**Board Members Present:** **Board Members Absent:**

Nate Johnson-Supervisor Greg Lehman-Treasurer

Tyler Minor-Chairman

John Cassinelli-Commissioner

Joe Ricci-Supervisor

Randy Selmi-Supervisor

**Staff Present:** **Staff Absent:**

Austin Lemons-District Manager

Rachel Schmidt-Conservation Technician

Melissa Wiggins-Administrative Assistant

Others Present:

Kevin Piper-NVACD

*The meeting was called to order at 6:31 PM.*

**Item 1: Call to Order**

*The meeting was called to order. Roll call was taken and it was determined that a quorum was present. Please refer to the attached sign-in sheet for all those in attendance*.

**Item 2: The pledge of allegiance:** *Chairman Tyler Minor lead the board in the pledge of allegiance.*

**Item 3: Approval of the Agenda**

*Supervisor Joe Ricci motioned for approval and County Commissioner John Cassinelli seconded. Motion passed.*

**Item 4: Public Comment**

*There were no public comments.*

**Item 5: Consent agenda**

5a. Approval of Meeting Minutes from:

May 27th, 2025

5b. Approval of Treasury Report for:

May 2025 & June 2025

*John Cassinelli motioned to approve all consent agenda items listed in 5a and 5b. Supervisor Joe Ricci seconded. Motion passed.*

**Item 6: FOR DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION: Updates, discussion and possible action regarding the Ricci/Pradere Riverbank Stabilization Project. Updates on regulatory permits and potential work change order from Universal Engineering Sciences. Grants: CWSD 22-8, 23-5, NDEP 25-025, NDWR and CTWCD: Mr. Lemons & Ms. Schmidt**

*District Manager Austin Lemons told the board that there was a mistype and there would be no change orders from UES. He also told the board that the district is very close and waiting on the NDEP working in waterways permit, and they have sent a couple of emails and made a call but have not heard back yet. They plan to work up the chain of command to follow up. Chairman Tyler Minor asked Mr. Lemons if the corps permit was approved. Mr. Lemons told him every permit was approved minus the NDEP one. He also mentioned he is working on the water quality permit and working with Danny Coons and Marlee Jenkins on a Soil Management Plan. He mentioned sending a first round of edits to Marlee Jenkins and after sending a second round to her, he could send it to Mr. Coons. Mr. Minor asked him how soon they could get in the river. Mr. Lemons said that if they get the NDEP permit in the next couple of days, they could be in the river in the next two weeks. He also mentioned that as soon as he has a date from Coons, he will be working with Central Lyon Fire to cut willows. Mr. Minor told Mr. Lemons if he can locate willows closer, he will have to do less hauling. Mr. Lemons told the board that the way they are using the willows for this project is in bundles of 15, and the contractor will dig a hole, and they will stick the bundle in the ground and then the contractor will cover it. He explained they are not going to do the willow mats, because former DVCD Manager Rich Wilkinson advised they are time consuming and do not really work well. He asked the board for their opinion on having a media day when they begin work. Mr. Kevin Piper from Nevada Association of Conservation Districts told Mr. Lemons that good press for what the district is doing is worth it. Mr. Lemons said that they could take some pictures before work begins and then follow up when it is completed. Chairman Minor said that it is also up to the landowners, but it would be good for the district. Then Mr. Lemons and the board discussed the timeline for getting permits and the delays they have had in doing so, along with the type of permit being changed to a letter of permission. Mr. Lemons said they should still be getting the project completed this Fall.*

**Item 7: FOR DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION: Updates, discussion and possible action regarding NDA weeds & CWSD 24-7 Weeds Grants. Updates on ongoing treatments, equipment maintenance and repairs, and upcoming treatment plans: Mr. Lemons & Ms. Schmidt**

*District Manager Austin Lemons mentioned that they started spraying in Moundhouse and made progress but the hose reel on the sprayer broke and they took it in for repairs and S&W Tractor diagnosed a short. He told the board that he looked at the price of replacing parts and repairs and the cost of him doing it and there was not a significant difference in cost if DVCD has S&W repair it. He told the board that the price of repairs would be $1900. Chairman Tyler Minor asked if the district could use funds from the CWSD Weed Abatement fund. Conservation Technician Rachel Schmidt told the board that they have plenty of funding for fixing weed equipment. Mr. Lemons asked if they would motion to approve the cost of repairs. Supervisor Nate Johnson asked Ms. Schmidt if there were any warranties with the labor. Ms. Schmidt said she will investigate it. County Commissioner John Cassinelli motioned to approve the expenditure on a new hose reel. Supervisor Nate Johnson seconded. Motion passed.*

*Mr. Lemons also discussed working on the spray trailer and the engine seized. He said that he got it running today and that he and Mr. Minor would be looking at the pump tomorrow. Ms. Schmidt talked about the biocontrol bug release in Gold Hill and told the board that they have photos to pass around. She also mentioned that Marlee Jenkins and Andrea Moe from NDA came out and did measurements and graphing and established the number of weevils released on each plant and will be monitoring foliage growth every few months. She also stated that the goal is to eradicate or at the very least weaken the plants so that hopefully when they apply herbicide it will be easier to deal with. She also told the board that a chunk of the CWSD funding for weeds is supposed to go to Storey County. Mr. Lemons told the board that the biocontrol bugs work by burrowing into the stems of the Dalmation toadflax and eating it from the inside out, controlling the population.*

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**Item 8:** **FOR DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION:** **Updates, discussion and possible action regarding NDEP 22-019 River Project Monitoring grant. Updates on budget amendment, weeds contractor, project prioritization: Mr. Lemons & Ms. Schmidt**

*Mr. Lemons mentioned that DVCD spoke with NDEP in May about a budget amendment and it was approved and signed. He said it helps move the money around and NDEP expanded the scope of work, allowing them to do more mowing and herbicide treatment in Rolling A. He also mentioned working with CLF when they applied and got approved for a grant for mowing. He said they did a media morning at the location they are mowing and hope they can get riverside and some ag fields with their money with the idea of going back in the Spring and spraying and getting rid of as much as they can. Ms. Schmidt told the board she has evaluated old projects and made a list for most needed repairs or spraying. She mentioned that DVCD will be using Integrity Pest Management to spray weeds on older projects and that they will be in contact with landowners soon if they have not already contacted them. She ranked everything on how bad the weeds were based on a format they used on an older project. She also mentioned she could share it with the board at the next meeting and said they should wrap up the monitoring grant by September 30th.*

**Item 9: FOR DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION: Updates, discussion and possible action regarding NDEP 22-019 & NDWR Channel Clearing and Snagging Grant: Updates on grant application process, Project Progress**

*Mr. Lemons mentioned the CWSD grant they were awarded on June 30th, 2025. He told the board it had to be amended to $100,000 for channel clearing and he and Mr. Minor signed it. He also discussed that they asked NDWR for an additional $60,000 for clearing and snagging and are hoping to get it but do not have it yet. He mentioned that he and Ms. Schmidt would look at stretches that need work. Chairman Minor told Mr. Lemons that they could use multiple contractors if needed. Mr. Lemons mentioned that he was in contact with an arborist and Coons Construction and will get quotes from them. He also mentioned that the Corps Engineers require a permit if you touch the high-water mark.*

**Item 10: FOR DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION: Updates, discussion and possible action regarding future grant requests: Mr. Lemons & Ms. Schmidt**

**10a. NDF Conservation Education & Outreach Grant: Updates on grant application process, funds requested**

*District Manager Austin Lemons told the board that the district applied for an NDF (Nevada Division of Forestry) outreach grant in May and were given an update that no money will be released until August. He mentioned that most of the funding will be used toward river days, classrooms and posters. Ms. Schmidt added that the money will be dedicated to outreach. She also mentioned that DVCD was preapproved to apply for Conserve Nevada grants, and they can apply in November.*

**Item 11: FOR DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION: Updates, discussion and possible action regarding the district hosting a booth at the 2025 Dayton Valley Days event: Ms. Schmidt and Mr. Lemons**

*Conservation Technician Rachel Schmidt told the board that they had previously shared a booth with River Wranglers at the Dayton Valley Days event and asked the board if the district wanted to do the same this year. Ms. Schmidt said that she felt it was a good way to network. Supervisor Nate Johnson said that last year’s event was the largest one they held in a long time. Mr. Lemons agreed that it was a good way to get the district’s name out there and Ms. Schmidt told the board that it provided a way to tell people about the work they do. Chairman Minor also said it is important to talk to locals about who we are and what we do. Ms. Schmidt said they can update the district’s brochures. Mr. Minor said he thinks splitting the booth with River Wranglers sounds good. Ms. Schmidt mentioned getting a different tablecloth for their side of the booth. Supervisor Nate Johnson agreed that it sounds like a good idea.*

*Supervisor Nate Johnson motioned to approve sharing a booth with River Wranglers at this year’s Dayton Valley Days event. County Commissioner John Cassinelli seconded. Motion passed.*

**Item 12: FOR DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION: Updates, discussion and possible action regarding the district hosting a DVCD Annual Barbeque event: Chairman Mr. Minor**

*Board Chairman Mr. Tyler Minor discussed possible dates for a district hosted BBQ. He mentioned August 30th or 31st, and September 27th or 28th. The BBQ will be held at Dayton State Park. Mr. Minor mentioned Commissioner John Cassinelli bringing his BBQ trailer if he is available. Mr. Lemons told the board they may have DVCD (Dayton Valley Conservation District) hats made before the event. The BBQ would run from 11am to 1PM and would be open to the public. He also mentioned that the district usually pays for the meat with Lyon County Funds. Supervisor Joe Ricci mentioned having staff and board members bring side dishes.*

**Item 13: FOR DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION: Updates, discussion and possible action regarding Mr. Lemons changing his work schedule**

*District Manager Austin Lemons told the board he will be taking two college classes this next semester that are not offered online and asked if he could temporarily change his in-office hours to three ten-hour days, Monday, Wednesday and Friday, and work from home Tuesday and Thursday from August 18 through December 18th. Chairmen Minor asked if there is someone to stand in for him if he was needed at a jobsite. Ms. Schmidt said that she is available. Mr. Lemons said that if a contractor requested him to be on-site, he could be there. The board mentioned also changing the day of the monthly board meetings temporarily and decided to schedule the rest of the meetings held in 2025 on the last Monday of the month pending conference room availability.*

*Supervisor Joe Ricci motioned to approve the temporary change in hours for Austin Lemons and to move the board meetings to the last Monday of the month through December 2025. Supervisor Randy Selmi seconded. Motion passed unanimously.*

**Item 14: District Supervisor Reports:**

*Supervisor Nate Johnson told the board that John Gavin wants some herbicide. Chairman Minor told him to have him call the district.*

**Item 15: District Staff Reports:**

*District Manager Austin Lemons told the board that NDF (Nevada Division of Forestry) is donating two trucks to the district. He said that the idea is to update the fleet, switch flatbeds and sell the 2004 vehicles, after making sure the new vehicles are running well.*

**Item 16: Agency Reports:**

*Kevin Piper of NVACD (Nevada Association of Conservation Districts) discussed their Sportsmen Raffle that benefits the scholarship fund. He told the board that the raffle runs every day in October and said that the district will get 10% of any tickets they sell. He also suggested having tickets for sale at Dayton Valley Days if the district has a booth again. He mentioned that ticket sales will benefit some High School graduates around the state. Mr. Piper also discussed that the agency is hiring two full-time positions and handed out paperwork on the job descriptions asking for the district to share with interested individuals. He also mentioned the annual business meeting held in November 2025 and told the board that they got rid of their annual meeting to refocus on holding meetings in the three main areas of the state where Conservation Districts are represented. They will select one of those areas annually and give those districts a chance to showcase what they are working on or have completed. He said that these meetings would be in-person and virtual. Mr. Piper believes this will better focus on local area groups and support districts.*

**Item 17: Announcements:**

*There were no announcements.*

**Item 18: Agenda Topics and Next Meeting date:**

*The next Board Meeting is scheduled for Monday, August 25th, 2025, at 6:30PM.*

**Item 19: Public Comment:**

*There were no public comments.*

**Item 20: Adjournment:**

*The meeting was adjourned at 7:39pm*