

**Wyoming Wildlife and Natural Resource Trust**  
**MEETING MINUTES**  
**December 6, 2016**  
**Warbonnet Room, The Inn at Lander**  
**Lander, WY**

**Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order at 9:07 AM by Chairman Kim Floyd. Board members present in person: Don Schramm. Board members present by phone were Ken Banister, Jacelyn Downey, Pidge Fulton, Mike Massie, JoAnn Pearson and Esther Wagner. Also in attendance in person were Executive Director Bob Budd and Grants Manager Robin Haynes.

**Absent:** Steve Meadows

**Attendance:**

Wyoming Game and Fish – Amy Anderson, Jill Randall, Kerry Olson, Brian Rognon, Paul Dey, Brian Parker, Brad Sorensen, Scott Smith and Ian Tator

Trout Unlimited – Cory Toye

The Nature Conservancy – Richard Garrett, Jen Lamb, John Coffman, Milward Simpson

The Conservation Fund – Dan Schlager

Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation – Leah Burgess

Senator Fred Emerich, District 5

Representative Jim Allen, District 33

Floyd thanked everyone for participating and welcomed Senator Fred Emerich from Cheyenne.

**Minutes:** Budd asked the board to review the minutes from the September 22, 2016 board meeting. He stated that there has been a problem with the email service at our office, and that the board members have not been receiving emails from either Budd or Haynes. Budd stated he had emailed the first draft of the minutes out on September 29 and that is the draft of minutes to be approved today.

**Massie moved, Fulton seconded the motion to approve the minutes of September 22, 2016, as per Budd's September 29, 2016 email draft of minutes. Motion carried unanimously.**

**Financial Update:** Budd has been working with Wyoming State Treasurer Mark Gordon. There has been discussion regarding Amendment A, Wyoming Investment of Funds in Equities Amendment, which allows the Wyoming Legislature to invest additional state funds in the stock market, and was approved on the November 8, 2016 ballot. The JAC has indicated that they will begin to look at using four (4) accounts as potential to start the Amendment A process, and one of those accounts is WWNRT. The process from the treasurer's office would be to assign one person to handle each agency's account individually. Budd will have all of this information prepared for the Jan/Feb meeting.

**Fulton moved, Schramm seconded the motion to authorized Budd to support WWNRT's participation in the investigation of Amendment A investments. Motion carried unanimously.**

**Project Status Reports:** Budd stated that there are not many changes to report at this time, other than we are getting a lot of projects paid off and cleared off the books. There are very few "older projects" left at this time. Budd commended WGFD and Carol Luckenbach for their diligence in getting this accomplished. Massie asked if there are any projects raising any red flags at this time? Budd responded that they have all been either paid or resolved.

Budd stated he is aware that sometimes that bad roads and the weather preclude board members from attending a scheduled meeting. Any time travel is iffy, you should stay home. He is equally aware of the fact that these board meetings are public meetings, and there is no way to notify those partners who may be attending a board meeting, if a meeting is cancelled, so it is important for the meeting to continue as scheduled, rather than to try to postpone and reschedule. He recommends that we address this funding meeting in the same manner as in the past.

Massie inquired about the agency's Annual Report. Budd stated that there are two annual reports that WWNRT prepares annually. One is prepared for the legislature and one is done by fiscal year. One tracks leverage, number of project applications, and project progress. One is completed in the summer and goes to A & I. Budd will begin finalizing the report that will be presented to the legislature after this meeting and it will be available on the website.

Representative Jim Allen joined the meeting at this time.

### **Project Funding Allocation:**

Budd recommends that the same process be followed, as in the past. Site visits were performed throughout the fall.

Floyd asked the board and guests to review the project list.

- 09-16-001 Muddy Creek Wetlands VI: Request for \$215,000 Carbon County  
Wagner provided a synopsis of the project. She recommends full funding.  
Discussion followed.
- 09-16-002 Little Snake River IV: Request for \$223,300 Carbon County  
Budd provided information on this project.
- 09-16-003 Baggs Mule Deer: Request for \$280,900 Carbon County  
Wagner provided the project synopsis. Discussion followed.
- 09-16-004 Pete's Pond: Request for \$290,000 Fremont County  
Schramm provided a synopsis of the project. Discussion followed and  
Budd provided additional details.
- 09-16-005 Rendezvous Park Wetland II: Request for \$44,432 Teton County  
  
**Meadows recommended deferring this project, through prior  
communication with Budd. Fulton seconded the motion. Motion  
carried unanimously.**
- 09-16-006 Rawlins Fence Conversions 2017: Request for \$60,000 Carbon County  
Wagner provided a synopsis of this project. She recommends full  
funding. Budd provided additional details.
- 09-16-007 Rolling Thunder CE II: Request for \$250,000 Sublette County  
Budd provided a synopsis of the project. Scott Smith, WFGD, provided  
additional details. **Request has been modified to \$190,000.**
- 09-16-008 Bull Creek Fish Passage: Request for \$81,000 Park County  
Fulton provided a synopsis of the project. He recommends full funding.  
Floyd provided additional details.
- 09-16-009 Wyoming Range Mule Deer III: Request for \$1,500,000 Sublette County  
Budd provided a synopsis of this project.
- 09-16-010 Coal Creek: Request for \$290,000 Lincoln County  
Budd and Schramm provided project details.

- 09-16-011 Table Mountain CE: Request for \$65,000 Fremont County  
Budd provided a project synopsis. Schramm provided additional details.
- 09-16-012 Sunlight Basin Habitat: Request for \$788,000 Park County  
Fulton provided a project synopsis. Floyd provided additional details.
- 09-16-013 Medicine Lodge Creek: Request for \$572,750 Big Horn County  
Floyd provided a project synopsis. Discussion followed.
- 09-16-014 Human-Fox Interface: Request for \$75,166 This project has been  
removed from consideration.
- 09-16-015 Bitter Creek: Request for \$124,165 Sweetwater County  
Budd provided a project synopsis. Schramm recused himself from this  
project. Request has been modified to \$120,000.
- 09-16-016 Home Ranch CE: Request for \$115,000 Albany County  
Massie provided a project synopsis.
- 09-16-017 Powder River CE: Request for \$453,000 Johnson County  
Downey and Pearson provided a project synopsis. Discussion followed.  
Leah Burgess, Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation, provided additional  
details.
- 09-16-018 Terry Creek CE: Request for \$188,000 Albany County  
Massie provided a project synopsis. Budd added additional details.
- 09-16-019 Deer-Elk Ecology: Request for \$370,050 Sweetwater County  
Budd provided a project synopsis. Request has been modified to  
\$145,000. Massie declared a conflict of interest.
- 09-16-020 7DCE: Request for \$431,345 Pulled from consideration
- 09-16-021 Lone Tree CE: Request for \$165,000 Project sponsor requested that  
this project be deferred.
- 09-16-022 Red Canyon Creek: Request for \$26,250 Fremont County  
Budd provided a project synopsis. Request has been modified to \$20,000
- 09-16-023 Weber CE II: Request for \$430,000 Carbon County  
Wagner provided a project synopsis. Budd added additional details.
- 09-16-024 Deep Pot Cottonwoods: Request for \$7,780.80 Campbell County  
Pearson provided a project synopsis. Request has been modified to  
\$5,000.00

09-16-025 Government Draw Invasives: Request for \$300,000 Fremont County Schramm provided a project synopsis. **Request has been modified to \$200,000.**

03-16-024 Green Mountain Aspen: Request for \$100,000 Fremont County Budd provided a project synopsis. This project was brought forward from the March 2016 applications. Because of no access to the proposed project site to do a site visit in the spring, the site visit was done in the fall of 2016.

Consent List: Floyd asked if there are any projects that any board member wishes to pull. Banister requested 09-16-001 and 09-16-006 be pulled.

First consent list included projects 09-16-002 – Muddy Creek Wetlands VI; 09-16-003 – Baggs Mule Deer; 09-16-004 – Pete’s Pond; 09-16-005 – Rendezvous Park Wetland II to be deferred; 09-16-007 – Rolling Thunder CE II to be reduced to \$190,000; and 09-16-008 – Bull Creek Fish Passage.

**Massie moved, Schramm seconded the motion to pull 09-16-001 and 09-16-006 from consideration, and to approve 09-16-002, 09-16-003, 09-16-004, to defer 09-16-005, to reduce 09-16-007 to \$190,000 and to approve 09-16-008. Haynes called the roll. Floyd asked for change of vote. Motion carries unanimous with Meadows absent.**

Second consent list includes projects 09-16-009 – Wyoming Range Mule Deer; 09-16-010 – Coal Creek; 09-16-011 – Table Mountain CE; 09-16-012 – Sunlight Basin Habitat; 09-16-013 – Medicine Lodge Creek; 09-16-015 – Bitter Creek to be reduced to \$120,000; 09-16-016 – Home Ranch CE; and 09-16-017 – Powder River. Floyd asked Haynes to call the roll. Floyd asked for changes. **Motion carries unanimous with Meadows absent.**

Third consent list includes projects 09-16-018 – Terry Creek CE; 09-16-019 – Deer-Elk Ecology and Massie declared a conflict of interest; 09-16-020 – 7D CE to be pulled from consideration; 09-16-021 – Lone Tree CE to be deferred; 09-16-022 – Red Canyon Creek to be reduced to \$20,000; 09-16-023 – Weber CE II; 09-16-024 – Deep Pot Cottonwoods to be reduced to \$5,000; 09-16-025 – Government Draw Invasives; and 03-16-024 – Green Mountain Aspen. Floyd asked Haynes to call the roll. Floyd asked for changes. **Motion carries with Banister a no vote on 09-16-024 – Deep Pot Cottonwoods, with Meadows absent.**

Banister asked for project 09-16-001 – Muddy Creek Wetlands VI, to be pulled due to no landowner money. Wagner stated that the landowners have contributed monies throughout the project in phases 1 thru 5. Floyd asked Haynes to call the roll.

**Motion carries with Banister a no vote, with Meadows absent.**

Banister asked for project 09-16-006 – Rawlins Fence Conversions 2017, to be pulled due to discussion to defer for further consideration and clarification regarding the fencing.

**Banister moved, Schramm seconded the motion to defer to the next funding cycle. Budd recommended amending the motion to defer pending additional information on this project. Haynes called the roll. Amended motion carries unanimous with Meadows absent.**

Banister asked for project 09-16-017 – Powder River CE, to be pulled

**Fulton moved, Massie seconded to fund project 09-16-017 – Powder River CE at \$453,000. Floyd asked Haynes to call the roll. Motion carries.**

**Old Business:** Chairman Floyd asked for old business. There was none at this time.

**New Business:** Next meeting. Budd would like to schedule the next board meeting according to the Legislative session schedule. Senator Emerich asked to be notified of the meeting.

**Next Meeting:** To be determined

**Public comment:** Leah Burgess thanked the board for support of the projects.

**Adjournment:** Chairman Floyd adjourned the meeting at 1:05 PM.