



Washoe-Storey Conservation District

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

Minutes 5/13/24

The Washoe-Storey Conservation District held a Public Meeting on
Monday May 13th, 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 alisa.wscd@gmail.com

or use the following link:

<https://rb.gy/r7dmdc>

Meeting ID: 286 712 822 852

Passcode: N8Lewt



<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: 515 416 857#

The meeting is publicly posted at:
Nevada Department of Agriculture
405 21st Street., Sparks Nevada 89431

Please contact alisa.wscd@gmail.com to request meeting materials.

All meetings are audio-recorded.

The Conservation District considered and acted on the following items unless otherwise noted:

Meeting was called to order at 3:40 pm on May 13, 2024.

I. Call to Order

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

Present were supervisors Bret Tyler, Jim Shaffer, Kathy Canfield, and Lyndsey Langsdale to form a quorum. Also present were Jake Dick (Nevada Department of Agriculture), Alisa Kim (Washoe-Storey Conservation District), Melany Aten (Conservation Districts Program), 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.

III. District Projects – For Possible Action

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

Supervisor Shaffer received an email from Ed Thomas from Lumos Engineering about reseeding, but it was uncertain about whether it was for a year or two years. Two development agreements were also submitted to Supervisor Shaffer from the Washoe County between the county and applicant. The development agreement for Highland Village was sent to Chairman Tyler who didn't have any additional comments. Both of the agreements are in Sun Mesa for single-family home development. Supervisor Shaffer made a recommendation for dust abatement for air quality and blockading the area to prevent vandalism.

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

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

Marlee Jenkins (Conservation Districts Program) previously discussed with Chairman Tyler the abatement project with the General Improvements Project group and the Rainbow Bend Homeowner's Association. The plan is for the project to occur early June, likely focusing on removing poison hemlock and removing the tops of whitetop to follow up with an herbicide application a few weeks later. A proposed date for the volunteer program is June 1, with Supervisor Tyler and Shaffer to meet with the Rainbow Bend Homeowner's Association some time next week to discuss the project.

Motion 2024-05-01: Motion by Jim Shaffer to spend no more than \$500 on coveralls and gloves for future events, Kathy Canfield seconds. Motion carries unanimously.

2. Review of weed control educational workshop in the Highlands subdivision in Storey County on 4/25/2024.

Supervisor Canfield noted that the educational workshop in the Highlands went very well, with follow-ups from the meeting of some residents requesting the slideshow presented at the workshop. Marlee Jenkins (Conservation Districts Program) noted about 20-25 residents attended the workshop and there are leftover educational materials from the program that can be used in the future.

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

1. Sage Grouse Fence Markers – Updates from Bret Tyler.

Chairman Tyler met with Tori Cernoch from the Nevada Department of Wildlife to sell \$2400 worth of sage grouse tags, with many remaining for sale. Supervisor Tyler will be moving the remaining ones to the new storage shed.

Supervisor Langsdale asked about a program through the Nevada Department of Agriculture called the Native Seed Foundation where they provide seed for small growers to grow native seed for production. Washoe-Storey Conservation District may be able to connect landowners as seed growers.

IV. External Agency Items and Reports – For Possible Action

A. Natural Resources Conservation Service – Jessica Gwerder – Updates
Natural Resources Conservation Service is not present.

B. Department of Conservation and Natural Resources – Marlee Jenkins – Updates
Melany Aten of the Department of Conservation and Natural Resources reported on a state conservation committee meeting in July. Most of their time recently has been spent in legislative meetings and field season has started. The Natural Resources Conservation Service is starting to tackle urban agriculture, including making a committee to discuss these issues. Further discussion about how to best spend Farm Bill funds and funding for future projects will be coming up soon.

C. Nevada Association of Conservation Districts – Updates

Marlee Jenkins reported on behalf of the Nevada Association of Conservation Districts about the annual Conservation Districts meeting. It will be at Grand Sierra Resort and the theme will be “Urban Agriculture” in tandem with the Nevada Weed Management Association, with possibly up to 100 attendees. The Washoe-Storey Conservation District will be tapped to host specific events and assist with the annual meeting.

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

Jake Dick of the Nevada Department of Agriculture reported on wrapping up educational events, including Weed Warriors and recently hosted events in Tahoe. This week is the last week of Weed Warriors. He also volunteered at a clean-up event and connected with someone from Patagonia for a potential future weeding event focusing on Barbed goatgrass. Jake is also looking at a first round of proposed projects for the Wildfire Crisis Strategy funding, with the funding focused on projects in the eastern Sierras and Elko area. The Washoe-Storey Conservation District had proposed a project in September 2023 but it was denied because it was not close enough to the one of the fire protection districts. Currently, the project may be funded by the Bureau of Land Management. Jake is also trying to get some targeted outreach for thistle weed awareness in Verdi. Some other focus areas include yellow starthistle at the base of Mt. Rose Highway and yellow starthistle and other noxious plants at Peavine. Lastly, the Nevada Department of Agriculture will be hiring new staff to focus with funding.

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

A. **Review, Amendment, and Approval** of Minutes from previous two meetings, conducted 3/18/2024 and 4/8/2024.

Motion 2024-05-02: Motion by Bret Tyler to approve March and April’s meeting minutes with amendments discussed in the meeting, Jim Shaffer 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 Jim Shaffer presents the Treasurer’s Report, including \$8,483.59 in the Checkings account and \$3,852.61 in the Savings account. The Certificate of Deposit account will need to be rolled over. Treasurer Shaffer also presented Secretary Alisa Kim’s timecard of 13.5 hours for the last two months for payment.

Motion 2024-05-03: Motion by Bret Tyler to approve May’s Treasurer’s Report, Kathy Canfield seconds. Motion carries unanimously.

C. **Washoe-Storey Conservation District Annual Work Plan** – Bret Tyler

Discussion of work plan due June 1st, going through the next year partnered with the annual proposed budget.

There was discussion about main goals that would go into the work plan, including the ongoing Lockwood weed project, educational signs for noxious weeds or other environmental issues for public spaces, filling out the board, and an urban agriculture project. Outreach events include the National Night Out in Virginia City, Earth Day at Idyllwild Park, Truckee River Cleanup through the Keep Truckee Meadows Beautiful organization, and putting together a booth set-up at future educational events. Educational opportunity projects could include a workshop at Verdi with the Homeowner’s Association. Some natural resource concerns include water quality, noxious weeds, sagegrouse and wildlife habitat, reseeding recommendations, and responsible urban agriculture support. Potential projects include the Lockwood weed event, a river clean-up, and urban agriculture.

Motion 2024-05-04: Motion by Jim Shaffer to approve the proposed Washoe-Storey Conservation District Annual Work Plan and proposed budget as presented at the meeting, Lyndsey Langsdale seconds. Jim Shaffer makes a motion to amend the motion to include “with the knowledge of balancing the budget after”, Kathy Canfield seconds. Amendment to the motion carries unanimously. Motion with amendment carries unanimously.

D. Review of Waiver and Media Release – Marlee Jenkins

Review of new version of Release and Waiver of Liability and Media Release Agreement to be used at Washoe-Storey Conservation District events with edits from the Washoe County District Attorney’s office.

Marlee Jenkins (Conservation Districts Program) reviewed a comment from the District Attorney’s office about waiving negligence in the Waiver of Liability. An equipment sign-out sheet would also be advisable. Supervisor Canfield noted adding a statement of authorization for use on lands in the equipment sign-out.

Motion 2024-05-05: Motion by Kathy Canfield to approve the Waiver of Liability and Media Release, Jim Shaffer seconds. Motion carries unanimously.

E. Outreach

1. The Washoe Storey Conservation District is seeking new members to join the board of supervisors (elected volunteers).

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

VII. 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.

VIII. Next Scheduled Washoe-Storey Conservation District Board Meeting – (second Monday) June 10th, 2024, at 3:30pm.

IX. Adjourn – Action

Meeting was adjourned at 5:34 pm on May 13, 2024.