



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 1/13/24

The Washoe-Storey Conservation District held a Public Meeting on
Monday, January 13, 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://teams.microsoft.com/l/meetup-join/19%3ameeting_Njl3ZGMONDEtMTg4OC00NWNiLWFiMTItYTRiOWYzM2NiNGRk%40thread.v2/0?context=%7b%22Tid%22%3a%22e4a340e6-b89e-4e68-8eaa-1544d2703980%22%2c%22Oid%22%3a%2228e9fe95-2573-49dc-b9cf-955deb738bcb%22%7d

Or enter the following information into Microsoft Teams to join:

Meeting ID: 292 617 042 358

Passcode: nd2zS29B

If needed, download the Microsoft Teams app here:

<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: 797 025 275#

Notice of this meeting is publicly posted at:

Nevada Department of Agriculture

405 S. 21st Street, Sparks, Nevada 89431

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

All meetings are audio-recorded.

The meeting was called to order on January 13, 2024. A quorum was present.

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

I. Call to Order

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

Present were Supervisors Jim Shaffer, Kathy Canfield, and Lyndsey Langsdale. Also present were Marlee Jenkins with Department of Conservation and Natural Resources, Jake Dick with the Nevada Department of Agriculture, Kevin Piper from the Nevada Association of Conservation Districts, Katie Andrie from Nevada Department of Wildlife, and Carson Hicks with the Natural Resources Conservation Services.

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

Hug High School item moved from III. District Projects to General Correspondence.

II. Public Comments – Not for Possible Action – 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 Jim Shaffer.

Supervisor Shaffer presented an update on a couple projects that were sent for review. One is in Palomino Valley, where they plan to divide a larger parcel into smaller parcels. It was recommended to either brown-coat or green-coat if they install chain link fence. Another project is on Chocolate Drive near Sun Valley to building apartment buildings. The developers stated they would submit a re-vegetation plan but they did not submit anything. There was also a suggestion to rock the planned retainment basins and swales to elongate longevity. There was also a recommendation to have all moved soil and rock be weed-free. The last recommendation was to put up strong enough barriers beside the trails they will be building to prevent motorcycles from entering.

- B. **Storey County Projects** – Updates from Kathy Canfield.

Supervisor Canfield presented an update on the Fire Protection District doing brush removal and possibly fire breaks with Nevada Department of Transportation in the Highlands to reduce fire potential in windy conditions.

- C. **Potential Projects for 2025** – Discussion of potential projects and available grants in the calendar year 2025.

1. **Reno Food Systems Back 40 Lot** – Supervisor Langsdale provided an update on the 40 acres behind the Reno Food System farm to utilize as a sustainable grazing demonstration. Supervisor Langsdale will be discussing a possible lease with the County for hopefully 5 years, which is the landowner. From there, an urban planning and agriculture grant would be applied for or sustainable agriculture grant would be applied for.
2. **Tom Cooke Trail /Mayberry Park** – Marlee Jenkins provided an update about goatgrass in the park, with the potential for volunteer days to remove the invasive species. Jake Dick would love to help with hosting volunteer events to help identify the plant and

areas of invasion. There was discussion about installing boot brushes as well to clean muddy boots to prevent seed transfer.

3. **Shared Stewardship Funding for Noxious Weeds** – The area from Verdi to Reno would be included for Shared Stewardship funding on United States National Forest lands, including Mayberry Park and areas around Sierra Canyon and the West Meadows Homeowners Association. There are also two private ranches planned to become open space through Washoe County for possible weed control on those parcels. Some suggestions for volunteer groups including Patagonia, Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts, and prisoners with misdemeanors.

IV. District Supervisor Reports – Not for Possible Action

No reports.

V. External Agency Items and Reports – Not for Possible Action

A. Natural Resources Conservation Services – Carson Hicks – Updates

Carson Hicks gave an update of staffing changes, including a new Urban Agriculture staff member Max and Resource Technician Zach. The EQIP deadline has passed, but there is other funding that is open until at least the fall. The Agriculture Management Program deadline is 1/17. Other funding is dependent on the new administration.

B. Department of Conservation and Natural Resources – Marlee Jenkins – Updates

Marlee Jenkins gave an update on the State Conservation Commission meeting after the Nevada Association of Conservation Districts annual meeting and Washoe Storey Conservation District is in good standing. There will be two positions open in Elko and Ely for the Department of Conservation and Natural Resources. The next State Conservation Commission will be held on 1/21, including a public hearing to review language on a new natural resources grant for the Conservation Districts. Other agenda items will include legislative items, openings in Conservation District boards, and more.

C. Nevada Association of Conservation Districts – Updates

Kevin Piper gave an update on a Legislative day on 2/27 for Conservation Districts and Department of Conservation and Natural Resources to provide connection for funding and partners, including state and federal funders. There will also be a list of current legislatures that have been supportive of natural resources and Conservation Districts for supervisors to connect with legislatures. There is also a project that Natural Resources Conservation Services is working on called the Soil Carbon Monitoring Network, with possible funding for Conservation Districts to collect soil monitoring data.

D. Nevada Department of Wildlife – Katie Andrle – Updates

Katie Andrle presented on new staffing for Tori Cernoch's old position starting next month.

E. Nevada Department of Agriculture – Jake Dick – Updates

Jake Dick presented on full staffing at Nevada Department of Agriculture. The upcoming focus will be on regulatory and outreach action, including sending letters to property owners about Yellow starthistle. The expectation is property owners need to communicate a plan for control of Yellow starthistle. There will also be a training with the City of Reno including management for goatgrass at Mayberry Park. The Early Detection & Rapid Response meeting is happening at the end of February along with meeting with the western area in March. The next Nevada Ag Day is March 18th.

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

A. National Association of Conservation Districts annual membership dues

Discussion and decision of whether to pay National Association of Conservation Districts annual membership dues. Minimum dues are \$775 - \$1,775 for Gold Level status. Dues cover a district for one calendar year from the payment date. Membership is recommended for one grant but required for another.

Motion 2025-01-01: Jim Shaffer makes a motion to table the minimum payment of \$775 to pay for the National Association of Conservation Districts annual membership, Lyndsey Langsdale seconds. Motion passes unanimously.

B. Reno Food Systems lease letter of support

Discussion and decision regarding a letter of support addressed to Washoe County to support Lyndsey Langsdale in her proposition to lease County property adjacent to Reno Food Systems. Supervisor Shaffer will write a letter of support to Washoe County.

Motion 2025-01-02: Jim Shaffer makes a motion for Lyndsey Langsdale to draft a letter of support for the Reno Food Systems Back 40 project, Kathy Canfield seconds. Motion passes unanimously.

C. Election of officers

Discussion and designation of positions within the Washoe Storey Conservation District Board of Supervisors, including Chairman.

There were multiple requests to various individuals to either sit on the board or appoint someone to sit in as a representative on behalf of Washoe County.

Motion 2025-01-03: Jim Shaffer makes a motion to appoint Lyndsey Langsdale as the Interim Chairperson, Kathy Canfield seconds. Motion passes unanimously.

Motion 2025-01-04: Kathy Canfield makes a motion to appoint Jim Shaffer as the Treasurer, Lyndsey Langsdale seconds. Motion passes unanimously.

D. Review, Amendment, and Approval of Minutes from previous meeting, conducted 12/9/2024.

Motion 2025-01-05: Kathy Canfield makes a motion to approve the December 9th meeting minutes, Jim Shaffer seconds. Motion passes unanimously.

E. **Financial Reports** – Treasurer Jim Shaffer – Balances, financial reports, and delegation of funds from Washoe and Storey Counties and the State of Nevada.

Treasurer Jim Shaffer reports on the monthly financial report, which includes the Checkings account of \$7,983.50 and the Savings account of \$3,731.61 with First Interstate Bank. The Certificate of Deposit will be renewed in March, with a current balance as of September at \$15,819.56. Secretary Alisa Kim submitted for October to January for \$90.

Motion 2025-01-06: Lyndsey Langsdale makes a motion to approve the January Financial Reports, Kathy Canfield seconds. Motion passes unanimously.

F. **Outreach** – Washoe Storey Conservation District is seeking new members to join the board of supervisors (elected volunteers).

G. **General Correspondence Updates**

1. **Hug High School** – John Arsenal is the English teacher that originally reached out. He has already met from Washoe County and the Cooperative Extension for restoring the land behind the high school after the fire. Washoe County has a future plan to extend the golf course; however, there is an area behind the school that is not part of the plan. There have been some discussions about installing a school garden but there isn't a lot of interest from the students. The project would require funding and volunteers for installation and ongoing maintenance.

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

Supervisor Langsdale has tasks to complete regarding the Reno Food Systems Back 40 project.

VII. Public Comments – Not for Possible Action – 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.

VIII. Next Scheduled Washoe Storey Conservation District Board Meeting – For Possible Action -- (typically second Monday of each month), February 10th, 2025, at 3:30pm.

IX. Adjourn