



247 N CLAY STREET
WRAY, CO 80758
970-332-3108 EXT. 101
www.ycconservation.com

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING MINUTES August 15, 2023

Supervisors Present: Margaret Lenz, Sonya Shaw, Jeff Wingfield, Ron Richards, and Chester Zwirn
Supervisors Absent: none
Ex officio Members: none
Staff Present: Shirley Deason, Bob Rogers, and Tanya Fell

President Lenz declared a quorum present and convened the meeting at 6:00 pm at the Wray NRCS Conference Room.

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

Supervisor Richards moved to approve the June 20, 2023 and June 27, 2023, meeting minutes. The motion was seconded by Supervisor Shaw and carried unanimously.

District Manager Fell presented the monthly financials. Supervisor Shaw moved to accept the financial report and pay the August bills. The motion was seconded by Supervisor Wingfield and carried unanimously. The current bills paid:

- Barlow Ag Sales
- Ace
- Buffalo Seed
- Yuma Pioneer
- WISH
- Wray Market
- Bob Rogers – Mileage
- Macy Richards – Scholarship
- Jaden Dodsworth – Scholarship
- Jim Pagel – Drip Matching Grant
- Andrew Weaver – Drip Matching Grant
- Blake Roth – Drip

OLD BUSINESS:

Elections – Swearing in of Officers paperwork was completed.

NRCS Civil Rights Partners Check & MOA - paperwork was completed.

Supervisor Wingfield presented options for investing the District's funds with Wray State Bank. A comparison of current deposit rates for Wray State Bank and First Pioneer Bank were shared. A motion was made by Supervisor Shaw to invest \$100,000.00 in an interest-bearing account at Wray State Bank paying a variable rate of treasury less .5%, currently at 4.75%. In addition, Certificate of Deposit #40643 at First Pioneer Bank maturing September 1, 2023, is to be transferred to a Certificate of Deposit at Wray State Bank on the maturity date. All Supervisors are to be on the account with one signature required for withdrawal. Current Supervisors are Margaret Lenz – President, Ron Richards – Vice President, Jeff Wingfield – Secretary/Treasurer, Sonya Shaw and Chester Zwirn. The motion was seconded by Supervisors Zwirn and carried unanimously with Supervisor Wingfield abstaining.

A motion was made by Supervisor Zwirn to update the signature cards at First Pioneer Bank. Current signers on the account are as follows: Margaret Lenz – President, Ron Richards – Vice President, Jeff Wingfield – Secretary/Treasurer, Sonya Shaw - Supervisor and Chester Zwirn - Supervisor. Any other signers are to be removed. The motion was seconded by Supervisor Shaw and carried unanimously.

A motion was made by Supervisor Zwirn for District Manager Tanya Fell and Office Assistant Shirley Deason to be able to handle financial needs that do not require a signature on the District's accounts with First Pioneer National Bank and Wray State Bank. The motion was seconded by Super Shaw and carried unanimously.

Farming Evolution's current status was discussed by the board. No information was available. Supervisor Lenz is to follow up.

District Manager Fell gave updates on the following grants:

- RCPP – Rejuvra: thru NRCS – requesting \$2,000,000 to be used on the habitat for the greater and lesser prairie chicken. It will provide cheat grass control. If approved, implementation will begin approximately June 2024.
- 50/50 Matching Grant: to be used for pipeline, new tanks, storage tanks, livestock tank monitoring.
- Bonny Demonstration Grant: Currently waiting for the next phase which will be grazing in September.
- RESTORE Colorado: Will apply for grant for cheat grass control.
- HPP: Requesting funds as partner in the RCPP-Rejuvra project.
- Cheatgrass Control in Yuma County: Funds available from US Fish and Wildlife and also from CPW.
- STAR+: Enrollment Packages are here to enroll up to 10 producers.
- District Conservation Technician – Applications due soon for 2024.

The board reviewed the proposed 2024 budget for the district technician. A motion was made by Supervisor Shaw to apply for the District Conservation Technician Grant for 2024 as proposed. The motion was seconded by Supervisor Zwirn and carried unanimously. An employee salary review is to be conducted at the beginning of the grant year.

A motion was made by Supervisor Richards to purchase a cell phone for the District Technician, Bob Rogers. The motion was seconded by Supervisor Zwirn and carried unanimously.

A discussion of the Drought Funding Grant was held. Clarification that landscape fabric (weed barrier) is not included in costs for matching grants. Drip line supplies purchased before the date of the signed grant application are also not to be included in the matching grant funds. However, applicants may apply for the grant for more than one fiscal year.

Office Assistant Deason gave a report on dams in the Wray Watershed showing the FEMA maps indicating that the dams were last inspected on November 1, 2021, and require an inspection frequency of every three years. The Supervisors would like to conduct a tour of the dams before the September meeting if city manager James Depue is available.

NEW BUSINESS:

Office Assistant Deason performed an insurance liability assessment and is working on getting a quote from the Colorado Special Districts Property and Liability Pool. Office Assistant Deason informed the board that an insurance quote had been requested from the Lorenzini Agency and that they had informed us that they believed the Colorado Special Districts Property and Liability Pool would be a better resource.

A motion was made by Supervisor Richards to approve two full scholarships for Camp Rocky from entries at the Yuma County Fair. Scholarship recipients were Lydia Mekelburg and Addasyn Struckmeyer. The motion was seconded by Supervisor Wingfield and carried unanimously.

90-day review period for Office Assistant Deason was held. A motion by Supervisor Shaw to approve a pay raise to \$20.00 per hour was made. The motion was seconded by Supervisor Wingfield and carried unanimously.

The purchase of two 2 Tier Monitor Stand was approved on a motion by Supervisor Wingfield. The motion was seconded by Supervisor Zwirn and carried unanimously.

The purchase of YCCD Hats & Shirts was tabled until the September meeting.

Update to the Bylaws was tabled until the September meeting.

The Document Retention and Storage Policy is still being reviewed. An update will be provided at a future meeting.

Attendance at the CCDEA Leadership Program for 2024 for District Manager Fell was discussed. A motion was made by Supervisor Wingfield for District Manager Fell to attend. The motion was seconded by Supervisor Shaw and carried unanimously.

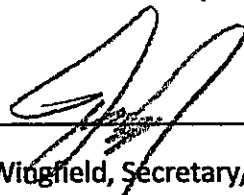
The Republican River Watershed Association meeting to be held August 31, 2023, in Hugo, CO at 9:30 a.m. Board members are requested to attend the meeting.

A motion was made by Supervisor Richards to dispense with an executive session. The motion was seconded by Supervisor Wingfield and carried unanimously.


President Lenz adjourned the meeting at 9:25 pm.

The next YCCD meeting will be held September 19th at 4:00 p.m. at the NRCS conference room in Wray, provided, that City Manager Depue is available for the dam tours. Otherwise, the meeting will be held at 5:30 p.m.

Minutes submitted by: Shirley Deason, Office Assistant



Jeff Wingfield, Secretary/Treasurer



Date



247 N CLAY STREET
WRAY, CO 80758
970-332-3108 EXT. 9002
www.ycconservation.com

Correction to Minutes dated August 15, 2023

Original:

Motion was made by Supervisor Shaw to invest \$100,000.00 in an interest-bearing account at Wray State Bank paying a variable rate of "*treasury*" less .5%, currently at 4.75%

As corrected:

Motion was made by Supervisor Shaw to invest \$100,000.00 in an interest-bearing account at Wray State Bank paying a variable rate of "*fed funds*" less .5%, currently at 4.75%