



500 W Lott St. Suite B, Buffalo, WY 82834 (307) 620-3021

MINUTES FROM THE MEETING October 20th, 2020

The business meeting was called to begin by Chairman Ryan Fieldgrove. Those present included Ryan Fieldgrove, Virgie Watt, Jay Foss, Allison McKenzie, Amanda Hulet and Zach Byram. Mara Abbott with the Buffalo Bulletin and Commissioner Bill Novotny were also in attendance.

Minutes from the September meeting were reviewed. Virgie moved to accept the minutes Luke seconded. Motion carried. The treasurer's report was read, and Luke moved to pay the outstanding bills. Virgie seconded. Motion carried. Please refer to the Treasurer's report for a list of all bills.

The bank statements for September have been reviewed and found to be in order and reconciled.

In old business, EWP updates were given. The Johnson Holt Ditch had a follow up from the head gate being placed too high. The contractor, NRCS, & Zach went and viewed the reinstallation. The contractor had it fixed and seeded in 3 day. The project has been approved and signed off on by NRCS. This project, physically, is finished. We are waiting for the final invoice from the contractor and will get the paperwork finished up.

We are still waiting on final designs from NRCS for the Last Chance Ditch.

The Carwile-Lobban head gate has been a source of concern to the public regarding the fix the ditch users did to make sure they were getting their allotted allocation of water. After discussing this with the ditch user, some of the dam that was created to divert the water into head gate was removed so that fish could adequately spawn. It was recommended by CCCD that the user clean and keep the head gate clean. NRCS is also helping the ditch users to divert the water flow. More work will continue next spring.

The Twin Creek Forest Health Project didn't get started until 10 later than what the contractor stated. They have about 50 acres cut and are now held up due to machinery issues. They are also being held up by the latest snow fall. With this, they may not be finished by the contract date. As discussed between the contractor and CCCD, payment will be with held until the project is completed, which could be as late as summer of 2021.

In grant funding updates, Zach has received two grants. One from the Northeast Sage Grouse Local Work Group and the other from US Fish & Wildlife Service. He has applied to the Wyoming Wildlife Natural Resource Trust for more and this will all be match money for the RCPP grant. The deadline for the RCPP grant was extended to November 30th. A letter to the landowners within the potential project area has been sent to find out what interest in this program would be. Current monies in these grants would be used specifically for weed treatments but could potentially add more projects like fence and water if more landowners were interested.

The Division IV Local Work Group meeting was held on October 20th and was held virtually. Zach, Amanda and Allison were attendance. Zach explained what the LWG is and how it works. Our priority is degraded plant condition. Weed treatments & forest health/thinning are a part of this. Our second priority is water quality. The other priorities were listed as well. Our priorities will be presented at the State Technical Advisory Council meeting. Allison added that Division IV had a good year. They had a lot of money to distribute. Allison would like to see a separate account for invasives due to cooperater funding being low or not available in the future.

Irrigation is currently paid by the acre. It was discussed to start paying by the foot so the smaller pivots can get a full payment. We will find out more at next year's meeting.

Field office activity as well as district personnel reports were given.

In new business, Commissioner Novotny explained the need for technical assistance for a potential project on the Snyder Ditch. The members of the ditch would like to put the ditch in pipe from the head gate to the current line that was installed a few years ago. The board was interested in partnering with the county, but more information is needed to approve the partnership. Commissioner Novotny will be bringing that to another meeting.

Another potential project is replacing the trash rack on the Piney Creek diversion. The current system is operationally failing. It needs replaced with a new steel brush rack that would be on hydraulics. Preliminary estimates are between \$50,000 & \$60,000. Commissioner Novotny needs to come with cost estimates for the project. It was discussed that part of that money could be applied for with the Small Water Projects.

New board member interest was discussed. We will be getting a write in candidate and will also get the voting information from Clerk Edelman.

Zach discussed the predator board project. Peter John Camino came in and asked Zach for help. He is interested in showing the correlation between low numbers of Sage Grouse and Coyote numbers. Zach is working on this GIS project for them that includes coyote kills on the map with the Sage Grouse leks plus a 2-mile buffer and added the core area boundary. The predator board will use this as a way to get more funding for predator control from the state. Zach will also be attending the next predator board meeting.

The elected officials tour is planned for October 29th. We will be meeting at the 8:45 am at the fire hall. The tour will include the Crown Ditch as well as the Twin Creek Forest Health Project.

The WACD convention will be held in Torrington and virtually for those who chose to attend that way. We discussed our portion of the auction items that are donated every year. Jay moved to spend up to \$400 on auction items. Virgie seconded. Motion carried.

In other business, our November meeting date will be changed due to office personnel being at WACD Convention. It will be Thursday the 19th at 6:00 pm. We also had board members sign the No Quorum Policy and Annual Report Summary.

In correspondence, the board members all received a letter from the auditor.

Our next meeting will be Thursday, November 19th at 6 pm at the office.

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned by Chairman Fieldgrove at 8:40 pm.


Ryan Fieldgrove- Chair


Travis Rule - Secretary/Treasurer

Treasurer's Report – October 2020

First Northern Bank Business Checking

Total Deposits: \$ 7.66 (Interest), \$ 13,982.15 (Mill Levy), \$ 244.55 (State Forestry HHW Day), \$ 189.26 (Area 1 meeting registrations), \$ 3,000.00 (JCSWD-HHW Day), \$ 47.70 (Rain Barrel), \$ 84.80 (Composter)

Outstanding Bills:

1. Visa	Credit Card Charges	\$ 2,558.12
2. US Treasury	941 Taxes	\$ 2,358.98
3. Lott Street LLC	August Rent	\$ 966.67
4. WACD	State Convention Registration	\$ 471.00
5. NACD	Annual Dues	\$ 775.00
6. Range	October Internet	\$ 36.80
7. Ace Hardware	Education supplies	\$ 9.18
8. WY Dept of WF Services	WC/UI Qtrly Pmt	\$ 471.98
9. Amanda Hulet	Wages	\$ 3,128.21
10. Zach Byram	Wages	\$ 4,080.97
11. WY Retirement System	Retirement/401k match	\$ 1,757.48
12. Zach Byram	Reimbursements	\$ 97.03
	TOTAL EXPENSES	\$ 16,711.42

First Northern Bank Money Market Sweep Account

Total Deposits: \$ 3,833.07 (Interest)

First Northern Bank Money Market Account

Total Deposits: \$ 37.68 (Interest)

Withdrawals:

WYO-STAR

Total Deposits: \$ 672.95 (Interest)

