



STATE OF NEVADA
STATE CONSERVATION COMMISSION
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DRAFT MINUTES
STATE CONSERVATION COMMISSION
3:00pm on Monday, November 5, 2007
And
4:00pm on Wednesday, November 7, 2007
Winnemucca Convention Center
50 W. Winnemucca Blvd., Winnemucca, NV 89445

The State Conservation Commission held a public meeting on November 5, 2007 at 3:00pm in Winnemucca, NV at the Winnemucca Convention Center, 50 W. Winnemucca Blvd., Winnemucca, NV 89445.

The State Conservation Commission considered and acted upon the following items on November 5, 2007:

Board Member Present: Keith Whipple, Chairman – Lincoln County Conservation District; Joe Sicking, Vice-Chairman – Paradise-Sonoma Conservation District; Donna Lamm – Southern Nye County Conservation District; Eric Rieman – Carson Valley Conservation District; Chris Freeman – Nevada Tahoe Conservation District; Dr. Rangesan Narayanan, Associate Dean – UNR College of Agriculture; Edward K. Foster, Regional Manager/Plant Industry – NV Department of Agriculture.

Board Members Absent: Vance Vesco – Big Meadow Conservation District; Judy Currier – Conservation District of Southern Nevada.

Others Present: Pamela B. Wilcox, Executive Secretary – NV Division of Conservation Districts; Kelly McGowan – NV Division of Conservation Districts; Sandi Gotta – NV Division of Conservation Districts; Shanea Evans – NV Division of Conservation Districts; Nhu Nguyen, Deputy Attorney General – NV Attorney General's Office; Richard Vigil, State Conservationist – Natural Resource Conservation Service; Jacob Tybo – South Fork Band of Te-Moak Tribe Environmental Department; Emiliano McLane – South Fork Band of Te-Moak Tribe Environmental Department; Barbara Perlman-Whyman – Nevada Tahoe Conservation District; Patsy Tomera, President of Nevada Association of Conservation Districts; Eleanor O'Donnell – Elko County Association of Conservation Districts; Mark Howell – Star Valley Conservation District; Carl Clinger – Big Meadow Conservation District.

I. CALL TO ORDER

A. Chairman Keith Whipple called the meeting to order at 3:00pm. Introductions were made of those present.

II. REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF AGENDA - *ACTION*

A. Joe Sicking made the motion to approve the agenda with the note that items on the agenda will be taken out of order to accommodate guests. Chris Freeman seconded the motion, motion passed.

III. REVIEW, AMENDMENT AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES - *ACTION*

- A. Dr. Rangesan Narayanan noted on the August 16, 2007 meeting minutes that under section VI. Reports to the Commission, letter C., item 1a. should read: The UNR College of Agriculture funded the tests of water in Fallon.
- B. Joe Sicking made a motion to approve the minutes with the noted changes. Donna Lamm seconded the motion, motion passed.

IV. PUBLIC COMMENTS

- A. Three minute time limit per person, limited to items not on the agenda.
 - 1. Jacob Tybo and Emiliano McLane representing the Environmental Department of the South Fork Band of Te-Moak's:
 - a. Mr. Tybo and Mr. McLane are researching the idea of forming a Conservation District for their tribe in Elko County. They have received support from the Indian Nations Conservation Alliance group out of Montana and the NRCS office in Elko County.
 - b. Once they determine that they meet the requirements to form a district, the tribe will petition the State Conservation Commission and ask to be placed on the agenda as an action item.

V. DIVISION REPORTS TO THE COMMISSION

- A. Status of the Division of Conservation Districts
 - 1. Fiscal Report – Pamela B. Wilcox
 - a. Budget – the Governor office requested a 5% budget cut for this biennium. The budget cut is being made on a departmental basis. This means that the Division may not need to take a full 5% cut out of their budget. Recommendations for the cut have been submitted to the Director's office. We will not know what will be accepted until we hear from the Governor's office.
 - 2. General – Pamela B. Wilcox
 - a. Ms. Wilcox has made a formal announcement that she will be retiring at the end of Fiscal Year 2008.
 - i. Review of the Division of Conservation Districts Administrative Officer's powers and duties – NRS 232.125.
 - ii. Ms. Wilcox suggested to the Commission that they start looking at the budget for the next biennium. The Commission needs to decide if they are going to continue indefinitely with an acting administrator who is salaried in another agency or if they wish to try and re-establish the statutory process of having a separate administrator. The budget planning starts in spring and it will be submitted in September 2008. Ms. Wilcox also suggested that if the Commission wishes to pursue a separate administrator for the Division that they need to arrange a meeting with the Department Director, Mr. Allen Biaggi.
 - iii. Mr. Whipple asked the Commission if there was any opposition to the Division continuing to operate under an Acting Administrator. Some of the Commission members expressed the need for the Division to be a separate entity and that the Division should operate according to statute. Mr. Whipple then asked what the Commission and the Division would gain from having a separate administrator. The Commission discussed what the benefits were of having an administrator, and agreed to discuss this issue with Mr. Biaggi.

3. Conservation Districts Meeting Logs – Kelly McGowan & Sandi Gotta
 - a. Fiscal Year 2008 Minute and Agenda Logs – These logs are located on the Division’s website, <http://www.dcd.nv.gov/forms.htm>. The logs are updated weekly by the Administrative Assistant, Shanea Evans.
4. General/Correspondence – Kelly McGowan & Sandi Gotta
 - a. The Division has implemented new Measurement Indicators. They are as follows:
 - i. The ratio of dollars generated by districts for every dollar of State grants they received from the Division of Conservation Districts.
 - (a) 1st Quarter Actual: 19.95:1. This indicates that every dollar the Districts receive from the State, they have matched it \$19.95.
 - ii. The ratio of Conservation Districts in Good Standing to the total number of Conservation Districts.
 - (a) 1st Quarter Actual: 25 out of the 28 Districts are considered in Good Standing.
 - iii. The number of Conservation Districts visited to the total number of Conservation Districts.
 - (a) 1st Quarter Actual: 13 out of the 28 Districts have been visited.
 - iv. The number of Conservation District board trainings.
 - (a) 1st Quarter Actual: 2 District board trainings.
 - v. Informational, educational and training tools developed for District Supervisors.
 - (a) 1st Quarter Actual: 2 informational, educational and training tools have been developed.
 - vi. The number of non-state funding generated by the Division staff for Conservation District programs.
 - (a) 1st Quarter Actual: \$25,000 has been generated by Division Staff.
 - vii. The Division maintains on at least a monthly basis an agenda and minutes log for each Conservation District meeting. This log is posted to the Division’s website weekly.
 - (a) 1st Quarter Actual: 13. The minute and agenda logs are updated weekly.
 - viii. The number of national meeting of significance to the number of meetings attended by Division staff.
 - (a) 1st Quarter Actual: 6 out of the 6 national meetings have been attended by Division Staff.
 - ix. The number of NvACD and associated meetings attended and Division staff participated.
 - (a) 1st Quarter Actual: 0. Division Staff has not attended any NvACD or any associated meetings.
 - x. The number of multi-agency natural resource meeting attended.
 - (a) 1st Quarter Actual: Division staff has attended 14 multi-agency meetings.
 - xi. The number of State Conservation Commission meetings held where commissioners’ roles and responsibilities were discussed and acted upon.
 - (a) 1st Quarter Actual: 1. Only one State Conservation Commission meeting has been held in the fiscal year. The

Commission discusses their roles and responsibilities and takes action at each meeting held.

- xii. The ratio of additional funds applied for from the legislature, partners and grantors to develop publications to funds received.
 - (a) 1st Quarter Actual: \$0 to \$0. Additional funds have not yet been applied for.
 - xiii. The ratio of additional funds requested from partners and grantors to develop the CD/DVD district supervisor orientation program to funds received.
 - (a) 1st Quarter Actual: \$0 to \$0. Additional funds have not been requested.
 - xiv. The ratio of the previous year's State funding to Conservation Districts to the current year's State funding to Conservation Districts.
 - (a) 1st Quarter Actual: \$140,000 to \$100,000 is the previous year's State funding to the current year's State Funding.
 - xv. The ratio of the number of Conservation District meeting attended by Division staff to the total number of Conservation District meetings.
 - (a) 1st Quarter Actual: 16/29. The Division Staff has attended 16 out of the 29 district meetings that have been held.
- b. Sandi Gotta – The National District Official Accreditation Program proposal by the National Association of Conservation Districts (NACD):
- i. Conservation Districts around the nation have requested NACD to put together training for District supervisors. The training would not be mandatory, and it would be web-based. The training would ensure that members had a basic knowledge of conservation districts and they know their roles and responsibilities as a district supervisor.
 - ii. NACD has helped implement the program in 7 pilot states. Once each of the pilot states has finished with the program, it will be posted on the NACD website. These examples can be used a reference to how each state was different in implementing the program.
 - iii. The Commission expressed interest in this program, but suggested it be offered to the districts on a local level – district by district - and it not be made mandatory. Ms. Gotta agreed that this should be used more as an educational and training tool for districts. Ms. Gotta will report back to the Commission once all states have reported the program results to NACD.

VI. REPORTS TO THE COMMISSION

- A. Department of Conservation and Natural Resources – Allen Biaggi
 - 1. Not present, no report was given.
- B. Department of Agriculture – Edward K. Foster
 - 1. The Virginia Range has been used for a winter range for wild horses. The area currently has 600 extra horses, which is more than the area can hold. The Department of Agriculture is planning to gather the horses in the near future.
 - 2. West Nile virus testing has been completed for the year.
- C. University of Nevada, Reno – Dr. Rangesan Narayanan

1. Dr. Rang and the President of UNR took a rural tour and met with local high school, teachers and the general public. They received many suggestions and ideas for the College of Agriculture.
 2. Positions filled with the College:
 - a. Assistant Professor: Kelly Stewart – Large Mammal Ecologist
 - b. Associate Professor: Tamzen Stringle – Range Management & Range Ecology
 3. Wildfire Forum – Scientists from UNR, Oregon and Utah participated in a two day conference. A publication from the conference is being produced, it should be available the beginning of next year.
- D. Natural Resources Conservation Service – Richard Vigil
1. NRCS has been operating under continuing resolution, which results in an hiring freeze.
 2. NRCS is operating on three funding authorities, EQIP, Conservation Security Program, and the O1 account. These three funding sources expire on December 31, 2007.
 3. Chief Arlin Lancaster has been working with the Farm Service Agency to get the 2008 EQIP Contracts obligated before December 31, 2007. This will help with the operation of NRCS.
 4. Fire Rehabilitation Program – NRCS is working on pre-suppression tactics, such as prescribed burning on private land.
- E. Attorney General's Office – Nhu Nguyen
1. Ms. Nguyen had nothing to report.
- F. Farm Service Agency – Roger Van Valkenburg
1. Not present, no report was given.
- G. Nevada Association of Conservation Districts – Patsy Tomera
1. The National Association of Conservation Districts annual meeting is February 10-13, 2008. Ms. Tomera is encouraging all Districts to attend.

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

The State Conservation Commission and the Division of Conservation Districts will hold a Public Hearing to receive comments from all interested persons and adopt proposed changes to Chapter 548 of the Nevada Administrative Code.

- A. Chairman Keith Whipple called the hearing to order at 4:00pm on November 5, 2007.
- B. Review of the proposed changes to Chapter 548 of the Nevada Administrative Code:

548.110 Prerequisites for conservation district to be in good standing. To be in good standing, a conservation district must:

1. Hold regularly scheduled meetings of the governing board of the district.
2. Hold meetings at least three times each year, one of which must be an annual meeting.
3. Properly give notice of each meeting, prepare an agenda and issue it in conformance with the requirements of [chapter 241 of NRS](#).

4. File the agenda for and the minutes taken ~~[at each meeting]~~ for the required three meetings in subsection (2) with the division within 30 working days after the meeting.
5. Hold an election of ~~[officers]-supervisors~~ [before the 10th] on one of the first 10 days of November of each even-numbered year, and submit the results of the election to the commission before the 30th of ~~[the month]~~ November.
6. Develop an annual work plan and budget and submit them to the commission by the 1st of June of each year.
7. Develop an annual report and financial report and submit them to the commission by the 30th of September of each year for the immediately preceding fiscal year.
(Added to NAC by Conservation Comm'n, eff. 9-5-90; A 12-26-95)

548.120 Report and review of conservation districts in good standing; distribution of grants; time restriction on use of grants.

1. The division shall report to the commission at the first meeting of the commission of each new fiscal year the conservation districts that are in good standing as of July 1 of that year. A district that is not in good standing is not eligible to receive a grant of money.
2. The commission will review the annual budget of each district in good standing to determine whether it complies with the intent of this chapter and chapter 548 of NRS. If the budget complies with the intent of those chapters, the commission will designate the district as eligible for a grant of money.
3. The commission will distribute ~~[any]~~-available grants of money appropriated by the legislature for the commission's program of basic operating grants to districts equally among the districts that have been designated as eligible for a grant of money pursuant to subsection 2. ~~[A district that is not in good standing is not eligible to receive a grant of money.]~~
- ~~[4. Any]~~ A grant of money received by a conservation district is for the fiscal year or years for [in] which it was granted. Any money which has not been committed for expenditure ~~[by]~~ before July 1 of the next fiscal year must be deducted from any grant awarded for that fiscal year.

(Added to NAC by Conservation Comm'n, eff. 12-26-95)

Chapter 548 of NAC is hereby amended by adding thereto a new section to read as follows:

4. The commission may distribute other grants of money provided for programs other than the program identified in subsection 3 in such amounts and subject to such conditions as the commission determines appropriate to any conservation district which the commission determines qualifies for a grant.

- C. Chairman Whipple inquired if there were any comments from interested persons regarding the adoption of amendments to Chapter 548 of the Nevada Administrative Code that pertain to the administration of grant funds to Nevada Conservation Districts.
 - a. The public made no comments.
- D. Ms. Pamela Wilcox suggested that the Commission table the item until the next commission meeting due to the fact that the proposed changes are being reviewed by the Legislative Counsel Bureau. The Legislative Counsel Bureau (LCB) required 30 days prior to the Hearing to review the proposed regulation changes. The Division is waiting for the reviewed proposed changes from LCB. Ms. Wilcox informed the Commission that they would be able to make a motion at the next commission meeting on the adoption of the proposed regulations.

- a. Commissioner Joe Sicking made a motion to hold the item until the next commission meeting on November 7, 2007. Commissioner Chris Freeman seconded the motion, motion passed.
- E. Chairman Whipple closed the hearing and noted that it will be re-opened on Wednesday, November 7, 2007 to take action on the item that has been tabled.
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VII. OLD BUSINESS

A. Approval of amended Conservation District budgets as per NAC 548.090, 548.100, 548.110 and 548.120 - *ACTION*

1. Clover Valley Conservation District amended budget to include additional State funding. Chris Freeman made a motion to approve the amended budget. Joe Sicking seconded the motion, motion passed.
2. Esmeralda Conservation District amended budget to include additional State funding. Chris Freeman made a motion to approve the amended budget. Joe Sicking seconded the motion, motion passed.
3. Eureka Conservation District amended budget to include additional State funding. Chris Freeman made a motion to approve the amended budget. Joe Sicking seconded the motion, motion passed.
4. Jiggs Conservation District amended budget to include additional State funding. Chris Freeman made a motion to approve the amended budget. Joe Sicking seconded the motion, motion passed.
5. Lahontan Conservation District amended budget to include additional State funding. Chris Freeman made a motion to approve the amended budget. Joe Sicking seconded the motion, motion passed.
6. Lamoille Conservation District amended budget to include additional State funding. Chris Freeman made a motion to approve the amended budget. Joe Sicking seconded the motion, motion passed.
7. Mason Valley Conservation District amended budget to include additional State funding. Chris Freeman made a motion to approve the amended budget. Joe Sicking seconded the motion, motion passed.
8. Nevada Tahoe Conservation District amended budget to include additional State funding. Chris Freeman made a motion to approve the amended budget. Joe Sicking seconded the motion, motion passed.
9. Northeast Elko Conservation District amended budget to include additional State funding. Chris Freeman made a motion to approve the amended budget. Joe Sicking seconded the motion, motion passed.
10. Owyhee Conservation District amended budget to include additional State funding. Chris Freeman made a motion to approve the amended budget. Joe Sicking seconded the motion, motion passed.
11. Paradise-Sonoma Conservation District amended budget to include additional State funding. Chris Freeman made a motion to approve the amended budget. Joe Sicking seconded the motion, motion passed.
12. Ruby Valley Conservation District amended budget to include additional State funding. Chris Freeman made a motion to approve the amended budget. Joe Sicking seconded the motion, motion passed.
13. Smith Valley Conservation District amended budget to include additional State funding. Chris Freeman made a motion to approve the amended budget. Joe Sicking seconded the motion, motion passed.

14. Starr Valley Conservation District amended budget to include additional State funding. Chris Freeman made a motion to approve the amended budget. Joe Sicking seconded the motion, motion passed.

15. Stillwater Conservation District amended budget to include additional State funding. Chris Freeman made a motion to approve the amended budget. Joe Sicking seconded the motion, motion passed.

16. Washoe-Storey Conservation District amended budget to include additional State funding. Chris Freeman made a motion to approve the amended budget. Joe Sicking seconded the motion, motion passed.

B. Equally Award the remaining \$15,000 grant funds to districts that have been designated as eligible as per NRS 548.178 and 548.130.

1. Duck Valley Conservation District – no action was taken.

2. White Pine County Conservation District – White Pine County Conservation District clarified the expenditures and revenue sources to Division staff. Joe Sicking made a motion to award the \$5,000 State Grant fund to the White Pine County Conservation District. Chris Freeman seconded the motion, motion passed.

3. Vya Conservation District – Vya Conservation District submitted their draft financial report. Joe Sicking made a motion to award the \$5,000 State Grant fund to the Vya Conservation District. Chris Freeman seconded the motion, motion passed.

C. Staff report to Commission on questions of legality and language regarding new state funding from the last Commission meeting on August 16, 2007, posed to the Attorney General's Office. - ***ACTION***

1. No action was taken on this item.

D. Further discussion of alternatives and action to distribute newly appropriated state funding to conservation districts. The Commission will also take action to distribute new state funding. - ***ACTION***

1. Joe Sicking made a motion to allocate the new State funding as requested by Districts. All funds will be equally awarded to each District over the biennium and the amounts awarded to each District reflect the 5% cut they agreed to submit to the Director. Chris Freeman seconded the motion, motion passed.

VIII. NEW BUSINESS

A. Review and Approval of all Conservation District's Final Financial Reports FY 2007 and Annual Reports FY 2007 as per NAC 548.090 and NAC 548.110. - *ACTION*

Final Financial Report FY 2007:

1. Big Meadow Conservation District – Joe Sicking made a motion to approve the final financial report. Donna Lamm seconded the motion, motion passed.

2. Carson Valley Conservation District – Joe Sicking made a motion to approve the final financial report. Donna Lamm seconded the motion, motion passed.

3. Conservation District of Southern Nevada – Joe Sicking made a motion to approve the final financial report. Donna Lamm seconded the motion, motion passed.

4. Clover Valley Conservation District – Joe Sicking made a motion to approve the final financial report. Donna Lamm seconded the motion, motion passed.

5. Dayton Valley Conservation District – Joe Sicking made a motion to approve the final financial report. Donna Lamm seconded the motion, motion passed.

6. Duck Valley Conservation District - no action was taken. A report was not received from Duck Valley.
7. Esmeralda Conservation District – Joe Sicking made a motion to approve the final financial report. Donna Lamm seconded the motion, motion passed.
8. Eureka Conservation District – Joe Sicking made a motion to approve the final financial report. Donna Lamm seconded the motion, motion passed.
9. Jiggs Conservation District – Joe Sicking made a motion to approve the final financial report. Donna Lamm seconded the motion, motion passed.
10. Lahontan Conservation District – Joe Sicking made a motion to approve the final financial report. Donna Lamm seconded the motion, motion passed.
11. Lamoille Conservation District – Joe Sicking made a motion to approve the final financial report. Donna Lamm seconded the motion, motion passed.
12. Lander County Conservation District – Joe Sicking made a motion to approve the final financial report. Donna Lamm seconded the motion, motion passed.
13. Lincoln County Conservation District – Joe Sicking made a motion to approve the final financial report. Donna Lamm seconded the motion, motion passed.
14. Mason Valley Conservation District – Joe Sicking made a motion to approve the final financial report. Donna Lamm seconded the motion, motion passed.
15. Nevada Tahoe Conservation District – Joe Sicking made a motion to approve the final financial report. Donna Lamm seconded the motion, motion passed.
16. Northeast Elko Conservation District – Joe Sicking made a motion to approve the final financial report. Donna Lamm seconded the motion, motion passed.
17. Owyhee Conservation District – Joe Sicking made a motion to approve the final financial report. Donna Lamm seconded the motion, motion passed.
18. Paradise-Sonoma Conservation District – Joe Sicking made a motion to approve the final financial report. Donna Lamm seconded the motion, motion passed.
19. Quinn River Conservation District – Joe Sicking made a motion to approve the final financial report. Donna Lamm seconded the motion, motion passed.
20. Ruby Valley Conservation District – Joe Sicking made a motion to approve the final financial report. Donna Lamm seconded the motion, motion passed.
21. Smith Valley Conservation District – Joe Sicking made a motion to approve the final financial report. Donna Lamm seconded the motion, motion passed.
22. Southern Nye County Conservation District – Joe Sicking made a motion to approve the final financial report. Donna Lamm seconded the motion, motion passed.
23. Starr Valley Conservation District – Joe Sicking made a motion to approve the final financial report. Donna Lamm seconded the motion, motion passed.
24. Stillwater Conservation District – Joe Sicking made a motion to approve the final financial report. Donna Lamm seconded the motion, motion passed.
25. Tonopah Conservation District – Joe Sicking made a motion to approve the final financial report. Donna Lamm seconded the motion, motion passed.
26. Vya Conservation District – Joe Sicking made a motion to approve the final financial report. Donna Lamm seconded the motion, motion passed.
27. Washoe-Storey Conservation District – Joe Sicking made a motion to approve the final financial report. Donna Lamm seconded the motion, motion passed.
28. White Pine County Conservation District – Joe Sicking made a motion to approve the final financial report. Donna Lamm seconded the motion, motion passed.

Annual Report FY 2007:

1. Big Meadow Conservation District – Dr. Rangesan Narayanan made a motion to approve the annual report. Joe Sicking seconded the motion, motion passed.
2. Carson Valley Conservation District – Dr. Rangesan Narayanan made a motion to approve the annual report. Joe Sicking seconded the motion, motion passed.
3. Conservation District of Southern Nevada – Dr. Rangesan Narayanan made a motion to approve the annual report. Joe Sicking seconded the motion, motion passed.
4. Clover Valley Conservation District – Dr. Rangesan Narayanan made a motion to approve the annual report. Joe Sicking seconded the motion, motion passed.
5. Dayton Valley Conservation District – Dr. Rangesan Narayanan made a motion to approve the annual report. Joe Sicking seconded the motion, motion passed.
6. Duck Valley Conservation District – no action was taken. An annual report was not received from Duck Valley.
7. Esmeralda Conservation District – Dr. Rangesan Narayanan made a motion to approve the annual report. Joe Sicking seconded the motion, motion passed.
8. Eureka Conservation District – Dr. Rangesan Narayanan made a motion to approve the annual report. Joe Sicking seconded the motion, motion passed.
9. Jiggs Conservation District – Dr. Rangesan Narayanan made a motion to approve the annual report. Joe Sicking seconded the motion, motion passed.
10. Lahontan Conservation District – Dr. Rangesan Narayanan made a motion to approve the annual report. Joe Sicking seconded the motion, motion passed.
11. Lamoille Conservation District – Dr. Rangesan Narayanan made a motion to approve the annual report. Joe Sicking seconded the motion, motion passed.
12. Lander County Conservation District – Dr. Rangesan Narayanan made a motion to approve the annual report. Joe Sicking seconded the motion, motion passed.
13. Lincoln County Conservation District – Dr. Rangesan Narayanan made a motion to approve the annual report. Joe Sicking seconded the motion, motion passed.
14. Mason Valley Conservation District – Dr. Rangesan Narayanan made a motion to approve the annual report. Joe Sicking seconded the motion, motion passed.
15. Nevada Tahoe Conservation District – Dr. Rangesan Narayanan made a motion to approve the annual report. Joe Sicking seconded the motion, motion passed.
16. Northeast Elko Conservation District – Dr. Rangesan Narayanan made a motion to approve the annual report. Joe Sicking seconded the motion, motion passed.
17. Owyhee Conservation District – Dr. Rangesan Narayanan made a motion to approve the annual report. Joe Sicking seconded the motion, motion passed.
18. Paradise-Sonoma Conservation District – Dr. Rangesan Narayanan made a motion to approve the annual report. Joe Sicking seconded the motion, motion passed.
19. Quinn River Conservation District – Dr. Rangesan Narayanan made a motion to approve the annual report. Joe Sicking seconded the motion, motion passed.
20. Ruby Valley Conservation District – Dr. Rangesan Narayanan made a motion to approve the annual report. Joe Sicking seconded the motion, motion passed.

21. Smith Valley Conservation District – Dr. Rangesan Narayanan made a motion to approve the annual report. Joe Sicking seconded the motion, motion passed.

22. Southern Nye County Conservation District – Dr. Rangesan Narayanan made a motion to approve the annual report. Joe Sicking seconded the motion, motion passed.

23. Starr Valley Conservation District – Dr. Rangesan Narayanan made a motion to approve the annual report. Joe Sicking seconded the motion, motion passed.

24. Stillwater Conservation District – Dr. Rangesan Narayanan made a motion to approve the annual report. Joe Sicking seconded the motion, motion passed.

25. Tonopah Conservation District – Dr. Rangesan Narayanan made a motion to approve the annual report. Joe Sicking seconded the motion, motion passed.

26. Vya Conservation District – Dr. Rangesan Narayanan made a motion to approve the annual report. Joe Sicking seconded the motion, motion passed.

27. Washoe-Storey Conservation District – Dr. Rangesan Narayanan made a motion to approve the annual report. Joe Sicking seconded the motion, motion passed.

28. White Pine County Conservation District – Dr. Rangesan Narayanan made a motion to approve the annual report. Joe Sicking seconded the motion, motion passed.

I. STAFF ITEMS – Division Staff Comments

A. Division staff had no comments.

II. COMMISSIONER ITEMS

A. There were no Commissioner items.

III. PUBLIC COMMENTS

A. There was no public comment.

IV. NEXT COMMISSION MEETING - *ACTION*

A. The next Commission meeting is November 7, 2007 at 4:00pm or at the conclusion of the NvACD meeting in Winnemucca, NV at the Winnemucca Convention Center.

B. Agenda Items:

1. Adoption of regulation changes to NAC 548. ***ACTION***
2. Department of Conservation and Natural Resources – Allen Biaggi – Report.
3. Continued discussion of the administrative position of the Division.

V. ADJOURNMENT – to reconvene at the Winnemucca Convention Center, 50 West Winnemucca Blvd., Winnemucca, NV 89445, on Wednesday, November 7, 2007 at 4:00pm or at the conclusion of the NvACD meeting. - *ACTION*

A. Keith Whipple adjourned the meeting at 6:35pm.

Note: ***ACTION*** Denotes items on which the Commission may take action. Action may occur on the topic or during the general Committee Discussion.

November 7, 2007:

The State Conservation Commission held a public meeting on November 7, 2007 at 4:00pm in Winnemucca, NV at the Winnemucca Convention Center, 50 W. Winnemucca Blvd., Winnemucca, NV 89445.

The State Conservation Commission considered and acted upon the following items on November 7, 2007:

Board Members Present: Joe Sicking, Vice-Chairman – Paradise-Sonoma Conservation District; Vance Vesco – Big Meadow Conservation District; Donna Lamm – Southern Nye County Conservation District; Eric Rieman – Carson Valley Conservation District; Chris Freeman – Nevada Tahoe Conservation District; Dr. Rangesan Narayanan, Associate Dean – UNR College of Agriculture; Edward K. Foster, Regional Manager/Plant Industry – NV Department of Agriculture.

Board Members Absent: Keith Whipple, Chairman – Lincoln County Conservation District; Judy Currier – Conservation District of Southern Nevada.

Others Present: Pamela B. Wilcox, Executive Secretary – NV Division of Conservation Districts; Kelly McGowan – NV Division of Conservation Districts; Sandi Gotta – NV Division of Conservation Districts; Shanea Evans – NV Division of Conservation Districts; Nhu Nguyen, Deputy Attorney General – NV Attorney General's Office.

I. CALL TO ORDER

- A. Vice-Chairman Joe Sicking called the meeting to order at 4:00pm. Introductions were made of those present.

II. OLD ITEMS CONTINUED - *ACTION*

- A. Adoption of regulation changes to NAC 548 - *ACTION*
 - i. Chris Freeman made a motion to take the regulations off the table. Dr. Rangesan Narayanan seconded the motion, motion passed.
 - ii. No public comments were received on the proposed changes.
 - iii. Chris Freeman made a motion to adopt the regulations for NAC 548 pending approval from LCB without substantial changes to the proposed language. Dr. Rangesan Narayanan seconded the motion, motion passed.
 - iv. Vice-Chairman Joe Sicking closed the Public Hearing.
- B. A motion of amendment has been made: Dr. Rangesan Narayanan moved to amend the prior approved distribution of the newly appropriated state funding to conservation districts. The newly appropriated state funding can only be distributed to the conservation districts once Division staff has received notice that LCB has approved the regulations changes to NAC 548. Eric Rieman seconded the motion, motion passed.
- C. Department of Conservation and Natural Resources – Allen Biaggi
 - i. Allen Biaggi was not able to attend the meeting. Chris Freeman and Dr. Rangesan Narayanan reported for Mr. Biaggi.
 - 1. The decision for the Administrator of State Lands and Acting Administrator will be made within 30 days.
 - 2. The new administrator will also take over the position of Acting Administrator for the Division of Conservation Districts.

3. Mr. Biaggi said that it would be alright if the State Conservation Commission wished to prepare a budget that included a full time Administrator position.
- D. Duck Valley Conservation District – No reports have been received by Staff.
- i. Division staff has been instructed to schedule a public hearing per NAC 548.090 to determine the standing of the Duck Valley Conservation District.
 - ii. Eric Rieman made a motion to instruct staff to notify the Duck Valley Conservation District that evidence exists that suggests that they are not in Good Standing. Dr. Rangesan Narayanan seconded the motion, motion passed.

III. NEW BUSINESS

- A. Consideration of resolutions approved and submitted by the Nevada Association of Conservation Districts on November 6 and 7, 2007. - *ACTION*
 - i. No items were submitted to the Commission. No action was taken.
- B. Consideration of other items requested by the Nevada Association of Conservation Districts on November 6 and 7, 2007. - *ACTION*
 - i. No items were submitted to the Commission. No Action was taken.
- C. NvACD report on Conservation Commission nomination for Governor appointment.
 - i. The NvACD Nominations are as follows:
 1. Area 1: Carl Uhlig, Pasty Tomera and Vance Vesco.
 2. Area 2: Elbert Mills, Eric Rieman and Cub Wolfe
 3. Area 3: Joe Fortier, Leland Wallace and Robert Matthews.
- D. Continuation of items from November 6 and 7, 2007 meeting that may require discussion or action as noted on the agenda. - *ACTION*
 - i. No items were submitted to the Commission. No action was taken.
 - ii. The next NvACD Annual meeting is in Jackpot, NV the week of October 21, 2008.

IV. COMMISSIONER ITEMS – Commissioner comments and reports

- A. Dr. Rangesan Narayanan requested items for a future agenda:
 - i. CWMAs and the formal relationships with Districts

V. STAFF ITEMS – Division Staff Comments

- A. Unless otherwise listed with a topic description, this portion of the agenda is limited to announcements and discussion of items proposed for action at future meetings.

VI. PUBLIC COMMENT

- A. Three-minute time limit per person, limited to items not on the agenda

VII. NEXT COMMISSION MEETING - *ACTION*

- A. The next Commission will be in conjunction with the National Association of Conservation Districts annual meeting in February.
- B. Agenda Items:
 - i. Memorandum of Understanding (MOU): NRCS and Districts regarding vehicle usage
 - ii. Hearing for the Duck Valley Conservation District
 - iii. Discussion of submitting a request for a full time Administrator for the Division in the next budget.
 - iv. Distribution of the newly appropriate state funding
 - v. Introduction of the new administrator for the Division of State Lands.

VIII. ADJOURN - *ACTION*

- A. Chris Freeman made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 5:00pm. Dr. Rangesan Narayanan seconded the motion, motion passed.

Note: ***ACTION*** Denotes items on which the Commission may take action. Action may occur on the topic or during the general Committee Discussion.