



Conservation District of Southern Nevada  
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**MINUTES**  
**Conservation District of Southern Nevada**  
**Board Meeting**  
**Conservation District of Southern Nevada – 5820 S. Pecos Road A-400**  
**March 21, 2007 – 1:30 p.m.**

**Attendees:**

Supervisor Judy Currier, Vice Chair  
Supervisor John Hunt, Treas./Secretary  
Supervisor Elise McAllister  
Alt. Supervisor Mark Silverstein

Wilisha Daniels  
Jennifer Szwajbka  
Ron Smolinski, DAQEM  
John Jeffredo, NRCS  
Kelly McGowan, NDCD

**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 March 2007 Agenda
3. Approval of January and February 2007 Minutes
4. Correspondence
5. Pay Bills
6. Introductions

Supervisor Currier called the meeting to order at 1:46 p.m.

Supervisor Hunt moved to approve the consent agenda. Supervisor McAllister seconded the motion. The motion passed.

**Business Agenda:**

7. Financial Report (Discussion/Action Item)

Supervisor McAllister moved to approve the financial report. Supervisor Silverstein seconded. The motion passed.

8. Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) – Jarrod Edmunds (Discussion/Action Item)

John reported that Jarrod was in Reno this week. He also stated that NRCS was half-way through this fiscal year, and preparing for next year. The new farm bill is available online at [usda.nrcs.gov](http://usda.nrcs.gov) and is open for public comment.

9. No Agenda Item.

10. NACD Conference, Los Angeles, CA Feb. 4-7, 2007 (Discussion/Action Item)

Supervisor Hunt attended the conference in LA. He took CDSN/RC&D information to distribute at the meeting and was pleased with the reception of the brochures and posters. He reported the conference covered topics such as bio-fuels and carbon sequestration. He also reported that he spoke to Arlin Lancaster, Chief of NRCS, about programs for urban CDs. Chief Lancaster said he thought the CDs were doing a good job and hope to open up program criteria for urban districts in the future.

#### 11. Brochure Review (Discussion/Action Item)

This item will be held over to the May meeting.

#### 12. Range Camp (Discussion/Action Item)

Supervisor Currier stated that the Range Camp flyer was included in the packet. Wilisha stated Camp was scheduled for June 17-23, 2007 and asked if the Board was interested in sponsoring Camp this year. Supervisor Currier suggested that the Board decide how many students we are going to sponsor. She stated that \$125 will cover all costs except for transportation. Ron asked for the information to see if DAQEM could also sponsor students. Kelly stated that he has asked Districts willing to budget a certain amount to go ahead and pay that amount through the Youth Activity Fund. He also stated that there is no outside source of funding for the program, and they are in need of new supplies. Supervisor Currier suggested that CDSN sponsors two students preferably from Clark County or other eligible students in the state. She also proposed the Board add in extra funds to cover equipment and supplies. Supervisor Hunt moved to donate a total of \$450 for Range Camp. Supervisor McAllister seconded. The motion passed.

#### 13. Agreements/MOU List Review – Wilisha Daniels (Discussion/Action Item)

Wilisha stated that Jennifer had updated the list to display current agreements. Supervisor Currier suggested that we consider holding an event at Acacia in the fall. She stated that we need a planting event for Tomi's garden, and we need to work with Supervisor Van Gorp on plans for a fall planting. She also suggested that we review some ideas at the next meeting. Supervisor Hunt suggested that we also figure out ways to work with the state and federal agencies, and research MOUs that may currently be in place with them. Staff will also add the agreement with the Clark County Department of Air Quality and Environmental Management to the list.

#### 14. CWMA Status (Discussion/Action Item)

Kelly reported that he talked to Dawn Rafferty of the Department of Agriculture about the Clark County CWMA and its recognition by the Department. He also reviewed the statutes for CWMA, and found that no one has the authority in recognizing CWMA's. He stated the Department of Agriculture helps to organize CWMA's, and can determine if a CWMA meets their funding requirements. The current available funding is issued to recognized CWMA's. However, no one has the authority to decide if a CWMA exists. Supervisor Hunt stated that Supervisor Hewitt volunteered to Chair the CWMA meetings, however CDSN did not call the meetings. He also said that the Department thought Clark County CWMA did not fit the traditional mold and that completed on the ground projects were not acknowledge by them. Supervisor Currier stated there were two CWMA's formed the Clark County and the Wash CWMA. She stated that the agencies included in the CWMA's were for land managers. Kelly stated he was concerned about overlaying of CWMA's. Supervisor Currier stated that CDSN decided to step out of the CWMA at this time. Kelly stated that he will continue to talk to Tina Mudd about the CWMA's.

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

Wilisha reported that there are several events planned for spring. She stated the upcoming events were the CCSN Plant Show, Clark County Fair and Rodeo, and UNLV and Summerlin Earth Fairs. She stated that DAQEM will coordinate another agency tent at the Clark County Fair this year. She reported that she is coordinating the tent, which is filled for this year. Wilisha stated she is also working on the poster and spotlight contest, which will end May 2.

Jennifer reported that she is working on a storm water poster contest for the Storm Drain Campaign for 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> graders, and the winning student's class will take a field trip on the Forever Earth Boat at Lake Mead. She reported that the Straw Bale and Moapa Gardens Grand Opening will be held off until the fall. Jennifer also reported that she developed a final report for the Christmas Tree Recycling Program, and the committee recycled over 10,000 trees this year. She stated that we received a RFP for the Region 9 Conservation Grant, and is working with Kim on a possible project at Mount Charleston for the grant. She stated that they are researching the possibility of installing a solar power garbage compactor called "Big Belly" on Mount Charleston.

#### 16. Supervisor's Report (Discussion/Action Item)

Supervisor Hunt stated that he was selected by the RC&D to talk to Porter's staff about their programs. He also spoke to the staff about the Farm Bill, Acacia Park and the Native Seed Project. He stated that he would like to meet with the County Commissioners to encourage them to ask congressional delegates to look at the Farm Bill and also to express CDSN's support for RC&D/NRCS programs. He also stated that he would like to schedule an appointment with Tom Collins to discuss these concerns. Supervisor Currier stated that Supervisor McAllister should also attend the meeting because portion the of funds are spent in the Moapa area. Supervisor Currier will talk to Jodi about meeting with Commissioner Collins. Supervisor Hunt reported that he will attend an RC&D meeting on May 18-20, 2007.

Supervisor McAllister reported that last month Alice Crites coordinated a meeting about informing outside forces about the Ag Farm. She is trying to inform the public about the project and that it is an integral part of the curriculum. She also reported that Alt. Supervisor Silverstein volunteered to help the Ag Farm develop a Strategic Plan. She also reported that she is working with Jennifer on the projects at the Farm. She stated that the American Planning Association will host a meeting next year in May.

#### 17. Open Discussion and Public Comment (Discussion Only)\*

Kelly distributed updated brochures on the Division of Conservation Districts. He stated there is a NACD meeting scheduled in Park City, Utah, September 9-11, 2007. He also stated that he was working on framework for the collaborative MOU. He reported that there were a number of bills scheduled to be reviewed by the legislature. Assembly Bill AB824 will double the amount of money that the state donates to the Conservation Districts. The current grant amount is \$5,000 and it will increase to \$10,000 if the bill is approved. He also reported on Senate Bill 87, which states that non-state agencies receiving state funding will be audited by the State controller's office. This bill would require the Commission to enforce compliance from Districts in order to receive the \$5,000 annual grant. Supervisor Currier stated that if CDSN does not comply with Commission requirements we could miss the funding opportunities. Kelly also reported that the State Technical meeting will be held March 27<sup>th</sup>, which will be broadcast from the Cooperative Extension office. He also reported that the State Conservation Commission Meeting will be held on March 27<sup>th</sup> in Carson City. Gary Beck from Elko is schedule to give a presentation on brush management at the meeting.

Alt. Supervisor Silverstein congratulated Jennifer on the Storm Drain Marketing Campaign. He also reported that Clark County Commissioners approved the northeast amendment with a contingency for NDEP certification. The plan allowed for centralized system in Moapa. There will be no water reclamation public facilities in that area. He also reported that Bunkerville and the Riverside area package plants were also approved. Alt. Supervisor Silverstein reported that DAQEM is creating a county wide water quality management plan. A stakeholders meeting for the plan will be held on April 12<sup>th</sup> at 2:00 p.m.

Ron Smolinski stated that he can include brochures about the Ag Farm in the tent at the Clark County Fair. He also commented he would like to see "air" included in natural resources/conservation concerns by the State. Kelly agreed that "air" should be included in the resources defined by the current statues.

Supervisor Currier stated that CDSN is recognized in the NRCS' 2006 annual report, which is available for review.

#### 18. Next Meeting Date (Discussion/Action Item)

The next Board meeting is scheduled for May 16, 2007 at 1:30 in the CDSN conference room.

#### 19. Agenda Items

- Brochure Review
- Follow-up with County Commissioners

#### 20. Adjournment (Action Item)

Supervisor McAllister made a motion to adjourn. Alt. Supervisor Silverstein seconded the motion. The motion passed. The meeting was adjourned at 4:10 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

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John Hunt, Sec./Treasurer

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Date