LCCD Public Meeting Minutes

LOCATION: Laramie County Conservation District Office
DATE: Oct-8th, 2026
TIME: 6:00 PM
Recorded by: Secretary Scott Cherek

In Attendance:
Supervisors Casey Epler, Scott Cherek, Ann Sanchez, Jay Berry.
LCCD Staff: Chris Vercelli, John Watson, Rachel Crowther, Erin Friel, Jackie
Guests: NRCS – Ali Beltran, Jesus Lopez

Monthly public meeting commenced at 6:00 PM

SPECIAL PRESENTATION –
Community Enhancement Presentations – 7 Projects up for discussion. Supervisor Epler made motion to approve all seven projects. Supervisor Sanchez seconded. Motion passed unanimously.
PROJECT STATUS – Full reports and updates provided by full staff. All projects continue to be on schedule.

- Supervisor Berry made an amended motion to contribute $750 to Laramie Rivers Conservation District for the annual convention welcome registration. Supervisor Sanchez seconded the amended motion. Motion passed unanimously.
- Project highlights: Snow capture fence construction project near completion at Moriah Ranch
- Cheatgrass Mitigation @ Curt Gowdy – ongoing. Source of funding TBD
- Finance - $30K Deposit made in Hilltop bank for next payroll period.

SUPERVISOR OVERSIGHT REPORTS

- **Treasurer** Supervisor Sanchez – Beginning Checking Account balance - $1,899,426.86, Total Income received in July – $65,631.96, Total expenses - $91,915.35. Total cash on hand on 8/31/26 is $3,274,563.05.
- **Secretary**: Supervisor Cherek – Nothing to report
- **Wildlife/Range/Special Committee:** Supervisor Crowder – Nothing to report.
- **Water:** Supervisor Epler – Updates provided on new dog track and City of Burns well development – 1,100 feet.

- **Trees:** Supervisor Berry – No updates.
- **NRCS:** Ali Bertran/Jesus Lopez – Working on resource priorities, windbreak planning, and stock water development.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM July 2026 MEETING

Supervisor Cherek moved to approve the minutes. Supervisor Sanchez seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS

- **Action Agenda 1: 2026 Juniper Replacement –** Supervisor Berry made a motion to approve the replacement of last year's juniper loss due to extreme drought conditions in May & June.

- **Action Agenda 2: 2027 Tree Purchases** - Supervisor Epler made a motion to add $10,000 for tree purchases to cover the additional trees required to replace those lost following the Spring 2026 planting due to drought conditions. Supervisor Sanchez seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

DISCUSSION: Information/Unfinished Business

- **Discussion Agenda Item I –** Supervisor Crowder updated the board on the status of the acquisition of the natural area.
- **Discussion Agenda Item II – John Eklund –** Supervisor Sanchez made a motion to spend up to $500 on a memorial for Mr. Eklund. Supervisor Cherek seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.
- **WACD Convention Sponsorship –** Supervisor Epler made a motion that LCCD become a Platinum Sponsor at the 2026 WACD State Convention in Laramie, WY, Supervisor Cherek seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

ADJOURNMENT

Supervisor Sanchez made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Motion seconded by Supervisor Cherek. Motion passed unanimously

Time of Adjournment: 8:50 PM MST

Next meeting scheduled for Thursday, November 12, 2026 @ 6:00 PM.

Jason Crowder, Chair

Scott Cherek, Secretary