

Carrizozo Soil and Water Conservation District

Board of Supervisors Meeting Minutes

Date: August 11, 2026

Time: Call to Order at 4:32 PM | Dinner to follow

Location: El Corral Cafe, 611 Main St, Corona, NM 88318

Attendance

Board Members Present:

- Bryan Hightower (Chair)
- Barbie Roper
- Kendal Wilson
- Gray Gallacher
- Ron Merritt

Board Members Absent:

- Melvin Johnson
- Jim Grider

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 4:32 PM by Chair Bryan Hightower.

2. Approval of Agenda

The agenda was presented to the board.

- **Motion:** Made by Gray Gallacher to approve the agenda as presented.
- **Second:** Kendal Wilson.
- **Vote:** Motion carried.

3. Cost-Share Programs

The board reviewed and acted upon the following Agricultural Cost-Share applications:

- **Vista Del Valle:**
 - *Motion:* Made by Kendal Wilson to approve the fence portion of the project, deferring the pump application to the next meeting pending research regarding pump lifespan expectations.
 - *Second:* Barbie Roper.
 - *Vote:* Motion carried.
- **Gary Vega:**
 - *Motion:* Made by Gray Gallacher to approve.
 - *Second:* Barbie Roper.
 - *Vote:* Motion carried.
- **Bar W:**
 - *Motion:* Made by Barbie Roper to approve.
 - *Second:* Ron Merritt.
 - *Vote:* Motion carried (Kendal Wilson abstained).
- **Robbie Hooten:**
 - *Motion:* Made by Barbie Roper to approve the water well application.
 - *Second:* Gray Gallacher.
 - *Vote:* Motion carried.

4. Approval of Minutes

The minutes from the July 14, 2026, Board of Supervisors meeting were presented for review.

- **Motion:** Made by Gray Gallacher to approve the July minutes.
- **Second:** Kendal Wilson.
- **Vote:** Motion carried.

5. Financial Reports and Bills

The board reviewed financial packets and signed corresponding vouchers.

- **July Monthly Financial Report:**
 - *Motion:* Made by Barbie Roper to approve the July report.
 - *Second:* Ron Merritt.
 - *Vote:* Motion carried.
- **July Mileage and Per Diem Reimbursements:**
 - *Motion:* Made by Kendal Wilson to approve.
 - *Second:* Gray Gallacher.
 - *Vote:* Motion carried.

6. Agency and District Reports

- **New Mexico Department of Agriculture (NMDA):** Report submitted by Katie Crayton (see supporting documents).

- **Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS):** Report submitted by Maggie Gnann (see supporting documents).
- **Farm Service Agency (FSA):** Report provided by Barbie Roper. Interviews for the new position are scheduled for later in the week. Noted Noninsured Crop Disaster Assistance Program (NAP) approval for Lincoln County.
- **Bureau of Land Management (BLM):** Report submitted by Tania Sanchez.
- **Carrizozo SWCD Report:** District operational updates provided by Fernando Najera.

7. New Business

- **Upcoming Workshops and Training Approvals:**
 - Edible Landscapes Workshop #1
 - Procurement Training: Fernando Najera to attend in Roswell on August 21, 2026.
 - NMACD Grant Writing Workshop: JoAnne and Brittany to attend in Silver City on September 15–16, 2026.
 - NMDA Soil Health Conference: Team attendance scheduled for October 14–15, 2026.
 - NMACD Annual Conference: Team attendance scheduled for October 19–21, 2026.
 - *Motion:* Made by Kendal Wilson to approve staff and supervisor participation in the listed upcoming workshops and trainings.
 - *Second:* Ron Merritt.
 - *Vote:* Motion carried.
- **NMACD Dues:** Reviewed by the board.
- **NMCDE Dues:**
 - *Motion:* Made by Kendal Wilson to pay the annual NMCDE dues.
 - *Second:* Barbie Roper.
 - *Vote:* Motion carried.
- **Supervisor Virtual Attendance Compensation Policy:**
 - *Motion:* Made by Barbie Roper to establish that board supervisors shall only receive per diem/attendance payment when physically present at meetings, excluding virtual attendance.
 - *Second:* Kendal Wilson.
 - *Vote:* Motion carried.

8. Old Business

- None.

9. Adjournment

- **Motion:** Made by Gray Gallacher to adjourn.
- **Second:** Barbie Roper.
- **Vote:** Motion carried. Meeting adjourned.

Next Meeting Notice

Date: September 8, 2026

Timeline: Dinner at 6:00 PM (No business discussed) | Meeting at 7:00 PM

Location: NRCS Field Office, 307 12th Street, Carrizozo, NM 88301

Virtual Access: Call 575-315-6585 if virtual link/access is required.