



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

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING MINUTES November 8, 2023

Supervisors Present: Ron Richards (phone), Sonya Shaw, and Jeff Wingfield  
Supervisors Absent: Margaret Lenz and Chester Zwirn  
Ex officio Members: Travis Taylor, extension agent for CSU  
Staff Present: Shirley Deason, Bob Rogers, and Tanya Fell

A joint meeting between the Yuma County Conservation District and the Haxtun Conservation District was held at the Wray NRCS Conference Room at 12:00 p.m. After the joint meeting concluded, Secretary/Treasurer Wingfield declared a quorum present and convened the meeting of the Yuma County Conservation District at 2:15 p.m. at the Wray NRCS Conference Room.

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

Supervisor Shaw moved to approve the October 10, 2023, meeting minutes. The motion was seconded Supervisor Richards and carried unanimously.

District Manager Fell presented the monthly financials. Supervisor Shaw moved to accept the financial report with the addition of checks payable to John Brenner and Alva Deterding, and to pay November bills. The motion was seconded by Supervisor Richards and carried unanimously. The current bills paid:

- |                          |                      |
|--------------------------|----------------------|
| ○ Tanya Fell – wages     | ○ Premier Accounting |
| ○ Shirley Deason – wages | ○ CCDEA Dues         |
| ○ Bob Rogers – wages     | ○ John Brenner       |
| ○ Bob Rogers – mileage   | ○ Alva Deterding     |

A motion was made by Supervisor Shaw to transfer Certificate of Deposit #41094 maturing November 10, 2023, to Wray State Bank for a term of 12 months at 5.45%. The motion was seconded by Supervisor Richards and carried unanimously with Supervisor Wingfield abstaining.

Discussion took place concerning the 2024 budget. Office Assistant Deason informed the Supervisors that increases had been made to employer expenses due to the budget presented in October not taking into account that wages for the District Technician and for the Office Assistant reflected partial years salaries for those employees.

### **OLD BUSINESS:**

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 and providing for cheat grass control. The conservation district did not receive this grant. District Manager Fell is to participate in a conference call to discuss ways to improve the application with the grant application to be resubmitted in January 2024.

- **50/50 Matching Grant:** to be used for pipeline, new tanks, storage tanks, livestock tank monitoring. Grants have been paid out to the Evans, Brenner, and Deterding. The Hardwick's have their pipe and are waiting on installation. Dean Wingfield has the stock tank and is waiting on installation. The McCaslin's have not started on their project. The Conservation District has received the 50/50 Matching Grant for 2024.
- **Bonny Demonstration Grant:** Grazing has been extended until the end of November, with area 2 now being grazed. Drone pictures of area 1 have been taken to show the effects grazing has had on the area. Travis Taylor showed pictures he had taken showing the positive effects grazing has had in the area. It was determined that a steering committee is needed to decide the next steps to be taken for the project. District Manager Fell is to coordinate a date for this meeting.
- **RESTORE Colorado:** Applications are due by the middle of November, and we will apply for a grant in the amount of \$300,000.00 plus administrative costs for cheat grass control for the entirety of Yuma County.

Office Assistant Deason is working with Mountain West Insurance Company to attain an additional quote for insurance coverage.

The Bylaws update is scheduled to be addressed at the workday on November 28, 2023. Policies have been tabled for a later date.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

The CACD Resource Committee meetings taking place November 13<sup>th</sup> – November 17<sup>th</sup> for the watershed were included in the Supervisors packet. Supervisor Lenz is on the Education and Outreach committee for the Republican River Watershed Association.

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

Secretary/Treasurer Wingfield adjourned the meeting at 3:12 p.m. to judge posters.

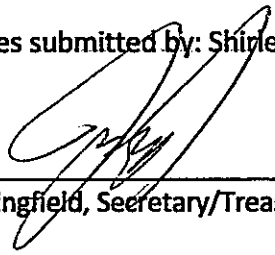
The posters submitted for the NACD "Watershed - One Water" contest were judged with placings as follows:

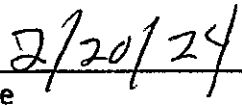
School	1 <sup>st</sup> Place - \$25 Cash prize	2 <sup>nd</sup> Place - \$20 Cash prize	3 <sup>rd</sup> Place - \$15 Cash prize
Liberty 6 <sup>th</sup> grade	Ryker Monahan	Skyler Kechter	Jarek Crosby
Idalia 5 <sup>th</sup> grade	Saylor Weyerman	Elliott Louthan	Savannah Richardson
Idalia 6 <sup>th</sup> grade	Ximena Cordova	Charliann Soehner	Emily Whomble
Wray 6 <sup>th</sup> grade	Nathalie Gonzalez	Zoey Merritt	Heidi Garcia

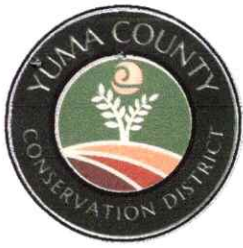
The Grand and Reserve Grand place winners were then selected from the above with Grand to receive an additional cash prize of \$50 and Reserve Grand to receive an additional cash prize of \$25. Grand Place was Nathalie Gonzalez and Reserve Grand was Zoey Merritt. The Grand and Reserve Grand posters will compete with other area winners at the annual CACD meeting to be held in December 2023.

The next YCCD meeting will be a workday meeting to be held on November 28, 2023, beginning at 9:30 a.m. at the NRCS conference room in Wray.

Minutes submitted by: Shirley Deason, Office Assistant

  
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 Jeff Wingfield, Secretary/Treasurer

  
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 Date



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## BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING MINUTES November 28, 2023

Supervisors Present: Margaret Lenz (zoom), Ron Richards(phone), Sonya Shaw, Jeff Wingfield, and Chester Zwirn  
Supervisors Absent: none  
Ex officio Members: Travis Taylor, extension agent for CSU  
Staff Present: Shirley Deason, Bob Rogers, and Tanya Fell

Secretary/Treasurer Wingfield declared a quorum present and convened the meeting of the Yuma County Conservation District at 10:05 a.m. at the Wray NRCS Conference Room.

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

Supervisor Shaw moved to approve the November 8, 2023, meeting minutes. The motion was seconded Supervisor Zwirn and carried unanimously.

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

- Brenner – correction checks
- Drager – matching grant
- Premier Accounting
- CCDEA Leadership fees

Certificate of Deposit #40664 held at First Pioneer National Bank matures December 23, 2023. Supervisors will determine whether to renew the certificate of deposit at the December 2023, meeting.

A motion was made by Supervisor Zwirn to transfer \$ 15,000 from the Wray State Bank NOW account to First Pioneer National Bank NOW account. The motion was seconded by Supervisor Shaw and carried unanimously with Supervisor Wingfield abstaining.

### **OLD BUSINESS:**

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 and providing for cheat grass control. The conservation district did not receive this grant. District Manager Fell is to participate in a conference call to discuss ways to improve the application with the grant application to be resubmitted in January 2024.
- 50/50 Matching Grant: to be used for pipeline, new tanks, storage tanks, livestock tank monitoring. A spreadsheet showing the status of the grants was included in the Supervisor’s board packet. Grants have been paid out to Deterding, Brenner, Drager, and Evans. The Hardwick’s have their pipe and are waiting on a tank for installation. Dean Wingfield has the stock tank and is waiting on installation. The McCaslin’s

have not started on their project. The Conservation District has received the 50/50 Matching Grant for 2024. Contracts for 2024 will be modified to state "progress on the project must be started by a date to be determined by the Supervisors to qualify for the grant".

- **Bonny Demonstration Grant:** Grazing in area 2 is scheduled for completion by the end of November. Travis Taylor spoke about the positive results seen in the demonstration area. It was determined that the steering committee should meet to determine whether to apply for a Phase II grant. Another concern to be addressed is the noxious weeds in the demonstration area. District Manager Fell is to coordinate a date for this meeting.
- **RESTORE Colorado:** Application was submitted in November for a grant in the amount of \$300,000.00 plus administrative costs for cheat grass control for the entirety of Yuma County.

Office Assistant Deason informed Supervisors that the application to obtain an insurance quote through Mountain West Insurance Company was submitted to the agency last week. Once submitted, it takes 7-14 business days to receive the quote from the carrier.

At 11:00 a.m., a motion was made by Supervisors Shaw to recess the meeting for the Budget Hearing. The motion was seconded by Supervisor Zwirn and carried unanimously. At 11:11 a.m., the recess ended, and the meeting was called back to order by Secretary/Treasurer Wingfield.

By-laws were tabled until the December 2023 meeting.

District policies were tabled until a future date.

#### **NEW BUSINESS:**

The Supervisors reviewed the following policies needed to obtain federal grant funding: Federal Grants Nondiscrimination Policy, Federal Grants Conflict of Interest Policy, and the Fraud Prevention Policy. The board tabled approval of the policies until further review that these policies do not conflict with the MOU with NRCS.

A motion was made by Supervisor Shaw to nominate Monte Baker with the Cheyenne Wells Conservation District as proxy for voting at the Colorado Association of Conservation Districts annual meeting. If he is unable to serve, then Chad Kramer with the Haxtun Conservation District is to be nominated to serve as proxy. The motion was seconded by Supervisor Zwirn and carried unanimously.

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

Secretary/Treasurer Wingfield adjourned the meeting at 11:42 a.m.

The next YCCD meeting has been tentatively scheduled for December 12, 2023, at 9:30 a.m. at the NRCS conference room in Wray pending the conservation district being able to obtain the necessary information to hold the budget hearing.

Minutes submitted by: Shirley Deason, Office Assistant

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Jeff Wingfield, Secretary/Treasurer

2/20/24  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Date