

## RECORDING OF PROCEEDINGS

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Wyoming Board of Agriculture  
December 5, 2007  
Conference Call

Members Present: Jack Corson, President  
Juan Reyes  
Gene Hardy, Vice President  
Jim Bennage  
Jim Mickelson  
Joe Thomas  
Dave Graham  
Dalin Winters  
John Etchepare

Unexcused: Patrick Zimmerer  
Frank Galey  
Ryan Lance

Staff Present: Muff Parker, Recording Secretary  
Jason Fearneyhough, Deputy Director

Called to order by President Corson at 7 a.m.

Roll call was taken.

### Minutes

**Jim Mickelson made a motion to approve the minutes of the Nov. 5 and 6 meeting in Casper. The motion was seconded by Joe Thomas. Motion carried.**

**Vice President Hardy made a motion to approve the November 21 conference call minutes. Motion was seconded by Dave Graham. Motion carried.**

### Farm Bureau meeting Update

John Etchepare attended a portion and said it went well.

### Wheat Meeting and Weed and Pest Conference Update

Jason Fearneyhough said the Weed and Pest did discuss additional funding for the predatory animal boards, but nothing was decided. Gene said they need to move cautiously.

John would hope the discussion on Weed and Pest Legislation not be at the February meeting as planned. He feels discussing this years' legislation will be enough, but would like to have that discussion at a future meeting.

### **Wolf De-listing**

Gene said the de-listing was waiting on UFWS action with Game and Fish. He also said that if the plan is approved, he foresees several lawsuits to follow. John did say it was in the Casper Star Tribune today, that the judge from the 9th Circuit made a ruling that the Sage Grouse has to be listed. John also said he has not read the ruling and more information will be available later.

### **Tail Docking**

Gene said Kelly Burch is claiming they will put on their own show at same time as the State Fair club lamb show. He evidently said, there would be \$5,000 in premiums guaranteed and "no child would go away crying". Juan feels we made the right decision regarding the tail docking policy.

Jack heard that at a Stock Growers meeting in Laramie, State Lands is wanting to do monitoring on those lands. John said State Lands feels they need to do a better job of monitoring, but no protocols yet.

### **Subdivision Legislation**

Jack wanted to know what the talk is up at the Mega Convention regarding subdivisions. John said they looked at a bill that came out of committee and voted yesterday to kill the bill. One of the bills by WACD was approved and the other two denied. No mention was made of what to do on amendments, should they arise.

Juan wants to proceed with caution on any legislation regarding subdivisions to protect private property rights.

### **WBC**

Juan feels if the issue ends tomorrow, they have won the battle because they have made progress, making the WBC more accountable and opened up lines of communication, although he is not willing to stop. Juan did have an opportunity to visit with Jim Magana and voiced his concerns about the move. He is wondering about what this administration and current director are going to do about marketing agriculture. Bob Jensen and John still plan on having more meeting regarding the move.

Juan is concerned about making sure to if it does come back to WDA, there needs to be some policies in place. Jason said he's hearing the Agribusiness division is not getting general funds and they are not as accountable as WDA, which is not true. Jason said there is no private funding currently, as was the intention and that they are more flexible regarding spending, but they have to go before the legislators just like we do. John doesn't want to remove the flexibility aspect if it does come back to WDA. Jason felt Jim Magagna should have given WDA time on the agenda, as he did for the WBC. No resolution has come out of the WSGA meeting. Juan feels we are making progress on the issue.

### **Atlantic Rim**

Jack asked about the Performance Based Planning on the Atlantic Rim. Jason said BLM is trying to enhance and improve development, based on what's happening on the Jonah.

BLM is trying to make sure land is reclaimed before other land can be disturbed. Developers are complaining because they may not get the necessary moisture in the future to develop plants used on reclaimed land, therefore not allowing further development.

### **Youth Board Vacancies**

Jack asked if there were any applicants for the two vacant youth positions. John indicated there should be two applications in the Governor's office. One is Niels Hansen's son for the SW quadrant and Laura Kowalski in the NE quadrant.

Juan briefed the board on the Feeder Committee. They are working with DEQ to find a compromise on the odor stands everyone can live with. There was not a resolution coming from the committee.

John and Gene both said the Mega Convention should be done more often. Jason said it has drawn a large group including presidential candidates.

### **Conservation District Appointment**

**Joe Thomas made a motion to approve Kitsy Barnes to replace the position vacated by Nancy Frederick for the Washakie County Conservation District. The motion was seconded by Gene. Motion carried.**

**Dave Graham made a motion to approve the appointment of Megan Lally to replace the position vacated by Callay Danford for the Little Snake River Conservation District. The motion was seconded by Jim. Motion carried.**

**Jim Mickelson made a motion to approve the appointment of Spencer Ellis to replace the position vacated by Gordon Despain for the Shoshone Conservation District. The motion was seconded by Gene. Motion carried.**

### **Water Quality**

The Powell Clarks Fork Conservation District sent a request to WACD for the returned funds on the 2002 Water Quality Grant. WACD met at the Mega Convention and approved the funding. The members at the Mega Convention have received copies of the letter of recommendation from WACD to fund the project.

**Gene Hardy made a motion to approve the recommendation of WACD to fund the Powell Clarks-Fork Conservation District. Motion was seconded by Joe. Motion carried.**

NACD approved a Conservation District on the Indian Reservation. At this point it would only include the Shoshoni tribe. Several questions remain to be answered and John is hoping to have more information at a future meeting.

Jack wants the following to be on the December 19 conference call:  
Justin Williams – range insurance program  
Hank Uhden – weeds

Jim Schwartz – WLB

**Dalin Winters made a motion to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Dave Graham. All voted in favor.**

There being no additional business, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

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Jack Corson, President

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Date