

Forest and Watershed Restoration Act (FAWRA) Advisory Board

Meeting Minutes

August 6, 2019

1. Call to Order

A meeting of the Forest and Watershed Restoration Act (FAWRA) Advisory Board (Board) was called to order at 9:00 a.m. on August 6, 2019 in Santa Fe and presided over by Laura McCarthy, State Forester, Energy, Minerals and Natural Resources Department (EMNRD), Forestry Division.

Board Members and Delegates Present

Laura McCarthy, State Forester, EMNRD, Forestry Division, FAWRA Chair
Andrew Frederick, Resource Management Bureau Chief, EMNRD, Forestry Division
Molly Magnuson, Water Use and Conservation Bureau Chief, Office of the State Engineer
Mark Roper, Division Director, Economic Development Department
Rebecca Roose, Director, Environment Department, Water Protection Division
Abe Franklin, Environment Department, Surface Water Quality Bureau
Stewart Liley, Chief of Wildlife, Department of Game and Fish
Kathy Holian, Public Member
Steve Hernandez, Public Member

Board Members Absent

Mark Myers, Forester, State Land Office
Randy Varela, Deputy Fire Marshal, Fire Marshal's Office, Fire Service Support
Brent Racher, Public Member

Invited Federal Agencies Present

Lisa Bye, State Fuels Specialist, United States Department of the Interior, Bureau of Land Management, New Mexico
Kris Graham Chavez, Assistant State Conservationist, United States Department of Agriculture, Natural Resources Conservation Service

2. Welcome

Laura McCarthy, State Forester and FAWRA Chair, recognized the Board, public members, and guests. Board members, invited non-voting participants, and members of the public introduced themselves via round robin.

3. Board Business

- **Approval of Agenda**

The meeting proceeded to the approval of the agenda. Steve Hernandez moved to add “other business” as an item to the agenda. Mark Roper moved to approve the agenda as amended. Kathy Holian seconded the motion. The Board unanimously approved the amended agenda.

- **Approval of Minutes**

Kathy Holian moved to approve the minutes of the July 6, 2019 meeting, which was seconded by Rebecca Roose. The Board unanimously approved the minutes.

4. Review of FY20 Project Recommendation

The Board recommended funding four projects, denying FAWRA funding for two projects, substituting one project for another that was not NEPA-ready, and revisiting two projects with supplemental information.

- Mark Roper moved to recommend FAWRA funding for projects 2, 3, 4, and 6:

2. Red Cabin 2019, No Name Springs #1
3. Encino Vista Landscape Restoration
4. Santa Clara Creek Wetland Restoration
6. Gallinas Watershed Restoration Phase 5

Kathy Holian seconded the motion. The Board unanimously recommended FAWRA funding for projects 2, 3, 4, and 6.

- Steve Hernandez moved to not recommend FAWRA funding for projects 1 and 8:

1. Valencia County Bosque Fuels
8. Indian Springs Fuel Break

Mark Roper seconded the motion. The Board unanimously did not recommend FARWA funding for projects 1 and 8.

- Steve Hernandez moved to recommend replacing project 8 with project 9.

8. Indian Springs Fuel Break
9. Northside

Rebecca Roose seconded the motion. The Board unanimously recommended replacing project 8 with project 9.

- Projects 5 and 7 were discussed and the Board requested the Forestry Division provide supplemental information before the Board votes on recommending these projects at the next meeting. The supplemental information will include clearer deliverables and identification of the fiscal agent for project 5 and clearer identification of landowner commitments for project 7.

5. Small Diameter Wood Products

7. Turkey Mountains Watershed Restoration

5. Initiate Planning for FY21 Guidelines and Process

A brief after action review of the process to date included considerations of project scale and impact, ideas for drafting the FY21 guidelines, and offers to send examples of other state agency's processes.

6. Other Business

- a. Other business will be added to each future agenda.
- b. Agencies on the FAWRA were asked to review the names of colleagues on the FAWRA email distribution list and provide updates if needed.
- c. Steve Hernandez asked about the FAWRA reporting requirements. Laura McCarthy replied that the Forest and Watershed Restoration Act specifies a report is due 45 days before the start of the session, typically in November. Steve recommended a review of the Water Trust Board reporting requirements and asked that the Board consider semi-annual reporting.

7. Recap of Next Steps

The Board chose November 13, 2019 for its next meeting. In between the following next steps were reviewed:

- a. by October 14 the Forestry Division staff will send the Board:
 - 1) supplemental information for projects 5 and 7 and project 9 information;
 - 2) draft guidelines for FY21;
- b. Board will score projects 5, 7 and 9 by November 5.

• Adjournment

Rebecca Roose moved to adjourn and Kathy Holian seconded at 11:14 a.m. Facilitator NameThe Board unanimously voted to adjourn. The next meeting will be at 9:00 a.m. on November 13, 2019 in Santa Fe.

Minutes submitted by: Wendy Mason

Approved by: Laura McCarthy