

**TAOS SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT
REGULAR ONLINE/VIRTUAL BOARD MEETING**

SEPTEMBER 17, 2025

9:00 A.M.

To join Zoom Meeting, follow this link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83894896158?pwd=wzoePIAVUroZsZCOBS5Dnlb5qHzpbM.1>

Meeting ID: 838 9489 6158 - Passcode: 1941

Telephone participants can join by dialing: 1 (669) 444-9171 and entering the meeting ID and passcode

DRAFT MINUTES

These are not the official minutes and are subject to approval by the public body.

I. CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL

Chairman Maureen Johnson called the meeting to order at 9:02 a.m.

Board of Supervisors Attendance:

Maureen Johnson (Chairman)	Present
Stephen Trujillo (Vice-Chairman)	Absent
George Long (Secretary/Treasurer)	Present
Andy Martinez (Member)	Present
Mary Lane Leslie (Member)	Absent
Greg Miller (Member)	Present
Sam DesGeorges (Member)	Present

Other Attendance:

Tanya Duncan (TSWCD Assistant District Manager)
Veronice Cortez (TSWCD Administrative Assistant)
Vernon Mirabal (NRCS District Conservationist)
Robert Pokorney (Chairman of Taos CWMA)
Manuel Gutierrez (TSWCD Acequia Program Specialist)- joined via Zoom
Grace Powell (TSWCD Forest Health Specialist)

II. READING AND APPROVAL OF AGENDA

- A. September 17, 2025- Sam Des Georges made a motion to approve the September 17, 2025 Agenda as presented. Andy Martinez seconded and the motion carried with roll call voting as follows:

Maureen Johnson	Yes
Stephen Trujillo	Absent
George Long	Yes
Andy Martinez	Yes
Mary Lane Leslie	Absent

Sam DesGeorges	Yes
Greg Miller	Yes

III. GUESTS- no guests.

IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- A. August 20, 2025 Regular Board Meeting- After review, Andy Martinez made a motion to approve the August 20, 2025 Regular Board Meeting minutes, as presented. Greg Miller seconded and the motion carried with roll call voting as follows:

Maureen Johnson	Yes
Stephen Trujillo	Absent
George Long	Yes
Andy Martinez	Yes
Mary Lane Leslie	Absent
Sam DesGeorges	Yes
Greg Miller	Yes

V. FINANCIAL REPORT

- A. August 2025 Financial Report – Tanya Duncan reviewed the written August 2025 Financial Report and the Chairman Johnson Transaction Report. Ms. Duncan noted the general journal entries that were made. After discussion, Sam DesGeorges made a motion to file the August 2025 Treasurer’s Report for audit with best information provided. Greg Miller seconded and the motion carried with roll call voting as follows:

Maureen Johnson	Yes
Stephen Trujillo	Absent
George Long	Yes
Andy Martinez	Yes
Mary Lane Leslie	Absent
Sam DesGeorges	Yes
Greg Miller	Yes

VI. SPECIAL REPORTS

- A. NRCS Report – Vernon Mirabal reviewed his written and verbal NRCS Report for September 2025. After discussion, Andy Martinez made a motion to accept the written and verbal NRCS Report for September 2025 and include it as part of the minutes. George Long seconded and the motion carried with roll call voting as follows:

Maureen Johnson	Yes
Stephen Trujillo	Absent
George Long	Yes
Andy Martinez	Yes
Mary Lane Leslie	Absent

Sam DesGeorges	Yes
Greg Miller	Yes

- B. Taos County Extension Report – Will Jeremko-Wright did not provide a report. No action was taken.
- C. USDA-APHIS Animal Damage Report – Jacob Beechler did not provide a report. No action was taken.
- D. NMDA Soil & Water Conservation Specialist Report – Michael Purdy provided a written Soil & Water Conservation Specialist Report for September 2025. After discussion, George Long made a motion to accept the written Soil & Water Conservation Specialist Reports for September 2025 and include it as part of the minutes. Sam Des Georges seconded and the motion carried with roll call voting as follows:

Maureen Johnson	Yes
Stephen Trujillo	Absent
George Long	Yes
Andy Martinez	Yes
Mary Lane Leslie	Absent
Sam DesGeorges	Yes
Greg Miller	Yes

- B. Taos County CWMA Report- Robert Pokorney provided a verbal report of CWMA activities for September 2025. Mr. Pokorney noted that the Town of Taos has received a \$170K grant for weed treatment on 18 acres of the Cornelio Basin. He also discussed the use of QR readers in local stores to find information on weed control products. Currently working with Walmart, Ace Hardware and Petree Nursery. Sam DesGeorges made a motion to accept the verbal Taos County CWMA report and include it as part of the minutes. Andy Martinez seconded and the motion carried with roll call voting as follows:

Maureen Johnson	Yes
Stephen Trujillo	Absent
George Long	Yes
Andy Martinez	Yes
Mary Lane Leslie	Absent
Sam DesGeorges	Yes
Greg Miller	Yes

VII. TAOS SWCD REPORTS

- A. District Manager Peter Vigil was not in attendance due to medical emergency. No report was provided. No action was taken.

VIII. UNFINISHED BUSINESS- no unfinished business.

IX. NEW BUSINESS

- A. NMDA Resolution- Assistant District Manager, Tanya Duncan reviewed the NMDA Resolution. The intent of the resolution is to encourage NMDA to Re-Establish In-Person Prairie Dog Control Training and Licensing. Tanya suggested the resolution be reviewed at home to look for redundancy and shorten the wordy resolution. The revised resolution will be presented for action at the next board meeting. No action was taken.
- B. 2024-25 BP II Acequia Determinations- Assistant District Manager, Tanya Duncan presented the 2024-25 BP II Acequia Determinations to the Board of Supervisors. Application # 11 is currently pending a WRII grant and application #25 has not provided proof of valid water rights. After discussion, Sam DesGeorges made a motion to approve/deny/assign technical assistance level 1 designation as recommended by the Acequia Committee Members. Project numbers for approval: 12, 14, 7, 17, 15, 3, 5, 13, 1. Project numbers for denial but allowed technical assistance level 1: 18, 6, 9, 2, 19, 4, 8. Additionally, the Board of Supervisors made a motion to defer ruling for application 11 and 25 awaiting the status of the WRII grant funding of app. 11 and proven water rights for application 25. George Long seconded and the motion carried with roll call voting as follows:

Maureen Johnson	Yes
Stephen Trujillo	Absent
George Long	Yes
Andy Martinez	Yes
Mary Lane Leslie	Absent
Sam DesGeorges	Yes
Greg Miller	Yes

Application #:	Status:	Project Estimate:	Funding Allocation:	Notes:
12	Approved	\$4,500	\$4,500	Land actively managed, crops present
14	Approved	\$3,000	\$3,000	Land actively managed
7	Approved	\$3,500	\$2,250	Land actively managed
17	Approved	\$3,500	\$2,250	Completed past project
15	Approved	\$3,000	\$2,250	Land actively managed
11	Pending	\$5,000	\$2,250	Land actively managed, milkweed present. Pending WRII grant approval.
3	Approved	\$4,500	\$2,250	Land actively managed, pasture
5	Approved	\$5,500	\$2,250	Land actively managed, grazed
13	Approved	\$4,500	\$2,250	Land actively managed, pasture
1	Approved	\$3,000	\$2,250	Land actively managed, pasture

25	Pending	\$5,500	\$2,250	Land actively managed, garden and pasture. No proven water right.
18	Denied	\$4,500	\$0	Land not managed, severe Russian Olive
6	Denied	\$4,500	\$0	Land not managed, no crops
9	Denied	\$5,000	\$0	Land not managed, no crops
2	Denied	\$25,000	\$0	Land not managed, no crops
19	Denied	\$3,500	\$0	Land not managed, no crops
4	Denied	\$3,000	\$0	Land not managed, no crops
8	Denied	Cancelled by applicant	\$0	Land not managed, no crops

- C. Annual Meeting Planning- Assistant District Manager, Tanya Duncan informed staff that after voting on the Sagebrush to hold Taos SWCD's annual meeting on October 17th there was a discrepancy with the reservation. Administrative Assistant, Veronice Cortez presented other meeting dates available for the full ballroom at the Sagebrush Inn and Suites. After discussion, George Long made a motion to approve October 24th for Taos SWCD's annual meeting date at the Sagebrush Inn & Suites. Andy Martinez seconded and the motion carried with roll call voting as follows:

Maureen Johnson	Yes
Stephen Trujillo	Absent
George Long	Yes
Andy Martinez	Yes
Mary Lane Leslie	Absent
Sam DesGeorges	Yes
Greg Miller	Yes

- D. WRRRI Grant Updates- Assistant District Manager, Tanya Duncan provided an overview of the WRRRI grant and the requirements. Taos Soil and Water Conservation District will act as a fiscal sponsor for applicants. Andy Martinez made a motion to sponsor the two projects that were approved. George Long seconded and the motion carried with roll call voting as follows:

Maureen Johnson	Yes
Stephen Trujillo	Absent
George Long	Yes
Andy Martinez	Yes
Mary Lane Leslie	Absent
Sam DesGeorges	Yes
Greg Miller	Yes

After further discussion, Tanya Duncan informed the board that there is an additional application pending approval. After review, Greg Miller made a motion to approve sponsorship of this project if funded. Andy Martinez seconded and the motion carried with roll call voting as follows:

Maureen Johnson	Yes
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Stephen Trujillo	Absent
George Long	Yes
Andy Martinez	Yes
Mary Lane Leslie	Absent
Sam DesGeorges	Yes
Greg Miller	Yes

- E. Disposition of 2007 Chevy Colorado- Assistant District Manager, Tanya Duncan reviewed the disposition of the 2007 Chevy Colorado. The board had previously approved donating to another Soil and Water Conservation District. After consideration, Tanya Duncan suggested that the Chevy Colorado be auctioned instead. Greg Miller made a motion to authorized staff to auction the 2007 Chevy Colorado following established procedures to sell surplus property, George Long seconded and the motion carried with roll call voting as follows:

Maureen Johnson	Yes
Stephen Trujillo	Absent
George Long	Yes
Andy Martinez	Yes
Mary Lane Leslie	Absent
Sam DesGeorges	Yes
Greg Miller	Yes

X. COMMITTEE REPORTS

XI. CORRESPONDENCE AND INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

- A. TVAA Report- Judy Torres provided a written report for September 2025. No action was taken.

XII. ANNOUNCEMENTS

- A. Next Regular Board Meeting, October 15, 2025
- B. Taos SWCD Annual Meeting, October 17, 2025
- C. NMACD Annual Meeting, October 19-22, 2025 at Uptown Sheraton, Albuquerque, NM
- D. Society of American Foresters, October 22-25, 2025 in Hartford, CT
- E. NACD Annual Meeting, February 14-18, 2026 in San Antonio, TX

XIII. ADJOURN

With no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 11:26 p.m.

Chairman _____ Maureen Johnson

Administrative Assistant _____ Veronice Cortez

Prepared: 09/17/2025

Approved ____/____/2025

☐ As Presented

☐ With Corrections