

Phase 1: PdNWC minutes with discussion of 501(c)(3) Non-Profit

Organization

7/21/2002

Section 7

The Wetlands Project discussion prompted a question from Sue Watts regarding the pursuit of 501(c)(3) status by the Paso del Norte Watershed Council. A brief discussion followed covering details and ideas to possibly gain this status. The major concern was the amount of time required of an individual assigned this task. Members of the Executive Committee were asked for their input and support to enable Ed Kosak to present a short report on attaining 501(c)(3) status at the Council's upcoming annual meeting. Carlos Rincon offered his assistance to Ed in the pursuit of information. Ed K. thanked those who could provide input and assistance in putting this together.

9/28/2002

Section 2 point A

Program Coordinators Work In Progress: Ed Kosak provided a brief summary of coordinator's activities and efforts such as; a Quarterly Financial Report, a 501 (c)(3) – non-profit report, and a brief Wetlands project update. Copies of the Program Coordinator's Work In Progress, financial report, and non-profit report are provided as separate attachments.

02/07/2003

Section 5 paragraph 2

Ari mentioned a request for proposals that came out recently from the Commission for Environmental Cooperation of North America. The proposals must be community based projects that focus on environmental monitoring and assessment related to human health. The proposals are due March 31st. An application form, a list of previous grants and the NAFEC funding guidelines may be found on the CEC web site <<http://www.cec.org>> under the heading "Grants for Environmental Cooperation." However, Ari advised that entities submitting proposals must be not-for-profit nongovernmental organizations that have 501(c)(3) status, so the Council would not qualify. Carlos Rincon advised that the Council can qualify if its fiscal agent has the 501(c)(3) status. Ari replied that this was discussed previously but was dropped due to the accounting costs associated with obtaining 501(c)(3) status for the Council.

04/30/2004

Section 7

Under **Introduction of Visitors**, Nancy introduced Gene Adkins to the Council. Gene is the Coordinator of the Jornada RC&D Council, part of the USDA, Natural Resources Conservation Service, and is based in Truth or Consequences, New Mexico. He stated that the Jornada RC&D was a 501(c)(3) non-profit group that works with groups to sponsor projects in the Rio Grande watershed. He invited the Council to attend the next Jornada RC&D meeting at the Water Canyon Campground (between Magdalena and Socorro) on June 18 at 8am. Gene provided handouts on the upcoming U. S.–Mexico Resource Conservation and Development Border

Coalition Meeting (May 23-25), the work plan for the Jornada RC&D, and general information on RC&Ds. Nancy will distribute the information via email.

4/2/2019

Section 4

Mike Gaglio spoke on the Frontera Land Alliance, which is El Paso's only 501(c)(3) land trust organization. It is similar to the Nature Conservancy, however the Frontera Land Alliance operates on a local scale whereas the Nature Conservancy works on a macro scale. The Frontera Land Alliance works with several organizations, including El Paso Water, El Paso Parks and Recreation, the National Park Service, and U.S. Fish and Wildlife to preserve natural habitat. The Frontera Land Alliance is also accredited by the Land Trust Alliance, which means they have been vetted for being trustworthy and ethical. They currently operate in southern New Mexico and west Texas.

Recent efforts include public outreach/education activities and two conservation easement deals that are in the works. The details on these easement deals are confidential, but they are in Santa Teresa (700 acres) and Socorro. They will be co-hosting an event on June 14 titled "Your Land and Your Legacy Workshops" that will teach about estate planning and conservation easements. See their website for more details. They are also looking for good board members

11/9/2019

“Round Table Discussions”

Other RFPs - WaterSmart (USBR) on drought resiliency, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Environmental Ed grant opportunity. Discussion of Stormwater Coalition Cooperative Watershed grant. They may be requesting a letter of support for their grant. Zack briefly went over the grant proposal for the Coalition. It's a \$100k grant. Task 1 will be for them to get organized, improve website, and get a 501(c)(3). Task 2 will be to write a watershed plan for the NM portion. Task 3 will be predesign of projects like Rincon, La Union that are solutions to sediment, E. coli and other watershed issues, but primarily sediment. Slow water down, let it infiltrate. Will want to request a support letter from the Council. New plan will incorporate the Council's watershed-based plan.

Section “Council Admin”

Conrad indicated that the bylaws require 30 days advance distribution prior to any changes. The bylaws state that the Council can work with other agencies and on projects. The Council is not a 501(c)(3) nonprofit, therefore the fiscal agent is the Treasurer. Can Conrad sign the support letter for these grants? He offers that the Council may need to solidify the bylaws.