

# Laramie County Conservation District

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

**Regular Board Meeting**  
**Thursday, March 21<sup>st</sup>, 2019**  
**4:00 p.m.**

## Attendance

**Supervisors Present:** Tom Farrell, Chairman; Dennis Hemmer, Treasurer; Ann Sanchez, Secretary; Jay Berry, Member.

**District Employees Present:** Shaun Kirkwood, Kathy Cooney, Jeff Geyer, Paul Sandler.

**NRCS Employees Present:** Mason Peebles

**Associate Supervisor:** Jim Cochran

## **1. CALL TO ORDER**

At 4:07 p.m. Tom called the board meeting to order.

## **2. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING- Feb. 21, 2019**

Dennis moved to approve the minutes from the previous meeting;  
Ann seconded the motion. MOTION CARRIED.

## **3. TREASURER'S REPORT- Profit and Loss Statement – (Feb. 2019)** **Dennis**

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

## **4. PROGRAM REPORTS –** **–Education (Ann, Paul)**

Paul stated he has been working at Prairie Wind and Rossman schools, he attended the Special District Training here in Cheyenne, and also WCDEA Winter Training in Saratoga this week. Paul has also has been working on the stream trailer tub.

## **- Water (Tom, Jeff)**

Jeff stated he has hydrology done, and he received the City MOU, so the gutter bin can be installed about April. Jeff stated he observed the High Point stock well being drilled, and that the Keenan & McWilliams projects are being worked on, so there are four projects moving forward.

Jeff stated the Crow Creek Revival was assisted with grant funds by the Nature Conservancy, and that Jeff attended the Trout Unlimited Expo on March 9<sup>th</sup>. Jeff also stated work on Dry Creek at Campstool is being worked on, and the County Library conversion agri-drain should be installed in about a week. Also there will be a meeting April 9<sup>th</sup> in LaGrange on the Horse Creek Watershed.

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

Jay noted after the heavy snowstorm last week, that living snow fences may see broken fences, and snapped tree limbs from the weight of the snow and cattle being able to get into the tree rows. Jay feels the District may need to increase the fencing budget for repairs of fences. Shaun stated the District works with WYDOT and State Forestry for fencing. Some discussion was held regarding the number of living snow fence the District has installed, and that after three years, the maintenance is up to the landholder, but that the District has signage on the sites, so it is the District's name the public sees.

Shaun stated Clark hosted a Pruning Class last weekend at Archer, and there were 8 participants. Shaun stated the class went very well, that the class size was perfect as everyone got hands on training, and that another class this fall was discussed. A planting class was suggested by participants, so that may be a possibility the spring of 2020.

### **- Administration (Dennis, Shaun, & Kathy)**

Kathy stated she didn't have anything to add.

Shaun stated he has attended the Supervisor's Training held in Cheyenne in February, passed his exam, and also attended the WCDEA Winter Training in Saratoga this week. Shaun stated the Board needs to have a District email address. Kathy will look into getting that set up, as any communication with the District on a personal email becomes public business. To protect Board members they should have a separate email address.

### **-NRCS (Mason Peebles)**

Mason stated the NRCS is required to host a Local Workgroup Meeting annually, and it is Laramie County's turn to host a meeting. There is not a date set as of yet, but possibly the end of April. These meetings are used as guidance for the upcoming year. Mason stated the importance of these meetings are to get public input. He noted the last meeting brought about changes to how pivot irrigation regulation were changed from noting the # of individual pivots for a landowner to the number of acres that pivot provided irrigation to.

Mason also stated the District asked him at the February meeting what the District could do for him. He asked what NRCS could do for the District? He would like to know what the local issues are for Laramie County from the District's perspective.

## **Discussion Items**

### **5. 4-H sponsorship-Consider sponsorship for 4-H/FFA projects?**

Paul stated he and Kevin met with Krisit Nagy about sponsorship for 4-H awards. Paul stated he would set up classes with the emphasis on static for 4-H members to attend. The District would

like to emphasize static projects, practices, and record keeping. The 4-H would advertise for LCCD, and get the information out to the 4-H clubs in Laramie County. Jay suggested photography of conservation projects, whether it were wildlife, tillage, tree rows, etc.

After some discussion regarding parameters for projects, Dennis suggested setting a dollar amount for this year, and honing in on categories next year as projects for the year were to have been registered in January.

Dennis moved to approve up to \$2,500.00 for as many 4-H recognitions as it would allow;  
Jay seconded the motion. MOTION CARRIED.

## 6. Other Business

Tom

**-Brent Lathrop-Nature Conservancy**-update from Nature Conservancy projects and plans for 2019 season.

Brent was in attendance at the meeting to update the District on what is going on with the Nature Conservancy. Brent stated he has been in SE WY for 12 years. His job is to re-implement policy, and preserve open space in SE WY. He is concerned with the influx of population in the area, grasslands in eastern WY, CRP that will be coming out and erosion, ground water issues, & wildlife fencing in migration corridors.

Brent has worked with Jeff to grant funds on the Crow Creek Revival project.

Jay asked Brent if there is a conservation easement on a piece of property, if the easement remains on the property? Brent said the easement is recorded and the courthouse, and yes, it remains on the property.

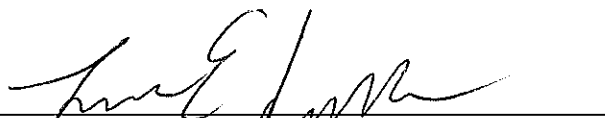
**-Plan 1** (not in attendance)-discussion/update from 1<sup>st</sup> building charrette with staff.

Shaun presented the building layout drawing from Plan 1 after the staff met with them on Monday. It is a conceptual of what the layout could be based on needs. The staff will meet with Plan 1 again on March 28 at 5 p.m. The Board is invited to that meeting as well.

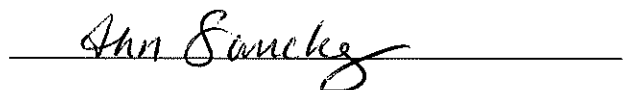
Shaun stated again this process is being done to determine what the actual design to build cost of a building would be.

## 7. Adjournment-Tom

Dennis adjourned the meeting at 5:50 p.m.



Thomas E. Farrell, Chairman



Ann Sanchez, Secretary



Transcribed by Kathy Cooney, Financial Coordinator