



**Socorro Soil & Water Conservation District
103 Francisco de Avondo, Socorro, NM 87801
December 13, 2021 12:00 PM**

Present: Eddy Harris, Vernon Leseberg, James Sanchez, Lencho Vega, Will Kolbenschlag, Nyleen Troxel Stowe, Gabby Coughlin, with Katie Mechenbier and Rafael Sierra-Castro by Zoom Meetings.

The **meeting** was called to order at 12:08 pm by Chairman Eddy Harris.

The **agenda** passed on a motion by Vernon Leseberg and second by James Sanchez.

The **November 2021 minutes** passed on a motion by Vernon Leseberg and second by James Sanchez.

Items:

Financial:

Treasurer's Report and Voucher Payments: See attachments. These were approved as presented on a motion by Vernon Leseberg and second by James Sanchez.

1st Quarter Budget Report Approval: Correction from agenda-the first quarter, not second quarter budget report was approved by DFA. See attachment.

Recurring Salt Cedar FY 2022 Funding: See attached spreadsheet. The Gonzales tract will be started on Tuesday December 14, 2021 by Sanchez Demolition. There is \$15, 571.87 remaining of the available funding. We have two landowners who have submitted applications: Bobby Contreras with 13.69 acres and Monica Gonzales with 100 acres. The Contreras tract is the next tract to the north from the Gonzales tract. The next tract to the north is the Monica Gonzales tract. Staff asked Sanchez Demolition for a price to complete the Contreras tract but have not received a number. If staff do not hear from Sanchez Demolition, they will contact other Contractors to see about getting the Contreras tract completed with the FY 2022 funding. Applications were approved on a motion by James Sanchez and second by Vernon Leseberg.

Cost Share:

Agricultural: See attached spreadsheet. Five projects were completed in the month of November. One project past the deadline is the Cordova irrigation well rehab project. The Cordovas applied for irrigation well rehab on well 167. The invoice submitted for this well rehab was dated April of 2021. The Cordovas never contacted the Socorro SWCD to say that their project was finished in FY 2021 and they were cancelled June 1, 2021. Will Kolbenschlag put together a timeline of their applications, water rights transfer, invoices and correspondence. See attachment. Irrigation well rehab has become complicated through the years due to landowners selling their water rights primarily to large urban areas. On a motion by James Sanchez and second by Vernon Leseberg, the Socorro SWCD will no longer cost share on irrigation well rehab effective immediately. New applications received were from Paul Bauer for land leveling, Michael Thom for turnout installation (La Joya Acequia) and Seferino Esquivel for turnout installation (MRGCD). These three were approved on a motion by James Sanchez and second by Vernon Leseberg.

Open Meetings Resolution: See attachment. This resolution for calendar year 2022 was approved on a motion by Vernon Leseberg and second by Lencho Vega. Roll call vote followed with James Sanchez, Lencho Vega, Vernon Leseberg and Eddy Harris all voting in the affirmative. This will be published in the Government Legal section in the El Defensor Chieftain.

NMDA Report: See attachment. Katie went over the report.

MRGCD Report: Gabby Coughlin introduced herself to the board in person at this meeting. She is the Agronomist with MRGCD. She had several handouts that are attached. She is working hard to promote soil testing with landowners. The new soil testing facility should be up and running by



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February 2022. MRGCD received RCPP funding for the Valencia and Socorro reaches of their irrigation system. They anticipate starting to take applications in October of 2022. MRGCD will also start taking applications for their cover cropping and water leasing program in January of 2022.

Adjourn: Meeting concluded at 12:55 pm.

Chairman

Date