

SWEETWATER COUNTY CONSERVATION DISTRICT (SWCCD)  
MONTHLY BOARD MEETING  
Thursday May 5, 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 4:10 PM on **May 5, 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)  
Stephanie Anderson, Secretary and Rural Supervisor (SWCCD)  
Larry Folks, Rural Supervisor (SWCCD)  
Henry Bliss, At-Large Supervisor (SWCCD)  
Karen Pecheny, District Administrator (SWCCD)  
Randy Shipman, Associate Supervisor (SWCCD)  
Jeff Lewis, District Conservationist (NRCS)  
Jack Cobb, Chairman (LSRCD)  
Tom Chant, Member (LSRCD)  
Larry Hicks, Natural Resource Coordinator (LSRCD)

**Minutes**

A **motion** was made by Jean Dickinson, seconded by Larry Folks, to approve the April 7, 2022 regular and work session minutes as written. Motion carried.

**Agenda**

A **motion** was made by Jean Dickinson, seconded by Larry Folks, to modify the agenda and move the boundary discussion to the top of Unfinished Business and approve the agenda as presented. Motion carried.

**Treasurer's Report**

A **motion** was made by Jean Dickinson, seconded by Larry Folks, to approve the Treasurer's Report, and pay the bills in the amount of \$23,577.89. Motion carried.

**Reconciliation Report**

A **motion** was made by Jean Dickinson, seconded by Larry Folks, to approve the reconciliation report for January, February and March 2022. Motion carried.

### Department of Audit

Staff will be working on the FY 2023 proposed budget to the state. Budget is due June 1, to the State and County.

### Sweetwater County Budget FY 2023

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

### Special Reports

#### Jeff Lewis, NRCS

- Handed out the WY NRCS Weekly Snowpack/SWE Report.
- Finishing up with contracts and meeting with producers.

#### Randy Shipman, SWCCD Associate Supervisor

- Spoke about the President's Executive Order (EO) 14072 "*Strengthening the Nation's Forests, Communities, and Local Economies*" as it relates to future legislated carbon credits. Shipman also referenced the restoring science to tackle climate crisis as it relates to public health and the environment. This is an order reversing everything the previous administration had put into place and allows the process to turn BLM/USFS etc. on their heads. It provides for an environmental justice requirement and to make certain that takes place, the DOJ was ordered to make it happen through their new environmental justice arm. Then, as a progression of calming discontent, the newly activated Ministry of Truth has been put into place.

### Unfinished Business

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

After a work session today, Chairman Burriss initiated the procedure to submit the petition of the proposed boundary change between Sweetwater County Conservation District and Little Snake River Conservation District and submit the petition to the Wyoming Board of Agriculture.

A **motion** was made by Jean Dickinson, seconded by Larry Folks, to submit the petition to the Wyoming Board of Agriculture for the transfer of lands from Sweetwater County Conservation District (SWCCD) and Little Snake River Conservation District (LSRCD). Pursuant to: SS 11-16-115. Districts; transfer of land; division of consolidation; change in name. See attachment "A" dated May 5, 2022. *Lands to be transferred from Sweetwater County Conservation District to the Little Snake River Conservation District*, along with the Sweetwater County Conservation District minutes and authorize the Chairman to sign the amended petition that adds and/or under roman numeral i. ii. Motion carried.

Staff will send signed copies of the petition and minutes to the Little Snake River Conservation District.

### Bitter-Killpecker Creek Update and Actions

#### Drop Structure Update

Folks gave an update and explained that D&D Construction would like to have a meeting with Mike Brown, IME Engineer, about how to move forward with repair work. There are erosion concerns and washing underneath the concrete.

Larry will let Tom Burris know what day the meeting will be held.

#### Wild Horse FEIS and RMP Amendment – Publication on May 6, 2022

Information was included in Supervisor's packets. CLG is working on comments.

#### Re-schedule BKWAG Meeting

After discussion the Board selected Wednesday, May 18, 2022. Staff will work on sending out a new agenda and informing the committee.

### New Business

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

- Ashley National Forest Scoping Notice for the Proposed Forest-wide Prescribed Fire Rest. Proj. 4-8-22
- Proposed rule for Natl. Emission Standard for Hazardous Air Pollutants: Coal and Oil-fired Electric Utility Steam Units 4-11-22
- Flaming Gorge NRA Management Plan Revision Draft Management Direction 4-20-22
- WY Public Service Commission's Notice of Application of RMP to Establish Intermediate Low-carbon Energy Portfolio Standards.

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

#### Insurance Renewal – May open enrollment for Delta Dental

May is open enrollment for Delta Dental, there is a six-month waiting period for all new employees and supervisors.

### Supervisors Reports

#### Tom Burris

- Reported on and attended the Coalition of Local Governments (CLG) meeting in Lyman. There was discussion on WOTUS and the Rawlins RMP.

#### Jean Dickinson

- Attended the Coalition of Local Governments (CLG) meeting in Lyman and worked on comments for the Flaming Gorge and on the Ashley National Forest.
- Legal is working on comments on behalf of SWCCD for the Sweetwater County Federal Land Use Plan.
- There will be Cooperator Agency Meetings for the Ashley National Forest on June 15-16.
- The next CLG Meeting will be held on Thursday, May 26, in Lyman.

#### Stephanie Anderson

- Working on the Flaming Gorge Management Plan and getting ready for the drought response.
- Anderson will contact everyone about upcoming Forest Service meetings.

#### Larry Folks

- Met with the contractor and engineer on the Drop Structure Project.

#### Henry Bliss

- Working on a database in Microsoft Access for all the District's passwords.

### **Staff Reports**

#### Karen Pecheny

- Working on the Department of Audit budget form. The proposed budget is due by June, 1, 2022.
- Submitted the SWCCD Draft Budget to Sweetwater County for fiscal year 2023.
- Updated QuickBooks to the 2022 version, this software enables payroll updates and tax table updates.
- The trees were delivered on April 27. Staff has been busy sorting and delivering trees to customers. The District sold 1,065.00 trees.
- Staff will distribute tree information and seedling trees at the "Trees for Recycling" event which will be held on Saturday, May 7, at the Ray Lovato Recycling Center in Rock Springs. Rick Breininger, SWCCD Associate Supervisor, will help with the event.
- Worked on and submitted the Wyoming Department of Agriculture (WDA) Bitter Creek Water Quality Grant. (2023-24)

#### Public Comments

No Public Comments

Information and Education

Information was included in supervisors' packets.

A **motion** was made by Stephanie Anderson, to adjourn the meeting at 7:30 p.m. The next meeting will be held on Thursday, June 2, 2022, at 4:00 p.m. at the SWCCD Office, 550 Uinta Drive, Suite E, Green River, WY.

/s/ Tom Burris Chairman

/s/ Stephanie Anderson Secretary

//Submitted by Karen Pecheny/