

# Laramie County Conservation District

11221 U.S. Hwy. 30  
Cheyenne, WY 82009

## Regular Board Meeting

Thursday, Dec. 20<sup>th</sup>, 2018

4:00 p.m.

### Attendance

**Supervisors Present:** Tom Farrell, Chairman; Kevin Wells, Vice Chairman; Dennis Hemmer, Treasurer; Lindi Kirkbride, Secretary; Jay Berry, Member, & Ann Sanchez newly elected for 2019.

**District Employees Present:** Shaun Kirkwood, Kathy Cooney, Rex Lockman, Paul Sandler.

**Associate Supervisor:** Jim Cochran

### 1. CALL TO ORDER

At 4:14 p.m. Kevin called the board meeting to order.

### 2. Bobbie Frank-legislative discussion

Bobbie Frank presented the District with an update on the Public Records Act (Bill: 19LSO-0027) that will be before legislation in January. The bill from last year has been amended. Bobbie recommends substituting the bill or letting the current bill die. The main question being who is responsible for providing information, as several person(s) are named in the current bill, and then the penalties to those individual(s) if not providing the requested information in a given amount of time.

WACD's position is recommending that the District discuss legislation at the upcoming legislative meeting with elected officials. WACD Board of Directors has retained legal counsel to review the draft bill.

There are a couple of agencies requesting information. American Transparency is one, and if the District receives requests for information, it is advised the District provide the information in a timely manner. Openbooks.com is a website where public information is provided.

### 3. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING- Nov. 15, 2018

Kevin moved to approve the minutes from the previous meeting;  
Lindi seconded the motion. MOTION CARRIED.

### 4. TREASURER'S REPORT- Profit and Loss Statement – (Nov. 2018)

## **Dennis**

Dennis presented the Treasurer's Report and the Board recommended to submit it for audit.

### **5. PROGRAM REPORTS –**

#### **–Education (Paul)**

Paul stated he had taken classes on a field trip to the VA, and worked with Arp with the furs & skulls.

The District has also help judge 5 science fairs to date, and the draft for the Report On Progress newspaper insert has been drafted.

It was asked if more schools are participating in science fairs since the school district moved up the fairs. The staff feels about the same amount of schools participate, with a few additions being St. Mary's & Gilchrist. It was stated 4<sup>th</sup> Graders are required to have a science fair project, and 5<sup>th</sup> & 6<sup>th</sup> Graders are no longer required to do a project.

#### **-Wildlife & Range (Kevin, Rex)**

Kevin asked Rex if the District and Game & Fish are looking to tag another deer since Gal Val was lost. Rex stated the biologist that helped tag Jane Doe has left the state, so the District is working with a new biologist. Jane Doe's locations were discussed and if she had a fawn. Rex stated Jane Doe stays around the Dry Creek are between Hwy. 30 and Converse, sometimes venturing north of Dell Range. It is not certain she had a fawn.

#### **- Water (Dennis)**

No report given.

#### **- Trees (Jay, Dale, Clark)**

Shaun gave an overview of the tree program since Dale and Clark were not in attendance saying Clark is doing windbreak designs and has done some tree calls, and still learning about his position. Clark is putting together a pruning class and is hoping to hold the class at LCCC. Jim Cochran stated the Ag Department would like to do a landscaping class. Tom gave the name of the outreach person, Darlene Kaelin, at LCCC to contact.

Shaun stated windbreak designs are down about half of what they were this time last year. Shaun state Dale has taken over the living snow fence contracts.

#### **- Administration (Lindi, Kathy, and Shaun)**

Kathy gave an update on past due accounts, and also stated with the last Mill Levy funds received in December, she asked at WY Bank & Trust about securing some additional security bonds. A bond has since been received by the District.

Lindi stated she was glad Bobbie Frank has come to the meeting to inform the District on current Legislation. Lindi also asked about signage for the gutter bins that Jeff is working on with the City. Shaun stated Jeff is working on ideas to have a metal sign with the District logo and name on it that

can possibly bolt to the drain grate, and then be moved to another location if the gutter bin is relocated.

**- NRCS (Jim P)**

Conservation Plans

- Palmco Farm Management, CRPG

Dennis moved to approve the above listed Conservation Plan;  
Kevin seconded the motion. MOTION CARRIED.

**Consent Agenda Items**

**Discussion Items**

**6. The Olin Sims Memorial Endowment-Continued support?**

The endowment was discussed, and Dennis feels this needs to be tabled until the District finds out where the funds are being spent.

**7. Final audit approval-consider approving final audit report?**

Kathy stated the only difference between the draft budget presented by Rob Dickerson, RLR, LLP, and the final was the language for item #2018-04 on page 31 of the audit, stating "Management and the Board will continue to monitor compliance and work with the financial institution to ensure accounts are properly collateralized during the year".

Dennis moved to approve the Audit for FY '17-18, and the Review from RLR, LLP;  
Lindi seconded the motion. MOTION CARRIED.

**8. Crow Creek Revitalization presentation-Consider funds for Jeff to present CCR project in Washington D.C. in the amount of \$1500.00?**

Jeff's summary for funds requested was discussed and the Board feels due to the amount of the grant funding possibilities, Jeff should present the Grant Request.

Dennis moved to approve Jeff traveling to Washington D.C.;  
Lindi seconded the motion. MOTION CARRIED.

**9. Education stream trailer- Ideas from the staff and board on purchase of new stream trailer and approach of donating old one to State Fair in Douglas.**

Paul stated the current stream trailer is 16 years old, the lid is cracked and frayed. New stream trailers have steps for children to stand on, newer materials. It was suggested to donate the old stream trailer to another conservation district. From Paul's research, a new stream trailer would cost approximately \$6,000.00. To repair the current one would be about \$200.00. Paul will continue to get more estimates. Dennis stated is worth proceeding.

Lindi asked about a soils tunnels. It was stated the District has a soils tent.

## 10. Employee flextime-discussion of compressed work schedule?

There was a lot of discussion on flex time, how it affects an employee doing their job, and how it affects the moral of other employees. Dennis stated it should be up to the Manager to decide if an employee is granted flex time.

Current employee policy states an employee must ask for the Boards permission to go on flex time. The Board stated they would discuss the subject.

## 11. Other Business

Rex stated is hosting a Weed Team Meeting on January 8<sup>th</sup>, and will email an agenda to the Board members.

Jay asked were the building repairs were at. Shaun stated he had talked to Richard Rosner, the current owner, and that repairs were scheduled for next spring on the roof. The damage was not covered by insurance. Jay feels the District should pursue purchasing the building due to the amount of property. Shaun stated in his discussion with Richard that the District was not interested in purchasing the building in its current state, or with property litigation going on.

Shaun stated the January 17<sup>th</sup> Board Meeting will be election of officer's, and assignments, and asked the Board to think about what program they would like to oversee. Dennis stated he would like to remain the Treasurer, and oversee Administration. Ann Sanchez was asked if she would like to oversee the Education Program.

Lindi was presented her belt buckle by Tom as it was not in in time for the Annual Awards Banquet.


**Tom**

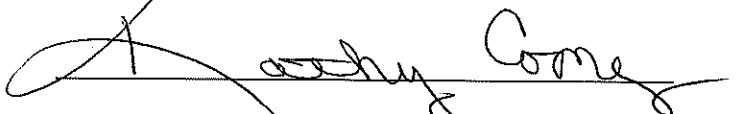
***Board member please have photo identification at the meeting for bank protocol!\****

## 12. Adjournment-Tom

Tom adjourned the meeting at 6:15 p.m.

  
Thomas E. Farrell, Chairman

  
Lindi Kirkbride, Secretary

  
Transcribed by Kathy Cooney, Financial Coordinator