

MINUTES
Enterprise & Iron Conservation District
Meeting Sep 4, 2024
Cedar City

ATTENDANCE:

Conservation District (CD) Supervisors:

Mark Halterman, *Vice Chair*

Cody Staheli, *Treasurer*

Brandon Hunter

Department of Agriculture and Food:

Tyce Palmer, *Zone 5 Coordinator*

Jake Benson, *Zone 5 Conservation Planner*

Conservation District Supervisors, Absent:

Keith Christensen

Nancy Clark, *Chair*

Conservation Partners Representatives:

Mike Marshall, *Natural Resources*

Conservation Service District Conservationist

Amber Hatch, *Iron County Weed Supervisor*

Maggie Francis, *Utah Department of
Agriculture & Food Compliance Inspector*

Becca Esplin, *Iron County Extension*

Sara Patterson, *Red Acre Farms*

Symbria Patterson, *Red Acre Center*

Stephanie Hill, *Cedar and Beaver Watershed
Committee*

Conservation District Staff:

Riley Howard, *Clerk*

Katie Gurley, *Clerk*

SUMMARY OF CONSERVATION DISTRICT ACTION

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|---|---------------|
| 1. <u>Meeting Minutes from Aug</u> | <u>Page 1</u> |
| 2. <u>ARDL Loan Applications</u> | <u>Page 1</u> |
| 3. <u>Cooperator of the Year</u> | <u>Page 2</u> |
| 4. <u>Scope of Work</u> | <u>Page 2</u> |
| 5. <u>Cedar Heritage and Livestock Festival</u> | <u>Page 3</u> |
| 6. <u>Banner Purchase</u> | <u>Page 3</u> |
| 7. <u>New Clerk Salary</u> | <u>Page 4</u> |
| 8. <u>Adjournment</u> | <u>Page 3</u> |

CALL TO ORDER

Enterprise & Iron Conservation District Vice Chair Mark Halterman called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Cody Staheli made a motion to approve the minutes from Aug 7, 2024. Brandon Hunter seconded the motion. Motion approved.

ARDL

Jake brought in an ARDL loan for Scott Christensen He wanted to increase the loan by another 15k. **Cody motioned to approve for funding. Brandon seconded. Motion approved.**

Jake brought in a second ARDL loan for Dick Clark Livestock. They had a pivot collapse and are asking for 104k. **Brandon motioned to approve the loan. Cody Seconded. Motion approved.** Jake sent out a text on August 22 for an emergency ARDL loan increase for Crea Christensen to replace an old pivot. **Brandon motioned for approval and Mark seconded. Motion approved**

GRASSHOPPER BAIT & NO-TILL DRILL

There has been no grasshopper bait movement during the last two months.

The No-Till Drill is going well. Almost up to 700 acres on it. The drill is currently at Stan Sorenson's house

Iron County Commission

We would like to request to get on their agenda to request funding. It would be ideal to have some E&I supervisors there. November would be the ideal time to be there for the meeting.

BUDGET

The budget is doing really well. Nothing unusual has come up. Official budget is in June.

COOPERATOR OF THE YEAR

John Middleton is being suggested as the candidate for Cooperator of the Year. He is a beginning farmer and rancher and has jumped right into the programs and projects. **Brandon motioned for John to be the candidate. Cody seconded. Motion approved.**

FIELD DAY

We got a grant that was approved for \$2,200 for a soil health workshop. Several partners can be included in the field day to help educate the public about conservation practices, programs, etc. We would like to feature the No-Till Drill. Becca suggested teaming up and doing it the same day as the USU field day. We have until June to use the funding. Early May will be the tentative date.

CLERK UPDATE

We are working on the transition. This will more than likely be Riley's last meeting. We are planning on possibly doing a lunch meeting next month on October 2nd to have a goodbye party for Riley.

OLD COMPUTER

It was suggested to donate the old computer to an afterschool program. Riley is going to erase everything and drop it off to Becca.

CEDAR LIVESTOCK AND HERITAGE FESTIVAL

Cedar Livestock and Heritage Festival could use some donations this year. The donations would not be reimbursable. **Cody motioned to donate \$500 and get a decorative sheep with it. Brandon seconded. Motion approved.**

DISTRICT BUSINESS

It would be about \$80 for a 6'X3' sponsorship banner. We would like to order a couple of banners. **Brandon Motioned, Cody seconded. Motion approved.**

No mail and no bills. Jake is anticipating some checks for the No-Till Drill. Katie needs to go to the post office before the meetings so we can collect expected checks.

UCC/ZONE 5 BUSINESS

There is going to be a Pivot Pary held on September 28th at 1:00 pm at Reber's Farm.

If you want to write any resolution issues to be submitted, they will be due the 20th of September.

USU EXTENSION UPDATE

Becca gave the update. They are doing a vencing study with cattle collars up on Cedar Mountain. They're in the early stages of that study and are working on getting collars. They're going to start collecting warm weather grass seeds.

They did the fair with the wool contest. They're wanting to do an ag barn and want a volunteer to help educate about soil health. This would be a great opportunity to help educate those who are not familiar with ag practices. They're going to do a field day to help teach the youth how to catch gophers, raccoons and squirrels and cut off their tails for a bounty. This will be for youth up to age of 18.

IRON COUNTY WEED UPDATE

Amber said the fair was a success because there was quite a bit of foot traffic. They were asked what it would take to get Kochia and Scotch Thistle to be listed as noxious weeds in the county to help with the health of the soil. Reed is willing to come to the meeting and discuss what has been successful for helping.

CEDAR AND BEAVER WATERSHED COMMITTEE

Stephanie from Cedar and Beaver Watershed Committee wants to push education, especially in the schools, to help the public understand potential ag-related threats.

NRCS UPDATE

Mike Marshall mentioned conflicts with SITLA and livestock producers. They're taking sign-ups for their programs. They have funding available for different programs. They're anticipating even more funding for projects next year. Water year is at 83 percent. It's trending in the wrong way. The soil moisture levels are low. The monsoon season has been sporadic.

NEW CLERK SALARY

Mark motioned to approve Katie's salary for \$3,000. Brandon seconded. Motion approved.

CALENDAR OF FUTURE EVENTS

E&I Conservation District meeting – October 2nd, at 1:00 p.m.

MOTION TO ADJOURN

Mark motioned to adjourn. Cody seconded. Motion carried.

ADJOURNMENT Meeting adjourned: 3:00 p.m.