



Pima Natural Resource Conservation District
Pima Center for Conservation Education, Inc.
NRCS Plant Materials Center
3241 N. Romero Road
Tucson, AZ 85705



Final Minutes of the Board of Supervisors of the Pima Natural Resource Conservation District (PNRCD)

Meeting Date: Tuesday, July 16, 2019

Meeting Location: NRCS Plant Material Center, 3241 N. Romero Rd, Tucson, AZ 85705

Attendees:

Supervisors: Jim Chilton , Cindy Coping , Jonathan DuHamel, Patricia King, Andrew McGibbon (Absent), Chris Postel (Clerk), Stephen Williams (Santa Cruz NRCD), Cary Lilly, Alex Loera, and Alvaro Campos (NRCS), Robert Schmalzel (Biological Consultant).

PNRCD Meeting

Call to Order - 10:39 am

Approve June 18, 2019 Meeting Minutes: **Motion:** Supervisor King moved to **approve the meeting minutes** of June 18, 2019. Motion seconded by Supervisor Du Hamel. Motion carried 3 Aye- 0 Nay.

Financial Report (See Attached): Per Supervisor Coping, the checking account balances are: \$5,225.32 (State) and \$47,303.61 (District). The financial reports are filed.

Invoice (Clerk)

Supervisor King moved to **approve the invoice** of Chris Postel (\$699.14). Motion seconded by Supervisor Chilton. Motion carried 3 Aye- 0 Nay.

Administration (Chris Postel)

- AACD Summer Meeting: During the AACD Board of Directors meeting, a motion was made to keep the NRCDs at the State Land Department, vote was 14 ayes and 7 nays. NRCS-AACD will be doing a partnership for conducting Conservation Needs Assessments. \$400,000 has been budgeted for the first year with a total of \$1,500,000 for 5 years. AACD will be sending a Letter of Support to Districts. A letter of Support needs to be signed and sent to AACD by the end of July. NRCS will be emailing the Memorandum of Agreement and Cooperative Services Agreement for the Districts to review and sign. They need to be signed by August 14. Chris Postel was recognized as the AZ NRCD staff of the year for his District clerk efforts (Pima, Santa Cruz & Winkelman).
- Website Update: Per Supervisor Coping, no change since last meeting.
- Proposed Meeting Schedule: It was discussed to change to a quarterly meeting schedule (2nd Tuesday, February, May, August, November). It will be discussed and approved at the next meeting on August 20.

Old Business

- Biological Assessment (BA) Update: Per Supervisor Chilton, Jeff Eisenberg and George Ruyle , (University of Arizona, Natural Resource Users Law and Policy Center (Center) wrote comments on the Coronado National Forest Service (FS) Biological Assessment on behalf of several PNRCD cooperators with FS applicant status. Al Medina also wrote comments regarding the latest warm water fish science (a subject which is of concern to PNRCD and PCCE). The Coronado Forest Service has scheduled a meeting with applicant status permittees on August 11. In addition, PCCE retained Robert Schmalzel to prepare comments on the FS Biological Assessment with respect to the Pima Pineapple Cactus, Huachuca Water Umbel and the Canoa Hills Ladies'-tress. Mr. Schmalzel submitted his comments to the FS. Mr. Schmalzel's comments, filed in the name of Jim Chilton (who has FS applicant status) focused on the Pima Pineapple Cactus which affects most PNRCD and PCCE cooperators. Furthermore, comments were submitted on the Biological Assessment by the Chilton Ranch prepared by consultant Dennis Parker.
 - Robert Schmalzel discussed his recent observation that the FS has allowed significant grazing on areas inside the FS where Pima Pineapple Cactus has been observed. Per Supervisor Chilton, in the future, Robert Schmalzel should focus his attention on the Pima Pineapple Cactus which is a major concern of many District cooperators rather than the umbel and Ladies'-tress.
- Elimination of the Designation of our International Border Areas as a "Coronado Forest Border Roadless Area: Per Supervisor Chilton, the US Border Patrol wants to complete a road along the international boundary to improve patrol efficiency in the Pima Natural Resource Conservation District and a neighboring District. A resolution needs to be prepared petitioning Governor Douglas Ducey and the President of the United States, to take essential action permitting a road in the "roadless area" to improve border security, the lack of which greatly affects every ranch cooperator in this area

New Business

- 2019-2020 Goals & Objectives: A workshop will be offered in Oct-Nov on water rights and issues by Arizona Land and Water Trust, co-sponsored by the Santa Cruz NRCD. Pima could help sponsor this workshop and get more cooperators to attend.
- Review PNRCD Annual Report: The report was reviewed. **Motion:** Supervisor King moved to **approve the reports**. Motion seconded by Supervisor DuHamel. Motion carried 3 Aye- 0 Nay.
- NRCS-AACD Partnership Programs (Cary Lilly):
 - High School Student Intern Program: This is an eight-week program and currently has 3 students (Kingman, Safford, & Fredonia). These interns will rotate thru different areas. The Tucson NRCS office is currently looking for intern students (Juniors-Seniors).
 - Conservation Needs Assessment (CNA) Program: NRCS is looking for specific resource needs or issues that need to be addressed in your District. For a District to participate, a Letter of Support (AACD) needs to be signed by the District, which is currently being drafted by Deborah Smith (AACD).

