

Washoe-Storey Conservation District

1201 Terminal Way, Suite 222
Reno, NV 89502
(775) 322-9934

Board of Supervisors Meeting

Minutes of November 19, 2008

Present:

Ernie Nielsen, WSCD Chairman
Bret Tyler, WSCD Vice Chairman
Jim Shaffer, WSCD Secretary
Becky Maholland, WSCD Supervisor
Ray Newcomb, WSCD Supervisor
Andi Kemmerer, WSCD
Dan Kaffer, WNRCandD
Jim Gifford, NRCS
Jim Arden, WSCD Consultant

1. Call the Meeting to Order

- Chairman Ernie Nielsen called the Washoe-Storey Conservation District Board of Supervisors Meeting to order at 4:40 p.m. It was determined that there was a quorum.
- Bret made a motion to move item 10 A to Public comments in the agenda. Jim seconded and the motion passed.
- Becky made a motion to approve the minutes from the October 22, 2008 WSCD Board meeting. Ray seconded and the motion passed.

2. Public Comments:

- No public comments

3. External Agency Reports:

A. USDA - Natural Resources Conservation Service – District Conservationist

- NRCS has a new State Conservationist for Nevada, Bruce Peterson. Bruce is very supportive of Conservation Districts.
- At the January WSCD Board meeting, Jim would like to review plan contracts and get approval so that Jim can take suggestions to the land owners.
 - Go over MOU, Cooperative Agreement between NRCS and WSCD, and the Agreement between WSCD and USDA.
 - Goes back to the Dust Bowl which created NRCS and sparked conservation districts where there was a mutual concern about saving resources.
 - What can NRCS do to help WSCD?

- Create an itemized concerns list for Washoe and Storey Counties to determine interested people and creative projects.
- B. Division of Conservation Services – Sandi Gotta
 - Item tabled for January WSCD Board meeting.
- 4. District Projects:
 - A. Washoe and Storey County Reviews
 - Andi completed one review for Washoe County and none for Storey County
 - [Andi to talk to Community Development to make sure WSCD is getting all the plans for Washoe County.](#)
 - B. Update on Selmi Drive Project.
 - Waiting for Ernie to feel comfortable about WSCD’s insurance. The project will commence in Spring of 2009.
 - C. Update by Hidden Meadows workgroup.
 - [Andi to set up a Hidden Meadows subcommittee meeting on December 9, 2008 at 4:00 at the WSCD office.](#)
 - WSCD received the \$30,000 from the Airport Authority. Possibly leverage the funds against TRF funds.
 - Jim Arden gave out a handout describing some recommendations on the Hidden Meadows ponds.
 - [Andi to talk to Mae Gustin about her work done on Steamboat Creek and ask Mitch Blum if he is currently doing any work on Steamboat Creek.](#)
 - Still need to have an EIS performed on the Hidden Meadows ponds, and need to obtain a Special Use Permit.
- 5. Proposed District Projects:
 - A. Discussion and approval regarding Wetlands 5 and 6.
 - Suzy submitted two grant proposals for the project. One to the Truckee river Fund and another one to NDEP requesting 319 (h) Funds.
 - Construction in the wetlands would include several meandering low flow channels, noxious weed removal and revegetation.
 - B. Update on partnership with the Nevada Tahoe Conservation District in regards to the Residential BMP education proposal.
 - NTCD submitted the proposal and is the main contact for the project.
 - [Andi to determine the NDEP and TRF presentation dates.](#)
 - NDEP: Wednesday, December 3 at ?
 - TRF: Friday, December 5 at 8:30 am.
 - [Andi to talk to Chris Conway about a possible LID project and location site.](#)
- 6. Storey County Issues:
 - A. Discussion of goat and weed issues: noxious weeds in Virginia City and surrounding areas including Storey County Weed Action Committee.
 - Bret spoke to Sue Donaldson about dispersing the new Weed Busters coloring books to elementary schools in Storey County.

- B. Update on the Pinyon Pine Forest Restoration Issue.
 - Storey County gave NDF to spray noxious weeds along road ways, water ways and for pinyon pine bark beetle eradication.
 - There will be a meeting at Ray's house on December 6, 2008. Anyone interested in learning about the Pinyon Pine bark beetle is welcome to come.
- C. Review progress made with the Storey County Master Plan.
 - [Andi to email Andy the documents that Becky sent out in regards to air pollution](#)

7. Internal District Reports

A. Fiscal

1. Report – Treasurer

- [Andi to look up the WSCD Fiscal Policy and email to the Board.](#)

2. Revenue including office space/rent

- WSCD is all paid up.

3. Authorize payment of expenses.

4. Review Budget

- [Andi to look up Quick Books and use for WSCD accounts.](#)

5. Audit Report

- [Andi to talk to Andy for assistance with the WSCD audit.](#)

B. General Correspondence – Secretary

- No comments.

8. Old Business:

A. Discussion of goat and weed issues: noxious weed issues in Virginia City and surrounding areas including Washoe Lake. –Action

- Tall whitetop is being reviewed along Long Valley Creek, and Bret is working on noxious weeds in Storey County.

B. Update on the Pinyon Pine Restoration Project.

- Ray will meet with the US Forest Service in the next couple of weeks to discuss the pinyon pine beetle problem.

C. Human Resources – review John Magness

- John sent Ernie his resume.
- WSCD could hire him to just write grants.

9. New Business:

A. Discussion of possible projects that Dan Kaffer would be able to assist WSCD with.

- Protecting the 10,000 year old Lagomarsino Petroglyphs near Virginia City, Nevada.
- Matching funds in the Tahoe Reno Industrial Center for small businesses with less than 50 employees, which could ultimately reduce energy costs.
- Management money for conservation easements.
- Wetland preservation through the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

- Wetlands 5, 6 and 16 along Steamboat Creek in South Reno where wetlands would be reestablished and noxious weeds would be eradicated.
 - Placement of wind turbines in areas of Nevada that would aid in wind energy development.
 - Horse manure conversion to energy by means of methane digesters in Palmino Valley.
- B. Discussion of how \$30,000 Airport Authority funds should be allocated.
- Andi to email Kevin Roukey and let him know WSCD received the money and email Ernie about opening a credit account with Wachovia or Washington Mutual.
 - Match the funds against Truckee River Funds.

10. Staff/Consultants Items:

A. Announcements

- Annual Board meeting with Dan Kaffer will be held in Dayton on December 10, 2008. Becky and Andi will attend.
- Meeting with Dean Haymore to discuss noxious weed issues in Storey County on December 17, 2008.
- Interlocal Stormwater Committee meeting on November 20, 2008.
- Restoration Ad-Hoc meeting on November 24, 2008.
- Sue Donaldson has 7,500 copies of the new Weed Busters coloring book. Please let Andi know if you'd like any copies.

B. Report on activities since last meeting.

C. District direction on future staff activities.

11. Supervisors Items:

A. Announcements

B. Review of activities not otherwise included in agenda items.

- Have Suzy Johnson write a summary of Wetlands 5 and 6 and Crane Ditch.
- Andi to take before and after pictures of Wetlands 5 and 6.
- Andi to read the Nationwide 27 Permit and determine what responsibilities WSCD has.

12. Next District Meeting:

- Next WSCD Board meeting will be held on January 28, 2008 at 4:30 in the WSCD office.
- Agenda items:
 - Double Diamond Wetlands 5 and 6.
 - Crane Ditch clean-up progress report by Suzy Johnson.
 - Storey County Master Plan discussion.
 - Update on the Pinyon Pine Restoration Project
 - WSCD audit.
 - Residential BMP project with the Nevada Tahoe Conservation District
 - NRCS discussion of MOU

13. Adjourn

Jim made a motion to adjourn the WSCD Board meeting at 7:35 pm. Becky seconded and the motion passed.