

GREEN RIVER CONSERVATION DISTRICT

Meeting Date: September 09, 2024

Start Time: 4:00 P.M.

End Time: 6:00 P.M.

Attendees:

Supervisors: Tyler Hunt, Chris Dunham, Tonya Bigelow, Lee Thayn

Associate Members: Olivia Dunham (Clerk)

Agency Personnel: Jessica Mortenson (UDAF Planner), Lowell Gardner (NRCS – District Conservationist), Terron Pickett (NRCS Resource Soil Scientist), Tony Richards (UDAF Soil Health Program Manager), Brandon Todd (USDA-NRCS ASTC FO)

Guests: Gayna Salinas, Brennan Bigelow (GR FFA Adviser)

1. **Swear In New Supervisors** – Moved to later part of the meeting to wait for Coby. Coby still missed the meeting.
2. **Approval of Agenda** – *Tonya made a motion to approve the agenda; Lee seconded the motion. Motion was passed unanimously.*
3. **Approval of Minutes of Meeting** – *Tonya made a motion to approve the minutes; Lee seconded the motion. Motion was passed unanimously.*
4. **Public Comments/Concerns** – None.
5. **Request for Assistance** – None.
6. **Conservation Business:**
 - a. **FFA Farm/Soil Health Research Plot** – Brennan Bigelow gave each one present a copy of the GRHS FFA Farm Notes that he presented to the group explaining each topic written there. The following were some keypoints he emphasized:
 - SAE (Supervised Agricultural Experience) – a program where kids are allowed to participate in some agricultural experiences, like internship or agricultural research, which can help them with scholarship applications.
 - They planted 24 donated trees which so far only 4 died.
 - The soil being alkaline, no organic matter at all. The need to build soil structure.
 - Funds are difficult due to socio-economic status being Green River as a small town.
 - Doing community event (like pumpkin for fundraising).
 - Why he is teaching these kids (he has about 40 students in FFA) – we need educated consumers and future policy makers.

The discussion about FFA was tied up with the soil health workshop test plots. Jessica added that she can help Brennan with some state programs that can help FFA.
 - b. **Soil Health Workshop** – Jessica has been assigned to work on the soil health workshop. Possibilities talked about:
 - Annually? Field day in spring? Classroom setting in winter?
 - Topic? – Suggestions were thrown like having guest speakers, one of which was mentioned was inviting Philip Frank again, the NTD guy. Terron and Tony also suggested some key speakers like Rick Haney. One topic thrown is learning the biological nutrient delivery to the soil.
 - Should it be done with the other CD's who also are interested to have a soil health workshop?
 - Grants and sponsorships to help pay with the costs particularly that of inviting a key speaker as well as meals.
 - Test plots – this tied up with involving the GRHS FFA as well as another private plots from any farmer who may want to do the test plot. This should be done before the soil health field day. Other items discussed about the test plots:
 - Provision of seeds for covered crops.
 - Test plots, for example, for school farm – 7 acres; for private farm – 7 acres as well.
 - Try different single species and mix; implementation will be up to the locals.
 - What is your goal with your covered crops? For cattle? For building up soil?
 - Documentation for publication. Terron wants to collect data even if it is just an observation type data to be published so people can learn from it. He spoke about the Covered Crop Periodic Table that he shared with the group.
 - Need for soil test with the FFA farm, to which Tony said they can help with in field assessment, get some soil samples and send in for testing.
 - Lowell added that for next month's meeting, there should be a separate agenda item as for the purposes of what to achieve with all the things discussed.
 - c. **CoCoRaHS Rain Gauges** – Distributed to those who want to do it.

7. Finance – a. Financial Report - Olivia reported on the financial as follows:

GRAND COUNTY CREDIT UNION CHECKING ACCOUNT 7689			
Beginning Balance as of July 08, 2024			\$ 30,447.64
ADD: Equipment Rent			
Brillion Planter Rent - Mike Randolph (7 acres/1 day)		\$ 92.00	
New NTD - Mike Davis (68 acres/1 day)		458.00	550.00
Sub-total			\$ 30,997.64
LESS: Expenses			
Emery Telcom - Meeting Ads	350	\$ 88.00	
Emery Telcom - Meeting Ads	351	82.00	
Tonya Bigelow - Reimb. - Rain gauges \$472/Bolts & Nuts \$10.82	352	482.82	
UACD - Reimb. - Clerical Fee Inv.# 15583	353	843.13	1,495.95
Ending Balance as of September 09, 2024			\$ 29,501.69
To reconcile with bank statement:			
Ending Balance as of July 31, 2024			\$ 30,451.64
ADD: Mike Davis check for NTD rent			458.00
Sub-total			\$ 30,909.64
LESS: Outstanding Checks			
Emery Telcom - Meeting Ads	351	82.00	
Tonya Bigelow - Reimb. - Rain gauges \$472/Bolts & Nuts \$10.82	352	482.82	
UACD - Reimb. - Clerical Fee Inv.# 15583	353	843.13	1,407.95
Ending Balance as of September 09, 2024			\$ 29,501.69

d. Pay bills as brought before the board – Submission of clerical fee for the first quarter of FY23-24 to UACD.

Tonya moved for the approval of the financial report together with the request for submission of clerical fee for first quarter to UACD; Chris seconded the motion. Motion was passed unanimously.

8. Meetings/Trainings/Upcoming Events –

a. UACD Convention – November 6-7 in St. George, UT

9. UDAF/UACD Zone 7 Business – None.

10. NRCS Business – They are just wrapping up contracts. They have additional fundings for irrigation system.

Brandon encouraged everyone to participate in the CSP as there are funds available. Questions were thrown and Lowell further explained that even if it's only an acre or a backyard garden, anyone can apply for CSP.

11. FSA Business – None.

12. Extension Business – Rowe Zwahlen – None.

13. Other Supervisor Business – Tonya reported about the reason why the pipes were not used by the GR Canal Co. She gave everyone a copy of the minutes of her meeting with GRCC explaining why.

14. Complete SERA Forms – The SERA forms were signed by each supervisor who attended the meeting.

Chris moved for the meeting to be adjourned.

Next Meeting: October 14, 2024 @ GR City Hall @ 4P.M.

