



247 N Clay Street • Wray, CO 80758 • 970-332-3107 ext. 101

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING MINUTES FEBRUARY 8, 2022

A meeting of the Yuma County Conservation District was called to order by President Margaret Lenz at 10:13am at the Wray Town Hall meeting room.

Those attending included: Margaret Lenz, Chester Zwirn, Ron Richards, Dustin Wise, Jake Prather, Travis Taylor and Tanya Fell.

Updates were made by each board member to the mileage calendar.

Ron moved to approve the January 11, 2022, meeting minutes, Dustin seconded the motion. Motion passed.

Tanya Fell presented the financials. Dustin moved to accept the financial report and pay the January bills, Chester seconded the motion. Motion passed. The current bills paid:

- Board Mileage for 2021
- District Manager Paycheck
- Visa
- Matching Grants
- Newsletter Expenses

Kyle Hendrix made a payment in January for his tree balance. He has a balance of \$332.97 remaining.

OLD BUSINESS:

The matching grant final report was submitted.

It was requested to add the past meeting minutes on the YCCD website. Tanya will work on getting a section set-up and adding them.

Farming Evolution is set for February 16 and 17th and will be happening. Tanya has been helping with the preparation for this event.

Margaret reported that the watershed meeting will be held March 24th at 9:30am. Topics to be discussed include the Good and Bad of Wind Farms, Carbon Credit Market and others.

Tanya has been working to have a joint board meeting with the Yuma Conservation District. Several calls have been made but so far we have not been able to bring both boards together.

A draft of the \$15,000 drought mitigation funding application was completed for the board review. A statement needs to be added, "Water must be provided by the producer to the edge of the windbreak." Depending on the number of applications, producers may be able to apply for multiple windbreaks.

Due to Covid, NRCS will not be able to help with upcoming workshops or be a presenter at an annual meeting until further notice. The Annual Meeting will be held this fall.

A workshop will be planned for April featuring Rejuvra. Tanya will contact Derek Sebastian of Bayer Crop Sciences to get things in motion. Don Brown and Gary Newton both have test plots on their property.

Travis and Tanya will work together to see about holding Water Fest or Ag Fest at the Wray High School. Research will be done for Stocker ponds regarding youth camp as well.

NEW BUSINESS:

The role of workgroups in the YCCD were discussed. The focus is to target the local area and determine what the needs are through a needs assessment. Survey questions were created to be distributed during tree pickup and add to the website. The questions are:

1. Where should NRCS focus their funding? (examples: crop land, range land, irrigation/ water, wildlife)
2. What practices should the funds be targeted for? (examples: water development, fencing, strip-till, pollinators, wind breaks, nutrient management, water management, well retirements, energy)
3. What workshops/education would you like to YCCD to provide?

Board elections are proceeding. A notice of election was published in the Wray Gazette. Self-nomination forms were distributed to board members that wanted them. Margaret Lenz and Ron Richard both have terms that are expiring.

Tanya and Travis will work together to figure out how to make a fillable PDF for the scholarship form. Once the form is created then it will be sent to Liberty, Idalia and Wray counselors, ag teachers and science teachers.

The YCCD would like to support beekeepers in our area. Tanya is to contact JoLynn Midcap at the Yuma County Extension office to see what we can do to help with their organization. One idea was to have a pollinator booth at the Yuma County Fair.

Jake Prather from NRCS gave a program update. Currently the office staffing is at 25% so Tanya has been working from home. There will be a technician position opening soon. Jake will share the announcement with Tanya to share with the board.

CRP signup is now through March 18. CRP grasslands sign up begins April 4 through May 13. The CIC signup is ongoing through March 18.

A motion was made by Ron to dispense with the executive session and seconded by Dustin. Motion passed.

The current workers compensation insurance does include liability insurance for all board members.

A coffee hour discussion through the Colorado State Conservation Board will focus on Colorado Salary and Minimum Wage. It is recommended that the board members try and participate. It will be held February 16th. Tanya will send details to board members.

Dustin made a motion to adjourn the meeting and Ron seconded the motion. Motion passed.

The next YCCD meeting will be held March 8th at 10:00 am at Wray City Hall.

Respectfully Submitted,

Tanya Fell
District Manager
Yuma County Conservation District