



Washoe-Storey Conservation District

Bret Tyler, Chairman
Jim Shaffer, Treasurer
Kathy Canfield, Storey Co. App.
Jeanne Herman, Washoe Co. App.

MINUTES 3/18/24

The Washoe-Storey Conservation District held a Public Meeting on

Monday March 18th, 2024, at 3:30 p.m.

**The meeting was held online and in person at the
Nevada Department of Agriculture, 405 21st St, Sparks, NV 89431**

to participate online please RSVP to mjenkins@dcnr.nv.gov or
use the following link:

[https://teams.microsoft.com/l/meetup-](https://teams.microsoft.com/l/meetup-join/19%3ameeting_YzYwNDI4OWItMGFkOC00N2QwLWE2ZWMTYzQ4YjJmYTUzYjhm%40thread.v2/0?context=%7b%22id%22%3a%22e4a340e6-b89e-4e68-8eaa-1544d2703980%22%2c%22oid%22%3a%2228e9fe95-2573-49dc-b9cf-955deb738bcb%22%7d)

[join/19%3ameeting_YzYwNDI4OWItMGFkOC00N2QwLWE2ZWMTYzQ4YjJmYTUzYjhm%40thread.v2/0?context=%7b%22id%22%3a%22e4a340e6-b89e-4e68-8eaa-1544d2703980%22%2c%22oid%22%3a%2228e9fe95-2573-49dc-b9cf-955deb738bcb%22%7d](https://teams.microsoft.com/l/meetup-join/19%3ameeting_YzYwNDI4OWItMGFkOC00N2QwLWE2ZWMTYzQ4YjJmYTUzYjhm%40thread.v2/0?context=%7b%22id%22%3a%22e4a340e6-b89e-4e68-8eaa-1544d2703980%22%2c%22oid%22%3a%2228e9fe95-2573-49dc-b9cf-955deb738bcb%22%7d)

Meeting ID: 270 995 813 920 851

Passcode: TJ2GdT

<https://www.microsoft.com/en-us/microsoft-teams/download-app>

Or call in (audio only)

tel: +1 775-321-6111 United States, Reno

Phone Conference ID: 576 071 838#

The Conservation District will consider and act on the following items unless otherwise noted:

Meeting was called to order at 3:32 pm on March 18, 2024.

I. Call to Order

A. Introductions, determination of board quorum, and introduction of guests.

Present were supervisors Bret Tyler, Jim Shaffer, and Kathy Canfield to form a quorum. Also present were Jessica Gwerder (Natural Resources Conservation Service – Minden), Max Kittel (Natural Resources Conservation Service – Minden), Melany Aten (Conservation Districts Program), Alisa Kim (Washoe-Storey Conservation District), and Marlee Jenkins (Conservation Districts Program).

B. Determination of agenda order – Agenda items may be taken out of order or deleted for lack of time.

No items were determined to be taken out of order.

II. Public Comments – Public comment will be allowed at the beginning, after each item on the agenda and prior to the adjournment of every meeting. Public comment may be limited to three (3) minutes per comment.

No public comments.

III. District Projects – For Possible Action

A. **Washoe County Planning Reviews** – Updates from Supervisor Jim Shaffer.

Supervisor Shaffer received a call from an engineering company doing a project off Red Rock Way restoring some illegal grading using a seed mix. Supervisor Shaffer reviewed the seed mix and found it satisfactory. This will be a multi-phase project, with seeding this year hoping to happen before the rains and the second phase including reseeding some time next year.

Supervisor Shaffer also discussed the Nevada transmission line from Bordertown to Verdi. The United States Forest Service has oversight over the project and also have a seed mix. Although they will be executing continued review of the seeding of the area, they did not specify time of year. The plan is also to remove Jeffrey pines of a certain diameter. Usually Washoe-Storey Conservation District recommends a one-to-one ratio of one tree removed and one planted, but may suggest a two removed and one planted ratio for this project. The project also requires keeping trees away from transmission lines, but Supervisor Shaffer suggested a possible solution of using a dwarf variety to keep the trees the required distance from the transmission line. When Supervisor Shaffer reviewed the plans several months ago, private property owners wanted the trees replaced. However, that has since been removed from the plans since submitting the application. Supervisor Canfield noted she had also heard from someone on this project and asked if there is any environmental documentation such as an Environmental Assessment or an Environmental Impact Statement. Supervisor Shaffer replied that it was never received nor forwarded from Washoe County even though the application states that Washoe-Storey Conservation District should be able to review any such documents.

B. Storey County Projects – Storey County general updates from Supervisor Kathy Canfield.

Supervisor Canfield will reach out to Public Works to see what the updates are for the storage shed now that the snow storms have passed.

1. Updates and next actions on Rainbow Bend Weed Abatement Project, project timeline, communications, and liability updates. Review and approval for next steps in March and April.

Marlee Jenkins from Department of Conservation and Natural Resources and Alisa Kim from Washoe-Storey Conservation District plan to scope out the project area. Supervisors Canfield and Tyler discussed logistics on herbicide application licensing for the Homeowners Association and what training is needed for volunteers to comply with state regulations. It was decided to check in with Jake Dick from the Nevada Department of Agriculture about what is required for spraying herbicides with volunteers. Marlee Jenkins discussed the volunteer liability waiver that was presented at the February meeting to be used at such events. Supervisors Shaffer and Tyler plan to meet with the Homeowners Association to gauge their interest in either late April or early May.

2. Discussion of possible weed control educational workshop in the Highlands subdivision in Storey County. Discuss potential partners/speakers, dates, materials/needs.

Marlee Jenkins from Department of Conservation and Natural Resources spoke with Brad Schultz from the University of Nevada Extension program about being a presenter at this weed control educational workshop; however, he is traveling internationally until early May. Other likely presenters would include Nevada Department of Agriculture's Noxious Weeds team, Jake Dick and Andrea Moe. Although not confirmed, Thursday April 25th may be a good night from 5:30-6:30 for the workshop. Supervisor Canfield suggested the Storey County Fire Protection District's weed abatement group, which started with a grant from Nevada Energy. Although they cannot work on private property, they will likely be in attendance to share knowledge. Supervisor Canfield also has some funding to pay for printing educational materials and light refreshments. Marlee Jenkins from Department of Conservation and Natural Resources also noted that Nevada Department of Agriculture also already has individual species fact sheets for educational use, highlighting the top four to five main species in the area and focusing on identification and treatment. Supervisor Shaffer noted to also add pesticide safety as part of the workshop as it is private property so they don't require any training or certification, thus safety would be a good topic.

C. Other Projects – Discussion and prioritization of other potential projects for implementation in 2024.

Marlee Jenkins from Department of Conservation and Natural Resources spoke on prioritizing outreach and filling the remainder of board positions. Current possible projects include the Lockwood weed project and the Highlands subdivision educational workshop, maybe creating educational signage in the future. As a possible

future avenue, Marlee discussed outdoor recreational grants from the state of Nevada that are usually announced in spring or summer.

IV. External Agency Items and Reports – For Possible Action

- A. **Natural Resources Conservation Service** – Jessica Gwerder – Updates
Natural Resources Conservation Service is accepting applications for Batch 2 Environmental Quality Incentives Program and Agricultural Management Assistance until March 29th. They are also accepting applications for the Conservation Stewardship Program until April 5th. Max Kittel was previously introduced and will be starting work, including attending the Urban Agriculture Workgroup meeting in April.
- B. **Department of Conservation and Natural Resources** – Marlee Jenkins – Updates
No other updates. Melany Aten discussed the recent State Conservation Commission meeting, which once the board for Washoe-Storey Conservation District is more full, would be great to have a supervisor attend.
- C. **Nevada Association of Conservation Districts** – Updates
Melany Aten spoke on behalf of the Nevada Association of Conservation Districts about a possibility of hosting the annual meeting occurring November 19-20, 2024 in the Washoe-Storey Conservation District's district. Possible venues include the Nugget or at University of Nevada, Reno. The hosting conservation district usually helps to facilitate the meeting. They may also partner with the Nevada Weed Management Association to host in partnership.
- D. **Nevada Department of Wildlife** – Partner Biologist, Victoria Cernoch – Updates
Nevada Department of Wildlife is not present.
- E. **Nevada Department of Agriculture** – Jake Dick – Updates
Nevada Department of Agriculture is not present.

V. Internal District Issues – For Possible Action (unless otherwise noted)

- A. **Review, Amendment, and Approval** of Minutes from previous meeting, conducted 2/26/2024.
Marlee Jenkins had some amendments, including changing "IVGID" to "IBGID", "Storey Counting" should be "Storey County", and the motion to approve the financial report should be motion #4.

Motion 2024-03-01: Motion by Bret Tyler to approve February minutes with amendments, Kathy Canfield seconds. Motion carries unanimously.

- B. **Financial Reports** – Treasurer Jim Shaffer

Treasurer's Report- Balances and Financial Reports, Delegate Funds from Washoe and Storey Counties and the State of Nevada

Treasurer Shaffer clarified the charge of about \$200 to the credit card which was for the website domain IONOS. The Certificate of Deposit account expires on Friday, with the interest from the last three months being \$121.07. Supervisor Tyler renewed it for the next three months at 5% interest. In savings mitigation, there is currently \$3,881.61, \$15,000 plus interest in the Certificate of Deposit, and \$8,872.25 in the operating checking account. Supervisor Tyler wants to ensure all the budgeted state funds are fully spent. Supervisor Shaffer believes the district overspent the funds in the last three years.

Motion 2024-03-02: Motion by Kathy Canfield approve Alisa Kim's working hours, Bret Tyler seconds. Motion carries unanimously.

Motion 2024-03-03: Motion by Kathy Canfield to approve February's Treasurer's Report, Bret Tyler seconds. Motion carries unanimously.

- C. **Review of Waiver and Media Release** – Marlee Jenkins
Review of Release and Waiver of Liability and Media Release Agreement to be used at WSCD events.

Marlee Jenkins reviewed the waiver of liability for volunteers to use for volunteer events which also has a media release form. This was worked in tandem with Dana Olson from the Nevada Tahoe Conservation District, with looking at other resources from a California Conservation District and other examples. The next step is likely to get the waiver reviewed by the District Attorney's office. If Supervisor Canfield can present it to the Storey County District Attorney, and Dana may be able to have it reviewed by the Washoe County District Attorney. Supervisor Canfield asked if this waiver needs to be reviewed by pool pact, and Marlee Jenkins noted last year they recommended a waiver of liability but she did not believe they had to approve it.

D. Outreach

The Washoe Storey Conservation District is seeking:

- New members to join the board of supervisors (elected volunteers).

Marlee Jenkins talked to the Truckee Meadows Fire Protection District about Washoe-Storey Conservation District and possible future participation. There are currently three vacancies on the board. The Truckee Meadows Fire Protection District is a year-round fire crew so when not in fire season, they do many other things and it would be great to have someone from there on this board. They are interested but want to learn more about board responsibilities. If anyone from there is interested, next steps would be to attend a meeting. Marlee Jenkins also initially put a flyer on the Nevada Farm Network to get producers from Washoe and Storey Counties, possibly urban agriculture community groups since producers are very busy.

E. Review and delegate tasks to be completed by the next meeting.

No tasks to delegate.

VI. Public Comments – Public comment will be allowed at the beginning, after each item on the agenda and prior to the adjournment of every meeting. Public comment may be limited to three (3) minutes per comment.

No public comments

VII. Next Scheduled WSCD Board Meeting – (second Monday) April 8, 2024, at 3:30pm

VIII. Adjourn – Action

Meeting adjourned at 4:26 PM on Mar. 18 2024.