



Minutes
Conservation District of Southern Nevada
Monthly Board Meeting
Conservation District of Southern Nevada – 5820 S. Pecos Rd. A-400, Conference Room
August 17, 2005 – 2:30 p.m.

Attendees:

Supervisor Bechtel called the meeting to order at 2:35 p.m.

OPEN MEETING

Consent Agenda: Consent Agenda items are considered by the CDSN Board to be routine and may be acted upon in one motion. However, the Board may discuss any consent item individually if requested when the Consent Agenda is considered for approval. (Action item)

1. Compliance with Nevada Open Meeting Law
2. Approval August 2005 Agenda
3. Approval of July and August 2005 Meeting Minutes
4. Correspondence
5. Pay Bills

Supervisor Currier made a motion to approve the minutes with the corrections. Supervisor McAllister seconded the motion and the motion passed.

Business Agenda:

6. Financial Report (Discussion/Action Item)

Supervisor Currier approved the Financial Report. Supervisor McAllister seconded the motion. The motion passed.

7. Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) – Jarrod Edmunds (Discussion/Action Item)
Jarrod reported that the EQUIP program is broken into different areas including: White Pine, Lincoln, Pine, and Esmeralda County. These are the southern counties. Only five contracts were awarded to the southern counties. He intends to ask for a bigger allocation next year. No funding was provided in Clark County. Overall, several of the contracts were awarded for sage grass projects. Supervisor Currier asked if any grants were given to Nye County or Sandy Valley. Jarrod responded that many of the previous projects in these areas had been completed and participants were no longer submitting proposals. Jarrod stated that the local work group meeting would meet September 1st. Conservation Districts are a part of the local work groups. He encouraged members of the board to attend the meeting on September 1st. Supervisor Bechtel asked if the meeting would be beneficial for CDSN members to attend. Jarrod said that agriculture is limited in Clark County. Supervisor Hunt stated that attendees of these meetings can express their views concerning fund use and allocation. Jarrod said that participants at the meeting could discuss these issues; however, special funding pools can only be used on certain things. Supervisor Bechtel stated that the meeting may not be beneficial for CDSN members to attend. She stated that we may want to send a letter with our concerns rather than attending. Supervisor Hunt stated that he was concerned about not

reaching the rural community with our mission. He said that many programs are agriculture oriented and do not address issues in Clark County. He stated that he would like to attend.

Supervisor Bechtel stated that Supervisor Hunt may submit expenses for the trip if he wishes to attend.

8. Conservation Easement Status (Discussion/Action Item)

Supervisor Bechtel stated that at the last meeting, we discussed the inheritance of the easement from Muddy Valley. She contacted someone at the Nature Conservancy but was not able to get more information. She contacted the developer to let him know that we had not moved forward with this issue. Jarrod plotted the exact location and was able to provide maps of the easement location. Supervisor Currier asked why we did not have the developer draw up a design and relinquish the easement. Supervisor Bechtel stated that there must be some reason we were granted the easement. Supervisor Currier suggested getting the D.A. involved. Jarrod stated that we may want to transfer the easement. Supervisor Bechtel said yes there was a potential for interest, such as SNWA, MSHCP, Muddy Valley, etc. Supervisor Bechtel said she was concerned about the 1940 easement. CDSN shouldn't maintain easements and may want to review other options. Supervisor Currier said she would approach SNWA and their legal staff. They may be able to use the easement or research the matter. Supervisor Bechtel said she would follow up with her contact and then give the board an update. She has no problem in turning the easement over. Supervisor Bechtel said that we may want to hire a title company to research the easement. Supervisor Hunt said that we should not throw it away. Supervisor Bechtel said that we would research the easement before making any decisions. She said we could not make any decisions based on the current information and recommended doing nothing. Supervisor McAllister said that she was interested in meeting us out on the site. Supervisor Bechtel stated that the issue should remain on the agenda for the next meeting.

9. CWMA Mapping Scope of Work (Discussion/Action Item)

Gretchen stated that she is working with Elise Benson and Elyse McAllister to develop a pilot weed mapping project. She has identified possible funding sources and will submit the proposal to several foundations and agencies. Supervisor Hunt asked if the project would be located in the Logendale area. Supervisor McAllister stated that the project will be on private land and focus on Moapa Valley.

10. Christmas Tree Recycling Program (Discussion/Action Item)

Wilisha reported that CDSN had been approached to participate in a paper recycling program. The only concern is that we may need to have a large dumpster. Supervisor Currier asked if we are participating in the Christmas Tree Recycling Program. Wilisha distributed information about the project and stated that CDSN is a partner. Supervisor Hunt asked if the mulch is used for dust control. Ron Smolinski stated that contractors can not use mulch because it is not compressible. No action was needed.

11. NvACD Conference 2005, November 8-9th Mesquite, Nevada (Discussion/Action Item)

Supervisor Bechtel stated that we had confirmed speakers for the conference. Sheri Davis and Jon Wardlaw will present at the conference. She asked if staff could inquire about the possibility of adding more speakers to the agenda. She also asked staff to get a draft copy of the agenda. Board members discussed the possibility of touring the Lost City Museum and Saint Thomas. Members agreed to leave this item on the agenda for the next meeting. No action was needed.

12. NACD Regional Conference, September 10-14, Tucson, AZ (Discussion/Action Item)

Board members agreed that it would not be useful for CDSN to attend this conference. No action was needed.

13. Personnel and Staffing Strategies (Discussion/Action Item)

Supervisor Bechtel stated that the proposal for the Mojave Max Curriculum Development Aid has been withdrawn. Supervisor Hunt said that Mark Trinco was against the combination of messages.

She also said that staff would like to have a flex schedule and they had presented a schedule that would ensure office coverage. She said she supported the proposed schedule. Supervisor Hunt said that CWMA meetings are generally on a Friday and he would like to make sure that staff attends these meetings. Supervisor Bechtel said that the schedule could be adjusted to make certain that staff attended necessary meetings. Supervisor Currier asked if there would be any security issues with staff altering their hours. Jarrod said that there would not be a problem. Supervisor Bechtel said that she would send out an email concerning the updated staffing schedule and hours. Supervisor Currier said that the policy manual will need to be revised and that the revised manual should be voted on next month. Supervisor Currier made a motion to give the existing full time staff the option of a flexible schedule and they prepare a policy for the next month that will reflect their new schedules. Ron Smolinski suggested that a time period be set for the new flex schedule. Supervisor Hunt seconded the motion. The motion passed.

14. Staff Report – Wilisha Daniels (Discussion/Action Item)

Gretchen reported she had submitted a proposal in partnership with the City of Henderson. The proposal would fund corn meal gluten application to several parks in the City of Henderson. Invasive weed videos have been distributed. She distributed the latest draft for the straw bale project. Wilisha reported that she had been working on an activity booklet. Kim has drawn the pictures for this booklet. She had attended the Christmas Tree Recycling program and CCSN Back to School Event. She reported that she is preparing for the Farm Fest Event. She distributed the Wetlands Park brochure that Kim helped create.

15. Supervisor's Report (Discussion/Action Item)

Supervisor Bechtel did not report. Supervisor Van Gorp did not report. Supervisor Hunt said that he attended the RC&D meeting last month and would attend the upcoming meeting. He said he would also attend the MSHCP meeting. Supervisor McAllister said that she is working to involve the community in all the agriculture farm projects. She is developing a "Friends of Pirates Cove" group which is strictly for non school events at eh farm: because of finger printing issues. PIC had visited with Boy Scout troops to establish a line of communication for volunteer farm projects. Valley of Fire State Park is donating picnic benches. These might go the farm. Supervisor Currier passed out information on an upcoming Woody Biomass Conference. She said that she had written to NACD Newsletter and offered to provide them more information about Acacia Park. She submitted information and pictures to the newsletter. The article about Acacia should be on the website and in the newsletter in the upcoming publications.

16. Open Discussion and Public Comment (Discussion Only)*

Ron Smolinski said that he had extended the DAEQM contract for one and half years. Wilisha works on DAEQM projects including Mojave Max. He said that he will work out details of finances on combined efforts. Supervisor Currier stated that there had been some questions regarding Kim's contract and PERS. She said that if PERS considers Kim a full time employee, we can not opt out to not pay PERS. Supervisor Currier contacted Cliff. Cliff reported NRS and he believes that the situation will be resolved. Supervisor Currier stated that when Kim's contract is renewed, the members may need to consider not holding for her.

17. Next Meeting Date (Discussion Only)

The next meeting is scheduled for September 21st at 2:30 in the CDSN conference room

18. Agenda Items (Discussion/Action Item)

19. Adjournment (Action Item)

*Note: The CDSN may address agenda items in a different order than shown.
The Conservation District of Southern Nevada is pleased to make accommodations for members of the public who are disabled, need an interpreter, Braille documentation, or other special*

arrangements and would like to attend the meeting. If special arrangements for the meeting are required, please notify the CDSN at (702) 262-9047, ext. 5, three days prior to the meeting.

*Public comment may be limited to three (3) minutes.

This meeting has been properly noticed and posted at the following locations:

Natural Resources Cons. Service 5820 S. Pecos Rd, Bldg A, Ste 400 Las Vegas, NV 89120	Clark County Library 1401 E. Flamingo Rd. Las Vegas, NV 89119	Paseo Verde Library 280 S. Green Valley Pkwy Henderson, NV 89014	UNR, Cooperative Extension 2345 Red Rock St. Las Vegas, NV 89146	Partners in Conservation 1501 State Hwy 168 Moapa, NV 89025
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