

# Hagerman-Dexter Soil & Water

#### CONSERVATION DISTRICT

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Aaron Bogle, Chairman • David Sterrett, Vice-Chairman • Robert Jolley, Secretary/Treasurer • Trevor Gray, Member • Justin Boswell, Member

# ANNUAL REPORT OF ACTIVITIES

# Fiscal Year Ended 2024

#### MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of the Hagerman-Dexter Soil and Water Conservation District is to promote conservation development and wise use of land, water, and renewable natural resources by providing leadership, education, technical and financial assistance to citizens of the district.

#### **MEETINGS**

The Hagerman-Dexter Soil and Water Conservation District Board of Supervisors meet the second Tuesday of each month at 1:30 PM in the office located at 111 North Oxford, Hagerman, NM.

#### **OFFICE ACTIVITIES**

The District Supervisor achieved a clean audit report.

#### COOPERATIVE WEED MANAGEMENT AREA

The district is active in a weed management program for Chaves County in cooperation with the Chaves Soil and Water Conservation District. Rebecca Healy and subsequently Emily Doss, Noxious Weed Coordinator, managed and controlled the spread of noxious weeds in the county. The district contributes to these efforts by financially supporting the program in the amount of \$10,000 annually while providing additional funds for continuing education.

# **EQUIPMENT**

The district continues to lease a road grader to the Hagerman Irrigation District to further promote conservation practices in the area. The machine is used to keep roads and areas along the canal smooth and passable while keeping the canal in working order.

# **EDUCATION AND OUTREACH**

The district provides a scholarship in the amount of \$1,000.00 to graduating seniors and college students enrolled in Agriculture Education. In addition, the district provided support to the Southeastern New Mexico State Fair and Hagerman FFA Agronomy Team.

#### **COST SHARE FUNDING**

The district had two cost share projects totaling \$8,466.78. These funds assist in the promotion of conservation practices by area landowners.

### **WORKING AGREEMENTS**

The district maintains a Mutual Agreement and Cooperative Working Agreement with the USDA, NRCS and the State of New Mexico.

The district is involved along with other government agencies for the Lower Pecos River Alliance to further assist in conservation efforts in the area.

The district continues to maintain a Joint Powers Agreement with the Collaborative Grasslands Initiative to help reclaim oil and gas sites to allow natural habitats to return.

## **COOPERATOR OF THE YEAR**

Dustin Devenport of Hagerman, NM was selected as the 2023 Cooperator of the Year. Mr. Devenport received an engraved knife in recognition of his conservation practices.

#### THREE-YEAR GOALS

- Improve water efficiencies on irrigated land
- Continue the eradication of Knapweed, African Rue, and other noxious weeds
- Clean range land by removing Mesquite, Shinnery and Salt Cedar
- Continue sponsorship of educational events promoting conservation practices to our youth
- Continue to provide cost share funds to area producers
- Partner with other state and federal agencies to form alliances to further agriculture and conservation
- Continue to support the CWMA Noxious Weed Program