MINUTES OF THE MEETEETSE CONSERVATION DISTRICT BOARD MEETING

Date:	Wednesday, 3/20/24	**District Manager:**	Steffen Cornell
Time:	1:00 p.m.	**Admin Assistant:**	
Place:	1906 State St, Meeteetse, WY	**NRCS DC:**	Rory Karhu
Meeting Type:	Regular	**Presiding Officer:**	Matt Burkhart
Others:	Leanne Correll	**Supervisors Present:**	Joe Thomas, Shawn Shepperson, Ben Anson, Tim Morrison
		Supervisors Absent:	

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 1:38 p.m. by MCD Treasurer Matt Burkhart. Ben moved to approve the minutes from the February 21st Regular Board meeting, Shawn seconded; motion passed unanimously.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Matt will provide a detailed report via email later in the week since he did not have enough time before the meeting to fully review the financials. He noted that we are still not on track to receive the full Mill Levy amount that was budgeted for based off of the annual estimate from the county assessor. Steffen has checked with other Conservation Districts in other Counties and they are all either on track or have received more Mill revenue than what they had budgeted for but is not sure why Park Co. is different.

Blanket Voucher – February & March 2024

Type	Date	Num	Name	Memo	Paid Amount
1000 · First Bank of Wyoming					
Check	02/29/2024	ACH	United States Treasury	941 Deposit - 1st Qtr, 2024 - Paid by EFTPS 3/15/24	-471.02
Check	02/29/2024	3495	Steffen C Cornell {employee}	HSA # 2200003620413 - Contribution for February '24	-400.00
Total 1000 · First Bank of Wyoming					-871.02
1001 · Pinnacle Bank Chk - xx01					
Check	02/29/2024	3887	WACD {vendor}	FY23-24 Annual WACD Dues	-9,500.00
Check	02/29/2024	3888	Steffen C Cornell {employee}	February 2024 (168 hrs) - Paycheck - S Cornell - DM	-3,349.76
Check	02/29/2024	3889	Ashley L Coenen {employee}	February 2024 (9.7 hrs) - Paycheck - A Coenen	-124.03
Check	02/29/2024	3890	Pinnacle Bank - VISA	March payment for February transactions	-1,082.38
Check	02/29/2024	ACH	Empower Retirement	February 2024 - Plan #93001-02 D 354	-100.00
Check	02/29/2024	ACH	Wyoming Retirement System	February 2024 Contributions - Agency # 564	-856.52
Check	02/29/2024	ACH	Google {vendor}	February - conservewy.net - G Suite Business	-151.44
Check	03/11/2024	ACH	Black Hills Energy	February 2024 - Acct. # 3214 4702 69	-139.37
Check	03/11/2024	ACH	Town of Meeteetse	February 2024 Utilities	-129.20
Check	03/15/2024	ACH	TCT West Inc.	February 2024 - Acct. # 00040249-3	-115.38
Check	03/20/2024	ACH	WEBT	Insurance Premiums - April 2024	-1,899.32
Check	03/21/2024	ACH	Cincinnati Insurance {vendor}	Property and Auto Insurance for April '24	-315.00
Check	03/25/2024	ACH	Big Horn REA {vendor}	February 2024 - Acct. # 10337-003	-277.88
Total 1001 · Pinnacle Bank Chk - xx01					-18,040.28
TOTAL					**-18,911.30**

DISTRICT CONSERVATIONIST REPORT

Rory passed out a spreadsheet that had been shared at the LWG meeting in Worland which indicates that around $3.5 million had been paid on 22 contracts in Park County in 2023. He will provide a written report at the next meeting to cover the months that he was on assignment in Riverton.

OLD BUSINESS

Fish Passage Project – All six of the Small Water Project funding applications were approved by the Wyoming Water Development Commission. These funds will help pay for the construction of infrastructure that has been engineered and designed already.

NRCS LWG Resource Concern Rankings – The Board discussed and decided on preliminary rankings for the top ten NRCS Resource Concerns in the Meeteetse Conservation District. Steffen will advertise for a public meeting to coincide with the next Board Meeting so that members of the community can provide input on the rankings which will then be finalized.

Raven Resolution – Steffen spoke with Holly Kennedy at WCDEA Annual Training in Casper and asked her to revisit the email about Ravens and the Migratory Bird Treaty Act. He also emailed an attorney out of the Dallas area who has specific experience in the subject matter. He has yet to hear back from others who were on the original email so he has also reached out to Abby Shuler, WACD Area III Director in hopes of getting the ball moving a little faster. Tim suggested reading the actual Act to see if there's information within it that might detail how a bird can be removed from protection.

Community Garden – Steffen reached out to the Town about the potential for a community garden and Angie mentioned that both the Rec District and School have attempted gardens that haven't gone over so well but there are reasons for that. She agreed that a better location would be beneficial and there is an area near the softball field on the south edge of town that would likely increase participation. Steffen will continue to research as time allows.

NEW BUSINESS

Summer Seasonal Internship – Steffen has been having conversations with Cody Conservation District about a shared position in order to employ a part-time resource technician. He will ask the Meeteetse Youth Work Program to make an exemption for the age requirement in order to hire a college student since the work duties require a more mature employee who can work with little to no supervision at times.

General – Currently there is no intention for WYDOT to require the businesses along the highway to remodel their store fronts but there will be a study to determine how the infrastructure can be made handicap accessible while maintaining its cultural heritage. There will be future meetings to continue the discussion with WYDOT.
Steffen visited the bridge on 3KD to investigate the ice dam mentioned during the previous meeting but it had well receded by the time he got there.
The Park County Travel Council installed a bronze bear on a boulder in front of the Ferret Den for their "Bears in the Basin" scavenger hunt. Details can be found at https://www.codyyellowstone.org/trails-passes/bears-in-the-basin/

Review Calendars for March and April '24 – Landowner meeting on 3/29 for Absaroka Cheatgrass Project.

MEETING ADJOURNED at 2:47 p.m. – *The next Regular Board Meeting will be Wednesday, April 17th, 2024 at 1p.m.*

Date: April 17th, 2024 **Authorized Signatures:**

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