

Washoe-Storey Conservation District

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

Board of Supervisors Meeting

Minutes of October 25, 2007

Present:

Ernie Nielsen, WSCD
Bret Tyler, WSCD
Becky Maholland, WSCD
Andy Flagg, WSCD
Ray Newcomb, WSCD
Jim Arden, Consultant
Andy Knust, Kennedy/Jenks
Tracey Wolfe, NRCS
Andi Kemmerer, WSCD

1. Call the Meeting to Order

- Chairman Ernie Nielsen called the Washoe-Storey Conservation District Board of Supervisors Meeting to order at 4:35 p.m.
- There were two guests in attendance: Jim Arden and Andy Knust from Kennedy/Jenks.
- Andy made a motion to approve the minutes from the September 27, 2007 WSCD Board meeting. Jim seconded and the motion passed.
- Bret made a motion to move item 8A up in the agenda to 5A. Bret seconded and the motion passed

2. Public Comments:

- No comments.

3. External Agency Reports:

A. USDA - Natural Resources Conservation Service – District Conservationist

- Tracey Wolfe, field staff from Yerington, was in attendance.
- She will get WSCD a list of acting employees for NRCS.
- Minden Field office is WSCD's current field office.
- Ed Blake does soil surveying for NRCS, and Richard Vigil is the State Conservationist.
- EQUIP and WHIPP still exist.
- **Andi to find existing MOU.**

B. Division of Conservation Services – Sandi Gotta

- Sandi Gotta was not able to attend the meeting.

4. District Projects

A. Hidden Meadows: update from Jim Arden

- Jim Arden brought a best restoration/preferred alternative plan from Jim Smitherman with the Water Department.
- Arndell owns the land/dirt at Hidden Meadows.
- After the development stage of Hidden Meadows, it was difficult to restore the wetland plants and wildlife habitat, so Washoe County backed off.
- Jim met with a couple of officers from the Hidden Meadows HOA on October 24, 2007. He found out that as excavation was performed to build up house pads, water seeped in from Steamboat Creek to for the Hidden Meadows ponds. The pond was never envisioned for the community. There is a possibility of ownership by the HOA, but need to get the funds to restore. The Hidden Meadows pond is now in the category of Waters of the US according to the USACE for wetlands.
- WSCD needs to get to the point where we can actively and positively improve the condition of the Hidden Meadows ponds.
 - Possible project funded by the Truckee River Fund?
- On November 9, 2007, there will be an Arbitration/Mediation meeting for the 32 acre parcel between the Hidden Meadows developer and the HOA.
- Jim Arden may be out of town for the November 29, 2007 WSCD Board meeting. May possibly have to have a phone meeting with Jim during the meeting, or form a subgroup with Ernie and Becky to have a meeting at another time.
- **Andi and Jim Arden to get together to discuss Washoe County Water Resources flood control proposal.**

B. Steamboat Creek

- Andy Knust from Kennedy/Jenks was in attendance.
- **Andi to contact Mitch Blum to see if there is a way for WSCD to be involved with the Steamboat Creek project.**
- Mahmood Azad has some interest in rehabilitating Steamboat Creek.
- **Andi to pull up Steamboat Creek file and e-mail to the Board.**
- **Andi to e-mail the open space contact person from the county to see what is going on with the plan.**

C. Washoe and Storey County Reviews

- WSCD to continue to think of new ideas/suggestions to add to reviews that can better the environment and how people think about the environment.
- **Andy and Andi to set up a time to meet and go over Washoe/Storey County Reviews.**

D. Jumbo Grade/Andrew Lane

- Andi to determine WSCD's responsibilities for Jumbo Grade and Andrew Lane. Potential project for WSCD?
 - Do some monitoring, and report back to the County.
 - Andi to take pictures and compare them to pictures taken previously at the sites.
 - Andi to send a monitor report to Dave Price with the County, and determine if the contract with the Army Corp of Engineers has expired.

E. Storey Weed Abatement Team

- Andi to send CWMA paperwork to Dawn Rafferty and find out what WSCD's next steps are.
- Andy volunteered to talk to Sue Donaldson to determine weed contacts for Washoe and Storey Counties.
 - Need Storey County to be involved with weed eradication. Who are the contacts?

F. Waste Management

- Weedar-64 from WSCD is in GID in LCC.
- LCC will be spraying in Spring 2008, and mapping with GPSs.
- There will be a mapping plan by Bret that will help to identify the most important problems.
- Natural Heritage has a weed mapper, and is the central hub for all weed mapping in Northern Nevada.
- Lynda Nelsen is also a great contact for information about weeds and their locations.

5. Internal District Reports

A. Fiscal

1. Report – Treasurer

- Andi to email out WSCD by-laws and financial policies to Board members.
- Andy will talk to Karen Carlson about getting a WSCD credit card.

2. Revenue including office space/rent

- WSCD is all paid up.

3. Authorize payment of expenses

- Bret made a motion to authorize payment of expenses. Andy seconded and the motion passed.

B. General Correspondence – Secretary

- No comments

C. Personnel

1. Review, discuss, and possibly determine desired short and long-term staffing pattern for District.

- Determine what WSCD will be doing over the next fiscal year.
- Describe who WSCD is: Education, restoration projects, and policy.
- Need to do a true educational scan, and determine our core values.

- Andi to do an inventory of environmental organizations for the RENO area, and also talk to Sue Donaldson about projects that she works on.
- Need to look at WSCD personnel policy.
- Andy will look into subcontracting through UNR's employment web-site.
- WSCD to get geared up to make a decision about hiring a part-time employee at the November 29, 2007 Board meeting.

6. Old Business:

A. Issues associated with District web-page.

- Need to post WSCD agendas and minutes on the web-page.
- Becky, Andy and Bret to form a working group that works on web-page content.

7. New Business:

A. Guest Speaker Jim Arden to discuss issues associated with Hidden Meadows/Steamboat Creek

- See Item 5A.

B. Possible WSCD project for improving Chalk Creek watershed.

- Item was tabled for November WSCD Board meeting.

C. Discussion and approval of an agreement of a contract language with Washoe County.

- Ernie stated that WSCD will take a 5% paycut from the previous \$25,000 contract.

D. Discussion and approval to pay \$45.00 for Andi to attend LID Workshop hosted by UNR Cooperative Extension.

- Bret made a motion to send Andi to the LID workshop. Andy seconded and the motion passed.

8. Staff/Consultants Items:

A. Announcements

- NvACD will be holding their national meeting in Reno February 12-16 2008.
 - WSCD needs to be actively involved in this meeting.
 - Andi to find a contact person with NvACD to determine how WSCD can be involved. WSCD booth?
 - Andy, Bret and Andi to get together to come up with tours for one of the days in February.
 - Andi to accumulate red comments on a separate page.
 - Andi to email Open Space Planner for Washoe County.

B. Report on activities since last meeting

- Andi to send out an email to Board members tasks she has been working on.

C. District direction on future staff activities.

- Need to decide what is wanted on the web-page.
- Possible PR about the Board?

9. Supervisors Items:

A. Announcements

- Andy brought in new WSCD vests that will be used for inspections as well as other Board member activities.
- Tracey Wolfe will determine if WSCD can keep using NRCS's storage unit.

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

- EDON lost funding, need to get someone from the Business community to WSCD Board meetings.
- Andi to send out a list of important characteristics that each Board member possesses.
 - What does WSCD need, what do we have?
- Andi to send out WSCD Board member terms.

C. Board membership review vacancy of cities appointed member and potential recommendations.

- Pick some names, then call and put them on the agenda.

10. Next District Meeting:

- Bret made a motion to have the next Board Meeting on November 29, 2007 at **4:30** at the WSCD Office. Becky seconded and the motion passed.

11. Adjourn

Andy made a motion to adjourn the WSCD Board Meeting at 7:10 p.m. Ray seconded and the motion passed.

Board personnel/Member tasks to complete before November 29, 2007 Meeting:

- Andi to find existing MOU.
- Andi and Jim Arden to get together to discuss Washoe County Water Resources flood control proposal.
- Andi to contact Mitch Blum to see if there is a way for WSCD to be involved with the Steamboat Creek project.
- Andi to pull up Steamboat Creek file and e-mail to the Board.
- Andi to e-mail the open space contact person from the county to see what is going on with the plan.
- Andy and Andi to set up a time to meet and go over Washoe/Storey County Reviews.
- Andi to determine WSCD's responsibilities for Jumbo Grade and Andrew Lane.
Potential project for WSCD?
 - Do some monitoring, and report back to the County.
 - Andi to take pictures and compare them to pictures taken previously at the sites.

- Andi to send a monitor report to Dave Price with the County, and determine if the contract with the Army Corp of Engineers has expired.
 - Andi to send CWMA paperwork to Dawn Rafferty and find out what WSCD's next steps are.
- Andy volunteered to talk to Sue Donaldson to determine weed contacts for Washoe and Storey Counties.
- Andi to email out WSCD by-laws and financial policies to Board members.
- Andy will talk to Karen Carlson about getting a WSCD credit card.
- Andi to do an inventory of environmental organizations for the RENO area, and also talk to Sue Donaldson about projects that she works on.
- Andy will look into subcontracting through UNR's employment web-site.
- Becky, Andy and Bret to form a working group that works on web-page content.
- Andy, Bret and Andi to get together to come up with tours for one of the days in February.
- Andi to accumulate red comments on a separate page.
- Andi to email Open Space Planner for Washoe County.
- Andi to send out an email to Board members tasks she has been working on.
- Andi to send out a list of important characteristics that each Board member possesses.
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