LANDER COUNTY CONSERVATION DISTRICT

BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Tuesday June 11th, 2024 5:30pm

Location: 815 North 2nd Street Battle Mountain, NV 89820

AGENDA

1. CALL TO ORDER AND DETERMINATION OF QUORUM

* Meeting called to order at 5:32PM

1. Introduction of those in attendance

* LCCD board chairman Paul Tomera. Tomera Ranches Dan Tomera. USFWS Cheryl Mandich. LCCD Secretary Anna Vinogradova. LCCD board member Wayne Nebeker. LCCD board member Amy Nelson.
* Online: DCNR Melany Aten. LCCD board member Dennis Cawrse. LCCD co-chairman Suzann Lemaire. LCCATA Paula Tomera.

1. PUBLIC COMMENTS

* Wayne reached out to department of ag for bugs that eat napweed. Dan Young and Saun Mariluch reached out as well. Hopefully can get started within the next 2 months. Takes 2 years to get napweed under control.

1. REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF 06/11/2024 AGENDA- *FOR POSSIBLE ACTION*

* Motion to approve agenda with rearrangement of items Amy, 2nd Wayne. None opposed.
* AGENDA TAKEN OUT OF ORDER, PROCEED TO V ITEM D 2

1. REVIEW, AMEND AND/OR APPROVE MINUTES FROM 05/22/2024 MEETING

- *FOR POSSIBLE ACTION*

* Motion to approve Wayne, 2nd Dennis. None opposed.

1. TREASURER’S REPORT
2. Financial updates-  *FOR POSSIBLE ACTION*

* Motion to approve Amy, 2nd Wayne. None opposed.

1. Bills to be paid- *FOR POSSIBLE ACTION*
2. Battle Mountain High School Duck Pond Project

* Motion to approve $6413 for trash bins, $3545.94 for picnic tables out of FY23-24 LC wildlife funds Amy, 2nd Wayne. None opposed.

1. Wages/timesheet approval for Anna for May 2024 - *FOR POSSIBLE ACTION*

* Motion to approve Wayne, 2nd Dennis. None opposed.

1. Grant updates- *FOR POSSIBLE ACTION*
2. State Conservation Commission Sage Grouse Grant Fiscal Year 2025

* Motion to approve application for weed spraying not to exceed $35000 in each Hilltop, one application in Mill Creek/Swhin, 3rd application for Dan Young Young Brothers Ranches Amy, 2nd Wayne. None opposed.
* AGENDA TAKEN OUT OF ORDER, PROCEED TO V ITEM E

1. U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Sage BIL Funding-Conservation Delivery Fiscal Year 2025 Slaven Canyon Riparian Enhancement Project/ Tomera Ranches Water Development in the Park Project

* Paul relinquished chair to Wayne. Cheryl said waiting on quotes. Up indirect cost to 10%. Archaeological survey could be in-kind service. Add to budget cheatgrass removal. Amy asked about priority areas. One year of funding left for FY26.
* AGENDA TAKEN OUT OF ORDER, PROCEED TO VII A ITEM 4

1. Employee/board member(s) training/travel reimbursements - *FOR POSSIBLE ACTION*

* None.

1. REPORTS TO THE DISTRICT
2. Correspondences

* None.

1. Agency and Partner Updates

* Melany: STAC meeting today, LWG feedback. Opportunity to challenge costs within funds. Priority ranking and which practices to be funded. Outreach, not serving disadvantaged folks an issue. NRCS needs for reaching out to public, CD’s, others. Jamie Jasmine poc.

1. OPEN BUSINESS
2. Discussion and updates of District Projects, current and possible new projects- *FOR POSSIBLE ACTION*
3. Follow up on weed spraying projects to benefit Lander County

* Paul mentioned possible thistle spraying. Wayne mentioned Russian olive removal. Aerial spraying in Ferris. $11/12 acre Morris Ag. $68/acre chemical. Spray and seed. Chicken Springs as well?

1. Cookhouse Museum Conservation Exhibit

* No updates.

1. Bureau of Land Management equipment purchase

* Anna to work with Rob this week.
* AGENDA TAKEN OUT OF ORDER, PROCEED TO IX

1. Tomera Ranches Water Development in the Park Project Phase One

* Dan spoke with engineer Cris Feighhough. Invoice $7000 potential cost. Paul found archaeologist firm Broadbent and Associates $16000 with pre inspection, $13000 without. Might need to move location further east. Might come end of week for pre inspection. Could get photos. No water usage in certain area of the Park, potentially possible to get new allocation of water. Other option to get with NGM to transfer small portion of water rights. Paul talked to BLM. BLM needs to have water rights appropriated before signing off on project. Also need CRYNA – BLM looks at past studies and surveys to determine level of archaeological study. Archaeologist able to get several levels. Study already done. Prehistoric insignificance. If no water rights could apply for other projects. Wayne says get ducks in a row before applying. Cheryl says might not get funded with USFWS funds because not in priority area, also pretty competitive grant. Suzann asked if same materials to be used in Slaven and Park projects. Dan said troughs would be different. Everything same. Suzann said maybe have material on hand to use funds before end of fiscal year. Cheryl said could use materials as leverage in reapplying for proposals. Motion to approve another $50000 towards phase one to come out of FY23-24 county wildlife funds for miscellaneous materials (pump, pipe, solar panels, trough, plumbing) not to exceed $65000 Amy, 2nd Dennis. Suzann asked for discussion, would like better breakdown of items. Melany said to go off of invoices. $2675 for bottomless trough. 31 length of steel $2260. Misc $2000. Misc consumables $1000. 4 trucks concrete $15000, cant buy yet. Time and equipment $1407. Pump $1205. Pump end $1221. Probe $103. Sensor $284. Pvc $957. Cuppling $195. Other $16. $47 valve. Tank $1301. Adaptor. $255. Cap $48. Fittings $650. $74 misc. $2100 solar. $4000 pipe. Motion to approve purchases not to exceed $30000, payment made upon receipt of invoice out of FY 24 wildlife LC funds and purchase of locks for CD trailers, earmarked for park project when water rights approved otherwise to be used on other board approved projects Amy, 2nd Suzann. None opposed. Paul Tomera abstained from the vote.

1. NEW BUSINESS
2. Discussion and possible approval of phase two of the Tomera Ranches Water Development in the Park Project- *FOR POSSIBLE ACTION*

* Discussion above included phase two.

1. Discussion and possible approval of partnering with Lander County Convention and Tourism Authority in the restoration of Spencer’s Hot Springs in Lander County - *FOR POSSIBLE ACTION*

* Paula working with Miranda Tremayne in Austin. Down past Austin, has several ponds, one trough, other tanks, water now is over flowing, creates muddy mess, wild burros watering in area. Lots of interest on tourism side, Miranda has interest in working with other boards and entities to start plan to do repairs. Piping could be replaced, fence off area so horses don’t get into area, creating another trough lower away from riparian area. Managed by BLM, Rec planner in Tonopah. NDOW possibly help. All BLM ground, BLM maintained. Pipes are degraded, troughs could use updated. Volunteers, LCCATA has conservation funds set aside. All agencies would come together and fund. Wayne thinks wild horse and burro act could be conflict. Melany said BLM likely water right holder. To do any water improvements, BLM needs to have process and plan already. First step to ask BLM if improvements can be done at location. BLM would ultimately be planner, could assist if need be. NDOW not in charge of whab but could assist with other wildlife. Source spring protection by developing offsight water as its for wildlife. Contact BLM who to talk to.
* AGENDA TAKEN OUT OF ORDER, PROCEED TO ITEM IV

1. PUBLIC COMMENTS

* None.

1. SUPERVISOR COMMENTS/FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

* Phase Three of the Park Project for new fiscal year discussion. More info on Slaven. Spencer Hot Springs.

1. ADJOURNMENT- *FOR POSSIBLE ACTION*

* Motion to adjourn the meeting Wayne, 2nd Amy. None opposed. Meeting adjourned 7:57PM.