



MINUTES
Conservation District of Southern Nevada
Board Meeting
Conservation District- 5820 S. Pecos Road A-400, Conference Room
May 20, 2009 – 1:30 p.m.

Attendees:

Supervisor Jon Wardlaw, Chair	Sandi Gotta, NvACD
Supervisor Joseph Fortier, Vice Chair	Skip Canfield, State Land Use Planning Agency
Supervisor Beth Hewitt, Treas. /Secretary	Jim Lawrence, NV Division of CD/NV Div. of State Lands
Supervisor Mark Silverstein, Clark County Rep.	Jennifer Szwejbka
Supervisor Elise McAllister	Jennifer Espinosa
Supervisor John Hunt	
Chris Magee, Inc. Cities Rep.	
Jarrold Edmunds, NRCS	

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 2009 Agenda
3. Approval of March 2009 and April 2009 Meeting Minutes
4. Correspondence
5. Pay Bills
6. Introductions

Supervisor Wardlaw called the meeting to order at 3:34 p.m.

Supervisor Fortier suggested moving item No. 11-NRCS up right after item No. 7.

Jarrold Edmunds also suggested moving item No. 12 up as well.

Jennifer Szwejbka stated that item No. 10- Approve Draft Financial Report can be covered at the next meeting. It is not currently ready and it does not have a due date.

Supervisor Silverstein moved to approve the consent agenda. Supervisor Hewitt seconds the motion. The motion is carried.

Business Agenda:

7. Cities Representative Appointment- (Discussion/Action Item)

All the cities have officially approved Chris Magee as the Cities Representative for the Conservation District. An official motion and approval from the board is needed.

Supervisor Hunt motions to approve Chris Magee as Cities Representative. Supervisor Hewitt seconds the motion. The motion is carried.

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

There is a new chief, Dave White, who is a life long NRCS employee. He aided in writing the last two Farm bills. SNWA purchased water rights last October to transfer to Hoover Dam. In the Bunkerville/Mesquite area they purchased 90%. In the Muddy Valley they purchased about 60% of water rights there. They are not anticipating participation in Farm bill programs.

9. Certification of NRCS Conservation Cooperator (USDA Client Privacy) – Jarrod Edmunds (Discussion/Action Item)

USDA wants partners to sign form to acknowledge others right to privacy.

10. Financial Report - (Discussion/Action Item)

We will not hear about the Clark County Outside Agency grant until August. The Plant Sale was very successful. Approximately 300 plants were sold. Many expressed interest for the CDSN to do it again in the spring and the fall. Supervisor Hewitt suggested doing it in September. Supervisor Silverstein suggested looking into getting advertisement in the NEON for the event. Total profit for CDSN was \$737. Supervisor Hunt suggested looking at Spanish newspapers in gardening sections. Supervisor Fortier said Angelica Goss at the SNWA does a lot of that.

11. Approve Annual Work plan– (Discussion/Action Item)

Supervisor Wardlaw motions to approve the work plan. Supervisor McAllister seconds the motion. The motion is carried.

12. Approve Draft Financial Report – (Action Item)

This item will be discussed at the next board meeting.

13. NvACD Questionnaire – (Discussion/Action Item)

Sandi Gotta stated that the questionnaire came from the Nevada Association of Conservation Districts and the new presidents wants to know what the conservation district's views as its values. The board discussed and decided that our conservation district is a blend of rural and urban. Our major concerns are to follow our work plan, maintain our identity and to make sure legislature understands what conservation districts do. We also want to stress the importance of conservation districts to communities. Both urban and rural, funding for non agricultural projects and urban areas and we would like to involve ourselves more with government entities.

14. Dean Witter/Morgan Stanley Account Follow-Up – (Discussion/Action Item)

The money has not yet been transferred to Clark County. Jennifer Szwejbka sent letters to Elsee that has lead up to that money being given to In Lieu of fee program and a budget of what we will be giving them. There is an Outside Agency that manages In-Lieu of fee program, they will receive money.

15. Staff Report – Jennifer Szwejbka (Discussion/Action Item)

One student was sponsored for the Range Camp Program this year. Another student was interested, but they did not submit their application in time.

Storm Drain Marking Program- The cities estimate needing one more year to install plaques. The grant for NDEP is up in June, we may be receiving a no-cost extension to allow more time to finish up the project. We are still waiting to hear comments on quarterly reports. Of the 8,000 plaques to be put down about 2,000 have been installed so far. Left over in-kind money will be used for education and more plaques as well as another storm water pollution poster contest for 2010.

Valle of Fire- Curt Deuser's group has completed the work and the report has been received. A report will be written and submitted to close that NRCS grant.

Last week Jennifer Szwejbka met with Grant Writing and Proposal services. Eight possible foundations and/or grants were found. We will pursue all eight. Jennifer Szwejbka suggested that with whatever

option they choose a follow-up phone call from a board member would be helpful for the cause. An EPA grant for pollution prevention is due next week it is a national grant so competition will be high.

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

Supervisor Hewitt reported that the early buy outs are going on. The Garden Center was growing plants for the Red Rock Visitor's Center and it is ready to be planted and planting will take place June 1st.

Supervisor McAllister reported that Valley of Fire State parks is doing their management plan so they have a survey online for their draft management plan. They are looking at the North portion of the Valley of Fire that borders Logandale trails to possibly make that part of the state park. Because of that we need non-profit Friends of the State Parks and Museums to lobby in the legislature.

The Farm bought refrigeration units to store produce to sell to the local grocery store and local restaurants in Moapa. They are looking for funding for a community farmers market. Restrooms are still needed as well as a metal shed. Responsible Use videos for pre-teens was nominated for an Emmy.

Supervisor Hunt reported that he had a phone meeting with RC&D.

Supervisor Fortier awarded for Spanish Trails renovation.

Supervisor Wardlaw reported that tomorrow the SNRPRC is considering funding a research project that is a Sustainability survey with UNLV beginning July 2nd this year. Clark County is working on a Parks element that is an update from an old one that had come out in 1998 for high level strategic plan for unincorporated Clark County.

Supervisor Silverstein reported that his son's Eagle Scout project will be collecting native seeds at Lake Mead over the weekend.

Supervisor Magee reported that he would be working with Jennifer Szejbka on the EPA grant and that Jennifer had represented CDSN at a Bellagio event and all the outreach material had been distributed.

17. Sponsorship of the Mt Charleston License Plate Program – Sandi Gotta – (Discussion/Action Item)

Jim-With this program we get the funds the DMV collects we then use the funds to give out grants to support grants for the natural environmental of Mt. Charleston. The state law requires us to give grants to public agencies. Most of the interested parties are non-profits so they went to Clark County to sponsor. There are 5 projects sponsored by Clark County. Clark County can no longer be the grantee. We are looking for someone to sponsor the projects. The District would be signing on as grantee. It will give the District exposure in the Mt. Charleston area. It would be a pass through position. It is a reimbursable program. The project components send the invoice to the district and the district sends it in to the program.

Skip- The first project for Fire Hydrants are simply markers for visibility. They help with visibility concerns. The second project, Gateway design project is for visitors that don't know where to go in the area. The third one is the Birding brochures. The fourth is the Wilderness steward program to better understand stewardship. The fifth project is about OHB and is about education on public access. Skip thanked the district for accommodating them on the agenda.

Supervisor Wardlaw suggested putting together a duties and expectations sheet for the district.

Supervisor Wardlaw motions to be the sponsor for the 5 projects of the program along with approval of the list of duties and expectations. Supervisor Hewitt seconds the motion. The motion is carried.

Sandi Thanked the CDSN for all the reports. The annual report is on the website. Your commissioner representative, Judy Currier, is not going to reapply for commission. Joe Fortier has been one of the three recommended.

18. Open Discussion and Public Comment – (Discussion Only)*

None

19. Agenda Items – (Discussion/Action Item)

- Approve Draft Financial Report
- Update the Budget
- List of Duties and Expectations for Mt. Charleston program

20. Meeting Location- (Discussion/Action Item)

CDSN Office- July 15th

21. Adjournment – (Action Item)

Supervisor Wardlaw motions to adjourn. Supervisor Hewitt seconds the motion. The motion is carried.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:15 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Elizabeth Tomica Hewitt, Sec. /Treasurer

Date