**Regular Meeting**

**THURSDAY March 6th, 2025 – following Weed District Mtg**

**USDA Office – Hardin, MT**

1. **Call to Order:** The Big Horn Conservation District meeting was called to order by Chairman Roy Neal at 1:20 p.m. at the USDA Office in Hardin. Other supervisors present was Treasurer Dan Lowe, Vice Chairman Steve Schanaman, supervisors Phillip Miller, Kent Murdock and Jerry Lunde, and associate supervisor Bill Hodges. Also present was Big Horn County Extension Agent Andrea Berry, NRCS representatives Evan Van Order and Guthrie Ziebarth, Weed District representative Tom Pratt, and guests Harold Wilson, Gidion Herbel and County Planning Board spokesman Lawrence Kills Back.
2. **Public Comment:** As there was no response to call for public comment, the chairman proceeded with the meeting.
3. **Approval of Minutes:** Jerry Lunde motioned to approve the February minutes as emailed/mailed. The motion was seconded by Dan Lowe; as there was no opposition or discussion, the motion carried.
4. **Officers’ Report:**
   1. Treasurer: Dan Lowe presented the following bank balances: County Mill Levy account $64,238.72, WIS Checking $82,074.64, First Interstate Checking $42,008.92, Certificate of Accounts $16,790.70.
   2. Dan Lowe motioned to approve the bills to be paid. The motion was seconded by Jerry Lunde; as there was no opposition or discussion, the motion carried.
      1. UI Contributions Unemployment $235.11
      2. Montana State Fund Payroll taxes $1059.21
      3. CNA Surety Bond $350.00
      4. Local Government Services AFR $275.00
      5. REA St. Xavier Power $35.00
5. **Board and committee reports:**
   1. Conservation District Bureau *– included in packet*
6. **New Business:**
   1. Lawrence Kills Back
      1. Lawrence Kills Back is on the County Planning Board. The board had not met in a while, and he wanted to make sure that the Conservation District representative, Roy Neal, was still able to participate moving forward. They are moving forward with their “growth policy” seeing as it hasn’t been updated since 2014.
   2. Field Report – *Evan Van Order presented*
      1. Steve Schanaman motioned to approve the following Equips:
         1. Brandon Herps – Ventanata spray & prescribed grazing
         2. Lee Graham = Ventanata spray & stock tank
         3. Thomas Edwards – brush management
         4. Jermey Not Afraid - Ventanata spray
         5. Raptor Star - Ventanata spray
      2. Phillip Miller seconded the motion; as there was no opposition or discussion, the motion carried.
   3. 310 – Jeremy DeVries
      1. Steve Schanaman motioned to approve the application as a project. Phillip Miller seconded the motion; as there was no opposition or discussion, the motion carried. Kyli Shumway will set up the site visit with FWP, the Army Corps and the tribe.
   4. AIS 2025 Update
      1. Contractor Quotes
         1. Jerry Lunde motioned to approve a $10,000 budget to update the AIS shed located at the Rest Area. The motion was seconded by Kent Murdock; as there was no opposition or discussion, the motion carried.
   5. Officer Elect
      1. Austin Pitsch motioned to nominate Steve Schanaman as Chairman. As there were no other nominations, the motion was seconded by Jerry Lunde; as there was no opposition or discussion, the motion carried.
      2. Kent Murdock motioned to nominate Phillip Miller as Vice Chairman. As there were no other nominations, the motion was seconded by Jerry Lunde; as there was no opposition or discussion, the motion carried.
      3. Phillip Miller motioned to nominate Bill Hodges as Treasurer. Kylie Shumway assured the board that an Associate can act as Treasurer. As there were no other nominations, the motion was seconded by Kent Murdock; as there was no opposition or discussion, the motion carried.
7. **Old Business:**
   1. Airport Hangar MOA
      1. Kylie Shumway has been attempting contact to get an original copy.
   2. Kylie Work Phone
      1. Kylie Shumway has not made it to Billings yet to buy a phone.
   3. FIB Account
      1. tabled
   4. Building Committee Update
      1. Austin Pitsch motioned to approve Snively’s Law Office as the new Conservation District location for $400 a month. The Board will pay the full annual amount of $4,800 upfront. Jerry Lunde seconded the motion; as there was no opposition or discussion, the motion carried.
8. **Other Business:** The Board would like Kylie Shumway to contact the Cascade Conservation District and discuss their Augmented Reality Sand Table.
9. **Public Comment: As there was no public comment, Chairman Roy Neal adjourned the meeting at 2:55 p.m. The next Board meeting will be held on April 3rd at 1 p.m.**