



MINUTES

Conservation District of Southern Nevada Monthly Board Meeting

Conservation District of Southern Nevada Office – 5820 S. Pecos Rd. Bldg A-400
January 21, 2004

Attendees:

Supervisor Judy Currier, Chair	Wilisha Daniels
Supervisor Dirick Van Gorp, Vice Chair	Gretchen Huie
Supervisor John Hunt, Treas./Sec.	Jarrold Edmunds, NRCS
Supervisor Joe Fortier	Elyse Benson, NRCS
Supervisor Jon Wardlaw	Greg Currier, Volunteer
Supervisor Elise McAllister	Sandi Gotta, NDCD
Supervisor Christina Gibson	

Supervisor Currier called the meeting to order at 2:36 PM.

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)

Jarrold Edmunds gave his corrections and presented an attachment with the new corrections. Supervisor Currier clarified that corrections to Item 7 were mainly grammatical and corrections to Item 11 were corrections to content. Supervisor Wardlaw asked if the corrections could be copied and handed out. Jarrold made copies and distributed them to the board members.

1. Compliance with Nevada Open Meeting Law
2. Approval of December 2003 Agenda
3. Approval of October 2003 Meeting Minutes
4. Correspondence
5. Pay Bills

Supervisor Wardlaw made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda, noting the changes made by Jarrold. Supervisor Gibson seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Business Agenda:

6. Financial Report (Discussion & Action Item)

Supervisor Fortier made a motion to approve the Financial Report. Supervisor Wardlaw seconded the motion. The motion passed.

7. Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) – Jarrold Edmunds (Discussion Only)

Jarrold reported on deployment of computers and its staff availability. He also reported that on January 30th He and Supervisor Hunt will attend a local work group meeting in Tonopah. Jarrold also stated that in the past, center pivots have not been covered by the EQUIP cost-share program. NRCS has avoided this due to high cost. However, pumping irrigation can be costly for farmers. Therefore, he will support a change in the program to cover cost-share of center pivots. Jarrold stated he expects

3 pallets of soil surveys. He stated he would like to consolidate all CDSN material to the small storage unit. A clean up date has been scheduled for the February 6th. Supervisor Hunt suggested donating material from the storage unit. Jarrod stated he would not like to keep the conference table in the conference room. Supervisor Currier stated that a CDSN member would be there on the 6th to help with the clean up. Supervisor Wardlaw suggested we contact Sherry Lamont of Clark County Family and Youth Services for donating material. Supervisor Currier stated she would also contact other Districts who may need furniture.

Jarrod stated he and Supervisor Hunt had visited a site where irrigation and windbreaks were being installed. Supervisor Hunt expressed his concern about the type of species being planted. Jarrod also stated the State Conservationist will be in Las Vegas on the 27th to meet with the field office staff. She invited board members to meet with her as well. Supervisor Currier asked members to let Wilisha know if they plan to meet with the State Conservationist. Jarrod also reported that soil surveys for this area are currently being updated by Doug Merkler.

8. Signing of CWMA MOU (Discussion and Action Item)

Elyse Benson presented the MOU to the board for approval. She asked the Board to sign the agreement and to specify their concerns on the signature page. Elyse stated other agencies have agreed to sign the MOU upon their attorney's approval. Supervisor Wardlaw made a correction to the MOU that Laughlin is not a city but a town and Glendale and Logendale are not towns. Supervisor Hunt stated he would like to have the MOU signed before the CWMA meeting on the following morning. Supervisor Van Gorp moved to ask board to approve the format of the MOU and to give Supervisor Hunt authority to support the document on behalf of the District pending the approval of the attorney. Supervisor Hunt seconded the motion. The motion was passed.

9. Unincorporated CC Meeting Site and Date (Discussion Only)

Supervisor McAllister reported that the community was not interested in meeting at this time. She also reported on the successful planting of seven trees in Moapa. She stated she will possibly need an action item in February.

10. RC&D Board Nominations (Discussion and Action Item)

Supervisor Hunt will serve as liaison for the RC&D CDSN representative. Supervisor Fortier made a motion to appoint Supervisor Hunt as agency representative. Supervisor Wardlaw seconded the motion. The motion was passed.

11. River Mountains Loop Trail Partnership (Discussion and Action Item)

Supervisor Van Gorp reported that he was unable to continue to serve on the River Mountain Loop Trail Board, and asked if another CDSN board member would like to replace him. The River Mountain Loop Board meets once a month to reinforce the project. The CDSN Board decided it was not necessary to continue to serve on the River Mountain Loop Board. Supervisor Van Gorp made a motion that CDSN would withdraw from the group. Supervisor Wardlaw seconded the motion. The motion passed.

12. Staff Report – Wilisha Daniels (Discussion Only)

Wilisha gave a brief report on the Department of Air Quality Management's Student Outreach Program. She also passed out the soils brochure for review. Wilisha reported that Gretchen will submit a recycling grant to the NDEP this month.

13. Supervisor's Report (Discussion Only)

Supervisor Gibson reported that the Mohave Max program is starting and is circulating brochures.

Supervisor Fortier reported on the tree study. He stated that he may have a site, but there is no further information at this time.

Supervisor Hunt reported that he visited sites at Bunkerville that the Board had approved for funding. He also expressed his concern about the research of the Casuarinas tree and the possibility of it being a weed. Supervisor Wardlaw suggested that we have the appropriate people look into to the species. Wilisha will call Sarah Earle at NDF to research the tree. Supervisor Hunt also reported that he had attended a weed meeting

Supervisor McAllister reported on the trees that were planted with the students in Moapa. She also stated that brochures entitled "Trees and Me" were in the works. She commented that Moapa Valley Trails has plans to design a trail within the Valley pending community support.

Supervisor Wardlaw reported that Clark County concluded the Environmental Plans committee Criteria Recommendations that will go before the Commissioners in February. He also stated that the environmentally sensitive lands report will be mapped with criteria. Supervisor Van Gorp asked if the report would be available for public comment. Supervisor Wardlaw said it will be available for public comment after it goes before the Commissioners. He stated that he will provide the Board with a copy of the criteria at the next meeting.

Supervisor Van Gorp reported he and Supervisor Fortier were working on irrigation for the tree evaluation plot. He also stated he may research the possibility of work with the Moapa Agriculture School for acreage for the tree study. Supervisor McAllister said she would look into the availability of usage. Supervisor Fortier stated that the soils would need to be evaluated first.

Supervisor Currier passed out the governor's policy on sexual harassment and discrimination. She also stated she is working with Kim Vilt on an agreement with the Wetlands Park to create a field guide for kids.

14. Open Discussion and Public Comment (Discussion Only)

Volunteer Greg Currier presented the Board with pictures of CDSN projects and he donated a digital camera to the District.

Sandi Gotta of NDCD stated that she is overseeing the operations of 28 Districts in the state and is the current lead for CDSN. She reported on the new state personnel tax and stated that CDSN is exempt. She also stated that our division pays workers comp for all members, which is salary based and NDCD is hoping to work out a flat rate with the state. She stated she will be in Washington D.C. in March to speak with Senator Reid and Congressional members about our concerns. She stated CDs have general liability coverage and has been determined a subdivision of state government. Board members, employees, vehicles and equipment are all covered under general liability by the state. The price of coverage is estimated at \$40,000 a year. Supervisor Hunt asked if members would be covered even when attending other meetings. Sandy stated Board members will be covered when conducting CDSN business. The District Attorney represents the Board members however, a premium has not been paid at this time. She stated that annual work plans are critical to avoid lawsuits. Sandi stated the Chapter 41 identifies us as a political subdivision of state government, and sitting on the Board protects members from being sued individually up to a \$50,000 limit.

15. Next Meeting Date (Discussion Only)

Next meeting is scheduled for February 18, 2004 at 2:30 p.m. in the CDSN conference room.

16. Adjournment (Action Item)

Supervisor Wardlaw made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Supervisor Van Gorp seconded the motion. The motion passed. The meeting was adjourned at 4:10 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Supervisor Hunt, Secretary/Treasurer