M I N U T E S

Uintah County Conservation District

Regular Meeting, July 14, 2025

Location: Western Park Board Room

302 East 200 South, Vernal, Utah

ATTENDANCE:

Conservation District Chair Bryan Bell

Conservation District (CD) Supervisor
Johnathan McKee, Supervisor
Jim Slaugh, Treasurer

Conservation District Supervisors, Absent:
Steve Hanberg, Supervisor
Todd Thacker, Supervisor

Conservation District Staff
Absent: Andrea Merrell

Conservation Partners Representatives:
Cheyenne Reid, USU Extension
Jeremy Maycock, NRCS
Courtney Borer, NRCS
Department of Agriculture and Food:
Darrell Gillman, UDAF

SUMMARY OF CONSERVATION DISTRICT ACTION

MEETING – CALL TO ORDER

Chair Bryan Bell, called the meeting to order at 1:00 pm.

APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES

Darrell Gillman passed out copies of the minutes for the June 9 Uintah Conservation District (UCD) Board Meeting. The Supervisors reviewed and discussed the minutes. **Action Item: Jim Slaugh made a motion to approve the meeting minutes as presented. Johnathan McKee seconded the motion. The voting was unanimous, and the motion passed.**

UINTAH COUNTY EXTENSION BUSINESS

Cheyenne Reid, USU Extension Agent introduced reported to the district that some changes have been made at USU. The college of Natural Resources is now combined with the college of Agricultural. She is not sure how it will all look when done but it has made it hard to contact them.

They have been working with the community garden in Lapoint. The district was asked if they would be willing to donate a roll of weed fabric to help them out. **Action item: Jim Slaugh made a motion to donate a roll of weed barrier fabric, and Johnathan McKee seconded the motion, and the motion passed.**

Cheyenne is still working on getting a workshop set up for a drone demonstration.

NRCS BUSINESS

Jeremy Maycock, District Conservationist, reported no change in the downsizing and restructuring of federal agencies at this point. His staff have completed 60 contracts with 40 in Uintah County of Farm Bill funding. He said they are still working on a Chief's Initiative contract for the removal of Pinyon Juniper in the project work area.

He passed out a handout with water supply data showing the latest data on reservoir storage.

Courtney would like to have a workshop to promote SGI in the area. The board said they would be willing to help and suggested a date of November 6th for the meeting. More discussion will be held at the next meeting.

UCC UPDATES

Darrell discussed with the board some changes made at the last UCC meeting. The ARDL loan program is now willing to lend money for approved conservation equipment. They will also be discussing extending the time to pay back loans for canal companies to 15 years at the next UCC meeting.

2026 ANNUAL SCOPE OF WORK

Darrell passed out copies of the 2026 annual scope of work. Andrea reviewed some items with the board at the June meeting and made all the recommended changes and updated them as needed.

Board members reviewed the scope of work for 2026. No additional changes were made by the board. **Action Item: Johnathan made a motion to approve the 2026 scope of work as presented. Jim seconded the motion. The voting was unanimous, and the motion passed.**

PLANNING FOR FUTURE WORKSHOPS

A. Local Workgroup Meeting, Date. Darrell and Jeremy suggested to the Supervisors that the meeting be scheduled for November 10th during the regular CD meeting. They agreed that November would be a good time to have the meeting.

B. Drone Demonstration Workshop

Move discussion to the August meeting.

FINANCIAL REPORT

Items reviewed

A. Balance Sheet, Profit and Loss Statement for FY25

B. Income: reported income after June 30. Deposited on 7/1/2025 $840 from the sale of 7 rolls of weed barrier.

C. Expenses: Andrea presented the supervisors two invoices she received from Duchesne Conservation District (DCD).

One invoice is for the purchase of six rolls ($630) of the weed barrier and the other was for 12 rolls ($1,260).

UACD invoice for Andrea's payroll April to June 2025 for $869.79

Action Item: Johnathan made a motion to accept the financial report as presented and approve payment of all invoices as presented. Jim seconded the motion. Voting unanimously passed the motion.

SERA

A. Review meeting and workshop attendance for the quarter. No meetings attended.

B. Upcoming workshops. No upcoming meeting needed approval for SERA at this time.

ARDL PROPOSAL

Burns Bench has requested an ARDL loan for $200,000 to help replace some pumps. Jim reported how much it was needed and the benefit to the whole area. **Action Item: Jim made a motion to approve the ARDL loan request, and it was seconded by Johnathan and unanimously approved.**

OTHER BUSINESS AND UPCOMING EVENTS

A. It has been recommended that the district get a PO box for district mail. The board would like to discuss this at the next meeting.

Motion to adjourn the meeting at 2:30 by Jim and seconded by Johnathan. Passed