**MINUTES**

**WEBER CONSERVATION DISTRICT (WCD) MEETING**

Regular Meeting, March 5 , 2019

FSA Office, Ogden, UT

**ATTENDANCE:**

Appointed Weber Conservation District

(WCD) Voting Members:

**John Degiorgio,** *Chairman*

**Matt Peterson,** *Supervisor*

**Blair Hancock,** *Supervisor*

Utah Department of Agriculture and Food (UDAF):

**Loralie Cox***, Resource Coordinator*

National Resources Conservation Service (NRCS):

**Jordan Hulsey,** *Planner*

**Brian Christensen,** *Planner*

Utah State University Extension:

**Cody Zesiger,**  *Extension Professor*

Visitors:

**Deb Neal,** *Davinci Academy*

**SUMMARY OF DISTRICT ACTION**

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2. USU Extension Update Page 2
3. NRCS Update Page 2
4. Envirothon Team Page 3
5. Resource Coordinator Update Page 3

**WCD MEETING- CALL TO ORDER**

WCD Chairman John Degiorgio called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.. **A motion was made by Mr. Matt Peterson to approve the January 8, 2019 meeting minutes and was seconded by Mr. Blair Hancock. The motion carried unanimously.**

 **USU EXTENSION UPDATE**

The board welcomed the new USU Extension Agent Cody Zesiger. John and Matt would like to take Mr. Zesiger out into the community to introduce to the producers, and familiarize him with the area. They would like to do this early April. Mr. Zesiger is excited for this opportunity, and would like to put an emphasis on community outreach and education.

**NRCS UPDATE**

Per Jordan Hulsey, NRCS, contracting is still on hold, but they are hoping to open it up soon. The CSP program is still under review for changes. A summer intern will be hired, and they are currently looking for someone to fill the position. The Coalville office is still looking for a full time agent, temporary staffing is still being organized. The application deadline has closed, they are working to get all applications approved so when funding is available they can move forward.

**ENVIROTHON TEAM**

Deb Neal, Davinci Academy, presented student representatives for the Davinci Academy Envirothon Team. The school will have two teams this year made up of 10 students. The board decided to contribute to Freemont, Davinci, and USU teams. The board approved $400.00 to be sent to the USU instead of the regular $800.00 based on the fact that they are sponsoring multiple teams. The remaining $400.00 will be split between Freemont High School and Davinci Academy.

**RESOURCE COORDINATOR UPDATE**

Per Loralie Cox, Resource Coordinator, a $60,000.00 ISM grant is currently being processed through the board. The board will receive $5,000.00-6,000.00 in administrative payment. Loralie suggested working with the USU Extension to organize a weed control day with a possible focus on puncturevine. Loralie feels its important for the board to decide what location, and what type of weed control in most necessary. The grant proposal she was working on to target fragmities was not approved, but the district could take this project on if they would like to do it on a smaller scale. Mowing, burning and smashing are all control efforts that can be applied. Per John burning in most cases is not a safe option due to low hanging wires. Matt Peterson suggests it might be beneficial to team up with the Weber County on a project. The board does access to the necessary equipment to organize a day for weed treatment. Per Blair Hancock dyer's woad, puncturevine, phragmites are a big issue in the Huntsville and Morgan areas. This is an issue because it will carry the seeds downstream into Weber County. Loralie is aware of a couple teams, and grant projects that are addressing these issues. Deb Neil from Davinci Academy suggested using the Weber Pathways Adopt a Trail program. Currently the focus of this proram is only trash removal, but adding weed identification and control could be beneficial. She will provide Loralie with the program directors contact information. It may also be helpful to plant a native wildflower or grass mix to smother the weeds out. Another suggestion is to have educational signs with disposal bags for hikers to access. The board will also look into other funding options.

**ADJOURNMENT**

**A motion was made by Mr. John Degiorgio to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Mr. Blair Hancock and the motion carried unanimously.** Meeting adjourned at 11:00 a.m..