

MINUTES
WEBER CONSERVATION DISTRICT (WCD) MEETING

Regular Meeting, February 2, 2023
2871 Commerce Way, Ogden, UT 84401

ATTENDANCE:

Appointed Weber Conservation District (WCD) Voting Members:

John Degiorgio, *Chairman*

Kelly Wangsgard, *Supervisor*

Ronald Stratford, *Supervisor*

Trevor Wayment, *Supervisor*

Utah Department of Agriculture and Food (UDAF):

Brian Christiansen, *Resource Coordinator*

Corey Schellinger, *Conservation District Planner*

Jace Atkinson, *Conservation District Planner*

Natasha Bender, *Program Assistant*

National Resource Conservation Service (NRCS):

Kenny Oswald, *District Conservationist*

Emily Bishop, *Watershed Coordinator*

Producer:

Jamilla McFarland

SUMMARY OF DISTRICT ACTION

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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. Kelly Wangsgard to approve the January 5, 2023 meeting minutes and was seconded by Mr. Ronald Stratford. The motion was carried unanimously.**

RESOURCE COORDINATOR UPDATE

Per Brian Christensen, Resource Coordinator, a growers meeting will be held on February 16th at the Timbermine Restaurant. John has been gathering RSVPs. Multiple presenters have been lined up including presentations on weed control, ag protection areas, and the UACD.

Zone meeting/ Local work group meeting will be held March 9th at 3:00. Dinner will be served at 5:00.

Brian needs a list of top resource concerns listed in order of priority. Per John, Ag Land Preservation would be first, and water conservation is second. The local workgroup meeting is an opportunity to determine what projects are most needed in the zone and to start applying for SFP money to fund them.

In regards to Ag Land protection, John would like to encourage NRCS to get involved. The Weber County planning board has shown little interest, and this issue needs to be escalated to a state level.

April will open up more water optimization grant money, with \$20 million still available and another \$200 million will be coming after this legislative session

Brian will be starting an ISM Grant for Phragmites. The district will continue to run the ISM grants to receive the administration fees. The Weed Board will be having a breakfast on the 7th of March to get the word out on funding possibilities.

NRCS UPDATE

Per Kenny Oswald, NRCS, Robert Barney will be meeting with the Department of Ag this month.

Currently, NRCS is ranking applications.

There is little information available regarding the water pump meters, and if they will be enforcing that the meters be installed this spring. The project seems to have lost momentum. The district has funding available to producers to purchase and install the meters, but it has been hard to determine who the producers are. The meters ranged in price from \$4k to \$20k. Some of the meters were propeller run, and some were laser reading.

EXTENSION UPDATE

Per Corey Schellinger, UDAF Planner, The No-Till Drill is still for sale. Corey received an offer for \$12K. Corey will repost the drill at \$20K if the drill does not sell in 2 weeks Corey will offer it for \$15K

The district would like to continue to offer a scholarship but has had little interest in the past. The district will give the program one more year. Jamilla McFarland will help get the word out. The current budgeted amount is \$500. In the past, it was \$1000. A budget amendment can be made to up the budget to \$1500. **Trevor made the motion to revise the budget and raise the amount from \$500 to \$1500 Ron seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.**