

SWEETWATER COUNTY CONSERVATION DISTRICT (SWCCD)
MONTHLY BOARD MEETING
Thursday August 3, 2023 – 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 6, 2023**.

Roll Call and Pledge of Allegiance

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

Tom Burris, Chairman and Rural Supervisor (SWCCD)
Larry Folks, Vice-Chairman and Rural Supervisor (SWCCD)
Stephanie Anderson, Secretary and Rural Supervisor (SWCCD)
Henry Bliss, Member and At-Large Supervisor, (SWCCD)
Karen Pecheny, District Administrator, (SWCCD)
Rick Breininger, Associate Supervisor (SWCCD)

Absent: Jean Dickinson, Urban Supervisor, (SWCCD)

Minutes

A **motion** was made by Henry Bliss, seconded by Stephanie Anderson, to approve the August 3, 2023, minutes as written. Motion carried.

Agenda

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

Treasurer's Report

A **motion** was made by Larry Folks, seconded by Henry Bliss, to approve the Treasurer's Report, and pay the bills in the amount of \$16,891.17. Motion carried.

Budget Hearing Minutes

A **motion** was made by Stephanie Anderson, seconded by Henry Bliss, to approve the budget hearing minutes of July 13, 2023. Motion carried.

Unfinished Business

SWCCD Letter to Governor Gordon regarding UP Railroad lands for sale

The SWCCD letter was submitted to Governor Gordon and the response was received from Randall Luthi, Chief Energy Advisor.

“Thank you for the letter regarding the potential sale of the UP-Land Sale. On behalf of the Governor, our Chief of Staff, Drew Perkins did respond the overall request, but said the State of Wyoming would need more time and more information before deciding to pursue any purchase. In addition, the State Legislature would need to be involved and be supportive of such a potential purchase.”

Supervisor’s Report

Henry Bliss

- Bliss reported he attended the SWC Commission meeting on the Forest Service Collaborative discussion that was given by Rich Stem, CLG consultant, regarding Collaboratives.
- Bliss also met with Stem after the meeting and it was suggested that the District should work with Sweetwater County Commission, instead of going out of their own. Stem also said that way there is no overlap issues and by working together there would not be a redundancy.
- Discussion included funding as it relates to Bitter Creek. Bitter Creek flows into the Green River and then into the Flaming Gorge, which would make Bitter Creek eligible for funding through the collaborative.
- Bliss also spoke with SWC Commissioner Rob Slaughter pertaining to SWC participation in a collaborative.
- Other discussions included working to combine the Flaming Gorge with the Ashley National Forest and who would be the representative from the District for the collaborative.
- Bliss is also working with staff on the Internal Audit and Annual Census Report. The report is due September 30.

Larry Folks

- Folks reported that the creek was dry and that D&D Construction was going to go out to the drop structure this Friday, but now there is too much rain and mud. The contractor will be out to assess the area as soon as the creek dries up again.

Stephanie Anderson

- Anderson reported that she listened in on the SWC Commission Forest Service Collaborative meeting that recently held.
- Anderson also reported the National Recreation Area (NRA) Management Plan primarily focuses on Recreation.

Tom Burris

- Burris commented that it makes sense to work together with the county on the Forest Service Collaborative, instead of going out separately.

A **motion** was made by Larry Folks, to adjourn the meeting at 4:21p.m. The next meeting will be held on Thursday, September 7, 2023, 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/