



OFFICE OF THE
ATTORNEY GENERAL
STATE OF WYOMING
CHEYENNE

March 27, 1963

Mr. W. T. "Bill" Kirk
Chairman, State Soil and Water
Conservation Committee
State of Wyoming
B U I L D I N G

My dear Mr. Kirk:

By your letter of March 22, 1963, you pose the following question:

"Is a member of a family who is also a stockholder in a ranch or farm that has been incorporated qualified to legally serve on the board of supervisors of a soil and water conservation district?"

Answer:

Only if such person is the owner of land within the district.

Section 11-243, Wyoming Statutes, 1957, as amended, 1959, clearly states:

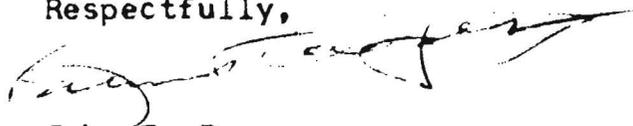
"Within thirty (30) days after the date of issuance by the secretary of state of a certificate of organization of a soil and water conservation district, nominating petitions may be filed with the state soil and water conservation committee to nominate candidates for supervisors of such district, who must be owners of land within the district. * * * " (Emphasis supplied)

The drafters of this law gave nominating and electing authority to "all owners and occupiers of lands" within the district but restricted supervisors to being owners of land within the district. The statute is so clear that we cannot by interpretation give it any other meaning. It would appear that Mr. Budd's observation that so many ranches have been incorporated that it is becoming difficult to find men to serve who qualify as landowners would be justification for seeking

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amendment of this law accordingly at the next session of the
Legislature.

Respectfully,



John F. Raper
Attorney General

JFR/jrs