Webb County Food and Agriculture Council (FAC) Meeting Minutes

August 8, 2019 USDA Service Center, Laredo, TX

Minutes of the Webb County Food and Agriculture Council Meeting Minutes held Thursday, August 8, 2019 at 11:00 a.m.

1. Members Present:

Flavio Garza Jr., DC, USDA-NRCS, Chairperson Martin J. Garcia, CED, USDA-FSA, via phone call Landen Gulick, CEA, Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service

2. Items Discussed:

The Webb County FAC met to discuss the current and ongoing drought situation. Mr. Garcia briefly discussed FSA's Noninsured Crop Disaster Program (NAP), which provides financial assistance to producers of noninsurable crops to protect against natural disasters such as drought. He also mentioned their Livestock Forage Disaster Program (LFP) which also provides payments to livestock owners that have suffered grazing losses also due to drought.

3. The FAC Committee noted the following:

The council documented the precipitation to date for Webb County. We've received 3.87" of rain thru the month of July compared to the average rainfall for the same period which is approximately 11.68". That amounts to a 67% loss.

Webb County currently is in its 5th week in a D2 intensity rating according to the U.S. Drought Monitor. D2 is considered Severe Drought. D3 is considered Extreme Drought and D4 is considered Exceptional Drought. FSA's programs follow the U.S. Drought Monitor to trigger eligibility. Once Webb County reaches eight consecutive weeks in D2, our producers will be eligible for emergency benefits.

Pasture conditions have and continue to deteriorate drastically. We've determined that there's been about 40-65% loss of forage production. Producers have started to supplement feed much more than normal for this time of the year. Surface water is diminishing as well.

4. Follow-up

Submit the FAC Committee Meeting minutes to the appropriate authorities.

Submit STORM report and distribute the minutes to FAC members.

5. Adjourn 11:45 AM

Flavio Garza Jr., DC, USDA-NRCS, Chairperson

Martin J. Garcia, CED, USDA-FSA

Landen Gulick, CEA, AgriLife Extension Service

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Date

Date

This form is available electronically.

FSA-937 (08-23-12)

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Farm Service Agency

ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF REPORT OF SECRETARIAL DISASTER/DISASTER DESIGNATION REQUEST

NOTE: 7 CFR PART 759 authorizes individuals farmers, local government officials, State Governors, State Agriculture Commissioner, State Secretary of Agriculture, other State government officials, and Indian tribal councils to initiate requests for disaster designations Request for disaster designation must be in writing to the Secretary within 3 months of the ending date of a disaster. Only damages and losses resulting from a natural disaster are eligible. A qualifying loss occurs if FSA determines a minimum 30 percent production loss of at least 1 crop in the county occurred as a result of the disaster 1. State in which Disaster Occurred 2. Date of Report/Request Texas 08/08/2019 3. Description of the Disaster Drought 4. Date(s) of the Disaster(s): A Beginning Date B. Ending Date June '8th 2019 On going. 5 Counties Impacted Webb County. 6 Brief Description of Losses The current D2 Severe Drought has impacted our county Producers where they are having to sell their livestock earlier than normal, Producers are providing feed over the normal requirements for time of year. In addition our stock tanks (water supply) for livestock and wildlife are suffering. No rain, No replenishment of water for this stock tanks. 7A Requestor Name Requestor Tille Martin J. Garcia County Executive Director 8A Request Received By 8B. Title 8C Date (MM-DD-YYYY)

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Loss Assessment Report LAR:73459 Disaster Information State: Texas County: Webb Start Date: 06/08/2019 End Date: Crop Year: 2019 Area of County Affected: ALL Number of Farms Affected: 1200 Number of Farms With Physical Damage: 0 **Owner-Operators** Farmers with Farmers Unable Extenuating Tenant-Operators: Qualifying Loss: to Obtain Credit: Circumstances: Comments: Webb County is in a D2 drought and has been for the last 5 weeks. Producers are feeding livestock above normal for time of year. Stock tank water is low. Producers selling livestock earlier than normal due to sever drought conditions. Disaster Type(s): Drought (6 8 2019) Pasture Information Type of Pasture Acres in Percent Loss Price Gross Value of Pasture Loss County in County Per Acre Pasture Warm Season Grasses 2,000,000.0 60.0 0.51 1,020,000.00 612,000.00 Conservation Structures/Fences Information Conservation Structures Damaged? Conservation Structures Destroyed? Fences Damaged? Fences Destroyed? No No No No Effect on USDA Type **Damage Severity USDA** Building Loss USDA Equipment Loss Number of USDA Employees Affected Title # Date Title 10 Date 8/8/19 Date 8/8/19