

SWEETWATER COUNTY CONSERVATION DISTRICT (SWCCD)
MONTHLY BOARD MEETING
Thursday April 7, 2022- 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 4:20 PM on **April 7, 2022**, 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)
Henry Bliss, At-Large Supervisor, (SWCCD)
Karen Pecheny, District Administrator, (SWCCD)
Jeff Lewis, Natural Resource Conservation Service (NRCS)

Absent: Larry Folks, and Stephanie Anderson, Rural Supervisors

Minutes

A **motion** was made by Jean Dickinson, seconded by Henry Bliss, to approve the March 3, 2022 regular and work session minutes as written. Motion carried.

Agenda

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

Treasurer's Report

A **motion** was made by Jean Dickinson, seconded by Henry Bliss, to approve the Treasurer's Report, and pay the bills in the amount of \$23,452.96. Motion carried.

Sweetwater County Budget FY 2023

The budget is due to the county on Friday, April 8, by noon. After discussion, the District reviewed the foundation question. The District does not have a foundation, but has access to several foundations. Staff will answer question # 20 as a "No" and remove the cash and investments on the spreadsheet.

A **motion** was made by Henry Bliss, seconded by Jean Dickinson, to authorize sending the FY 2023 budget to the county by the April 8, deadline. Motion carried.

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

EDE Draft Budget Proposal for FY 2023

Staff will get with EDE on prioritizing their budget proposal.

Unfinished Business

Bitter-Killpecker Creek Update and Actions

Drop Structure Update

Larry sent an email from Brian Englehart, D&D, and explained that D&D is behind schedule and shorthanded. Brian will keep Larry informed as to when he plans on starting the repair work. Larry said there has been some water flow, but no additional erosion has been noticed on the drop structure.

A **motion** was made by Jean Dickinson, seconded by Henry Bliss, to accept the quote from D&D Construction and the continued maintenance. Motion carried.

EDE Consultants, Bitter Creek Watershed-Based Plan Management Measures #4 Update

EDE Consultants providing an updated memo to the Board on information collected on management measure #4 for livestock along the reaches of Bitter and Killpecker Creeks. The Use Pattern Analysis (UPA) seeks to identify areas in the watershed where livestock may concentrate along streams.

The Bitter Creek Watershed-Based Plan Management Measures which were/are underway for 2021 and 2022 per the plan implementation schedule. Memos previously transmitted were for management measures:

- 6 – Assess BLM Wild Horse BMP Options
- 7 – Evaluate Pet Waste BMP Options
- 8 – Evaluate Septic System BMP Options

EDE Consultants, Bitter Creek Watershed-Based Plan Management Measures #6 Update

The memo provided an update to the SWCCD Board on the status of the Bitter Creek Watershed-Based Plan Management Measure 6. (assessment of wild horse BMP options). The management measure will help identify areas in the watershed where wild horses and wildlife may concentrate along streams.

Information collected to date does not provide a lot of options for implementing BMP that specifically target any potential wild horse related sources to the *E. coli* impairments, and it appears probable none may be identified.

As efforts are continued to obtain information on potential livestock *E. Coli* BMP it is assumed that some of these will share applicability as wild horse and wildlife source controls as well.

EDE Memo SWCCD Goals and the Rock Springs Bitter Creek Reconstruction Work 3-22-22

Implementation of the City of Rock Spring's Reconstruction Plan for Bitter Creek that may assist SWCCD in achieving several watershed improvements goals. This memo will help prompt discussion at the upcoming BKWAG Meeting.

Little Snake River Conservation District (LSRCD) Boundary Discussion

Jean Dickinson relayed that she spoke with Larry Hicks and he is working on the resolutions and will be doing some more ground truthing in Sweetwater County. Larry will talk to a County Commissioner and staff was directed to add the boundary discussion to the May 5, Board meeting and work session.

Community Enhancement Grants

The Board received three grants:

1. Simply Sunshine Nursery (work with the local Vo-Ag students regarding using animal manure for fertilizer)
2. City of Rock Springs Parks Department (falls in line with our Bitter Creek Watershed Based Plan)
3. Green River FFA Program (add marketing and local raised food)

A **motion** was made by Jean Dickinson, seconded by Henry Bliss, to approve all three grant applications in the amount of \$12,809.49. Motion carried.

New Business

Pre-Decisional – Coalition of Local Governments (CLG) Comments

- Wyoming Public Service Commission's Notice of Application of Rocky Mtn Power for Review on the 2020 Decommissioning Studies and Incremental Decommissioning Costs. 3-4-22

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

Wyoming Department of Agriculture (WDA) Water Quality Grant RFP

The WDA advertised the 1st RFP of the fiscal biennium (2023-24) for the WDA Water Quality Program. This RFP will be open until 5 pm on May 2, 2022

A **motion** was made by Jean Dickinson, seconded by Henry Bliss, to apply and submit the WDA grant. The grant is due on May 2. Motion carried.

Wyoming Department of Agriculture (WDA) Conservation District Risk Management and Bonding Forms

The Board discussed and signed the Bonding and the Risk Management Forms. The forms are required by the Wyoming Department of Agriculture, as part of their financial policy requirements and oversight.

Sweetwater County Draft Federal Land Use Plan

The Board received the draft Sweetwater County Land Use Plan and after discussion.

A **motion** was made by Jean Dickinson, seconded by Henry Bliss, to direct legal to provide comments from the District to Sweetwater County on the Plan. Motion carried.

Supervisors Reports

Tom Burris

- Attended the Coalition of Local Governments (CLG) meeting in Kemmerer.

Jean Dickinson

- Attended the Coalition of Local Governments (CLG) meeting in Kemmerer and worked with legal on the IRP comments to Rocky Mountain. Power. The District received the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) on the Ashley National Forest.

Henry Bliss

- Reported on working with staff on the county fiscal year 2023 budget form.
- Working on hooking up components for teleconference capabilities.

Staff Reports

Karen Pecheny

- Worked on the county budget form for fiscal year 2023.
- Worked on preparations for the Bitter Killpecker Creek Watershed Advisory Group (BKWAG) Meeting to be held on April 13 at the White Mountain Library from 9-12pm.
- Submitted the SWCCD Certified List of Officers for election filing for supervisors to be placed on the Sweetwater County ballot.
- Worked on talking points for the budget work session for the Sweetwater County Commission and attended the budget work session.
- Continuing to work on registering in SAM (for federal grants and reporting)
- Received the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) for the Ashley National Forest (ANF).
- Worked on the Wyoming Department of Agriculture (WDA) Bitter Creek water quality grant.

Public Comments

No Public Comments

Information and Education

Information was included in supervisors' packets.

A **motion** was made by Henry Bliss moved, to adjourn the meeting at 5:30 p.m. The next meeting will be held on Thursday, May 5, 2022, at 4:00 p.m. at the SWCCD Office, 550 Uinta Drive, Suite E, Green River, WY.

/s/ John Burrus Chairman

/s/ Stephani Anderson Secretary
//Submitted by Karen Pecheny/