**MINUTES**

**WEBER CONSERVATION DISTRICT (WCD) MEETING**

Regular Meeting, November 7, 2017

Location, Ogden, UT

**ATTENDANCE:**

Appointed Weber Conservation District Guests:

(WCD) Voting Members: **Kelly Larkin,** *Producer*

**Kevin Stratford,** *Chairman* **Garth Tuck,** *WSU*

**Matt Peterson,** *Supervisor* **Tammy Platero,** *WSU*

**Kelly Wangsgard,** *Supervisor* **Dana Dellinger,** *WSU*

**Blair Hancock,** *Supervisor*

**John Degiorgio,** *Supervisor*

Utah Department of Agriculture and Food (UDAF):

**Loralie Cox***, Resource Coordinator*

National Resources Conservation Service (NRCS):

**Hannah Freeze,** *Planner*

**Jenny Cox,** *Planner*

**Clayson Cook,** *Planner*

USU Extension:

**Ron Patterson,** *Director*

**SUMMARY OF DISTRICT ACTION**

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**WCD MEETING- CALL TO ORDER**

WCD Supervisor Kevin Stratford called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. **A motion was made by Mr. John Degiorgio to approve the October 3, 2017 meeting minutes and was seconded by Mr. Kevin Stratford. The motion carried unanimously.**

**WEBER STATE WORKSHOP**

Representatives from Weber State Workshops Dana Dellinger, Director, Tammy Platero, Program Coordinator, and Garth Tuck spoke to the Weber Conservation District Board about opportunities for volunteer efforts and sponsorship needs. Board members are encouraged to volunteer as judges for various events, set up information booths on event days, offer presentations on current farming and conservation techniques, and to sponsor programs. The Board showed interest in many of the volunteer opportunities, and will exchange contact info with workshop reps. **The board also voted on and approved a $250 sponsorship. John Degiorgio made a motion for the sponsorship, Kevin Stratford seconded the motion, the motion passed unanimously.**

**FARM FIELD DAYS**

Board discussed Farm Field Days that was held in October. One takeaway was that there needs to be more time allotted for each station. Jodi Mills, District Clerk, will send a Thank You note to Gossner Foods for donating the milk for the event.

**UACD CONVENTION REVIEW**

Loralie Cox, Resource Coordinator, attended the conference. Per Loralie some of the speakers included Logan Wild, and Scott Sandall. The speakers mainly focused on current legislative issues.

**RESOURCE COORDINATOR UPDATE**

Per Loralie Cox, Resource Coordinator, she is continuing to submit grant applications for weed control. There appears to be a developing issue with various noxious weeds in the Huntsville area. She plans to investigate further. She encourages the board to watch for noxious weeds on their own property, so that proper control can be maintained. Loralie referenced a weed guide that is provided by the University of Utah Extension Services. Matt Peterson, Supervisor, suggested it would be beneficial to provide one of these guides to producers in the area that are maintaining land. Ron Patterson, USU Extension, will look into the cost and availability of the guides to see if this would be possible.

The Board expressed frustration and concern regarding several acres of vacant land located at approximately 4300 W 2200 S. The land owner lives in California, and has not maintained it. Many noxious weeds have become a major problem, and are spreading to surrounding land and property. Loralie will check with Joe Hadley with Weber County Weed Abatement to see if they are aware of this growing problem. Board also feels it would be good to work with county commissioners on the issue, and may invite them to attend a meeting to discuss solutions.

**ELECTION UPDATE**

Per Loralie Cox, Trevor Wayment will be joining the board. The board discussed reorganization options since Kevin Stratford will be stepping down as the Chairman. After discussion it is decided John Degiorgio will likely become the new Chairman to replace Kevin.

**NRCS**

Per Clayson Cook, Planner, November 17th is the application deadline for the Farm Built Program Applications for 2018. NRCS will be switching to a new program called CDSI. This program will allow interfacing with producers via a program called Client Gateway, and will allow producers to submit info and applications electronically. Clayton encourages producers to continue to meet with planners face to face.

The Weber River Confluence 2017 will be held on Nov. 8-9th at the Eccles Conference Center. Soil health workshops will be held in February.

**PLANNER UPDATES**

Per Hannah Freeze, Planner, water samples from various places were tested and the results were presented at the last AFO/CAFO meeting. Testing showed water quality was much better than expected. Testing like this has never been done, and current data is obviously erroneous. The testing was done at worst case scenario timing. Board proposed doing testing again in January and February when plant activity is low. Board reimbursed Hannah for Water testing.

The EPA is revising the current Water Act. Hannah encouraged the board submit a written comment to EPA regarding the Water Act. Hannah helped board draft the letter that includes their list of suggestions and concerns. Hannah explained this will be a part of an informal comment period. The Board will have more opportunities as the process moves further along. The letter will come from WCD and Jay Olson Dept of Ag. Hannah also suggested individual letters be sent. Hannah will send copy to the board members for review.

**EXTENSION UPDATES**

Per Ron Patterson, USU Extension, the Crop Symposium will need to be rescheduled to January 21st or February 1st. Ron will check on facility availability. On November 14th the Pesticide Applicator Training will be held from 9-4. Testing is will be offered at OATC. Any training the extension offers counts as licensing credit hours.

Ron has been working on Russian Olive control tests since 2005. Ron offered control demonstrations for any producers in need of Russian Olive removal.

**OTHER**

John Degiorgio is seeking compensation for attending the AFO/CAFO meetings held on September 19th and October 26th. **A motion was made by Mr. Blair Hancock to pay Mr. Degiorgio. The motion was seconded by Mr. Matt Peterson and the motion carried unanimously.**

Kelly Larkin, Producer, informed the board he will no longer attend the monthly meetings. He expressed appreciation for the advice ha has received from some of the board members, and also frustration they were not able to do more to help in his situation.

**ADJOURNMENT**

**A motion was made by Mr. Kevin Stratford to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Mr. Matt Peterson and the motion carried unanimously.** Meeting adjourned at 10:45 a.m..