

SWEETWATER COUNTY CONSERVATION DISTRICT (SWCCD)  
MONTHLY BOARD MEETING

Thursday November 3, 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 4:00 PM on **November 3, 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)  
Larry Folks, Vice-Chair and Rural Supervisor (SWCCD)  
Stephanie Anderson, Secretary and Rural Supervisor (SWCCD)  
Henry Bliss, At-Large Supervisor (SWCCD)  
Karen Pecheny, District Administrator (SWCCD)  
Jeff Lewis, District Conservationist (NRCS)  
Rick Breininger, SWCCD Associate Supervisor

**Minutes**

A **motion** was made by Jean Dickinson, seconded by Larry Folks, to approve the October 6, 2022 regular minutes as written. Motion carried.

**Agenda**

A **motion** was made by Jean Dickinson, seconded by Larry Folks, to approve the agenda. Motion carried.

**Treasurer's Report**

A **motion** was made by Stephanie Anderson, seconded by Larry Folks, to approve the Treasurer's Report, and pay the bills in the amount of \$19,356.38. Motion carried.

**Special Reports**

Jeff Lewis, NRCS

**Farm Bill Activities**

- Currently taking applications for the 2023 signup. The application deadline is **November 23, 2022**.

#### Project Activities

- Currently have a project with Uinta County Conservation District and Wyoming Water Development for building an irrigation dam for a producer on the Henrys Fork to supplement irrigation water. (Irrigation and Hoop Houses)

#### Meetings Coming Up

- WACD Convention December 5<sup>th</sup> through the 8<sup>th</sup>.

#### Staff Coordination

- Courtney and Kevin have been working on getting the irrigation applications surveyed.

#### Non-Program Activities

- Currently have a project with UCCD and WWDC for building an irrigation dam for a producer on the Henrys Fork to supplement irrigation water. NRCS is the technical provider for this project. The funding is coming from other sources.

### **Unfinished Business**

#### Bitter Creek Drop Structure Maintenance

Larry Folks met with Larry Hicks and Bryan Englehart. The recommendation from their engineer is to fix the upper drop and start excavating the upper concrete wall and add bentonite in the lower reach.

At that point next spring after run-off, go in with a video scope and look at the spillway and check the erosion and make a decision after that. Folks will talk to D&D about getting an updated bid.

A **motion** was made by Jean Dickinson, seconded by Larry Folks, to authorize moving ahead on the project, based on a revised bid from D&D and new information from Larry Hicks regarding bentonite costs. Motion carried.

#### Department of Revenue/Tax Division Boundary Map

The Department of Revenue tax boundary map was signed and submitted to the Department of Revenue.

A **motion** was made by Jean Dickinson, seconded by Larry Folks, to ratify the Department of Revenue Tax Division Boundary Map. Motion carried.

#### WACD Annual Convention - December 5 – 8 Casper

Information and agenda for the Convention included in Supervisors Packets. Contact staff if you would like to attend Convention.

#### Conservation District Sign – HWY 414

After discussion, the Board would like to do an inventory of signs that are already in the county. Stephanie will work with staff on the ROW for the HWY 414 sign. The Board would like to do all the signs at the same time for cost effectiveness. Get pictures and comments back for the next meeting.

## **New Business**

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

- BLM's Comments on Notice of Intent to Prepare and EA for the Vermillion Basin Infill Project Plan of Development.

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

## **WDA Education Funding and Pursue Local Funding**

The Board discussed the Wyoming Department of Agriculture (WDA) State Funding requirements for Pursuing Local Funding and Education Function for Elected Officials. The Board reviewed and signed both letters. Staff will send onto WDA as it is a requirement for financial and records reporting.

## **Cooperator Agency Memorandum of Understanding - BLM Wyoming State Office Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) to Amend Management Plans for Greater Sage Grouse and Sagebrush Habitats**

The Board received the MOU. Staff sent to legal for review. Legal made the changes and will submit to the BLM State Office. The contacts will be Jean Dickinson, Danielle Bettencourt, and staff.

## **Supervisors Reports**

### **Jean Dickinson**

- Reviewed comments on the oil and gas leases and worked with Kent Connelly on keeping up with reviews along with the MOU EIS for the Greater Sage Grouse & Sagebrush Habitat.

### **Stephanie Anderson**

- Reported on conservation district boundary signs and the county line sign on Hwy 414. After discussion the district will start an inventory to check the signs on highways and where signs maybe needed/updated.
- Reached out to Uinta County and was sent links to documents regarding the Colorado River Compact and information on the Colorado River. Staff will look into where the best placement for the links should go on the District's website.

### **Larry Folks**

- Met with Larry Hicks and Bryan Englehart on the Drop Structure.
- Met with Mike Brown, engineer and John Lauletta of Asset Guard. The company sells pre-fabricated liners for canals, ditches etc. (like RiNo lining) Larry did not think the liners would work well on the drop structure project.

### **Henry Bliss**

- Worked with the electrical contractor and made new connections with the TV and camera to help with audio and visual conference call meeting needs.

**Staff Reports**

**Karen Pecheny**

- Working on the state funding checklist items that are required by WDA for financial reporting by December 30.
- Continued to work on the FY 2022 Annual Report and Plan.
- Working on the WDA Watershed-Based Planning and Data Collection Final Grant Report. The report is due December 30.
- Researching the 2023 seedling tree season. Most of the other districts are going with Lincoln Oaks Nursery, Bismark, North Dakota. After discussion, the District will go with the Lincoln Oaks Nursery which includes the bare root variety. Staff and Bliss will come up with a price to help off-set shipping costs.

**Public Comments**

No public comments.

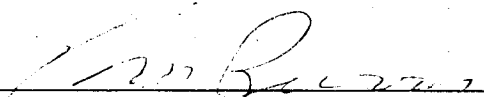
**Information & Education**

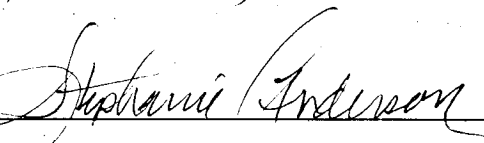
Information was included in Supervisor packets.

**Gator raffle tickets for side by side**

A **motion** was made by Jean Dickinson, seconded by Larry Folks to purchase the remaining tickets for the side by side from the District's tree account. Motion carried.

A **motion** was made by Larry Folks, to adjourn the meeting at 6:05 p.m. The next regular Board meeting will be held on December 1, 2022, at 4:00 p.m. at the Sweetwater County Conservation District Office 550 Uinta Drive, Suite E, Green River, WY.

/s/  Chairman

/s/  Secretary

//Submitted by Karen Pecheny/