



1517 Broadway, Suite 101, Scottsbluff, NE 69361-3184

Phone: 308-632-1311 ☐ FAX: 308-632-7671

Resource Conservation & Development, Inc.

Empowering Citizens to Build Strong Communities

E-mail: panhandle.rcd@allophone.com

www.panhandlercd.com

BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Thursday, February 19, 2009

10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

Call to Order: The February 19, 2009 Meeting of the Panhandle RC&D Board of Directors was called to order by President Larry Gibbs at 10:30 a.m. Attendees included: Charles Weston, Box Butte County; Ron Miller, Scotts Bluff County; Cheryl Burkhart-Kriesel, South Platte NRD; Verlin Bruns, Deuel County; Gary Grubbs, Banner County; Larry Gibbs, City of Gering; Josh Skavdahl, Sioux County; Brenda Johnson, City of Crawford; Terry McCord, Garden County.

Staff: Jennifer Rogers, Program Assistant; Ron Moore, Program Coordinator

President Gibbs wanted to make a comment on the new agenda. Since the meeting minutes, agendas, and treasurer's reports are sent out to everyone prior to each meeting, he decided to place those items under a Consent Agenda that can all be voted on to approve at the same time. If anyone has an issue with an individual item under the Consent Agenda then that will be taken out and voted on separately. This should save time for each meeting.

Consent Agenda: Motion made by Burkhart-Kriesel to approve the Consent Agenda as presented; seconded by Bruns. Motion carried.

Approval of Bills: Treasurer Bruns went through the February 19, 2009 Treasurer's Report. Motion made by Ron Miller to approve the bills-to-be-paid as presented; seconded by Gary Grubbs. Motion carried.

Reports

Program Assistant Report: Jennifer Rogers said the only thing she had to report was to let anyone know that wasn't already aware, February 20th is her last day at RC&D. She has taken a position as the Western Nebraska Field Representative for Senator Ben Nelson. She looks forward to staying involved in the organization and continuing to attend meetings as she can in this new role. The board thanked Jennifer for all of her hard work and wished her luck in the new position.

Program Coordinator Report: Covered below under New Business: Introduction to the RC&D Program

Old Business

Western RC&D Association Meeting: There were three representatives from Panhandle RC&D at the Western Conference, Ron Moore, Roger Gray and Gary Fisher. Panhandle RC&D won the Western Conference Outstanding Council of the Year, and they will now be in the running for the award at the national level. Gary Fisher also got an award for attending the Western Conference for five years in a row. President Gibbs is considering attending the National Conference June 14th through the 17th in Albuquerque if his schedule permits. Gary Fisher reported that there were a lot of

really good workshops including one on Farm Rescue for landowners that may be unable to take care of their land due to injury or illness. Another workshop he attended was on the process of beginning a home-based food product business. President Gibbs presented Gary Fisher with a gift thanking him for his service as President of RC&D during the last year.

2009 State Association Meeting Committee Reports

- a. A few members met for about one hour prior to the meeting and have started to flush out the agenda. It would be a great help if any of the members of the Council have an idea for trainings or workshops to get those to the RC&D staff between now and the next meeting.
- b. Committee Chairs: Cheryl Burkhart-Kriesel is the Training/Speaker chair; Brenda Johnson is the Entertainment/Bus Tour chair; Lonnie Miller is the Budget chair; Mike Marker is the Fundraising/Sponsors chair

New Business

Introduction to the RC&D Program: Ron Moore: RC&D Coordinator used to be a Council staff; no longer the case; handouts; got a lot of projects going on right now; just got Western Conference council of the year out of ten states; should have several applications out at the Workforce; Personnel committee and Larry will be in charge of the hiring. As a council, there are a lot of things going on and you as council members need to know what they are.

- a. Nebraska State Association Meeting in October
- b. 5 Year Area Plan
- c. High Plains Weed Management Association
- d. Banner County Wind Energy Association
- e. Nine Mile Creek Restoration
- f. Panhandle No-Till Partnership
- g. Big Springs Pond & Restoration
- h. Chappell Lake
- i. Mitchell Park
- j. Organic Farming & Ranching
- k. Garden County Health Foundation
- l. Garden County Military Museum
- m. Bridges to Buttes Scenic Byway
- n. Buckboard Therapeutic Riding Academy
- o. Friends of the Intertribal Gathering
- p. Valley Visions
- q. Indians & Pioneers Tourism and Marketing
- r. 2009 Sustainable Decisions Symposium
- s. Northwest Nebraska High Country
- t. Henry Betterment Group
- u. ArcView/Hands on the Land

- v. Running Water Ranching Coalition
- w. Blue Creek Blues Festival
- x. Tri-City Sustainability Plan

Moore believes the Council may need to begin to set stricter priorities and eventually get to the point where some projects may need to be put on hold or turned down when they come in. One this Cheryl Burkhart-Kriesel wanted to try to explain to the new members was that this list of projects needs to be looked at like a bell curve or cycle in that the different projects are all at different levels of need at different times, and will need differing amounts of support or assistance based on that.

Adjourn: With no further business, motion made by Verlin Bruns to adjourn the meeting; seconded by Cheryl Burkhart-Kriesel. Motion carried. At 11:45 a.m., the meeting was adjourned by President Larry Gibbs.