

Western RC&D Association Business Meeting
March 16, 2011

Those in attendance:

Jim Smith, San Juan Co	Mike Stiehl, Sangre de Cristo RC&D
April Weitlanf, Black Range RC&D	Ivy Dickenson, Clearwater RC&D
Jim Rogers, S.E. Wyoming RC&D	Paul Calverly, Southwest Idaho RC&D
Bill Davis, Wood River RC&D	Marvin Carter, Beartooth RC&D
Debbie Vollmuth, Dakota Prairies RC&D	Allen Bjergo, Bitter Root RC&D
Don Hausle, Black Hills RC&D	Dave Johnson, Panhandle Lakes RC&D
Kelly Custer, Southwest Nebraska RC&D	Kent Rudeen, Three Rivers RC&D
Chris Malgren, Northwest Regional RC&D	Robert Curl, Northern Plains RC&D
Dick Leitschuck, Nebraska Loess Hills RC&D	Roger Bower, Big Horn Basin RC&D
Doug Graupe, Williston Basin RC&D	Sharon Church-Pratt, West Central Highlands RC&D
Jeff Dick, Lake Agassiz RC&D	Dennis G. Wachter, Nebraska RC&D Association
Virginia Burman, Northeast Nebraska RC&D	Curtis Schrader, Sureste RC&D
Louis Espinoza Sr., Historic Trails RC&D	Duane Urlacher, Dakota West RC&D
Duane Smith, Mid-Snake RC&D	Margo Helgerson, Five Rivers RC&D
Allen Richard, Upper Dakota RC&D	Dave Radford, High Country RC&D
Bruce Kroetch, Western President	Clyde Hanson, Western 1 st Vice President
Joe Leichtnam, Western 2 nd Vice President	Rollin Gardner, Western Secretary
Susie Klein, Western Treasurer	Sue Sutherland, NW Regional RC&D Coordinator
Clayton Honyumptewa, Little Colorado River Plateau RC&D	

Meeting was called to order by Bruce Kroetch at 9:05 am. The agenda was presented by Marvin Carter of Beartooth RC&D presented a motion to accept them and Curtis Schrader Sureste RC&D seconded; **motion carried**. Bruce explained that the minutes from last years meeting in Montana are lost. Nelly thought they were on Susie's computer. They are not there. Sharon Church-Pratt of West Central Highlands RC&D moved that we move on and that the western directors look for them later. It was seconded by unknown, **motion carried**. The directors will try to find them and present them later.

Susie Klein presented the treasurer report. 82% of councils have paid their dues. Nebraska is the only state association that has paid. We are \$1740.91 short of last year's budget. Attributed to increase cost of travel. She presented next year's budget. The auction brought in \$5291.00, it was a great outcome for the auction. Sharon Church-Pratt of West Central Highland RC&D asked about the accounting of last year's meeting. It was explained. The Idaho people said this year's meeting should do well financially. The accounting item of Nellie's travel was questioned. Susie explained that Nellie did not have the funds to pay for her travel and wait to be reimbursed. So the directors put some \$1500 in a account for her to travel. That account has now been closed.

Time was turned over to Jim Sipperly as he has a plane to catch. He thanked us for the new friendships. He said that he will fight to save the RC&D.

Susie continued with next year's budget. Questions of why Nebraska is the the only state association to pay dues. North Dakota stated that because their councils pay they felt they didn't need to.

The Western RC&D scholarship was discussed. Joe explained that the application is on line. We would like to get a bigger fund in the bank to fund this scholarship. The line item on the budget of registration and travel will be combined. Sharon Church-Pratt of West Central Highlands RC&D moved to accept the proposed budget for 2012. It was seconded by Curtis Schrader, Sureste RC&D. **Budget passed.**

Joe gave a report of the Awards Committee. One of the awards that was to be given was to go to a council who has not paid their dues so it will not be given out. The Scholarship fund did not have a fund raiser this year because the host of the Idaho conference had their own raffle and it was thought it would be too much to have two of them going. Joe will set up something on the web site later. Joe talked about estate legacy planning for donations to the scholarship fund. He led discussion on who is eligible for the scholarship.

Sharon Church-Pratt of West Central Highland RC&D of the Bylaws Committee gave a report of the committee meeting. They have a proposal to change the wording of the time of the annual meeting from Jan to Jan - March. It was suggested that be changed to First quarter. We were reminded that in order to have a bylaw change it needs be advertised 30 days prior to the meeting. It will prepared for next year. Doug Graupe, Williston Basin RC&D moved to suspend the bylaws for next year's meeting to allow Utah to hold the annual meeting in March. It was seconded. Time was turned over to Jeane MacIvow of Castleland RC&D to explain this request. They are proposing to hold it on March 25-29 in Price, Utah. She explained that late March weather is more conducive to travel and recreation. They have formed some committees and are setting the ground work. The motion was called and vote taken. **Motion passed** with two opposed. Meeting was put on a break at 10:00am.

Called back to order at 10:31 by Bruce. Natural Recourses Committee report. They had five proposals to pass onto national association. The report will be scanned into the website. It was moved by Dave Radford of High Country RC&D to pass these 5 items onto the National Association. It was seconded by Sharon Church-Pratt of West Central Highland RC&D. **Motion carried.**

Clyde presented the Site Selection report. They discussed the moving of next year's meeting to March. Colorado is in line for 2013. Wyoming for 2014. Bruce said that Arizona was passed over for last years meeting. They do not have the organization to hold a meeting. Some discussion about if someone else planned most of it could it be pulled off?

Richard Knopp Audit Committee gave his report. It too will be scanned to the website. It was positive. It was moved by Dave Johnson of Panhandle Lakes RC&D to accept the report. Seconded by Curtis Schrader of Sureste RC&D. **Motion carried.**

Joe gave the Information and Marketing Committee report. Asked us to use the website more to get our message out. He told us that Facebook could be used to spread the word. Bruce discussed meritorious council program from the national office. We need to be the best councils we can be. He also talked about the circle of diamonds and the advantages of being one.

Bruce presented the Nominating Committee report. We have two seats up for election. Clyde Hanson was appointed as 1st Vice President after last year's meeting when it was left vacant when Bruce was

elected President. Susie is also term limited out of the Treasurer's office. Susie submitted a letter for 1st Vice President and Clyde for Treasurer.

It was open for nominations from the floor, none were received. It was moved by Curtis Schrader of Sureste RC&D that Susie be 1st Vice President. Seconded by Dave Radford of High Country RC&D.

Motion carried. Susie is the next 1st Vice President.

It was open to nominations from the floor for treasurer. None were received. It was moved by Dave Radford of High Country RC&D, that Clyde be the next treasurer. Seconded by Bill Davis, Wood River RC&D. **Vote was unanimous Clyde Hanson is the next Treasurer.**

Meeting was open to business from the floor. Richard Knop of Dakota West RC&D suggested that the State Association's pay into the scholarship fund instead of dues. This would help the fund. Time was turned over to Sue Sutherland a coordinator in Montana to lead a discussion on the future. How do we transfer from federal support to private or if necessary, how do we exit. Many good ideas were presented and they will be put on the website. Meeting adjourned at 11:58 am