

MINUTES OF THE JUNE 17, 2021 MEETING OF THE
CONVERSE COUNTY CONSERVATION DISTRICT (CCCD) BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

Present: Shelly Falkenburg, Sharon Lovitt, Doug Horner, Susie Downs, Michelle Huntington, Anna Gray, Tim Schroeder, Evan Trotter

Absent: Stan Mitchem (excused)

Vice Chairman, Shelly Falkenburg, called the meeting to order at 4:30 p.m.

Budget

The regular meeting recessed at 4:30 p.m. into a Public Hearing for consideration of the 2021/2022 Converse County Conservation District Budget. There were no comments from the public. The public hearing ended at 4:33 p.m. and the regular meeting reconvened.

Sharon Lovitt moved to adopt the 2021/2022 Converse County Conservation District Budget allowing for the Cash on Hand and Mill Levy numbers to be adjusted when the income reconciliation occurs at the end of June 2021. Susie Downs second, motion carried.

Minutes

Susie Downs moved to approve the May 20, 2021 meeting minutes as read. Doug Horner second, motion carried.

Treasurer's Report

Sharon Lovitt presented the Treasurer's Report and the bills to be paid. The supervisors had the opportunity to review the May bank reconciliations prior to the meeting. Doug Horner moved to accept the treasurer's report and pay the bills. Susie Downs second, motion carried.

NRCS Report

Evan reported that much of Wyoming is under some severity of drought and passed around the current drought monitor index.

Tony Sunseri will be acting as the State Conservationist for Wyoming while Astrid Martinez is on a detail to the Foreign Agricultural Services. Joshua Himsl is currently the Acting State Forester for Wyoming. There are also several other on-going acting positions across the state.

Chuck Schmitt, NRCS State Engineer, has retired but before he left a preliminary investigation report on the LaPrele Dam was started. The LaPrele Irrigation District board is hoping to apply for and receive funding from the 2018 Farm Bill watershed account.

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) has set a July 23, 2021, deadline for agricultural producers and landowners to apply for the Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) General signup. Additionally, USDA's Farm Service Agency (FSA) will accept applications for CRP Grasslands from July 12 to August 20.

Information on the sign-up will be included in the District's upcoming newsletter.

The precipitation report was brief due as there hasn't been much rainfall to date.

Converse County 4-H Range Judging Team

Morgan Shepherd and Anna and Cora Grant reported on their experiences and knowledge gained at the 2021 Wyoming Resource Education Days they attended in Uinta County the week of June 8-11. Mrs.

Shepherd, Team Leader, coached the girls throughout the year and transported the team to and from camp.

District Report

Anna presented three Community Canopy cost-share applications. Susie Downs moved to approve the Cook and Main applications as presented and to approve the Rabun application excluding the trimming on the cedar tree as it does not meet the public benefit criteria. Doug Horner second, motion carried.

Anna presented a Solar Conversion cost-share application. Sharon Lovitt moved to deny the Momerak application since it does not meet the funding criteria of the program. Susie Downs second, motion carried.

Anna presented a Solar Conversion cost-share application. Doug Horner moved to approve the Dona application as presented. Sharon Lovitt second, motion carried.

Anna presented a Resource Enhancement application for water development of two livestock watering wells. Susie Downs moved to approve the Downs application as presented. Doug Horner second. Sharon Lovitt recused herself from the meeting.

Anna presented a Resource Enhancement application for a livestock watering system to include the well drilling, solar pumping plant and tire tank. Doug Horner moved to approve the Lovitt application as presented. Susie Downs second, motion carried.

Sharon Lovitt rejoined the meeting.

Susie Downs moved to reimburse the Grant and Shepherd WyRED registrations and to reimburse Morgan Shepherd for the travel of 782 miles at 56 cents/per. Sharon Lovitt second, motion carried.

Michelle and Anna reported on the use of the Stream Trailer noting that Anna has done an education event with the 4-H Cloverbud Group and will have the trailer available during the Converse County Fair and Kolton's Karnival on July 22, 2021. Plans are also being made to have the stream trailer in use during the week of Wyoming State Fair in cooperation with the Wyoming Natural Resource Foundation.

New Business

The Annual BBQ and Awards Night is scheduled for July 15, 2021. The Ruthe James Williams Center has been reserved and the Saggy Bottom Boys will be providing entertainment. Nominations for the 2021 awards were discussed. Susie Downs moved to present the following awards: Cooperator of the Year-Gary Shatto; Lifetime Conservation Award-Tim and Dawn Pexton; Appreciation Award-Holly Richardson; Windbreak Planter – Joe Emily. Doug Horner second, motion carried. A reminder was made that the July board meeting will be held prior to the BBQ and will start at 4 p.m.

Other Business or Correspondence

A retirement party for Tim Schroeder will be held on July 31st at Cooper's Arena starting at 2 p.m. The 2021 Household Hazardous Waste Day is scheduled for September 25, 2021.

Seeing no further business, Shelly Falkenburg adjourned the meeting at 5:37 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Michelle Huntington