

Board Meeting Minutes - DRAFT
September 25, 2026, 8:00 am – 10:10 am
Zoom Call

Attendance

UACD Board

President: Michael Larsen
Vice President: (Stuart Bowler-excused)
Zone 1: Tom Walbridge, Jeff Kent
Zone 2: Jason Morgan, Wade Judd
Zone 3: Alisa Meyer & (Sid Smart-excused)
Zone 4: Jacob Robison, Kerry Cook
Zone 5: Allen Henrie, Bruce Bunting
Zone 6: Bryan Bell & (Steve Remund-excused)
Zone 7: Cody Nielson, (Dee Taylor-excused)

UACD Staff

Executive Director: Kristy Davis
Executive Assistant: Courtney Freeze
NRCS: Kristi Westwood
NRCS: Andrew Hopkins
NRCS: Travis Mote
UDAF: Jace Farnsworth
NACD: Desiree Van Dyke

Meeting

Approval of June 1st minutes

Motion by Thomas Walbridge, second Bruce Bunting motion passed unanimously.

Southwest Meeting Update

- Mike shares about his recent trip to Guam and working with others on shared conservation concerns and action plans.

STAC Meeting Update

- NRCS CAP - Kristy Westwood NRCS
 - **Framework:** NRCS is re-establishing a process where conservation districts lead local workgroups to identify resource concerns and set priorities
 - **Workflow:** The process moves from a **Conservation Needs Assessment, Conservation Action Plan (CAP), Implementation/Evaluation.**
 - **District Role:** Districts are responsible for refreshing workgroup membership and leading meetings; NRCS provides technical data and program delivery.
 - **Feedback:** Concerns were raised regarding the lack of actionable results when District Conservationists (DCs) are not in place.
 - Kristy will coordinate a presentation on the locally-led process for the annual convention and zone meetings.
 - Jace will coordinate training for resource coordinators on supporting the CAP process by late October.

Convention

- **Award Nominations**
 - Submit nominations for the Connecting Conservation and Bill Rigby awards via email. Kristy will send out a list of previous Bill Rigby Award recipients
- **Resolutions**
 - Voted to move two resolutions (regarding water and the sheep industry) to the committee. *Allen Henrie motioned to approve resolutions and send them onto committee, second Bruce Bunting motion passed unanimously*
- **Nominating Committee**
 - The nominating committee proposed Stuart Bowler for President and Kerry Cook for Vice President.

- **Convention Logistics**

- Scheduled the UACD board meeting to take place after the UCC meeting (which is set for 4:00 PM to 6:00 PM) on the evening before the convention November 11th.

Audit

- **Fraud Risk Assessment (Action Item)**

- All present board members agree to abide by the Ethical Behavior Policy and the Conflict of Interest. Kristy will call the rest of the board members to record their response.

NACD Updates - Deriree Van Dyke

- Authorized the signing of the NACD SHAPE agreement to receive \$5,000 for soil health promotion. Kristy will reach out to districts to collect in-kind match date (time spent reviewing flyers) for the SHAPE agreement.
Thomas Walbridge motioned that Kristy Signs the SHAPE agreement. Second Jeff Kent motion passed unanimously.

Partner Agreements

- Proposed District Boundary Changes
 - **Proposal:** Shift from a hybrid watershed/county model to strict **county-wide boundaries**, reducing the number of districts from 38 to 29.
 - **Objective:** Increase county commissioner ownership and leverage their influence to secure a requested **\$2 million ongoing fund pool** for projects and equipment.
 - **Financial Impact:** Base funding would potentially increase from \$11,000 to over \$15,000 per district.
 - **Risks:** Potential loss of representation for some areas and the requirement for full reappointment of boards in consolidated districts.

2028 Ag Expo -

- **Ag Expo Integration:** The Department of Ag is planning a large Expo in February 2028 at the Bastian Center in South Jordan
- **Proposal:** UACD is considering combining its 2028 convention with this Expo to save on facility costs and reduce travel for attendees.
- **Structure:** The Expo is envisioned as a week-long event with staggered schedules for different organizations (e.g., Farm Bureau, Cattlemen) to avoid conflicts.

Next Meeting

- TBD

Adjournment

Kerry Cook made a motion to adjourn, Bruce Bunting seconded, approved unanimously.