

**WASHAKIE COUNTY CONSERVATION DISTRICT**  
**208 Shiloh Road**  
**WORLAND, WYOMING 82401**

**MINUTES OF MONTHLY BOARD MEETING**

The Washakie County Conservation District (WCCD) held their monthly board meeting on Monday, November 21, 2016 at 7:00 p.m. in Ten Sleep at the Ten Sleep Senior Center. WCCD Board members in attendance included; Dave Slover, Dan Rice, Charley Orchard, and Susan Pennington. Also in attendance was WCCD Director Victoria Dietz, NRCS District Conservationist Laura Galloway and special guest Dave Egger, Ten Sleep School 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Teacher.

Dan called the WCCD board meeting to order at 7:02 p.m., and introductions were made.

The WCCD board reviewed the October 17, 2016 board meeting minutes. Dave moved to approved the October 17, 2016 WCCD board meeting minutes. Charley seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Tori reported the following financial account balances: WCCD main checking account; \$9,591.75 and Money Market account; \$156,378.44. The CD balance is \$16,539.19. The October bank statements for the main checking and money market accounts were reconciled by Tori Dietz and the reconciliation reports was provided. Charley moved to accept the financial statement and the reconciliation reports for both accounts. Dave seconded the motion. Motion carried.

The following vouchers were reviewed and approved:

<b>VOUCHER</b>	<b>CK NUMBER</b>	<b>PAYABLE TO</b>	<b>AMOUNT</b>
8077	7627	Project WILD	20.00
8078	7628	Voided	
8079	7629	WACD	31.62
8080	7630	Karen Fenton	4.71
8081	7631	Ron's Sanitation	70.00
8082	7632	US Post Office	215.00
8083	Electronic	Dusty Vail	132.06
8084	Electronic	Karen Fenton	1460.53
8085	Electronic	Vanessa Woffinden	420.20
8086	Electronic	Victoria Dietz	2683.71
8087	7633	WACD	74.50
8088	7634	Wyoming Retirement	894.81
8089	7635	WEBT	13.88
8090	7636	Verizon Wireless	10.08
8091	7637	BlueCross BlueShield	1355.86

8092	7638	R.T. Communications	88.84
8093	Electronic	Security State Bank	1187.34
8094	7639	Merle Pitz	65.00
8095	7640	Daily News	94.50
8096	7641	347-Ag LLC	7148.19
8097	7642	Vanessa Woffinden	56.63
8098	7643	Cardmember Service	228.23
8099	7644	CTA, Inc.	1600.00
8100	7645	CNA Surety	429.75
8101	7646	Tom Brewster	87.30
8102	7647	Lisa Bower	32.10
8103	7648	Doug Bleak	30.95
8104	7649	Susan Carrell	96.05
8105	7650	South Big Horn CD	12.50

#### **DC REPORT**

Laura Galloway provided the below written DC Report via email prior to the WCCD Board meeting:

**NRCS Assistance for CD:** Perry AFO, Perry Pipeline, South Flat Pipeline, and Discussions on Seeding for Drain area.

#### **2016 Programs**

- We are finishing up designs and starting to do as-built on the 2016 contracts.

#### **2017 Programs**

- The first batching date for EQIP and AMA applications will be October 21<sup>st</sup>. All eligibility needs to be completed and turned in By December 30<sup>th</sup>.
- We deferred the applications that were not funded in 2016. We have had several applicants who have cancelled their applications due to financial reasons.

#### **NWQI**

- We were informed that Wyoming received \$980,000 for the NWQI program for FY 2017. This is approximately \$300,000 more than last year. Washakie County will receive half, approximately \$450,000 for projects.
- We have to advertise at least 30 days prior to the batching date and the batching date has to be the third Friday of a month. So we are going to have our batching date for NWQI January 20, 2017. This will give us time to advertise. We need to make sure "An Equal Opportunity Provider and Employer" statement is on the advertisement.

#### **WACD Meeting**

- I attended the WACD meeting in Riverton. The first morning we had a DC meeting to cover timelines and funding. It looks like most of the programs will be getting about the same as

last year except NWQI and the Sage Grouse Initiative which received 1.2 million more. The goal is to have all contracts ranked, written, and obligated by July 30<sup>th</sup> of 2017.

- I had been previously ask by Bobby Frank and Astrid to be on a team for the convention along with 4 other DC's in the state to assist conservation District representatives with writing a coherent white paper from the information received in the Farm Bill Program breakout sessions.

Laura also provided her notes from the Farm Bill Session held during the WACD Convention, which were not included in these minutes. Dan asked that the Farm Bill Session topic will be discussed during the December WCCD Board meeting and will have Tori scan his notes from that session and include on the December WCCD Board meeting web agenda.

### **EMPLOYEE REPORTS**

Tori provided Karen Fenton and Vanessa Woffinden' s monthly written reports to the WCCD Board.

### **BOARD MEMBER REPORTS:**

County Commissioner/City - Clean Up Day Meeting Report – Dan reported that he and Karen had attended the Washakie County Commissioner meeting where discussions were held regarding a garbage cleanup day effort in Worland. Dan stated that the City is having issues with people leaving large items next to dumpsters that the garbage truck can't accommodate. Discussions held during the meeting included thoughts of why there had been a recent increase in the amount of large items being left in alleys, and possible solutions. Dan stated he would recommend that the WCCD take the opportunity to assist with the effort by developing outreach literature regarding recycling, and being responsible and respectful citizens in keeping garbage contained and cleaned up.

WACD Convention Report - Dan gave the WCCD Board an overview of discussions of the sessions he had attended during the WACD Convention. Topics included: Wolf litigation, wildlife habitat assessment, Black Footed Ferret, Sage Grouse, Farm Bill Session, Special Districts Task Force, and the Corporations Committee decisions on upcoming legislation and WACD's position on some of the language. Dan provided Tori with his WACD Convention documents and asked her to scan and attach to the December WCCD Board meeting web agenda.

Bighorn River Level I Meeting – Dave reported that he had attended the Wyoming Water Development Commissions meeting where he and George Kelso represented the WCCD and South Big Horn Conservation District's application. Dave stated the Commission approved that the application move forward, to be considered during the upcoming legislative session.

### **OLD BUSINESS**

Natural Resource Land Use Plan Review – The WCCD Board reviewed the WCCD Natural Resource Land Use Plan comments from Karen Budd Falen. After some discussions, review and some suggested updates to the plan, Dan suggested that Karen's track changes be accepted and that Tori incorporate Karen's suggested language for Coordination and Cooperation, and the Endangered Species Act. Tori stated that she would review the existing policies to see if any of the other goals Karen had suggested to be included, were addressed. Dan suggested that the WCCD Board meet during a special meeting to work on the new suggested policies in the draft plan on December 6<sup>th</sup> at 4:00 p.m. The rest of the WCCD Board agreed.

Tori provided a copy of a letter to the Dept. of Ag, where she had asked for an extension of time, stating that the WCCD Natural Resource Land Use Plan would be adopted during the WCCD's March 20<sup>th</sup> board meeting. Tori stated that extension request would be discussed on December 5<sup>th</sup> at the Wyoming Board of Ag meeting. Tori reported that if the request was approved, she would like to provide the draft to the Washakie County Commissioners, BLM, and Forest Service by December 29<sup>th</sup> and open it up for public comment on January 16<sup>th</sup>.

Watershed Improvement District (WID) Election Results – Tori reported on the Nowood and the Cottonwood Grass Creek WID board election results and the canvass and polling officer reimbursements.

Tori stated that she didn't feel that the non-mail ballot election held for the Cottonwood Grass Creek WID was a very efficient way to conduct the WID election as the voters in Washakie County didn't vote and only three voted in Hot Springs County. After some discussion, Charley made a motion to go back to a mail ballot election for both Watershed Improvement District elections (Nowood and Cottonwood Grass Creek) to ensure a fair representation of voters. Dave seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Request for Amendment for Bighorn-Slick Watershed Grant – Tori provided the WCCD Board with a copy of a letter she had written asking the Wyoming Board of Ag and WACD for an amendment for the Airport Road portion of the Bighorn River-Slick Creek Watershed Implementation grant. Tori stated that the three landowners left to agree to burying their irrigation ditch are not going to proceed. Consequently, there is \$3,428.65 left in the Airport Road Project budget that she has asked to be used to help with the cost of the Rain Garden, which is part of the 319 grant. Tori stated that the WACD board approved the amendment during WACD Convention and the Board of Ag will review and make a decision on December 5<sup>th</sup>.

New 319 Grant Award Information – Tori reported that Karen Fenton had represented the WCCD and presented the new 319 proposal for the Slick-Lower Nowater Creek Watershed Implementation grant. Tori stated that she had heard back from Jennifer Zygmunt at DEQ, who said that Karen had done a great job on the presentation, but the proposal was not funded for the full amount requested. Jennifer told Tori that it was not due to the merits of the project, but the number of applicants and the shortage of funds. WCCD was awarded \$95,485 and Tori will be working with Jennifer to pare down the proposal to fit the new budget. Tori stated that she would like to focus the grant on finishing up with the Sage Creek Slick Creek watershed projects.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

Dave Egger – Dave Egger, Ten Sleep 6<sup>th</sup> Grade teacher, attended the WCCD Board meeting to discuss his desire to take his nine students to Teton Science School, which will be held in Jackson on May 9<sup>th</sup> through 12<sup>th</sup>. Dave said that the students plan to have a fundraising event to help fund the trip and have some funds left from last year, but due to the cost of the trip (\$380/person), additional funds would be needed and was requesting \$1,000 from WCCD. After further discussion, Charley made a motion to approve \$1000.00 to support the Ten Sleep School's 6<sup>th</sup> grade class's Teton Science School trip. Dave seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Tori asked Dave to consider having Vanessa Woffinden, WCCD's Outdoor Education Specialist, as a chaperone for the trip. Dave said that he would talk to Teton Science School and let her know, but didn't think it would be a problem.

Oath of Office – Newly Elected Board Members – Tori gave the WCCD Board the election results provided to her by the Washakie County Clerk, stating that Dave Slover and Susan Pennington were both elected for a four-year term to the WCCD Board. Both Dave and Susan took their Oath of Office, which was notarized by Tori.

Legislative Lunch Plans- Tori reported that the Legislative lunch will be held on December 6<sup>th</sup> at noon, and that she had invited the Hot Spring Conservation District to participate again this year. Tori stated that she had heard back from Representative Greear and Senator Agar, that they would be in attendance. Tori stated that she was waiting on Bobbie to receive any upcoming legislation to be discussed during the meeting, but she also planned to give an overview of WCCD projects; past and present. Tori stated that she also planned to have her summary report completed to distribute as well. Tori asked the WCCD Board if they preferred where lunch would be and there were suggestions of Rumors, Firenze, and the new Asian restaurant. Tori said she would send the WCCD Board a reminder before the meeting and let them know where it would be held at that time.

WACD What's Up 11032016 - Tori provided the WCCD Board with the November 3<sup>rd</sup> WACD What's Up email and stated that there was a vacancy for a DEQ Nonpoint Source Task Force member.

Community Tree Planting Project - Tree Replacement Request from Bud Stayman – Tori reported that Karen had received a call from Bud Stayman asking for funds to replace the tree that had died, that had been part of the Community Center Tree Planting project, which had been a partnership project with Worland Tree Board, City of Worland, and Worland Community Center and Recreation District. Tori stated that initially, the main funds came from a grant WCCD had obtained from Wyoming Forestry. After some discussion, Dave made a motion to pay up to \$250 to replace Bud Stayman's tree. Susan seconded the motion. Motion carried. The WCCD Board agreed that due to the length of time the trees have been in the ground, future funding for replacement trees in the project area will not be approved.

## **OTHER BUSINESS**

Monthly Expense Report – The WCCD Board requested that Tori include a monthly expense report in the future, as part of the financial report during each monthly board meeting. Dan suggested that the expense report be considered on a consent calendar and the rest of the board agreed.

## **CORRESPONDENCE**

Special District Task Force Meeting Minutes; NRCS News 10182016; NACD News 10182016; October Drought Outlook; Nowood WID August Minutes; NRCS News 10252016; NACD News 10252016; WACD Convention Supervisor Training; Joint Corp. Committee Meeting Announcement; Corporations Committee Minutes 11012016; Firesmart Newsletter; Bighorn Basin Dispatch 11012016; NACD News 11012016; DDCT Opinion Email; WACD FY 17 Proposed Budget; WACD Auction Catalogue 11032016; Permit Renewal Workshop; NACD Quarterly Publication Notice; NRCS News 11072016; NACD News 11082016; NACD News 11152016; BHB Dispatch 11172016;

The meeting was adjourned at 10.02 p.m.

Date: December 17, 2016

Respectfully submitted by: Victoria Dietz, Director

Dean Rice 12-19-2016  
CHAIRMAN DATE

Wesley W. Slone 12/19/16  
SECRETARY/TREASURER DATE