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### **2024 January MEETING**

*The monthly meeting of the Perkins County Conservation District was held Tuesday, January 9, 2024, at 1:01 P.M. at the Bison NRCS conference room. Supervisor's present were Chairman Lyndel Johnson via conference call, Vice Chairman Drew Anderson, Secretary/Treasurer Veronica Kari and Supervisor Chuck Anderson. Supervisor Peggy Veal was absent. District Manager Shauna Kopren, and Natural Resource Specialist Maddy Hendrickson were also present.*

*A motion was made by Supervisor Chuck Anderson and seconded by Supervisor Veronica Kari to approve the agenda; motion carried.*

*The December 2023 minutes were reviewed. A motion was made by Supervisor Veronica Kari and seconded by Supervisor Chuck Anderson to approve the minutes from December with corrections; motion carried.*

*The employee timesheets from December were reviewed. A motion was made by Supervisor Chuck Anderson and seconded by Supervisor Veronica Kari to approve employee timesheets; motion carried. DM Shauna Kopren will review the policy on leave payout.*

*The financial report was reviewed. A motion was made by Supervisor Chuck Anderson and seconded by Supervisor Veronica Kari to accept the financial report and to pay monthly bills; motion carried.*

**Election of Supervisors:** *Chuck Anderson moves to reappoint supervisors for their appointed terms, seconded by Drew Anderson; motion carried.*

**Election of Officers:** *Veronica Kari nominates Lyndel Johnson as Chairman seconded by Chuck Anderson; motion carried. Chuck Anderson nominates Drew Anderson as Vice-chairman seconded by Veronica Kari; motion passed. Chuck Anderson nominates Veronica Kari as Secretary/treasurer seconded by Drew Anderson; motion carried.*

**American Bird Conservancy Report:** *no report.*

**District Operations Report:** *District Manager Shauna Kopren updated the board on her current activities and daily operations of the district including 2024 orders and Christmas trees, yearend, and field and office work.*

**NWA Natural Resource Specialist Update:** NRS Maddy Hendrickson updated the board on her current activities and submitted her letter of resignation. Her last day will be February 2, 2024. The board decided to postpone posting the job position until the January meeting.

**NRCS Update:** no report.

**FSA Update:** FSA County Executive Director Kristen Miles and Farm Loan Manager Scott Nielsen updated the board on current FSA programs, and funding.

**SDACD/NACD Update:** no report.

**NACD TA2023 Grant/position update:** A motion was made by Supervisor Veronica Kari and seconded by Supervisor Chuck Anderson to provide a modified budget to NACD approving the grant amount and to advertise for the position; motion carried. The position will run until February 16, 2024.

**Award Nominee Selection:** Nominees for the conservation district awards were discussed and voted on with Bart and Shannon Carmichael winning Outstanding Conservationist, Ryan Beer for Ag Educator, and Dayton Ranch for Tree Stewardship.

**Winter Workshop & Awards Luncheon:** District staff and board discussed the upcoming luncheon and awards.

**AIS Game Fish & Parks update:** A motion was made by Supervisor Chuck Anderson and seconded by Supervisor Veronica Kari to increase the starting wage of the AIS inspectors to \$17.00/hr., returning employees to \$18.00/hr., and pay for \$0.51 for mileage over 30 miles round trip; motion carried.

**District Pickup:** no report.

**Drill update:** DM Shauna Kopren updated the board on how many acres were planted in 2023 and the status of getting the drill worked on.

**2024 SD Legislature update:** DM Shauna Kopren updated the board on current bills regarding conservation.

**Executive Session:** The board entered Executive Session at 1:01 PM and exited at 3:26 PM.

**Employe Review:** A motion was made by Supervisor Chuck Anderson and seconded by Supervisor Veronica Kari to increase the district managers wage by \$.50/hour, give a one-time bonus of \$1000.00 to DM Shauna Kopren, give a one-time bonus of \$500.00 to NRS Maddy Hendrickson, and from December 1 through March 31 decrease DM Shauna Kopren weekly base hours to 32; motion carried.

The meeting adjourned at 3:34 PM. The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, @ 1:00 P.M. at the Bison NRCS Conference Room.