.

## 8. Action Items

- A. [Agreement with Sierra Vista Estates Neighborhood Association](#) for Community Chipper Event

Mr. Allen made a motion to authorize Mr. Glass to sign the agreement on behalf of the board. This motion was seconded by Mr. Conklin. The motion was approved unanimously by roll call vote.

Roll Call Vote: Steve Glass – Yes  
Thomas Allen - Yes  
Zoe Economou – Absent  
Daniel Conklin – Yes  
Maria Young – Yes  
Sarah Hurteau – Yes

- B. [Amendment No. 1 to the Service Agreement](#) with Ana Macias. The amendment adds a new task and authorizes additional working hours for compensation each month. This increases the number of hours from 21 to 62 compensated hours per month.

Ms. Economou made a motion to approve the Written Amendment with Bernalillo County Ana Macias and authorized Chairman Glass to sign on behalf of the Board, which was seconded by Mr. Allen. The motion was approved unanimously by roll call vote.

Roll Call Vote: Steve Glass – Yes  
Thomas Allen - Yes  
Zoe Economou – Absent  
Daniel Conklin – Yes  
Maria Young – Yes  
Sarah Hurteau – Yes

#### 9. Reports and possible Action Items

- A. Alternate District representative for MRCOG Water Resources Board - Maria has agreed to be the alternate.
- B. Land of Enchantment Legacy Funds - Ciudad SWCD will request money to begin a district-wide land use plan (LUP). Mr. Glass noted that a LUP could be drafted using the Upper Chama land use plan as a starting point.

#### 10. Other Business

- A. Mr. Glass suggested that the board do introductions for new staff member Alicia Armijo. District board members introduced themselves.

**Adjourned**

**7:00 PM**

**Submitted by: Jaren Peplinski**

**Date approved: 3/18/2024**