MINUTES OF THE MAY 21, 2026 MEETING OF THE
CONVERSE COUNTY CONSERVATION DISTRICT (CCCD) BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
HELD AT EWC-DOUGLAS, ROOM 133 AFTER LWG MEETING

Present: Sharon Lovitt, Shelly Falkenburg, Patricia Taboga, Stan Mitchem, Michelle Huntington, Halle Fegler, Stephanie Paul

Chairman, Sharon Lovitt, called the meeting to order at 3:23 p.m.

Supervisor Resignation

The Susan Downs resignation letter was reviewed. The supervisors were informed of the appointment process through the Board of Agriculture for the unexpired term of the urban seat. Shelly Falkenburg moved to have Stan Mitchem act as the board Treasurer. Patricia Taboga second, motion carried.

Minutes

Shelly Falkenburg moved to approve the April 16, 2026, meeting minutes as read. Patricia Taboga second, motion carried.

Treasurer's Report

The Treasurer's Report and the bills to be paid were presented. The supervisors had the opportunity to review the April bank reconciliations. Patricia Taboga moved to approve the Treasurer's Report and pay the bills. Stan Mitchem second, motion carried.

NRCS Report

Stephanie thanked the board for their participation in the Converse County Local Work Group Meeting. As the DC representative for the east side of the state, she will use their input to help shape project funding in our area.

She reported that Forrest Keizer has taken a 120-day detail as the District Conservationist for Natrona County. It is unknown when the DC job for that county will be flown.

District Report

Michelle presented eight Community Canopy applications that had public benefit verified. Patricia Taboga moved to approve the Switzer, Wood, Rutledge, Norris, Holmes, Jones, Toner and Varland applications as presented. Stan Mitchem second, motion carried.

Michelle presented three Septic Maintenance applications. Shelly Falkenburg moved to approve the Ockler, Esquibel and Haroian applications as presented. Patricia Taboga second, motion carried.

Michelle presented a Community Pride Enhancement Grant application from the Wyoming Pioneer Memorial Museum for beautification projects at the museum, Camp Douglas POW Camp Officers Club State Historic Site and the Fort Fetterman State Historic Site. Shelly Falkenburg moved to approve the grant in the amount of $2,000. Patricia Taboga second, motion carried.

Michelle presented a Community Pride Enhancement Grant application from UW-Converse County Extension for continued work on their GeoDesic and Hoop House Greenhouse structures. Shelly Falkenburg moved to approve the grant request in the amount of $3,000. Patricia Taboga second, motion carried.

Michelle provided general updates on recently completed events:

Seedling Tree Program – There were just over 1400 trees sold as well as assorted planting supplies.

Spring Well Water Testing Day – There were 107 samples submitted with only 10 of those testing positive for bacteria and no positive e-coli samples.
No-till drills – Maintenance and parts procurement continues on both drills. It was noted that the producers are very appreciative of having the equipment available for rental.
2026 Stewardship Week Poster Contest – There were 192 posters submitted for judging. The winners were:
Grade K-1:

3rd Place: Karson Addleman – White School
2nd Place: MK Jestes – White School
1st Place: Hazen Cozzens – Home School

Grade 2-3:

3rd Place: Joey Halquist – Shawnee Rural School
2nd Place: Drew Jestes – White School
1st Place: Hailey Carter – White School

Grade 4-6:

3rd Place: Elysebeth Paisley – Douglas Middle School
2nd Place: Tate Cozzens – Home School
1st Place: Cade Cozzens – Home School

Grade 7-9:

3rd Place: Tinley Buffington – Douglas Middle School
2nd Place: James Reed – Dry Creek School
1st Place: Averie Cozzens – Home School

Grade 10-12:

2nd Place: Emberly Lawrence – Glenrock JR SR School
1st Place: Abigail Ostrander – Home School

Old Business

The draft FY 2026/2027 Budget was reviewed for the second time with the most notable change being the addition of funds for replacing the shed. Board supervisors will have another opportunity for review and discussion before final adoption at the June meeting. No action was taken.

New Business

The Wyoming Department of Agriculture Intent to Use Lab Funds was reviewed. The board elected to not use the funds in Converse County and have the $3882 reallocated to other conservation districts. Chairman Lovitt signed the document as required.
Ideas for developing a cost-share program for fire response resources for rural landowners were discussed. No action was taken.

Other Business and Correspondence

Upcoming:

- May 25th and 26th, 2026 – Office Closed for Memorial Day
- June 18, 2026 – CCCD Board Meeting – 4:30 p.m.
- June 19, 2026 – Office Closed – Juneteenth
- July 16, 2026 – CCCD Board Meeting and Annual BBQ and Awards Night
- September 19, 2026 – Household Hazardous Waste Day
- Week of November 16, 2026 – WACD Annual Convention held jointly with Wyoming Water Association

Seeing no further business, Sharon Lovitt adjourned the regular meeting at 4:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Michelle Huntington