

SWEETWATER COUNTY CONSERVATION DISTRICT (SWCCD)
MONTHLY BOARD MEETING
Thursday March 6, 2025 - 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 **March 6, 2025**, 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 people were present.

Tom Burris, Chairman and Rural Supervisor (SWCCD)
Larry Folks, Vice-Chairman and Rural Supervisor (SWCCD)
Jean Dickinson, Treasurer and Urban Supervisor, (SWCCD)
Stephanie Anderson, Secretary and Rural Supervisor (SWCCD)
Henry Bliss, Supervisor (SWCCD)
Cherette Bonomo, USDA Ashley National Forest
Karen Pecheny, District Administrator (SWCCD)

Minutes

A **motion** was made by Jean Dickinson, seconded by Stephanie Anderson, to approve the February 6, 2025, regular 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 \$8,590.48. Motion carried.

SWC Budget Schedule FY 2026

Staff handed out the budget schedule for FY 2026. Forms out March 10 / Budget due April 25.

Staff will schedule a budget work session for April 3, Board Meeting.

Special Reports (written report)

Tanner Liby, District Conservationist, (NRCS)

Technical Assistance provided as follows:

- CTA-2025-001: 1 IRA-CSP contract submitted for modification (removal of fence).
- CTA-2025-002: Completed assessing and ranking the remaining EQIP applications for the February 28th ranking deadline.
- CTA-2025-003: Working with State Office on request from BLM for the NRCS to determine the continued need for Right-of-Way for two water monitoring wells for the 80's Eden Valley Project.

EQIP Contracts

- EQIP-2025-001: Working with producers and NRCS Engineer on designs for the application's conservation water plan.
- Conservation Education/Outreach: Attended the Lower Green River Multiagency Coordination Meeting.
- Other: Monthly DC Teleconference (Virtual)
- Monthly EQIP/CSP Office Hours Training (virtual)

Cherette Bonomo

Bonomo reported that the Forest Service received two objections to the Flaming Gorge National Recreation Area Plan.

Unfinished Business

Bitter-Killpecker Creek Update and Actions

Drop Structure

- Folks reported they are waiting on the testing results.
- Staff will schedule a work session with the Little Snake River Conservation District on any updates for the drop structure.

Schedule BKWAG Meeting (May 14, 2024)

- The Board narrowed the dates to May 13 or 14.
- Staff will contact Russ at WWC Engineering.
- Norm Hargis has indicated he will be available for the meeting and any pathogen sampling.

Department of Revenue – Tax Year 2025

- Received the 2025 Department of Revenue Compliance Letter. The district is compliant for tax year 2025.

Local Work Group Meeting

After discussion, the Board would like to hold the Local Work Group Meeting on May 8. Staff will contact Tanner Liby, NRCS on the May 8 meeting date.

New Business

Pre-Decisional – CLG Comments Re:

- Proposed Rule to revise Designation of Critical Habitat for the Contiguous U.S Coalition of Local Government's Objection to the Flaming Gorge National Recreation Area Management Plan 2-24-25.
- E-Bike Use Designation on Select Jackson Area Trails Draft Environmental Assessment 2-24-25.

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

Land & Resource Use Plan & Policy Update (LRUPP)

The LRUPP expires 12-30-25.

A **motion** was made by Jean Dickinson, seconded by Stephanie Anderson, to send legal LRUPP documents for review, i.e. missing items, changes from 2020, comments on the Rock Springs RMP and critical minerals and rare earth. Motion carried.

WACD 2025 Policy Book Review

The focus will be on 2025 sunseting policies and duplicates. Staff was directed to include the policy book for the April meeting.

Schedule SWC Commission Meeting – Present Annual Report

The Board selected Tuesday, April 15, to present the Annual Report. Staff will contact Sweetwater County.

Tom Burris

- Attended and reported on the Coalition of Local Governments (CLG) February meeting held in Lyman.
- Reported and attended the Enterprise Meeting in Rock Springs.

Jean Dickinson

- Attended and reported on the Coalition of Local Governments (CLG) February meeting held in Lyman.
- Spoke about the Bridger Teton Forest Service SWCCD MOU. Staff will work with legal on cooperator status.

Stephanie Anderson

- Anderson will meet with Pat Anderson, USGS, on challenges with the Wyoming Landscape Conservation Initiative (WLCI) on the checkerboard.
- Reported on the Grant Management Land Office (GMO) for the Wyoming Landscape Conservation Initiative (WLCI). The GMO assists with pre- and post-award grants management, associated reporting, and helps applicants manage federal deadlines and application requirements.

- Reported that the WLCI Executive Committee meeting will be held in May.

Larry Folks

- Attended and reported on the Coalition of Local Governments (CLG) meeting held in Lyman.
- Reported on and attended the Sweetwater County Commission Federal Partners meeting.
- Folks visited the drop structure several times and reported on melting ice at the structure and flowing water.

Henry Bliss

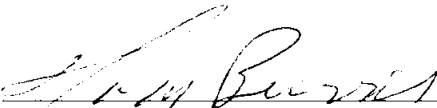
- Reported on working on the website and explained the customer now makes the changes to their website.

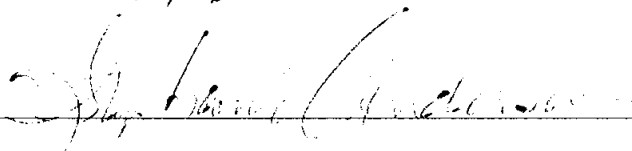
Staff Reports

Karen Pecheny

- Requested and received the remainder of the WDA Drop Structure grant funds. (5k)
- Discussed the FFA presentation. The Board decided on March 11, at 2:00 p.m.
- USFW & WACD Cooperative Agreement Draw Down Request. The USFW Partnership Project Grant with WACD was not funded and staff voided the check to the landowner. Plans for future funds for payment will be processed with a new request for reimbursement to the landowner. (if approved)
- Staff advertised the Community Enhancement Grant on various media outlets. The date for applications is due April 1, 2025.
- Handed out the Multiagency Coordination Meeting Lower Green River updates.

Larry Folks made a motion, to adjourn the meeting at 5:20 p.m. The next meeting will be held on Thursday, April 3, 2025, at 4:00 p.m. at the SWCCD Office, 550 Uinta Drive, Suite E, Green River, WY.

/s/  _____ Chairman

/s/  _____ Secretary

//Submitted by Karen Pecheny/