



**Socorro Soil & Water Conservation District  
1305 Enterprise Rd., Socorro, NM 87801  
May 12, 2026 12:00 PM**

**Present:** Joe Chris Lopez, Edward Harris, Vernon Leseberg, Chanda Vigil, Sefie Anaya (virtual), Will Kolbensschlag, Daniela Rivera, Christopher Jennings, Cassidy Cordova (left at 12:25), Giovanni Gutierrez (left at 12:25)

**Board Members Not Present:** None.

The **meeting** was called to order at 12:02 pm by Chairman Lopez.

The **agenda** passed unanimously following a motion by Edward Harris and a second by Vernon Leseberg.

The **April 14, 2026** minutes were approved unanimously following a motion by Edward Harris and a second by Vernon Leseberg.

**Public Comment Period:** Christopher Jennings of the Socorro NRCS presented an overview of the NRCS contracts approved for team 8 this year and reviewed the programs that the NRCS is currently offering for cooperators. Chris plans to attend the Socorro SWCD board meetings regularly, and an NRCS report will be added to future agendas.

**Items:**

**Socorro 4-H Sponsorship for Annual Competition (student presentation):** Giovanni Gutierrez gave a presentation to the board regarding his first-place finish at the National Competition for land judging last weekend in Oklahoma.

Sefie Anaya made a motion to support the Socorro FFA Chapter with a \$500 donation. Edward Harris seconded the motion, and the board unanimously approved the donation.

**Treasurer's Report and Voucher Payments:** See attachments. Following a motion by Edward Harris and a second by Vernon Leseberg, these were unanimously accepted as presented.

**FY2025 Audit Report Approved by OSA:** See attachment. The Office of the State Auditor has approved our final audit report for FY2025.

**Draft Audit Contract for FY2026:** See attachment. Will presented the FY2026 draft audit contract, which is generated by the Office of the State Auditor. Baldwin Accounting and Consulting, LLC will be performing the AUP for Tier 6.

**FY2026 Q3 Budget Report Approved by DFA:** See attachments. The third quarter budget report has been approved.

**FY2027 Interim Budget Approval:** See attachment. Following a motion by Edward Harris and a second by Chanda Vigil, the interim budget was unanimously passed.

**Settlement agreement with Insuror's Indemnity Corporation:** See attachment. Will presented the final version of the agreement. Following a motion by Sefie Anaya and a second by Chanda Vigil, the Board voted unanimously to approve settlement of the pending lawsuit identified as Case No. D-725-CV-2025-00147.

**Budget Amendment Resolution #2026-7:** See attachment. Will read the resolution aloud. Edward Harris motioned to approve the resolution, and Vernon Leseberg seconded the motion. A roll call vote followed: Chris Lopez: yes, Edward Harris: yes, Vernon Leseberg: yes, Sefie Anaya: yes, Chanda Vigil: yes.



**Socorro Soil & Water Conservation District  
1305 Enterprise Rd., Socorro, NM 87801  
May 12, 2026 12:00 PM**

**Noxious Weed Calendars:** See attachment. Ordering is now open for the 2027 Noxious Weed Calendars produced by Otero SWCD. Edward Harris made a motion to order 300 calendars. Vernon Leseberg seconded the motion. The motion carried with all members voting in the affirmative.

**Grants Update:** See attachment. Will gave an update on the 4 grants that have been applied for for FY2027. We have not yet received word on any of the grants. Will reviewed the WRRRI grant that has just opened for applications.

**NMACD Dues Invoice:** Following discussion, no action was taken.

**Supervisor training scheduled for November 10, 2026 at 10:30am:** At the board’s request, Will requested that Jennifer Hopper (NMACD training and development specialist) conduct supervisor training prior to the November board meeting. She has agreed to conduct the training in November. All board members are encouraged to attend.

**MOA with Bureau of Reclamation for Rio Grande Basin Study:** Following discussion, no action was taken.

**Leopold Conservation Award:** Will reminded the board that nominations are due June 15, 2026.

**Tablets/chromebooks for board meetings:** See attachment. This was approved in the April 2026 board meeting. Will has ordered the chromebooks.

**Cost Share:**

Update: See attachment. Daniela updated the board on the status of the cost share program.

**Employee Reports:** See attachments. Will and Daniela reviewed their activity reports for the month.

**NMDA Report:** See attachment. Will reviewed the NMDA report important dates.

**Adjourn:** Following a motion by Edward Harris and a second by Chanda Vigil, the board voted unanimously to conclude the meeting at 1:50 pm.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Chairman

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date