



MINUTES

Conservation District of Southern Nevada Monthly Board Meeting

Conservation District of Southern Nevada – 5820 S. Pecos Rd. A-400, Conference Room
May 17, 2006– 1:30 p.m.

Attendees:

Supervisor John Hunt, Treas./Secretary
Supervisor Dirick Van Gorp
Supervisor Beth Hewitt
Supervisor Jon Wardlaw
Alt. Supervisor Mark Silverstein

Wilisha Daniels
Jarrod Edmunds, NRCS
Teri Knight, NRCS
Everett Bartz, BLM
Ron Smolinski, DAQE

Supervisor Hunt called the meeting to order at 1:40 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 May 2006 Agenda
3. Approval of March 2006 Meeting Minutes
4. Correspondence
5. Pay Bills
6. Introductions

Supervisor Hewitt requested that the Board hear item 11 first. Supervisor Van Gorp made a motion to approve the consent agenda. Supervisor Hewitt seconded. The motion passed.

Business Agenda:

7. Financial Report (Discussion/Action Item)

Wilisha explained the payments to the County for the Wetlands Par Project. Supervisor Van Gorp made a motion to approve the Financial Report. Supervisor Hewitt seconded the motion. The motion passed.

11. Weed Inventory on Urban Interface Areas – Supervisor Hewitt (Discussion/Action Item)

Everett stated that BLM is interested in working with CDSN on creating an inventory for noxious weeds. BLM currently has \$20,000-25,000 allocated for this project. Supervisor Hewitt stated that Everett is looking for assistance with the urban interface areas, and it may be a good project for CDSN. CDSN would enter into a 5-year agreement with the BLM on the project. Jarrod stated that Tina Mudd was recently hired to work with the CWMA's, and informed him that a weed mapping coordinator will be hired in the near future. Supervisor Hunt stated that Supervisor Hewitt is currently the interim Chair for the CWMA. He also stated CDSN is still looking to fill the vacant Conservation Technician position, which will assist the CWMA. Supervisor Hunt stated the weed mapping project is a positive step for the CWMA. Supervisor Hewitt stated that she invited Everett to the meeting to get some feedback from the Board regarding a possible partnership with BLM. Supervisor Hunt stated CDSN also needs a clear understanding of the roles of the CWMA groups,

because there may be some changes in the future. Supervisor Hewitt stated she reviewed the paper work that Tina provided on the CWMAs, and Tina is aware of the need for a weeds coordinator. Supervisor Hunt also suggested the Board talk to Supervisor McAllister about a possible weed mapping project in Moapa before taking action. Supervisor Hewitt asked Everett about BLM's deliverables, and suggested that they be discussed before making a decision. She stated that the CWMA will meet bi-monthly, and he could present the deliverables at the next meeting. Everett explained that the deliverables for the first year will focus on inventory and training, and the BLM will provide the training for mapping. Supervisor Hunt inquired about the weed mapping grant that Elyse Benson and Kim submitted, and requested copies for the Boards review. Wilisha said she would ask Kim about the grant and get back to the Board. Supervisor Hunt asked the Board their thoughts on pursuing the project. Supervisor Hewitt stated that it is a great opportunity for CDSN. Supervisor Hewitt made a motion to begin working with Everett to write an agreement with BLM for the Board to review.

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

Jarrod Edmunds reported the recruitment for Elyse Benson's position opened last Monday, and will close in a few weeks. The announcement and application is available on USA Jobs. Jarrod also stated the person will work with urban areas and invasive species. He also stated it will take a few months to fill the position. Jarrod also reported that Doug Merkler is working with the SCOPE program to re-pipe the water flow to bypass the Wetlands Park. Jarrod stated he had a copy of Doug's presentation that he could provide to the Board.

9. Conservation Easement Status (Discussion/Action Item)

The Board decided to hold the item until the next meeting.

10. Letter to the Desert Conservation Program (Discussion/Action Item)

Supervisor Currier sent a letter on behalf of CDSN in support of the changes to the Desert Conservation Program.

12. NDOT Highway Corridor Design Project – Supervisor Hunt (Discussion/Action Item)

Supervisor Hunt stated NDOT allocated funds to enhance the Flora and Fauna on Highway 95 from Laughlin to Cactus Spring. Teri Knight stated she has attended the meetings regarding the beautification project. She stated the section that runs from Clark County to Laughlin could be a possible Southern Project for RC&D. She also stated 3% of the budgeted amount for the project could be allocated to a 501(c3), which RC&D could sponsor. Supervisor Hunt asked if there were grant funds available for the project. Teri stated 3% of the funds would be available for grants. Teri also stated that the funds would be primarily used for construction/build-out. She stated the first completed beautification project was recently completed here in town at the Spaghetti Bowl. Supervisor Hewitt asked how CDSN could be involved. Teri stated CDSN could help to ensure the funding goes to the surrounding communities. Supervisor Hunt stated he wanted to inform the Board of the project, and this item was only for discussion. Teri passed around a booklet on the project for the Board to review.

13. Range Camp (Discussion/Action Item)

Wilisha stated Range camp is scheduled for June 19-24, 2006 and asked the Board if they are interested in sponsoring a student(s). Supervisor Van Gorp made a motion to send 1-2 students to Range Camp. Supervisor Wardlaw seconded the motion. The motion passed. Wilisha will talk to Supervisor McAllister about students who might be interested in attending camp.

14. Recycling/Reclamation Project with CCSN – Supervisor Hewitt (Discussion/Action Item)

Supervisor Hewitt stated that staff and CCSN are looking at initial money for a feasibility study for the project. Kim is currently meeting with CCSN to review ideas. Supervisor Hewitt asked for Board approval to seek funding for the project. Supervisor Wardlaw suggested contacting the City of Henderson about participating in the project. Supervisor Wardlaw made a motion for the Board to

support the possibility of the project with CCSN, and include any other concerned partners. Supervisor Van Gorp seconded the motion. The motion passed.

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

Wilisha reported that she attended the Red Rock, UNLV and Summerlin Earth Fairs. She also stated she helped coordinate the Clark County Fair agency tent. Wilisha stated she is working with DRI on science boxes for teachers and with the Global Lab students on air quality presentations. She also stated that recruitment for the Conservation Technician position closed on the May 12, and interviews will be scheduled for next week.

16. Staff Report (Discussion/Action)

Supervisor Wardlaw reported that the County is changing their comprehensive plans to a policy document. The document will be very rigid but a lot smaller. He also stated that the Regional Planning Coalition is close to completing the LUTAC, and it went through the first stage of reviews. The document will go before the County Board for approval next week.

Alt. Supervisor Silverstein reported on the Water Quality Plan in the northeast county. The County received several comments on the plan, which will be reviewed and addressed. He also asked if Kim is still the contact for the Gardens until the Conservation Technician position is filled. Wilisha confirmed that Kim is the contact. Alt. Supervisor Silverstein will brainstorm with Supervisor Hewitt to discuss plant options for the Gardens in the fall.

Supervisor Hewitt reported that she attend the CWMA meeting and volunteered to Chair committee. The next meeting is scheduled for June 17. She also reported that the next Nevada Shade Tree meeting is scheduled for June 11-12 in Elko.

Supervisor Hunt reported that he attended the RC&D and CWMA meeting.

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

Alt. Supervisor Silverstein passed around an article on the Ag Farm that was printed in Nevada Family Magazine.

18. Next Meeting Date(Discussion Only)

The next meeting is scheduled for July 19, 2006 at CDSN at 1:30 p.m.

19. Agenda Items (Discussion/Action Item)

The agenda items for the next meeting are as follows:

- NDOT
- Conservation Easement
- Weed Inventory
- Demonstration of LUTAC Model

20. Adjournment (Action Item)

Supervisor Van Gorp made a motion to adjourn. Supervisor Wardlaw seconded the motion. The motion passed. The meeting was adjourned at 3:38 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

John Hunt, Sec./Treasurer

Date