

**Minutes**  
**Natrona County Conservation District**  
**Regularly Scheduled Board of Supervisors Meeting**  
**February 9<sup>th</sup>, 2010**

**Supervisors:** Tom Walters – Chairman, Tyrone Fittje – Vice Chairman, Board Member John Bentley, Treasurer Kelly Burch, Board Member Richard Hallingstad,  
**Others Present:** Nathan Cook, WY Game and Fish, Maggie Myers– NCCD, Mary Schrader – NRCS

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Walters at 7:03 p.m.

**1. Announcements:** Nathan Cook, with WY Game and Fish, presented a video on Aquatic Invasive Species, primarily mussels.

**2.** Chairman Walters called for approval of the January 12<sup>th</sup>, 2010 meeting minutes. This item was tabled until the minutes could be received.

**3. Vouchers/Financial Report:** The voucher listing was presented and motioned to be approved by Treasurer Burch, seconded by Board Member Hallingstad. The motion was approved with no discussion. Board Member Hallingstad moved to pre-approve payroll, tax, and consulting vouchers for upcoming month. Treasurer Burch seconded. Motion carried.

**4. District Conservationist Report:** Mrs. Schrader gave the NRCS District Conservationist Report.

**Workload**

- ★ All applications to be funded with initial allocation have been sent to the Area Office for review.
- ★ Obligate funds for these applications by April 1, 2010.

**MGT-5 – Livestock well**

- ★ Request to Area Office to have geologist look at well for potential EQIP application.

**Livestock Well Job Approval Authority**

- ★ All wells that are expected to be drilled over 200 feet will require the assistance of the geologist. (Field Office personnel do not have job approval authority for wells of 200 feet or deeper).

**Irrigation Water Management/Sprinkler System**

- ★ The new practice standard requires a flow meter be installed on all sprinkler systems or if irrigation water management is part of the contract.
- ★ Casper Field Office has been encouraging this for all irrigation projects – should not be a big change for this county.

**Sage-Grouse Initiative – EQIP/WHIP funds**

- ★ Sign-up may start March 1 with a batching date of April 16, 2010.
- ★ Focus on grazing management and removal of obstacles which may be a threat to sage-grouse habitat especially near an occupied leek.
- ★ Actual practices and requirements are being developed now.

**North Platte River Invasive Specie Meeting**

- ★ February 17, 2010 - 10:00 am, First State Bank Conference Center in Wheatland, WY.
- ★ Joint meeting with Weed & Pest, Bureau of Reclamation, NRCS and Conservation Districts, possibly BLM & State Lands.
- ★ Discuss riparian health of North Platte River watershed – in particular the removal of Russian Olive and Salt Cedar.
- ★ NRCS would like to have representation from each conservation district.

**4. Grants Update:** Mrs. Myers gave the grants update regarding the Kendrick Watershed Implementation Grant in reference to her January 13th meeting with Business Resource Group (BRG) and steps that are needed to move forward with the grant. Mrs. Myers explained the proposal from BRG to start the process for the specific Information and Education elements that would be produced as a part of the grant (mailers, newspaper inserts, presentation etc.) She also explained the steps that would need to be completed as part of modifying the Kendrick Watershed SOP, SAP, and QAPP (if needed) with the help of the WACD Watershed Coordinators. Mrs. Myers will work with the new District Manager (if necessary) in getting started with setting up meetings for the Steering Committee.

**5. District Manager Update:** Mrs. Myers gave the District Manager's update. She listed the latest totals of seedling trees sold as of February 1<sup>st</sup> for the 2009-2010 season. The deadline to order is again April 15<sup>th</sup>, 2010. She also explained the completed data acquisition and in process phases of the North Platte TMDL for Selenium Project by RESPEC. Mrs. Myers also participated on the project update teleconference held Tuesday, February 9<sup>th</sup>. Mrs. Myers asked for volunteers for the upcoming CWHBA Home and Garden Show, one of the main outreach events the NCCD participates in each year. This year's event will be held March 19<sup>th</sup>-21<sup>st</sup> (Friday-Sunday).

Other financial topics discussed in the update included the completion of 2009 IRS wage and reporting form reports completed (1099, 1096, W-2, W-3, 941, etc.). Mrs. Myers also explained the additional financial documents that were in process for the CPU Advisory Board Meeting for our 2010 appropriation request after Chairman Walters attended their January 27<sup>th</sup> meeting. Mrs. Myers reminded the Board to please submit their personal biographies for the NCCD website.

Mrs. Myers informed the Board about the upcoming Rural Living Workshops to be held March 10<sup>th</sup> (Weed control emphasis) and March 16<sup>th</sup> (Irrigation principles emphasis). Other workshops will also be scheduled for May and August.

Mrs. Myers expressed that the new District Manager (once hired) to try to attend the Employee Certification training in Laramie, February 23<sup>rd</sup>-25<sup>th</sup>.

**6. Old Business:** Treasurer Burch gave the update regarding the special project to have Rulon Gardner speak to Poison Spider School students (6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup>, and 8<sup>th</sup> grade). He has agreed to commit to speaking on May 13<sup>th</sup>. The NCCD is contributing to his performance fee in order to provide outreach education to students about the work ethic agriculture and natural resources backgrounds can bring to success, such as the Olympic pinnacle achieved by Mr. Gardner. All NCCD Board Members are invited to attend his speaking engagement that date. He will speak twice on May 13<sup>th</sup>; once to the students at Poison Spider School, and then again that evening at 6:00 pm for the FFA Banquet.

Treasurer Burch updated the Board about the Natrona County Rangeland Management CRM. The next meeting will be March 4<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 pm at the University of Wyoming Ag Resource Learning Center (this is a county wide meeting). The Board discussed the cost benefit of sending a county-wide mailing informing people about the meeting. The main objective of the upcoming meeting will be to establish whether or not there was enough interest to continue the CRM programs (e.g. invasive species control and prairie dog infestation control) and what direction the CRM needs to take going forward. The District discussed plans to send the letter informing approximately 500 landowners about this meeting and detailing other information.

There was no other old business.

**7. New Business:** Mrs. Myers further explained the BRG proposal for the Kendrick Watershed Implementation Grant. Board Member Hallingstad moved to accept the proposal and move forward. Seconded by Board Member Fittje. Motion carried. Mrs. Myers reminded the Board of upcoming Supervisor Trainings by the WY Dept. of Ag held by webinar.

There was no other new business. Chairman Walters adjourned the meeting at 9:14pm.

**The next meeting will be held Tuesday, March 9<sup>th</sup> at 7:00pm.**

Approved by:

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