



Present: Chris Lopez, Lencho Vega, Jimmy Sanchez, Will Kolbensschlag, Nyleen Troxel Stowe, Dani Rivera, Gabby Coughlin (MRGCD) Stan Towner, Leslie Ramzel (NRCS) and Della Vega. The **meeting** was called to order at 12:00 pm by Vice-Chairman Chris Lopez.

The **agenda** passed on a motion by Jimmy Sanchez and second by Lencho Vega.

The **November 14th, 2022 minutes** passed on a motion by Jimmy Sanchez and second by Lencho Vega.

Items:

Financial:

Treasurer's Report and Voucher Payments: See attachments. This was approved as presented on a motion by Jimmy Sanchez and second by Lencho Vega.

Envirothon Sponsorship: The board agrees to sponsor the Envirothon competition in the amount of \$200. The camp will be held April 14-16, 2023 at Glorieta Adventure Camps in Glorieta, NM. This was approved on a motion by Jimmy Sanchez and second by Lencho Vega.

Cost Share Program: Updated spreadsheet attached. One application for Residential: John Stokes for a low flow toilet. This was approved on a motion by Jimmy Sanchez and seconded by Lencho Vega.

Open Meetings Resolution for 2023: See attachment. The resolution passed on a motion by Lencho Vega and second by Jimmy Sanchez. Roll call vote followed with Board members Jimmy Sanchez, Lencho Vega and Chris Lopez all voting in the affirmative. #2024-5. Regular meetings of the Socorro SWCD shall continue to be held on the second Monday of each month at noon (12 PM).

Prescribed Burn Manager Certification Program Public Comment: EMNRD Proposes the rule to create the Prescribed burn manager certification program for private landowner and private landowners' agents, Contactors, or legally authorized designees who conduct prescribed burns as directed by NMSA which includes not only Forestry Divisions but for Agricultural private landowners. The Socorro SWCD Board has concerns that this will make it difficult to continue using fire as a management tool in farming operations. The Middle Rio Grande Conservancy District has concerns that it will impede weed management in their water delivery system of ditches. Staff will investigate if there are agricultural exclusions and if not, they will draft comments for the board to review and get them submitted in a timely manner. This was approved as on a motion by Jimmy Sanchez and second by Lencho Vega. See attached full bill language which has exclusions for agricultural practices in Section 2F.

Mileage and Per Diem Policy for 2023: The Socorro SWCD will pay IRS Standard mileage rate set for January 1st of the preceding year for mileage reimbursement. This was approved on a motion by Jimmy Sanchez and second by Lencho Vega.

NMDA Report: See attachment.

MRGCD Report: See attachment. Gabby went over the Soil Health project that she is working on with the NM Game and Fish Department at the Bernardo Refuge. They are



**Socorro Soil & Water Conservation District
103 Francisco de Avondo, Socorro, NM 87801
December 12, 2022, 12:00 PM**

having several events this winter and spring. See attachment. She also went over the Annual Meeting of the Envirothon that is being held December 17. See attachment.

NRCS: Stan Towner stated that the CSP deadline has been moved to February of 2023.

Adjourn: Meeting concluded at 12:51 pm.

Chairman

Date