

DRAFT

MINUTES

ECOLOGY COMMISSION MONTHLY MEETING

Cordry Sweetwater Conservancy District

7 November, 2019

- A. The monthly meeting of the CSCD Ecology Commission was called to order by Commission Chairman, Rick Normington, at 6:00 P.M. on 7 November, 2019, at the CSCD conference room. .
- B. Members Present: Rick Normington, Josh Edwards (Board), Sunny Leerkamp (CSLOA), Randy Brumfield, Ty Cooper & Jim Donnells (Recorder)
- C. Members Absent: Brenda Maulden
- D. Others in Attendance: 3 Guests
- E. *Randy Brumfield moved to approve the Minutes of the 3 October, 2019, meeting of the CSCD Ecology Commission; Ty Cooper seconded. This motion was unanimously approved.*
- F. FREEHOLDER CONCERNS (6:10 P.M.) : Ken & Dot Reinstrom, freeholders on Cougar Drive, expressed concern over the loss of their “lakefront property” due to long-term sediment buildup in their cove. They pointed out that an apparent dam above their cove has failed and sediment just runs over the top and into their cove. They requested advice and counsel on what they can do to restore their property to “lakefront” status, as their tax bill is based on that designation. Rick Normington advised that there is no CSCD-funded dredging planned for the near future. He further advised the Reinstroms research who is the owner of the property with the failed dam, and to work with that freeholder, and other neighboring freeholders, to possibly fund dam repairs and privately-funded dredging, after getting the required permit from the CSCD office.

G. OLD BUSINESS :

1. (6:35 P.M.) DEER HERD CONSERVATION INITIATIVE (Rusty Fields): This year’s Community Hunt Access Program (CHAP) coordinator, Mr. Rusty Fields, summarized the status of this year’s CHAP hunt in the CSCD, to date. The CHAP hunt commenced on 14 October, as scheduled. To date, 25 deer have been harvested. The freeholder response to this year’s CHAP hunt has been most encouraging as over 500 “hunt interest cards” were returned to the Deer Reduction Committee (DRC) this year, with the vast majority of the returned cards permitting either huntable property or retrievable property. Mr. Fields commented that, based on his observations over the last 4 weeks of the hunt, there are still a multitude of deer that need to be harvested in order to reduce the herd to a more manageable size based on the CSCD’s limited carrying capacity. He also stated that the first weekend hunt (ever) was most successful, as a larger number of hunters, who work during the week, made time to hunt on the designated weekend. Based on the still-excessive number of deer browsing in the CSCD and the apparently high birth rate of resident does, Mr. Fields strongly recommends we pursue continued CHAP hunts beyond this last year of the DNR Funding Grant. The application for a 2nd CHAP Grant must be submitted by 31 January, 2020. As a result:

Ty Cooper moved to recommend to the CSCD Board that CSCD pursue a 2nd DNR-funded CHAP Grant, to fund continued hunting in the CSCD, for the years 2020-2022. Jim Donnells seconded; and the motion passed unanimously.

(OVER >>>)

2. (7:10 P.M.) **REVIEW OF CSCD WATER/GROUNDS SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT** (*Rick, in Josh's absence*): Josh's update covered progress reports on projects of interest to ECOLOGY including: coffer dam repairs on Antelope Drive (100% complete!); updates on a project to remedy problems with the coffer dam on Grizzly Drive; and an update to the major project to repair the drainage pipe leak and erosion on Sweetwater Dam. The recently discovered Cordry Dam drain-leak issue requires further engineering study at a cost of \$ 18K, to probably be funded from the CSCD "Rainy Day Fund."

3. (7:15 P.M.) **POLLINATOR HABITAT** (*Rick, in Brenda's absence*): The issue of parking during the annual fireworks event at the beach continues to complicate progress on the already-approved pollinator habitat project for the "Reclamation Area" across from the beach. Brenda has agreed to draft a memo, which Rick will sign, to invite the affected parties (Security Commission, Fire Department, & CSLOA) to meet with the ECOLOGY Commission, in December, to hammer out a compromise so that the delayed pollinator habitat project can proceed.

4. (7:20 P.M.) **STRATEGIC PLANNING STUDY TOPIC # 3 – "IMPROVED RESTROOM FACILITIES FOR FREEHOLDER USE AT CENTERLAKE PARK ."** (*Rick*):

After discussion regarding the need for, and options for, creating improved restroom facilities at Centerlake Park, now that so many freeholder activities have been constructed there (Garden plots, childrens' playground, basketball court, golf driving range, etc.), the Commission agreed that this should be a Priority Action for next year's ECOLOGY Budget deliberations. Jim Donnell's agreed to work with Josh Hawley to develop various possible solutions to this issue in time for next year's budget workshops beginning in May 2020.

H. **NEW BUSINESS** (7:40 P.M.) :

1. **COMMISSION MEMBER CONCERNS:** Jim Donnell's noted that since the Conservation Deer Hunt began, it has become increasingly rare to see someone feeding the deer... and that is a Good Thing for CSCD !

2. **FREEHOLDER CONCERNS:** None

3 The next meeting of the CSCD Ecology Commission is scheduled for Thursday, 5 December, 2019, at 6:00 P.M. in the CSCD conference room. A draft Agenda for that meeting was developed.

3. **It was agreed that there will be NO ECOLOGY meeting in January, 2020, as per tradition.**

I. **ADJOURNMENT:** *Jim Donnell's moved to adjourn the October meeting of the Ecology Commission. Sunny Leerkamp seconded. The motion passed.* The meeting was adjourned at 7:45 P.M.

Respectfully Submitted:

JIM DONNELLS
Commission Recorder
(801) 361-8791
opajimd@gmail.com