



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



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

Meeting Date: July 6, 2020 Meeting Location: public teleconference
Time the meeting was called to order: 9:05 am

Attendees:

Pima NRCD: Jim Chilton (Chair), Cindy Copping, Jonathan DuHamel, Patricia King (Absent), Andrew McGibbon (absent), and Chris Postel (Clerk).
Others: Deborrah Smith (AACD Director), Alisha Phipps (NRCS), Karen Simms (Pima County), & Cody Hatfield (AZ State Land Department)

Bighorn BAER Team Update & Pima NRCD Strategy: Per Supervisor Copping, she and Chris attended a joint Winkelman-Redington conference call on July 3 at 6 pm. Jennifer Ruyle, (Deputy Director, BAER & Watershed & Planning) gave an overview of the BAER program. The program provides funds to address imminent threats to human life, property, and resources. This is only a US Forest Service (FS) response and only available on FS land but they coordinate with other agencies. The focus is to identify the ranches, what resources were damaged (fences, water line, etc.) with their priorities, and get this information to Deborrah Smith (AACD) ASAP. Keisha Tatum (NRCS) discussed two funding options: Emergency Watershed Protection (EWP) program is very similar to BAER except that it's available on private lands. The EQIP option is available only if the damaged practices were applied through EQIP. The cooperator can contact the District Conservationist to restore those practices. The Pinal/Pima County Farm Service Agency could provide assistance thru their Emergency Conservation Program. Three letters have been drafted to request assistance: NRCS (Keisha Tatum), Arizona State Land Division (Lisa Atkins), and the Farm Service Agency (Heidi Bernal).

Per Deborrah Smith, she is gathering information from the Districts, such as name, what was damaged and land type. Bill Dunn is working with Emilio Carillo (NRCS) on maps. Deborrah will package up this information for a meeting with the Farm Service Agency this afternoon.

Per Supervisor Chilton, we need to ID the Permittees and what has been damaged. Per Cody Hatfield, the A7 ranch and the Goff ranches have sustained damage. Alisha Phipps will overlay the fire maps over the Pima District map. On leased Pima County land, Karen Simms has identified 3 ranches: the 6 Bar (The Goffs), the A7 (Andy Smallhouse), and T9 (no permittee and maybe no damage). Per Supervisor Chilton, these fires burn wooden

fence posts and melt the plastic pipe (above-the-ground water lines). So, a list of damages should be emailed to the Pima NRCD and forwarded to Deborah Smith (AACD).

Per Supervisor Copping, could Pima County be a sponsor for the NRCS EWP program? This program requires a 25% match. Karen Simms will contact Brian Jones at Flood Control about this request. Also, during the July 3rd conference call, Andy Smallhouse had identified 10 dams that need to be cleaned out ASAP; so, what can be done to get this approved quickly.

Call to the Public None

Meeting adjourned at 9:24 am. Supervisor DuHamel moved to adjourn the meeting. Supervisor Copping seconded. Motion carried 4-0.

Final Minutes: Submitted by Chris Postel, Pima NRCD Clerk on September 3, 2020

Final Minutes were Approved by the PNRCD/PCCE Board of Supervisors:

Signed Jim Chilton 9-7-2020
Jim Chilton, Chair, Pima NRCD/PCCE Date