**Crook County Natural Resource District (CCNRD)**

**May 7th Regular Board Meeting Minutes**

**CALL MEETING TO ORDER** The meeting was called to order at 12:10 pm by Chairman Wayne Garman at the Sundance USDA Service Center.

**ATTENDANCE**

**Board**: Wayne Garman, Lily Altaffer, Kim Fundaun, Casey Devish (call)

**Employees**: Bridget Helms, Sarah Anderson, Jessica Halverson, Carmen Horne-McIntyre (call)

**Guests:** Keela Deaton, NRCS

**MONTHLY UPDATES**

1. **NRCS Update** The NRCS office has been busy with contracts, 5 more in progress that would bring another million dollars into the county. These funds are from the Inflation Reduction Act. Keela will be leaving the Sundance office in May.
2. **Water Quality Program Updates** by Carmen & Jessica

Water sampling will start at the end of the month of May. The tree sale sold 589 trees and filled 80 orders. The shadeball project is still in progress- Jessie added 140 gallons to the open tank on the 24th, 2 months after project started. No water was added to the shadeball tank. Jessie has been measuring it weekly. UAC grant- the planter boxes are ready to go and the container gardening workshop is tomorrow. Jessie has applied for the Wyoming NRCS grant. ($47,000). Carmen has submitted the quarterly reporting for her grants. She is still waiting to hear back from the DEQ on the SAP, so she will reach out to them. Monday we will meet with DEQ for the TMDL meeting. Carmen visited with Alex on reimbursements we’ve been waiting for, cost share issues for BMPs were discussed.

1. **Forestry Program Update** by Sarah

Sarah has been working on the engagement strategy and assessment comments with Dru on the forest plan revision. She has a NFAB meeting on May 15. She recently conducted a site tour with the USFWS and WGFD for the sage grouse habitat improvement project. On the North Sand project she has applied for funding from both the WWNRT and CAFA grants. There will be a meeting on May 22 at Ranch A about the North Sand project. On May 30 she has a site tour with WWNRT for the North Sand project. Her quarterly reports and final reports have been submitted.

1. **Office Manager Update** Bridget has set up the new projector and screen, and a trail camera to monitor the water tanks. She has prepared the proposed budget and filed the sales tax report for the first quarter. She assisted with the tree sale. Last week she attended the CCCD Ag Expo and presented to 651 third grade students. Later this week she is scheduled to present to the Sundance Elementary students. **E-cycling update** Bridget has been working on details with Jeremy at ProTech Computing. This year it looks like we will try another facility in Montana. We would be charged a flat rate and no longer have to weigh items separately; however it will be more restrictive on the items accepted and only one location will be used rather than two. Items could be recycled and reused at this facility and CRT TVs would not be accepted- however these services do exist at Echoworks in Rapid City.
2. **Local Issues** Carmen asked the Board if they would like to partner with Campbell County Conservation District and assist in advertising for their ranching for profit workshop. The Board would like more information on this event before they decide.
3. **Financials** A motion to approve budget resolution 5.7.2024 was Lily and seconded by Kim. Motion carried. A motion to pay the bills was made by Lily and seconded by Kim. Motion carried. All checks were signed, and the reconciliation reports prepared by Bridget were reviewed and signed.
4. **Approve April 2nd Minutes** A motion to approve the minutes as presented was made by Lily and seconded by Kim. Motion carried.

**NEW BUSINESS**

1. **Cooperating Agency status for USFS Old Growth Amendment** Sarah submitted a letter to request cooperating agency status.
2. **Proposed budget approval** was presented by Bridget. Lily made a motion to approve the proposed budget and Kim seconded. Motion carried.
3. **Commissioner’s budget request** Staff recommended requesting the same amount as last year ($70,000). Lily made a motion to approve the letter with edits to the last paragraph, Kim seconded. Motion carried.
4. **Employee annual reviews** Lily made a motion to enter executive session to complete employee reviews at 2:57 pm. Kim seconded. Motion carried. Employee reviews were completed. A motion to end executive session was made by Lily and seconded by Kim. Motion carried.

**Motion to adjourn** was made by Lily at 5:14 pm.

Office Manager Signature:

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Chairman Signature:

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