WHITEWATER DRAW

NATURAL RESOURCE CONSERVATION DISTRICT

and

NIMON HOPKINS CONSERVATION EDUCATION CENTER

REGULAR MEETING, Board of Supervisors

NRCS FIELD OFFICE, 640 10th St, Douglas, AZ

Wednesday, April 17, 2024, 5:00 pm

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| *Members Present:* | *NRCS Representatives Present:* |
| Fred Davis, Chairman, (elected 2018) | Don Decker – Rangeland Conservationist -  |
| Ron Bemis, Vice-Chairman (elected 2022) | Charles Thorpe – Natural Resource Specialist |
| Frank Krentz, Treasurer (elected 2020) |  |
| Peggy Davis, Supervisor (appointed 2022) 2 yr. term |  |
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|  |  |
| *Members Absent:*  | *Guests Present:* |
| Nathan Watkins, Supervisor (appointed 2022) 2 yr. term | None |
| *Education Center Representative & Clerk:* |  |
| Peggy Davis |  |

**Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order by Chairman, Fred Davis at 5:01 pm.

**Establishment of Quorum:** With (4) supervisors in attendance a quorum was established.

**Agenda Approval:** Ron Bemis made a motion to accept the meeting agenda as submitted by the clerk. Frank Krentz seconded the motion. After the vote the agenda was approved.

**Approval of Minutes:** Ron Bemis made a motion to approve the minutes from the previous meeting. Frank Krentz seconded the motion. After the vote, the motion passed and the minutes were approved.

**Financial Report:** The Financial Report was submitted by the clerk. Frank Krentz made a motion to file the report as presented. Ron Bemis seconded the motion. The vote was passed by unanimous vote. The report will be filed.

**Call to the Public:**  None.

**AACD Report:** Frank Krentz said that he recently attended a meeting in Phoenix with state leadership.

* The AACD Summer Meeting will be held at Wild Horse Pass in Phoenix on September 5-6.
* NRCS will have the venue for one whole day.
* Tickets for the Annual Gun Raffle have been printed.
* HB 2865 **NATURAL RESOURCES, ENERGY AND WATER** Bill has been passed by the State House and will go to the Senate for a vote.
* Frank has been working on a grant for WWD with AACD, Amber Morin, and US Forest Service.
* Frank attended the Washington DC Fly-In meeting. He says that a new Farm Bill will likely not be passed this year.
* Producers need to keep EQIP Total Payment Cap of $450,000 for five years (under the 2018 Farm Bill) when they apply for an EQIP.

**Species of Concern:** This week there is a potential of a pair of Mexican Grey Wolves to be released in the Peloncillo Mts. There is nothing new about the alledged Jaguar siting in the Mule Mountains.

**NRCS Report and Malpai Borderlands:** Don Decker gave the following report: The Field Office is processing 16 applications for IRA EQIP who are within WWD NRCD. Four of these applicants are for cropland and 12 are for rangeland. This represents $1,095,000 to be obligated on cropland and $1,014,000 to be obligated to rangelands. General EQIP ranking due date was April 12. In general, EQIP and the second round of EQIP IRA is being processed by our office for eleven (11) rangeland applications and seven (7)farm applications. There are also three rangeland CSP applications which are due to be ranked by May 31.

**Tom Reis: Team 7 Leader:** None

**Education Center Report:** Peggy Davis reported that there were over 40 attendees at the Conservation Easement Workshop. Sharma Torrens said that many on the surveys were positive and would like more information. We received a written Thank You from Sharma.

**Long Range Plan:** None

**Cooperator Recruitment:** None

**OLD BUSINESS:**

1. Election: Peggy Davis, Ron Bemis and Frank Krentz were the nomination committee this year for the Fred Davis 6 yr. term that is being vacated. Amber Morin was nominated to fill this position.
2. Our old printer has quit. Ron Bemis made a motion to reimburse the clerk $300 for the purchase of a new printer. Frank Krentz seconded the motion. The motion passed.

**AGENDA NEXT MEETING:**

* Ron Bemis would like to have the Douglas AMA put on each month under Reports.
* Approval of Year End Reports to State Land Dept.
* Appointment of two supervisors to each hold office for 2 years.
* NACD additional dues

**CORRESPONDENCE:** There is a request from Arizona Foundation for Ag Literacy for a donation. Fred Davis made a motion to send $100. Ron Bemis seconded the motion and the motion passed.

NACD is requesting dues. Peggy made a motion that we send $200 as per the District Budget and discuss further next month. Fred seconded the motion and the motion passed.

**Payment of Bills:**

**Executive Session:** None needed

**ADJOURNMENT:** Fred Davis made a motion to adjourn the meeting. The meeting was adjourned at 5:56 pm.

The next meeting will be held on Wednesday, July 17, 5:00 pm

Peggy Davis, Clerk

Fred H. Davis, Chairman: Date: