



STATE OF NEVADA  
**STATE CONSERVATION COMMISSION**  
901 South Stewart Street, Suite 1003  
Carson City, Nevada 89701-5247  
Phone (775) 684-2717 - Fax (775) 684-2715

**Monday April 4, 2016, beginning at 1:00p.m.**  
Department of Conservation and Natural Resources  
The Bryan Building, Fifth Floor, Ponderosa Conference Room  
901 S Stewart Street, Ponderosa Conference Room  
Carson City, Nevada

Notice is hereby given that the Nevada State Conservation Commission will hold a public meeting beginning on April 4, 2016 at The Bryan Building, 901 S Stewart Street, in Carson City, Nevada. **PLEASE NOTE: The meeting is expected to at some time recess overnight at a time determined during the meeting, and continue into the morning of April 5, 2016.** This meeting will also be available telephonically by calling **888-808-6929**, and then enter code **3499573** to participate.

**NOTICE:** Items on this agenda may be taken in a different order than listed. Items may be combined for consideration by the Commission. Items may be removed from the agenda at any time.

**I. CALL TO ORDER, DETERMINATION OF QUORUM**

A. Introductions

**II. PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Public comment may be made on any issue and any discussion of those items; provided that comment will be limited to areas relevant to and within the authority of the Conservation Commission. Public comments may be limited to 3-5 minutes per person at the discretion of the Chair. **No action will be taken on any items raised in the public comment period that are not already on the agenda.** At the discretion of the Chair, public comment may be received prior to action on individual agenda items.

**III. REVIEW AND CONSIDERATION OF APPROVAL OF MINUTES - \*FOR POSSIBLE ACTION\***

A. Approval of minutes from the February 4, 2016 meeting.

**IV. BRIEF UPDATE ON CONSERVATION DISTRICTS PROGRAM - \*FOR DISCUSSION ONLY\***

A. Tim Rubald, program manager, will provide the Commission with a brief update on Program activities.

**V. REVIEW, RANKING AND DETERMINATION OF FUNDING OF APPLICATIONS FROM CONSERVATION DISTRICTS FOR THE SAGE-GROUSE COMPETITIVE GRANT PROGRAM - \*FOR POSSIBLE ACTION\***

**A.** The Commission's staff has received applications from various Districts for grant funding of projects providing improvement for sage-grouse or their habitat. Staff has conducted an initial screening of applications, had those projects meeting initial screening criteria reviewed and approved by the Sagebrush Ecosystem Technical Team (SETT) as being beneficial to sage-grouse or their habitat, and ranked those projects for the Commission's review and discussion. The Commission will review, possibly rank, and may then grant funds to any or all of the qualifying projects.

**B.** The Commission may authorize specific funding plans for chosen applications.

**C.** The Commission may authorize Commission Secretary Tim Rubald to negotiate any funding issues, project monitor reporting, and any changes the Commission stipulates in a specific Funding Agreement, and sign the agreement with successful Districts.

**VI. DISCUSSION, REVIEW AND POSSIBLE ADOPTION OF THE COMMISSION'S STRATEGIC PLAN - \*FOR POSSIBLE ACTION\***

**A.** The Commission met in a workshop format January 22<sup>nd</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup> last year (2015) and worked on developing a strategic plan. They further reviewed a plan drafted by staff at their meeting on February 4, 2016. Staff has drafted the results of those changes into a document which the Commission will discuss. The Commission may update or modify the draft document, and may choose to adopt it for implementation.

**VII. DISCUSSION, FURTHER DEVELOPMENT, AND POSSIBLE ADOPTION OF THE 'ACTION PLAN' FOR THE COMMISSION'S STRATEGIC PLAN - \*FOR POSSIBLE ACTION\***

**A.** The Commission will discuss a proposed Action Plan for the Strategic Plan, may change and/or adopt it for implementation.

**VIII. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE DIRECTION TO STAFF REGARDING SUBMISSION OF A GRANT APPLICATION FOR THE NATURAL RESOURCE CONSERVATION SERVICE'S (NRCS) REGIONAL CONSERVATION PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM (RCPP) - \*FOR POSSIBLE ACTION\***

**A.** The Commission has decided to submit an application to the NRCS for their RCPP. Commission will consider staff's request for additional direction and assistance in preparing the grant application. Due date for the initial application is May 10, 2016.

**IX. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE RECOMMENDATIONS TO DISTRICTS REGARDING SB476 PASSED DURING THE 2015 LEGISLATIVE SESSION - \*FOR POSSIBLE ACTION\***

A. The Commission will discuss some of the activities around the state regarding possible changes resulting from the passage of SB476. The Commission may provide some suggestions to districts looking to implement portions of the changes provided.

**X. AGENCY UPDATES - \*FOR DISCUSSION ONLY\***

- A. Sagebrush Ecosystem Program – *Program Manager*
- B. Nevada Department of Agriculture – *Robert Little, Plant Industry Division*
- C. UNR-College of Agriculture Biotechnology and Natural Resources – *Dr. Sherm Swanson, Range and Riparian Extension State Specialist for University of Nevada Cooperative Extension and Scientist for Nevada Agricultural Experiment Station.*
- D. Natural Resources Conservation Service – *Ray Dotson, State Conservationist*
- E. Nevada Department of Wildlife – *Connie Lee, Landowner Incentive Programs*
- F. Nevada Association of Conservation Districts – *Jake Tibbitts, President*
- G. Others - Participating agencies and partners may report items of importance or urgency as necessary at this time.

**XI. COMMISSIONER ITEMS - \*FOR DISCUSSION ONLY\***

A. Commissioners will provide comments and any reports they would like to provide the Commission.

**XII. NEXT COMMISSION MEETING - \* FOR POSSIBLE ACTION \***

- A. Agenda items for future consideration.
- B. Date, time and location of next meeting.

**XIII. PUBLIC COMMENTS**

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**XIV. ADJOURNMENT - \* FOR POSSIBLE ACTION \***

Notice of this meeting was posted in the following location:

Department of Conservation and Natural Resources, 901 S. Stewart Street, Carson City, NV 89701  
NRCS Office 3275 Fountain Way, Winnemucca, Nevada 89445  
NRCS Office 555 West Silver Street, Suite 101, Elko, Nevada 89801  
Nevada Department of Agriculture 4780 E Idaho St Elko, Nevada 89801

Nevada Department of Agriculture 405 S 21<sup>st</sup> St Sparks, Nevada 89431

Notice of this meeting was emailed for posting to the following location:  
NRCS State Office, 1365 Corporate Blvd, Reno, NV 89502

Notice of this meeting was also posted on the Internet website at:  
<http://dcur.nv.gov/conservation-district-program/conservation-commission>  
And the Nevada Public Notice website <http://notice.nv.gov/>

*Members of the public who are disabled and require special accommodations or assistance at the meeting are requested to notify our office by writing to the Conservation Districts Program, 901 S. Stewart Street, Suite 1003, Carson City, NV 89701 or by email at [timrubald@dcur.nv.gov](mailto:timrubald@dcur.nv.gov) or calling (775) 684-2700 no later than two(2) working days prior to the scheduled meeting.*

*Please contact Tim Rubald at 901 S. Stewart Street, Suite 1003, Carson City, NV 89701; or E-mail [timrubald@dcur.nv.gov](mailto:timrubald@dcur.nv.gov); or phone 775-684-2717 to obtain supporting material for the agenda.*