

MINUTES
WEBER CONSERVATION DISTRICT (WCD) MEETING

Regular Meeting, August 3, 2023
2871 Commerce Way, Ogden, UT 84401

ATTENDANCE:

Appointed Weber Conservation District (WCD) Voting Members:

John Degiorgio, *Chairman*

Kelly Wangsgard, *Supervisor*

Ronald Stratford, *Supervisor*

Utah Department of Agriculture and Food (UDAF):

Brian Christensen, *Resource Coordinator*

Weber County Weed Board:

Bart Cragun, *Weed Supervisor*

Riley Matthew, *Weber County Weeds and Roads Office Manager*

SUMMARY OF DISTRICT ACTION

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| 1. <u>Meeting Minutes</u> | <u>Page 2</u> |
| 2. <u>Resource Coordinator Update</u> | <u>Page 2</u> |
| 3. <u>Weed Board Update</u> | <u>Page 3</u> |

WCD MEETING- CALL TO ORDER

WCD Chairman John Degiorgio called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. **A motion was made by Mr. Ronald Stratford to approve the July 6, 2023 meeting minutes and was seconded by Mr. Kelly Wangsgard. The motion was carried unanimously.**

RESOURCE COORDINATOR UPDATE

Per Brian Christensen, Resource Coordinator, the \$12,000 grant for yellow star-thistle and Phragmites has been very successful and has been awarded again for the upcoming year. The previous contract was with Rich Hansen but he recently sold his business to two separate individuals. The new contractor Lucas Call has offered to do the work for \$70/hr. The second quote for \$73/hr was also received and one of the benefits of using this contractor is that a good rapport has already been created with the landowners. PMG would not offer an hourly quote so Brian did not pursue further information. Matt suggested hiring both to accelerate the treatment timeline. This way a comparison between the two can be made, and future contracts can be assigned accordingly. The board would like to assign 2/3rds to the new company Rich Hansen is establishing, and 1/3 will be assigned to Lucas Call. \$36,000.00 in funding is available

Brian reviewed the 2023 goals and 2024 goals with the board.

Commissioner Butters has been touring the different county council meetings to educate the commissioners on the benefits of the conservation districts. They are encouraging each district to attend their local county council meetings to do a presentation. Brian has a presentation ready; Matt will do the presentation in the October or November meeting.

The soil health equipment grant for a no-till drill has been written and will be submitted this month. There has been a lot of interest expressed by producers up in Ogden Valley. There is a producer who would like to fundraise and secure a second smaller no-till drill for producers in Ogden Valley. This producer would also like to take responsibility for and manage the equipment. The district will need to put up 20% for two pieces of equipment which will be approx. \$20,000.

The Morgan Conservation District would like to request their \$1000 back for the original no-till drill that was sold. Davis will plan to have access to the new equipment so they do not need their original \$1000 contribution back.

Local workgroup meetings will now need to be held in January and will be smaller with just Davis and Weber instead of the whole zone.

The UCC is planning an Ag Tour on October 11-12. Next year the Weber Conservation District will be the host district. The district will receive \$4000.00 in additional funding for this tour.

WEED BOARD UPDATE

Per Bart Cragun, Weber County Weed Board, things have been coming together nicely for the Weber County Fair. Volunteers still needed Bart will forward the needs to Jodi Mills to get coverage from the board.

Bart has been able to locate a rush skeleton weed that needs attention in Weber County and will continue to treat these spots.

Per USU kochia is becoming resistant to 2 4-D and Roundup.

There is a county drain in West Ogden that would be a good candidate for the Phragmites grant money.

NEXT MEETING

Thursday, Sept 7, 2023