**MINUTES**

**WEBER CONSERVATION DISTRICT (WCD) MEETING**

Regular Meeting, August 2, 2017

Location, Ogden, UT

**ATTENDANCE:**

Appointed Weber Conservation District (WCD) Voting Members:

**Kevin Stratford,** *Chairman*

**John Degiorgio,** *Supervisor*

**Blair Hancock,** *Supervisor*

Utah Department of Agriculture and Food (UDAF):

**Loralie Cox***, Resource Coordinator*

National Resources Conservation Service (NRCS):

**Hannah Freeze,** *Planner*

**Jed Reeder**, *Planner*

**Jenny Cox**, *Planner*

**Brian Christensen,** *Planner*

**Clayson Cook,** *Intern*

Guest:

**Kelly Larkin**, *Producer*

**SUMMARY OF DISTRICT ACTION**

1. Meeting Minutes June 7 , 2017 Page 2
2. Elections Page 2
3. Larkin Farms Update Page 2
4. NRCS Updates Page 3
5. Resource Coordinator Updates Page 3
6. Planner Updates Page 3
7. Other Page 3

**WCD MEETING- CALL TO ORDER**

WCD Supervisor Kevin Stratford called the meeting to order at 9:05 a.m. **A motion was made by Mr. John Degiorgio to approve the July 5, 2017 meeting minutes and was seconded by Mr. Blair Hancock. The motion carried unanimously.**

**ELECTIONS**

Trevor Wayment, Kenny MacFarlan, Brent Edwards will be running for Conservation District Chairman. Kevin will get needed signatures and send the paperwork to the UCC. Kelly Wangsgard will also be running, Kevin will get him the required paperwork.

**LARKIN FARMS UPDATE**

Kelly Larkin, producer, would like to know if the State will be enforcing fines that have resulted from water quality compliance issues. Per Hannah there are times that fines are collected, and sometimes they are not. However if there is any leniency it is being done in Larkin Farms favor. Hannah explained all dairies are being held to the same standards. She also explained that approximately 6 letters have been sent to Larkin Farms. Hannah advised Mr. Larkin to follow up with Don Hall at UDWC for more information regarding the letters they have sent. Mr. Larkin feels the plans that have been presented are beneficial, however he does feel there are other concerns that could be a higher priority. Jon Degiorgio has offered support to Larkin Farms to help get things organized. Hannah expressed they are working hard to raise money and support Larkin Farms efforts to fix any issues. Per Clayson Cook, NRCS, Larkin Farms has 16 days to reach compliance. Public perception is very important, and maintaining a clean humane environment is very important. Hannah expressed there is also work being done at neighboring farms, including Wades and Gibsons. Per Blair Hancock, Supervisor, the water quality on his land has improved. Per Clayson Larkin Farms should take advantage of any funding they can qualify for. Hannah reinforces that they are on Larkin Farms side, and they are actively working to find viable solutions for everyone involved. Hannah has invited Mr. Larkin to WCD to help him connect with people that are currently running dairies, and can help with realistic solutions.

**NRCS UPDATE**

Per Jenny Cox, NRCS, CSP renewals are underway. Approximately 10 applications have been received. They have found that renewals are much more complex than new contracts, so current contract holders should prepare for a more lengthy process.

**RESOURCE COORDINATOR UPDATE**

Per Loralie Cox, Resource Coordinator, The WCD would still like to utilize Stratford Farms for Farm Field Days this fall. Kevin Stratford who will be leaving the board after elections indicated this should not be a problem. The board also discussed other possible options for the coming years. WCD has not heard from the USU Extension regarding possible Farm Field Day dates for 2017.

**PLANNER UPDATES**

Per Loralie because there are now 3 planners, she will assign each one to a specific district. Hannah Freeze will be assigned to Weber Conservation District, Brian Christensen will be assigned to Morgan Conservation District, and Leanne will be assigned to the Davis Conservation District. Per Hannah Freeze, Planner, More AFO/ CAFO compliance letters have gone out. Letters have been sent to Gibson's, Marriott Feedlot, Larkin Farms, and Rex. Planners have been in contact with all diarys to help them reach water quality compliance.

**OTHER**

Loralie presented an Agriculture Protection Act for Norma Easter Bailey Farm Trust. Board reviewed plan. **Motion to approve made by Blair Hancock, and was seconded by Jon Degiorgio. The motion passed unanimously.**

**ADJOURNMENT**

**A motion was made by Mr. Kevin Stratford to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Mr. Blair Hancock and the motion carried unanimously.** Meeting adjourned at 10:30 a.m..