

SWEETWATER COUNTY CONSERVATION DISTRICT (SWCCD)
MONTHLY BOARD MEETING
Thursday July 1, 2021- 4:00 p.m.
550 Uinta Drive, Suite E, Green River, WY 82935

REGULAR MONTHLY BOARD MEETING

Call to Order

Tom Burris, Chairman called to order the meeting of the Sweetwater County Conservation District (SWCCD) at 4:00 PM on **July 1, 2021**, at the Sweetwater County Conservation District, 550 Uinta Drive, Suite E, Green River, WY 82935

Roll Call and Pledge of Allegiance

Tom Burris, Chairman conducted a roll call and introductions. The following persons were present.

Tom Burris, Chairman and Rural Supervisor (SWCCD)
Jean Dickinson, Treasurer and Urban Supervisor, (SWCCD)
Stephanie Anderson, Secretary and Rural Supervisor (SWCCD)
Karen Pecheny, District Clerk (SWCCD)
Dwight Bliss, Associate Supervisor (SWCCD)
James Ramsay, public
Roy Lloyd, (SWC Commission)

Absent: Larry Folks Rural Supervisor (SWCCD)

Minutes

A **motion** was made by Stephanie Anderson, seconded by Jean Dickinson, to approve the June 9, 2021 regular minutes as written. Motion carried.

A **motion** was made by Jean Dickinson, seconded by Stephanie Anderson, to approve the June 24, 2021 special meeting minutes as written. Motion carried.

Agenda

A **motion** was made by Jean Dickinson, seconded by Stephanie Anderson, to approve the agenda as presented. Motion carried.

Treasurer's Report

A **motion** was made by Jean Dickinson, seconded by Stephanie Anderson, to approve the Treasurer's Report, and pay the bills in the amount of \$6,712.59. Motion carried.

The SWCCD Budget Hearing will be held on Wednesday, July 14, at 10:00 a.m. Staff will send out a reminder.

Special Reports

Roy Lloyd, SWC Commission

Lloyd reported on the county budget and said most agencies were cut 20% across the board. The Commission will start to call in each agency to discuss how we can make budget cuts in the future and the need to start prioritizing.

Jeff Lewis, NRCS (written report)

Conservation Planning

Courtney has been doing the resource inventory on the Ramsey Ranch. NRCS has a big pipeline project (~24 cfs) for the Midland Ranch to survey and do a design on. This will be CTA only as the Midland Ranch is not seeking cost share for the project. NRCS will be meeting with a couple of producers on the Henrys Fork for potential 2022 EQIP projects in the next couple of weeks.

Farm Bill Activities

All the 2021 application are now funded and obligated. Final designs are either completed or are nearly completed. Construction will start after July 15th.

Meetings Coming Up

In the next two months we have quite a bit of training to attend to. The training will vary from program training, cultural resources training, to UTV/ATV training.

Staff Coordination

Mike Ivers is the new Civil Engineering Technician (CET) in Rock Springs. Mike has an engineering degree but came onboard as a CET. Mike will be supervised by the Area Engineer in Riverton and is part of the engineering staff serving the Rocky Mountain area, but is stationed in the Rock Springs Field Office. The Area Engineer along with myself will be providing training for Mike.

Unfinished Business

Drop Structure Maintenance

Folks said he would make contact with D&D Oilfield Services/Contractor regarding the drop structure maintenance.

Wyoming Department of Agriculture (WDA) Killpecker Creek Final Grant Report

A **motion** was made by Jean Dickinson, seconded by Stephanie Anderson, to ratify the report that was submitted. Motion carried.

Office Update

Staff will ask about getting a key to the IT closet. (to do the District's backups)

Annual Awards Program August 13 deadline

The Board discussed some potential names to submit for the annual award program.

- Corey Roberts – Coalition of Local Governments - Cooperator.
- Jennifer Huttinga (Dutton) – Farm Service Agency – Technician.
- Senator Hicks, Senator Dockstader, Representative Summers.
- Bill Schell – Daggett County (recently retired)
- Send write ups to staff to fit into the various categories.

New Business

Pre-Decisional -CLG comments

Matter of the Commission's consideration of the implementation of HB 200.

A **motion** was made by Jean Dickinson, seconded by Stephanie Anderson, to ratify the comments that were submitted. Motion carried.

Small Water Project Program Legislation Amendment

The 41 -day comment period is no longer required and shall not apply to a small water project unless the project sponsor determines the project meets the definition of "public work."

Little Snake River Conservation District (LSRCD) and Sweetwater County Conservation District Boundary Discussion

Board members from Sweetwater and Little Snake River discussed in a work session a potential boundary change. Both Boards would have to agree to the new boundary changes by majority vote. Then the request would go to the Wyoming Board of Agriculture for approval. The Secretary of State then issues a corrected certificate from the Wyoming Board of Agriculture. The registered voters that are in the new boundary lines of the LSRCD would vote on a mill levy. The boundary change does not affect Sweetwater County's budget / does not change Sweetwater County's tax base. It does add 1 mil (property tax) to LSRCD. (if passed by vote)

Supervisors Reports

Tom Burris

- Reported and helped with the SWCCD office move from Rock Springs to Green River. The District thanks Sweetwater County fire for all their help with the move.

Jean Dickinson

- Attended the Coalition of Local Governments (CLG) meeting in Green River. Dickinson reported that Eric South was elected as the new CLG Chairman and Tom Noble as Vice-Chairman.

Stephanie Anderson

- Attended the Scenic Byways – which is now the “American Byways” ribbon cutting ceremony, and said it was a very good turnout. (east side of the Flaming Gorge)

Staff Reports

Karen Pecheny

- Submitted the final report to Wyoming Department of Agriculture for the Killpecker Creek Headcuts and Assessment Grant. The grant expired June 30, 2021.
- Working on entering the FY 2022 budget in QuickBooks and the state final budget form.
- Reported on the SWCCD office move that was done by the Sweetwater County Fire Warden and crew.

Information and Education

Drought information & resources were handed out. New drought website: www.drought.wyo.gov

Jean Dickinson nominated Henry Bliss to the At-Large Supervisor position, vacated by Joshua Coursey.

After discussion:

A **motion** was made by Jean Dickinson, seconded by Stephanie Anderson, to appoint Henry Bliss to the At-Large Supervisor position. Motion carried. Staff will send the paperwork to the Wyoming Department of Agriculture.

A **motion** was made by Stephanie Anderson, to adjourn the meeting at 5:48 p.m. A bill pay meeting will be held on August 5. Staff will send out a reminder and advertise. The next regular Board meeting will be held on Thursday, August 12, 2021, at 4:00 p.m. with at 2:00 p.m. work session with the Little Snake River Conservation District at the Sweetwater County Conservation District Office 550 Uinta Drive, Suite E, Green River, WY.

/s/ _____ Chairman

/s/ _____ Secretary

//Submitted by Karen Pecheny/