

MEETING MINUTES
DELTA CONSERVATION DISTRICT –Working Meeting
Thursday, August 1, 2024
MILLARD COUNTY EXTENSION OFFICE
LOCATION: DELTA, UTAH

ATTENDANCE:

SUPERVISORS: Brandon Anderson and Klint Atkinson

Excused: Jared Bryan, Troy Davis, and Jim Withers

Clerk: Stacey Lake

Utah Department of Agriculture and Food (UDAF): Tracy Balch

Natural Resource Conservation Services (NRCS): unable to attend

Millard County – USU Extension: Kalen Taylor

Millard County Commissioner: Trevor Johnson

DELTA CD MEETING – CALL TO ORDER

Brandon Anderson called the meeting to order at **10:15 a.m.**

SUMMARY OF DISTRICT ACTIONS

Adjourn at **10:45 a.m.** Page 2

Board Business:

UDAF Business: Tracy Balch

- UACD Convention will be in November. It will be held in St. George. Resolutions are due to Kristy Davis by September 20, 2024. A memo was given to supervisors regarding the UACD resolution procedures and sample resolution. It gives guidelines on how to draft a resolution.
- On July 24, 2024, The Bureau of Reclamation published a funding opportunity for the WaterSMART Drought Response Program's Drought Resiliency Projects (DRP). This funding opportunity supports the implementation of drought mitigation projects that will build long-term resilience to drought. Through this funding opportunity, Reclamation provides financial assistance for projects that, when implemented, will increase water supply reliability and improve water management.
- The Bureau of Reclamation will host a webinar on August 15, 2024, at 11am MDT to discuss eligible applicants, project types, and the evaluation criteria for the DRP funding opportunity.
 - The funding opportunity is available on [grants.gov](https://www.grants.gov) by searching for opportunity number R25AS00013. Applications are due by October 7, 2024, at 4pm MDT.
 - The DRP funding opportunity offers four task areas (Tasks A-D) for project implementation to improve water supply reliability. Task A projects include infrastructure improvements, Task B includes groundwater projects, Task C projects are decision support tools to improve water management, and Task D includes domestic water supply projects that benefit Tribes or disadvantaged communities that do not currently have reliable water supplies. For Tasks A-C, Reclamation can provide up to 50% of project costs in two funding groups, not to exceed \$3 million in federal funds. Funding Group I is up to \$750,000 in federal cost-share for projects that can be completed in two years, and Funding Group II is up to \$3 million in federal cost-share for projects that can be completed in three years. For Task D projects, Reclamation can provide up to \$10 million in federal funds. Task D requires a 5% non-federal cost-share; however, applicants can request a cost-share waiver. Please see the funding opportunity for more information regarding cost-share.

- Notice of funding opportunity: Leray Mcallister working farm and ranch fund. 2024 funding cycle is now open.
- Water Optimization should open in December 2024.
- Working with the State ISM Group to do more weed projects in our areas. Going to print a Millard County map and mark the weed problem areas. Apply for more grants in this area.

FY 2025 Invasive Species Mitigation:

- The Utah Department of Agriculture and Food (UDAF) is now accepting Invasive Species Mitigation Weed Control Grant Applications for the 2024-25 season. The goal of this program is to allocate funds to projects which have management strategies with a high degree of potential success in the State of Utah.
- Eligible Activities:
 - Early detection and rapid response
 - Treating critical acres that protect larger land use areas
 - Monitoring and preventing the spread of small populations and new introductions
 - Monitoring and rehabilitating established infestations
 - Research related to invasive species

NRCS: unable to attend

Commissioner Business: Trevor Johnson

- Commissioner Johnson reports that construction will begin to wind down by December 2024, and January 2025. There will be a decrease in contractors, approximately from 1100 to 200. Hydrogen development will begin soon. The plant reports they will keep a small TIC crew on site for anything that comes up.
- Discussed the inland port project in Fillmore. Commissioner Johnson will have more information for the next meeting.

Extension Service Business: Kalen Taylor

- Dryland research project in Levan. Put out different varieties of alfalfa and sainfoin to see what did best. Dryland sainfoin had very good yields. Alfalfa was a little behind but waiting for nutritional values from the lab. More producers are interested in putting this in their corners in place of rye grass.
- ARS Plant Lab helping with a project in Deseret. They have new breeding releases on wheat grasses and different genetics on sainfoin and alfalfa. Going to clear some rabbit brush to do a fall 2024, and spring 2025, trial.
- BLM funding received for wild horse tracking on West Deseret, mostly in Beaver County. The DWR placed radio collars on some deer and pronghorn in Mormon Gap area. BLM capturing 400 head of horses off of Sulphur, they will take 40 mares and put radio collars on them for three years of tracking. Some sheep grazers and cattle grazers will be involved also.
- Gopher Abatement Project is going well. Kalen will bring a list of what has been turned in at the next meeting.

DELTA CD – VOLUNTEER TIME

Brandon Anderson: 5 hours -Water/Soil/Drain

Klint Atkinson: 5 hours -Water/Drain

Adjourn the meeting at 10:45 a.m.