

RECORDING OF PROCEEDINGS

Wyoming Board of Agriculture
March 5, 2008
Conference Call

Present: Jack Corson, President
Gene Hardy, Vice President
Juan Reyes
Jim Mickelson
Dave Graham
Bridget Kukowski
Jim Bennage
John Hansen

Excused: Patrick Zimmerer
Dalin Winters
Dr. Frank Galey

Absent: Joe Thomas
Ryan Lance

Staff: Muff Parker, Recording Secretary
Hank Uhden

Pesticide Collection and Disposal Grants

Hank explained how, in previous years, the funding went to any governmental entity that made application. They have now made this a competitive grant process and asked for three members to review and rank the application after the application deadline of May 1. Jim Bennage, Jack Corson and Bridget Kukowski will be helping hank on the distribution of those funds.

Board Discussion

Jack reviewed the upcoming meetings and asked who would be attending. Gene and Juan are both going to the State Fair Advisory Board meeting March 13 in Douglas while Gene will speaking and attending the Sage Grouse Forum in Lander on March 18. Gene said there is also a meeting scheduled in Cheyenne Mach 15 on global warming. John will make sure members receive the brochure. The Department's All Employee Conference is scheduled for April 1 in Cheyenne.

Gene said in visiting with some folk the other day about the hockey rink at State Fair Park, the community seems very please with the arrangements and with the success is saw this year, they hope to use it again next year.

John said Matt Hoobler is resigning from the department and going over to the State engineer's office to be the North Platte Coordinator.

Legislative Update

John said the Governor should sign the budget bill today at noon. WDA did receive an additional \$250,000 for grounds at State Fair Park. The food bill was defeated and WDA has asked for an interim study on the food cottage industry. The ADMB bill is being signed this morning. The sheep feed lot bill was also defeated. The well driller's bill is still in conference committee and John says they have to do something between today and tomorrow.

Jack heard about the county-wide range and riparian monitoring the Laramie Rivers Conservation District is doing and asked if other members were aware of any other districts doing this. The members all thought is that it was a good idea and none of them were aware of any, but John said he would look into it and let them know.

Jack asked who is going to be doing the monitory on sate lands. John said Lynn is still putting that all together but when he found out, he's let them know.

Strategic Plan Update

Juan wondered when the board plans to sit down with John Etchepare and staff to visit about the direction of the Board within their strategic plan. John said if it is possible to spend part of an afternoon at their next meeting would be fine with him. Jim Bennage would like to make sure the department is going in the same direction as the board. John Etchepare will check into the possibility of doing their planning in Executive Session. John and Jack are going to work on a joint meeting with the Game and Fish Commission.

**Jim Mickelson made a motion to adjourn. It was seconded by Dave Graham.
Motion carried.**

There being no additional business, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Jack Corson, President

Date