

**WCDEA Employee Meeting  
WACD Convention  
December 11, 2012**

**I. Call To Order**

-Glen Leavengood, President called the meeting to order at 10:14 pm.

**II. Introductions**

-The following people were in attendance: Michelle MacDonald, WDA; Justin Caudill, WDA; Astrid Martinez, NRCS; Jim Cochran, Laramie County CD; Jeri Trebelcock, Popo Agie CD; Mary Evans Platte County RD; Steve Jones Meeteetse CD; William Woolston, Meeteetse CD; Maria Burke, Sheridan County CD; Joan McGraw, Medicine Bow CD; Diana Olson, Popo Agie CD; Kevin Hyatt, WDEQ; Lisa Ogden, Natrona County CD; Rex Lockman, Laramie County CD; Crystal Kellebrew, Campbell County CD; Debbie Hepp, Campbell County CD; Joe Parsons, SER CD; Tori Dietz, Washakie County CD; Emily Hake, Washakie County CD; Justin Garrison, Medicine Bow CD; Tony Hoch, Laramie Rivers CD; Laura McGinley, Laramie Rivers CD; Martin Curry, Laramie Rivers CD; Gerald Caskey, Popo Agie CD; Karen Pecheny, Sweatwater County CD; Matt Ley, Laramie County CD; Brenda Ashworth Star Valley CD; Colleen Tate, Converse County CD; Don Wagoner, Converse County CD; Landa Robbins, Meeteetse CD; Steffen Cornell, Meeteetse CD; Oakley Ingersoll, Uinta County CD; Sno Ann Engler, Sublette CD; Jean Runner, SER CD; Jennifer Hinkhouse, Weston County NRD; Sarah Anderson, Crook County NRD; Carrie Rogaczewski, Sheridan County CD; Kevin Quick, Campbell County CD; Lisa Shaw, Niobrara CD; Tim Morrison, Campbell County CD; Karri Ellis, Goshen County CDs; Nancy Borton, Goshen County CDs; Amy Doke, Sheridan County CD; Glen Leavengood, SER CD; Anita Bartlett, Powder River CD; Bobbie Frank, WACD; Kelly Brown, WACD; Jason Fearneyhough, WDA; Doug Miyamoto, WDA; Shaun Sims, WACD;

**III. Secretary Report**

- a. Anita Bartlett presented the minutes from Convention 2011 and Winter Training 2012. Jim Cochran moved to approve the minutes from Convention 2011 and Winter Training 2012 as submitted. Tim Morrison second. Motion carried.
- b. Anita Bartlett passed around an employee list and an e-mail contact list for members present to update.

**IV. Financial Report**

- a. Sno Ann Engler presented the Financial Report. She stated that we currently have \$11,006.15 in the checking account. (see attached financial report for complete accounting)
  - i. Michelle Huntington moved to accept the Treasurer's Report as submitted. Rex Lockman Second. Motion Carried

- b. Budget
  - i. Sno Ann Engler reviewed the proposed budget (see attached budget for complete accounting). Randy Williams moved to approve the budget as submitted. Lisa Ogden second.
    - 1. Steve Jones moved to amend the motion by adding and additional \$1000 to the Scholarship line item. Rex Lockman second. Amendment Passed.
    - 2. The main motion with the amendments was voted on and the motion passed.

## V. Partner Reports

- a. **NRCS**-Astrid Martinez stated that we are still waiting on a new farm bill and there is hope that one will pass by the end of the year. Without a farm bill they are working under a continuing resolution that will expire in March. They are also working on hiring an East Area Conservationist and filling other vacant positions. Astrid also thanked the Districts for hosting SGI positions and all of their involvement in the program.
- b. **WACD**
  - i. Bobbie Frank stated that Certification Training will be February 20-21<sup>st</sup> and Legislative Training will be February 19<sup>th</sup>. Please be watching for the registration on those trainings. Legislative session is getting ready to start please let Bobbie know if you are interested in assisting with that. Nephi Cole has left WACD and is working for the Governor's Office. His position is currently being advertized. There will be a Suitewater Training this afternoon for those interested. Please be reaching out to your Legislators on the Special Expertise Bill and the Budget Bill that will be brought forth in this year's legislation. Congratulations to those who completed Certification training this year. Those individuals will be recognized at the Award Luncheon.
    - a. **Water Quality Trainings-**
      - a. Module I –January 28<sup>th</sup>-February 1<sup>st</sup> in Laramie
      - b. Module II-April 16-18<sup>th</sup> in Lander
      - c. Module III-June 25-16<sup>th</sup> TBD
      - d. Possibility of a BMP training in August.
    - b. **WNRF**-The new board of trustees will be announced tomorrow during the auction. The WNRF will still be assisting districts as they have in the past and are still available to provide opportunities for grants.

- ii. Shaun Sims would like to recognize the wonderful job that all of the Districts are doing. He has great pride in representing us on a National level. Thank you for all that you do. Stated that he would like the Districts to please be in contact with your Legislators in regards to the bills that are coming up in this year's legislative session that will affect the Districts.

c. **WDA-**

- i. Jason Fearneyhough, Director WDA & Doug Miyamoto, Deputy Director spoke to the Association on the following items:
  - a. They are working on reviewing the Sage Grouse Policy for the BLM RMPs
  - b. There will be meetings held for Ag Producers to explain the effects the Executive Order on Sage Grouse will have on Private Landowners
  - c. The Wolf Trophy/Predator areas have been designated and the rules for those areas have been published.
  - d. The WDA is working on a mapping exercise for the Cheatgrass Initiative.
  - e. There will potential be 73 new initiatives in the upcoming Energy Policy. The WACD is reviewing these initiatives.
  - f. EPA is looking into conducting Basin Wide TMDLs. There is concern that this concept will adversely affect the basins in Wyoming. WDA will continue to monitor this process.
  - g. WDA submitted an 8% budget cut, which is approximately 1.3 million dollars. Conservation District funding will remain about the same.
- ii. Michelle MacDonald handed out the report State Funding. Those that are highlighted have completed the requirements; everyone else has until December 31<sup>st</sup> to turn in their paperwork. You need to turn in Oaths of office for all elected officials. WDA is setting up a new tracking system and in the future you will only need to send in oaths for newly elected officials. Oaths of office are good for the entire term of the elected official they do not need to fill out a new one each year. Please let Michelle know if you need supervisor handbooks. She will mail them out to you also they will be posted on the website soon.
- iii. Justin Caudill stated that the second round of Rangeland Health Assessment Grants are due by January 4, 2013. The Water Quality Grant funding should be completely spent after the final round of grants are funded. Supervisor Training is tentatively scheduled for early March in Douglas. Please let Justin know if you have board members interested in attending.

## **II. Blue Cross Blue Shield of Wyoming**

- a. Cheryl Hageman & Eileen Anderson discussed changes/issues with the Health, Life, and Vision Insurance the Districts have with Blue Cross Blue Shield of Wyoming
  - i. 75% of all full time employees must be insured in each District. This may change to 100% in July.
  - ii. Districts cannot pay an employee to take group insurance somewhere else.
  - iii. All 23 District Employees enrolled in the Life Insurance program must pay on time or no one is insured.
  - iv. Cheryl & Eileen are happy to come out if you need your plans or options explained
  - v. Starting in July everyone can choose their own plan instead of one plan for all employees in each district.
  - vi. If you have any questions please feel free to call Cheryl and Eileen at 307-634-4466.

## **III. Committees**

### **a. Scholarship Committee**

- i. Steve Jones reported that the Scholarship Committee had come up with some guidelines for administrating the Scholarship Program. (see attached guidelines)
  - a. Anita Bartlett moved to approve the guidelines submitted by the Scholarship Committee. Crystal Kellebrew second. Motion Carried.

### **b. Training Committee**

- i. Michelle Huntington stated that Winter Training will be held March 26-28<sup>th</sup> it is tentatively scheduled to be held in Casper as there are plans of including a GIS Training which will be held at Casper College. She also stated that they will be handing out a new training survey to be filled out and returned. It will also be e-mailed out after convention.
- ii. Randy Williams stated that Teton CD would be happy to host a summer training if the WCDEA wanted to have one.

## **VI. Recognition**

- a. Glen Leavengood recognized Todd Heward for all of his hard work these past few years as the Vice President of the WCDEA and for his years of service to his District and the WCDEA. He was presented a coat with the WCDEA logo on it.
- b. Glean Leavengood recognized Cathy Rosenthal for all of her work and dedication to the District's water quality issues.
- c. Glen Leavengood recognized Nancy Borton and Steve Jones for their years of service and wished them a Happy Retirement.

**VII. By-Law Changes**

- a. Anita Bartlett reviewed the changes the Executive Committee would like to see made to the By-Laws (Please see attached By-laws for changes).
  - i. Lisa Ogden move to accept the changes as submitted. Steve Jones second. Motion Carried.

**VIII. Election Of Officers**

- a. The Nomination Committee Recommended the following slate of Officers:
  - i. Vice President: Anita Bartlett
    - 1. Michelle Huntington move to accept the recommendation from the Nomination Committee. Lisa Ogden second. Motion Carried
  - ii. Secretary: Michelle Huntington
    - 1. Jim Cochran moved to accept the recommendation from the Nomination Committee. Anita Bartlett second. Motion carried.

**IX. Election of WCDEA representative for the Southwest Region**

- a. Glen Leavengood stated that he had been approached by the NCDEA about Wyoming submitting an employee to run for the Southwest Region representative position to the NCDEA. Lisa Ogden move to nominate Jeri Trebelcock as the WCDEA representative to run for this position. Rex Lockman second. Motion Carried.

**X. QuickBooks**

- a. Anita Bartlett wanted to know if there was interest in her working with NACD to receive a discount on QuickBooks. If there was interest Districts need to let Anita know by December 21<sup>st</sup>.

**XI. WyRED Committee**

- a. Tori Deitz discussed issues that she had with hosting WyRED this year. She would like to see Conservation Districts sponsor kids from their Districts. Also she stated that the SRM is not longer helping with funding.
- b. Jim Cochran moved to start a committee that would work with the SRM to help with WyRED. Tim Morrison Second. Motion Carried
  - i. Members of the Committee include: Jim Cochran (chair) Rex Lockman, Tori Deitz, Anita Bartlett, and one person from this year's host district (has not been determined).

**XII. Adjournment**

Michelle Huntington moved to adjourn the meeting. Diana Olson Second. Motion Carried at 12:15 pm.

Respectfully submitted: Anita Bartlett, WCDEA Secretary