

**BIG MEADOW**

**Conservation District**

**ANNUAL Report & Financial Summary**

**2019 – 2020**

**PERSHING COUNTY NEVADA**

# **BIG MEADOW CONSERVATION DISTRICT**

110 American Blvd.  
Lovelock, NV 89419

## **Annual Report**

July 1, 2019 to June 30, 2020

Date Approved by the Board: Sept 16<sup>th</sup> 2020

### **INTRODUCTION**

#### **Big Meadow Conservation District Supervisors, Staff and Cooperating Agency Personnel**

##### **Big Meadow Conservation District Supervisors, Staff:**

Chairperson	Carl Clinger
Vice Chairperson City Representative	Mac Moezzi
Supervisor	Paul Schlehr
Supervisor	Elizabeth Uhart
Supervisor	Gloria Montero
Supervisor County Representative	Steve Foster
Supervisor	Jim Safford
Secretary/Treasurer	Elizabeth Blondheim

##### **Cooperating Agency Personnel:**

NRCS District Conservationist	Christie Scilacci
FSA	Ali Philips
FSA	Audrey Hultenschmidt,
DCNR	Melany Aten

BMCD worked to address and advance conservation concerns and programs relevant to the district's goals and objectives being mindful of the original mission of the conservation district while meeting the challenges of new realities.

BMCD still has a full complement of supervisors, although Supervisor Safford's participation has been limited due to caring for his elderly parents .

BMCD remains in good standing with all State Conservation Commission requirements and continues to grow as a voice in Pershing County, the state of Nevada and the West.

## **CONSERVATION:**

The District continued to provide technical assistance to cooperators in order to improve irrigation water management and erosion control. The District encouraged District cooperators to participate in the NRCS Conservation Programs and the Client Gateway Program.

A Local Work Group meeting was not held this year. BMCD is anxiously awaiting the results of the first NvACD Resource Needs Assessment Program District results.

Liaison was maintained with NRCS, NDOW, Division of Forestry, Nevada Department of Agriculture, FSA, Pershing County Water Conservation District, Humboldt Weed Management Committee, Nevada Weed Management Association, University of Nevada, Reno, Nevada Cooperative Extension, and the Nevada Farm Bureau. The District continues in the leadership role in the Pershing County Cooperative Weed Management Area (PC-CWMA), a countywide weed management association and participation in the statewide Nevada Weed Management Association (NWMA).

The Board periodically reviews the Memorandum of Understanding and Agreements that it has with the aforementioned agencies.

### **BMCD Supervisors Participated and Contributed to many meetings in Pershing County and beyond.**

- A Supervisor from the District participated in the NRCS State Technical Advisory Committee (STAC) meeting. The Meeting was held as a Phone-in-Only Due to Covid 19, so the benefit of the Face-to-face meeting and interaction was lost.
- Several Supervisors attended and participated at the 2019 NvACD meeting.
- A Supervisor is an Alternate of the Humboldt River Basin Water Authority Board and in regular attendance.
- A Supervisor is a Member of the Pershing County Regional Planning Commission and contributes to Land and water Use issues throughout the County
- A Supervisor attends all Monthly Pershing County Water Conservation District Board Meetings and provides feedback to the BMCD Board as well as .
- A Supervisor attends the Pershing County Commission Meetings to comment on Land Use and Water related Issues when appropriate.
- A Supervisor is a member of the Pershing County Natural Resources Advisory Board
- A Supervisor attends the Lovelock Valley Weed District Meetings and provides feedback to the BMCD Board.
- The Grass Valley Advisory Board Meetings are also occasionally attended.

### **Pershing County Economic Development and Conservation Act:**

Current Status: Recently the Bill has been merged with the Navy's Fallon Range Training Complex Modernization Bill in hopes that this was a Must Pass Bill and the Pershing bill would be passed. Unfortunately, the Navy Expansion Bill was not part of the Defense authorization Act when it came out of committee.

BMCD has been a Major contributor to the Development and Approval of this Act by the Citizens of Pershing County, the Wilderness Coalition and the County Commission. Beginning over a decade ago Pershing County has sought to resolve the status of checkerboard lands, wilderness study areas, and other public lands issues within the county. Seventy-five percent (75%) of Pershing County is managed by the Bureau of Land Management (the "BLM"). Much of this ownership is in a checkerboard pattern. The goal of these efforts has been to provide new opportunities for economic development and protect areas of significant ecological value.

BMCD worked closely with Friends Of Nevada Wilderness to Assure that Pershing County Producer's Grazing Rights and Existing Mining rights would be protected and garnered Mining and Producer support for this Bill.

#### **Feral Horse & Burro Issues:**

BMCD continues to educate the public about the degraded Range Ecosystems. BMCD Has written several letters about the Feral Horse and Burro issues, the latest was in support of C Punch Ranch and their Bluewing allotment. The horse population was 100 times over the HMA Max. This is an ongoing issue.

#### **Annual Work Plan:**

The district's Annual Work Plan was reviewed and updated. BMCD has also submitted several newspaper articles to Winnemucca Publishing for the Lovelock Review Miner.

#### **Agriculture Literacy**

Ag Literacy is an important concern for the district. Meetings have been held with the FFA Advisor to increase Local Youth participation at State Competitions. Supervisors have encouraged and facilitated 4H, FFA and Grange Youth to participate in numerous Statewide Livestock Shows.

The District hosted the NACD Poster Contest at the Lovelock Elementary, Imlay Elementary, and Middle School. In efforts to garner increased interest and participation monetary prizes were given by the District for 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, and 3<sup>rd</sup> places for all participating grades and classes. The District also elected to provide financial awards to all participating teachers. Entries were also sent to NvACD. The District is pleased to report participation in this year's poster contest increased significantly due to efforts of several Supervisors and NRCS staff-Christie Scilacci.

The District planned to continue with the Annual Arbor day tree-planting program in Lovelock Elementary School, Imlay Elementary School and Little Feathers Head Start, Stepping Stone Academy, and Imlay Preschool. Due to COVID 19 Pershing County Schools were Closed and the Arbor Day Conservation training was canceled.

### **Range Camp:**

BMCD has committed to Sponsor two Youth to Range Camp. The 2020 Range Camp Program was cancelled Due to the COVID 19. So unfortunately the Pershing County Youth were not allowed to benefit from this unique Rangeland Experience.

### **Pershing County Water Management Plan:**

The Pershing County Water Management Plan was finalized and approved by the Pershing County Commission in June 2018. BMCD was involved with reviewing and making suggestions for inclusion in the Plan. Proposed Policies relating to conservation of water resources in Pershing County include working with, and supporting, the Bureau of Land Management, Bureau of Reclamation, Pershing County Water Conservation District, the Central Nevada Regional Water Authority, Big Meadow Conservation District and other regional groups, to establish conservation and best management practices for a regional water resource. BMCD expects to be heavily involved in the remaining work to be done to implement the Water Management Plan, especially in the Area of over allocated water Basins.

## **Conservation Demonstrations and other Projects**

### **Water Management/Measurement**

In Support of the Water Management issues in Pershing County, BMCD Purchased a Well Sounder 2010 PRO, which is a highly accurate yet easy to use instrument designed for portable non-contact well water level monitoring. This unit also allows the user to perform unsupervised drawdown testing. The unit can be set to take measurements at intervals between 1-60 minutes. It also has a power save function, which will put the unit to sleep between measurements to save battery life. It is capable of logging, storing, and downloading over 13,000 data points.

It is BMCD's goal to perform semiannual well level and quality measurements on several wells in Hydrologic basins that have decreasing water tables for Pershing County Land Use decisions and Water Management Planning.

### **Plant Health/Vigor Issues (High Water Table)**

There are several areas across Lovelock Valley where Plant health is degraded or Non-existent due to a High Water table due to large distribution canals conveying water for most of the growing season. BMCD plans to Quantify the amount of seepage from the canal by measuring the water amount in the canal, the amount of seepage at the top of the field near the canal and the water table midway down the field. Soil Profile measurements will be made near the distribution canal. Different mitigation possibilities will be evaluated, such as Canal lining, water barriers, drainage tiles to name a few.

### **Regenerative Grazing Demonstration**

Our most pressing and complex contemporary agricultural challenge is restoring the soil. Gabe Brown's Ranch model developed over twenty years of experimentation and refinement, focuses on regenerating resources by continuously enhancing the living biology in the soil. Using regenerative agricultural principles, Brown's Ranch has grown several inches of new topsoil in only twenty years! BMCD intends to demonstrate Regenerative Grazing using simulated grazing techniques on approximately 10 acres in Grass Valley

## **ADMINISTRATION AND FINANCE**

The District scheduled and held monthly meetings throughout the year at the Pershing County Community Center. There were Nine Meetings Held, one skipped and two meetings canceled due to COVID 19.

Correspondence was reviewed at all regular meetings.

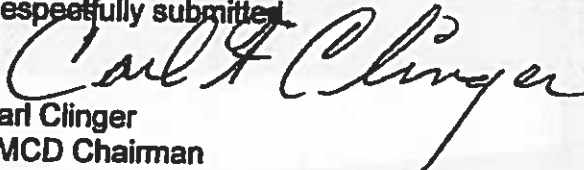
Full dues were paid to NvACD and 45% to NACD

District funds were prudently invested; personnel and equipment remained insured. Financial reports were updated regularly and reviewed at each regular meeting.

BMCD's Total income for the year was \$5,153.14. Total Expenses for the year was \$5,391.08. The Expected expenditures for next year are anticipated to increase therefore BMCD will be researching ways to increase their funding beyond current levels.

This Report was approved by the Board at the regular September 16,th Meeting.

Respectfully submitted,



Carl Clinger  
BMCD Chairman

EB/CC

Year-End Financial Report  
 Big Meadow Conservation District  
 For Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 2020

**Summary of Receipts**

RECEIPT SOURCE	AMOUNT
State Funds	5,000.00
County Funds	
City Funds	
Other Government Funds (specify) NvACD CCG sign ups	0.00
Administrative Income (specify)	
Interest – CD, Savings and Checking	3.14
Grants for projects (specify)	
Rental Income (equipment, etc.)( Trencher inoperable )	0.00
Refund	
Contributions Donation of Raffle Items for NvACD	150.00
Bank Maintenance Fee Return	
Other Sources of Income –Donation	0.00
	0.00
Tree Sales	
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b>5,153.14</b>

Year-End Financial Report  
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**Summary of Expenditures**

<b>Employee Salary</b>	<b>592.86</b>
<b>Fringe Benefit Expense</b>	<b>0.00</b>
<b>NvACD Convention Expenses</b>	<b>397.36</b>
<b>Audit</b>	<b>0.00</b>
<b>Bank Maintenance Fee</b>	<b>0.00</b>
<b>Insurance</b>	<b>12.04</b>
<b>Postage</b>	<b>0.00</b>
<b>NvACD Convention Raffle Items/Snack Donation</b>	<b>150.00</b>
<b>Office Supplies- poster &amp; printer/ink</b>	<b>286.93</b>
<b>Education &amp; Information Expenses (Poster Contest)</b>	<b>422.65</b>
<b>Equipment Purchase (Well Sounder)</b>	<b>1,028.74</b>
<b>Equipment Expenses (maintenance, repair, operation) (Trencher inoperable )</b>	<b>0.00</b>
<b>Dues - NvACD</b>	<b>600.00</b>
<b>Dues - NACD</b>	<b>250.00</b>
<b>Dues - Other</b>	
<b>Mileage</b>	<b>628.30</b>
<b>Conference expenses (NVCAA &amp; CA alfalfa symposium)</b>	<b>730.09</b>
<b>Sponsorship of NRCS CSP Workshop lunch</b>	
<b>Annual Dinner/</b>	
<b>Bond and Insurance Expenses Workers Comp.</b>	<b>25.60</b>
<b>Project Costs:</b>	
<b>Grant #1</b>	<b>0.00</b>
<b>Grant #2</b>	
<b>Other Expenses (specify) News Ad</b>	<b>0.00</b>
<b>Tree Planting Materials/2020 Ag Literature project</b>	<b>266.51</b>
<b>Tree Planting Lunch for Staff</b>	
<b>Range Camp Sponsorship</b>	
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<b>5,391.08</b>



Year-End Financial Report  
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**Financial Summary**

**1 BEGINNING OF YEAR FUND BALANCE:**

(Must Equal Funds Reported From End of Previous Fiscal Year)

**a. List all bank accounts:**

Certificate of Deposit	\$0.00
Checking Account	<u>\$12,317.09</u>
Savings Account	0

<b>b. Cash on hand</b>	0
<b>c. Total fund balance</b>	<u>\$12,317.09</u>
<b>d. Accounts receivable grants</b>	<u>\$0.00</u>
<b>e. Accounts payable</b>	<u>\$0.00</u>
<b>f. Total funds available</b>	<u>\$0.00</u>

**2 END OF YEAR FUND BALANCE:**

**a. List all bank accounts:**

Checking Account	\$12,079.15
Savings Account	<u>\$0.00</u>

<b>b. Cash on hand</b>	<u>\$0.00</u>
<b>c. Total fund balance</b>	<u>\$12,079.15</u>
<b>d. Accounts receivable grants</b>	<u>\$0.00</u>

<b>e. Accounts payable</b>	<u>\$0.00</u>
<b>f. Total funds available</b>	<u>\$12,079.15</u>

**3 SUMMARY:**

<b>a. Beginning of year fund balance (1.c. above)</b>	\$12,317.09
<b>b. Plus total receipts (from Receipt Summary)</b>	<u>\$5,153.14</u>
<b>c. Less total expenditures (from Expense Summary)</b>	<u>\$5,391.08</u>
1. Less adjustment.....\$	<u>                    </u>
<b>d. Must equal end-of-year fund balance (2.c. above).....</b>	<u>\$12,079.15</u>

**4 ASSETS:** List all assets (equipment, land, buildings, etc.) and estimate their value:

**Year-End Financial Report**  
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<b>a. Trencher</b>	<b><u>\$3,500.00</u></b>
<b>b. PC_CWMA Equipment</b>	<b><u>\$1,500.00</u></b>
<b>c. Well Sounder Equipment</b>	<b>\$1,028.00</b>