



## COCONINO NATURAL RESOURCE CONSERVATION DISTRICT

### MINUTES OF PUBLIC MEETING FOR THE COCONINO NATURAL RESOURCE CONSERVATION DISTRICT APRIL 25TH, 2024

A public meeting of the Coconino Natural Resource Conservation District was convened by Chairman Benny Aja held at the Willow Bend Environmental Education Center (EEC), 703 E. Sawmill Road in Flagstaff, Arizona on Thursday - April 25th, 2024.

CNRCD Board Supervisors Jim Parks and Kit Metzger completed a “Quorum of the Board”.

John Davison; CNRCD Clerk of the Board was also present.

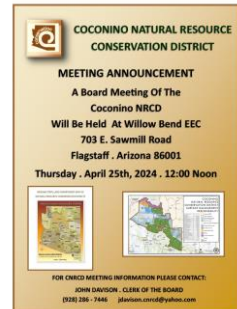
Moran Henn; Executive Director represented WBEEC.

Meeting Attendance:

- Devin Hovey; Bar T Bar Ranch
- Corinne LaViolette; Diablo Trust
- Benji Johnson; National Weather Service - Flagstaff

**The Minutes for the CNRCD Board Meeting are as follows:**

1. Call to Order: 12:12 Pm
2. Welcome/Introductions:
3. Consent items for CNRCD Board Meeting April 2024 (Discussion/Action)
  - a. Approve April 25th, 2024 CNRCD Board Meeting Agenda
    - **Kit M. motioned to approve; Jim P. seconded; passed unanimously**
  - b. Approve March 28th, 2024 CNRCD Board Meeting Minutes
    - **Kit M. motioned to approve; Jim P. seconded; passed unanimously**
4. Guest Presentations: None
5. Call to the Public: None



## CONSERVATION Partner Reports

6. NWS FLG - Benji Johnson (Report/Discussion)
  - a. National Weather Service Flagstaff Monthly Updates
    - A “NWS Monthly Situation Report April 2024” was provided and reviewed
    - El Nino is weakening - Possibly La Nina by late summer
    - Drier Monsoon season may also be possible
  
7. NRCS AZ - Jonathan Chee (Report/Discussion) Not Present / Excused
  - a. Flagstaff Field Office - DC Monthly Report
    - A “Coconino NRCD - NRCS Agency Report April 2024” was provided and reviewed
  
8. AZGFD - Andrew Jones (Report/Discussion) Not Present / Excused
  - a. AZGFD Region II Monthly Report
  
9. KNF - Joey Dahms (Report/Discussion) Not Present / Excused
  - a. Kaibab National Forest Range Management Report
  - b. SRM Update
  
10. AZ DFFM - Johnathan Pelak (Report/Discussion) Not Present / Excused
  - a. Arizona Department Of Forestry & Fire Management Report
  
11. CNF - Amanda Roesch (Report/Discussion) Not Present / Excused
  - a. Coconino National Forest Management Report
  
12. DIABLO TRUST - Corinne LaViolette (Report/Discussion)
  - a. Diablo Trust Report & Update
    - A verbal report was provided
    - The annual campout remains scheduled for August 10<sup>th</sup> & 11<sup>th</sup>, 2024

## ARIZONA STATE LAND DEPARTMENT Report

13. Jacqueline Thomas (Report/Discussion/Action) Not Present / Excused
  - a. NRCD Program Manager | Range Resource Area Manager Report
  - b. NRCD Elections 2024 Update

## CNRCD Treasurer’s Report

14. CNRCD Financial Report – John Davison (Report/Discussion/Action)
  - a. CNRCD Financial Monthly Report
    - Alliance Bank statement for April 2024 was provided and reviewed
  - b. Accounting Update
    - Checking Account Balance: \$ 29,323.67
    - Savings Account Balance: \$ 7,774.91
  - c. CPA Contractual Services – No Action
  - d. CNRCD Clerk Services (April & May) – Action
    - **Jim P. motioned to approve; Kit M. seconded; passed unanimously**

- e. CNRCD Expenses – Action
  - Safeway: \$ 38.13
  - **Kit M. motioned to approve; Jim P. seconded; passed unanimously**
- f. CNRCD Budget Review – No Action
- g. CNRCD Surety Bond Coverage – No Action
- h. Audio/Visual Equipment Update – No Action
- i. NACD Annual Membership – Action
  - Following discussion the Board approved \$ 775.00 (gold conservation investment)
  - **Kit M. motioned to approve; Jim P. seconded; passed unanimously**

## CNRCD Clerk’s Report

15. CNRCD Clerks Report - John Davison (Report/Discussion/Action)
  - a. CNRCD Clerk Update
    - John D. will obtain a “Job Description” for the Willow Bend EEC Executive Director
    - There is no scheduled CNRCD Board Meeting in May 2024; the clerk will prepare the “Annual Plan Of Work” (due to ASLD on-line June 20<sup>th</sup>, 2024) and an “Agenda” for an “Administrative Meeting” following the “Local Work Group” on June 20<sup>th</sup>, 2024
    - The clerk will coordinate with Eric Burden; KNF and obtain a finalized contract
  - b. CNRCD Uncontested Election 2024 – Action
    - Devin Hovey introduced himself and expressed his desire to be a Coconino NRCD Board Supervisor
    - The Board welcomed him and accepted his appointment (to be approved by State)
    - The CNRCD Clerk will complete the on-line election admin and notify Jacki Thomas of an “Un-Contested Election”
    - **Kit M. motioned to approve; Jim P. seconded; passed unanimously**
  - c. Local Work Group Update – Action
    - The annual LWG Meeting will be held on June 20<sup>th</sup>, 2024
    - Kit M. requested we allocate more time to discuss the LWG Itinerary considering there is no scheduled meeting in May
    - Following discussion the Board approved \$ 200.00 for related expenses
    - **Jim P. motioned to approve; Kit M. seconded; passed unanimously**
  - d. Contract Agreement with Kaibab National Forest – No Action
  - e. CNRCD Cooperator Agreement Approval – No Action
  - f. CNRCD Advisor Application Approval – Action
    - Following discussion the Board approved the applications for Devin Hovey and Erin Thomas as CNRCD Advisors
    - **Jim P. motioned to approve; Kit M. seconded; passed unanimously**

### Correspondence:

- Alliance Bank
- CNA Insurance

## WBEEC Reports

16. WBEEC Report - Moran Henn (Report/Discussion/Action)
  - a. Willow Bend EEC Directors Report
    - After nine years of committed service Moran Henn announced her resignation as the Director of WBEEC beginning in June 2024; she will remain available through the transition and will be staying locally in the community
    - The CNRCD Board expressed their Appreciation for her Dedication and Commitment
  - b. WBEEC Financial Monthly Report

## CNRCD Chairman's Report

17. CNRCD Chair - Benny Aja (Report/Discussion/Updates/Action)
  - a. Coconino NRCD Chairman's Report
    - Legislative Update
  - b. WBEEC Advisory Board Update
  - c. OHV Update
  - d. Arizona Farm Bureau & Coconino Farm Bureau Update
  - e. CNRCD Board Directives – Action
    - Following discussion the Board accepted the resignation of the WBEEC Director effective June 30<sup>th</sup>, 2024
    - **Jim P. motioned to approve; Kit M. seconded; passed unanimously**
    - CNRCD Board Chairman Benny Aja designated a “Transition Team” to be comprised of Benny Aja, Tabi Bolton, Jana Sterling, Andi Rogers, Moran Henn
    - The “Search/Review/Hiring Committee” will be comprised of Pat Shriver (Chair) and CNRCD Board Supervisors Jim Parks and Tabi Bolton including two WBEEC Advisory Board Members (to be determined)
    - CNRCD Board Chairman Benny Aja also recommended appointing Melissa Eckstrom as WBEEC Interim Director and appointing Ash Shields to assume Melissa's role and ask her to assume a non-voting member position
    - Benny Aja recommended approval to finalize a payment residual with Crest Insurance (approximately \$ 150.00)
    - **Kit M. motioned to approve; Jim P. seconded; passed unanimously**
    - Benny Aja recommended approval of expenditures for “Recognition Plaques”
    - **Kit M. motioned to approve; Jim P. seconded; passed unanimously**

## NEW BUSINESS

18. New Business: None

## OLD BUSINESS

19. Old Business: None

**GOOD OF THE ORDER:**

20. Good of the Order

- We Are All Saddened By The Recent Passing Of Past Chairman Of The Coconino Natural Resource Conservation District “Paul Babbitt Jr.”

21. Next Meeting:


- There Is No Scheduled Coconino NRCD Board Meeting In May 2024
- There Will Be An Annual Coconino NRCD “Local Work Group” On June 20<sup>th</sup>, 2024
- The Time & Location Will Be Announced
- An Abbreviated Admin Board Meeting Will Follow The LWG Meeting



Signed: \_\_\_\_\_  
John Davison . Clerk of the Board

Dated: May 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2024

**COCONINO NATURAL RESOURCE CONSERVATION DISTRICT**



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**NATURAL RESOURCE CONSERVATION DISTRICTS**

Declaration Of Policy

“It is declared the policy of the legislature to provide for the restoration and conservation of lands and soil resources of the state, the preservation of water rights and the control and prevention of soil erosion, and thereby to conserve natural resources, conserve wildlife, protect the tax base, protect public lands and protect and restore this state’s rivers and streams and associated riparian habitats, including fish and wildlife resources”

Arizona Revised Statutes  
[Title 37 Chapter 6 Article 1 - General Provisions 37-1001](#)