

WASHAKIE COUNTY CONSERVATION DISTRICT
208 Shiloh Road
WORLAND, WYOMING 82401

MINUTES OF MONTHLY BOARD MEETING

The Washakie County Conservation District (WCCD) held their monthly meeting Monday, June 15, 2015 at 7:00 p.m. in Worland at the WCCD office. Members in attendance were; Dan Rice, Cal Jones, Charley Orchard, and new member Dave Slover. Also in attendance was Victoria Dietz; WCCD District Director, and NRCS District Conservationist, Laura Galloway.

Dan called the WCCD board meeting to order at 7:05 p.m.

The board reviewed the May 18, 2015 board meeting minutes. Cal moved to accept the board meeting minutes as read. Charley seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Tori reported the following financial account balances: WCCD main checking account; \$3,038.88 and Money Market account; \$215,273.73. The CD balance is \$16,397.06. The May bank statements for the main checking and money market accounts were reconciled by Dan Rice. Charley moved to accept the financial statement and the reconciliation reports for both accounts. Cal seconded the motion. Motion carried. Tori reported that the mill levy funds received to date is \$179,001.47, which is \$25,477.47 over the budget which had been based upon the estimate provided by the Washakie County Assessor.

The following vouchers were reviewed and approved:

VOUCHER	CK NUMBER	PAYABLE TO	AMOUNT
7662	7300	WEBT	13.88
7663	Electronic	Susan Carrell	790.50
7664	Electronic	Victoria Dietz	3278.00
7665	7301	Susan Carrell	78.20
7666	7302	Washakie Co. 4-H	125.00
7667	7303	FedEX	37.00
7668	Electronic	Karen Fenton	959.59
7669	Electronic	Susan Carrell	751.95
7670	Electronic	Victoria Dietz	2670.77
7671	Electronic	Security Bank	2558.48
7672	7304	R.T. Communications	88.74
7673	7305	BCBS	1279.11
7674	7306	Wyoming Retirement	749.87
7675	7307	SCL&C	9030.00
7676	7308	Maggie's Café	54.00
7677	7309	Hanford's Sprinklers	70.68
7678	7310	Laird Sanitation	60.00
7679	7311	Marvin Wyman	3000.00

7680	7312	Susan Carrell	42.84
7681	7313	Cardmember Service	2001.89
7682	7314	Hanford's Sprinkler	220.00

NRCS REPORT

Laura provided the following DC Report via email prior to the meeting and reviewed with the WCCD board:

- Help provided for WCCD
 - Fiddleback Farms As-built has been completed.
 - Ray and Holden checked on seeding at outdoor classroom
 - Looked up benefitted acres and quadrants for projects under 319 grant.
- NWQI
 - We have requested an additional \$155,000 to fund the last 2 projects but have not heard on anything yet.
- EQIP 2015
 - We are still waiting on the Cultural approval for some of the 2015 contracts.
- Contract Signatures
 - Kitsy came in and signed the 2015 contract plans after everyone reviewed the projects and questions were answered.
- Local Work Group Meeting
 - Division I – Greybull Weed & Pest building. July 8th at 1:30 p.m.
 - Review 2015 allocations by county and division wide
 - Review Resource Concerns
 - Discuss 2016 allocation options and Subcategories
 - Review Payment schedule
 - Watershed NWQI
- Cooperative Agreement
 - Dave Slover

Dave Slover signed and submitted the NRCS Confidentiality Agreement to Laura.

- Civil Rights Review – Laura reported that the civil rights review was not completed as planned.

Laura reported that NRCS has offered to pay for conservation district link pass, if interested.

Tori asked Laura if she could provide her with information regarding NRCS and cultural resource work guidelines, that she could provide to Jennifer Zygmunt, DEQ. Tori stated that Steve Snyder had a potential project for the 319 grant, but NRCS cannot provide the design for the project because it involves a named canal, and extensive SHIPO requirements.

EMPLOYEE REPORTS:

Susan Carrels and Karen Fentons reports were previously provided via email. Tori stated that Karen has been a real asset to her and working out very well.

Tori gave the WCCD Board an overview and update of some of her activities over the past month, which included the completion of the 319 Grant 1st Quarter report, status of the grass plot seeding at the Outdoor Classroom, Nowood Watershed Improvement District (WID) tasks, and National Water Quality Initiative water monitoring.

BOARD REPORTS:

Bighorn Forest Steering Committee Report – Dan reported that he would provide an overview of the Bighorn Forest Steering Committee meeting at the July WCCD board meeting.

WACD What's Up – Dan gave the WCCD Board an overview of a few items included in the WACD What's Up email. Regarding the Conservation District 2nd mill for water projects, WCCD Board members discussed it and agreed that they remain opposed to the bill being drafted, due to various reasons. Dan stated that he would communicate that to WACD before the Joint Ag Committee meets in September.

Dan gave an overview of the “Trespass to Collect Data” misrepresentation by the press and encouraged the WCCD Board to read the editorial written by Senator Kinskey to understand the purpose of the bill and to also use the fact sheet when answering any questions related, both of which had been provided via email to them.

Dan referred to the WACD Golf Tournament to be held on August 11th, and asked the WCCD Board for thoughts of sponsorship of the event. The WCCD Board agreed that they would instead continue with sponsorship of WACD Convention and the Natural Resource Foundation auction.

OLD BUSINESS

WCCD Final Draft Budget Review – Tori reviewed the final draft budget with the WCCD board. Cal made a motion to approve the final draft FY 2016 budget, including the updates since the May 18th WCCD board meeting of the purchase of a sprinkler for the range grass plots at the Outdoor Classroom, tree and sign replacement for the Worland Community Center Tree planting project, and water quality monitoring supplies for the National Water Quality Initiative monitoring for Spring of 2016. Charley seconded the motion. Motion carried.

WESTI Ag Days Update – Tori provided an update of the coming year's WESTI Ag Days plan, which was provided by Tajin Perez, Washakie County Extension Service. Tori stated that the event is being reorganized and shortened with a one day seminar for topics pertinent to Ag Producers and a ½ day seminar for small acreage type topics, with an awards dinner included at the end of the first day. Tori stated that she understood that Tajin will be asking local businesses for the dinner sponsorship. The WCCD board was supportive of the new plan.

Nowood WID Email to County Clerks - Review/Input – Tori provided the WCCD with a copy of a draft email she had developed to send to the Washakie and Big Horn County Clerks, which outlined the process the Nowood WID joint conservation districts would be following and asking for input from the County Clerks in making sure they were aware and supportive. The WCCD Board discussed and approved the email.

NEW BUSINESS

Rural Cost Share Applications – Tori reported that Steve Snyder had contacted her last week to ask about his Rural Cost share for the project that had been approved for funding by the WCCD Board in February 2015, for a pivot. Tori reported that Steve has completed his project and had emailed her prior to that, that he had completed his project and Tori had never received the email. Tori stated that she had asked Steve to print the email and bring it in, but had not received it yet. Tori gave the WCCD Board an overview of what is stated in an approval letter to applicants before their project begins, which includes the submittal of an NRCS design. Other items in the letter include providing before, during, and after photos upon completion and to contact NRCS upon

completion to certify the project. Tori reported that, this far, Steve has not provided anything, including the design and was now done with the project. After some discussion, the WCCD Board felt that if photos were not supplied and the project could not be fully certified by NRCS, the cost share funds could be jeopardized. Tori stated that NRCS does have applicants dig their project back up to show the pipe size and that the thrust block has been installed. Laura stated that NRCS provides applicants with a list of items that need to be inspected during construction that she would provide to the WCCD for their use, if desired. Tori will visit with Steve and provide further information and update on the project at the July WCCD board meeting.

Tori provided a copy of a new application for the Rural Cost Share program from Sage Creek Land & Cattle - Pheasant Field, and five new applications from Fairview Farms - L2S North Field, L2S South Field, South Connie Field, Middle Connie Field, Pond Pivot Field. All applications were for cost share for the electrical portion of pivot projects and all were approved for funding by NRCS for the pivot portion of the project. Discussion was held regarding the narrative portion of the applications, in that all of the narrative answers were exactly the same and the WCCD Board felt it important that each projects uniqueness be clearly stated as all projects were in a different location and were probably not the same exact scenario. In addition, after reviewing the budget sheets, Laura pointed out that some of the listed budget items for electrical were already covered under the NRCS pivot portion. The WCCD Board agreed that since the electrical must be associated with the pivot, the cost of the pivot should be included in the total cost and NRCS contributions be identified in order to determine if the applicant is meeting the 25% match requirement. The WCCD Board asked Tori to contact applicant, Steve Snyder, to update his application narrative and budget and re-submit. Laura stated that she would provide the WCCD with an item list of materials that are included in the cost of a pivot that are eligible under NRCS funding, but primarily what isn't covered is the cost of power installation, the pole, the panel on the pole and the wire to the pivot. Dan asked Tori to provide hard copies of the updated applications for the July meeting.

Welcome Dave Slover – Tori reported that she had received approval from the Wyoming Board of Ag for Dave Slover's appointment as a new board member. The WCCD board welcomed Dave. Dave took his Oath of Office.

Secretary/Treasurer Election – The WCCD Board held an election for the vacant Secretary/Treasurer office. Cal made a motion to nominate Dave Slover as Secretary/Treasurer. Charley seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Bank Signature Sheets – Tori provided signature sheets from both Pinnacle Bank and Security State Bank to update WCCD board signatures, due to replacing Kitsy Barnes with Dave Slover. Tori reported that the only other item required to submit was the June WCCD Board meeting minutes.

Annual Plan Review – This item was tabled until the July 20th WCCD Board meeting to give Tori time to update it for final review.

Governors Consistency Review Letter-Discussion was held regarding if the WCCD Board would need to provide the consistency review relative to WCCD's Natural Resource Land Use Plan and the final BLM RMP, as was indicated by Governor Mead. Dan said he would follow up to see if Ecosystem Research Group (ERG) may be providing that service instead.

WCCD Natural Resource Land Use Plan Draft – Tori provided the draft WCCD Long Range Natural Resource Land Use Plan as of October 2014 to the WCCD Board. Dan asked WCCD Board members to review the policies and said he would like to begin working on the policy and fine tuning the plan in August or September and possibly have it out for public comment after the first of the year. Tori said she would visit with Karen about the research for the background information and get that started, but would probably need to get past the Nowood WID election tasks to begin the work.

WACD-Trespass Email – This item was reported on the Board Report portion of the agenda by Dan Rice.

Marvin Wyman Septic System-Agreement Signature – Tori presented a septic system application and landowner agreement from Marvin Wyman for WCCD board approval. Tori explained that Marvin's application had been ranked and approved several years ago, but Marvin had not installed the system until recently. Cal made a motion to approve the application for a septic system upgrade for Marvin Wyman for a cost share of \$3,000.00. Charley seconded the motion. Motion carried. Dan signed the landowner agreement.

BLM Public Meeting Notice - Tori provided an agenda and reminder of the upcoming BLM Public meeting for June 25th from 4 to 6 p.m. in Worland.

Local Government ERG Meeting - June 19 in Cody – Dan reported that he would try to call in for this meeting and Tori stated that she would forward the webinar/teleconference email to the rest of the WCCD board.

BLM RMP CD's – Tori distributed the final BLM RMP CD disks to WCCD board members.

Risk Management Actions – Tori ask for review and approval of the updated risk management forms; Risk Management Practices and Bonding. Dave made a motion to approve the forms as presented. Cal seconded the motion. Motion carried. Dan signed both forms.

Fiddleback Farms (319 Grant) Extension to June 30-Action by Board/Signature – Charley made a motion to extend the Fiddleback Farm project to June 30, 2015. Cal seconded the motion. Motion carried.

WACD Convention Host Discussion – Dan reported that he had contacted Steve Jones regarding discussions of hosting WACD Convention in Cody with other Big Horn Basin conservation district, but had not heard back. Dan said there would be more discussions during Area meetings.





CORRESPONDENCE

WDA Comments_Foreign Workers; WDA Apiary Map Information; BLM RMP Federal Register Notice; Big Horn Basin Ag Dispatch; WDA Comments_Black Footed Ferret; WACD Comments_Black Footed Ferret; Barrasso Bill_Navigable Waters; Climate Assessment News Release; NACD Testifies on Farm Bill Programs

Cal moved to adjourn. Charley seconded the motion. Motion carried. The meeting was adjourned at 10:00 p.m.

Date: July15, 2015

Respectfully submitted by: Victoria Dietz, District Director

	
CHAIRMAN	DATE
	
SECRETARY/TREASURER	DATE